Welcome New Year!

Vasilopita by Effie Mousses
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 Papasyrou: stnitectariosphx@gmail.com
- Byzantine Choir — Joshua Pardhe: joshuapardhe@yahoo.com
- Choir — Terri Alexon: htpxmusicdirector@gmail.com
- Celebration Committee — Terri Alexon and Mary Pardhe: htcphxevents@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: cstampatis@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
- Living Orthodox (formerly St. Nicodemus Young Adult Book Club) — Mary Pardhe: livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com
- Maintenance — Peter Bilitsis, Ted Fourlis: htmaintenance1973@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: aaanagnopoulos2@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
- 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 Heidi and Kristen of any updates to your listing.
The Blessing of Homes

For a while, due to the size of our parish, issues of Covid, and a variety of things we have not been able to bless your houses in this season of Theophany. This changes this year! If you would like your house blessed please contact the office, Fr. Apostolos or Fr. Alexander directly and we will set up a time to bless your homes!

Why should I have my home blessed?
I'm glad you asked! When we begin anything we are called to pray and so beginning to inhabit our homes we should always seek to pray and have God present there abiding in our home so if you have just moved somewhere we bless your house. We ask God to bless you and keep you for many years and protect your home! The Church teaches us to sanctify everything: dwellings, places of work, all our pursuits, and the fruits of our labor. The home blessing at Theophany represents a renewal of our lives in Christ. Washed in the baptismal waters, our homes become temples of the Holy Spirit for the fulfillment of the will of our Heavenly Father. This is why the Church blesses everything that can be found in a Christian home; and if something is not worthy of being blessed, then there should not be a place for it in the home of a Christian.

But I've had my house blessed before, do I need to again?
Yes! We should have our homes blessed again just as we need constant blessing in our life. At this time of Theophany we have the water blessed on Theophany available to sanctify our homes and purify them of the sin that lingers in them and ask God to dwell there instead.

What should I do to prepare?
After you have set-up your appointment with us, here is how to prepare for your house blessing:
All who reside in the household should make every effort to be present for the Blessing. We will gather in a central location (perhaps your home altar) and please, if possible, have ready: a lit candle, a Theophany icon or another icon of Christ, make sure your rooms are lit (if at night) and open doors to rooms for ease of entry.

Please contact the office or either Fr. Apostolos or Fr. Alexander if you would like to have your home blessed this Theophany season and we will make arrangements to make your home truly a place where Christ dwells and blesses you in this new year!

As a note, it is NEVER required to give a priest money, the Scriptures tell us, “Freely you have received, freely give.” It is a pious custom to do so but should NEVER be thought of as a requirement, a priest comes to his parishioners to bring the blessings of God upon them and their homes.
Stewardship
By Sandy Meris

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

NEW YEAR—
NEW STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

Wishing all of our Holy Trinity stewards a joyous, healthy, blessed 2023!

As we prepare for a new year we pray for health for ourselves and our families, success for our children and hope that this new year will be better than the last. It’s important to remember the church in our reflections and as we make plans for the upcoming year.

Each and every year we make a new stewardship commitment. We are required to fill out a new Stewardship Pledge Card and prayerfully, thoughtfully consider our new pledge for the year. We are striving to become a tithing parish which means to give 10% of our first fruits to the church. At the very least, stewardship should be a sacrificial giving and hopefully increasing year after year.

Our goal is for 100% of our parishioners to turn in their pledge cards by January 31st. And our next goal is to reach the $500,000 mark in total commitments. This is something I am confident we can do as we are not far from that goal. Can you help us get there by increasing your pledge over last year’s?

One thing that is evident of our Holy Trinity community is that we can meet any goal we set when we work together. This community is a giving, generous community and when there is a need our parishioners answer the call.

We are truly grateful for the outpouring of loving generosity and understanding of what true stewardship means. Glory be to God for the blessings He continues to bestow on our beloved Cathedral!

Blessing the Pledge Cards

Stewardship message continued on page 5
**Stewardship**

**FILL OUT YOUR 2023 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARD HERE!**

If you have yet to fill out your **2023 Pledge Card** simply click HERE to be immediately connected to our online pledge card. Simply fill out the information and submit it. Then if you are a current WeShare user you can continue using WeShare until we are fully integrated to the new system. Once that happens we will provide assistance in converting you to ShelbyNext.

