August 2022



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Office: 602-264-7863 Fax: 602-230-9099 Website: www.holytrinityphx.org

Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill Rev. Alexander Eliades Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

> **Sunday Worship** 8:00am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy

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Desert Springs Deadline
The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Holy Trinity Cathedral www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco www.SanFran.goarch.org

> Archdiocese Website www.goarch.org

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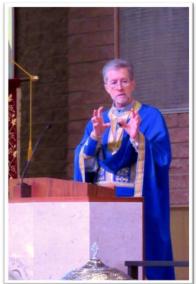
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- Safety & Security Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: <u>pkatsenes@cox.net</u>
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- **Stewardship** Sandy Meris: <u>sandymeris@gmail.com</u>
- **St. Nicodemus Young Adult Book Club** Mary Pardhe: <u>yalazbookclub@gmail.com</u>
- **Sunday School** Kathy New: <u>kkatsalis@msn.com</u>
- Wedding Coordinator Lindsay Vardalos
- YAL Alexander Harding: text 480-626-3149

Attention Organizations:

Please check the listings on this page and confirm that the information is correct. Email is the default contact type, but listings can be changed to text or phone if preferred. Email any changes to both the Office at AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org and Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net. It is the organization's responsibility to inform Natalie and Kristen of any updates to your listing.

Message from Father Apostolos

Form and Function



You may recall my having mentioned the book titled "Canoeing the Mountains" a year ago as a volume well worth reading. The author, Tod Bolsinger, is an experienced pastor, seminary president, and consultant to organizations confronted with the challenges and opportunities arising from change. His premise in the book is simple; adaptive leadership is required to achieve the mission when the methods of the past prove ineffective.

Adaptive leadership requires courage, hope, and creativity. Organizations may cling to older forms despite ample evidence that such forms no longer serve their intended function, or they may zero in on the function, the goal, the objective, while letting go of ineffective forms. This is an obvious point that scarcely needs reinforcement and it is as applicable in a parish setting as in a corporate one.

The arc of my life in ministry began long before I entered the sacramental priesthood. My first parish assignment was as a youth pastor in 1985 and I have been involved in Youth Ministry every year since. Whether serving as a youth pastor or director on a parish or diocesan level, Sunday School teacher, or preschool principal, youth ministry has been a major part of my life. And a great deal has changed in the intervening 37 years as the world and the way it operates has shifted under our feet.

Seemingly gone are the days when our weekly GOYA meeting would routinely turn out 40-50 teens. Gone, too, are the years 100 souls regularly attended my brief after-liturgy catechism class. That this is so isn't a cause for blame and we must avoid the temptation to assign it. The world simply changed in enough substantial ways that what once worked beautifully in the past does so no longer. Watching reruns of "Full House" or "Boy Meets World" from the 1990s highlights how dramatically the tone of society has shifted. Such sitcom favorites of our recent past now seem as sweet as they are "out-of-date."

Yet, the function of youth ministry *must* proceed. We are strictly charged by the voice of God expressed across the breadth of the Christian tradition to prioritize the spiritual development of our young ones. The hollowing out of parishes across America illustrates the dread consequence of failing to do so as each successive generation is less observant that the preceding one and parish membership among youth and young adults are at all-time lows.

Google the phrase "Age-segregated youth ministry" and one will read numerous articles decrying it as, according to a 2011 story in the Christian Post, "A 50-year failed experiment." This style of youth ministry relies heavily on form and offers very little function under the misguided aegis that if the kids are together on Church property with something entertaining to do, something good must inevitably ensue. The forensics on the 50-year experiment tells a different tale.

Like most of us, I was raised in this model wherein a premium was placed on fun activities, outings, and such with just enough content to satisfy

Fr. Apostolos' Message continued from page 3

the barest requirement for a "Christian" gathering. We Orthodox priests have long known that the surest sign of effective parish youth ministry is when parents begin to complain to us that we are "turning (their) children into fanatics." Here we see the complete captivity of the function to the form! "Just do the meetings but don't change them!"

This spiritual malady applies as forcefully to adult parish ministry as to youth's. "Playing Church" or going through the motions of faith, focusing on the externalities with little thought or energy devoted to the function of Church, which is eternal salvation in Jesus Christ, is the scourge that drives souls out of America's parishes. No right-thinking person could long endure habitating such dry and dismal terrain as that of a lifeless Church body.

The form-bound person would likely suggest that we are stuck here, waving the banner of sameness. "We've always/never done it this/that way!" However, adaptive leaders will invest the time to clarify what - precisely - the function, goal, aim, objective is and either adapt or recreate a form suitable to achieving it. Thriving Orthodox parishes in America (and, yes, they surely do exist!) are Christ-centered and mission-focused. Such parishes, pastored in many instances by friends of mine, offer little quarter for form-based legacies that don't drive the mission.

As the Sunday School year begins, we are presented with an opportunity to test ourselves against this standard. For the reasons cited above and many others, it must finally be admitted that the post-WWII form which once served us well no longer avails. Impugning no one because of the pressures brought to bear on American families, the evidence of this is plain to see in our attendance rolls. Historically, three-quarters of registered students will have all but completely disappeared between Labor Day and Epiphany.

Again, no one is to blame for this. We have methodically checked every box imaginable; teachers, classrooms, curricula, etc., all have been attained with no impact on the curve of decline. This is where adaptive leadership and a willingness to "adventure off the map" as the aforementioned book suggests, comes to our aid.



After much lengthy (years-long) examination and deliberation, and in concert with many other Greek Orthodox parishes across the country, we will begin charting a new course in pursuit of developing the spiritual lives of our young ones and of properly and effectively catechizing them in the Orthodox Christian faith. Fr. Alexander will be offering the details of this new and enhanced approach, one in which parents play the key and indispensable role (!), and I urge our community to throw our collective weight of prayerful and energetic support behind this new initiative!

Given the tremendous challenges and headwinds facing the young which only intensify from year-to-year, we can do no less than this. Each of us has a role to play in creating the garden in which the seed of faith in our young ones can grow and thrive. May the All-Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary intercede for us and for the youth around the world that the Light of the Gospel will shine in their hearts and illumine the world through them!

