

Desert Springs

September 2024
Volume 9 Issue 8



According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2, the Savior proclaimed, *“The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord...”* Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, *“Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing (Luke 4: 17-21).*

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

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Desert Springs Deadline

The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline

Wednesdays, 12 noon

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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

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- **AHEPA** — Costa Tzavaras: 602-999-9819 or tbirdchachi@gmail.com
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- **Bookstore** — Rita Papaspyrou: stnectariosphx@gmail.com
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- **Celebration Committee** — Terri Alexon and Mary Pardhe: htcphxevents@gmail.com
- **Dance** — Niko Panagiotakopoulos: npanoso1@yahoo.com
- **Daughters of Penelope** — Cynthia Behrakis
- **Desert Diamonds (50+)** — Julie Karoutas: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
- **Epistle Readers** — Connie Contes: connie.contes@gmail.com
- **Greek Festival** — Nick Kretsedemas: nick.kretsedemas@chilis.com, Angelo Pestrivas: angelopestrivas@msn.com, Ted Fourlis: 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
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- **Oratorical Festival** — Nick Petsas: npetsas@outlook.com, Chris Francis: battersbox7@yahoo.com
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- **Philoptochos** — Kristen Vasilarakos: kristen.vasilarakos@outlook.com
- **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** —
- **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@holymtrinityphx.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 Father Alexander

FOCUSing on Helping Those in Need

I had an interesting conversation with a friend recently about how we as Christians can live out our life as Christians. In fact he was the one I got the metaphor from about breathing in and breathing out as Christians that we spoke about a few weeks ago in the homily. We are very good about “breathing in” the Grace of God through worship and the sacraments. We are not so good, especially as Orthodox, about “breathing out” the gifts that God has given us. In speaking about how we can care for others we lamented the “Old World” model that worked so well. When all Christians were in a village everyone knew everyone and knew everyone’s needs and those needs would be taken care of by the community because that’s what community does. This would loosely be centered around the Church but only because the Church was the center of the community’s life.



Now we find ourselves spread throughout the metropolitan area of Phoenix and helping one another is not as simple a task as walking next door with bread for one in need. The Church has supplemented this with Philoptochos and other outreach ministries and while not as simple as before, it indeed is beneficial. The organic is replaced by an organization which, while imperfect, is the best we can do in our setting!

We have before us as Orthodox Christians in Phoenix a new great task in caring for our neighbor. FOCUS North America has identified Phoenix as the perfect site for a new home for those in need. This is not something that is produced out of thin air and run by an organization far away, it will take YOU being a part of it, living out your Christian calling by aiding those in need in your community. Currently the process is working on doing what we can in groundwork, handing out backpacks (a packing event at Assumption is happening on September 18!) while an exploratory committee is finding out how we can build a shelter.

What we need now is your active involvement through fundraising (Donation Form donorperfect.net) as we as a community have been charged with \$15,000 like the other Orthodox Churches have. What we’ll definitely need is your involvement as the shelter gets off the ground in a few years but in the meantime keep your eyes and ears open for opportunities like the backpack stuffing and other ground work that will be attempted as we go forward. If we truly wish to live out our mission statement of “To be a welcoming community sharing Christ’s love through faith and service” we need to prioritize this amazing chance at serving those in need!

Steve Christoforou, the Executive Director of FOCUS will be joining us on Sunday, September 22 to speak to us about the ways we can get involved and what the plan is moving forward. Be sure to be there and Steve will be available in coffee hour to answer any questions you may have.

This is an imperative venture if we are to “breathe out” the Gospel and it needs YOU! Join us in whatever capacity God has given you to serve.

Flyers for Focus are on pages 20 & 21

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



CRAYONS, PENCILS AND PENS...OH MY!

A huge thanks to all of our Holy Trinity parishioners who donated school supplies to support the students of Madison Park Middle School. People donated everything from markers and highlighters to backpacks and water bottles. Madison Park is a Title 1 school in the Madison School District which is located near Holy Trinity. These much needed supplies will benefit the students giving them the tools they need to learn, grow and achieve.



