

Desert Springs

August 2024
Volume 9
Issue 7



Happy Cathedral Name Day!
Pentecost

June 23, 2024



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

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Rev. Alexander Eliades
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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Monday–Friday, 9:00am–3:00pm

Sunday Worship

8:00am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

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Desert Springs Deadline

The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline

Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Vice President: Connie Contes
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Holy Trinity Cathedral
www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco
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www.goarch.org

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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 kristen.vasilarakos@outlook.com. **It is the organization's responsibility** to inform Heidi, Yvonne, and Kristen of any updates to your listing.

A Message from Your Priests

There is a famous maxim taken from the story "A Man for All Seasons" by the author Robert Bolt about Sir Thomas More, a prelate who refused to grant King Henry the 8th another divorce. The maxim is really only a phrase "Silence gives consent" and is uttered whenever one is compelled by duty to speak when one would rather not. I believe it is necessary now to speak and to address a deficiency in our parish life which needs attention.

In the paragraphs that follow, I mean not to scold, my dear spiritual children, but to entreat and gently correct a long entrenched pattern of behavior which does not align with the standards set by the Holy Fathers of Orthodoxy. Were I to remain silent and allow this deficiency to remain unchecked, I would be complicit in the spiritual damage it causes and would, in that way, demean my priesthood and my accountability to Christ God to shepherd this flock. I pray that you understand.

As the Christian Faith overwhelmed the defenses of the kingdom of darkness after Pentecost, it spread rapidly throughout the known world. In their wisdom and in response to the challenges such explosive growth begat, the Apostolic Fathers set forth guidelines for the faithful in their conduct in the Eucharistic Assembly according to the example set by the Holy Apostles and, specifically, by St. Paul. In the early 4th century, canons emerged from these earliest councils, both local and ecumenical which provided such guidelines.



Arising from the manifest nature of the Eucharist as the intimate communion between Christ the Bridegroom and His Bride the Church, the standards were set very high. We hear an echo of this principle whenever we sing the Communion Hymn with the phrase "and I will not reveal Your mysteries to Your enemies." The sacredness of the Eucharist must be veiled from the casual, the curious, skeptics, and enemies of the Orthodox faith. The Council of Ancyra, convened in modern-day Ankara in 314 AD set forth a number of such guidelines which, now as then, create the framework for identifying appropriate and inappropriate behavior in Church.

The necessity of such guidelines are underscored by the repetition of the phrase "Προχωμεν," or, literally, "Pay attention," in every Divine Liturgy. I am reminded of one of the beautiful Cathedrals in Munich, the nave of which is lined with a series of statues of cherubs, two of which are shushing the faithful with one hand and pointing to the Altar with the other. That we sometimes need correction is not a new condition and no great scandal since within about 30 years of Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension, St. Paul admonished the faithful "not to forsake the assembling of themselves together, as the manner of some is." (Heb. 10:25)

Before I summarize some of the canons established at 314 in Ancyra and other early councils, please know that if these are wholly unfamiliar to you, that in no way reflects on you! Our Institutional silence on issues such as these has, sadly, normalized patterns of attendance and behavior explicitly disallowed by the Holy Fathers. However, as Orthodox Christians, we cannot supplant the wisdom of the Holy Fathers with our own aberrant points of view.

Among the practices in 314 that were addressed was timeliness in arriving at the Divine Liturgy. Those who

A Message from Your Priests, continued



arrived after the reading of the Gospel were not permitted to receive the Holy Gifts. The intonation "The Doors! The Doors!" which we hear before the Creed signaled the moment when the doors to the Church would be barred from further entry. Those who were intentionally absent without good cause from three consecutive offerings of the Holy Gifts could only be readmitted to the Eucharistic assembly through Holy Confession.

Similarly, leaving the Church before the final prayer was offered was prohibited, as was attending the liturgy but consistently refraining from receiving the Holy Gifts. If, to our minds, the Divine Liturgy and the Holy Eucharist are merely religious duties and obligations and our "attendance" in the services, however briefly, constitutes the fulfillment of said duty, these canons cannot but seem arbitrary and harsh.

Our vocabulary often betrays us. We do not merely "go to Church," we comprise the Church! The Church is not a given building at a given address, it exists wherever "two or three are gathered in my name," as Jesus instructed His Disciples. Likewise, one doesn't "go to Church" to "get holy communion." One enters into the Divine Presence of God to commune with God. The Divine Liturgy is not magical, it is Mystical, that is, the unfolding of the Great Mystery of the love of God for His Children. It is also personal or, said better, Tri-Personal in that the Holy Trinity is actively present, inviting the faithful to share the Life of the Holy Trinity, to be immersed in God's love. We do not repeatedly invoke the Kingdom of God as some vague future destination but as the tangible reality of the Kingdom of which we are citizens and made fully present in the sacred assembly.