Tr. apostolos Vill

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris

To be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love through faith and service



JOIN US FOR MINISTRY SUNDAY Presented by the Stewardship Committee Sunday, August 21st

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for Ministry Sunday on Sunday, August 21st in the Community Center immediately following Divine Liturgy.

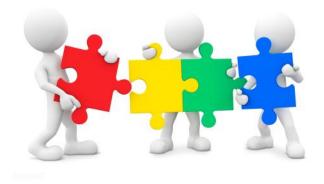
This event is our ministry showcase where each of Holy Trinity's dozens of ministries will have a table set up during Coffee Hour to highlight their activities, gatherings and show all the wonderful things they do.

We invite our parishioners to join us down in the Hall after Liturgy, grab a cup of coffee and peruse through the various tables, talk to our ministry leaders about getting more information or getting involved in a new ministry this year.

Have you thought about joining the choir? Perhaps you are a new family and want your children to get involved in Sunday School, Greek dance or youth groups. As a new family are you participating in OPA? Are you interested in being a "friend of the poor" and ready to join Philoptochos? There is definitely something for everyone at Holy Trinity. All you need to do is figure out where you would like to dedicate your time and talents.

Part of being a good steward means being an active member of the Church and being involved in the various ministries. This enables us to make stronger connections with our fellow parishioners, give back to the Church that gives so much to us and donate our time to help others.

Even if you are already very active, please stop by and support all of Holy Trinity's ministries. We hope to see you there!



House of Stewards

As of 07/28/2022

Panagiota Agelakos Catherine Agra Evan & Terri Alexon Constance Anagnopoulos Mike & Alexandra Anagnopoulos

Bettina Angelos

John & Alexandra Annos

Elaine Apostle Chris & Angie Athens Christina & Chris Bakavelou Constantine & Eleni Balanis

Taylor Bankson

Ted & Rebecca Barabatis

Marissa Bard
Shannon & Elise Bard
Alexandra Bates
Joyce Bavlinka
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Stamatios Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas

Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis

Emily Blazev

James & Helen Bruno
Chris & Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Constance Burkhart
Kathy Carras
Frank & Alice Carris
Chad & Amanda Carver

Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller

Thanos & Anna Chimonas

Harriet Chotras Jim Chotras

Pete & Kim Choukalas Katherine Clarke Andrew & Mara Contes James & Connie Contes

Kathy Contes Jean Dal Pan

Nick & Sharon Daniolos

Patricia Davis

Leonard & Elaine Debickero Dimitrios & Ellen Deligiannis

Hercules Dellas Patrick & Karla Delord Joanne Demangus Tom & Irene Demas

John & Mary Demetropoulos

Bill DeMoss Charles DeMoss Chris DeMoss

John & Marjorie DeMoss Basil & Ruth Denaxas Stanley & Fran Drozdz

Denise Dye

Kathryn Dye

Caroline Economopoulos

Christos & Dena Economopoulos Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades

Mary Floor Tim & Karla Floor

Athanase & Georgia Fourlis

Athanasia Fourlis Ted & Andi Fourlis Chris & Celeste Francis Georgana Frieh

George & Julie Froumis Chris & Anne Gavras Andreanna Georgiou Pamela Georgelos Diana Georgelos Demetra Georgelos John Giannopoulos Polly Ginakes

Stella Glitsos Eva Goodman Bill & Lynn Graham Gina Graham David Haag Mary Haidos Donald Hall Alexander Harding

Terry Harper

Mary & Roger Harris

Patsy Harris Alexia Haugen

Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill

Gregory Hill Veronica Hill Bessie Hotis

Jeffrey Johannesmeyer James & Linda Kalivas Basilis & Roula Kaneris

Jean Kantaros

Nick & Dena Kantaros William & Harriet Kapolas Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis

Christina Karalekas Mia Karandreas Julie Karoutas Joann Karros

Stavros & Olga Kassimatis Christos & Kelley Katsanos John & Mary Katsenes Paul & Lori Katsenes Thomas Katsenes Jim & Poppy Kavouris Fanny Kechajias Catherine Keyser Ronald & Virginia Kidd Emily Kimmell

George & Zanetta Kleanthis



Anastasia Kompos Maria Kompos

Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros

Elizabeth Kratsas Tammy Kretsedemas Nick & Marina Kretsedemas

Debbie Kunkel Theodore Kyriacou Tassie Ladas Anastasia Laitsas

John & Evangelia Lambrou

Judith Lamond Elias & Mary Lampos Scott & Jill Leach Gregory Lizanich Efterpi Lourias Melina Machas

James & Stephanie Machas

Maria Maciejewski

Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitris

Marika Makridis Margarita Makris Julie & Felix Mamani Anna Manos

Jim & Donna Manelis Maria Maniatis

William & Rina Marinakos

Nicholas Marino Mary Mastorakos Pamela Maydanis

Peter & Christina Maydanis

Angela Mead

William & Sandy Meris

Joanne Meris

Anthony & Tania Miaoulis

Paul Miller

William & Jean Miller

Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell Philip & Helen Mitchell Dino Moschovitis

Elias Mousa

Spyro & Effie Mousses Jeremy & Anastasia Oxley John & Maria Nicholas Evelyn Nickalew

John Nicolettos Annamarie Nieblas Pamela Nolen

House of Stewards continued from page 6

Marta Ntatsos Else Paletsos Elizabeth Palmer

Anna Panagiotakopoulos

Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos

Nikolas Panagiotakopoulos

Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos

Sofia Panagiotoglou

George & Chrysoula Papadopoulos Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos Alexander & Olga Papamatheakis

Betty Papas Nicholas Papas

Spyros & Rita Papaspyrou Nicholas & Stacy Papatzimas Andrew & Emily Pappas

Angeline Pappas Harry & Fannie Pappas

Irene Pappas

John & Andrea Pappas Daniel & Anna Pardhe John & Dina Pesognelli Dean & Fotini Pestrivas

Zoe Pestrivas Chris Petroulakis Jacquelyn Petroulakis William & Kathryn Petsas Nicholas & Laurel Petsas Michael & TeAnn Philippis

