

Desert Springs

January
2025
Volume 10
Issue 1



We Said Welcome ...

40 Day Blessings & Baptisms

“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

2024

and We Said Farewell



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

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Office: 602-264-7863 Fax: 602-230-9099 Website www.holytrinityphx.org

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

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Desert Springs Deadline

The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline

Wednesdays, 12 noon

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info@stnectariosphx.org

2023 Parish Council Members

President: Paul Katsenes
Vice President: Connie Contes
Treasurer: Jim Manelis
Secretary: Andi Furlis
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

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- **Bible Study —** Father Apostolos Hill: papoulihill@gmail.com
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- **Dance —** Niko Panagiotakopoulos: npanos01@yahoo.com
- **Daughters of Penelope —** Cynthia Bekiaris: cynb1308@gmail.com
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- **Epistle Readers —** Connie Contes: connie.contes@gmail.com
- **Greek Festival —** Nick Kretsedemas: nick.kretsedemas@chilis.com, Angelo Pestrivas: angelopestrivas@msn.com, Ted Furlis: fourlisted@gmail.com
- **Greek School —** Irene Mackos: eirinie@gmail.com
- **Hellenic Museum —** Bessie Hotis: call 602-953-1913
- **Little Lambs —** Deborah Harrison: 14dharrison@gmail.com
- **Living Orthodox —** Mary Pardhe: livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com
- **Maintenance —** Peter Bilitsis, Ted Furlis: htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com
- **Myrrhbearers —** Stacey Beaty: staceybeaty@live.com
- **Narthex Intake —** Kristen Vasilarakos: kristen.vasilarakos@outlook.com
- **OPA —** Caroline Economopoulos: cjecomom@gmail.com
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- **Parish Council —** Paul Katsenes: pkatsenes@cox.net
- **Philoptochos —** Kristen Vasilarakos: kristen.vasilarakos@outlook.com
- **Special Events Administrator —** Angie Lambrou: angie.lambrou@cox.net
- **Stewardship —** Sandy Meris: sandymeris@gmail.com
- **Sunday School:** Alexia Panagiotakopoulos: htphxsundayschool@gmail.com
- **UMOM New Day Centers —** Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net
- **Wedding Coordinator —** Patty Ladas: pattyladas@gmail.com
- **YAL —** Mary Pardhe: livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com

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@holyltrinityphx.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.

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris

“Your Own From Your Own”

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



Stewardship 2025 Goals:

- 1) 100% participation from parishioners to complete and submit the 2025 pledge card by January 31st.
- 2) Increase your 2025 pledge by a minimum of 1% over your 2024 pledge.
- 3) If you are not using ShelbyNext for your Stewardship contributions, we ask that you please sign up today. Visit www.holytrinityphx.org and click on "Stewardship." (If you are already using ShelbyNext for your giving, don't forget to update your giving amount to match it to your 2025 pledge).
- 4) Pledge to attend more services, get involved in a new ministry, and participate in more fellowship opportunities in 2025.

The future and vibrancy of our Cathedral is in our hands. What do we want our Cathedral to look and feel like in 2025? It is up to us!

Wishing all our Holy trinity parishioners a happy, healthy, blessed 2025!!