MINISTRY SUNDAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

Holy Trinity proudly boasts 30 different ministries to serve our parishioners. There is something for everyone! Last month, the stewardship committee hosted our annual Ministry Sunday which was well attended by our parishioners.

Nearly every ministry hosted a table where people could peruse and get more information or even sign up to become a member. This annual event shines a light on the incredible work our volunteers do and is an important aspect of the positive life of the church. Being an active member of our ministries is just one part of being a good steward. Time, talent and treasure.



Parish Assembly on September 8, 2024

Parish Assembly Official Notice

Sunday, September 8, 2024

As provided in the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, a meeting of Parish Assembly is called for September 8, 2024, at 12:00 pm in the Holy Trinity James Speros Community Center for all parishioners in good standing.

Parishioners in good standing must have signed a 2024 Stewardship Pledge Card and paid towards their annual commitment. If your name does not appear, please contact the office at 602.264.7863.



The **Agenda** is on page 6.

The **House of Stewards** can be found on pages 7 & 8.

Kristen Bruskas Honored



Kristen Bruskas was honored by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America at the July 4th Grand Banquet for the Archdiocese Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress in

San Diego, CA. She was presented with a beautiful silver icon of Christ the Vine in recognition of her dedication to serving the Church and the leadership she offered as part of a four-person team that planned all aspects of the Clergy-Laity Congress for our Archdiocese. Kristen is the Director of Development and Communications for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco and has been working for the Metropolis since 2007. **AXIA!**

Church Website



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

www.holytrinityphx.org

- Events
- Services
- Photos
- Calendar
- Stewardship

Donations

We greatly value all your donations! Please remember, when you write us a check, to include your **intention for the donation** i.e. stewardship, candles, etc.

Thank you all!



Parish Assembly Agenda



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL ΑΓΙΑ ΤΡΙΑΔΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ



August 27, 2024

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY (Immediately following Divine Liturgy)

As provided in the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North America, this is notice of a Parish Assembly to be held at the Holy Trinity Cathedral Community Center.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opening Prayer.
3. Determine a Quorum exists.
4. Elect Chairperson and appoint Parliamentarian and Secretary.
5. Father Apostolos Ecclesiastic Report.
6. Father Alexander Ecclesiastic Report.
7. Approval of minutes June 2, 2024, Parish Assembly.
8. Refresh Update.
9. Treasurer & Investment Committee Reports.
10. Stewardship Report.
11. Festival Report
12. Parish Council Elections—Fall Parish Assembly Meeting (TBD)
13. Election of Board of Elections
14. Campus Master Plan Project
15. For the Good of the Cathedral
16. Adjournment
17. Closing Prayer

With God's Blessing,

Paul T. Katsenes
President

House of Stewards

As of 08/30/2024

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
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 Bichakas
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
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 Drodz
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
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 & 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 (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 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

*House of Stewards continued on page 8
Desert Springs September 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
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 Ruboyianes
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
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

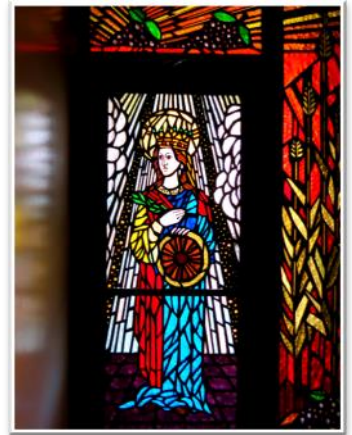
Vasilios & Diana Speros
Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Nitsa Stamataletos
Andrew & Christine Stamatis
Jonathan Stamatis
Jimmy & Lisa Sterio
Tristan & Alana Stoutenburg
Robert Stuart
Steven & Jean Talkington
Despina Taularides
William & Rebecca Taularides
Nick & Effie Theodore
Gus Theodoropoulos
Jim Thomas
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 holyltrinityphx.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



Coffee in the Conference Room

Tuesdays at 9:30 am

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



Light the Path

Not even distance can keep us in the darkness.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
John 1:5

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, November 17, 2024
2:00 p.m.

