

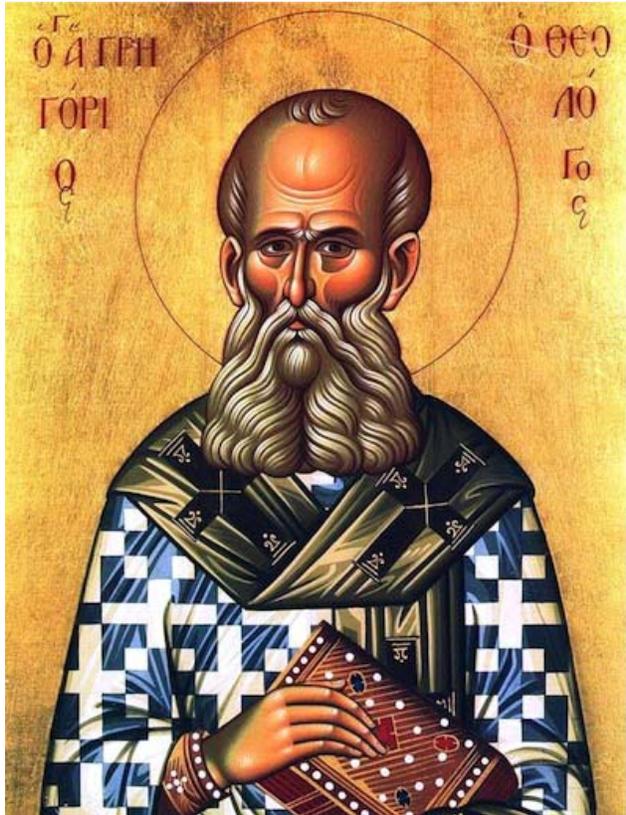
Holy Cross

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
123 Gilkeson Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
(412) 833-3355

Fr. Michael Kallaur
Fr. Dan Korba
Dn. Frank Dickos

Weekly Bulletin

January 10, 2016



Gregory of Nyssa

Saint Gregory, the younger brother of Basil the Great, illustrious in speech and a zealot for the Orthodox Faith, was born in 331. His brother Basil was encouraged by their elder sister Macrina to prefer the service of God to a secular career (see July 19); Saint Gregory was moved in a similar way by his

godly mother Emily, who, when Gregory was still a young man, implored him to attend a service in honor of the holy Forty Martyrs at her retreat at Annesi on the River Iris. Saint Gregory came at his mother's bidding, but being wearied with the journey, and feeling little zeal, he fell asleep during the service. The Forty Martyrs then appeared to him in a dream, threatening him and reproaching him for his slothfulness. After this he repented and became very diligent in the service of God. Gregory became bishop in 372, and because of his Orthodoxy he was exiled in 374 by Valens, who was of one mind with the Arians. After the death of Valens in 378, Gregory was recalled to his throne by the Emperor Gratian. He attended the Local Council of Antioch, which sent him to visit the churches of Arabia and Palestine, which had been defiled and ravaged by Arianism. He attended the Second Ecumenical Council, which was assembled in Constantinople in 381. Having lived some sixty years and left behind many remarkable writings, he reposed about the year 395. The acts of the Seventh Ecumenical Council call him 'Father of Fathers.'

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Theophany Afterfeast in the First Mode

When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for the Church in the First Mode

Save, O Lord, Your people, and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the faith. And, protect Your people by the power of Your Cross.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:7-13.

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Sunday after Epiphany

The Reading is from Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Welcome

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.

Holy Cross Today

Memorials

Nick Fisfis - 1 Year

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Philoptochos.

Please sign up for coffee hour. Check the calendar online: www.holycrosspgh.org, click "Events", then "Coffee Hour", then scroll down to calendar, click on date to see if someone has taken it.

Then email holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org or call the church office to request date

In preparation for the upcoming basketball tournament, there will be additional practices today for the GOYA teams this afternoon.

Junior Boys: 12:30 - 2:00

Girls: 2:00 - 3:00

Senior Boys: 3:00 - 4:30

Save the Date

GOLDEN CLUB: Lunch & Learn!

Please join us on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. for a

complimentary lunch served in the reception area of the Hall, followed by a presentation at 1:00 p.m. by Laura Ainsley of The Frick on "Cemetery Tales: Pittsburgh's Buried Art & History."

Experience Pittsburgh's interesting and picturesque cemeteries in a colorful slideshow.

We will also be collecting dues that day of \$10 for 2016. The Golden Club is open to all Holy Cross members, age 50 and over. If you are not already a member, please consider joining our wonderful group of seniors (young and old), who enjoy fellowship, touring, cultural events, food and fun!

Please **RSVP** to Rene Koett at (412) 831-3142 (rjkoett@yahoo.com) or Cynthia Kostelnik at (412) 833-9423

(cakostelnik@yahoo.com) **by January 12th**, so we can prepare ahead for our luncheon.

