March 2023
Volume 8 Issue 3

Photos by Nate Tropea.
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

Desert Springs Staff
Rev. Apostolos Hill,
Theological Advisor/Editor-In-Chief
Kristen Vasilarakos, Layout/Composition
602-332-8809, kvasilarakos@cox.net

Desert Springs Deadline
The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

Church Office Email Addresses
Father Apostolos Hill
papoulihill@gmail.com
Father Alexander Eliades
fraeliades@holytrinityphx.org

Office Manager Heidi Demopoulos Bass
AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org

Office Administrator Yvonne Vranes
htfrontoffice@holytrinityphx.org

Church Caretakers
Terry, Paul, and Dimitri Valonis

Holy Trinity Bookstore
info@stnectariosphx.org

2022 Parish Council Members
President: Paul Katsenes
Vice President: Connie Contes
Treasurer: Jim Manelis
Ass’t. Treasurer: Dina Anagnostouls
Secretary: Andi Foulis
Sandy Annos, Charlie DeMoss, Alexander Harding, Jill Leach, Sandy Meris, Elias Moussa, Socrates Papadopoulos, Chris Petroulakis, John Schneider

Holy Trinity Cathedral
www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco
www.SanFran.goarch.org

Archdiocese Website
www.goarch.org

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 — Joshua Pardhe: joshuapardhe@yahoo.com
- Choir — Terri Alexon: htphxmusicdirector@gmail.com
- Celebration Committee — Terri Alexon and Mary Pardhe: htcphevents@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
- Living Orthodox (formerly St. Nicodemus Young Adult Book Club) — Mary Pardhe: livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com
- Maintenance — Peter Bilitsis, Ted Foulris: htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com
- Myrrhbearers — Stacey Beaty: staceybeauty@live.com
- Narthex Outreach — Kristen Vasilarakos: kvasilarakos@cox.net
- OPA — Caroline Economopoulos: cjecomom@gmail.com
- Parish Council — Paul Katsenes: pkatsenes@cox.net
- Philoptochos — Alex Anagnostouls: anagnostouls2@msn.com
- Safety & Security — Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: pkatsenes@cox.net
- Sons of Pericles — Ted Foulris: 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.
Message from Father Alexander

The School of the Services

When I was younger I will admit I was like most children are: utterly bored by the services of the Church. Even though I went quite often, every Sunday and sometimes on weekdays, I knew something beneficial came from the services but I couldn't tell you what and I probably wouldn't ever admit that I enjoyed any of it and would sorely complain! I do remember however one Lenten service when I couldn't have been more than 12. We were attending an OCA parish near our house and their choir was absolutely mesmerizingly beautiful and I just began to weep. About the same time, my sister took up chanting at our church and when she went off to college and then the monastery where she has resided for almost 15 years now, my priest asked me if I'd give a stab at chanting the services.

I had no idea what I was doing but had a decent "ear" for things so when the older Greek Psalti would chant something, I could match whatever "tone" he was in and it would be a possible exercise in chanting. But as I had a closer encounter with the texts I was chanting, something else happened. I actually paid attention to them. I began to read and try to comprehend them for the first time and their beauty as they spoke about the love God has for us, the great sinfulness I have but yet the GREATER mercy of God, I was struck. At weekly Sunday Orthros I was moved by the power of the words proclaiming the Resurrection of Christ.

I learned and I began to love the services.

As I paid attention to the hymns I learned what the Church wished to teach me about God, in fact almost ALL the Church wished to teach me about Him. And this makes sense, in the olden days, not everyone could read, not everyone had time to study, or especially study theology so the services HAD to be the classroom for the people. And it worked. The people who are pious and love God truly, love the services because in them they learn more about the one they love and worship Him.

This Lent we have an opportunity to come to the services at least 5 times per week! Finally we have a shot to offset what the classroom of the world tells us compared to what the Church wishes to tell us. We are loved, we are unworthy, but we are loved and God Himself has come to make that known to ME.

When we don't come to the services we are choosing the same as not coming to school, to class. I am choosing that I don't need to learn. But we all need to. And something surprising will probably happen when you begin to make a habit and routine of coming to services. You'll learn and you'll love them.

So this Lent, make a routine, a habit of coming to church and if you pay attention you'll learn, and you'll begin to love them.

