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

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Father Apostolos Hill  
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Church Caretakers  
Terry, Paul, and Dimitri Valonis

Holy Trinity Bookstore  
info@stnectariosphx.org

2023 Parish Council Members  
President: Paul Katsenes  
Vice President: Connie Contes  
Treasurer: Jim Manelis  
Secretary: Andi Fourlis  
Sandy Annos, Charlie DeMoss, Alexander Harding, Jill Leach, 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

- 4F/Sunday School — Kathy New: kkatsalis@msn.com  
- AHEPA — Steve Lemere: lemere4@cox.net  
- All Saints Camp — info@assumptionionaz.org  
- Altar Servers — David Haag: davidmhaag@yahoo.com, Chris Francis: 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: 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  
- Greek Festival — Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas: niko.37@cox.net  
- Greek School — Irene Mackos: girnie@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 Billitsis, Ted Fourlis: htcmaintenace1973@gmail.com  
- Myrrhbearers — Stacey Beaty: staceybeaty@live.com  
- Narthex Intake — Kristen Vasilarakos: kvasilarakos@cox.net  
- OPA — Caroline Economopoulos: ejecomom@gmail.com  
- Oratorical Festival — Nick Petsas: npetsas@outlook.com, Chris Francis: battersbox7@yahoo.com  
- Parish Council — Paul Katsenes: paulkatsenes@gmail.com  
- Philoptochos — Alex Anagnopoulos: aeanagnopoulos2@msn.com  
- Safety & Security — Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: paulkatsenes@gmail.com  
- 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  
- UMOM New Day Centers — Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net  
- 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

Setting Priorities

As we continue to wilt in our lovely Summer heat here in Phoenix we have already seen the return of many of our children to school and the return of routines as we begin to settle into “life.” We set priorities for when we will bring our children (and ourselves!) where and at what times. If there is a conflict we decide which thing to favor over the other and show our priorities by attending the one over the other event. The other thing we do to show respect and priorities is timeliness. We don’t preach of the importance of school to our children then arrive 45 minutes late regularly. We don’t speak about how important a certain extra-curricular is and then only sparingly show up to it.

So then how do we approach church and God? Is it a mandated event? Do we choose other events over Him? Do we make an effort to come on time consistently? When we see things through this light it should be no surprise when our families and youth stray from the faith as it is simply not as much a priority as other events in life.

As for everything with God, we have the opportunity to change that at any moment and this year we have many chances to reframe our life towards salvation and eternal rather than the mundane. We know our robust Liturgical life and services that present us with the ability to pray together as a community. But along with prayer, we must learn as well and we have opportunities for young and old.

Our Youth will continue in their 4F program beginning on August 19 at 4:30pm and repeat every 3rd Saturday. After Liturgy on Sunday they will join Fr. and Fr. on the solea to learn about the Scriptures this year! With more parental involvement we will offer more house meetings for different age groups as well. Our High Schoolers will meet the first Sunday of every month at 7pm beginning August 6th.

For our adults (or even our youth!) who wish to continue their education in the faith (which should be everyone!) Fr. Apostolos will host his class The Kingdom of God and How to Attain it Saturdays at 3:30pm beginning August 26 in the Conference Room and on Zoom. Fr. Alexander will offer Bible Study Wednesdays after Paraklesis at ~7pm on 1st Corinthians beginning on August 23.

You have the chance to show your priorities in life by where you place your time and effort. Where does God fit on that ladder?

See pages 34 & 35 for more information on upcoming youth activities.
Stewardship
By Sandy Meris

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

Stewardship 2023 Theme: Giving Thanks: Eucharist Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP CONTINUES TO REACH NEW HEIGHTS

As the summer comes to a close and we embark on the new Ecclesiastical year, our 2023 Stewardship campaign continues to reach new heights and break records! As you may recall, we set our stewardship goal for 2023 to reach $500,000. As you will see from the information below we have surpassed our goal and continue to climb.

