

November 8, 2015 ~ *Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, & Barachiel*

All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people, and guides to that which is profitable (Deut 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps.90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Esaia 6:2-3; Matt 18:10; Luke 15:7). In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Catholic Church, wisely honoring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "*Who is like God?*" and Gabriel means "*God is mighty.*" The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him -(Dan7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

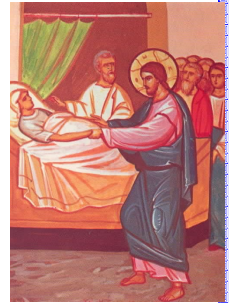


Epistle Reading ~ St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:2-10

BRETHREN, if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "*What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet.*" Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Gospel Reading ~ 7th Sunday of Luke The Gospel of Luke 8:41-56

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "*Who was it that touched me?*" When all denied it, Peter said, "*Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!*" But Jesus said, "*Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me.*" And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "*Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.*" While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "*Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.*" But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "*Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well.*" And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "*Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping.*" And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "*Child, arise.*" And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.



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Dn. Frank Dickos

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November 8, 2015

TODAY is YOUTH SUNDAY

*Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of +George Bouzos
by the Zotis & Paliouras families.*

*Altar candles are sponsored in honor of the Chrismation of Keith Myers
by John and Janet Conomos.*

*Coffee hour is sponsored by Philoptchos,
honoring Veterans of all of our military, past and present,
affiliated with or related to members of our Holy Cross community,
and by Stephanie and Keith Myers in celebration of his Chrismation.*

The artoclasia is offered for the health of the Sahinidis family, relatives and friends.

Trisaigion George Bouzos 3 months

<i>Monday</i>	<i>St. Nektarios 8:30am/9:30am Matins/Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Paraclesis to St. Nektarios</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>10am First Steps of Christ</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>4:30pm Greek School 6:45pm GOYA Basketball</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>7pm Chant class</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>St. John Chrysostom 8:30am/9:30am Matins/Divine Liturgy</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>St. Philip the Apostle and St. Gregory Palamas 8:30am/9:30am Matins/Divine Liturgy</i>

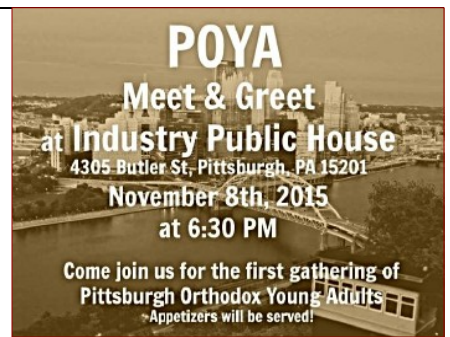
Today is Youth Sunday.
Grades pre-K through
fifth have church school
class. Grade 6 and above
are to stay upstairs for
the youth sermon.

**LOYALTY DAY and GENERAL ASSEMBLY meeting NEXT
Sunday, November 15,
immediately following the Divine Liturgy.**

Please make every effort to attend.

*Anyone interested in being nominated for Parish Council, please see a
member of Parish Council or Fr. Michael. Thank you.*

Pittsburgh Orthodox Young Adults is having its first event at Industry Public House in Lawrenceville **TONIGHT at 6:30pm!** Come have some appetizers on us and enjoy the selection of fine beverages on offer; mingle with your fellow Orthodox **ages 21-40**, and hear a little about our plans for the ministry and future events! For more information, contact: Victoria Andromalos-Dale, Event Organizer, 412-496-9128 Please see the POYA facebook group for more info.



FOCUS Thanksgiving Food Drive: Sunday School students are being asked to donate food items to help FOCUS families for the Thanksgiving holiday. Some of the suggested items are Cereal, boxed Mac & Cheese, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Tuna, Pasta, Rice, Beans, Peanut Butter, Soup, Chili, Stew, Fruit Juice, Ground Coffee, Hot Chocolate. Please, no glass and only non-perishable items. There will be a box in the narthex for your donations on November 8th, 15th & 22nd. All parishioners are encouraged to participate. Thank you for your continued support.

Nov 14th GOYA will be having a bake sale all proceeds go to buying Christmas gifts for needy children. GOYA will be selling spanakopita on Sunday Nov 22.

Philoptochos Christmas Party will be at the LeMont on **Tuesday, December 1.** *Members, spouses and friends of Holy Cross ALL welcome!* Call Mary Zotis for reservations by Tuesday, November 24 at (412) 835-2381

Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert at Holy Cross on Sunday, December 13 at 6PM to benefit FOCUS. Philoptochos will host a reception following the concert.

Attention Parents of College Students: We will be sending care packages to college students towards the beginning of finals this semester (late November early December). Please make sure we have correct mailing information for college students from the parish so packages can be sent to the correct dorm, apartment or home. Contact Jonathan at the church office or email at: mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

Save the date; details to come:

New Year's Eve Gala, December 31, 2015 8pm- 2am
Dinner ~ Live Music ~ Cash Bar ~ Champagne Toast at Midnight
Holy Cross Community Center, 123 Gilkeson Road PGH, PA 15228

Dress for Success,

Thank you very much to everyone for your generous donations of Women's clothing. This program serves many disadvantaged women in Pittsburgh to obtain employment and provide for their families. They are very grateful for your continued support. Sincerely, Christine Peters

Please sign up for coffee hour!

Check the calendar online: www.holycrosspgh.org,
*clicking Events, Coffee Hour, then scroll
down to calendar, clicking on date to see
if someone has taken it.* Then email
holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org
or call the church office to request date



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.

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.