**Sandy Meris Speaks About Stewardship
And the Fathers Bless the Pledge Card Basket
Sunday, December 8th**



**Scott Leach and Nick Kretsedemas
Share Personal Stewardship Reflections
Sunday, December 1st**



**Stewardship Sunday and Gratitude Luncheon
Sunday, December 8th**

House of Stewards

As of 12/31/2024



Calli Allman
Alexandra (Alex) Anagnopoulos
Dina Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
John & Sandy Annos
Carla Antypas
Elaine Apostle
Argyro Apostolou
Chris Athens
Christina Bakavelou & Chris Perry
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Taylor 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 Burkhart
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
James S Contes
Ethan & Talia Curtis
Evonne Damianos
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Basil Davis
Patty Davis
Rebecca Davis
Leonard & Elaine Debickero
Jim & Michelle DeDakis
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 & Presv. 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
George & Julie Froumis
Joshua & Kayla Gabrielsen
Semos Gardner
Demetra Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Pamela Georgelos
Sam Georgiou
John Giannopoulos
Harrison & Mandy Gillis
Pauline Ginakes
Stella Glitsos
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
Gail Grevas
Sophia Gvaclides
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 & Presv Denise Hill
Greg Hill
Michael & Veronica 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 J Katsenes
Helen Katsufrakis
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
Basil & Mikaela 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 Lamos
Scott & Jill Leach
Steven & Constance Lemere
Lea Linaris
Georgia Lipane
Luke & Maria Lipnos
Gregory Lizanich
Gabriel & Anna Lopez
James & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maciejewski
Daniel Macinnis
Margo Makris
Marika Madridis
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

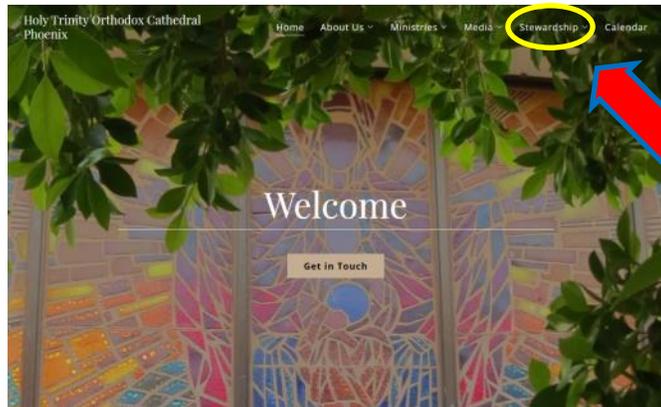
House of Stewards continued from page 4

Anastasia Migias
Paul & Linda Miller
William & Jean Miller
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell
John & Eleanna Mitchell
Philip & Helen Mitchell
Oleg & Emily Moroz
Dino Moschoutis
James & Irene Mourikes
Spyro & Effie Mousses
Matthew & Sophia Neumann
Kathy & Jerry New
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
John Nicolettos
AnnaMarie Nieblas
Irene Pagoudis
Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Alexi & Alexia Panagiotakopoulos
Anna Panagiotakopoulos
Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Niko Panagiotakopoulos
Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Chrysoula Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos
Aaron Papagalos
Ria Papageorgiou
Betty Papas
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
Alex Rentzis
Alexi & Sara Rentzis
Jenn Rentzis
Menelaos Rentzis
Voula Rentzis
Catherine Romo
George Rouman
Andrew & Alexia Rubojianes
Robert & Maria Rush

Lois Sakkas
Leonard & Katina Salvaggio
Stellios & Nicole Samaradellis
Dimitra Sampson
Paul Sarantes
Les & Christine Sarantinos
John Schneider
Peter Schneider
Warren & Kalliopi Schneider
Diane & George Sedlacek
Nicole Senerius
Terry & Chris Seretis
Lainie Seretis
George & Traci Sgouros
John Siavelis
Robert & Donna Sioles
Christopher & Marilynn Sonier
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
Nathaniel Tropea
Thaddeus & Katherine Tropea
Basilios & Mary Tsakiris
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
Peter & Maria Vlahos
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Zach Vouras
Steve & Mary Vrahas
Kenneth & Angela Walker
Colin & Paula Walsh
Paulina & Doug Watson
Zach & Mary Kladis Wilhelmli
Connie M. Williams
Dan Williams
Anne & William Wilson
Mike & Christina Wombacher
Richard & Katina Wood
Joseph & Athina Yadush
Zachariah Yoon & Elizabeth Hong
John & Andreanna Zafiropoulos
Anthony & Karen Zaman
George & Katherine Zannis
Jerry & Amanda Zannis
Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis
Zella Zannis
Evangelia Zikos
Dimitrios Zistatsis
Eleanna Zistatsis
Michael & Christina Zistatsis

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!



WeShare is easy! Go to www.holytrinityphx.org
and then click on **Stewardship**.