Los Coyotes Country Club
8888 Los Coyotes Drive
Buena Park, California

Light the Path

In support of the Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund. *Join us! More details coming soon!*

What is Philoptochos?

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

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."

Refresh Project

Please join Parish Council members for the upcoming open house to ask questions, provide input, and look over the latest renderings and proposed materials for our Refresh Projects.

Thursday, September 5, 5-7 PM

Narthex - Please come and see many of the proposed materials for cabinets/countertops, flooring, bathroom sinks and fixtures. The work on this phase of the Refresh will begin after this year's Festival.

Community Center - please look at the 47"x47" sample of the proposed flooring material to be laid throughout the Community Center (except the kitchen). Join us in brainstorming proposals for refreshing the flooring, ceilings, lighting, doors and sound system throughout the Community Center. Learn about the efforts being made to ensure the integrity of the plumbing/piping beneath the Community Center flooring before any Refresh work begins.



Cathedral entry stairs, planters and deck - we will be meeting in September with a landscape architect/designer to develop a comprehensive plan for refreshing not only the entry stairs, planters and deck but also the outdoor area/landscaping in front of the Chapel, the walkway to the Community Center, and the outdoor entry area to the Community Center.

Flowers for the Mother of God's Dormition

You gave birth yet preserved your virginity.

You fell asleep in death yet did not desert the world, O Theotokos.

You were transported to life, as you are Mother of Life and, by virtue of your intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

On August 14, we celebrated the Great Vespers service of the Feast of the Falling Asleep, or Dormition, of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary at our sister parish of the Assumption in Scottsdale (8202 E. Cactus Rd.)

On August 15, we celebrated the Matins service and the Divine Liturgy for this great feast, known in Greece as the "Second Pascha" in the Holy Trinity Cathedral.

It was altogether fitting that cut flowers were brought from our homes in vases to surround the icon stand of the Dormition and placed before Her sacred icon on the iconostasis for the services.



Includes photos by Yvonne Vranes

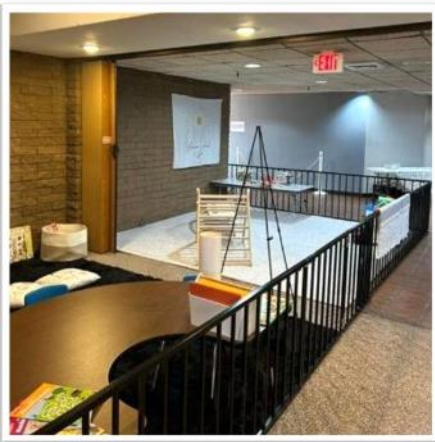
We showed the Mother of Life our honor and devotion in this simple act of beautifying the Church as we celebrated Her translation into life!

Children's Corner—New!



Children's Corner at Coffee Hour

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](#).



Prayer of a Student

Holy God, please walk with me as the new school year begins. Help me to do my very best in my studies, to gain knowledge and wisdom. Please help me to always be respectful to my teachers and to honor them for their efforts on my behalf. Protect me and my friends and school from any harm or danger.

Holy Mighty, please work through me to be a true friend to others, especially to those who most need a friend. Give me courage to stand up for those who may be bullied or shamed. Help me shine the light of Your love to everyone I meet. Remind me when I feel alone that You are always with me and that my family and parish loves and supports me.

Holy Immortal, please also educate my heart to know you better and to walk in my Orthodox Christian Faith, even when this sets me apart. Help me remember that you work alongside me in all of my efforts which please you. Thank you for the joy of being your child. Help me share that joy with others. Amen.