May we have "Good Strength" in this season of preparation for the Resurrection of our Lord!
Stewardship
By Sandy Meris

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

2023 Stewardship Theme:
Giving Thanks: Eucharistic Stewardship

#GOALS!

Goals are important to set for ourselves as individuals and as a Cathedral family. As you are aware we set 2 goals for Stewardship 2023:
1. 100% participation by our parishioners to fill out and submit their Pledge Cards by January 31st.
2. Reach a total amount of $500,000 pledged by all our stewardship combined.

We are pleased to report that as of the end of February we have 233 families who have pledged $419,257. This is a significant increase from last year at this same time. We are so close to reaching that $500,000 mark and of all of our families becoming stewards. The House of Stewards list is on pages 9 & 10 and we are grateful to all of those who raised their pledges for 2023 and met our January 31st goal. We are grateful to all of our Holy Trinity stewards for your generosity and commitment.

For those who still need to become 2023 Stewards, there is no time like the present! Just visit our church website at: www.holytrinityphx.org click on “Stewardship” in the upper right hand corner. Click on “Pledge Card” and fill out the information and submit.

LENTEN PARISH WIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
We are working on organizing a parish wide Lenten community service project. We will go as a group to roll up our sleeves and help those in need. Please keep an eye out for further information and how you can join us and help!

STEWARDSHIP 2022 FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

It’s important to take a moment and see how far we have come and know where we want to go. The past can help propel us forward and enables us to plan for the future. Below is a final report from Stewardship 2022.

2022 FINAL STEWARDSHIP NUMBERS

Total number of Pledged Families = 310
Total amount pledged by all Stewards combined = $470,635
Total amount collected = $474,022
Any amounts overpaid = $37,751

Number of Stewards giving:
$20,000+ = 1
$10,000+ = 2
$5,000 - $9,999 = 19
$3,000 - $4,999 = 18
$1,000 - $2,999 = 119
$500 - $999 = 62
$1 - $499 = 89

Lowest pledge = $5
Highest pledge = $23,000
Median pledge = $1,000

Desert Springs March 2023
Archbishop Elpidophoros Visit
February 5, 2023

In town for the Leadership 100 Conference, His Eminence led us in worship on Sunday.
Archbishop Elpidophoros Visit

February 5, 2023

Following Divine Liturgy, His Eminence posed with some of the youth in attendance, before heading down to our Speros Community Center for a Celebration & Soup & Salad lunch.

Upcoming Youth Retreat

March 18, 2023

Valley-wide Lenten Retreat 4F Day!
We're excited to host the Valley-wide Youth Lenten Retreat here at Holy Trinity on March 18 from 9am-3pm! In this special version of 4F we'll come together for the day to learn about how to reclaim our true humanity as we know it to be as Orthodox Christians. Please RSVP [here](#).
## OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2023

**SUNDAYS** | **THEMS / GOSPEL READING** | **HOW TO PARTICIPATE:**
--- | --- | ---
**Fast - Free Week** | **TRIODION WEEKS** | 
FEbruary 5th | Publican and the Pharisee | Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

**Normal Fast Week** | The Prodigal Son Returns! | Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, “Today I will be humble.” Use up/freeze meats this week.

**Meatfare** | The Last Judgement | Pray facing East this week.
FEBRuary 19th | Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 | Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him!
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

**Cheesefare** | Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! | Use up/freeze dairy this week.
FEBRuary 26th | Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 | FORGIVENESS SUNDAY
Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

**1st Sunday of Lent** | GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS | Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
MARCH 5th | SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY | Bring an icon to church for a procession.
Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-25, 32-12:2 | Gospel: John 1:43-51

**2nd Sunday of Lent** | ST GREGORY PALAMAS | Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today!
MARCH 12th | Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 | Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

**3rd Sunday of Lent** | VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS | Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
MARCH 19th | Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 | HALF WAY TO PASCHA!
Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

**4th Sunday of Lent** | ST JOHN of the LADDER | Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

**5th Sunday of Lent** | ST MARY of EGYPT | Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

**FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY** | GREAT AND HOLY WEEK | Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
**APRIL 9th** | ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM | Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ’s Death.
GREAT WEEK BEGINS | Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 | Gospel: John 12:1-18

**GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY** | GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY | Greet everyone with “CHRIST IS RISEN!” & say it before good morning and goodnight.
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS | CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

**FEAST OF FEASTS!** | BRIGHT WEEK | 
APRIL 16th | HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) | 
HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL, PHOENIX, AZ
SERVICES OF GREAT & HOLY LENT 2023 FEBRUARY 26 – APRIL 8, 2023

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 -------------- 5PM - FORGIVENESS SUNDAY VESPERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 -------------- CLEAN MONDAY - 6PM GREAT COMPLINE WITH CANON OF ST. ANDREW
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 -------------- 6PM - GREAT COMPLINE WITH CANON OF ST. ANDREW
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 --------------- 5:30PM - 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *POTLUCK TO FOLLOW
THURSDAY, MARCH 2 --------------- 6PM - GREAT COMPLINE WITH CANON OF ST. ANDREW
FRIDAY, MARCH 3 --------------- 8AM - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY
FRIDAY, MARCH 3 --------------- 6PM - 1ST SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS AND ANOINTING
SATURDAY, MARCH 4 --------------- 8/9AM - MIRACLE OF KOLYVA ORTHROS AND DIVINE LITURGY
MONDAY, MARCH 6 --------------- 6PM - GREAT COMPLINE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 --------------- 5:30PM - 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *
FRIDAY, MARCH 10 --------------- 8AM - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY
FRIDAY, MARCH 10 --------------- 6:00PM - 2ND SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS
MONDAY, MARCH 13 --------------- 6PM GREAT COMPLINE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 --------------- 5:30PM 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *
FRIDAY, MARCH 17 --------------- 8AM - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY AT ASSUMPTION IN SCOTTSDALE
FRIDAY, MARCH 17 --------------- 6PM - 3RD SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS
SATURDAY, MARCH 18 --------------- 12-6PM LENTEN 4F RETREAT
MONDAY, MARCH 20 --------------- 6PM - GREAT COMPLINE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 --------------- 5:30PM - 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *
FRIDAY, MARCH 24 --------------- 6PM – GREAT VESPERS WITH THE 4TH STANZA OF THE SALUTATIONS
SATURDAY, MARCH 25 --------------- 8/9AM ORTHROS AND DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE ANNUNCIATION
MONDAY, MARCH 27 --------------- 6PM GREAT COMPLINE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 --------------- 5:30PM - 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *
FRIDAY, MARCH 31 --------------- 8AM - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY
FRIDAY, MARCH 31 --------------- 6PM - THE AKATHIST HYMN AND ANOINTING
MONDAY, APRIL 3 --------------- 6PM GREAT COMPLINE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 --------------- 5:30PM - 9TH HOUR AND PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY *
FRIDAY, APRIL 7 --------------- 8AM - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY
SATURDAY, APRIL 8 --------------- 8/9AM - SATURDAY OF LAZARUS – ORTHROS AND DIVINE LITURGY
SATURDAY, APRIL 8 --------------- HOLY WEEK 4F RETREAT FOLLOWING PALM CROSS FOLDING UNTIL 2PM
APRIL 9-APRIL 16 --------------- PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK, PASCHA (SEPARATE SCHEDULE)

*ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS OF GREAT LENT FOLLOWING PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY, WE WILL HAVE A POTLUCK
LENTEN MEAL AND REFRESHMENTS, ALONG WITH A BRIEF REFLECTION ON THE APOSTOLIC FATHERS. BRING YOUR FAVORITE
LENTEN DISH AND JOIN US FOR AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FELLOWSHIP AND LEARNING!

ΚΑΑΘ ΔΥΝΑΜΗ! GOOD STRENGTH! BLESSED FAST TO ALL!
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE TO FOLLOW
House of Stewards
As of 02/23/2023