We are pleased to announce the updated Stewardship report as of July 25th:

Total number of Stewardship families: 333
Total amount pledged: $544,090
Total amount paid: $307,904 (56%)
Number of Stewards using ShelbyNext: 101

We are so grateful for the continued generosity of our stewards and we encourage you to continue on this journey with us in growing our stewardship. And please consider becoming a ShelbyNext user for your Stewardship contributions.

Thank you to everyone!

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

Go to www.holytrinityphx.org and then click on Stewardship:
House of Stewards
As of 07/27/2023

Catherine Agra
Evan & Terri Alexon
Constance Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alexandra Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
John & Sandy Annos
Elaine Apostle
Chris Athens
Christina & Chris Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Taylor Bankson
Crisanne & Scott Bansner
Sam & Heidi Bass
Alexandra Bates
Joyce Baulinka
Nicholas P Baziotis
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Stamatis Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Billitis
James & Helen Bruno
Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Constance Burkhart
Kathy Carras
Frank Carris
Chad & Amanda Caruer
Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller
Harriet Chotras
Jim Chotras
Pete & Kim Choukalas
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke
Andrew & Mara Contes
James & Connie Contes
Ed & Angeliki Valerou-Cooper
Wyatt & Emily Coppinger
John & Jean DalPan
Evonne Damianos
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos
Patricia Davis
Rebecca Davis
Leonard & Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dallas
Hercules Dallas
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

Jeffrey Johannesmeyer & Melina Machas
Paulos Kairis
James & Linda Kaliwas
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos
Basilis & Roula Kaneris
Mariana Kaneris
Jean Kantaros
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Maggie & Marko Karakozis
Peter Jr & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis
Julie Karoutas
Joann Karros
Fotini Katrakis
George & Niki Katsaros
Chris & Nobuko Katsenes
John & Mary Katsenes
Paul & Lori Katsenes
Thomas J Katsenes
Jim & Poppky Kavouris
Fany Kechajias
Catherine & Quentin Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
Pete & Pat Kladis
Maria Kompos
Spios & Maria Kontakis
Arthur & Carol Kostaras
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros
Dean & Angela Koumontzis
Anthony & Janet Kouvoousis
Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Debbie Caras & Greg Kunkel
Tassie Ladas
Anastasia Lambrou
John & Evangelia Lambrou
Judith & Bruce Lamond
Elia & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Constance & Steve Lemere
Lea Linaris
Andrew Limber
Jamie & Kimberly Limber
Luke & Maria Lipnos
Gregory Livanich
David Lyon
James & Stephanie Machas

Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis
Stanley & Fran Drozd
Carolina Economopoulos
Christos & Dena Economopoulos
Clyde (Emil) Eliades
James & Lisa Gitsos-Elam
Ed & Katherine Fancher
Athanasi & Georgia Fourlis
Athenasia Fourliš
Ted & Andi Fourlis
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgana Frieh
George & Julie Froumis
Semos Gardner
Chris & Anne Gauras
Andreanna Georgiou
Pamela Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Demetra Georgelos
Dinos & Koula Georges
John T Giannopoulos
Polly Ginakes
Andrew & Angela Goard
Stella Glitsos
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
David Haag
Mary Haidos
Donald Hall
Terrl Harper
Mary & Roger Harris
Patsy Harris
Alexia Haugen
Diane Herman
Fr. Apostolos & Presu. Denise Hill
Gregory Hill
Veronica & Michael Hill
Bessie Hotis
Steve & Candy Huff
Gelu & Jesa Isfanut

House of Stewards continued on page 6

Desert Springs August 2023
We offer you our thanks for your dedication to our parish and your participation in Christ’s work of salvation. If you have not filled out a Pledge Card for 2023, please pick one up in the Church Narthex or visit holytrinityphx.org. If you have filled out a 2023 pledge card but your name does not appear on this list, please know any omissions are unintentional. Please call the Church office immediately and we will resolve the situation.

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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

Next Meeting on Thursday,
September 7, 2023
at 6:00 pm
for the Blessing of the Waters in the Cathedral
followed at 6:30 pm by the meeting
in the Lounge of the Speros Community Center

What is Philoptochos?
The translation is Philo = Friend and Ptochos = Poor. It is literally “Friend of the Poor”.