Evanthia Piatt

Brian & Athena Pickett

Georgia Pikoula

Andreas & Mary Poulakidas

Chris & Juli Pritsos Costa Pritsos Nicole Pyle Bertha Quinn Lydia Rabbitt Alex & Rose Rentzis

Lois Sakkas
Dimitra Sampson
Paul Sarantes
Leslie Sarantinos
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Warren & Kalliopi Schneider

Diane Sedlacek Chris & Terry Seretis George & Traci Sgouros

John Siavelis Elyse Sioles

Robert & Donna Sioles Elias & Phyllis Skoubis Constantin Solomon Angelo & Marie Spanos Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos James A. & Christiana Speros Elias & Theodora Staikos Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos Andrew & Christine Stamatis

Jane Steffens Tristan Stoutenburg Christopher Tapas Despina Tavlarides

William & Rebecca Tavlarides

Gus & Mary Theodoropoulos Nick and Effie Theodore

Jim Thomas

Deac. & Diak. John & Mary Thrasher

Andrew Touvannas

Thaddeus & Katherine Tropea Constantine & Stella Tsantilas Stacy & Gerri Tsantilas

Dimitrios Tsioutsiopoulos

Constantine & Katherine Tzavaras

Daniel Valenzuela Peter & Lindsay Vardalos Kristen Vasilarakos Argyro Vasquez

Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis Steve & Mary Vrahas Kenneth & Angela Walker Catherine Wallerich

Paula Walsh

Douglas & Paulina Watson Dan Sr & Roberta Williams

Dan Williams

Richard & Katina Wood

Michael & Christina Wombacher

Anthony & Karen Zaman Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis George & Katherine Zannis

Zella Zannis Evangelia Zikos Dimitrios Zistatsis Eleanna Zistatsis

Michael & Christina Zistatsis

Save the Dates—October 7, 8, & 9!



Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, President

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Next Meeting on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 6:00pm First in the St. George Chapel and then in the Speros Community Center



St. Katherine faceted glass icon in the south wing of the Narthex.





Thank you to June meeting hostesses Joyce Bavlinka, Gina Graham, Kathy Carras, and Julie Karoutas!

JOIN	PHII	\bigcirc PT	$\cap \cap \vdash$	100	2022
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We are the right hand of the Church! We would like you to know that membership to Philoptochos IS IMPORTANT for our community, the Archdiocese and Metropolis.

IMPORTAINT for our com	imunity, the Archalocese and Mi	etropolis.	
Invitation to Philoptochos	s:		
NAME:			
EMAIL:			
PHONE: ()	CHECK #	AMOUNT:	
\$15 will be sent to the Arc	hdiocese and \$15 to the Metron	olis Any amount over \$30 will be retained	for our

Mail your membership to:

chapter charities and obligations.

St. Katherine's Philoptochos of HTC Membership 2022, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Guest Speaker from StreetLightUSA

June 2, 2022











Executive Director Hannah Burke spoke on this worthy cause. To learn more, click on the logo above.

National Convention

New York City July 3-7, 2022











Three members of our chapter joined two from Assumption and one from St. Katherine to represent Arizona and the San Francisco Metropolis at the National Convention this summer.

We are excited to share what we learned!

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Charity Projects

Ukraine Project June 23, 2022





Saturday, July 23rd, 2022, from 1-3 p.m. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 1973 E Maryland Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85016

You're Invited

Please join us for a special afternoon charity event devoted to raising funds for the immediate needs of the people of Ukraine.

Help Ukraine 22 - Operation Palynytsya is a humanitarian aid effort to fill gaps in immediate assistance for Ukrainians in need. HU22 is a team of American & Ukrainian experts who are putting everything they have into helping Ukrainians affected by the war.

(The word palianytsia is used as a <u>shibboleth</u> in the <u>Ukrainian language</u>, to identify people for whom the Ukrainian language is not native of, and to whom it is not phonetically familiar.)

Host Committee:

The Valley Philoptochos Chapters:

St. Anna (St. Haralambos GOC)

St. Barbara (Assumption GOC)

St. Irene (St. Katherine GOC)
St. Katherine (Holy Trinity Gree

St. Katherine (Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral)

Guest Speaker:

Brian Mefford Managing Director of Help Ukraine 22

Donation Goal:

Please help us reach our goal of \$10,000 by donating as generously as possible.

To RSVP or for questions please contact

Marjie Thorpe at:

philoptochos@stkatherineaz.org

Please make all donations, either online or by check directly to: https://helpukraine22.org/



Help Ulrazine 22 "Operation Palyanytsys" is a humanitarian relief project administered and directed by The Committee for Open Democracy (COD), a USbased 501(c)3 non-profit organization of the Internal Revenue Code (EIN 27-3930552). Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your financial donation. For more information, please visit: www.committeeforopendemocracy.org.

Donations are still being accepted. *Thank you!*

Clear Backpack Project



Thank you to our community—we raised \$520.00 to buy clear backpacks for students in need!



Water Donation



\$100 worth of water delivered!

Fathers Day

June 19, 2022



Dads and sons were gifted a cross by the church.





Father's Day Group Photo!



Father's Day Lunch hosted by Philoptochos

June 19, 2022



"To be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love through faith and service."

What YOU Can Do to Help Visitors Feel Welcome

Have you noticed new faces? We've had many visitors stop by lately. Some are Orthodox and visiting from other Parishes, some are returning to Orthodoxy after a long time away, and some are coming to check out Orthodoxy for the very first time. No matter how they come to us, let's make sure we say Hello!



"Welcome! I don't believe we've met yet. My name is (your name)" is a great start. Offer to walk with them to the Coffee Social. A personal connection goes far!

Pentecost Celebration

June 12, 2022

Kneeling Vespers

With Father Apostolos, Father Alexander, and Father Andrew from Assumption





























Endowment Fund



THE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT FUND



The Holy Trinity Endowment Fund was established in 1992 with an initial deposit of \$2,000. The goal was to build the Endowment Fund whereby the interest and appreciation would one day provide sufficient income so Holy Trinity would no longer be totally dependent on an annual festival to supplement stewardship income.

