Organization Contacts

- **AHEPA** — Steve Lemere: lemere4@cox.net
- **All Saints Camp** — Evan Tsagaris: etsagaris89@gmail.com
- **Altar Servers** — David Haag, Chris Francis: davidmhaag@yahoo.com, battersbox7@yahoo.com
- **Bible Study** — Father Apostolos Hill: papoulihill@gmail.com
- **Bookstore** — Rita Papaspyrou: stnectariosphx@gmail.com
- **Byzantine Choir** — George Duvall: phxchantor@cox.net
- **Choir** — Terri Alexon: htpxmusicdirector@gmail.com
- **Celebration Committee** — Terri Alexon and Mary Pardhe: htpxevents@gmail.com
- **Dance** — Niko Panagiotakopoulos: npanos01@yahoo.com
- **Daughters of Penelope** — Cathy Keyser: keyserc53@gmail.com
- **Desert Diamonds (50+)** — Julie Karoutas: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
- **Epistle Readers** — Presvytera Denise Hill: denkevhill83@gmail.com
- **Feed Those in Need** — Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net
- **Greek Festival** — Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas: niko.37@cox.net
- **Greek School** — Irene Mackos: eirinie@gmail.com
- **Hellenic Museum** — Bessie Hotis: call 602-953-1913
- **Little Lambs** — Angela Scopelianos: angelagarozzo@gmail.com
- **Maintenance** — Peter Bilitsis, Ted Fourlis: htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com
- **Myrrhbearers** — Stacey Beaty: staceybeaty@live.com
- **Narthex Outreach** — Kristen Vasilarakos: kvasilarakos@cox.net
- **OPA** — Caroline Economopoulos: cjecomom@gmail.com
- **Parish Council** — Paul Katsenes: pkatsenes@cox.net
- **Philoptochos** — Alex Anagnopoulos: aanagnopoulos2@msn.com
- **Safety & Security** — Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: pkatsenes@cox.net
- **Sons of Pericles** — Ted Fourlis: text or call: 602-625-8835
- **Special Events Administrator** — Angie Lambrou: angie.lambrou@cox.net
- **Stewardship** — Sandy Meris: sandymeris@gmail.com
- **St. Nicodemus Young Adult Book Club** — Mary Pardhe: yalazbookclub@gmail.com
- **Sunday School** — Kathy New: kkatsalis@msn.com
- **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...
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!

Fr. Apostolos' Message continued from page 3
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 Anagnostopoulos
Mike & Alexandra Anagnostopoulos
Bettina Angelos
John & Alexandra Annos
Elaine Apostol
Chris & Angie Athens
Christina & Chris Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Taylor Bankson
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Marissa Bard
Shannon & Elise Bard
Alexandra Bates
Joyce Bavlina
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Stamatis Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Blitsis
Emily Blazev
James & Helen Bruno
Chris & Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Constance Burkhart
Kathy Carras
Frank & Alise 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 Drozd
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
Andrea Anna 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
Basils & Roula Kaneris
Jean Kantaros
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Vasilios & Vasiliki Karagiannis
Christina Karalekas
Mia Karanreas
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 Laitas
John & Evangelia Lambrou
Judith Lamond
Elias & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Gregory Livanas
Efterpi Lourias
Melina Machas
James & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maclejewski
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 on page 7
Save the Dates—October 7, 8, & 9!
JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2022

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.

Invitation to Philoptochos:

NAME: ______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________________________________________________

EMAIL: _______________________________________________________________

PHONE: (_____) _____________ CHECK #__________________________ AMOUNT: ________________________

$15 will be sent to the Archdiocese and $15 to the Metropolis. Any amount over $30 will be retained for our chapter charities and obligations.

Mail your membership to:
St. Katherine’s Philoptochos of HTC Membership 2022, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

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

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

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

Water Donation

$100 worth of water delivered!

Donations are still being accepted.
Thank you!
Fathers Day
June 19, 2022

Dads and sons were gifted a cross by the church.

Father’s Day Group Photo!