Once this sacramental consciousness emerges, it becomes unthinkable to lightly treat any opportunity to be with Jesus Christ in the Eucharistic Assembly. And that we have systematized and normalized tardiness and absence to its present degree suggests that a sacramental consciousness has yet to dawn on us. When attending a Diamondbacks game, we don't plan to arrive after the 7th inning stretch. We don't arrive at the cinema to watch a new release past the halfway point. In both cases, we could rightly state that we "attended" both even after missing the greater part. We could check that box.

If, for these mundane events and recreational opportunities we manage to be timely, does it not stand to reason that receiving the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ ought to be treated with more reverence and urgency than movies and ball games? Does not the bloodless sacrifice of the Lamb of God on Calvary not demand of us greater attention than entertainment venues?

An analysis of our attendance patterns (and we do take attendance) reveals that arrival times are evenly dispersed throughout the services with roughly 20% of communicants arriving at the beginning of the service, at the Small Entrance, at the Great Entrance, at the Lord's Prayer, and even at the very end of the Liturgy. My love for you and my responsibility to you as the Dean of this Cathedral compels me to plainly state that this must change. It is beneath our dignity as members of Holy Trinity and of the Body of Christ to hold that which is most sacred in such slight regard. It is an appalling example of



*Fr. Apostolos' Message continued on page 5
Desert Springs August 2024*

Stewardship's Ministry Sunday

By Sandy Meris

Sunday, August 11th

Please join us for our annual Ministry Sunday on Sunday, August 11th. This event gives us a chance to shine a light on the myriad of ministries offered at Holy Trinity. Each organization will have a table set up in the hall during coffee hour where our parishioners can register, sign-up or just gather information about the different opportunities available to us.



So whether you are new to Holy Trinity or if you are a veteran parishioner, we welcome you to peruse the tables and consider getting involved in something new this year. Whether it be singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, volunteering at the festival or joining Philoptochos, there is something for everyone. Learn something new and see what's happening at Holy Trinity!

A Message from Your Priests, continued

Holy Orthodoxy for our visitors, catechumens, our own children and grandchildren. We can do better and we must!

Everyone has a bad morning now and again. It is not accidental that we can exit our homes easily enough on every other day but Sunday. We have an adversary who erects as many obstacles as he can to keep us from the Holy Eucharist. He knows full well that if we make it to the chalice, he loses. But this is different than habitually leaving the house at 10:00 for a service that began at 9:30. That is a conscious decision and not a bad day. The Gospel parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins surely provides ample warning of the perils of arriving at the Bridal Chamber late and unprepared!



As your spiritual Father, I love you and am always thrilled to greet and embrace you in the Cathedral. I love this parish and what the Holy Spirit is clearly doing in our midst! And because I love you immensely, I do not want to see you denied the fullest blessing offered to those who "with the fear of God, with faith, and with love, draw near" to the Eucharistic banquet. I will not speak of this publicly as there would be no way to do so without seeming to scold which I do not want to do.

May we, rather, covenant with God and with each other to work toward the goal of improving our attendance patterns as a faith community and to live out our shared Orthodox faith in a maximal and not a minimal fashion? I believe that we can and will do so.

May the Lord Jesus Christ richly bless you and your families and keep you always in the hollow of His hand,

Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



STEWARDSHIP PARISH-WIDE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT Back to School Supplies August 4 - September 29

As children head back to school, many of them do so without the ability to afford basic school supplies. Let's help support the students in our community at Madison Park Middle School by filling their classrooms with school supplies.

Madison Park is a Title 1 school in the Madison School District located at 14th Street & Campbell. A Title 1 school has a high percentage of students from low income families who receive free or reduced school breakfast and lunch.

