

Sunday, July 23, 2017

The Epistle reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:1-7

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

The Gospel According to Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.



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Coffee hour is sponsored by the Politis and Megaludis families in memory of loved ones.

Memorials:

Geraldine Orson 1 year
Michael Megaludis 3 years
Kyriaki Apostolos 3 years
Constantine Politis 5 years
Deanne Drandakis 9 years
Anne Maria Politis Douris 9 years
Dorothea Megaludis 11 years
Apostoli Apostolos 20 years
Maria Orfanopoulos 20 years
Katherine Orson 36 years
Anna Politis 38 years
Manuel Politis 39 years
Sophia Apostolos 40 years
Vasilios Orfanopoulos 43 years
Maria Megaludis 47 years
Nicholas Megaludis 55 years
Michael Apostolos 57 years

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday 8:30m Vacation Church School
Tuesday 9am Vacation Church School
Wednesday 9am Vacation Church School
Thursday 9am Vacation Church School
Friday 9am Vacation Church School
Saturday 5pm Vespers

RESCHEDULED: Luncheon to honor outgoing Philoptochos President Elaine Sofis will be on Saturday, September 23 @ St. Clair Country Club. Details (menu, cost, RSVP) to be posted soon.

GREEK DAY @ Kennywood Tuesday, July 25
Contact Ypapanti for tickets: 412.824.9188

Dear Holy Cross Families,

The Circle of Angels, which is the visiting group for the Holy Cross Philoptochos is encouraging all those, who have a loved one in a nursing home or being cared for at home, to please let the church know. We would love to visit him or her to ensure them that their church remembers them. We have a lovely prayer book with photographs of the church icons to offer on our first visit. At Christmas and Easter, we deliver baskets of homemade goodies. At other times of the year, we have taken holy oil, holy water, and antithoron. When we can't make a personal visit, we send cards and/or call those who are able to receive calls.

Even if your loved one is suffering with dementia, the Circle of Angels visit can bring them joy. They may not remember the visit, but the joy they experience from the visit stays with them for a while.

Please call the church office to let Father Michael know that your loved one needs a Circle of Angels visit.

Thank you so much.
Carol Halkias and Christine Peters





"Let us run... the race" (Hebrews 12:1)

Orthodox Christian Vacation Church School
starts TOMORROW!!!

Theme is: The Incredible Race

Monday, July 24, 2017 ~ Friday, July 28, 2017 9:00 am ~12:00 Noon

**Monday, July 24, children should arrive at 8:30 am*



Though we are in the middle of summer fun, the **new Church School year** is quickly approaching. Please register your children now for the upcoming school year using the website listed below. If you registered last year, you will still have to register again, as the system does not automatically update information.

Parents please note:

- 3 year old students (as of September 1st) will be placed in our Preschool Classroom

- 4 and 5 year old students (not yet attending Kindergarten) will be placed in our Pre-K Class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 412-626-9143 or jennifermoorcroft@msn.com.

Directions:

Go to website: www.holycrosspgh.org

Click on Youth Ministries.

Click on Sunday School

Click on Online Sunday School Registration

Complete online form.

Thank you and many blessings,
Jennifer Moorcroft





If you are interested in sponsoring a **Coffee Hour**, please 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.



Philoptochos News- Mark Your Calendars, 9:30AM on the following dates for Autumn Food Fair Cooking

Monday, August 7 with the making of 3600 Koulourakia.

Monday, August 28, Galatobouriko

Tuesday, August 29, Tiropita

Your help is appreciated! Late arrivals are always welcome! Please join us even for an hour!

~Elaine Sofis and Marica Mitsos, Autumn Food Fair Co-Chairs

WELCOME – AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION...

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.

THE CHURCH ~ A HOLY PLACE

When you enter the church building as the "House of Worship," you are entering into the Great Throne Room of the "King of Kings" as His subjects and His soldiers. The "King of Kings," Jesus Christ, is enthroned on the Holy Altar and all the angels, prophets, saints and the Most Holy Mother of God are present. His soldiers should be attentive and standing at attention. No one in the presence of the "king of Kings" would sit with his legs crossed, or his hands in his pockets, or chewing gum, or looking at his watch because to do any of these things would be disrespectful. The only proper disposition a soldier can have before his commander is that of reverence which is indicated by a bowed head, a submissive heart and prayer.