

Holy Cross

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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Fr. Michael Kallaur
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Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, September 11, 2016



Theodora of Alexandria

This saint lived in the fifth century. Out of remorse for the adultery that she committed with another man, she fled from her husband's house, renamed herself Theodore, clothed herself as a man, and pretending to be a eunuch, entered a monastery of men. Her identity as a woman was discovered only after her death.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

Thy Nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

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

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

This Week at Holy Cross

Today	Registration for Sunday Church School and Youth Organizations at coffee hour.
Tuesday	7 pm Great Vespers for the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
Wednesday	Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross 8:15 am Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 4:15 pm Greek School 5 pm Adult Greek School
Thursday	7 pm Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Saturday	5 pm Vespers

Holy Cross Today

Altar flowers are sponsored by John and Diane Hoenig in loving memory of loved ones who have passed in the Hoenig and Landis/Nicholas families.

Coffee hour is sponsored by Olga Pappas, Stacie Metrose, Lula Mathews, Ann Savas, Helen Chakeres, Chryssa and David Schulz.

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

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18.

BRETHREN, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

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.

Community News

Youth Ministries Registration Day

Today, September 11 we will be having a registration day for Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, and JOY.

It is important to have as much participation as possible as we will be gathering contact information used to disseminate information about these programs throughout the year. Also, we are excited to announce you can register your children for Sunday School on the Church's website. Just click the Sunday School link, scroll to the bottom of the page, and click the registration link.

We look forward to seeing you all at Coffee Hour in the Social Hall following Liturgy!

Circle of Angels will be meeting during coffee hour TODAY Sunday, September 11th. Circle of Angels is the visiting ministry group of our Holy Cross Philoptochos Society, visiting the sick and home bound parishioners and those in nursing homes. We welcome new members...please join us!

Save the Date

Dress for Success-Women's Clothing Drive in October. Collection will Begin After Food Fair . Starting, Sunday, Oct. 9th and Ends on Sunday, Oct. 30th. Please adhere to this schedule, no exceptions. Business/Work Appropriate Clothing is requested. Suits, Dresses, Skirts, Sweaters, Blouses, Slacks, Shoes & Purses. Clothing must be Clean, Gently worn and preferably on Hangers. Please put items in Downstairs Philoptochos Room on coat rack.

Thank you for your donations,
any questions call Christine Peters 724-693-9290

There will be a back to school drive for the 2,000 children helped by **FOCUS**. On Sunday, September 18th and 25th, and October 2nd, we will collect the following personal hygiene items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, dental floss, shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, combs, hair brushes and socks. There will be a sign and a collection box in the vestibule each Sunday for your donations. These items may seem small to us, but to the children of FOCUS, they are very special and very much appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity.
Dianne Babb

*** All information for the Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to Jonathan McClish by 11:59 pm of the Wednesday prior for inclusion. Submit to mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

Parents Don't Forget – Sunday School Starts...

Sunday September 18th

Register TODAY During Coffee Hour

Or

Online by visiting the Church Website HolyCrosspgh.org

The Click

Youth Ministries > Sunday School > Online Sunday School Registration