Student Prayer for a New School Year

August 4, 2024



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 August, the Celebration Committee celebrated baby showers for Wyatt and Emily Coppinger and Matthew and Eva Turgeon along with all August birthdays! In honor of the baby showers, the hall was decorated with a "A sweet baby girl is on her way" theme. Pink banners circled the hall, pink tablecloths with small rose bouquets and pink candies covered the tables, while a 7-foot banner wreathed in a pearlescent balloon arch of magenta, rose, baby pink, and blush pink balloons stood near the stage. The cake and other decorations continued the theme.

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 August, the Communal Cooking crew led by Phillip Panagiotoglou served a frittata with vegetables, breakfast potatoes, spanakopita, Greek salad, bread, cannolis, cake, and assorted desserts. Alternate food arrangements (rice with chickpea curry and pasta salad) were available 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

September Birthdays

Happy
BIRTHDAY

Alexandra Anagnopoulos

Sam Bass

Heidi Bass

Tyler Nicholas Bass

Stacey Beaty

Maria Thomas Boyle

Fetlework Brook

James Bruno

Betty Carras

Zoe Cartier

Juliza Cervantes

Kathy Contes

Marina Chloe Contes

Eleni Contes

Edmond Cooper

Anna Nicoletta Counelis

Christos Counelis

Nick Daniolos

Mary Demetropoulos

Alexa DeMoss

Caroline Economopoulos

Katherine Economopoulos

Anna Ehrick

James Elam

Pres. Laura Eliades

Keith Fightmaster

Raphaella Fightmaster

Tim Floor

George Froumis

Dean Gabrielsen

Cameron Gillis

Amy Hagerty

Donald Hall

Terry Harper

Elizabeth Hong

Anastasia Isfanut

Linda Kalivas

Nicole Kamboukos

John Karagiannis

Mia Karandreas

Perseus Karoutas

Niki Katsaros

Mary Katsenes

Alexandra Katsenes

Santanna Lopez

Efterpi Lourias

Anna Markakis

Madeline McKenzie

Ed McNamara

Paul Miller

Andrew Mitchell

John Mitchell

Michael Moore

Irene Mourikes

Matthew Neumann

Alexander Panagiotakopoulos

Andrea Pappas

Nicholas Petsas

Alexander Petsas

Anita (Nitsa) Rodopoulos

Maria Rush

Theodora Sackos

Katina Salvaggio

James Sampson

George Sedlacek

Evi Skintzis

Jim G. Stamadianos

Benjamin Stamatias

Eva Turgeon

Leah Venetis

Elijah Venetis

Steve Vrahas

Angela Walker

Jake Watson

Zachariah Yoon



September

Our Church Family

Baptisms

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

Galatians 3:27



08/24/2024

Max Cups

Sponsor: Dan McInnis

God’s Blessings be upon him.

Zane Cups

Sponsor: Greg Lizanich

God’s Blessings be upon him.

08/31/2024

Justen, Noah, & Landon Merk

Sponsors: Jill & Scott Leach

God’s Blessings be upon them.

Chrismation

Virginia Merk

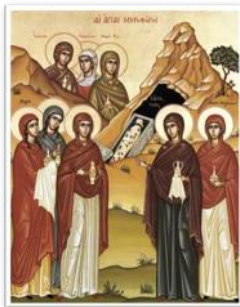
Sponsors: Jill & Scott Leach

God’s Blessings be upon her.

Funerals

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

Psalms 23:6



08/10/2024

Lucas Vasilarakos

May his memory be eternal.

08/20/2024

Chris Athens

May his memory be eternal.



Light a Candle

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.



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!



Fall Catechism Class

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL
Catechism Class
For Newcomers and Long-time Members

**Wednesday Nights after
6:30pm Paraklesis
Office Conference Room
and Zoom**

EMAIL FR ALEXANDER FOR ZOOM INFO
CLASS BEGINS AUGUST 21

Eight Dates Seminar

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco **Family Wellness Ministry** and the **Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries** invite you to journey with us through

Eight Dates
Essential Conversations for a Lifetime of Love
by John and Julie Gottman, Ph.D.