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://www.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,
January 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm
in the Lounge of the Speros Community Center
☧

Below is a highlight of what our chapter supports on a quarterly and yearly basis. We work tirelessly to ensure that we offer a large *local community footprint* in addition to Metropolis and National causes.

FOCUS

- HTC - Circle of Angels
- HTC - Benevolent Fund
- HTC - Scholarship Fund
- Holy Cross/Hellenic College
- IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities)
- Local - Arizona Free Arts for Abused Children
- Local - Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation
- Local - Arizona Women's Recovery Center
- Local - Circle the City
- Local - St. Joseph the Worker
- Local - Thrive
- Local - Wheel Chair Drive
- Metropolis - Emergency Relief Fund
- Metropolis - Kids'N'Cancer
- Metropolis - Women's Wellness
- National - Autism Fund
- National - Retired Clergy Fund
- National - Sisterhood of Presvyteras
- National - Social Services Fund/Cancer
- National - Social Services Fund/Major Illness
- National - St. Basil's Academy
- OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship)
- OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center)

What is Philoptochos?

The translation is Philo = Friend and Ptochos = Poor. It is literally "Friend of the Poor".

The Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos has 59 parish chapters and over 4,000 members who are motivated by the words of the Lord, "I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me... inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Collecting for St. Basil Academy & General Youth Fund on January 5

Philoptochos will have the first collection of 2025 in the Narthex this Sunday, January 5.

This collection benefits two worthy Orthodox causes, **St. Basil Academy** and the **General Youth Fund**. Any funds collected are combined with donations from the Vasilopita auction. Please make checks payable to Philoptochos.

Look for the labeled trays on the Narthex counter. We appreciate our community's continued support of Philoptochos' efforts to meet the ongoing needs within our Orthodox community.



Christmas Bake Sale

December 15, 2024



Check in on a Parishioner—Circle of Angels

Do you have a family member or friend who has not been able to come to church lately? Please let us know! Call or Text Julie at 850-225-4978.



Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

DECEMBER 8th & PARTIES



FOCUS

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve

<https://focusphoenix.org>

<https://focusnorthamerica.org>



Congratulations to Christopher Lopez, the inaugural FOCUS Phoenix Director!



Christopher Lopez is a native of Phoenix, AZ where he currently resides with his wife, Briana, and their two sons, Hendrix and Santana. He entered into the workforce by becoming a Banquet Captain for the Phoenix Mountain Preserve Reception Center when it was still under the ownership of the Phoenix Fire Department. The location, as Providence would have it, resides in the very same neighborhood he looks to serve today, Sunnyslope. He gradually moved into the field of Information Technology and oversaw the hardware aspect of the business merger between American retail grocers Safeway Inc. and Albertsons LLC, laying his hand on each part of the process, from equipment configuration and software installation, to logistical delivery plans. After converting to the Orthodox Christian Faith, he found himself in search of what he felt to be more purposeful work. Leaving behind a successful career in I.T., he ventured into the Non-Profit sector.

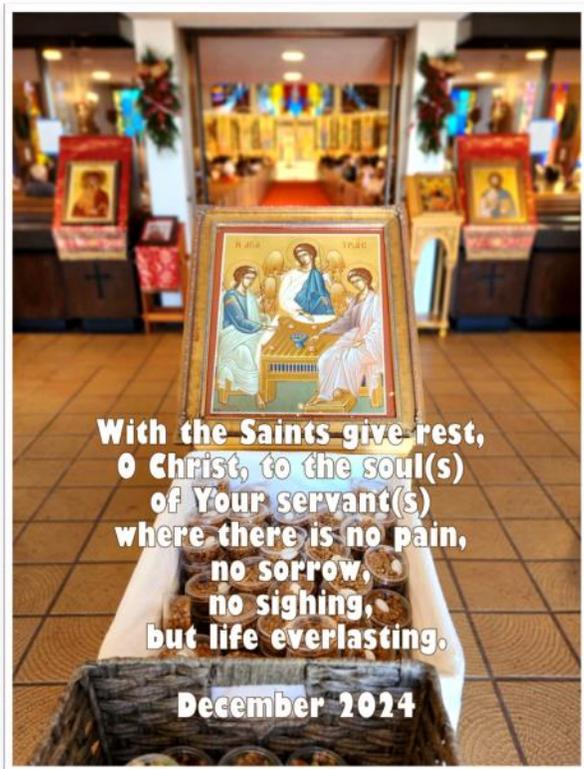
Accepting an Account Management position with a notable medical healthshare while obtaining multiple State Licenses such as Mortgage Loan Officer and Agent of Life and Health Insurance. He is currently a student of Psychology at Phoenix College as well as sitting Co-Chair of Community Outreach for the Living Orthodox Ministry, which is based out of his home Parish of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. His passion, consistency, and dedication to the work of helping those in need is what inspired Christopher to accept the position as Director of the newly established FOCUS Phoenix Center.