Panagiota Agelakos
Catherine Agra
Evan & Terri Alexon
Constance Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alexandra Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
Bettina Angelos
John & Sandy Annos
Elaine Apostle
Argyro Apostolou
Christina & Chris Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Taylor Bankson
Crisanne & Scott Bansner
Sam & Heidi Bass
Joyce Bavlinka
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Stamatios Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis
James & Helen Bruno
Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Constance Burkhart
Kathy Carras
Frank Carris
Chad & Amanda Carver
Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller
Harriet Chotras
Jim Chotras
Pete & Kim Choukalas
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke
Andrew & Mara Contes
James & Connie Contes
Hon Steve & Stacia Counelis
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Patricia Davis
Rebecca Davis
Leonard & Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dellas
Hercules Dellas
Patrick & Karla Delord
Joanne Demangus
Tom & Irene Demas
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Alexa DeMoss
Bill DeMoss
Charles DeMoss
Chris DeMoss
John & Marjorie DeMoss
Michael & Maureen DeMoss
Basil & Ruth Denaxas
Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis
Jimmy Drakos
Stanley & Fran Drozdz
Christos & Dena Economopoulos
Clyde (Emil) Ellis
Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades
Ed & Katherine Fancher
Athanase & Georgia Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Ted & Andi Fourlis
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgana Freih
George & Julie Froumis
Semos Gardner
Chris & Anne Gavras
Andreanna Georgiou
Thomas & Christina Georgiou
Pamela Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Demetra Georgelos
John T Giannopoulos
Polly Ginakes
Stella Glitsos
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
David Haag
Mary Haidos
Donald Hall
Terry Harper
Mary & Roger Harris
Patsy Harris
Diane Herman
Veronica & Michael Hill
Bessie Hotis
Gelu & Jesa Isfanut
Ekaterini & Jason Jaynes
Jeffrey Johannesmeyer & Melina Machas
Pavlos Kairis
James & Linda Kalivas
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos
Basilis & Roula Kaneris
Marianna Kaneris
Jean Kantaros
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Maggie & Marko Karakozis
Peter Jr & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Vasilios & Vasilqi Karagiannis
Julie Karoutas
Joann Karros
Fotini Katrakis
George & Niki Katsaros
John & Mary Katsenes
Paul & Lori Katsenes
Thomas J Katsenes
Jim & Poppy Kavouris
Fanny Kechajias
Catherine & Quentin Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
Pete & Pat Kladis
Maria Kompos
Spiros & Maria Kontakis
Arthur & Carol Kostaras
Anthony & Janet Kouvousis
Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Debbie Caras & Greg Kunkel
John & Evangelia Lambrou
Judith & Bruce Lamond
Elias & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Constance & Steve Lemere
Lea Linaris
Andrew Limber
Gregory Lizanich
James & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maciejewski
Joanne Mackos
Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitris
Jenny Margaris
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Julie & Felix Mamani
Anna Manos
William & Rina Marinakos
Nicholas Marino
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Stephen & Marianthi Mastorakos
Debra & Demetrios Mavroidis
Angela & Chris Mead
William & Sandy Meris
Anthony & Tania Miaoulis
Angeline Miller
Paul & Linda Miller
William & Jean Miller
Philip & Helen Mitchell
Emily & Oleg Moroz
Dino Moschovitis
Spyro & Effie Mousses
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
AnnaMarie Nieblas
Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Alexi & Alexia Panagiotakopoulos
Philip & Eleni Panagiotoglou
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Chrysoula Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos
Aaron Papagalos

Maria Papageorgiou
Betty & James Papas
Nick Papas
Rita & Spyros Papaspyrou
Gabriella Papatzimas
Nicholas & Stacy Papatzimas
Angeline Pappas
Andrew & Emily Pappas
Harry & Fannie Pappas
Irene Pappas
John & Andrea Pappas
Daniel & Anna Pardhe
Athena Parmenter
Amy Paul
Christine & Peter Pearce
Katherine Pedersen
John & Dina Pesognelli
Fotini Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Chris Petroulakis
Jacquelyn Petroulakis
Nicholas Petsas
William & Kathryns Petsas
Michael & TeAnn Philippis
Brian & Athena Pickett
Andreas & Mary Poulakidas
Tracy Poulou
Panagiotes & Anthipe Pries
Nicole Pyle
Bertha Quinn
Lydia Rabbitt
Menelaos Rentzis
Voula Rentzis
Maria & Curt Ruttle
Lois Sakkas
Dimitra Sampson
Paul Sarantes
Les & Christine Sarantinos
John Schneider
Warren & Kalliopi Schneider
Angela & George Scopelianos
Diane & George Sedlacek
Terry & Chris Seretis
John Siavelis
George & Evi Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
Constantin Solomon
David & Alisha Solheim

