

# 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, March 12, 2017

## **Saints Celebrated Today**

Phineas, grandson of Prophet Aaron, St. Gregory Palamas, Theophanes the Confessor  
Symeon the New Theologian, Gregory Dialogos, Bishop of Rome, Paul Aurelian, Bishop of Brittany

## **Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas**

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359.

His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.

## **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 Sun. of St. Gregory Palamas in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

Light of Orthodoxy, pillar and teacher of the Church, adornment of monastics, invincible champion of theologians, O Gregory thou wonderworker, boast of Thessalonica, herald of grace: ever pray that our souls be saved.

### **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 Fourth Mode**

O Champion General, I your City no inscribe to you, triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, from all kinds of perils free me so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice O unwedded Bride.

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

<b>Monday</b>	6:30 am Compline/Bible Study
<b>Tuesday</b>	10 am First Steps of Christ
<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>	5pm Great Vespers/Confessions

### **Memorials**

#### **Orthodox**

*Evangelia Portellos 2 years*  
*Maria Elderkin 14 years*  
*Christos Portellos 49 years*  
*Maria Portellos 25 years*  
*Hariklia Markis 23 years*

*Demetrios Markis 65 years*  
*Calliopi Hagelios 3 months*  
*Helen Brenyo Chrash 1 year*  
*Joseph Chrash 7 years*  
*Mary Brenyo 32 years*  
*Michael Brenyo 60 years*

**The Portellos, Elderkin, and Stagon Families in memory of Angeline Portellos and Maria Elderkin and our all of family members that have passed.**

If you are interested in sponsoring 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 Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3.

"IN THE BEGINNING, Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

## **Gospel Reading**

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas The Reading is from Mark 2:1-12

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

### **A Note from Philoptochos**

The Philoptochos Philanthropy Award applications must be received by next Sunday, March 19. Please take the application to the office by Friday, March 17, mail it or take to the home of Elaine Sofis, or see Dena Yamalis next Sunday, March 19 in church. I will not be in church on Sunday, March 19.

Philoptochos is sponsoring a Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon on April 9 after Liturgy. Volunteers are needed to serve and clean-up.

A Philoptochos Tea is planned for Saturday, May 20 at Noon in the Community Center.

A reminder that Philoptochos welcomes membership of ladies and gentlemen. Our 2017 drive continues with a form in the bulletin.

Elaine Sofis,  
Philoptochos President

**Social Committee: TODAY Sunday March 12th all those interested in being a part of the Social Committee will be meeting in the Library at 12:30 following Liturgy and Coffee Hour. This organization is an answer to the call for more family oriented and budget friendly events here at Holy Cross.**

### **JOY Lenten Passport**

We are once again be travelling through lent together as a group with our Lenten Passports! We meet every Sunday of Lent during coffee hour in the carpeted area outside the hall! Parents, participation in the program can be extremely beneficial to both you and your children. It is an opportunity for us to examine more fully the Lenten Journey and to have conversations outside the church setting.

**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.

### 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.

**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!

**Holy Cross Altar Society:** Sunday March 19th at 12:30 in the Library, anyone who would like to participate in caring for our worship space please come and join the Holy Cross Altar Society. This is a wonderful way to spend extra time in prayerful service to the Church and to have some respite from the world, please consider joining!

<p>Tickets for the Syrian Relief Dinner will be sold during coffee hour today. The event is April 2, 2017 Sunday at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Oakland. Tickets are \$50 and \$20 (7-18 years old). Donations will also be accepted. It is sponsored by the IOCC Pittsburgh Metropolitan Committee, St. Nicholas Philoptochos and Antiochian Orthodox community. Checks can be made out to IOCC.</p>
--

### **Greek School Celebration!**

Come celebrate The Annunciation Of The Virgin Mary and Greek Independence Day with a Spaghetti Luncheon! The luncheon and Annual Greek School program will take place following Liturgy Sunday March 26, 2017.

Suggested Donation Adults \$7.00 Children 5-12 \$4.00 Under 5 Free.