Are we growing in our faith? Are we growing in our Stewardship? The two go hand-in-hand. An important aspect of stewardship is outreach, giving back to the community and helping those in need. God instructs us so in Hebrews 13:16. "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

We will be collecting the following items in the Narthex:

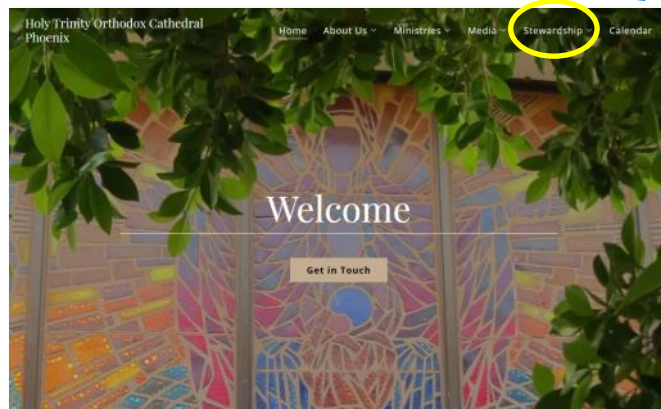
**Pencils Crayons Colored Pencils Markers Glue Sticks Erasers
Highlighters Scissors Spiral Notebooks Composition Notebooks
Loose leaf college ruled lined paper
Refillable water bottles Tissue boxes Clorox wipes Backpacks**



Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

Use **WeShare!**

Go to www.holytrinityphx.org
and then click on **Stewardship**.



House of Stewards

As of 07/28/2024

Dina Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
John & Sandy Annos
Carla Antypas
Elaine Apostle
Argyro Apostolou
Chris Athens
Christina Bakavelou & Chris Perry
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Joanna Bankson
Crisanne & Scott Bansner
Christopher Bass
Dean Bass & Liz Beckman
Sam & Heidi Bass
Alexandra Bates Family
Joyce Baulinka
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes
Athena Beaty
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Stamatios Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis
James & Helen Bruno
Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Connie Burkhardt
Betty Carras
Kathy Carras
Dawn & Casey Cartier
Michael Cartier
Chad & Amanda Carver
Haralambo Charitou
Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller
Harriet Chotras
Jim Chotras
Pete & Kim Choukalas
Theo & Pauline Christakos
Kenny & Zoe Christenson
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke
George Condon & Dafina Boswell
Jarmeen Constantine
Andy & Mara Contes
Jamie Contes
James & Connie Contes
Evonne Damianos
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Patty Davis
Rebecca Davis
Leonard & Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dellas
Hercules Dellas
Patrick & Karla Delord
Tom & Irene Demas
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Anthony & Patricia Demopoulos
Bill DeMoss
Charles DeMoss
Chris DeMoss



John & Marjorie DeMoss
Michael & Maureen DeMoss
Basil & Ruth Denaxas
Benson & Mary Denooyer
Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis
Jenny Bruno-Doster
Stanley & Fran Drozd
Caroline Economopoulos
Christos & Dena Economopoulos
Fr. Alexander & Presu. Laura
Eliades
Emil Ellis
Aristotelis & Dianne Euripidou
Ed & Katherine Fancher
Greg Fernandez
Helen Fernandez
Keith & Ashley Fightmaster
Mary Floor
Anna Fourlis
Athanase & Georgia Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Ted & Andi Fourlis
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgana Frieh
Joshua & Kayla Gabrielsen
Semos Gardner
Demetra Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Pamela Georgelos
John Giannopoulos
Harrison & Mandy Gillis
Pauline Ginakes
Stella Glitsos
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
Gail Grevas
Sophia Gualclides
David Haag
Mary Haidos
Donald Hall
Terry Harper
Mary & Roger Harris
Patsy Harris
Dinos & Koula Georges
Alex Harding
George & Georgette Hasiotis
Alexia Haugen
Stephanie & Gregory Heckel
Diane Herman

Fr. Apostolos & Presu Denise Hill
Greg Hill
Bessie Hotis
Steven & Candace Huff
Gelu & Maria Isfanut
Jeffrey & Melina Johannesmeyer
James & Linda Kalivas
Paulos Kairis
Peter & Nicole Kamboukos
Basilis & Roula Kaneris
Marianna Kaneris
Jean Kantaros
Nick & Dena Kantaros
Voule & Cathy Kapetanakis
William & Harriet Kapolas
John & Tressa Karagiannis
Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis
Maggie & Marko Karakozis
Mia Karandreas
Pete & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Julie Karoutas
Joshua & Nyla Karoutas
Joann Karros
Fotini Katrakis
George & Niki Katsaros
Chris & Nobuko Katsenes
John & Mary Katsenes
Paul & Lori Katsenes
Tom Katsenes
Tom (Jack) Katsenes
Helen Katsufraakis
Jim & Poppy Kavouris
Fany Kechajias
Nikolaos Kentimenos & Panagiota Kladou
Cathy & Quent Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
George & Zanetta Kleanthis
Anastasia Kompos
Maria Kompos
Spiros & Maria Kontakis
Arthur & Carol Kostaras
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros
Johnny & Elizabeth Kratsas
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Joanne Koukouvetakis-Kruljac
Deborah Caras & Gregory Kunkel
Charlie & Patty Ladas
John & Evangelia Lambrou
Bruce & Judith Lamond
Elias & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Steven & Constance Lemere
Lea Linaris
Georgia Lipane
Luke & Maria Lipnos
Gregory Lizanich
James & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maciejewski
Daniel Macinnis
Margo Makris
Marika Madridis