St. Katherine’s faceted glass icon in the south wing of the Narthex.
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos Scholarships!

Philoptochos Scholarship Awardees
Congratulations to the 2023 recipients!

The Ladies of Philoptochos are thrilled to announce our scholarship award recipients. Our community has the most brilliant and well-accomplished students, and they are only in the beginning of their amazing futures. Please join us in congratulating these outstanding young adults!

$1000: Nathan Delord, Elizabeth Pardhe, Anastasia Pickett
$500: Theodoros Annos, Dean Papadopoulos, Demetrios Pickett, and Staci Vaughn

Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos 2013-2025 Board Members

Congratulations to the newly elected Board:

President—Kristen Vasilarakos
1st Vice President—Cathy Chiros Keyser
2nd Vice President—Julie Karoutas
Treasurer—Georgia Fourlis
Assistant Treasurer—Patty Davis
Recording Secretary—Lois Sakkas
Corresponding Secretary—Julie Mamani
Advisor—Alex Anagnopoulos
Board At Large—Kathy Carras, Georgiana Frieh, Eva Goodman, Bessie Hotis, Zoe Pestrivas, Mary Louise Theodoropoulos, Katina Wood
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos
Complimentary Pentecost Reception
June 4, 2023

Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos
Hosted June Coffee Socials
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos
Annual Complimentary Lunch for All In Honor of Father’s Day

The lunch included a photo with sons and fathers in attendance.

Coffee Hours

Thank you to the Philoptochos for sponsoring Coffee Socials in June.

Thank you to the Celebration Committee, Dino Moschovitis/Desert Diamonds, the Thrasher/Tavlarides families, Connie Contes, and Jill Leach for sponsoring the Coffee Socials in July.

The August Coffee Hours are sponsored by 4F.

Thank you!
Parish Assembly
Sunday, September 10, 2023

As provided by uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, a meeting of the Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish Assembly will be held at the Holy Trinity Cathedral Speros Community Center, 1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ, 85016, immediately after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023.

Agenda will include details of scope/costs and request for decisions on the Community Refresh (there will be more information coming soon.)

All Stewards in good standing are eligible to attend and vote.

List of Stewards in good standing is on pages 5 & 6. Please call the Cathedral office if you have questions at 602-264-7863.

Summer Series—Final Class
08/02/2023

We have one more class this Summer! Join us Wednesday, August 2 in the Conference Room and also available on Zoom [here](https://example.com).

**August 2: The Transfiguration**

Fall Classes

Registration for Fall catechism will open soon. Fr. Apostolos will offer a two semester catechism on The Kingdom of God and How to Attain It. Classes will be held in person and via zoom beginning on August 26, 2023. Please contact the office or Fr. Apostolos to request registration details.

Fr. Alexander will begin his Bible Study on 1 Corinthians on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 after 6:30pm Paraklesis in the Conference Room and on Zoom. Class will be offered every Wednesday at that time.
Cathedral Refresh

Step 1!
As approved by our Parish Assembly in May, we have begun our Cathedral Refresh with repainting our ceiling and painting the four columns under the dome white. Come and see it this Sunday!

Have you checked out the website lately?
www.holytrinityphx.org
Events · Services · Photos · Calendar · Stewardship

Did you know?
We have had **39,983** site visitors in the last 12 months!
Dear Friends,

With Summer approaching, it is time for us to take a break until September. I may from time to time write to you; please read the contents. I would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions. I do have a special event planned for September, but you have to read any notices from either me or from some of our volunteers. We will also be very busy baking during the late summer months for the Festival!!!

Enjoy your Summer.

Stay cool & hydrated!!!!

See a few pictures of some of our gatherings.

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

Metropolis Senior Resort 50+ Camp
09/25-29/2023

The Metropolis of San Francisco Family Wellness Ministry presents A Royal Adventure, Senior Resort Camp for adults aged 50 or better!