**NEW AND IMPROVED STEWARDSHIP COMING SOON!!**

We are excited to announce that we have a new and improved stewardship program and portal coming in February! ShelbyNext will be our new online payment portal and with it comes a myriad of opportunities that will help us serve you better. ShelbyNext will replace WeShare and PayPal. ShelbyNext is user friendly and enables us to have a one-stop shop for all of our needs both stewardship related and otherwise. Through ShelbyNext you can receive text message reminders about various church events and services, make stewardship payments, purchase tickets to church events, make memorial or Friends of the Festival donations and even download Father’s sermons. If you are a current WeShare user we will provide information soon on how to convert to ShelbyNext. We will be ready to share information about signing up soon.

**YOU ANSWERED THE CALL TO CREATE A “SEASON OF GENEROSITY”**

A huge thanks to all of our parishioners who donated non perishable food, toys and school supplies to the families of St. Vincent de Paul. In all we collected 6 boxes filled with these much needed items. Because of your generosity those families were able to provide a toy to their children, send them off to school with much needed supplies and put a hot meal on their table. Thank you!
Parishioners enjoyed a delicious complimentary lunch provided by the Stewardship Committee and the Parish Council.

The Little Lambs offered a cookie decorating activity for the youngest members during the luncheon.

Thank you, Debra Harrison and Team!
House of Stewards
As of 12/29/2022

Panagiota Agelakos
Catherine Agra
Evan & Terri Alexon
Constance Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alexandra Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
Bettina Angelos
John & Alexandra Annos
Elaine Apostle
Argyro Apostolou
Chris Athens
Christina & Chris Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Taylor Bankson
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Marissa Bard
Shannon & Elise Bard
Alexandra Bates
Joyce Bavlinka
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes
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 & Jeffrey Clarke
Andrew & Mara Contes
James & Connie Contes
Kathy Contes
Ed Cooper
Jean Dal Pan
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Patricia Davis
Leonard & Elaine Debickero
Elevis & Alexis Delgadillo
Dimitrios & Ellen Deligiannnis
Hercules Dellas
Patrick & Karla Delord
Joanne Demangus
Tom & Irene Demas
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Bill DeMoss
Charles DeMoss
Chris DeMoss
John & Marjorie DeMoss
Michael & Maureen DeMoss
Basil & Ruth Denaxas
Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis
Stanley & Fran Drozdz
Denise Dye
Kathryn Dye
Caroline Economopoulos
Christos & Dena Economopoulos
Emil Ellis
Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades
Greg Fernandez
Helen Fernandez
Mary Floor
Tim & Karla Floor
Athanase & Georgia Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Ted & Andi Fourlis
Tim Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgana Frieh
George & Julie Froumis
Christopher & Catherine Frye
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
Maria Hontzas Ruttle
Bessie Hotis
Jeffrey Johannesmeyer
James & Linda Kalivas
Basilis & Roula Kaneris
Jean Kantaros
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Vasilios & Vasiliiq 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 & Quentin Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
George & Zanetta Kleanthis
Anastasia Kompos
Maria Kompos
Kostadinos & Anatoli Koustouros
Dean & Angela Koumontzis
Elizabeth Kratsas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Debbie Kunkel
Theodore Kyriacou