The Endowment Fund is obligated to preserve the donor's contributions such that the principal will remain **inviolate** and be held in perpetuity by the Church. The funds are prudently managed by the investment committee, which reports to the Parish Council. The investment committee only approves withdrawals from the earnings and appreciation, over and above the donor's contributions, and are used only to benefit Holy Trinity and its ministries.

Over the course of the past twenty-nine years the committee has held steadfast to this mission, and as a result, generous donors from our Church, desiring to leave a legacy in *perpetuity* for their family, have made contributions totaling \$644,340.00.

This is your opportunity to put your lifetime thumbprint in the history of Holy Trinity Cathedral.

We have been blessed by the generosity and foresight of the individuals and families listed on the next page. We benefit today from their kindness and vision. If your circumstances allow you to give a gift above and beyond your annual stewardship commitment, then please take this occasion to join the others in creating a legacy by pledging your gift to Holy Trinity Cathedral's perpetual Endowment Fund. Gifts of \$10,000 or more will be separately listed along with others who have reached that level.

Your gift, no matter the amount will be combined into the general endowment fund, and will be greatly appreciated.

TAX SAVINGS FOR HOLY TRINITY MEMBERS WITH IRA'S

Seniors are **required** to take withdrawals from their IRA's when they reach 72 years old.

Those withdrawals are fully taxable at ordinary income rates. There is a simple way to avoid that tax, and help Holy Trinity. When you have funds sent directly from your IRA to Holy Trinity, the tax is avoided. You do not get an additional deduction for this donation, because you have already saved the tax by your direct gift from your IRA.

You can make this process very simple by asking your IRA manager to **issue a checkbook to you**, then you simply write checks directly from Your IRA to Holy Trinity and any other charitable gifts you wish to make.

+ REMEMBER HOLY TRINITY IN YOUR WILL +

Endowment Fund

+ CONSIDER GIFTING HIGHLY APPRECIATED STOCK. +
+ 72 AND OLDER, SAVE TAXES BY GIVING FROM YOUR IRA. +

+ ENDOWMENT GIFTS OVER \$10,000.00 +

Gabriel & Helen Papagallos The DeMoss Families IMO+ Mary Montague IMO+ John G. Zannaras Steve & Judith Vrahas Ange & Alex J. Pappas Faye Boukas Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry George & Koula Cheros IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis Dr. Nicholas Baziotes John & Mary Katsenes George & Ann Souvall IMO+ Tasia Pritchard John George Thomas Steve & Joan Vrahas James & Connie Coin Contes

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER \$1,000.00

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss, the Lambrou Family

IN MEMORY GIFTS: IMO+ Stacy Hotis, IMO+ Danny Speros, IMO+ Mark Sprintz, IMO+ Chris Gabriel, IMO+ Milton Sioles, IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlarides, IMO+ Tom Contes, IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos, IMO+ John Sgouros, IMO+ Chris Gabriel, IMO+ Athena & Dan Choukalas, IMO+ Milton & Harriet Sioles, IMO+ Koula & Pete Triantafyllou, IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniaris, IMO+ James H. Karros, IMO+ Bette Maniatis, IMO +Dan Lester Hill

+ REMEMBER HOLY TRINITY IN YOUR WILL +

Sunday School

New Mode of Religious Education!

Dear Parents and Students of Holy Trinity Cathedral,

As the School Year is somehow already upon us, we are so excited to begin our new year of Youth Ministry here at Holy Trinity with some invigorating new opportunities for all ages.



For a great confluence of reasons we are changing up our usual model of Sunday School. It is no secret that our numbers in Sunday School have dwindled more and more in the last decade. This is not something we have done wrong but a universal fact in almost all parishes across the country, Orthodox and non-Orthodox. There is a lack of student attendance, parent commitment, and volunteers to even make the most simple class function. We had wonderful teachers last year, new curriculum, used only our Education Building Classrooms and yet still many went through weeks at a time of having no more than 2-3 students. We do not have the manpower to execute Sunday School in it's traditional form this year week in and week out. Knowing this, we aren't throwing in the towel and quitting but we *must* try something different to find what works so we can instruct our children in their faith and guide them to salvation.

After speaking to a few different parishes with their alternatives to Sunday School we've moved that the main event for the spiritual education of our youth at the church will now take place on the **3rd Saturday of every month (you can give your feedback on the time below)**. On these Saturdays we will have three 45 minute sessions that will give about the same amount of education time as the old model of Sunday School. Because of this shift, your child's attendance at each meeting is *critical*, please make every effort to make these the priority of your day.

Please mark these dates in bold on your calendar:

August 27: Welcome Back! September 17: The Creed October 15: The Saints

November 19: Gratitude and Eucharist

December 17: Christmas January 21: The Sacraments February 25: Life in Christ March 18: Lenten Retreat



April 8: Lazarus Saturday Breakfast and Holy Week Retreat (After Lazarus Saturday Liturgy) **May 6:** Commands of Christ

To add to this, we will also be catechized as an entire parish at the end of every Sunday Divine Liturgy before the Dismissal. Fr. Apostolos and Fr. Alexander will continue to offer the homily in it's proper place after the Gospel (but a bit shortened) and whichever priest is not preaching (and sometimes a guest speaker) will offer to the community a 5-10 minute lesson at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy for all to benefit from. This lesson time will allow us to methodically work through The Nicene Creed, the center of our faith, as a whole community. The bulletin will include discussion points

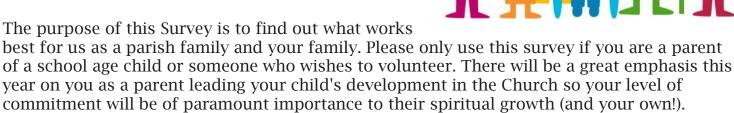
Sunday School continued on page 17

Sunday School continued from page 16

based on the lesson for a family to discuss on the way home. Liturgy will then be concluded and all can enjoy Fellowship Hour together as a community.

We will also be including a handout "Church in the Home" to foster discussion about that Sunday's Gospel reading and how we can apply it in our lives.