Join us from Monday, September 25 – Friday, September 29, 2023, at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA for good food, great company, and majestic experiences. And what Royal Adventure would be complete without high tea?

The adventure begins with registration on Monday afternoon. Our first Royal Feast will be Monday evening’s dinner. The adventure concludes on Friday after breakfast. For registration information, please contact St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Fresno, CA 559-233-0397.
Celebration Committee

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!

During the June Celebration Sunday, we celebrated our church’s Feast Day and Penelope Irini Eliades’ 40-day-blessing (daughter of Fr. Alexander and Pres. Laura Eliades)! Over 120 people attended the celebration. The lunch of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers was a huge hit with everyone, and special thanks goes to Alexander Harding and Chris Mead for volunteering their grilling expertise! The table décor incorporated red overlays for Pentecost and glass vases filled with clear water beads and miniature white doves.

In July, we celebrated the baptism of Wyatt and Emily Coppinger; the baptism of Aristide and Augustine Turgeon (sons of Matthew and Eva Turgeon); and the naturalization of Irini Pagoudis and the Pardhe family. The décor was red, white, and blue in honor of the upcoming Independence Day celebration with silver mylar crosses for the baptisms. Each table had a mini patriotically themed bicycle carrying a flag and striped hard candy.

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!

Communal Cooking Event

In June, our Communal Cooking crew served hot dogs, hamburgers, and chips along with green salad, potato salad, and assorted deserts. In July, the menu included slow-cooked pulled pork and beef sliders with salad and sides. If you are interested in helping out or joining us for future cooking events, please email htcphxevents@gmail.com! In addition, please feel free to bring a dish to share with the community on the first Sunday or every month.
Celebration Sunday—June & Pentecost BBQ
June 4, 2023
Celebration Sunday—July
July 2, 2023
Celebration Committee

July Birthdays

Happy Birthday

Mike Anagnopoulos
Argyro Apostolou
Shannon Bard
Peter Bilitsis
Helen Bixenman
Kosta Bracamonte
Connie Contes
Maia Dimitriadis
Diane Dion
Clyde Ellis
Ted Fourlis
Georgi Frieh
Julie Froumis
John Giannopoulos
Christopher Ginakes
Lucas Haugen
Rafael Isfanut
Harriet Kapolas
Virginia Karegeannes
Christos Katsanos
Pete Kladis
Anatoli Kostouros
Kostadinos Kostouros
Tassie Ladas
John Lambrou
Judith Lamond

Elias Lampous
Scott Leach
Luke Lipnos
James Machas
Anna Manos
Rina Marinakos
Jackson Meyers
Helen Mitchell
Spyro Mousses
Sophia Neumann
Marta Ntatsos
Angeline Pappas
Angelo Pestrivas
William Petsas
Elynia Pries
Warren Schneider
Christoforos Seretis
George Skoubis
Jim Thomas
Areti Tsanos
Maria Vlahos
Eleni Watson
Anne Wilson
Katina Wood
Karen Zaman
Dimitrios Zistatsis
Celebration Committee
August Birthdays

Sarah Agnos
Catherine Agra
Evan Alexon
Dimitrios Apostolis
Alexandra Bates
Anastasius Bates
Markella Benetos
Oscar Bracamonte
Daniel Brook
Kristen Bruskas
Charles Carver Jr.
Katie Choukalas
Christos Chronis
Gabriella Chronis
Jean Dal Pan
John Dal Pan
Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dellas
Alexandros Dimitriadis
Erika Dimitriadis
Jimmy Drakos
Stanley Drozdz
Christos Economopoulos
Stacie McKenzie
Eleni Economopoulos
Anna Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Georgia Fourlis
Zackary Forman

Olga Fredericksen
David Haag
Alexander Harding
Zachary Haugen
Stephanie Heckel
Veronica Hill
David Isfanut
Jason Jaynes
James Kalivas
Joann Karros
George Katsaros
Paul Katsenes
Helen Katsufrakis
Jim Kavouris
Catherine Keyser
Elizabeth Kratsas
Tammy Kretsedemis
Nickoleta Mackos
Michele Markakis
Marianthi Mastorakos
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Peter Maydanis
Anthony Miaoulis
Tania Miaoulis
William Miller
Emily Moroz
Evelyn Nickalew