2022
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

Parish Meal
Delicious dinner by Phillip Panagiotoglou and team!
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.

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**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

GIFT DONATION FORM

Please list my endowment gift as follows: ____________________________________

Here is my Endowment gift, which I may add to, of $____________

I plan to include the Holy Trinity Endowment fund in my Will___, my Living Trust___, or TOD*___

Signed:_______________________________________________________________

Dated:___________

Donor, please sign and keep a copy for your records

*TOD = transfer on death

All gifts will be preserved in the archives of Holy Trinity Cathedral

Gifts of $10,000 or more may be made over a three year period.

Thank You, and + God Bless You + for your generosity.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral + 1973 E Maryland Phoenix AZ 85016

+ 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 Vrahases
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
IMO+ Steve & Joan Vrahases
James & Connie Coin Contes

+ GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER $1,000.00 +

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss, the Lambrou Family

+ 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*
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.

The purpose of this Survey is to find out what works best for us as a parish family and your family. Please only use this survey if you are a parent of a school age child or someone who wishes to volunteer. There will be a great emphasis this year on you as a parent leading your child’s development in the Church so your level of commitment will be of paramount importance to their spiritual growth (and your own!).

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer at these events, please email our director, Kathy New [here](mailto:kathy.new@holytrinity.org) or Fr. Alexander [here](mailto:fr.alexander@holytrinity.org) 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 as a community! You can send a request with suggestions and details to: [htcphxevents@gmail.com](mailto:htcphxevents@gmail.com).
Celebration Committee
August Birthdays!

Sarah Agnos
Catherine Agra
Evan Alexon
Dimitrios Apostolis
Alexandra Bates
Anastasius Bates
Markella Benetos
Oscar Bracamonte
Daniel Brook
Kristen Bruskas
Melinda Carter-Keenan
Katie Choukalas
Chris Chronis
Gabriella Chronis
Jean Dal Pan
Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dellas
Alexandros Dimitriadis
Erika Dimitriadis
Stan Drozdz
Christos Economopoulos
Eleni Economopoulos
Zachary Forman
Anna Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Georgia Fourlis
David Haag
Zachary Haugen
Stephanie Heckel
Veronica Hill
Tony Hotis
James Kalivas
Joann Karros
George Katsaros
Paul Katsenes
Helen Katsufrakis

Jim Kavouris
Cathy Keyser
Elizabeth Kratsas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Nickoletta Makos
Mari Mastorakos
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Peter Maydanis
Stacie McKenzie
Anthony Miaoulis
Tania Miaoulis
Bill Miller
Emily Moroz
Evelyn Nickalew
Genevieve Oxley
Christo Panagiotakopoulos
Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Gabriella Papatzimas
Nicholas Papatzimas
Elizbeth Pardhe
Mary Pardhe
Panagiotes Pries
Marja Sbiliris
Gianna Sgouros
George Skintzis
Phyllis Skoubis
Bessie Speros
Theodora Staikos
Stella Tsantilas
Nicki Tsioutsipoulos
Eva Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarkakos
Stephanie Willard
Rose Wolfe
Christina Wombacher
David Worrell
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. 
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral—Phoenix, AZ

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. Nicodemas 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. Nicodemas 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.
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.
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.
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.

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**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.)
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*

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**Assumption's Name Day Feast**

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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 Desert Springs 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 you 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.

Desert Springs August 2022
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.

Thank you!
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
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.

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.
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
Are you getting the weekly OPA Newsletter?
OPA communicates primarily through email, via our email newsletter.
To stay informed on all of the youth, parent, and family happenings at Holy Trinity, sign up today.
It’s easy, just email your information to cjecomom@gmail.com, and we’ll get you added to list!

SAVE THE DATE
August 14, 2022
OPA GENERAL MEETING
Calling all Parents to attend!
Immediately following Divine Liturgy in the Community Center.
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 here.

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 here 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, atfourulis@asu.edu

**College+!**
Niko Panagiotakopoulos
(602) 469-2039, npanos01@yahoo.com

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