

November 15, 2015 ~ LOYALTY SUNDAY

Epistle Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22

BRETHREN, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel Reading: 8th Sunday of Luke ~ The Gospel of Luke 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."



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

Fr. Michael Kallaur, Economos
Daniel Korba, Presbyter
Dn. Frank Dickos

Website: www.holycrosspgh.org email: HolyCrossPit@mail.goarch.org

November 15, 2015

Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of parents +Irene and Christ Metropulos and brother Tommy Metropulos from their family.

Trisaigion Irene Metropulos 10 years
Christ Metropulos 11 years
Tommy Metropulos 42 years

GOYA Bake Sale TODAY with all proceeds for Christmas gifts for needy children.
Popi is selling frozen tiropita, pastitsio and galatobouriko during coffee hour.

LOYALTY DAY and GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY

Sunday, November 15, immediately following the Divine Liturgy with Coffee Hour sponsored by Parish Council. 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.

Monday St. Matthew
8:30am/9:30am
Matins/Divine Liturgy
6:30pm Paraclesis/Bible Study

Tuesday 7pm Sts. Mary and Martha
7pm GOYA Meeting

Wednesday 8:30am/9:30am
Matins/Divine Liturgy
4:30pm Greek School
6:45pm GOYA Basketball

Thursday 7pm Chant class

Friday

Saturday Presentation of the Theotokos at
Holy Trinity, North Hills
8:30am/9:30am
Matins/Divine Liturgy
and Ordination of
Dn. Anastasios Athanasiou
to the Priesthood

50th Anniversary

Join Us to Honor

Fr. John and Pres. Sandy Chakos
As they celebrate fifty years of marriage

A special coffee hour will be offered after Liturgy

November 22, 2015
Holy Cross Community Center

Hosted by: Peter, Nicholas, Maria and Jennifer Chakos
Their spouses and families



FOCUS Thanksgiving Food Drive: Sunday School students are being asked to donate food items to help FOCUS families for the Thanksgiving holiday. Some 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 until November 22nd. All parishioners are encouraged to participate. Thank you for your continued support.

GOYA will be selling spanakopita on Sunday Nov 22. There is a GOYA meeting on Tuesday and basketball practice on Wednesday. Also at this time on both days, we will be making spanakopita beginning at 6:30 p.m. With cooperation of all, we hope to be done by 8:30 p.m. This is a perfect opportunity for parents, grandparents, and extended family to come together to assist with this wonderful fundraiser. So come on Tuesday, Wednesday or both days for as long or as little time you can spend. Bring your apron and favorite brush and get ready for some fun and fellowship. No experience necessary. Hope to see you there!

Church School Sign – up for the Pageant will be this Sunday and next! (November 15th & 22nd) Save the Date – **Christmas Pageant** Sunday, December 20th following Liturgy



ANNUAL JOY HOLIDAY GIFT MAKING SERVICE PROJECT:

It is our tradition to give hand-made gifts to the people we visit when we do our JOY Christmas caroling (**December 6**, after church). On **November 22**, directly following liturgy, we meet in the Community Center for a pizza lunch followed by making the gifts. The more hands the better, so feel free to bring the whole family to help. Please RSVP by November 20, via email, gespanos@gmail.com, so we know how much pizza to order. See you there!

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

Circle of Angels: For our Christmas Outreach we request our parishioners to kindly donate cookies, koulourakia, candy & monetary donations. Please drop off your items no later than Dec 9th to the church office. Thank you, Carol & Christine

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 mailing information for college students. Contact Jonathan at the church office or email at: mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

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 ***See flier for ticket information***

*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



- ♥ *Thank you to David Rice who was so diligent in the kitchen with Sadie Stang and Demetria Abde for the Autumn Food Fair and to George Abde who helped make gyros for three days. Please forgive my oversight.*
- ♥ *Thank you to Dora Zezulewicz, Jessica Achille and Connie Carahalis for chairing a very fun-filled Philoptochos membership social on November 3. Philoptochos continues to accept members!*
- ♥ *Thank you to Cynthia Henry and Dina Petrakis for chairing the Philoptochos coffee hour on November 8 honoring our veterans. The veterans and their families were especially grateful for your thoughtfulness and efforts.*

~ Elaine Sofis

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.