"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:40

Christmas Lessons and Singing on the Solea



December Photos



Parish Assembly, Parish Council Voting, and Lunch

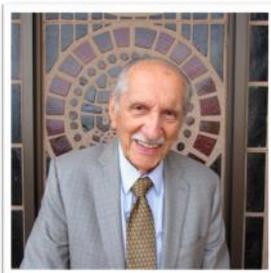
December 15, 2024

Congratulations!

Our newly elected Parish Council Members:

Sandy Annos, Connie Contes, Charles DeMoss, Andi Furlis, and Jim Manelis

God strengthen you for your new terms!



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 four "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.

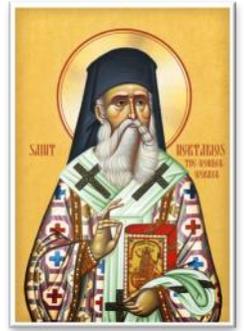
Children will be dismissed after the final Amen in Liturgy and memorials and announcements will be given after the dismissal of the students. Sunday School will be dismissed at 11:30am tentatively until we confirm this is the proper amount of time needed, adjustments may come later and you will be notified.

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

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

St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

Submitted by Rita Papaspyrou
stnectariosphx@gmail.com



The Children's Garden

The Children's Garden at Coffee Hour

Used in conjunction with the Pre-K/K class for Sunday School, this area in the Large Hall will be available on Sundays 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](#).



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 to celebrate!

In December, we had **two Celebration Committee events!** (Photos on the next page.) Celebration Sunday was a festive event with red, green, white, and gold balloon columns; light-up tree; peppermints; and plenty of Christmas-themed mylar foil balloons. We celebrated Adeline Turgeon's 40-day-blessing, Fr. Alexander's birthday, and all December birthdays.

On Christmas Eve, we hosted our annual reception after the evening Orthros service for the Nativity. Parishioners brought a beautiful array of cookies, cupcakes, and candy to share, while the Celebration Committee members provided hot cocoa and apple cider. It was a lovely time of community celebration.

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 December, the Communal Cooking crew led by Phillip Panagiotoglou served vegetable frittata, hash browns, buttermilk biscuits, mac and cheese, cookies, baklava, and cake along with vegan garbanzo beans and rice for those keeping a strict fast. 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 Committee



Celebration Committee

January Birthdays

George Peter Agnos
Maria Allman
Carla Antypas
Elaine Apostle
Chris Arger
Sophia Bakavelou
Rita Bruskas
Frank Carris
Pete Choukalas
Adriana Chronis
Mariam Contes
Leonard Debickero
Patrick Delord
Joanne Demangus
Fran Drozd
Nehemiah Fightmaster
Karla Floor
Bill Graham
Courtney Harris
Mary Harris
Alexia Haugen
Constantinos Herrera
Samuel Huff
Ekaterini Jaynes
Grace Kamboukos
Harper Kamboukos
Vasilios Karagiannis
Vasiliqi Karagiannis
Fotini Katrakis
Poppy Kavouris
Fanny Kechajias
George Kleanthis
Carol Kostaras
Nick Kretsedemas
Haroula Kyriacou
Effie Ladas
Vasiliki Ladas
Audrey Vaughn