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Desert Springs August 2024*

House of Stewards continued from page 7

Julie & Felix Mamani
Jim & Donna Manelis
Maria Maniatis
Anna Manos
Bill & Rina Marinakos
Douglas & Ann Markakis
James & Michele Markakis
Becky Martin
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Steve & Mari Mastorakos
Katerina Matheos & Wesley Baker
Pamela Maydanis
Peter & Christina Maydanis
Andrea Mastorakos McNamara
Angela & Chris Mead
Stephen Mellas
Christian Meris
Joanne Meris
William & Sandy Meris
Anthony & Tania Miaoulis
Anastasia Migias
Paul & Linda Miller
William & Jean Miller
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell
John & Eleanna Mitchell
Philip & Helen Mitchell
Oleg & Emily Moroz
Dino Moschovitis
James & Irene Mourikes
Spyro & Effie Mousses
Matthew & Sophia Neumann
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
John Nicolettos
AnnaMarie Nieblas
Irene Pagoudis
Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Anna Panagiotakopoulos
Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Niko Panagiotakopoulos
Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Chrysoula Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos
Aaron Papagalos
Ria Papageorgiou
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Nick Papas
Spyros & Rita 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
John & Dina Pesognelli
Fotini Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Peter & Gayle Petkas
Chris Petroulakis
Jacque Petroulakis
Bill & Kathy Petsas
Michael & TeAnn Philippis
Brian & Athena Pickett
Mary Poulakidas
Pete & Anthipe Pries
Nicole & David Pyle
Bertha Quinn
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Alexi & Sara Rentzis
Jenn Rentzis
Menelaos Rentzis
Voula Rentzis
Catherine Romo
George Rouman
Robert & Maria Rush
Lois Sakkas
Leonard & Katina Salvaggio
Stellios & Nicole Samaradellis
Dimitra Sampson
Paul Sarantes
Les & Christine Sarantinos
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Peter Schneider
Warren & Kalliopi Schneider
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Nicole Senerius
Terry & Chris Seretis
Lainie Seretis
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Robert & Donna Sioles
Elyse Sioles & Robert Stamm
George & Eui Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
Peter Skoubis
David & Alisha Solheim
Constantin Solomon
Angelo & Marie Spanos
Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos
James A & Christina Speros

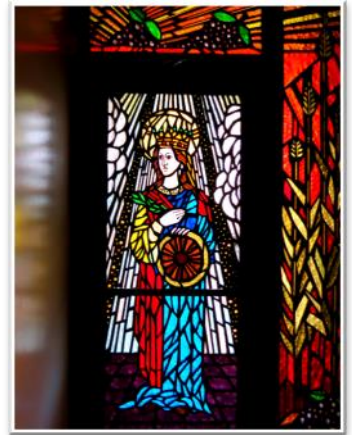
James L & Karen Speros
Vasilios & Diana Speros
Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Nitsa Stamataletos
Andrew & Christine Stamatis
Jonathan Stamatis
Jimmy & Lisa Sterio
Tristan & Alana Stoutenburg
Robert Stuart
Steven & Jean Talkington
Despina Taularides
William & Rebecca Taularides
Nick & Effie Theodore
Gus Theodoropoulos
Jim Thomas
Deac. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher
Andrew Touvannas
Thaddeus & Katherine Tropea
Stacy & Gerri Tsantilas
Stella Tsantilas
Dean & Brenda Tseunis
Dimitrios Tsioutsopoulos
Matthew & Eva Turgeon
Costa & Koko Tzavaras
Daniel Valenzuela
Kristen Vasilarakos
Argyro Vasquez
Michael Vaughn & Audrey Lewter
Scott & Terri Vaughn
Stacy Vaughn
Leah Venetis
Steve & Mary Vrahas
Peter & Maria Vlahos
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Colin & Paula Walsh
Paulina & Doug Watson
Zach & Mary Kladis Wilhelmi
Connie M. Williams
Dan Williams
Anne & William Wilson
Mike & Christina Wombacher
Richard & Katina Wood
Joesph & Athina Yadush
Zachariah Yoon & Elizabeth Hong
John & Andreanna Zafiroopoulos
Anthony & Karen Zaman
George & Katherine Zannis
Jerry & Amanda Zannis
Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis
Zella Zannis
Evangelia Zikos
Dimitrios Zistatsis
Eleanna Zistatsis
Michael & Christina Zistatsis

2024 PLEDGED FAMILIES

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 2024, please pick one up in the Church Narthex or [visit holytrinityphx.org](http://visit.holytrinityphx.org). If you have filled out a 2024 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.