\*\*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) \*\*

### **Myrophores**

Holy Week is fast approaching! If your daughter would like to one of the myrophores on Holy Friday Night for the procession of the Epitaphion please contact Laura Zervos 412-812-1919

### **Save the Date**

**Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>** at 6 pm, (food will be provided) we will begin preparation of the Palms for Palm Cross making. Please consider helping cut, clean, and soak the palms.

**Lazarus Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>** there will be a community effort to make palm crosses and clean the Church for Palm Sunday. Following Liturgy we will have a Lenten potluck lunch for all who are present. Please consider bringing a Lenten food item to be shared with the group. Following lunch palm crosses will be made and the volunteers will clean the church with acolytes helping in the Altar. Confession will also be available at this time.

**Holy Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup>** will be the annual Vigil by the Cross. Following the Service, at 10 pm, the GOYAns and all who wish to participate will gather in the Old Social for a presentation by Jonathan McClish. All participants will then help prepare the brown bag lunches for FOCUS and afterwards, we will read the Psalms during the Vigil.

-----  
*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 3/25	
Pledges - 2016	\$300
Pledges - 2017	\$10,943
Candles	\$640
Loose Offerings	\$186
Sunday School	\$8
Misc. (postage for directory)	\$10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,087</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 Feb.	\$99,645	\$99,645	\$127,636.11	-\$27,991.11
3/5	\$12,087	\$111,732	\$143,310.72	-\$31,578.72

### **Holy Cross 2017 Stewardship Roster**

Thank you to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their 2017 Pledge Cards. Please join us, 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



COLLEGE STUDENT & YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

## NAVIGATING LIFE USING YOUR SPIRITUAL COMPASS

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

VERY REV. DR. EDWARD PEHANICH  
NICK LIONAS | MDIV

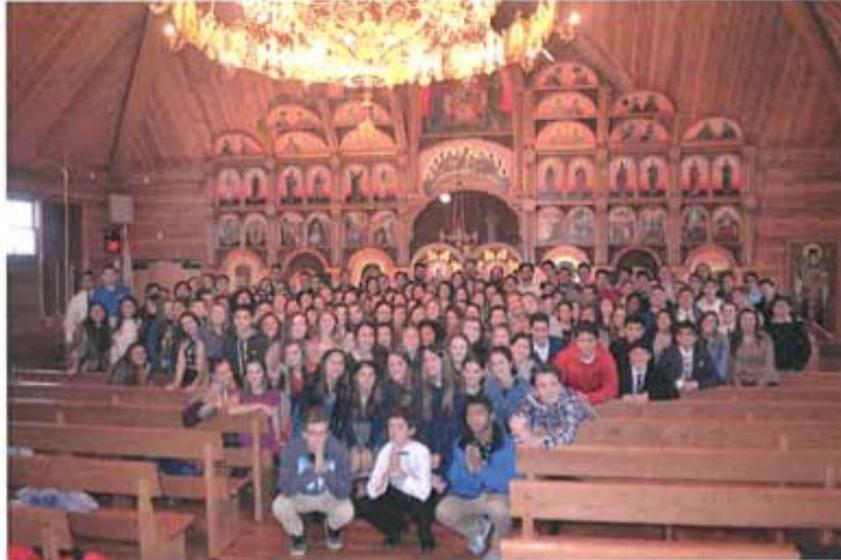
7PM FRI, MARCH 17 - 12PM SUN, MARCH 19  
CAMP NAZARETH, MERCER, PA

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.



**2017 GOYA Spring Retreat:  
*What Matters?*  
(Exploring Our Relationship with God's Creation)**

**Keynote Speaker: Fr. Alexandros Petrides, of St. Nicholas  
Cathedral, Bethlehem**

Check-in on Friday is from 7:00 pm. to 9:00 p.m.

Departure on Sunday is at 12:00 noon.

Please contact Ted Cherpas (412-621-8543 // [camp@pittsburgh.goarch.org](mailto:camp@pittsburgh.goarch.org)) with any questions.

Online Registration found at: <https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/summer-camp>

*Please note: If you are registering more than one camper, you have to use a different e-mail address for each additional camper.*