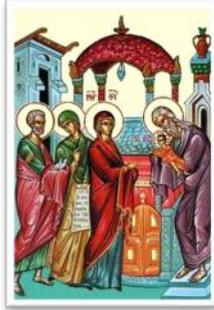
Stephan Mackos
Leonithas Mackos
Jenny Margaris
James Markakis
Joanne Meris
Alexandra Meris
Claire Meyers
Irene Mirs
Anastasia Mitchell
Zoya Moroz
James Mourikes
Kathy New
Irene Pagoudis
Elizabeth Palmer
Andrew Pappas
Emily Pappas
Gayle Petkas
James Petsas
Georgia Pikoula
Nicole Pyle
Lydia Rabbitt
Jennifer Rentzis
George Rouman
Alessabetta Ruboyianes
Nikki Sackos
Theodore Schneider
Angelo Scopelianos
Alisha Solheim
James A. Speros
Sophia Stamatis
Sophia Sterio
Alana Stoutenburg
Andrew Touvannas
Sophocles Tsaninos
Dimitrios Tsioutsopoulos
Staci Vaughn
Andy Vlahos
Andrew Vlahoulis
Athina Yadush

January

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



12/22/2024

Mary, daughter of Emily & Wyatt Coppinger
God's Blessings be upon her.

Baptisms & Chrismation

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



12/07/2024

Colton, son of Angela & Chris Mead
Godparents: Alexa & Justin Davis
God's Blessings be upon him.

12/14/2024

Arabella, daughter of Veronica & Michael Hill
Godparent: Nathaniel Tropea
God's Blessings be upon her.

12/21/2024

Anthony Dunn
Godparents: Koko & Costa Tzavaras
God's Blessings be upon him.

12/21/2024—Chrismation

Christina Yarmak
Godparents: Lynn & Bill Graham
God's Blessings be upon her.

12/28/2024

Emanuel Corrales
Godparent: Greg Lizanich
God's Blessings be upon him.



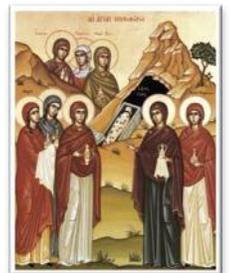
In this time more than ever we need prayer. For those not able to come to the Cathedral, we have set up this ability to light a candle virtually! Please click the link above and follow the instructions. Enter your name and the names of those you wish prayed for in the PayPal “Notes” section, and Father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



Our Church Family

Funerals

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



12/03/2024

John Katsenes
May his memory be eternal.

12/30/2024

Paul Katsenes
May his memory be eternal.

Educator's Group at Holy Trinity

It's the end of the fall semester and for all of our current or retired teachers, and administrators, you know what that feels like!



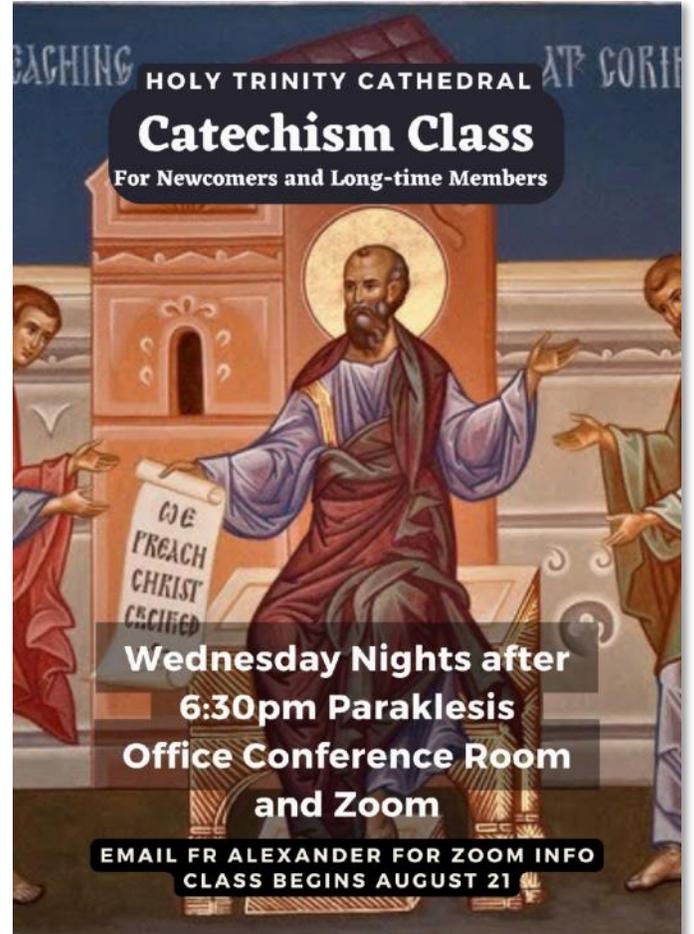
How were finals and posting grades? Stressful? How did you feel about the first semester? What do you look forward to in the second semester?

