

# Holy Cross

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church  
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Fr. Michael Kallaur  
Fr. Dan Korba  
Dn. Frank Dickos

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, November 13, 2016



## **John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople**

St. John Chrysostom was born in Antioch the Great in the year 344 or 347. John received his literary training under Anthragathius the philosopher, and Libanius the sophist, who was the greatest Greek scholar and rhetorician of his day. With such a training, and with such gifts as he had by nature, John had before him a brilliant career as a rhetorician. But through the good example of his godly mother Anthusa and of the holy Bishop Meletius of Antioch, by whom he was ordained reader about the year 370, he chose instead to dedicate himself to God. In 386 Bishop Flavian ordained John presbyter of the Church of Antioch. Upon his elevation to the priesthood his career as a public preacher began, and his exceptional oratorical gifts were made manifest through his many sermons and commentaries.

St. John was chosen to succeed Saint Nectarius as Patriarch of Constantinople and was consecrated on February 28, 398, by Theophilus, Patriarch of Alexandria, who was to prove his mortal enemy.

At that time the Emperor of the East was Arcadius, who had had Saint Arsenius the Great as his tutor (see May 8); Arcadius was a man of weak character, and much under the influence of his wife Eudoxia. The zealous and upright Chrysostom's unsparing censures of the lax morals in the imperial city stung the vain Eudoxia; through Theophilus' plottings and her collaboration, Saint John was banished to Pontus in 403. The people were in an uproar, and the following night an earthquake shook the city; this so frightened the Empress Eudoxia that she begged Arcadius to call Chrysostom back. While his return was triumphant, his reconciliation with the Empress did not last long. When she had a silver statue of herself erected in the forum before the Church of the Holy Wisdom (Saint Sophia) in September of 403, and had it dedicated with much unseemly revelry, Saint John thundered against her, and she could not forgive him. In June of 404 he was exiled to Cucusus, on the borders of Cilicia and Armenia.

From here he exchanged letters with Pope Innocent of Rome, who sent bishops and priests to Constantinople requesting that a council be held. Saint John's enemies, dreading his return, prevailed upon the Emperor to see an insult in this, and had John taken to a more remote place of banishment called Pityus near the Caucasus. The journey was filled with bitter sufferings for the aged bishop, both because of the harshness of the elements and the cruelty of one of his 310 guards. He did not reach Pityus, but gave up his soul to the Lord near Comana in Pontus, at the chapel of the Martyr Basiliscus (see May 22), who had appeared to him shortly before, foretelling the day of his death, which came to pass on September 14, 407. His last words were "Glory be to God for all things."

## **Hymns of the Day**

### **Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode**

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

### **Apolytikion for John Chrysostom, Abp. Of Constantinople in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

Grace shining forth from thy mouth like a beacon hath illumined the universe, and disclosed to the world treasures of uncovetousness, and shown us the heights of humility; but while instructing us by thy words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede with the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

### **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**

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

## **This Week at Holy Cross**

### **Today**

**General Assembly following Liturgy**

### **Monday**

**Feasts of St. Philip the Apostle and St. Gregory Palamas**

8:30 am Orthros

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

### **Tuesday**

Nativity Fast Begins

1 pm Golden Club

7 pm GOYA Metting

### **Wednesday**

Feast of St. Matthew

4:30 Greek School

### **Thursday**

6:30 pm FOCUS Gala, Heinz History Center

### **Friday**

GOYA Retreat @ Camp Nazareth

### **Saturday**

5 pm Vespers

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 sponsored by the Parish Council and invite all to stay the General Assembly.

### **Epistle Reading**

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2.

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

### **Gospel Reading**

The Reading is from 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."

### **A Sacred Space**

The interior church is most importantly, both the background and the setting for Orthodox worship. The art and architecture are designed to contribute to the total experience of worship, which involves one's intellect, feelings, and senses. The Eucharist and the other sacramental mysteries take place in God's midst, and they bear witness to His presence and actions.

Therefore, in the Orthodox tradition there is a very strong feeling that the church is the House of God and the place where His glory dwells. For this reason, all Orthodox churches are blessed, consecrated and set aside as sacred space. The whole church bears witness to God's indwelling among His people. As one old admonition says:

"Let the Christian consider well when he enters the church that he is entering another heaven. That same majesty of God which is in heaven is also in his church, and on this account the Christian must enter with reverence and awe."

Rev. Dr. Thomas FitzGerald

## **Community News**

### **Christmas Pageant Sign-Up**

Today in Church School students will be asked to participate in the Christmas pageant. Please tell your child if you want them to sign-up or if there are scheduling conflicts.

### **GOYA Bake Sale**

Today GOYA will be selling baked goods to raise funds for the purchase of Christmas gifts for Children of the Auberle Shelter.