John Nicolettos
Genevieve Oxley
Eve Paletsos
Christo Panagiotakopoulos
Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Ria Papageorgiou
Gabriella Papatzimas
Nicholas Papatzimas
Elizabeth Pardhe
Mary Pardhe
Panagiotes Pries
David Pyle
Maria Sbiliiris
Todd Schiller
Gianna Sgouros
George Skintzis
Phyllis Skoubis
Marie Spanos
Stella Tsantilas
Nicki Tsioutsiopoulos
Evanthia Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarakos
Colin Walsh
Stephanie Willard
Christina Wombacher
David Worrell
Dimitra Zakas
Christina Zistatsist
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.

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

06/04/2023
Penelope, daughter of Presvytera Laura & Father Alexander Eliades
God’s Blessings be upon her.

7/02/2023
Sadie, daughter of Angela & Andrew Goard
God’s Blessings be upon her.

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

06/24/2023
Augustine & Aristide, sons of Eva & Matthew Turgeon
Godparents: Alana & Tristan Stoutenberg
God’s Blessings be upon them.

Emily & Wyatt Coppinger
Godparents: Anna & Daniel Pardhe
God’s Blessings be upon them.

07/09/2023
Robert Stuart—Chrismation
Sponsor: Pete Choukalas
God’s Blessings be upon him.

07/17/2023
Sadie, daughter of Angela & Andrew Goard
Godparents: Melina Machas & Jeffrey Johannesmeyer
God’s Blessings be upon her.

Our Church Family
Funeral
“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

07/07/2023
Andrew Limber
May his memory be eternal.

Our Church Family
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
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.

Patriarch Visit
07/25/2023

Fr. Alexander had the honor to accompany His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and His Grace Bishop John to St. Anthony’s Monastery in Florence to welcome His Beatitude Patriarch John of Antioch to the Phoenix Area. His Beatitude was in Phoenix for the Antiochian Archdiocesan Convention this week. Welcome Your Beatitude!

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.”
2023 Monthly Ministry Series

Monday, 08/21/2023

The Metropolis of San Francisco Stewardship Ministry invites you to the next presentation of our 2023 Monthly Ministry Series on Monday, August 21, 2023, for a special presentation on “The Anastasimatarion – The Importance of Saturday Vespers and Sunday Orthros in our Lives”.

As Orthodox Christians, we make time weekly on Sundays to attend the Divine Liturgy and receive the Eucharist. Some may have noticed that service on the calendar before the Divine Liturgy is always there, many times an hour or so earlier. Fewer of us may have noticed there is a Saturday night service that is consistently there. We may question ourselves, “If going to receive Holy Communion is the most important thing, what is with these extra services that do not have sacraments?” That earlier Sunday morning service is essential to our spiritual lives, and that Saturday night service is as well! Through psalms and hymns from the Anastasimatarion, journey with us as we take you through Vespers and Matins and show how essential these services are in preparing for the Divine Liturgy. Register today: www.sanfran.goarch.org/ministries/stewardship.
**Altar Boy Procession Candlesticks**

Our Cathedral Altar Boy Procession Candlesticks have reached the end of their useful life. They have become somewhat dangerous in that they can easily fall off the handle-sticks while being carried. We will be placing an order for six (6) new Procession Candle Sticks at $440.00 each. We are seeking donations to cover this cost. If you are a parent or grandparent of a former, present, or future altar boy, this will be a great opportunity to support their altar service. The altar boys and altar servers thank you for your support.

