

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church 123 Gilkeson Rd, Pittsburgh 15228
Fr. Michael Kallaur ~ Fr. Dan Korba ~ Dn. Frank Dickos
(412) 833-3355 www.holycrosspgh.org

Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of
+Nick Manganas by his family.

Trisaigions: Nick Manganas 2 years

This Week at Holy Cross

Monday **St. Barbara** 8:30am Matins/9:30am Divine Liturgy
Baking Christmas Bread @ Holy Cross
6:30pm Paraclesis /Bible Study

Tuesday **St. Savas the Sanctified** 9am Matins/10am Divine
Liturgy @Metropolis with Open House 11-2
Baking Christmas Bread at Holy Cross
7pm Vespers @ St. Nicholas, Oakland

Wednesday **St. Nicholas** 9am Matins/10am Divine Liturgy
@ St. Nicholas, Oakland
4:30pm Greek School
6:45-8 pm GOYA BBall practice

Thursday 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday GOYA Family Christmas Party

Saturday 7:30m Men's Group
5pm Confessions/Vespers

CIRCLE OF ANGELS *To our Baking Angels...* We will be packing cookie baskets on Thursday, December 7th. Please think of our home-bound parishioners and those in nursing homes, while you are doing your Christmas baking. We need lots of home-baked cookies for our baskets. Please do not use nuts or powdered sugar in any of the cookies to be donated. Thank you so much and God bless you! ~Carol and Christine

Save the dates:

Christmas Bread Baking: Monday, December 4 & Tuesday, December 5

Choir Rehearsals: Thursdays December 7 and 21 @ 7:30pm

FOCUS Christmas Choral Concert: Sunday, December 10th @ 5:30 pm

Community Night: Thursday, December 14, 6-8:30pm

GOYA BB Tournament: January 12, 13, 14



Songs and Hymns of the Nativity

Christmas Choral Concert

Featuring Orthodox Choirs from the surrounding community!

Sunday, December 10, 2017 – 5:30 PM

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
123 Gilkeson Road (Across from the Galleria)
Mt. Lebanon (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, 15228

Audience Communal Singing during concert

Free-will offering to support the work of FOCUS Pittsburgh
An Urban Center of FOCUS NA

Reception following Concert given by Holy Cross Phalaktchos



**Holy Cross
Community Night**
Thursday, December 14th 6-8:30pm

All Ages

Spend Time
With Your
Church Family

Free
Dinner

GOYA: Grades 7-12
JOY: Grades 3-6
HOPE: Grades K-2
CRAFTS, GAMES AND MORE!
NURSERY

ADULTS
YOUNG ADULTS

"THE INCARNATION
OF CHRIST"

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. Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.

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.

TO RENEW OR JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS for 2018, please fill out the membership form below and return to the church or to Connie Carahalıs, 224 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

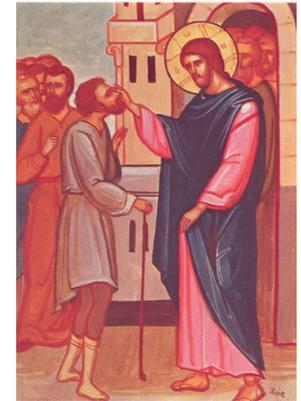
Email _____

*From your Philoptochos Stewardship donation, \$15 is sent to the National Philoptochos in NYC and \$10 is sent to the Pittsburgh Metropolis Philoptochos. Anything over \$25 goes to Holy Cross Philoptochos. **Or see any Board Member to pay your dues!**

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Epistle reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.



Gospel According to Luke 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.