

**April 26, 2015 ~ Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women**

**Epistle Reading: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7**

IN THOSE DAYS, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

**Gospel Reading: The Gospel of Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8**

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



**Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church**  
123 Gilkeson Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

**Fr. Michael Kallaur, Economist**  
**Daniel Korba, Presbyter**  
**Dn. Frank Dickos**

Please visit our website at: [www.holycrosspgh.org](http://www.holycrosspgh.org) for details on announcements and church calendar.

**April 26, 2015**

*Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of Katina Karavas by her family.*

Memorials: +Katina Karavas 40 days  
+His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos 10 years  
Very recently: +Stamatia Zembillas, mother of Metropolitan Savas  
+Presvytera Mary Vaporis, formerly of Holy Cross  
+George Karakis, brother of Jim Karakis

**Food Fair Prep: Souzoukakia making after Liturgy TODAY**

Pastitsio will be prepared NEXT Sunday, May 3rd after Liturgy.

Moussaka will be prepared on Sunday, May 17 after Liturgy.

*Monday* 9:30 am CROSSROADS Mailing in Library  
6:30pm Paraclesis/Bible Study

*Tuesday* 7pm Sts. Mary & Martha

*Wednesday* 4:30 pm Greek School  
6:30-8:30pm Greek Dance

*Thursday* St. James the Apostle  
8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy

*Friday*

*Saturday* GOYA Volleyball @ Canonsburg  
5pm Vespers

Mark your calendars: the Maids of Athena Pittsburgh Chapter is hosting a Bake Sale next Sunday, May 3, 2015 during coffee hour! The Maids of Athena is the Junior Auxiliary to the Daughters of Penelope, and our goal is to promote Hellenism, education and philanthropy. All proceeds will benefit the rebuilding of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero, and the Saint Basil Academy, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese home for children in need.



Rendering of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

**Submit Your 2015 Pledge Card Online:** You can now submit your pledge card online at [www.holycrosspgh.org](http://www.holycrosspgh.org) Click on Stewardship, then click Pledge Online and enter your info and 2015 pledge. Your stewardship and support are what sustains the day to day operations of our parish. Pledge cards are also available at the candle stands in the Narthex, or you can just call Nena, in the church office with the amount.

Thank you, Ted Sofis, Stewardship Chair

**TODAY Sunday, April 26:** JOY/FOCUS service event. Please join us **directly following liturgy** for pizza lunch and a fun afternoon. Our FOCUS friends (Nick and Heidi Chakos & Maria Tripodes) will host a service-oriented program for the kids, while parents help out with Food Festival cooking in the kitchen. **Please bring a canned good or other nonperishable item for donation.**

Greek Dance (senior) will be **\*WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8:30pm**, Community Center  
**Circle of Angels** thanks all who donated baked goods, candy or money for the outreach to our homebound parishioners! Thank you so much!

**Next Sts. Mary & Martha Group: Tuesday, April 28** The Family of Adam, the Global Family: To be made in the image and likeness of God, Speaker: Fr. George Livanos Hostess: Vasso Paliouras, 114 Hoodridge Dr., Mt. Lebanon 15228

May 16: **Greek-American comedian Ellen Karis evening \$60 event tickets will be sold TODAY, April 26, May 3 and 10 at coffee hour** for the May 16 performance of New York Greek-American comedian Ellen Karis at Holy Cross Community Center. Come enjoy the "Greek Goddess of Comedy" with a group of friends, spouse or a date night. Enjoy an open bar, appetizers and desserts for \$60. Gentlemen will have a fun evening! All proceeds benefit the philanthropic efforts of Philoptochos.

**Golden Club Members:** Please join us on Tuesday, May 19 for a tour of the Sabika headquarters located in Robinson (with our very own Parish Council President and owner, Konrad Mayr). Following our tour, we will make a stop at the Central Diner for lunch and fellowship. Please meet in the Church parking lot at 10am for travel by van. RSVP to Rene (412) 831-3142 or Cynthia (412) 833-9423 to reserve a seat. If not a member, please consider joining the Golden Club. We are always looking for new members, young and old, men and women!

Elaine Sofis is in need of dinner food line workers, 16 and over, male or female to volunteer, Thursday, June 11, Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13 anytime from 4-9:00PM. Please call 412 344-7046 or [esofis@comcast.net](mailto:esofis@comcast.net)

Looking for strong men or women to carry food pans from the kitchen to the food lines for lunch and dinner June 10-13. Contact Elaine at 412 344-7046.

Dena Yamalis needs volunteers for pastries at the June 10-13 Food Fair. Please contact her at [dyamalis@comcast.net](mailto:dyamalis@comcast.net) or 412 343-8355

Please see Crossroads (extras available in narthex) or Website [www.holycrosspgh.org](http://www.holycrosspgh.org) for more information or forms for listed events/announcements.

**Please use [HolyCrossPit@mail.goarch.org](mailto:HolyCrossPit@mail.goarch.org) for ALL church related emails, announcements for weekly and monthly bulletins, e-blast requests, etc.**

## WELCOME – AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION...

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today, trusting that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Greek Orthodox Churches are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in the Holy Lands, Syria, Egypt and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus and throughout the world. Like the ancient Christians, we engage the whole person, heart, mind and all senses in Divine Worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said “We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among human beings.” (*Russian Primary Chronicle*) That communion experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship. It culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life between all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for observant Orthodox Christians. This does not mean, however, that non-Orthodox are ‘excluded’ - rather, the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity when actual unity does not exist. While working to restore the full communion that did exist in antiquity, today we offer the sign of the blessed bread at the service’s conclusion as a symbolic gift of hospitality and growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or *Holy Communion*, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the clergy following services.

*Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.*

### The Church - A Holy Place

When you enter the church building as the “House of Worship,” you are entering into the Great Throne Room of the “King of Kings” as His subjects and His soldiers. The “King of Kings,” Jesus Christ, is enthroned on the Holy Altar and all the angels, prophets, saints and the Most Holy Mother of God are present. His soldiers should be attentive and standing at attention. No one in the presence of the “king of Kings” would sit with his legs crossed, or his hands in his pockets, or chewing gum, or looking at his watch because to do any of these things would be disrespectful. The only proper disposition a soldier can have before his commander is that of reverence which is indicated by a bowed head, a submissive heart and prayer.