Let's take some time to share and learn from each other.

Remember, this is for all public, private, and charter school educators. We are all one! **This invitation is also extended to our future educators. Join us.**

If you have any questions please email Chris Francis at battersbox7@yahoo.com, or call 623-523-3013.

Fall Catechism Class



Church Website

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

www.holytrinityphx.org

Events • Services • Photos • Calendar • Stewardship



45,579 visitors in 2024!

45,579 Site Visitors

Last 12 months ▾

2024



4,243 Site Visitors

Last 30 days ▾

December



Desert Springs January 2025

Winter Retreat



Summer Camp



Young Adult Winter Retreat

Registration is open for the 18th Annual Metropolis Young Adult Winter Retreat in Lake Tahoe, from Friday, January 17 – Monday, January 20, 2025. The theme for this gathering is “Be Still and Know: Listening for God’s still small voice” and will be led by Rev. Father James Kumarelas, Proistamenos from Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in San Jose, CA. Join us for this beautiful retreat, located on a private retreat center on the shore of Lake Tahoe with spectacular views, incredible food, and awesome accommodations! Details and registration online at: www.gosfyouth.org/youngadults

Coffee Hour Cold Brew



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!



Every Sunday in the Hall!

Scholarship Opportunity

Scholarship and internship opportunities! \$250,000 in scholarships. The application, criteria, requirements, and guidelines are available at www.panhellenicsf.org. Applications are due January 31, 2025.

SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
2024-2025

\$250,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are due **January 31, 2025**

The application, criteria, requirements, and guidelines are available at www.panhellenicsf.org



NEED AN INTERN?
RECRUIT INTERNS THROUGH THE PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION!

Discover New Talent: Tap into a pool of skilled young professionals ready to bring their perspectives to your company.

Make a Lasting Impact: Help shape the next generation of professionals in the Hellenic community by providing mentorship and real-world experience.



PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
8501 West Higgins Road · Suite 210
Chicago, Illinois 60631

☎ 312.357.6432
☎ 312.872.0090
🌐 panhellenicsf.org
✉ info@panhellenicsf.org

House Blessings

House Blessings for the New Year will begin Jan 6 and after by appointment only. Please call the office or Fr. Apostolos or Fr. Alexander individually to make an appointment.



Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director
phxgreeksschool@gmail.com

Are you ready to learn Greek- Classes start in November!

To sign up or learn more, visit our website www.greeklanguagekitchen.com

Look forward to welcoming you to our Greek Language Classes and hoping you explore the beauty and richness of the Greek Language!



Holy Trinity Greek & Heritage School of Phoenix

What YOU Can Do to Help Visitors Feel Welcome

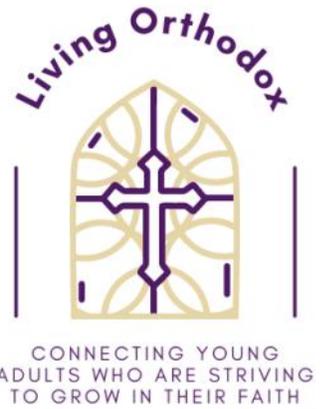
Have you noticed new faces? We've had many visitors stop by lately. Some are Orthodox and visiting from other Parishes, some are returning to Orthodoxy after a long time away, and some are coming to check out Orthodoxy for the very first time. No matter how they come to us, let's make sure we say Hello!