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Kristen Vasilarakos, President



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



**Next Meeting on Thursday,
September 5, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

**First in the Cathedral for the Blessing of the Waters,
then in the Lounge of the Speros Community Center**



Thank you to June refreshment hostesses (left to right) Julie Mamani, Gina Graham, Margie Porter, Rebecca Barabatis, and Joyce Bavlinka (not pictured)!

**JOIN US THE FOR THE
BLESSING OF THE WATERS**

Thursday,
September 5, 2024
Prior to the meeting.



JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2024

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 2024, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos



Scholarship Awards—Excellence Pays \$\$\$

Philoptochos of HTC is pleased to announce our 2024 scholarship recipients. These brilliant students are remarkably impressive to say the least. Civic involvement, academic excellence, church participation are just a few of their accomplishments. Please join us in congratulating the following:

\$1000: Aleena Haugen, Ariana Kretsedemas, Aja Romano & Stacey Sampson

\$500: Nathaniel Tropea & Katerina Kostouros



June Meeting Gametime

June 6, 2024



Coffee in the Conference Room

Tuesdays at 9:30 am

Coffee will resume on **09/10/2024**.



What is Philoptochos?

The translation is Philo = Friend and Ptochos = Poor. It is literally “Friend of the Poor”. Consider joining us today!

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Father's Day Complimentary Lunch

June 16, 2024

Chaired by Eva Goodman



Sons & Fathers Photo

June 16, 2024



Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Pentecost Vespers Reception

June 22, 2024

Chaired by Kristen Vasilarakos



Philoptochos Room Refresh

Can you help with any of these items?

Contact **Eva Goodman** at 602-565-3936 or evagoodman@juno.com for more information,

1. New carpeting. **Thank you!**
2. Looking for someone to come look at our ceiling to see if there is a beam up there to have a couple of ceiling fans installed, to include running the electrical for the wall switches.
3. Gently used firm couch/love seat.
4. Gently used curio cabinet.
5. Gently used (not heavy) vacuum cleaner. **Thank you!**
6. Two new U-Line Rubbermaid Service Carts.
7. We are looking for a somewhat heavy-duty new/or gently used clothes rack.
8. Wall mounted Emergency Kit.
9. Portable foldable table and chairs.
10. Gently used/new dual use hand cart.

Philoptochos & Clergy/Laity Convention—San Diego, CA

June 30-July 4, 2024



President Kristen Vasilarakos, 1st Vice President Cathy Keyser, and 2nd Vice President Julie Karoutas represented our St. Katherine Chapter #4001 at the Biennial Convention. Information will be provided soon on the informative and inspiring presentations and activities.

Pentecost Lunch

June 23, 2024

Hosted by the Parish Council



Children's Corner—New!



Children's Corner at Coffee Hour

This month, we debuted the new children's corner in Coffee Hour and it was a great hit! Used in conjunction with the Pre-K/K class for Sunday School this corner will be available every Sunday for our little ones to play in and learn together. For any questions or if you're interested in helping please contact Mara Contes [here](#).



Catechumens' Baptisms—First Use of the New Font!

June 22, 2024



Mark Your Calendars!

The 63rd Original Phoenix Greek Festival

will be on

October 11, 12, & 13, 2024.

phoenixgreekfestival.org



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 to celebrate!

In July, the Celebration Committee celebrated the 40-day blessing of Camden Thanasi (son of Gavin & Andie Hite), the 40-day blessing of Anastasia (daughter of Raymond & Elizabeth Ocasio), the 40-day blessing of Hazel Marie (daughter of Zoe Ehrick & Kyle Mitchell), the baptisms of all those recently brought into the church, and all July birthdays! The hall was decked out with red, white, and blue to match the 4th of July theme. We had balloon garlands, red and blue table overlays, sparklers, flag-themed napkins, and other festive items.

Please join us on August 4th to celebrate two baby showers - for Wyatt and Emily Coppinger and Matthew and Eva Turgeon along with all August birthdays.