Next week we will follow this with another email discussing the vast array of other ministries that will be offered here at Holy Trinity to supplement your family's growth in Christ and His Church.



If you have any questions or would like to volunteer at these events, please email our director, Kathy New <u>here</u> or Fr. Alexander <u>here</u> and fill out the survey.

Kathy New, Sunday School Director Kalli Schneider, Advisor and Former Director Fr. Apostolos Hill Fr. Alexander Eliades



Celebration Committee

Let's Celebrate!

On the first Sunday of each month, the Celebration Committee at Holy Trinity Cathedral hosts a community potluck and life event

celebration during coffee hour. The goal is to help the faithful get to know each other better and to grow closer as a spiritual family. To further our outreach, we especially encourage you to invite a friend or neighbor to the monthly potluck to expose them to our wonderful church family!

For July's celebration event, the Committee incorporated a red-white-and-blue patriotic theme to welcome Emily Mead, a "little firecracker," to Holy Trinity Cathedral for her 40-day blessing. We look forward to seeing little Miss Emily grow in the faith!

In keeping with the patriotic theme, a colorful balloon garland decorated the main event table and small U.S. flags were used as centerpieces. Attendees enjoyed red, white and blue cupcakes and a "flag" cake with blueberries and strawberries. Also, the Mead family was presented with an icon box depicting the Theotokos as well as two books. Akathist to the Guardian Angel Who Keepeth Unceasing Watch Over One's Life and Akathist to the Mother of God: Nurturer of Children as a gift.

Besides the 40-day blessing celebration, we were honored to celebrate a long list of July birthdays. Thanks to Prev. Denise Hill for crafting such the beautiful, community birthday card (see the list of names on the following page).

Thanks to all who have participated in the potluck, sharing your favorite food item. We also appreciate those who have shared their milestone events with our Holy Trinity Christian family. If you or someone you know from the parish is celebrating a baby, a birthday, an anniversary milestone, or any other special event, please let the Church Office or the parish Celebration Committee know so that we can celebrate <u>as a community!</u> You can send a request with suggestions and details to: <a href="https://htt



Celebration Committee

August Birthdays!

Jim Kavouris Sarah Agnos Catherine Agra athy Keyser Evan Alexon lizabeth Kratsas **Dimitrios Apostolis** Tammu Kretsedemas Nickoletta Makos Alexandra Bates Mari Mastorakos Anastasius Bates Mary Lou Mastorakos Peter Maydanis Markella Benetos Oscar Bracamonte Stacie McKenzie Daniel Brook Anthony Miaoulis Kristen Bruskas Tania Miaoulis Melinda Carter-Keenan Katie Choukalas Bill Miller Emily Moroz Chris Chronis Evelyn Nickalew Gabriella Chronis Genevieve Oxley Jean Dal Pan Christo Panagiotakopoulos Elaine Debickero Connie Panagiotakopoulos Anastasia Dellas Sofia Panagiotoglou Alexandros Dimitriadis Gabriella Papatzimas Erika Dimitriadis Nicholas Papatzimas Stan Drozdz Christos Economopoulos Elizbeth Pardhe Mary Pardhe Eleni Economopoulos Panagiotes Pries Zachary Forman Maria Sbiliris Anna Fourlis Gianna Sgouros George Skintzis Athanasia Fourlis Georgia Fourlis Phullis Skoubis Bessie Speros Theodora Staikos David Haag Zachary Haugen Stephanie Heckel <u>Stella Tsantilas</u> Nicki Tsioutsiopoulos Eva Vardalos Veronica Hill Tony Hotis Kristen Vasilarkakos James Kalivas Stephanie Willard Joann Karros Rose Wolfe George Katsaros Paul Katsenes Christina Wombacher David Worrell Helen Katsufrakis Christina Zistatsis

Original Phoenix Greek Festival



HTC on Facebook

The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of our services. <u>Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral—Phoenix, AZ</u>



Donations

We greatly value all your donations! Please remember, when you write us a check, to include your **intention for the donation and your envelope number in the memo line**. i.e. stewardship, candles, etc. *Thank you all!*

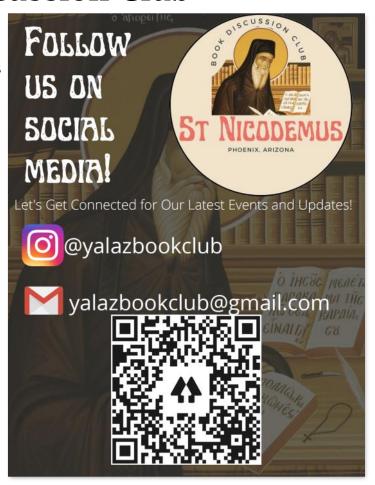


St. Nicodemas Book Discussion Club

Pan-Orthodox Book Discussion Club

Since its inception in January, the St. Nicodemus Book Discussion Club has grown to include young adults from over five parishes! Our club's mission of connecting young adults (ages 18-35) across the Valley through the reading and discussion of spiritual books has led to the growth of a vibrant pan-Orthodox community. In contrast to the traditional book club format that requires all members to read the same book, the St. Nicodemus Book Club is designed to fit into all schedules. Members choose any one of 185+ books available in the HTC Parish Library, read them at their own pace, and meet virtually twice a month for book discussions.

In addition, the club hosts monthly potluck events that are open to all Orthodox young adults – including non-club members. These potlucks have provided a special opportunity for attendees to enjoy an evening of fellowship and discussion. Starting in the fall, we plan to invite a "featured speaker" to join us at our monthly events.

















To learn more about the book club, explore our Linktree at linktr.ee/yalazbookclub! You can also follow us on Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/yalazbookclub) or subscribe to our newsletter to keep up to date on club events and other young adult gatherings happening in Arizona.

June and July YA Book Reviews

"The Crucifixion of the King of Glory" by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou Submitted by Taylor Bankson

Summary: A deep dive into the cultural, scriptural, and medical context surrounding the arrest, trial, and crucifixion of Jesus Christ from an Orthodox perspective.