“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!



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 at <https://bit.ly/LOconnect> for our email/SMS lists!



Living Orthodox Christmas Party

Over fifty young adults from across the Valley gathered at St. George Antiochian Church for our annual pan-Orthodox Christmas party! The event was co-hosted by Living Orthodox, OCF, and the St. George Young Professionals Group. The ballroom was festively decorated for the event with Santa hats for the attendees and Christmas-themed table décor. We enjoyed a potluck dinner together, then heard a presentation by Napoleon Kanari – pastoral assistant from St. Katherine’s Greek Orthodox Church. Following the presentation, we clicked a group photo and played a series of fun games!

We have a number of exciting events planned for 2025 so stay in touch via our email chain and SMS channel!

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 social media.



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](#)



AHEPA CHAPTER 219



Our Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2025
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

AHEPA Chapter 219



AHEPA CHAPTER 219 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



St Innocent Orphanage:	\$21,000*
UMOM Outreach:	\$19,500*
Greek Festival Bar Sales	\$19,000
Scholarship Awards:	\$11,500
Lucas Vasilarakos Funeral:	\$ 4,000
Warrior Service Dogs:	\$ 1,000
AHEPA National Charities:	\$ 1,000
Benevolent Fund Donation:	\$ 1,000
Kids with Cancer Donation:	\$ 500
Packages from Home	\$ 250
Total Community Impact:	\$78,750

*Includes Matching Funds



AHEPA CHAPTER 219 A NIGHT OF RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION

FEBRUARY 15, 2025

**6:00PM COCKTAILS
6:30 PM DINNER
7:45 AWARDS
SOCIAL AFTER AWARDS**

**HOLY TRINITY GREEK
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
JAMES A SPEROS
COMMUNITY CENTER**

OPEN BAR WITH 4 COURSE - 5 STAR MEAL

**\$80 per Couple or
\$45 per person**

RSVP no later than February 11, 2025 to:

Steve Lemere: 602.882.9990

or stevenlemere3777@gmail.com

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW - LIMITED SEATING

Daughters of Penelope

Helenos Chapter #432

Daughters of Penelope El Camino District 20



Helenos Chapter 432 Daughters of Penelope Celebrated our 10 Year Anniversary!

Our sisters gathered for a celebration and Christmas Dinner. Since 1929 Daughters of Penelope has promoted Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence.



For our holiday service project, we donated much needed items to UMOM. This organization continues to assist the homeless by helping families rebuild their lives.

On January 16th, we will have a **Pay Your 2025 Membership Pizza Party!**

We look forward to initiating our new members at this meeting. We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30PM at Holy Trinity.

Please contact the Helenos Chapter President, Cynthia Bekiaris (cynb1308@gmail.com), with any questions on how to join us in January. Learn more about our Philanthropic Endeavors and Scholarships.

Coffee Socials Following Sunday Liturgies

The December Coffee Socials were sponsored by **Philoptochos**.

The January Coffee Socials are sponsored by **Dance**.



New! Musical Journey

A Transformative Musical Journey of Faith

DRAW NEAR



Music has a unique way of touching the soul, transcending boundaries, and drawing us closer to the divine. It is a profound expression of faith, a universal language that bridges cultures and traditions. [The Draw Near project](#) is a testament to this power. This newly composed musical setting of The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, crafted by the up-and-coming composer Alexander Pierce Hill, is set to inspire and captivate hearts worldwide.

With the internationally renowned British vocal ensemble APOLLO5 at its core, this project is a rare opportunity to share the beauty of Orthodox liturgical music in ways never seen before.

Why Draw Near Matters

Draw Near is not just a musical composition; it is a spiritual offering, a bridge connecting worshippers with the sacred text of the Divine Liturgy. Alexander Pierce Hill has created music that is accessible and inclusive, welcoming musicians and non-musicians alike. His emphasis on clear, memorable melodies ensures that everyone feels comfortable participating, fostering congregational singing and deepening the prayerful experience. Rooted in the traditions of Byzantine chant and Russian Orthodox choral music, this original composition honors the past while bringing fresh inspiration to the present.