House of Stewards continued on page 8
Desert Springs January 2023
Tassie Ladas
Anastasia Laitsas
John & Evangelia Lambrou
Judith Lamond
Elias & Mary Lamos
Scott & Jill Leach
Mike & Lea Linaris
Gregory Lizanich
Efterpi Lourias
Melina Machas
James & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maciejewski
Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitris
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Douglas & Anna Markakis
Mark Mallas
Julie & Felix Mamani
Anna Manos
Jim & Donna Manelis
Maria Maniatis
William & Rina Marinakos
Nicholas Marino
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Stephen & Mari Mastorakos
Pamela Maydanis
Peter & Christina Maydanis
Angela Mead
William & Sandy Meris
Joanne Meris
Anthony & Tania Miaoulis
George Miller
Paul & Linda Miller
William & Jean Miller
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell
Philip & Helen Mitchell
Dino Moschovitis
Elias Mousa
Spyro & Effie Mousses
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
John Nicolettos
Annamarie Nieblas
Pamela Nolen
Marta Ntatsos
Irene Pagoudis
Jeremy & Anastasia Oxley
Else Paletos
Elizabeth Palmer
Alexander & Alexia
Panagiotakopoulos
Anna Panagiotakopoulos
Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Nikolas Panagiotakopoulos
Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
Sofia Panagiotoglou
George & Chryssoula Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos
Ria Papageorgiou
Alexander & Olga Papamatakeas
Betty Papas
Nicholas Papas
Rita & Spyros Papaspyrou
Gabriella Papatzimas
Nicholas & Stacy Papatzimas
Andrew & Emily Pappas
Angeline Pappas
Harry & Fannie Pappas
Irene Pappas
John & Andrea Pappas
Daniel & Anna Pardhe
Athena Parmenter
Katherine Pedersen
John & Dina Pesognelli
Fontini Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Chris Petroulaikis
Jacquelyn Petroulaikis
William & KathyPetsas
Nicholas & Laurel Petsas
Michael & TeAnn Philppis
Evanthia Piatt
Brian & Athena Pickett
Georgia Pikoula
Mary Pikulas
Andreas & Mary Poulakidas
Tracy Poulos
Chris & Juli Pritsos
Constantinos Pritsos
Nicole Pyle
Bertha Quinn
Lydia Rabbitt
Alex & Rose Rentzis
Lois Sakkas
Dimitra Sampson
Paul Sarantes
Leslie Sarantinos
John Schneider
Warren & Kalliopi Schneider
George & Angela Scopelianos
Diane Sedlacek
Chris & Terry Seritis
Elaine Seritis
George & Traci Sgouros
John Siavelis
Elyse Sioles
Robert & Donna Sioles
George & Evi Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
George Skoubis
Evangelos 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 & Alana Stoutenburg
Christopher Tapas
Despina Tavelrides
William & Rebecca Tavelrides
Gus & Mary Theodoropoulos
Nick & Effie Theodore
Jim Thomas
Deac. & Diak. John & Mary Thrasher
Andrew Touvannas
Thaddeus & Katherine Tropea
Constantine & Stella Tsantilas
Stacy & Gerri Tsantilas
Dimitrios Tsoutsioopoulos
Constantine & Katherine Tzavaras
Daniel Valenzuela
Peter & Lindsay Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarakos
Argyro Vasquez
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Steve & Mary Vrahos
Kenneth & Angela Walker
Catherine Wallerich
Paula Walsh
Douglas & Paulina Watson
Timothy West
Robert Williams
Dennis Williams
Richard & Katina Wood
Michael & Christina Wombacher
Dimitra Zakas
Anthony & Karen Zaman
Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis
George & Katherine Zannis
Zella Zannis
Evangelia Zikos
Michael & Christina Zistatsis
JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2023

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 2023, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016
First, there was a short meeting, followed by a generous buffet, then a fun gift exchange!
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos Hearts Project

Beginning **Thursday, 01/05/2023 through Sunday, 02/05/2023**, we will be selling paper hearts for $10.00 each. Once decorated - by you or the Philoptochos crew - the hearts will be strung together, blessed by the Fathers, and on display on Sunday, 02/12/2023. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the loved ones in your life, and to honor those In Memory Of - May Their Memory Be Eternal! Look for tables and presentations every week through the first week of February.

Coffee in the Conference Room!

**EVERY TUESDAY!**

9:30-11:00 am
No RSVP needed - just stop on by!
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

To Joanna Mackos and ALL the Bakers—we very much appreciate you!

Christmas Bake Sale
December 18, 2022

Thank you to all who bought items at our annual Christmas Bake Sale! Your support allows us to continue our diligent efforts for our many projects and commitments.
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos Vasilopita Auction

Please join us on **Sunday, January 8th, in the Speros Community Center following Divine Liturgy.** We will auction several beautiful Vasilopitas made by the ladies of Philoptochos for you to take home and share with your families to start the New Year. We look forward to seeing you!

Orthodoxy 101

Beginning on **January 11 Fr. Alexander will hold his Orthodoxy 101 Class every Wednesday after Paraklesis (around 7pm)** in the Conference Room and on Zoom (here). We will approach the faith through the lens of the Apostolic Fathers, the Fathers of the Church who lived within the first 100 or so years after Jesus! What did these early Christians believe? How did they live? Let’s find out together!

