

# Holy Cross

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

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

Sunday, February 26, 2017

## **Saints Celebrated Today**

John Claphas the new Martyr  
Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza  
The Holy Great Martyr Photine, the Samaritan Women  
Holy Martyr Theocletus

## **Forgiveness Sunday**

The Holy Fathers have appointed the commemoration of Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight here, on the eve of the holy Forty-day Fast, demonstrating to us not by simple words, but by actual deeds, how beneficial fasting is for man, and how harmful and destructive are insatiety and the transgressing of the divine commandments. For the first commandment that God gave to man was that of fasting, which the first-fashioned received but did not keep; and not only did they not become gods, as they had imagined, but they lost even that blessed life which they had, and they fell into corruption and death, and transmitted these and innumerable other evils to all of mankind. The God-bearing Fathers set these things before us today, that by bringing to mind what we have fallen from, and what we have suffered because of the insatiety and disobedience of the first-fashioned, we might be diligent to return again to that ancient bliss and glory by means of fasting and obedience to all the divine commands. Taking occasion from today's Gospel (Matt. 6:14-21) to begin the Fast unencumbered by enmity, we also ask forgiveness this day, first from God, then from one another and all creation.

## **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 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 Plagal Second Mode**

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

## **This Week at Holy Cross**

<b>Today</b>	8:15 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 5 pm Forgiveness Vespers
<b>Monday</b>	<b>First Day of Lent</b> - 6:30 Compline/Bible Study
<b>Tuesday</b>	7 pm Sts. Mary and Martha Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	4:30 pm Greek School 6 pm Presanctified Liturgy
<b>Friday</b>	9 am Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Salutations
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Saturday of Souls</b> - 8:30 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 5pm Great Vespers/Confessions
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday of Orthodoxy</b> – Bring Icons to Church 4:30 pm Triumph of Orthodoxy Pan - Orthodox Service @ All Saints, Canonsburg

## **Coffee Hour Sponsorship**

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Ladies Philtochos Society of Holy Cross.

A few 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 Letter to the Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4.

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

## **Gospel Reading**

The Reading is from Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

## **Stewardship at a Glance**

Thank you to the faithful stewards who have submitted their 2017 Pledge Cards. Please join them in support of our Holy Cross ministries and complete your 2017 Pledge Card today.

Remember a signed pledge card is required to maintain your membership in good standing at Holy Cross each year. If you have not yet submitted your 2017 Pledge Card, you can call Nena in the Church office at (412) 833-3355 or go on line and pledge under stewardship at [holycrosspgh.org](http://holycrosspgh.org). Just click on Stewardship and then click Pledge Online and fill out the form.

We thank you for your love and support.

Ted Sofis

Stewardship Chair

## **A Note from Philoptochos**

Thank you to ALL the Philoptochos and Holy Cross members who so lovingly donated pasta salad, fruit, cookies and other desserts to +Popi Hagelios's 40 day memorial last Sunday. It was a memorable coffee hour tribute to a remarkable woman who served Holy Cross unconditionally!

Thank you to ALL who helped to set-up, serve, and clean-up at last week's very special memorial coffee hour!

Philoptochos continues to accept new and renewing members! Please the membership form in today's bulletin! Our next Philoptochos meeting will be Tuesday, March 7 at 7PM in the Philoptochos Room.

The Philoptochos Philanthropy Award applications MUST be returned by Sunday, March 19.

Save the Date: Saturday, May 20 at Noon, A very special Philoptochos Tea! Please bring your daughters, sisters, yiayia's, nieces, granddaughters and friends! So much fun is planned!

Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President

### **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.

### **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.

Thank You!

### **A message from the family of Popi Hagelios**

Our dearest Reverend Fathers and kindhearted Friends of Holy Cross Church,

We extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone who participated in making our mother's 40 day memorial so special. We know Popi was smiling down on everyone as they worked so beautifully together in "her" kitchen! Your expression of love has touched us deeply.

Thank you and God bless you all,  
Christina, Eva, Anna Maria, and Chris

### **Sunday of Orthodoxy**

Church School parents please remember that next Sunday is Sunday of Orthodoxy - the day we commemorate the icons return to their place and use in the Orthodox Church.

As part of that celebration, the Church School students process into the Church with their own icons. Parents should have their students bring icons next Sunday so they can participate in the procession.

### **Save the Date**

GOLDEN CLUB MEMBERS: Please join us on Tuesday, March 21 at 11:00 a.m. in the Community Center as we welcome Ann Howley, author of *Confessions of a Do-Gooder Gone Bad*, an award-winning memoir. A popular speaker, Ann loves to convince people that their lives are worth writing about. She is a regular contributor to Pittsburgh Parent Magazine, and her articles and essays about the inevitable surprises and hilarity in life appear in publications nationwide. It proves to be a fun-filled presentation, followed by a question and answer period. Following the presentation, all are welcome to continue fellowship at the Galleria, second floor, outside Panera. Purchase lunch on your own or brown-bag it, keeping in mind that it is the Lenten fast. Please RSVP by March 16 to Cynthia Kostelnik (412) 722-9512 (cakostelnik@yahoo.com) or Rene Koett (412) 559-1721 (rjkoett@yahoo.com). We will also be collecting membership dues that day of \$10.

GOLDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP: We encourage all parishioners, 50 years of age and older, to join our lively group as we share in fellowship and explore our region's venues, including historical sites, churches, concerts, plays, movies, opera and museums, just to name a few. Membership dues are only \$10/person, per year! Events are planned once a month from January through May and resume again in September through the end of the calendar year. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact Cynthia Kostelnik (412) 722-9512 (cakostelnik@yahoo.com) or Rene Koett (412) 559-1721 (rjkoett@yahoo.com). We hope you will consider joining The Golden Club of Holy Cross!

\*\*Please remember, all information one wishes to have appear in the weekly bulletin must be submitted to Jonathan McClish NO LATER than 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 \*\*

Deposit from 2/19	
Pledges - 2016	\$500
Pledges - 2017	\$8,529
Candles	\$553
Loose Offerings	\$203
Sunday School	\$2
Memorial Donation for the Altar	\$500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,854</b>

**Financial Snapshot based on \$2,239.23 daily operational needs**

Date	Weekly Collection	Weekly Collection Total to Date	Estimated Operational Needs to Sunday	Difference
Total through Jan.	\$59,627	\$59,627	\$69,416.13	-\$9,789.13
2/5	\$11,126	\$70,753	\$80,612.28	-\$9,859.28
2/12	\$9,846	\$80,599	\$96,286.89	-\$15,687.89
2/19	\$9,854	\$90,453	\$111,961.50	-\$21,508.50

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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.



**COLLEGE STUDENT & YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**

## **NAVIGATING LIFE**

**USING YOUR SPIRITUAL COMPASS**

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**

**VERY REV. DR. EDWARD PEHANICH**

**NICK LIONAS | MDIV**

**7PM FRI, MARCH 17 - 12PM SUN, MARCH 19**

**CAMP NAZARETH, MERCER, PA**

*Co-sponsored by the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese  
and the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh*

Did you go to Camp Nazareth as a GOYAn and miss the camp experience? This is a way for you to connect with Christ and other Young Adults from this area!

Take some time away from the world, relax, and enjoy the company of other Orthodox Christians who are dealing with many of the same things as you. Whether you are in college or are a young professional this is your time to examine your life and your journey to oneness with Christ!

To Register visit [Pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://Pittsburgh.goarch.org) , click on the "Youth and Young Adult" dropdown menu, and click on the link that looks like the above advertisement. There you will see a "Register Now" button.