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**FOCUS**

*July 30, 2023*

We thank Steve Christoforou from FOCUS North America for coming and speaking to a Pan-Orthodox group of 10 parishes and over 50 people on the possibilities of a shelter for those in need here in Phoenix. If you have interest in taking part in this venture so critical to the gospel, email Steve at schristoforou@focusna.org.
Last month, from July 20 - 26, four members of our church drove down to Tijuana, Mexico alongside other Orthodox parishes from across the country to help build houses for those in need. We spent our mornings in prayer, our days at the build site, and our evenings attending service. We ate traditional Mexican dinners, and had some time left over to play soccer, sit around the fire, or listen to a guest speaker for the night. While the basic information of the trip can be summed up in a sentence or two, the experience of being there cannot.

Personally, I have not been to Mexico since I was kid. Driving into Tijuana and not only seeing but feeling the lifestyle difference, opened my eyes to what life was like for those living in the border town.

Sure, the slight uneasiness of being in another country where they didn’t have the same laws had an effect. But it was the fact that these families are unable to build a better life for themselves that truly made an impression on us. Our groups’ experience was different. We were a smaller group, while that meant longer days, it also meant being blessed with the extraordinary opportunity to meet and build alongside the family that would be living in the house we were constructing.

The father, José, was a kind gentleman, he owned a taco stand in the center of town. It was getting to know him that made the experience more real, and put more emotion and importance on building a house that would someday be a home.

As the trip came to an end, we realized we were not only building homes, but building relationships with the people there as well. All of us returned home with new friendships and connections in the Orthodox community in ways we couldn’t have expected. The experience was profound. As Fr. Jacob from Assumption put it in one of his talks there, “When you set out to rescue someone else, what actually happens is that they are rescuing you.” For anyone who is thinking about going next year I strongly encourage it! If you’re curious to hear more, don’t hesitate to ask one of us at church, or ask Father Alexander to get connected with us!

Aaron Papagalos
Wyatt Coppinger
Chris and Brianna Lopez
projectmexico.com
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
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.

Endowment Gifts

Platinum Donors: $100,000+
Faye Boukas
George & Ann Souvall
John George Thomas

Gold Donors: $50,000+
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes

Silver Donors: $25,000+
The DeMoss Families
IMO+ Tasia Pritchard

Bronze Donors: $10,000+
Gabriel & Helen Papagallos, IMO+ Mary Montague, John & Mary Katsenes, George & Koula Cheros, IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis, Steve & Joan Vrahass, Ange & Alex J. Pappas, James & Connie Coin Contes, Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry, IMO+ John G. Zannaras, Steve & Judith Vrahass, Irene Pappas

General Endowment Fund donations over $1,000.00
Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss, the Lambrou Family

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

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

+ GIFT FORM +

Please list my/our endowment gift as follows: ___________________________________________________
Here is my/our one time General Endowment gift, which I/we may add to, of: $____________________
I/we wish to make a gift of $10,000.00 or more payable, now______, or over a three year period.
With this form $____________________
Year Two $____________________
Year Three $____________________
By:______________________________________________                             Dated:_____________20____
Donor, please sign and keep a copy for your records.
All gifts will be preserved in the archives of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 1973 E. Maryland
Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016
+ We Thank You and may God Bless You for your generosity. +

Sunday School Begins August 20, 2023!

Stories from the Bible

We are excited to announce that we will be leading our children through a journey of Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation beginning August 20 after Divine Liturgy. This 32 week syllabus begins in Eden with the Creation and ends on Patmos with St. John. If you wish to assist with treats, please speak with Presvytera Denise or to assist with crafts, please speak with Debra Harrison.
Our Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, August 17 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
Are you ready to FULFILL your purpose and make friends to last a lifetime? If you are ages 18 – 35 then the YAL Conference is for YOU! Please join us over Labor Day Weekend in Orange County, CA for a full weekend of events, workshops, worship, and relaxation. Highlights of the weekend include engaging workshops, worship, dances, social events, an afternoon at the beach, a formal Hellenic Gala, and a fun-filled event called "Rock ‘n’ YAL" at the House of Blues in Anaheim, California. Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy live music, dancing, and an unforgettable night of entertainment at this iconic venue. Diakonia is also an important part of the YAL ministry and will include a program to benefit those in need in the local community. For registration and hotel information, please visit www.sanfran.goarch.org/YAL. Space is limited - the deadline is approaching soon!
On May 20, 2023, Holy Trinity Cathedral parishioner Elias Moussa received his Master of Theological Studies from Hellenic College Holy Cross (HCHC) Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA.