Angelo & Marie Spanos
Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos
William & Dianne (Tiki) Spell
James L & Karen Speros
Vasilios & Diana Speros
Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Andrew & Christine Stamatolis
Gerry & Nitsa Stamatelatos
Tristan & Alana Stoutenburgh
William & Rebecca Tavlarides
Nick & Effie Theodore
Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos
Jim Thomas
John Gus & Teresa Thomas
Deac. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher
Andrew Touvannas
Thaddeus & Katherine Tropea
Stacy & Gerri Tsantilas
Constantine & Stella Tsantilas
Vaious & Areti Tsanos
Matthew & Eva Turgeon
Costa & Koko Tzavaras
Daniel Valenzuela
Kristen Vasilarakos
Argyro Vasquez
Terri & Scott Vaughn
George & Connie Venetis
Leah Venetis
Peter & Maria Vlahos
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Steve & Mary Vrahas
Matthew & Jaclyn Walsh
Paula & Colin Walsh
Zach & Mary Wilhelmi
Richard & Katina Wood
Michael & Christina Wombacher
Zachariah Yoon & Elizabeth Hong
Anthony & Karen Zaman
Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis
George & Katherine Zannis
Evangelia Zikos
Kostas & Margarita Zistas
Eleanna Zistatsis
Michael & Christina Zistatsis
First Pan-Orthodox Vespers Since 2019
March 5, 2023

We are pleased to announce the return of Pan-Orthodox Vespers!
We invite you to join us Sunday, March 5, 2023

Service at 6:00 pm
Reception to Follow

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(SE of SR 51 and Lincoln Drive)
602-264-7863
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
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

Super Coffee Social

“From Our Hearts to Yours”

Sunday, February 12, 2023
Thank you to all who joined us!
And thank you to Cathy Keyser for leading the team!

Coffee in the Conference Room!
EVERY TUESDAY!

9:30-11:00 am
No RSVP needed - just stop on by!

February Meeting Hostesses
February 2, 2023

Thank you, Connie Venetis and Patty Davis, for the tasty treats!

Sunday, February 12, 2023
Thank you to all who joined us!
And thank you to Cathy Keyser for leading the team!
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

Hearts Project

Thank you to all who helped create—and then hang—the more than 130 paper hearts! You are appreciated!

Below: set-up on Saturday, 02/11/2023.
A special thank you to the Valonis brothers for their invaluable assistance!
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

Hearts Project
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

Hearts Project
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos
Pascha Bake Sale! Deadline to order is 04/02/2023.

ST. KATHERINE PHILOPTOCHOS
PASCHA BAKE SALE PRE-ORDER FORM

NAME ________________________________

PHONE # _____________________________ EMAIL ________________________________

ITEMS AVAILABLE:

TSOUREKI $12 each (please specify quantity & type):

   _____ PLAIN
   _____ ALMOND
   _____ SESAME

   TOTAL $ __________

KOULOURAKIA $10 dozen (how many?) ______

   TOTAL $ ______

   GRAND TOTAL $ __________

PAYMENT:

CHECK NO. ___________________ AMOUNT $ __________________

(Please make check payable to PHILOPTOCHOS)

CREDIT CARD # _________________ CVV _____ EXPIRATION ____________ ZIP ________

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK (IF APPLICABLE) TO:

PHILOPTOCHOS
4022 E HAMBLIN DR
PHOENIX, AZ 85050

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

ALL ORDERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9 ONLY.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL PATTY @ 480-703-4713.
Meatfare Sunday
February 19, 2023

Thank you, Phillip Panagiotoglou, for making and serving the delicious lamb pasta!

Forgiveness Sunday
February 26, 2023

"Forgive me, a sinner."

Sunday of Orthodoxy
March 5, 2023

Bring Your Icons for Sunday of Orthodoxy!
Sunday, March 5 is Sunday of Orthodoxy! Please have your children bring their icons from home and parents are welcome to bring their too as we proclaim the Triumph of Truth in our faith!
Orthodoxy 101

Fr. Alexander holds 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.

Have you checked out the website lately?  
Events • Services • Photos • Calendar • Stewardship

Did you know?  
We had 3,228 site visitors in February and 37,501 site visitors in the last 12 months?
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.