Dr. Scarvelis presents in this work a thorough explanation of the historical Holy Week. "The Crucifixion of the King of Glory" was engrossing and difficult to set down. I really enjoyed her exposition not only of Judean culture and law, but of the surrounding pagan societies as well. Reading it brought, to me, new meaning to the refrain "Glory to your forbearance, oh Lord!"

"Hymns on Paradise" by St Ephrem the Syrian Submitted by Nick Marino

Summary: Hymns about paradise that are centered around Genesis 1-3 and seen through the lens of many church Father teachings.

I really enjoyed the beautiful yet simple language that St Ephrem used to discuss paradise. A lot of it was based off things we see every day in nature, like flowers for instance. He does note that this is a condescension, as the full beauty of paradise is incomprehensible to us in our fallen state.

"Christ at Work: Orthodox Christian Perspectives on Vocation" compiled by Holy Cross Orthodox Press

Submitted by Mary Pardhe

Summary: A collection of essays centered, as described in the title, on the topic of understanding the topic of vocation from an Orthodox view.

Each author had their own unique take on the topic of vocation; however, the common theme across the essays was that understanding vocation means seeking the mind of Christ, the Wisdom of God, as revealed through the Scriptures. Through this endeavor, vocation becomes less about what particular job/career one pursues but more about how to respond to the call to serve our neighbor.

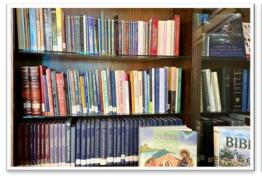
"The Way of a Pilgrim" Submitted by David Lyon

Summary: The book follows a wanderer who lives life in Hesychastic prayer (more simply the Jesus Prayer).

The book follows a man with a very simple question. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 how to pray without ceasing. I liked the protagonist's humility and he really outlines how you can be rich in little. He is also thankful to God in all circumstances. Even when he is robbed of his few valued possessions in life, his Holy Bible and Philokalia, though, by the grace of God he gets them back. I appreciated the simplicity of this book.

Holy Trinity Parish Library

The parish library, located in the Narthex on the left and right glass bookshelves, is a great resource to discover new spiritual books! We have books for all ages, from children board books to classic Orthodox texts.





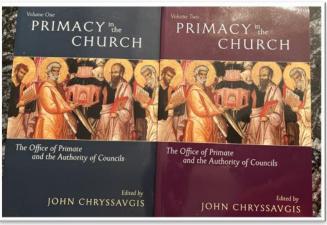


Recently, we added the entire Foundations series from SVS Press to our collection. This set of eight, highly acclaimed books contains the following titles.

- -Fellow Workers with God: Orthodox Thinking on Theosis
- -Gateway of Life: Orthodox Thinking on the Mother of God
- -Living in God's Creation: Orthodox Perspectives on Ecology
- -Remember the Days of Old: Orthodox Thinking on the Patristic Heritage
- -Science and the Christian Faith: A Guide for the Perplexed
- -Seeds of the Word: Orthodox Thinking on Other Religions
- -Stages on Life's Way: Orthodox Thinking on Bioethics
- -Sweeter than Honey: Orthodox Thinking on Dogma and Truth

"Testifying to the faith and creativity of the Orthodox Christian Church, the Foundations series draws upon the riches of its tradition to address the modern world." - SVS website



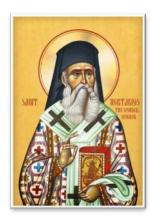


In addition, we added the two-volume series of "Primacy in the Church" edited by John Chryssavgis. "PRIMACY IN THE CHURCH is a careful and critical selection of historical and theological essays, canonical and liturgical articles, as well as contemporary and contextual reflections on what is arguably the most significant and sensitive issue in both inter-Orthodox debate and inter-Christian dialogue—namely, the authority of the primate and the role of councils in the thought and tradition of the Church. Volume One examines the development and application of a theology of primacy and synodality through the centuries. Volume Two explores how such a theology can inform contemporary ecclesiology and reconcile current practices. Chryssavgis draws together original contributions from prominent scholars today, complemented by formative selections from theologians in the recent past, as well as relevant ecumenical documents." - SVS website.

St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

Submitted by Rita Papaspyrou stnectariosphx@gmail.com

In the month of August, we celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos.



The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

Commemorated on August 6



This feast commemorates the transfiguration or metamorphosis of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory before the Apostles Peter, James, and John.

Jesus took the Apostles Peter, James, and John with Him up upon a mountain, and while they were on the mountain Jesus was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and His garments became glistening white.

Moses and Elijah appeared with Christ, talking to Him. Peter declared how good it was for them to be there and expressed the desire to build three booths for Moses, Elijah, and Christ. This reference to the booths could imply that this occurred during the time of the Feast of Tabernacles when the Jews would be camping out in the fields for the grape harvest; for this Feast had acquired other associations in the course of its history, including the memory of the wanderings in the wilderness recorded in the Old Testament book of Exodus.

While Peter was speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." When the disciples heard this they fell on their faces filled with awe. Jesus came to them and told them to not be afraid. When the three looked up they saw only Jesus.

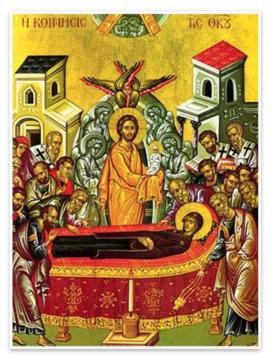
As Jesus and His disciples came down the mountain, He told them not to speak of what they had seen until He had risen from the dead.

Dormition of the Theotokos

Commemorated on August 15

The Feast of the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on August 15 each year. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition and in the Greek kimisis) or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also

commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos.



At the time of her death, the disciples of our Lord who were preaching throughout the world returned to Jerusalem to see the Theotokos. Except for the Apostle Thomas, all of them including the Apostle Paul were gathered together at her bedside. At the moment of her death, Jesus Christ himself descended and carried her soul into heaven.

Following her repose, the body of the Theotokos was taken in procession and laid in a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane. When the Apostle Thomas arrived three days after her repose and desired to see her body, the tomb was found to be empty. The bodily assumption of the Theotokos was confirmed by the message of an angel and by her appearance to the Apostles.

