

# Holy Cross

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church  
123 Gilkeson Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
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www.holycrosspgh.org  
Weekly Bulletin

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

Sunday, February 5, 2017

## **Saints Celebrated Today**

Agatha the Martyr  
Polyeuktos, Patriarch of Constantinople  
Antonios the New Martyr of Athens  
Theodosios, Archbishop of Chernigov  
Theodosios of Antioch

## **The Publican and the Pharisee**

Today is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. It marks the beginning of a time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity.

The name for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ found in Luke 18:10-14. This is the story of two men, one a Pharisee, a member of a Jewish sect known for its diligent observance of the Law, and the other a Publican, a government official charged with the responsibility of collecting taxes. Both men enter the temple, and the Pharisee stands openly and prays, thanking God that he is not like other men, specifically extortioners, the unjust, adulterers, "or even this tax collector." He then begins to list his religious accomplishments by stating, "I fast twice a week, and I give tithes of all that I possess" In direct contrast to the pride of the Pharisee, the Publican goes to a place

where he will not be noticed by others and beats his breast saying, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" Having told this story, Jesus affirms that it was the Publican who returned home justified and forgiven rather than the Pharisee. He states, "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted".

Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world. By entering Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.

See whole article at -  
<http://lent.goarch.org/publicanpharisee/learn/>

## **Hymns of the Day**

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

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

### **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 through Your Cross.

### **Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode**

Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn through our own sighs of sorrow the humility of the Publican. Let us cry out to the Savior, "Have mercy on us, for through You alone are we reconciled."

### **This Week at Holy Cross**

#### **Monday**

#### **Feast of St. Photios @ Metropolis Center in Oakland**

9 am Orthros

10 am Divine Liturgy

6:30 Paraklesis/Bible Study – "Journey To Fullness" (See blurb on next page)

#### **Tuesday**

7 pm Philoptochos Meeting

#### **Wednesday**

No Fasting

4:30 pm Greek School

6:45 pm Basketball Practice

#### **Friday**

No Fasting

Feast of St. Haralambos, The Martyr

8:30 am Matins

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

#### **Saturday**

5 pm Great Vespers

#### **Sunday**

**Godparent/God Child Sunday & General Assembly** 8:15 Orthros

9:30 Divine Liturgy

\*All coffee hours in the month of March are still available for sponsoring. If you are able to sponsor a coffee hour check the calendar online: [www.holycrosspgh.org](http://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](mailto:holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org) or call the church office to request date.\*

### **Epistle Reading**

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15.

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

### **Gospel Reading**

The Reading is from Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

### **NEW MONDAY BIBLE STUDY SERIES**

"Journey to Fullness" is a most enlightening and profound video series for both cradle and converted Orthodox Christians as well as potential converts to the Orthodox faith. This 16 part video series was created by Fr. Barnabas Powell a former Pentecostal pastor and now Greek Orthodox priest in Cummings, GA. Each broadcast is 20 minutes long followed by question and answer session.

Come to Paraklesis and pray for your family and friends and then stay for bible study.

### **A Note from Philoptochos**

Please join us this Tuesday, February 7, 7PM, weather permitting, for a Philoptochos Meeting in the Philoptochos Room. If inclement weather, an email will be sent cancelling the meeting. The meeting will not be rescheduled.

Thank you to ALL who baked and donated food to the GOYA tournament this weekend!

Philoptochos continues to accept new and renewing members! Please see the membership form in today's bulletin or Cross Roads.

Philoptochos Philanthropy Award applications are available in the narthex to graduating high school seniors from Holy Cross. SAVE the DATE, May 20, for a Philoptochos TEA in the Community Center!

Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President

## **Save the Date**

### **GOLDEN CLUB**

Important date! Tuesday February 21 we will be having a covered dish Valentine Party! Time: 11:30 -? Entertainment! Look for additional information in the February Cross Roads newsletter.

Please become a new member or renew your 2017 membership. Dues are ten dollars.

### **Mardi Gras**

Saturday February 25th will be our Mardi Gras celebration. There will be games and activities for parents and children alike! Bring the whole family for Fellowship, Fun, and Food! Tickets will be \$10 Dollars for adults and \$5 dollars for children 5 and up (children under 5 get in for free).

### **God Parent Sunday**

Next Sunday, February 12th will be our annual God Parent Sunday. Please join us with your spiritual family to celebrate Liturgy and receive Communion together!

### **JOY Lenten Passport**

We will once again be travelling through lent together as a group with our Lenten Passports! Please keep an eye out here in the bulletin for future announcements of times and dates!

## **Community News**

### **Philoptochos Philanthropy Award**

Attention Holy Cross Graduating High School Seniors and Parents

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 8, 2017 and returned by Sunday, March 19, 2017. The award is based on a philanthropic accomplishment(s) . A short essay is required. 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 Philanthropy Award application may be returned to the church office or Elaine Sofis, in church, or 121 Woodhaven Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.

-Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President

### **Stewardship Envelopes**

Holy Cross is no longer using the contribution envelopes that were mailed to you every month. Therefore, kindly put your donations (Stewardship, Holydays, Memorials, Special) in a plain personal envelope, with your name and address (mailing label) and /or your account number.

Deposit from Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	
Pledges - 2017	\$5,101
Candles	\$1,118
Flowers/Communion	\$75
Loose Offerings	\$203
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,497</b>

Deposit from Jan. 29th	
Pledges – 2016	\$655
Pledges – 2017	\$13,327
Candles	\$372
Loose Offerings	\$115
Sunday School	\$19
Christmas Card	\$40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,528</b>

<b>Financial Snapshot based on \$2075.33 daily operational needs</b>				
Date	Weekly Collection	Weekly Collection Total to Date	Estimated Operational Needs to Sunday	Difference
1/1	\$25,381	\$25,381	\$16,602.64	\$8,778.36
1/8	\$4,413	\$29,794	\$31,129.95	-\$1,335.95
1/15	\$8,808	\$38,602	\$45,657.26	-\$7,055.26
1/22	\$6,497	\$45,099	\$60,184.57	-\$15,085.57
1/29	\$14,528	\$59,627	\$74,711.88	-\$15,084.88

**\*\*Please remember, all information one wishes to have appear in the weekly bulletin must be submitted to Jonathan McClish NO LATER that 11:59pm on the Wednesday prior of the bulletin in which they wish to have the information. Please email all requests to [mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com](mailto:mcclish.jonathan@gmail.com) thank you.**

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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