If you or someone you know from the parish is celebrating a baby, 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 supporting the Celebration Committee efforts, please email htcphxevents@gmail.com and/or talk to Terri Alexon or Mary Pardhe!

If you would like to support future Celebration Committee events with a donation, please visit <https://bit.ly/HTphxCC> or put "Celebration Committee" on the memo line of checks made out to the Cathedral.

Communal Cooking Event

In July, the Communal Cooking crew led by Phillip Panagiotoglou served hamburgers, potato salad, chips, macaroni salad, watermelon, brownies, and cake. 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 of every month!

Celebration Lunch—July



Celebration Committee

August Birthdays

Sarah Agnos
Catherine Agra
Evan Alexon
Dimitrios Apostolis
Constantine Bass
Alexandra Bates
Markella Benetos
Oscar Bracamonte
Daniel Brook
Kristen Bruskas
Charles Carver Jr
Katie Choukalas
Theofanis Christakos
Christos Chronis
Gabriella Chronis
Jean Dal Pan
John Dal Pan
Elaine Debickero
Anastasia Dellas
Alexandros Dimitriadis
Erika Dimitriadis
Jimmy Drakos
Stanley Drozd
Christos Economopoulos
Eleni Economopoulos
Ashley Fightmaster
Zachary Forman
Georgia Fourlis
Athanasia Fourlis
Anna Fourlis
Olga Fredericksen
Kathy Gavriilidis
David M. 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 Kretsedemas
Deborah Caras Kunkel

Happy Birthday!

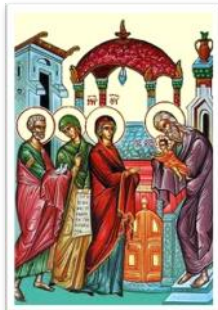
Patty Ladas
Sophia Lemon-Speros
Nickoleta Mackos
Michele Markakis
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Marianthi Mastorakos
Stacie McKenzie
Anthony Miaoulis
Tania Miaoulis
William Miller
Emily Moroz
Joseph Natale
Evelyn Nickalew
John Nicolettos
Genevieve Oxley
Else Paletsos
Christo Panagiotakopoulos
Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Ria Papageorgiou
Nicholas Papatzimas
Gabriella Papatzimas
Elizabeth Pardhe
Mary Pardhe
Panagiotos Pries
David J. Pyle
Julia Randall
Penelope Samaradellis
Maria Sbiliris
Todd Schiller
Michael Scopelianos
Gianna Sgouros
George Skintzis
Phyllis Skoubis
Marie Spanos
Bessie Speros
Steven Talkington
Jean Talkington
Stella Tsantilas
Nicki Tsioutsopoulos
Aristide Turgeon
Evanthia Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarakos
Colin Walsh
Stephanie Willard
Connie Williams
Christina Wombacher
David Worrell
Dimitra Zakas
Christina Zistatsis



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



07/14/2024

Arabella, daughter of Veronica and Michael Hill

God's Blessings be upon her.

Baptisms

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Galatians 3:27



06/22/2024

Noah Anderson

Sponsor: Pete Choukalas

God's Blessings be upon him.

Christopher Davis

Sponsors: Christopher & Briana Lopez

God's Blessings be upon him.

Ryan Halvorsen

Sponsor: Terry Harper

God's Blessings be upon him.

Jeremy Hill

Sponsors: Tristan & Alana Stoutenburg

God's Blessings be upon him.

Brandon Salazar

Sponsor: Daniel Valenzuela

God's Blessings be upon him.

07/13/2024

Gabriel, son of Jesa & Gelo Isfanut

Godparents: Cristina & Radu Malaescu

God's Blessings be upon him.

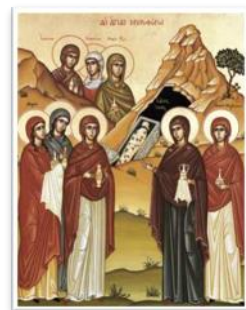


In this time more than ever we need prayer. For those not able to come to the Cathedral, we have set up this ability to light a candle virtually! Please click the link above and follow the instructions. Enter your name and the names of those you wish prayed for in the PayPal “Notes” section, and Father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



Funerals

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



06/10/2024

Peter Maydanis

May his memory be eternal.

07/09/2024

Emily Kimmell

May her memory be eternal.

07/11/2024

Sophia Guaclides

May her memory be eternal.

07/27/2024

Christina Maydanis

May her memory be eternal.

07/31/2024

Dorothy Ainslie

May her memory be eternal.