This great Feast of the Church and the icon celebrates a fundamental teaching of our faith—the Resurrection of the body. In the case of the Theotokos, this has been accomplished by the divine will of God. Thus, this Feast is a

feast of hope, hope in Resurrection and life eternal. Like those who gathered around the body of the Virgin Mary, we gather around our departed loved ones and commend their souls into the hands of Christ. As we remember those who have reposed in the faith before us and have passed on into the communion of the Saints, we prepare ourselves to one day be received into the new life of the age to come.

We also affirm through this Feast as we journey toward our heavenly abode that the Mother of God intercedes for us. Through Christ she has become the mother of all of the children of God, embracing us with divine love.

YAL Conference

Metropolis YAL Labor Day

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco YAL Committee is excited to announce the 2022 YAL Conference for ages 18-35 taking place Labor Day Weekend, September 1st-5th at the Wyndham Bayside Resort in San Diego, CA.

Registration will go live this upcoming week.

(Click here to register.)



Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners and their guests Julie Karoutas

email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com, cell: 623-313-8720 call or text



Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

Summer will soon become a memory—save the date for getting back to our very special Desert Diamonds & Friends Potluck on **Tuesday**, **August 30**, **2022 at 11:30am**.

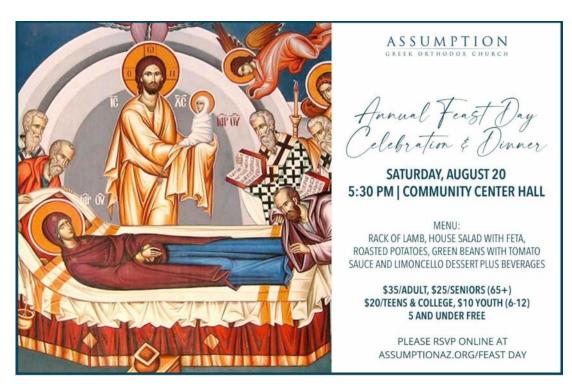
At this special gathering, "The Theological and Practical Things about End of Life" to be explained by both Fr. Alexander and Fr. Apostolos; with a question and answer period following.

Be sure to either sign up on Ministry Sunday on Aug. 21st or RSVP by phone or email.

In Christ, *Julie*



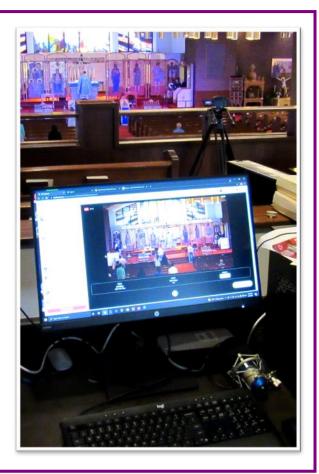
Assumption's Name Day Feast



Liturgical Services will continue to be live streamed by Father Apostolos and Father Alexander.

All services can now be found on the **Home Page** of the Cathedral's website www.holytrinityphx.org, in addition to the continued postings on our Facebook page.

Thank you to Tom Giatron and Joshua Pardhe for their above-and-beyond efforts to bring clear and timely video to all!



Desert Springs Issues Available to Our Seniors

or the computer-challenged!

In an effort to reach our whole Parish Community with Cathedral news, issues of the Desert Springs will be available for FREE to those in our community who do not own or use a computer, tablet, or smart phone or would prefer to read the news in hard-copy print. Submit names to the Church Office or text Kristen at 602-332-8809.

If you have been receiving the mailed Desert Springs, but no longer need it mailed to you, please let the Church Office know. Thank you!

Desert Springs Subscription
Enjoy color copies of Holy Trinity Cathedral's <i>Desert Springs</i> delivered to you!
Name:
Street Address:
City, ST, Zip:
Contact Phone:
 Return this form to the Church Office or contact Kristen at 602-332-8809

Our Church Family

40 Day Blessings

"One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple." Psalm 27:4



06/05/2022

Magdelene, daughter of Alana & Tristan Stoutenburg

God's Blessings be upon her.

06/05/2022

Veronica, daughter of Deborah Harrison God's Blessings be upon her.

06/12/2022

Emily Mead, daughter of Angela & Chris Mead God's Blessings be upon her.

07/24/2022

Petra Pappas, daughter of Emily & Andrew Pappas God's Blessings be upon her.

07/30/2022

Isabella Andrea Contes, daughter of Mara & **Andrew Contes** God's Blessings be upon her.

Baptism

"For as many of vou as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Galatians 3:27



07/30/2022

Isabella Andrea Contes, daughter of Mara & **Andrew Contes**

Godparents: Athena & Jeremy Gonzales God's Blessings be upon her.

Funerals

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever." Psalm 23:6



06/18/2022

Doree & Homer Drakos May their memory be eternal.

07/06/2022 Dean Pestrivas May his memory be eternal.

07/21/2022 **Bill Papadopoulos** May his memory be eternal.

08/01/2022 Dan Williams May his memory be eternal.



Light a Candle

In this time more than ever we need prayer. For those not able to come to the Cathedral yet, we have set up this ability to light a candle virtually! Please click the link above and follow the instructions. Enter your name and the names of those you wish prayed for in the PayPal "Notes" section, and Father Apostolos or Father Alexander will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

Coffee Hours

Thank you to **Philoptochos** for sponsoring Coffee Hours in June.

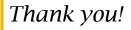


Thank you to the Parish Council for sponsoring Coffee Hours in July.





The August Coffee Hours are sponsored by the Celebration Committee.





AHEPA Chapter 219





Our Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, August 18, 2022 6:30 PM

> Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Community Center

1973 E Maryland Ave Phoenix, AZ 85016

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?
CONTACT STEVE LEMERE
770-990-6825

Daughters of Penelope Chapter 432

Before breaking for summer several of our members participated in the 13th Annual UMOM Walk to End Homelessness at the Phoenix Zoo. On Saturday, May 14th, between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., we walked through the zoo with many other participants.

UMOM provides emergency shelter and support services for up to 800 people every day with all of our community's support.