Held twice monthly on Thursday evenings via ZOOM

Our 2024-2025 series will be held **Thursdays at 6:30pm PT** via Zoom.

Each session is designed by our Family Wellness Ministry team to engage couples in essential conversations. **Topics include:**

- September 19
- September 26
- October 10
- October 24
- November 7
- November 21
- December 5
- December 19
- January 9
- Trust & Commitment
- Addressing Conflict
- Sex & Intimacy
- Work & Money
- Family
- Fun & Adventure
- Growth & Spirituality
- Hopes & Dreams

"This series transformed our marriage and got us talking and connecting again."
— Jenn & Stavros

"Over the last four years, over 800 couples participated in our *Eight Dates* program and we've received countless positive comments of how this experience strengthened their relationships."
— Presvytera Pat Tsagalakis

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER HERE

PRESENTED BY
METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
Family Wellness ministry
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

familywellnessministry.org/eight-dates

Desert Diamonds



Julie Karoutas
for senior parishioners
and their guests:

Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends

Join us Friday, September 20 at the Desert Botanical Gardens where the Phoenix Senior Expo will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free admission. Drawings for prizes, refreshments, and health screenings created by the Senior Expo.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Julie Karoutas
Email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
Cell: # 623.313.8720

Fall Bible Study



Fall Bible Study

The (not so) Minor Prophets

Our Fall Bible Study series will commence in September and will focus on the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament. These brave saints withstood the opposition of their countrymen as they delivered the messages God gave them to proclaim.

Set against the backdrop of national catastrophe as the Assyrian, Babylonian, and Persian overran Israel from the mid 8th to the mid 5th centuries BC, the Minor Prophets had the unenviable task of announcing why these events were happening and how they could be ended.

The studies will occur at 5:00PM on Sunday evenings via ZOOM only, beginning on the 15th. Please reply to papoulihill@gmail.com be sent the link to the meetings

Fr. Apostolos Hill

The 63rd Original Phoenix Greek Festival

October 11, 12, & 13, 2024

[PHOENIXGREEKFESTIVAL.ORG](https://phoenixgreekfestival.org)



Check out our website!

[https://phoenixgreekfestival.org/](https://phoenixgreekfestival.org)
 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
 1973 E Maryland Ave
 Phoenix, AZ 85016

We are pleased to provide you with an opportunity to share in the rich history, culture, and culinary delights of Greece. Enjoy Greek food, music, dancing, jewelry, art, grocery items and activities for children.

Friday, October 11
 Saturday, October 12
 Sunday, October 13

<https://phoenixgreekfestival.org/>

TICKETS ARE NOW LIVE ON EVENTBRITE!

Skip the lines. Save some time. Get your tickets ONLINE!

AUTHENTIC GREEK MUSIC

[HTTPS://PHOENIXGREEKFESTIVAL.ORG/](https://phoenixgreekfestival.org/)

Festival Baking



JOIN US FOR THIS VITAL ASPECT OF OUR FESTIVAL THAT ALWAYS SELLS OUT! EVEN IF YOU HAVE ONLY A SPARE HOUR JOIN US, MANY HANDS MAKE FOR LIGHT AND JOYFUL WORK! DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING? WE HAVE MANY EXPERTS TO LEARN FROM!

Baking Begins at 9am

EXCEPT 9/24 AND 9/26 WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10AM.

SEPTEMBER 3-4, 6-7, 9-13, 16-17, 20, 23-27, 30, OCTOBER 1-3



FESTIVAL FOOD

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.

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)

First Day of Sunday School

August 18, 2024



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
BEGINS**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18TH

For Grades: Pre K - 10th
11th & 12th Graders wanting to participate will
volunteer as teacher assistants

Contact: Alexia Panagiotakopoulos
to register your children today.
email: htphxsundayschool@gmail.com



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 <http://eepurl.com/ixBiEk> for our email/SMS lists!