We read some writings from the book "The Apostolic Fathers in English" by Michael Holmes. This book is not required as all readings are also available online through google for free but is helpful. Another helpful way to frame the class will be through reading "The Illumined Heart" by Pres. Frederica Matthews-Green.

Calendar Overview

Father Apostolos reminded parishioners on New Year’s Day to use a calendar to keep the liturgical seasons and Name Days forefront in daily prayer and activities.
Parish Assembly and Parish Council Elections
December 4, 2022

Parish Council Election Results
Congratulations to our new Parish Council members, elected for a 3 year term (in alphabetical order): Alexander Harding, Paul Katsenes, Jill Leach, Chris Petroulakis, and John Schneider.
May God bless you and strengthen you in your service to His Church!

Coffee Hours
Thank you to Philoptochos for sponsoring Coffee Hours in December.

The January Coffee Hours are sponsored by Dance.

Thank you!
Youth Christmas with the Fathers
December 18, 2022
Christmas Eve Reception

The Celebration Committee expanded beyond their monthly Sunday potlucks and hosted a **hot chocolate and cookie reception** in the Narthex on Christmas Eve!

Youth Lesson

New Year's Day
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.

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
Endowment Fund

NEW Chiller Installation!
December 2022
Desert Diamonds
Senior Parishioners and their guests
Julie Karoutas
email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com, cell: 623-313-8720 call or text

Xronia Pola!
Let us ring in the New Year with fellowship, luncheon & and guest speaker, Fran Drozdz!
"The Number One Resolution that everyone makes in January"...to take weight off, which will include "Spiritual Fitness"
She was an Ambassador to the oldest weight loss Organization in America and is a Motivational Speaker that has spoken across the country. Fran will have a Question & Answer period, will bring a few of her Books & Brochures, the Olympic torch she carried from the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics; we can also take pictures with the torch!

Many are anxiously waiting for this event; Please, make your reservation early, names of those attending & what dish you will be bringing. We will also have guests from some of our other Greek Orthodox churches.

Yours in Christ,
Julie Karoutas
email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
Cell# 623.313.8720

Blessing Bags

Bags with helpful items for the homeless were put together by our youth and available for distribution on 12/11/2022. Thank you to Christopher Lopez who led the project and to all the parishioners who picked up a bag or two to hand out to those in need.
Celebration Committee

Let’s Celebrate!

On the first Sunday of each month, the Celebration Committee organizes a potluck during coffee hour to celebrate all the special events in parishioners’ lives and birthdays that take place in that month. Please join us every month and bring your favorite food item to share!

In December, the Celebration Committee hosted two events – the December Celebration Sunday and a Christmas Eve Reception. On Saturday, Dec. 3rd, a group of parishioners gathered in the kitchen to prepare a delicious communal meal for Sunday. Together, they made clam chowder, biscuits, squash salad, and pumpkin pie. If you would like to participate in future cooking events, please email htcpxhrxevents@gmail.com.

This month, we celebrated Fr. Alexander’s birthday and all December birthdays (see the list of names on the following page). The hall was decorated with foil Christmas-themed balloons, a red-and-green balloon arch, and two balloon columns. In addition, we had an automatic bubble machine that added a festive mood to the celebration. Each table was adorned with either mini-Christmas trees or vases with candy canes. Thanks to all who have participated in the monthly potluck this, sharing your favorite food item. We greatly 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 an email with suggestions and details to: htcpxhrxevents@gmail.com.

On Christmas Eve, the Celebration Committee hosted an informal reception following the 6pm Lity and Matins for Christmas. Hot cocoa, apple cider, coffee and an array of treats were set up in the Narthex for everyone to partake as they left church. It was a fun community time for our church family to celebrate the Nativity together.

In 2023, we hope to expand our committee so that we can continue organizing events that brings the parish together. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, please email htcpxhrxevents@gmail.com and/or talk to Terri Alexon or Mary Pardhe.

Celebration Article continued on page 21
Celebration Committee
December Photos

Celebration Committee
December & January Birthdays!