The 81st Commencement Class of 2023 was under His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros Benediction.

Congratulations, Elias!
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!

Potluck and Discussions

In May, Greg Abdalah (St. George) gave our group a wonderful presentation on the topic of "Servant Leadership and the Liturgical Life". In the presentation, he shared insights into the meaning of liturgical events, the importance of community, and our calling to share the transformative experience of the Divine Liturgy. In June, our visiting speaker was the Hon. Connie Contes. She shared several stories about her direct experience in incorporating Orthodoxy into her judicial career. Both presentations were well-attended with participants from over eight parishes. Thanks to Robel Teame for his work on editing and posting the video.

Recordings of our past events can be found at https://tinyurl.com/LOvideosYT. 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.
Little Lambs

Debra Harrison

Our Young Moms group met at the Stoutenburg home on Saturday, July 29 to talk about raising our kids in the Church. A wonderful, uplifting meeting! See their booth at Ministry Sunday on August 20, 2023 to join them next time.
Youth Ministries at Holy Trinity Cathedral 2022/23

4F Night: God is Wondrous in His Saints
Our 4F Nights return again on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 4:30pm-8pm! Our theme this year is "God is Wondrous in His Saints" and every month we will learn about a different "type" of saint and how we can apply what they did to our lives as Orthodox Christians even in our world today! PLEASE mark off these dates in your calendar for the whole year. Sign up for our first 4F Night on August 19 here!

- August 19
- September 16
- October 21
- November 18
- December 16
- January 20
- February 24
- March 16
- April 6--Lenten Day Retreat
- April 27--Lazarus Saturday Retreat
- May 11

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 Scholerers with a great opportunity to connect with each other and their faith. The topics below are what we will generally begin with but discussions can go in any direction and we welcome input for the other meetings! Please mark these dates down:

- August 6 - Science and Faith
- September 10 - What is Love?
- October 1 - Who Do You Say That I Am?
- November 5 - Social Media
- December 3
- January 7
- February 4
- March 3
- May 19

There is also a possibility of a Sr. GOYA trip to San Francisco in the Spring, keep a look out for that exciting venture.
Youth Ministries at Holy Trinity Cathedral 2022/23

House Meetings
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.

Other Opportunities
Reach out to Fr. Alexander here if you'd like to learn how your children can be involved such as
- serving as an Altar Boy
- singing in the Choir
- learning Byzantine Chant
- joining 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

Greek Dance is back and our first practice and meeting is **Sunday, August 20** following a **MANDATORY** parents meeting! All dancers from Kindergarten to Young Adults are welcome as we prepare to perform for our Greek Festival in October. Greek Dance offers a great way for our youth, even if not Greek by blood, to work together, and express themselves and their culture and history through dance. For more information, email our director Niko Panagiotakopoulos [here](mailto:npanos01@yahoo.com).

Next up is dance registration! We are going to have 5 groups this year for festival broken down as follows based on Fall School Grades:
- Pre K and Kindergarten
- 1st and 2nd Grades
- 3rd thru 5th Grades
- 6th thru 9th Grades
- 10th Grade thru Freshmen in College
- Young Adults

Please see the full practice schedule below and make sure to be there for our parent meeting and to meet the teachers on Sunday August 20th!

**Tentative Dance Schedule**

**Sunday, August 20th** - **Parent Meeting and Meet your Teachers!**
**Sunday, August 27th**
**Sunday, September 3rd** - **No Practice**
**Wednesday, September 6th**
**Sunday, September 10th**
**Wednesday, September 13th**
**Sunday, September 17th**
**Wednesday, September 20th**
**Sunday, September 24th**
**Wednesday, September 27th**
**Sunday, October 1st**
**Wednesday, October 4th** - Slab Rehearsal