

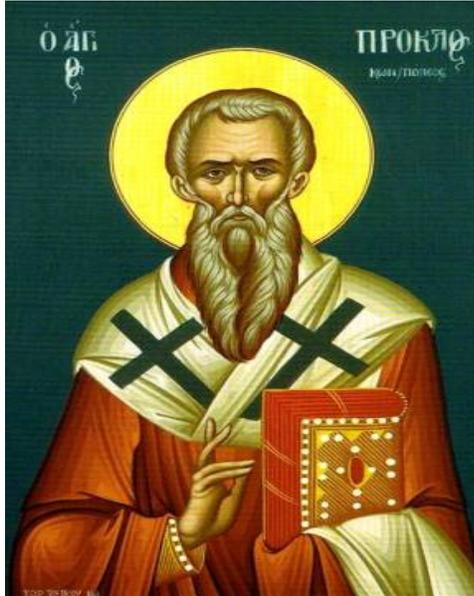
Holy Cross

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

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

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, November 20, 2016



Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople

Saint Proclus lived during the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger. A disciple and scribe of Saint John Chrysostom, he was ordained Bishop of Cyzicus about the year 426, but because the people there unlawfully elected another bishop before his arrival, he remained in Constantinople. In 429, Nestorius, who had been Archbishop of Constantinople for about a year, and had already begun his blasphemous teaching that it is wrong to call the holy Virgin "Theotokos," invited Bishop Proclus to give a sermon on one of the feasts of our Lady, which he did, openly defending in Nestorius' presence the name "Theotokos," that is, "Mother of God." Saint Proclus was elevated to the throne of Archbishop of Constantinople in 434. It was he who persuaded Emperor Theodosius the Younger and his holy sister Pulcheria to have the most sacred relics of his godly teacher Saint John Chrysostom brought back from Comana, and triumphantly received them upon their return to the imperial city (see Jan. 27 and Nov. 13). He reposed in peace in 447.

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Entry of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

By blossoming forth the only Ever-virgin as fruit, today holy Anna doth betroth us all unto joy, instead of our former grief; on this day she doth fulfil her vows to the Most High, leading her with joy into the Lord's holy temple, who truly is the temple and pure Mother of God the Word.

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

The whole world is filled today with joy and gladness on the Theotokos's auspicious and resplendent feast, whereon with great voice it crieth out: The heavenly tabernacle is she in truth.

This Week at Holy Cross

Today	Loyalty Day
Monday	Presentation of the Theotokos 8:30 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	7 pm Sts. Mary & Martha Group
Thursday	Thanksgiving 8:30 Orthros 9:30 Divine Liturgy
Friday	Feast of St. Katherine 8:30 Orthros 9:30 Divine Liturgy
Saturday	5 pm Vespers

Memorials

Jim (Dimitrios) Dickos - 40 Days

Coffee Hour sponsored by Tika Dickos and family in loving memory of Jim Dickos.

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 Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." 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

Elaine Sofis will be at coffee hour today if you wish to renew your membership or join Philoptochos. Also, Philoptochos will be selling frozen Galatobouriko and Pastitsio today and November 27, buy from Philoptochos and make your holiday cooking much easier! Please see Popi Hagelios at coffee hour.

Come hear beautiful 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 support FOCUS Pittsburgh.

A HUGE thank you to Popi Hagelios for baking over 700 Koulourakia for the college care packages! Popi's fabulous Christmas bread will be available in December!

Elaine Sofis,
Philoptochos President

Community News

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

Focus Food Drive

Today is the last day for the Thanksgiving food drive for FOCUS. 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 with their name and campus address no later than November 13th.

Thank you,
Elena Peters,
VP of Holy Cross Philoptochos

Circle of Angels

COOKIE TIME!!! Please bake an extra batch of your delicious Christmas cookies for our home-bound parishioners and those in nursing homes, who look forward to the goodies baskets that the Circle of Angels will deliver at Christmas time. We ask that the cookies have no nuts or powdered sugar. We also accept monetary donations toward the baskets. The cookies will be packed on Tuesday, December 13th at 10 AM. Please bring your cookies to the church office before then. Thank you! Blessed Christmas to you and your families!

Thank you, Carol Halkias

Save the Date

FOOD FESTIVAL MEETING
DECEMBER 7TH 2016
COMMUNITY CENTER 7:00PM
WE WILL PRESENT 2017 PLANS

Due to Thanksgiving being next week, all announcements that are to be included in next week's Sunday Bulletin MUST be submitted to Jonathan McClish by TUESDAY, 11:59 pm

*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.

Christmas Pageant

Save the Date: Holy Cross Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 18th

Rehearsals:

Sunday, December 4th- Only main roles and chorus

Sunday, December 11th- Everyone

*Rehearsals will take place in the sanctuary after Church School

Age Level Participation:

*Preschool and Kindergarten children- do not need to sign-up. Instructions will be sent home regarding their participation.

- 1st Grade - Sheep
- 2nd Grade - Angels or Sheep
- 3rd & 4th Grades- Angels or Shepherds
- 5th Grade- Angels, Shepherds or Chorus
- 6th- 9th Grades - Main Roles or Chorus
- 10th- 12th Grades- Narrators or Chorus

Parents please inform your child's teachers whether he/she will be participating in the Pageant. (A count of the participants is needed to make sure every child has a costume.)

Contact Jonathan McClish with any questions or concerns-
mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com

Stewardship

Stewardship is the love offering that we voluntarily give to our church. It is what makes it possible to serve the needs of our Holy Cross community. We have no minimum pledge, because whatever our parishioners can give is valued. Stewardship can involve many things, the time we have to give to others, the abilities and talents that we use to serve the community, and the financial support that sustains us as a Parish. Our stewardship enables us to support the ministries that are so dear to us. Our outreach, youth organizations, Sunday school, and the liturgical life of the church, are dependent on this support. The day to day operation and maintenance of the Church, Community Center and our grounds requires funding. We welcome encourage the involvement of all of you.

Ted Sofis

Vice President & Stewardship Chair

Deposit from Weeks of 11/6	
Account Name	Deposit
Pledges from 2015	\$6,767
Pledges for 2017	\$3,000
Bulletin	
Candles	\$512
Donations – Unspecified	
Flowers/Communion Wine	\$20
Loose Offerings	\$164
Greek School	
Sunday Church School	
Vacation Church School	
Special Envelopes	\$15
Holy Week Envelopes	
Christmas Cards	
Baptismal Candles	
Socials/Special Projects	
Hall Deposits – Current Year	
Hall Deposits – Next Year	
Hall Rental Income - 2016	
Christmas Card	\$60
Golf Outing	\$1,000
Poinsettia	\$45
Endowment Fund W/D	\$1,389.95
Total Deposit	\$12,972.95

Mini Capital Campaign Update			
	Pledged	Received	Balance
Matching Donors	\$75,000	\$72,750	\$2,250
Donations from Parishioners	\$75,000	\$74,960	\$40
Total	\$150,000	\$147,710	\$2,290
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
Total through Oct.	\$448,487.84	\$448,487.84	\$659,954.94	-\$211,467.10
11/6	\$16,157	\$464,644.84	\$674,482.25	-\$209,837.41
11/13	\$12,972.95	\$477,617.79	\$689,009.56	-\$211,391.77