Happy Birthday

Nicholas, Beaty
Anthony Boyd
Helen Bruno
Kathrene Carras
Anna Chimonas
George Chondropoulos
Harriet Chotras
Dina Chronis
Andrew Contes
Dimitrios Deligiannis
Karla Delord
Nathan Dolord
Bill DeMoss
John DeMoss
Petros Economopoulos
Fr. Alexander Eliades
Andi Fourlis
Daniel Fraenkel
Celeste Francis
Dinos Georges
Georgette Hasiotis
Aidan Haugen
Dan Horvath
Ella Kamboukos
Pete Karegeannes, Jr.
Kelley Katsanos
Matina Kokalis
Stella Kosta
Hendrix Lopez
Angela Mead
Effie Mousses
Annmarie Nieblas
Sophia Panagiotakopoulos
Stephanie Papadopoulos
Danain Papamatheakis
Olga Papamatheakis
Rita Papaspyrou
Spyros Papaspyrou
William Petsas
Sophia Philippis
Gregory Sackos
Kalioopi Schneider
Diane Sedlacek
Jonathan Sgouros
Traci Sgouros
Christina S. Speros
Christine Stamatis
Gerri Tsantillas
Christina Tzavelas
Angeliki Valerou-Cooper

George Peter Agnos
Bettina Angelos
Elaine Apostle
Sophia Bakavelou
George Benetos
Rita Bruskas
Frank Carris
Peter Choukalas
Adriana Chronis
Marlam Contes
Yiorgo Cooper
Leonard Dibekero
Patrick Dolord
Joanne Demangus
Fran Drozdz
Judy Farr
Bill Graham
Alexia Haugen
Constantinos Herrara
Ekaterini Laynes
Grace Kamboukos
Harper Kamboukos
Vasios Karampianis
Vasili Karagiannis
Fortini Karakis
Robby Kavouris
Fanny Kehaiyas
George Kleanthis

Nick Kretsedemas
Leonithas Mackos
Stephan Mackos
Sandy Meris
Joanne Meris
Claire Meyers
Anastasia Mitchell
Zoya Moroz
Kathy New
Irene Papoudis
Elizabeth Palmer
Gayle Petkas
Georgia Pikoula
Nicoie Pyle
Lydia Rabbitt
Niko Sakos
Theodore Schroeder
Alisha Solheim
Michael Iris Solomon
James A. Speros
Alana Stroudenburg
John Theodore
Sophocles Tsamos
Dimitrios Tsioukopoulos
Stacie Vaught
Andy Vulas
Andrew Vlahoulis
Jessica Young
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!

“*To be a welcoming community sharing Christ’s love through faith and service.*”

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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.

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With Appreciation

Evelyn Nickalew thanks everyone who visited, called, and prayed for her during her recent hospital and rehab center stay. She is home now and wants to share her love and appreciation for all of you!

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Procession

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**holytrinityphx.org**

Have you checked out the website lately?

Events • Services • Photos • Calendar • Stewardship
Our Church Family

40 Day Blessing
“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

12/04/2022
Zacharias, son of Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas
God’s Blessings be upon him.

Baptism
“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” Galatians 3:27

12/10/2022
Emily, daughter of Angela & Chris Mead,
Sponsors are Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas
God’s Blessings be upon her.

Weddings
“Oh Lord our God, crown them with glory and honour.”

12/17/2022
Amanda Bard & Harrison Gillis,
Sponsor is Marissa Bard
God’s Blessings be upon them.

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

12/22/2022
George Papadopoulos
May His Memory Be Eternal.

01/02/2023
Constantine (Dean) Tsantilas
May His Memory Be Eternal.

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!
Living Orthodox Young Adult Ministry

Living Orthodox is a national, pan-Orthodox ministry that is building a community of young adults (18-35) who are striving to grow in and connect with their faith! The focus of this ministry is to highlight ways that we, as young adults, personally grow in our Orthodox faith (ex. attending services, reading books, listening to podcasts, watching spiritual videos, etc.) and to share ideas on how to increase our commitment to live an Orthodox life. Join us on for virtual meetings every other week and in-person for our monthly potluck discussions!

December Potluck Party

Our December party was a special event with a service project, potluck meal, and a presentation by our featured speaker, John Hinson (St. Ignatius). Mr. and Mrs. Contes graciously opened their home to 20+ young adults who attended the party. Together, the Living Orthodox group filled fifty bags with toiletries and various items to share with people experiencing homelessness. With so many hands, the project was completed in less than 10 minutes! Then, we enjoyed a meal together and had a good time of fellowship. Our featured speaker, John Hinson, gave a beneficial talk on “Finding Healing Through the Sacraments”. We had an opportunity to both learn and ask questions about preparing for and approaching the Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Confession.