Please come support this very worthwhile cause and pick up some sweets!

### **Support the Monastery**

Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup> the Sisters of the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery will be visting and selling their handmade items. All monies go to support the Monastery and it is a great opportunity to pick up Orthodox Christmas Gifts!

### **Sts. Martha and Mary Group**

Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> the Sts. Martha and Mary group will be meeting at the home of Joanna Ferencz. If you are interested in attending please RSVP with her. (412) 953-1091

### **Philoptochos Christmas Party**

The Philoptochos Christmas Party will be Tuesday November 29<sup>th</sup> this year and will again be held at LeMont. If you are interested in buying tickets please contact Mary Zotis at (412) 835-2381.

### **Parish Council Members Needed**

We are in need of three dedicated individuals willing to give of thier time

by becoming members of the Parish Council. If you are interested please speak to Fr. Michael or John Heonig.

### **Photograph Pick- up**

Orders from Redford Photography Picture orders are in! You may pick up your order during regular business hours from Nena in the church office.

Please arrange to pick up your order during these times.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### *Focus Food Drive*

*There will be a Thanksgiving food drive for FOCUS on Sunday, November 6th, 13th & 20th. Please bring your donations of cereals, pasta, sauce, peanut butter & jelly, canned soups, fruits & vegetables (no glass please) and place them in the boxes provided in the vestibule. Thank you for giving many families a happy holiday. Dianne Babb*

### **College Care Packages**

Attn: PARENTS OF CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

We will be sending care packages to college students as they prepare for exams at the end of November. If your child has not received one of the care packages in the past and you'd like to add their name to our list of recipients, please email [elenamp10@gmail.com](mailto:elenamp10@gmail.com) with their name and campus address no later then November 13th.

Thank you,

Elena Peters, VP of Holy Cross  
Philoptochos

\*\*\* 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.co](mailto:mcclish.jonathan@gmail.co)

### **A Note from Philoptochos**

Elaine Sofis will be at coffee hour today if you wish to renew your membership or join Philoptochos. Please stop by the Philoptochos table and learn about our great philanthropic organization!

Come hear fantastic local Orthodox choirs on Sunday, December 11 at 5:30PM for the FOCUS Christmas Choral Concert at Holy Cross. Philoptochos will host a reception following the concert. Free will offering to FOCUS Pittsburgh.

Elaine Sofis,  
Philoptochos President

### **Save the Date**

#### **Golden Club Members**

Please join us for a very special presentation on November 15 at one o'clock in our Community Center. Todd DePastino, award-winning historian and Executive Director of the Veterans Breakfast Club, will speak on the topic of "War Stories from Pittsburgh's WW II Veterans." Mr. DePastino knows how to tell a good story, and for the past six years, he's been focused on listening. And the stories he's heard--some beautiful and heartbreaking, others gut-wrenching--are largely about war. Todd will tell the extraordinary WW II stories he's heard from veterans living in the region, and will also discuss his quest to preserve and celebrate them. Members are asked to please bring a Lenten dessert; beverages will be provided.

RSVP by November 10<sup>th</sup> Rene: 412.559.1721 [rjkoett@yahoo.com](mailto:rjkoett@yahoo.com)

Cynthia: 412.722.9513 [cakostelnik@yahoo.com](mailto:cakostelnik@yahoo.com)

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*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. Pittsburgh, PA 15234*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Deposit from Weeks of 11/6	
Account Name	Deposit
Pledges from 2015	
Pledges for 2016	\$8,172
Bulletin	
Candles	\$585
Donations – Unspecified	
Flowers/Communion Wine	
Loose Offerings	\$142
Greek School	
Sunday Church School	\$11
Vacation Church School	
Special Envelopes	\$20
Holy Week Envelopes	
Christmas Cards	\$80
Baptismal Candles	
Socials/Special Projects	
Hall Deposits – Current Year	
Hall Deposits – Next Year	
Hall Rental Income - 2016	\$300
Misc.	\$250
Golf Outing	\$3,597
Directory	\$1,000
Shrub Donation	\$2,000
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$16,157</b>

## Mini Capital Campaign Update

	Pledged	Received	Balance
Matching Donors	\$75,000	\$72,750	\$2,250
Donations from Parishioners	\$75,000	\$74,960	\$40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$147,710</b>	<b>\$2,290</b>
Disbursements Made to Date			\$27,555

### Financial Snapshot based on \$2,075.33 per day operating cost

Date	Weekly Collections	Weekly Collections Total	Estimated operational needs to following Sunday	Difference
<b>Total through Sept.</b>	\$448,487.84	\$448,487.84	\$659,954.94	-\$211,467.10
<b>10/2</b>	\$16,157	\$464,644.84	\$674,482.25	-\$209,837.41