We hope to see you there! **Please Note:** In case of inclement weather that day, we will reschedule this event

Financial Snapshot as of 1/7/16		
Chk. Acct.	Bills Due	Trays 1/3
\$427	\$9058.19	\$13,155

All submissions for the Bulletin should be sent to Jonathan McClish **by midnight of the Wednesday before you want it published at mclish.jonathan@gmail.com
Thank you in advance!**

A Note from Philoptochos

Please join us for a Philoptochos meeting THIS Tuesday, January 12 at 7PM in the Philoptochos Room. Save the date for the next Philoptochos meeting on Tuesday, February 9. The meeting will NOT be on the first Tuesday of the month.

Elaine Sofis
Philoptochos President

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday 6:30 pm Paraklesis/Bible Study

Tuesday 10 am First Steps of Christ
7 pm Philoptochos Meeting

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

Thursday 7pm Chant Class

Friday GOYA Tournament in Columbus, Ohio

Saturday 5pm Vespers

Sunday Feast of St. Anthony
8:15 am Orthros
9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Mini-Capital Campaign Update

	Pledged	Received	Balance
Major Donors	\$75,000	\$58,500	\$16,500
Parishioners	\$63,295	\$57,520	\$5,775
Total	\$138,295	\$111,270	\$22,275
Disbursements Made to Date			\$9,970
Building Fund Balance as of 1/7			\$130,004.82

2016 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 Carahalis, 224 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Pgh., PA 15234

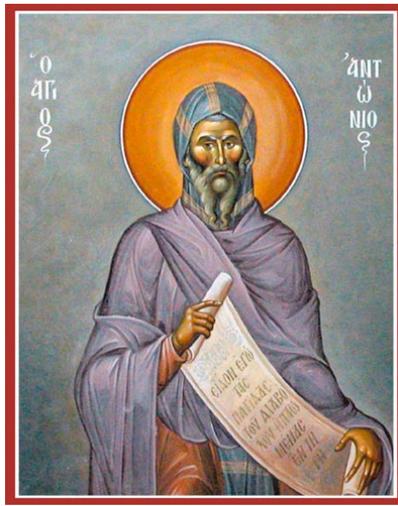
Name _____

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



ST-ANTHONY, CLAIRTON, PA WINTER CELEBRATION 2016

We invite all brothers and sisters to join us on Saturday and Sunday, January 16 & 17 2016, for a winter celebration of one of the tri-state area's oldest churches, St-Anthony in Clairton, PA.

St-Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, which belongs to our Metropolis, served as the center of Hellenism and Orthodoxy for the earliest Greek immigrants in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Today, it remains a regional historical landmark and is celebrated twice a year, on its feast day in January and once in the summer. All proceeds go towards the maintenance of this unique historical landmark of Orthodoxy and the earliest Greek presence in the tri-state area.

The festal services begin with a 7 PM Panegyric Vespers on the 16th of January. The next day, Sunday the 17th, a festive Orthros at 9 AM will lead into the Divine Liturgy. Both services will be followed by a hearty winter meal with traditional Greek overtones. We look forward to welcome everyone to a wonderful fellowship celebrating the Saint who is known as the “Teacher of the Desert” as well as to honor a memorial to the earliest immigrants of our region and their labors of love to their faith and traditions.

Directions to St-Anthony (424 Miller Avenue, Clairton, PA 15025-1719):
Join Route 51 South. Continue on Route 51 South past Century III Mall, past Bowser Automobile Sales and Showroom and just past the Route 43 overpass. Within less than 100 yards, make a left on Worthington Avenue. Continue along Worthington Avenue until the T-intersection at Desiderio. Make a left on Desiderio and within less and 50 yards make a right on St-Clair Avenue (Rite-Aid will be across this waypoint). On St-Clair Avenue continue past two traffic lights. The third traffic light is at the intersection of St-Clair and Miller Avenue. Make a left on Miller Avenue. St-Anthony is on the right hand side of the street just past the high school.

House Blessings

Every year, on the Feast of Epiphany, Orthodox Christians around the world have a blessing of the waters to celebrate the Baptism of Christ as well as the revealing of the Holy Trinity to mankind. We then receive the blessing of this Holy Water to renew ourselves in Christ and to remind ourselves that through Christ all things are again made clean. We also extend that blessing to the homes in which we live, to wipe away temptations and attacks that might lead us away from Christ.

If you wish to have Fr. Michael come and bless your home, please complete this form and return it to the Church office at your earliest convenience. Please **PRINT** clearly.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PLEASE SUGGEST THREE (3) DATES AND TIMES FOR HOUSE BLESSING

STARTING JANUARY 5TH

(You will receive a phone confirming date and time of blessing)

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Please prepare the following, to the best of your abilities, for the blessing:

- 1) Make an effort to have the entire family present.
- 2) Set out an Icon in a central area of the house where the prayer service will begin.
- 3) Write two lists of names, one of the living and one of the departed family members for whom you would like the Priest to pray during the house blessing.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out and return this form, either in the basket or to:

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