Living Orthodox continued on page 25
2022 Recap

This year, our group expanded from 10 members to over 45 members from 7+ parishes! Our monthly potlucks offer a unique opportunity to fellowship with Orthodox young adults from across the Valley and to learn from speakers who live out their Orthodox faith in everyday life. These speakers share valuable insights on how we can grow and practice our faith. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Living Orthodox, please email livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com! You can also visit https://linktr.ee/livingorthodox for links to our Instagram channel and Discord server.
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
Congratulations to our Scholarship Winners:

- Maria Tsioutsias
- Theodore Annos
- Yianni Paslidis
- Eleni Papadopoulos
- Constantine Papadopoulos

Our Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, January 19th
6 PM

Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Community Center

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

CONTACT STEVE LEMERE
602-882-9990
AHEPA Chapter 219

AHEPA CHAPTER 219
A NIGHT OF RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION
FEBRUARY 18, 2023
6:00PM COCKTAILS
6:30 PM DINNER
7:45 AWARDS
SOCIAL AFTER AWARDS
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
JAMES A SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER
OPEN BAR WITH 4 COURSE - 5 STAR MEAL

$80 per Couple or $45 per person
RSVP no later than February 12, 2023 to:
John Kostaras: 480.318.1935
or jkostaras61@gmail.com
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW - LIMITED SEATING
Winter has officially started. Christmas and New Year’s was a time to relax, spend time with family, making memories and having holiday fun.

It looks like the Greek government is trying to replace all the summer lights to Christmas lights, decorate the streets and sing traditional Christmas carols.

Also the Orange and Neratzi trees in bloom. Neratzi is a bitter orange which make for a delicious spoon dessert, Γλυκό του κουταλιού.

Kourabiedes/Κουραμπιέδες
On the last day of Greek School, we made these special Christmas cookies/Κουραμπιέδες. These are the most traditional Christmas cookies in Greece and worldwide. The kids enjoyed making and eating them.

Next month we won’t be making Βασιλόπιτα.

Vasilopita/Βασιλόπιτα

The Vasilopita is a special Greek tradition. Making this special cake for New Year’s is in honor of Saint Basil. When cutting the cake into slices on New Year’s Day, Greeks will name each slice after everyone in the family and friends. Usually also a coin is hidden in the bottom of the cake. Whoever is lucky enough to get the coin in their slice is considered especially blessed in the coming year.

January 6 the celebration of Epiphany.

This is a very traditional event in Greece. Depending on the region, the cross is thrown in the sea, river, or lake. And mountains areas or in Athens, the Cross can also be thrown in a fountain. Young men will dive or jump into the water and try to catch it. The person that will catch it, will have luck for the year. Also, the water is believed to be blessed. The priest often goes to the houses and bless them with this water.

The Epiphany custom comes from Ancient Greece, and particularly from the feast in the ancient Greece, called plintria. During this feast, the Athenians would carry the statue of Athena to the coast of Faliro to wash it in the sea to make sure it would keep it’s magical powers.

Of course, January Name Days

6th Φώτης, Φωτεινή, Θεοφάνης Θεοφάνεια Φανή, Ουρανία. (Foti, Fotini)
7th Γιάννη Γιάννης Ιωάννης Ιωάννα (John, Joanna)
25th Γρήγορης Γεωργία Μαργαρίτα (Gregory, Margret)

Don’t forget to wish them Χρόνια πολλά!

We have so many of beautiful Greek traditions! Greek School hopes you keep the traditions alive in your home.
OPA—Orthodox Parents Association
Caroline Economopoulos, President

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.
December Activities

Sr. GOYA went ice skating.

12/05/2022

Our Goya gathered together at the Papamatheakis home for some Christmas cheer and had a great night together! Thank you to the Papamatheakis for hosting and all for joining us!

12/17/2022
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:

- January 8
- February 5
- March 5
- April 2
- May 7

Greek Dance

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

FDF 2023
Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel
February 16-19, 2023

Fruit Smoothies by FDF Dancers

December 11, 2022