

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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<http://www.holycrosspgh.org>

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

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, February 7, 2016



Saint Luke of Mount Stirion

Saint Luke was the descendant of a family from Aegina which, because of the frequent invasions of the Saracens, left Aegina and dwelt in Phocis, where the Saint was born in 896. From his earliest childhood Luke ate neither flesh, nor cheese, nor eggs, but gave himself over with his whole soul to hardship and fasting for the love of heavenly blessings, often giving away his clothing to the poor, for which his father punished him. After his father's death he secretly left home to become a monk, but the Lord, inclining to the fervent prayers of his mother, made him known, and he returned to her for a time to care for her. For many years he lived as a hermit, moving from place to place; he spent the last part of his life on Mount Stirion at Phocis, where there is a city named Stiris. The grace of God that was in him made him a wonder-worker, and his tomb in the monastery of Hosios Loukas, famous for its mosaics, became a source of healings and place of pilgrimage for the faithful. According to some he reposed in the year 946; according to others, in 953.

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Presentation in the First Mode

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice, thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

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 First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode. Psalm 28.11,1.

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Verse: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10.

BRETHREN, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading

16th Sunday of Matthew

The Reading is from Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given,

and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

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.

A Note from Philoptochos

Please join us TODAY, Sunday, February 7, after coffee hour, at 12:30PM, for a short Philoptochos meeting. I hope that you can attend!

We will begin cooking for the June 15-18 Food Fair soon! If you purchased frozen food items from Philoptochos, please return the pans with your name taped to the pan, to Popi Hagelios for reimbursement. Your pans are needed for future baking!

Please contact Elaine Sofis at 412 344-7046 or esofis@comcast.net if you are interested in chairing a lunch or dinner food line at the June 15-18 food fair.

Also, two Holy Cross Philoptochos Society \$1000 Philanthropy Awards are available to two graduating high school seniors from our church. The awards are available to ONLY PLEDGED families of Holy Cross. The application will be available in the church office, narthex or Elaine Sofis beginning on Sunday, January 24, 2016 and returned by Sunday, March 20, 2016. The award is based on your definition of philanthropy, a short essay on your philanthropic work and how your Orthodox Christian faith will guide you as you enter the adult world. A separate, but similar, Philoptochos Philanthropy Award is available to a graduating Mt. Lebanon High School senior in the guidance office, too. You may apply to both awards but will be eligible to receive only one. Please see an application for all the necessary criteria to apply for the award. The

Holy Cross application may be returned to the church office or Elaine Sofis, in church, or 121 Woodhaven Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.
-Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday 6:30 pm Paraklesis/Bible Study

Wednesday Feast of St. Haralambos
 8:30 am Orthros
 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
 4:30 pm Greek School
 6:45 pm GOYA Basketball Practice
 7:00 pm Parish Council

Thursday 7pm Chant Class

Saturday 5pm Vespers

Sunday 8:15 Orthros
 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Holy Cross Today

Memorials

Steve (Stylianos) Tsamboulis – 40 Days
Presvytera Anna Gallis – 1 year
Demitrios Pappas – 1 year
Anthony Xenakis – 3 years
Constantine Zotis – 3 years
Garifalia (Lee) James – 5 years
Petko Kekezov – 10 years
Nicholas Perinis – 19 years
Mary Merinis – 49 years

**Coffee Hour prepared by Despina Xenakis and Bessie Zotis loving memory of their husbands
Anthony Xenakis and Constantine Zotis.**

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.

***All information to be included in the bulletin should be submitted to Jonathan McClish no later than 11:59pm of the Wednesday prior. Please send to mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com ***

Deposit from Week of	
Account Name	Deposit
Pledges from 2015	\$240
Pledges for 2016	\$4,771
Bulletin	
Candles	\$349
Donations – Unspecified	\$25
Flowers/Communion Wine	
Loose Offerings	\$131
Greek School	
Sunday Church School	\$10
Vacation Church School	
Special Envelopes	
Holy Week Envelopes	
Christmas Cards	\$65
Socials/Special Projects	
Golf Outing	
Art Group	
Investment Club	
Hall Deposits for 2016	
Hall Deposits for 2017	
Hall Rental Income	
Caterers	
Miscellaneous Income	
Total Deposit	\$5,601

Mini Capital Campaign			
	Pledged	Received	Balance
Matching Donors	\$75,000	\$58,500	\$16,500
Donations from Parishioners	\$65,045	\$61,542	\$3,503
Total	\$140,045	\$120,042	\$20,003
Disbursements Made to Date			\$22,115
Building Fund Balance			\$129,613

Financial Snapshot based on \$2,075.33 per day operating cost				
Date	Weekly Collections	Weekly Collections Monthly Total	Estimated operation needs to following Sunday	Difference
1/10	\$7,320	\$20,475	\$35,280.61	-\$14,805.61
1/17	\$7,525	\$28,000	\$49,807.92	-\$21,807.92
1/24	\$26,351	\$54,351	\$64,335.23	-\$9,984.23
1/31	\$5,601	\$59,952	\$78,862.54	-\$18,910.54

MARDI GRAS

A Holy Cross Family Celebration

Saturday February 27, 2016

Children's Glendi – 6pm
Costume Parade – 7:30 pm

Suggested Donation

	Presale	At the Door
Adults	\$10	\$15
Children	\$5	\$10

(Children Under 5 get in for free!)