Sunday School Returns!

We're excited to announce Sunday School classes back in classrooms this Fall! Led by Alexia Panagiotakopoulos as our new director, we have our 4 "pods" which will be:

Pre-K-K (located in the Lounge Area)

1-4th Grade (located in the Goya Room)

5-8th Grade (located in the Conference Room)

9-10th Grade (located in the Chapel)

All 11-12 Graders who wish to participate will be assigned a classroom to volunteer in as an assistant teacher.

Classes will begin with a welcome back orientation on **Sunday, August 18.**

Children will be dismissed after the final Amen in Liturgy and memorials and announcements will be given after the dismissal of the students. Sunday School will be dismissed at 11:30am tentatively until we confirm this is the proper amount of time needed, adjustments may come later and you will be notified.

Email Alexia at our new email: htphxsundayschool@gmail.com

REGISTER HERE

[2024-2025 Sunday School Registration \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)



Church Website



Have you checked out the website **lately?**

www.holytrinityphx.org

Events • Services • Photos
• Calendar • Stewardship

Cathedral Refresh



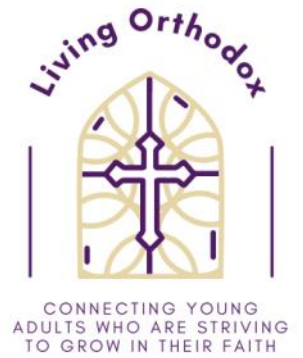
Tile is installed!

Desert Springs August 2024

Living Orthodox Young Adult Ministry

Living Orthodox Young Adult Ministry

Living Orthodox is a national, pan-Orthodox ministry that is building a community of young adults (18-30s) who are striving to grow in and connect with their faith. Sign up for our email newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/ixBiEk> to be informed about upcoming events!



FOCUS Shelter

The plans for the FOCUS shelter are steadily progressing, with plans to begin service to the homeless this fall 2024. On September 28th, several hundred backpacks will be assembled at Assumption for distribution to those in need. Holy Trinity is also exploring ways to provide a initial center for operations until land or a building is procured for a long-term shelter. Before then, however, we are still working towards our fundraising goal of \$75,000 by the end of August. As of July 16, the community has raised \$16,838 with an additional \$25,000 matching grant from an anonymous local donor. If you would like to support the project financially, please use [this link \(https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E334599&id=275\)](https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E334599&id=275) or the QR code in the below flyer. Please help us spread the word by sharing the flyer on the next page (email us for the PDF version)!

June Potluck

In June, Living Orthodox hosted a potluck and discussion with Fr. Andrew Barakos from Assumption Church on the topic “Developing Christ-centered Relationships”. The full video of the presentation is available on our YouTube channel (<https://bit.ly/3O2roul>).

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Living Orthodox, please email us at livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com! You can also visit <https://linktr.ee/livingorthodox> for links to our Instagram channel and Discord server.