ENDOWMENT GIFTS

PLATINUM DONORS: $100,000.00 +
Faye Boukas
George and Ann Souvall
John George Thomas

GOLD DONORS: $50,000.00 +
Dr. Nick Baziotis
DeMoss Families
IMO+ Tasia Pritchard

SILVER DONORS: $25,000.00 +
IMO Mary Montague
IMO John and Mary Katsenes
IMO George & Koulai Cheros
IMO Dina Sakellarakis
IMO Steve and Joan Vrahos

BRONZE DONORS: $10,000.00 +
IMO Gabriel & Helen Fappagallos
IMO Bill & Mary Montague
IMO John G. Zannaras
IMO Steve & Judith Vrahos

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND: $1,000.00 +
Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss
The Lambrou Family

OTHER IN MEMORY GIFTS
IMO Stacy Hotis
IMO Danny Speros
IMO Mark Sprintz
IMO Chris Gabriel
IMO Fr. James & Katherine Tavlarides
IMO Fr. Anthony & Mary Coniaris
IMO Tom Contes
IMO Leonard Mastorakos
IMO John Sproulas
IMO Chris Rea
IMO Athena & Dan Choukalas
IMO Milton & Harriet Sokes
IMO Koula & Pete Triantafylou
IMO James H. Karros
IMO Bette Maniatis
IMO Dan Lester Hill

REMEMBER HOLY TRINITY IN YOUR WILL
Hellenic Historical Museum
His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros visited the museum during his February visit.

Located in the northeast section of the James A. Speros Community Center, the Museum displays vintage photographs and other historic artifacts related to pioneer Greek families in Phoenix from the early 1900s, the founding in 1930 of the first Hellenic Orthodox Church in Arizona, and up to the relocation in 1973 at the present site of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Contact Bessie Hotis 602-953-1913 for more information.

Coffee Hours
Thank you to Celebration Committee for sponsoring Coffee Hours in February.

The March Coffee Hours are sponsored by the Greek School.

Thank you!
Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

Greetings! Save the date!
Tuesday, March 21st, at 9:30am
"Coffee at Ker"
The Magic Flute Co. presented with the Arizona Opera

Refreshments provided by Renegade Coffee Co.

The Coffee events are part of a series of free, informal presentations featuring Arizona Opera and guest musicians. Patrons are encouraged to contribute a suggested donation of $5.00 and bring a can of food or sealed personal items to be donated to the Vista del Camino Food Bank. Coffee & refreshments are served in the Crescendo Garden at 9:30am. Event begins at 10:30am.

I have made 15 reservations, the first 14 to RSVP will receive a reservation. I will, of course, have a wait list, should there be a cancellation. More to follow for those with a reservation.

Looking forward to seeing YOU there.

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

---

In February, twelve of our Desert Diamonds (not all are pictured) met for a delicious luncheon at George Yang's Chinese Cuisine on 16th Street in Phoenix.
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 February, we were honored to host His Eminence and members of Leadership 100 during Celebration Sunday. The Dance ministry had their annual Soup and Salad luncheon while the Celebration Committee set out a grab-and-go breakfast spread.

We had several events to celebrate in February including Jim and Connie Contes’ 30th wedding anniversary, Pres. Laura Eliades’ baby shower, the baptism of Emily Mead (daughter of Chris and Angela Mead), the 40-day-blessing of Peter Justin Walsh (son of Matt and Jacky Walsh), Ria Papageorgiou’s achievement of earning her private pilot license, and all February birthdays. The décor was red and pink for Valentine’s Day. Attendees were welcomed at the entrance with a bubble machine. Each table was decorated with a red or pink overlay, a vase with fresh flowers, and a bowl with conversation heart candies. The stage was decorated with balloon garlands while paper heart garlands, foil heart balloons, and a balloon arch were placed around the hall.