Our AHEPA District Convention was held in Las Vegas this year (June 17-19, 2022). Delegates met with one other from chapters throughout the southwest to select the annual district project, go over legislation, and to elect officers for this coming year. In the evening there was time for some social events. Julie Karoutas represented our Chapter #432 at the convention and she was re-elected as El Camino District Marshall.



Cathy Keyser, Jennifer Bilitsis, Niki Pallas, Christine Stamatis

Our Supreme Convention was held in Orlando Florida (July 17-22, 2022). Julie Karoutas and Cathy Keyser were delegates representing our Helenos Chapter. Members from the United States, Canada and Europe attended AHEPA's 100th anniversary. Over 200 women came together to conduct business, provide education, choose projects for the coming year and to elect officers. It was a wonderful event that allowed for renewing longtime friendships and forming new ones as well. **Some highlights have been provided below.**





Dinner with Daughters from Fort Lauderdale, Dallas, and New Orleans (above)

Enes Kanter Freedom, speaking on human rights to the Daughters and AHEPAN's (right)



Desert Springs August 2022



Sons and Maids attending the Supreme Convention



Wednesday evening at EPCOT Theme Park, Disney World



Julie Karoutas attending the banquet Thursday evening

We have some great events, both in person and virtual, coming up starting in late summer and continuing throughout the year. Please join us for these events and consider becoming a member.

Mark your calendars:

Meeting on Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 12:00pm Meeting on Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 12:00pm Daughters of Penelope Annual Picnic on October 29, 2022

And if you would like to become a member, please contact our Vice President Angie Lambrou at Angie.Lambrou@cox.net



OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Caroline Economopoulos, President



See you there

SAVE THE DATE

August

14

2022

OPA GENERAL MEETING

Calling all Parents to attend!

Immediately following Divine Liturgy
in the Community Center

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Senior Goya Discussion

This upcoming school year we will hold a meeting with our Senior Goya (Grades 9-12) the first Sunday of every month (unless noted below) at 7pm. This will provide our High Schoolers with a great opportunity to connect with each other and their faith. Please mark these dates down:

August 7
September 11
October 2
November 6
December 4
January 8
February 5
March 5
April 2
May 7



There is also a possibility of a Sr. GOYA trip to *San Francisco* in the Spring, keep a look out for that exciting venture!

OPA Meetings

One of the unique things about Holy Trinity Cathedral has always been OPA (Orthodox Parents Association) and their ability to facilitate ministry. This year we would like to empower the parents of different age groups to have meetings in their homes and other social outings with our groups:

HOPE: Grades 1-3

JOY: 4-6 Jr. Goya: 7-8 Sr. Goya: 9-12

If you are interested in heading up some outings or hosting your child's age group at your house, or simply learning more about OPA, please email Caroline Economopoulos <u>here</u>.

Please also join us also for OPA's informational meeting on **August 14** after Divine Liturgy in the Hall. Refreshments will be offered.



Our Youth

Church in the Home

If the faith is not spoken about in the home, there is no point in attempting education at church at all. To better equip our families, we are developing a simple **one page** handout "Church in the Home" for each Sunday that will be sent out every week as well as printed in the Narthex on that Sunday's Gospel. This will contain the Gospel, a small paragraph explaining context and background and some discussion questions for the whole family to grow in their faith.



Other Opportunities

Reach out to Fr. Alexander <u>here</u> if you'd like to learn how your children can be involved as Altar Boys, in the Choir, learn Byzantine Chant, join our Greek School, or any other ministry of interest.

Of course you and your children are welcome to join for both Bible Study and Catechism Class throughout the year. More information will be forthcoming on this soon as well.

Our children have been entrusted to us by God to return them to Him as much like Him as they can be. Whether your child will prioritize God and the Church when they grow up is dependent on you prioritizing it when they are home with you. If other events and activities take precedent now, they will take precedent later.

We are all on a journey to Christ together as a Cathedral family, join us this year as we march forward towards Him.

Fr. Apostolos Hill Fr. Alexander Eliades



Greek Dance

Niko Panagiotakopoulos, Director Email: npanos01@yahoo.com Call/text: (602) 469-2039

It is almost time to get back to dancing!! Our 2022 Greek Festival is schedule for October 7-9 and we are ready to put on a show! Everyone from Kindergarten to College/Young Adults will have a group. All Pre-K dancers will be in our Little Lambs parade, let me know if you need information!



We currently only have 23 dancers signed up and

I know we have more than that! I know a lot of people were out of town or on vacation, but we're getting closer to our parent meeting. Please fill out the form below if you are dancing so our instructors can plan their rounds!

We're slowly catching up with the times, instead of hard copies of registration forms, we're going digital! I'm still working on the online payment system and will have that soon, but please click the link below to fill out your children's registration forms! For now, only one dancer per application, sorry some of you need to fill it out multiple times. Please fill out this registration as soon as possible, the earlier we know the sizes of the groups, the sooner we can confirm how many dancers are with each teacher!

Festival 2022 Registration

Parent Meeting on 08/07/2022!

If you have any group specific questions such as where practice will be, when practice will end, or with general questions/requests, feel free to reach out to your children's director!

Festival 2022 Group Ages (as of Fall 2022 school grades!)

Pre K / Kindergarten!

Pamela Maydanis (602) 469-0408, goddessmaydanis@gmail.com

Angela Woerz (650) 743-5205, acwoerz@gmail.com

1st/2nd Grade-TBD

3rd/4th Grade!

Staci Vaughn (602) 686-3053, stasvaughn@gmail.com

5th/6th/7th/8th Grade!

Anna Panagiotakopoulos (602) 468-8676, anna.panna10@gmail.com

Athena Kretsedemas (602) 448-7580, akretsedemas@gmail.com

9th/10th/11th/12th Grade!

Tasso Annos (602) 758-5228, tssannos@gmail.com

Athanasia Fourlis (602) 625-7022, atfourlis@asu.edu

College+!

Niko Panagiotakopoulos (602) 469-2039, npanos01@yahoo.com

Gabriella Papatzimas (602) 810-9522, gabriella.papatzimas@gmail.com