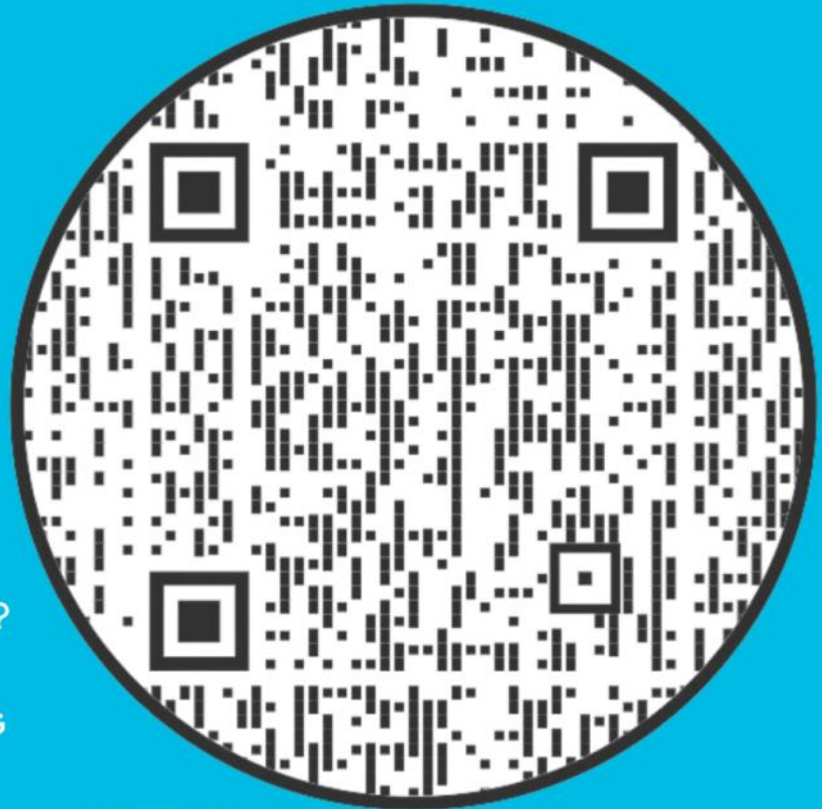
FOCUS Flyer

Scan the QR code to donate and help us unlock \$100,000 in matching grants to support this new FOCUS Center!

HELP US DEVELOP A NEW FOCUS CENTER IN PHOENIX

Interested in joining our team?

EMAIL
SCHRISTOFOROU@FOCUSNA.ORG
TO JOIN OUR EXPLORATORY
COMMITTEE



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

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



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.

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

HTC on Facebook

The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to videos of our services.

[Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral—Phoenix, AZ](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityGreekOrthodoxCathedral)



Coffee Socials Following Sunday Liturgies

Thank you!

The June Coffee Socials were sponsored by **Philoptochos**

and the July Coffee Socials were sponsored by

07/07/2024: Celebration Committee

07/14/2024: The Harris Family

07/21/2024: Phillip Panagiotoglou & Mary Pardhe

07/28/2024: Christina Yarmak & Anthony Dunn

The August Coffee Socials will be sponsored by **4F**.



Summertime busy Coffee Socials

THANK YOU!

Coffee Hour Cold Brew

Hosted by Presvytera Laura



**thank you
for your
awesomeness**

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!

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 **inviolable** 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 **\$654,340.00**.

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 Vrahas, Ange & Alex J. Pappas, James & Connie Contes, Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry, IMO+ John G. Zannaras, Steve & Judith Vrahas, Irene Pilafas 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



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

AHEPA CHAPTER 219



Our Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024
Location: HT Speros Community Center
Time: 6pm cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres
Dinner: 7pm
Meeting: 7:45 - 8:45pm
Cigars on the patio: 9:00 - 10:00pm

RSVP: AHEPA219@GMAIL.COM
or call President Costa Tzavaras
(602) 999-9819

Membership Information

Contact Pete Marudas
602.284.1638
rosemar2@msn.com

Desert Diamonds

Julie Karoutas

for senior parishioners and their guests:



Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends

August 11th, Ministry Sunday; please stop by the Desert Diamonds table to register for attending the Phoenix Senior Expo & or correct changes in order to be able to notify you of events.

Pictured is our trip to MIM in July, The featured event, the ancient Greek music played was amazing. Loved by all who attended.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Julie Karoutas

Email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com

Cell: # 623.313.8720



4F Youth Nights

With the return of Sunday School we're blessed to continue our 4F Nights with even more excitement this year! Our first 4F Night will be Saturday, August 17 @ 4:30-8pm with our shirts for the year being passed out and a surprise fun activity.

Register your kids [here](#) for our August 4F.

If you'd like to help by bringing a meal for any of the 4F Nights please contact Jill Leach [here](#).

If you'd like to help out on 4F Nights please let Fr. Alexander know.

Mark your calendars!

September 21

October 19

November 9

December 14



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

ciecomom@gmail.com,

and we'll get you added to list!

Senior Goya

We will once again attempt to have consistent Sr. Goya (High School) meetings for our High Schoolers this Fall. In this important time of their life it is imperative that they have the ability to be with their peers in their faith. Join us in the evening of **August 25** for our first meeting, details TBA.



Greek Dance

Niko Panagiotakopoulos, Director

Email: npanos01@yahoo.com

Call/text: (602) 469-2039



Join our vibrant and wonderful Greek Dance ministry open to all from Preschool to College for our Festival weekend in October!

In order to fully prepare, we need to know how many people are joining us in each group, so we are opening registration early! Please fill this out at your earliest convenience so we can get groups ready to start in August!

Our first practice will be Sunday August 18th, and will serve as a bit of a free trial practice to give those on the fence a chance to try it out! **August 25th** we will have our parent meeting, and require everyone to be registered and paid for if you are going to move forward!

Please fill out the link below for each dancer!

Register your child **here**

Email Niko Panagiotakopoulos with any questions you may have

[Holy Trinity Greek Dance Program 2024-2025 \(google.com\)](#)



Dancers at the MIM

Musical Instrument Museum

July 13 & 14, 2024