FOCUS Shelter

Since January, Living Orthodox representatives have been working with Steve Christoforou and parishes across Arizona to establish a pan-Orthodox FOCUS homeless shelter/residential program to serve the Phoenix unhoused community. As a cathedral, we are trying to raise \$15,000. These funds, in conjunction with the efforts from other parishes, will enable us to begin service to the homeless while the long-term shelter plans continue to be developed. If you would like to support the project financially, please use [this link](https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E334599&id=284) (<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E334599&id=284>) or the QR code in the flyer on page 21.

Please help us spread the word by sharing the attached flyer (email us for the PDF version)! To get involved or to learn more about this endeavor, please email Christopher Lopez at lop602@gmail.com.

July Event

On July 28th, over 25 young adults from 4 parishes gathered for a fun social event at Dave and Buster's! We hope to organize more social events in the upcoming months, so stay tuned for more details.

If you have ideas for group events or would like to organize a gathering, please email livingorthodoxministry@gmail.com and consider joining our events committee!

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.



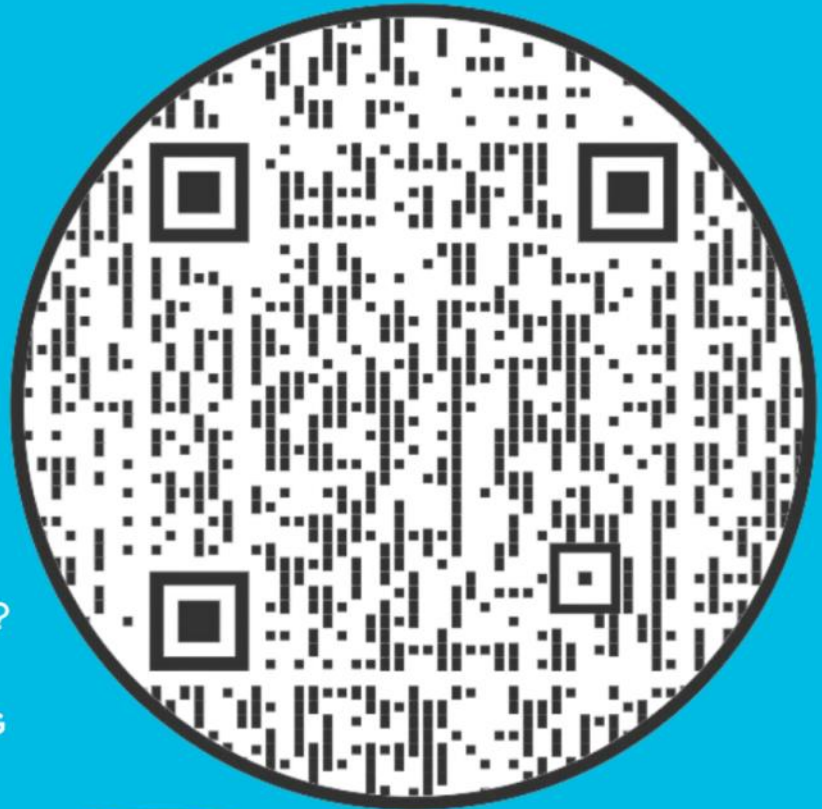
FOCUS Flyer 1

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



FOCUS Flyer 2



Join us in serving our unhoused neighbors!

Orthodox faithful are coming together across the Valley to serve some of our most vulnerable neighbors – those that are street homeless. The number of unhoused individuals across the metro Phoenix has **grown by an astonishing 50%** over these past five years, with the official count listing 9,642 individuals in 2023.

The aim of FOCUS Phoenix (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve) is to initiate a sustainable rhythm of service that will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our homeless neighbors.

While a long-term goal will be to establish a homeless shelter/residential program that offers housing, initially over the coming couple of years we will partner with community organizations to provide needed food, water, clothing, and other resources to these neighbors!

Our first step is getting established! FOCUS Phoenix has the opportunity to tap into **\$75,000 in matching grant funds** (from an Orthodox-based Foundation) if we are able to raise \$75,000 to match it.