We greatly appreciate those who have shared their milestone events with our Holy Trinity 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: htcphxevents@gmail.com.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, please email htcphxevents@gmail.com and/or talk to Terri Alexon or Mary Pardhe. We’re looking for more volunteers to help out on a monthly basis!
Celebration Committee
February Celebration
Celebration Committee
March Birthdays

Happy Birthday

John Antoniadis
Seraphina Bates
Ani, Bracamonte
Heidi Bracamonte
Henry Carver
Patricia Christie
Mara Contes
Stacia Counelis
Sharon Daniolos
Stefanos Daniolos
Basil Davis
Ellen Deligiannis
Basil Denaxas
Mary Fisher
Catherine Frye
Thaddeus Frye
Christina Gardner
Mary Haidos
Rev. Fr. Apostolos Hill
Mary Illas-Vrahás
William Kapolas
Virginia Kidd
Anastasia Kratsas
Ariana Kretsedemas
James Krullac
Christopher Lopez
Maria Lourias
Melina Machas
Harris Manelis
Katerina Matheos
Pamela Maydanis
Christian Meris
Katherine Meris

William Meris
Constance Miologos
Alexandra Nolen
James Oxley
Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
Dean Papadopoulos
Eleni Papadopoulos
Susie Papadopoulos
Katerina Papamatheakis
Mike Papamatheakis
Stacy Papatzimas
Dina Pesognelli
Christina Petsas
Demetrios Pickett
Kay Poulos
Paul Prato
Anna Pries
Anastasia Sampson
Peter Schneider
George Scopelianos
Chris Seretis
Elias Skoubis
Sphie Solheim
William Spell
Genevieve Speros
Nathaniel Tropea
Thaddeus Tropea
Mary Ann Tsakiris
Zachary Venetis
Paula Walsh
Adam Wilson
Isaac Wilson
Richard Wood
Tyler Young
Evangelia Zikoss

Desert Springs March 2023
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

02/01/2023
Peter, son of Jaclyn & Matthew Walsh
God’s Blessings be upon him.

02/25/2023
James, son of Laurel & Nick Petsas
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

02/10/2023
Evangelos Skoubis
May His Memory Be Eternal.

02/20/2023
Ann Zoukis
May Her Memory Be Eternal.

02/22/2023
Mike Linaris
May His Memory Be Eternal.

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!

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.

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
Annunciation of the Theotokos
Commemorated on March 25

The Feast commemorates the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would become incarnate and enter into this world through her womb.

The Archangel Gabriel appeared to the Virgin Mary, who was living in Nazareth, and said to her, “Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you.” Mary was perplexed and wondered what kind of greeting this was.

The angel told her not to be afraid, for she had found favor with God. He said, “You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mary responded to the angel by asking how this could happen since she had no husband. The angel told her that the Holy Spirit and the power of God would come upon her, and that the child to be born of her would be called holy, the “Son of God.”

In faith and obedience to the will of God, Mary replied to the angel, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be according to your word.” Upon her response, the angel departed.

It is on the Feast of the Annunciation, that Orthodox Christians commemorate both the divine initiative of God, whereby He took on flesh from the Virgin for our salvation, and the human response, whereby Mary freely accepted the vocation offered to her. He elected to become man, and He desired to do this with the willing agreement of her whom He chose as His mother. Mary could have refused, for she was not a passive instrument, but an active participant with a free and positive part to play in God’s plan for our salvation. Thus, when on this and other feasts the Orthodox Church honors the Theotokos, the Mother of God, it is not just because God chose her but also because she herself chose to follow His will.
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.”
Salutation Flowers

Salutation Icon Flowers

Decorating the Annunciation Icon each week of Lent is an Orthodox tradition, and a lovely way to memorialize loved ones by supporting our Cathedral.

Suggested donation of $50.

Complete this form and return with your donation to the Cathedral Office, or enclose in an offering envelope and place in collection tray.

Donor name: ____________________________________________

Donor phone #: (___) ________________________________

Name(s) of those honored and the relationship to donor:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please provide your order by March 20, 2023.

Questions? Please call the Cathedral office: 602-264-7863

HOLY TRINITY
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
Pascha Flower Donation

Remember beloved family and friends and beautify the Cathedral with plants this Pascha.

Donations of $20.00 per remembered individual or married couple are appreciated.

Complete this form and return with your donation to the Church office or enclose in an offering envelope, to place in a collection tray.

Please provide your order by March 20, 2023.