Come in costume if you would like! If not, come
enjoy the fun anyway, children of all ages!

PRIZES GALORE AND SILENT AUCTION!!

Get your tickets from GOYA officers. To donate prizes or
become a sponsor please Call:
Denise Melis – (412) 855-5661
Dena Yamalis – (412) 343-8355

Stewardship at a Glance

As of February 3, we have received 263 pledge cards, for a total pledge amount of \$297,101.00, making the average 2016 pledge thus far \$1,129.66

Please submit your 2016 Pledge Card. Remember a signed pledge card is required to maintain your membership in good standing at Holy Cross each year. You can submit your pledge card on-line at the church website at www.holycrosspgh.org or pick up a pledge card at the candle stands in the church narthex. We need the support of all our parishioners.

Community News

CAMP ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

ATTENTION PARENTS, TOMORROW, MONDAY FEBRUARY 8th AT 7PM -

Registration opens for the SUMMER CAMP SESSIONS, this is important because the Holy Cross GOYA attends the fourth session and that week sells out quickly! Please make the time to register as soon as possible so your child or doesn't miss out on an opportunity to attend with their friends. Go to <https://pittsburgh.goarch.org> to register!

If you need the codes for Camp Scholarships please email Jonathan McClish at mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

The senior GOYA dance group will soon be resuming a practice schedule and hopes that all who are interested will join! If you have danced before we welcome you back, if not, we are excited to have the opportunity to teach you! We are hoping to have practices at 5:45 on Wednesday evenings, before basketball practice. When the GOYA basketball season ends, we will discuss changing dance practice times. If you (or your child) is interested please

contact Georgia Yamalis at georgiyam@comcast.net or 412.728.2259

Junior Greek Dancers are practicing again and would love new dancers. If your child is interested in participating in the Junior Greek Dance group, please contact Kristina Gzikowski kanetakis@aol.com 412-956-5166. Ages are K-6th grade.

Scholarship Opportunity

2016-2017 UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE NEW YORK – Applications and instructions for three scholarships administered by the Department of Philanthropy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are available for awards to be made for the 2016- 2017 academic year. The George & Naouma (Gioule) Gioles Scholarship and the Katina John Malta Scholarship are for undergraduate studies, and the Paleologos Scholarship is awarded for graduate work of a non-theological nature. Each of these scholarships was established through generous gifts from dedicated Greek Orthodox Christians who wanted to provide financial assistance towards the education of young people from our Orthodox Christian community.

Applications can be accessed by visiting the [scholarship web page](#).

For more information, please email scholarships@goarch.org or call 212-774-0283. The deadline for submitting an application for any of these scholarships is May 6, 2016.

Save the Date

GENERAL ASSEMBLY On Sunday February 14 there will be a General Assembly where we will vote on the Budget for 2016. There must be at least 50 members in good standing present, so please set aside the time to stay for the luncheon provided by the parish council and have your voice heard in the parish.

Godparent/Godchild Sunday Also on February 14, spend the day with your Godparent or Godchild! Come and celebrate Liturgy together as a spiritual family, receive communion together and renew your vows to each other and Christ!

GOYA will be selling Loukoumades after Liturgy Sunday February 21! Come get a delicious treat and support your GOYA!

GOLDEN CLUB MEMBERS: Valentine Covered-Dish Luncheon on February 16, 2016: Please join us on February 16, 2016, from noon until 3 p.m. for a Valentine covered-dish luncheon from noon until 3 p.m. in the Community Center. Entertainment will be provided by Grammy-nominated accordionist Kevin Solecki, who will serenade us with a variety of musical favorites! We are asking members to RSVP by Thursday, February 11th with your choice of either bringing a side dish or dessert. Please see the Sunday bulletins for updates on this event and future events. You can RSVP by calling "We are asking members to RSVP by Thursday, February 11th with your choice of either bringing a side dish or dessert." or emailing Rene Koett (412) 831-3142 (rjkoett@yahoo.com) or Cynthia Kostelnik (412) 833-9423 (cakostelnik@yahoo.com) with your covered-dish selection (side dish or

dessert). Rene will be collecting dues that day of \$10 for 2016. Cash or checks will be accepted. If paying by check, please make payable to: Golden Club of Holy Cross. We look forward to seeing you all there! Holy Cross Food Fair The Dates have been set for this year's Food Fair. It will take place June 15-18, 2016. Also, look for future announcements of when we will begin cooking for the fair.

The Parish level **St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival** will take place Sunday April 3rd. Winners will advance to the Regional competition that will take place that next Saturday April 9th. For more information, a list of topics, and links to register visit - <http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/religious/sjcof>