We are currently close to \$20,000 raised toward this goal. **Will you prayerfully consider joining us?**

Our parish, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, has established a goal to raise \$15,000 of this needed match money to launch this community-wide pan-Orthodox ministry. To offer a gift toward this goal, scan the QR code above, or visit: tinyurl.com/HolyTrinityGOC

For more info about the scope, location, and details of this ministry, please take a brochure from the Narthex, or contact **Christopher Lopez** at lop602@gmail.com, or **Noah Andersen** at noahdandersen@gmail.com

Together we will be able to build this ministry, furthering all of our work of building God's Kingdom here and now in the Valley!

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](#)



Coffee Socials Following Sunday Liturgies



Thank you!

The August Coffee Socials were sponsored by **4F**.



The September Coffee Socials are sponsored by **OPA**.

THANK YOU!

Coffee Hour Cold Brew

cold brew
COFFEE
FREE
during Sunday coffee hours

HOW TO SUPPORT:
To continue this delicious FREE treat,
sign up to sponsor a Sunday
for \$50 - covers cost of supplies.

Sign up **HERE**



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, September 19, 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

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.

August event at Top Golf:



4F—August

Thank you for attending 4F!
What a great way to start the year!



Photos and collages by Caroline Economopoulos



Youth & Family Volunteer Opportunity

OPA Family Volunteer Opportunity

FMSC offers volunteers a one-of-a-kind experience. You'll hand-pack rice, soy, dried vegetables and a nutritionally complete blend of vitamins and minerals into bags which are then sealed, boxed, placed on pallets and shipped to our incredible partners working hard to reach the neediest children around the world.

OUR EVENT:

Group Name: HT Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Group size: 50 Spots reserved
Location: 1100 W. Grove Parkway, Suite 101, Tempe, AZ 85283 - **NEW LOCATION**
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024
Time: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Volunteer age requirements

Please follow this student-to-adult ratio when registering to volunteer:

- For safety reasons, children under the age of 5 are not allowed in our packing area (sorry, no exceptions)
- Grades K-2: 1 student to 1 adult
- Grades 3-6: 3 students to 1 adult
- Grades 7-12: 4 students to 1 adult

[SIGN UP TODAY](#)

OPA Parent Meeting

August 18, 2024



Greek Dance

Niko Panagiotakopoulos, Director

Email: npanos01@yahoo.com

Call/text: (602) 469-2039

Dance
PRACTICE

August 18th - Sunday
Practice Starts

August 25th - Sunday
Parent Meeting - Practice following

August 28th - Wednesday

September 1st - NO PRACTICE

September 4th - Wednesday

September 8th - Sunday

September 11th - Wednesday

September 15th - Sunday

September 18th - Wednesday

September 22nd - Sunday

September 25th - Wednesday

September 29th - Sunday

October 2nd - Wednesday

October 6th - Sunday

October 9th - Wednesday
Mandatory Slab rehearsal

October 11th-October 13th -
Greek Festival Weekend



**GREEK
GLENDI**

Saturday
November 2nd

Live Music • Dinner • Dancing

Tickets coming soon

Greek Dance Fundraiser

Dance Parents Meeting

August 25, 2024



Festival Flyer



OCTOBER 11-13, 2024

GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING & MORE

FRIDAY, OCT 11
3pm - 10pm

SATURDAY, OCT 12
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY, OCT 13
11am - 6pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix | phoenixgreekfestival.org

@originalphxgreekfest f OriginalPhoenixGreekFestival



ADMISSION

\$5.00 - for an entire day of fun

Children under 12 free

Seniors over 60 free entry on:

- Friday 3:00 - 5:00pm
- Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm

*No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)

PARKING

FREE Parking at
Charles Schwab -
24th St. & Lincoln
Shuttles every 15 minutes

\$10.00 to park in
church parking lot



EAT . DANCE . SHOP . PLAY

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines
Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market
Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.