Donor name: ____________________________

Donor phone #: (___)_____________________

Name(s) of those honored and the relationship to donor:
1. ______________________________________
2. ______________________________________
3. ______________________________________
4. ______________________________________

Total donation: $___________

Questions? Please call the Cathedral office: 602-264-7863

HOLY TRINITY
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
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
PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Hosted by the Brothers of AHEPA Chapter 219

SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH
FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICES

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
1973 E. MARYLAND AVE - PHOENIX

$30 ADULTS
$20 AGES 6-17
5 AND UNDER FREE

Reservations beginning Sunday, March 5th during Coffee Hour in the Church Community Center

OR CONTACT:

Heidi Demopoulos Bass, Holy Trinity Office, (602) 264-7863
Andrew Touvannas, (509) 628-6293
Pete Marudas, rosemar2@msn.com (602) 284-1638

Reserved Tables of 8 or 10 must be prepaid in advance. All other reservations will be open seating.
Our Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, March 16 at 6 PM
Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Community Center
1973 E Maryland Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Interested in Membership?
Contact Steve Lemere
602-882-9990
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!

January Potluck and Discussion

Our January potluck had a record attendance with 45 young adults from 7 parishes! Dcn. Raphael Abrahams (St. George) gave an excellent presentation titled “What Makes Evangelism So Difficult: Why Bother?”. The video of his presentation is available on our YouTube channel - [https://tinyurl.com/LOvideosYT](https://tinyurl.com/LOvideosYT). If you are interested in learning more about evangelism and how to gain confidence in sharing the Faith, please sign up his newsletter at [https://desertdeacon.com/](https://desertdeacon.com/).

First question: why is evangelism difficult?

Answers included the following: the culture isn’t Orthodox, it is Protestant; many Orthodox people don’t know what evangelism is; people are turned away from previous misconceptions or experiences; we, as Orthodox, are not “shining examples” of Christ; and that there is social discomfort with talking about religion. Dcn. Raphael's added more answers including poor training; communication issues; the fear of “what if I get a question I cannot answer”; people don’t want to listen; the fear of “I might say the wrong thing”, and the conception of "I don’t know enough to share my faith”.

How to share the Faith?

After discussing the answers, Dcn. Raphael talked about the history of evangelism in the New Testament with the example of the Apostle Paul. There is no formula for evangelism in the Bible; however, the apostles customized the message of the gospel so that it made sense to the audience they were addressing. We should follow that example when we share the gospel with others.

Small-group discussion questions: “Do you agree or disagree that Christianity in America is in decline? Do you have any opinions as to why it is in decline?”

Everyone agreed with the first question and spent the discussion time on the second question. There was a
lively discussion at each table with numerous opinions shared and debated. The collective answers to the second question were as follows: It is because Christianity in America is founded on Protestantism, which is a house built on sand; there is less use of spiritual disciplines; it is founded on emotion, which declines once emotion declines (as it inevitably does); it is shallow, and the solution is to become more traditional and go back to the roots of Christianity.

**Proposed solutions:**
- Live as examples
- Practice spiritual disciplines
- Learn about apologetics
- Start small and start with yourself. You cannot spread something that you do not have. Focus on a depth of holiness and not just breadth of preaching.

Once again, the full talk can be found on our YouTube channel - [https://tinyurl.com/LOvideosYT](https://tinyurl.com/LOvideosYT).

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Living Orthodox, please email [livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com](mailto:livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com)! You can also visit [https://linktr.ee/livingorthodox](https://linktr.ee/livingorthodox) for links to our Instagram channel and Discord server.
OPA—Orthodox Parents Association
Caroline Economopoulos, President

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
cjecomom@gmail.com,
and we’ll get you added to list!

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.

Little Lambs
Debra Harrison

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.
Dance Soup & Salad Luncheon
February 5, 2023

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

HOLY TRINITY 2023 FDF DANCE GROUPS

HT 2023 FDF GROUP

FDF photo collages by Caroline Economopoulos
Greek Dance
Niko Panagiotakopoulos, Director
Email: npanos01@yahoo.com
Call/text: (602) 469-2039

DIVISION III (Exhibition)

TA SKIOURAKIA

PRIMARY – DIVISION II

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

CONGRATULATIONS
to
TA PATRIOTAKIA
placing 3rd Place
in the Junior Division

WONDERFUL PERFORMANCES BY ALL!!!