

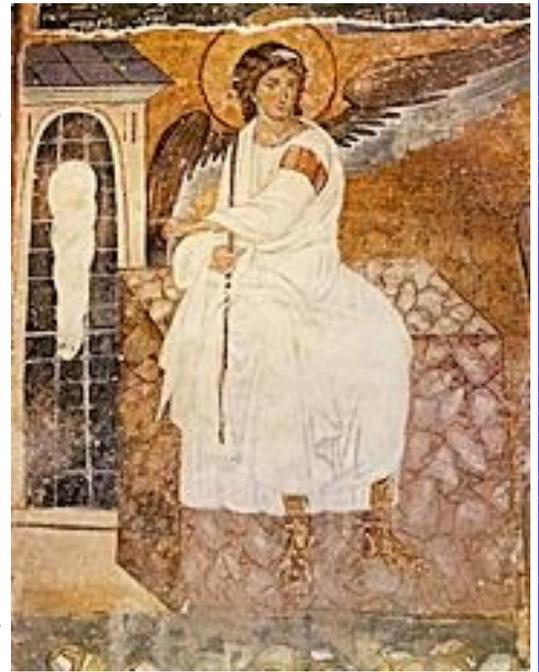
November 29, 2015

Matins Gospel Reading

Fourth Orthros Gospel

The Gospel according to Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel; and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be delivered in to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the apostles; but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.



But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home wondering at what had happened.

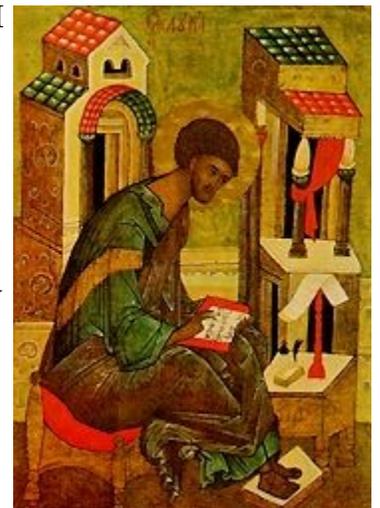
Epistle Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19

Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Gospel Reading: 13th Sunday of Luke

The Gospel according to Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' " And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the WEEKLY bulletin should be sent from now on to:
mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

November 29, 2015

Coffee hour is being sponsored by Pam Lagios, Popi Hagelios, Dina Petrakis, Nancy Sofis, Mary Chakos, Cookje Phaturios and Maria Fitsioris.

No church school classes today. (Catechetical Liturgy)

Memorials Rebecca Zabetakis 40 days
Nicholas Tenekedes (from Florida) 40 days
(brother of Christina Burke, Eva Troianos and Angie Makris)

Monday St. Andrew 8:30am/9:30am ~ Matins/Divine Liturgy
6:30pm Paracletis/Bible Study

Tuesday 7pm Philoptochos Christmas Party
7pm GOYA Meeting

Wednesday 4:30pm Greek School
6:45pm GOYA Basketball

Thursday 7pm Chant Class

Friday St. Barbara the Great Martyr
8:30am/9:30am ~ Matins/Divine Liturgy
7pm GOYA Christmas Party and Bowling

Saturday St. Savas the Sanctified 9am Matins/10am Divine Liturgy @ Metropolis
6pm Vespers at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Oakland

Holy Cross 2016 Stewardship Thank you to the faithful stewards who have submitted their 2016 Pledge Cards. Please join them in support of our Holy Cross ministries and complete your 2016 Pledge Card today. Remember a signed pledge card is required to maintain your membership in good standing at Holy Cross each year. Getting envelopes in the mail is a courtesy and does not make you a member.


2015 Philoptochos Membership: It is time once again to join or renew your membership in Philoptochos. Please fill out the form below and return to the church or Connie Carahalos, 224 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Pgh., PA 15234

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

*From your Philoptochos Stewardship donation, \$15 is sent to National Philoptochos and \$10 is sent to the Pittsburgh Metropolis Philoptochos. Anything over \$25 goes to Holy Cross Philoptochos



Church School St. Nicholas Shrine Fundraiser The Church School will be selling handmade St. Nicholas ceramic ornaments as well as felt St. Nicholas puppets. The proceeds of the sale will be given to our Philoptochos to send in with their donation to the St. Nicholas Shrine at Ground Zero. Please support the children's efforts by purchasing these special items. They will be sold during coffee hour in the carpeted area. Monetary donations will also be gladly accepted. (Please make checks payable to the Holy Cross Philoptochos with St. Nicholas Shrine written in the memo.) Suggested donation: St. Nicholas Ornaments - \$5.00 St. Nicholas Puppets- \$10.00

Dear Parents & Goyans: It's that time again. We are planning an exciting year for the Goyans, as parents your help is needed. Please mark your calendar so *you and your child* can attend a **Mandatory** meeting on **Wednesday, December 2, 2015** at **7:00 pm** at the Church Community Center. We will go over the program for 2015-2016. The Goyans are excited about the new year and are planning to do many things. These events can not be done without the support of the parents. Also at this time we will go over all the Diocesan rules of the tournaments. After going over the rules you and your child will be asked to go online and register your child stating you understood the rules and will abide by them. If this is your child's first year in the program the Diocese Youth Commission is requesting a **copy** of each child's **baptismal certificate**. Please bring a **copy** with you to the meeting. ***Also bring with you a copy of your child's insurance card.*** Even if your child is not playing basketball and plans on attending the tournaments with us, it is mandatory that you also attend this meeting. It would be beneficial for you to attend this meeting even if you child is undecided. **If you don't attend this meeting your child will not be permitted to participate in any part of the tournament weekends.** If you or your child are not able to attend this meeting, You will have to meet with Denise Melis to go over all the rules.

Save the Date - **Christmas Pageant** Sunday, December 20th following Liturgy



Dear Holy Cross Members and Friends,

The **Holy Cross Christmas Card** deadline is looming!!...extended to Sunday, December 6th. The beautiful card is already at the printer and will be ready soon. PLEASE don't wait until the last minute. PLEASE make your commitment NOW to have your name(s) listed in the parish Christmas Card. The form and envelope have been sent to you in your Crossroads bulletin, or pick one up in the narthex on your way to coffee hour today. Looking forward to hearing from all of you. With love in Christ, Carol Halkias

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, kou-lourakia, 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 FO-CUS. Philoptochos will host a reception following the concert.

Attention Parents of College Students: We will be sending care packages to college students for finals this semester (late November early December). Please make sure we have addresses 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 *See flier for ticket information* ***Any questions, please call:*** Voula Contis 412.445.5298/ Jen Liokareas 412.580.9272 Sophia Tambouratzis 412.341.3205/ Georgia Yamalis 412.728.2259/Laura Zervos 412.287.5679

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.

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



GAPA Christmas Dinner and Dance Saturday, December 12, 2105

Crown Plaza Hotel, Ft. Couch Road
Cocktails and Appetizers ~ 6pm

Festive Dinner Buffet

w/ complimentary glass of wine ~ 7pm

Music by “The Filarakia”

Performance by

Grecian Odyssey Dancers

Dinner/Dance \$60 or Dance only \$15

Reservations:

Aliki Andrews 412.833.4596

Chryssa Schulz 412.343.9585