The impact of this project extends far beyond its artistic value. It is an invitation for individuals around the world to engage with the prayers of the Divine Liturgy, even if they have never stepped into an Orthodox church. The potential reach of Draw Near is unparalleled, thanks to its multifaceted approach.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF DRAW NEAR

ALBUM

APOLLO5 will record an album of Draw Near. Known for their immaculate blend and captivating performances, [APOLLO5](#) brings unparalleled artistry to this project. Their global following ensures that the album will reach audiences well beyond the traditional Orthodox music sphere. Imagine the prayers of the Divine Liturgy being discovered by listeners worldwide, offering moments of spiritual reflection and connection.

PUBLISHING

A digital score of the Divine Liturgy will be published, enabling parish choirs worldwide to access this beautiful music. Choirs can download the complete Liturgy or select individual pieces, making it adaptable to their specific needs. This initiative ensures that the music becomes a living, breathing part of worship in countless communities.

INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

APOLLO5 will create instructional video modules using the revolutionary [Digital Academy](#) platform. These videos will guide choirs of all sizes and abilities in learning and rehearsing the music, making the project accessible to parishes regardless of their resources or experience.

TOUR

APOLLO5 will take Draw Near on tour across the United States, performing in Orthodox churches for spiritually transformative concerts. These live events will not only showcase the music but also provide an immersive experience, allowing audiences to feel the depth and beauty of the Divine Liturgy.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE

We have a little over \$30k left to raise to hit our goal. If you or someone you know is inspired to contribute, please scan the QR code below or visit adonismposition.com to donate.

Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference.



SHARE

Share the beauty of Draw Near with your community. Choral music has long been a profound expression of faith, and this project is a meaningful addition to our rich history. Encourage your friends, family, and fellow parishioners to promote and support this transformative endeavor.



Apokries 2025

ARIZONA HELLENIC FOUNDATION
PROUDLY PRESENTS

**APOKRIES
2025**

**LIVE MUSIC
BY
SYNTHESIS!**

**GREEK MARDI GRAS, DANCE, PRIZES
FOR BEST COSTUMES, 50/50 RAFFLE**

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL 1973 E MARYLAND AVE
PHOENIX, AZ 85016

**SATURDAY
3/1/25**  **CASH BAR STARTS AT 6 PM
DINNER 7 PM**

TICKETS: ADULTS \$100 | 16 AND UNDER \$30
MINORS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT.
PLEASE CALL TELIS EVRIPIDOU AT
(480) 332-6957.

Proceeds to benefit Arizona Hellenic Foundation's scholarship fund.
www.azhellenic.org

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!

Sr. GOYA Christmas Party

December 20, 2024



4F—December



Upcoming 4F Nights

January 18, February 22, March 22--Lenten Day Retreat
Reserve your calendars for these dates!

Orthodox Mission Church of Arizona

Orthodox Mission Church of Arizona

2025 FUNDRAISER GALA



Help us build
A HOME IN THE *desert*

Join us for an evening of faith and fellowship as we fundraise to build the Orthodox Mission Church of Arizona's parish - our home in the desert.

DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

TIME: 5:00 PM

LOCATION: THE WINDMILL WINERY
1140 W BUTTE AVE, FLORENCE, AZ 85132

ATTIRE: FORMAL

DINNER

MUSIC

FELLOWSHIP

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SILENT AUCTION

Gourmet Dinner Handcrafted by:

Gianni's Catering
Affordable elegance

Location:


WINDMILL
WINERY

Sponsored by:


MOUNT ATHOS
RESTAURANT & CAFE



TICKETS & DONATE

Purchase tickets at orthodox-mission.org/events/gala

General Admission: \$150 | **Early Bird Tickets:** \$100

Child Tickets (6-12): \$25 | **Onsite Childcare*:** \$25

The Orthodox Mission Church is a thriving mission parish serving the greater community surrounding St. Anthony's Monastery in Florence Arizona.

*Onsite childcare is available for children 5 and under & must be reserved in advance by contacting childcare.gala2025@orthodox-mission.org.