

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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✠ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024 ✠

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel According to Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Memorials:	†John Macrinos	40 days (Denise Melis' Godfather)
	†George Thiros	1 year
	†Connie Carahalıs	2 years
	†Emmanuel Kusturiss	7 years (Dennis' father)
	†Mary Beth Kusturiss	9 years
	†Marion Elizabeth Kusturiss	17 years (Dennis' mother)
	†Zannetos Takos	23 years
	†Magdalene Takos	37 years
	†Athena Diamond	51 years
	†Sam Gidas	60 years
	†Alexander Stolar	newly departed (son of Magdeline Bakopoulos, and grandson of George and Sophia Bakopoulos)
	†Patrick Charbonneau	9 day prayers (brother of Denise Charbonneau)

Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of George Thiros by his family.

THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 9 6:30pm Paracletes

Tuesday, December 10 7pm Parish Council Seminar

Wednesday, December 11 4:30PM GREEK SCHOOL

6:45pm GOYA Basketball

7PM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 12 **St. Spyridon @ Monessen**

9am Orthros/10am Divine Liturgy

7PM CATECHISM CLASS

Friday, December 13 **St. Herman of Alaska**

8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 14 5pm Vespers

Thank you to ALL the volunteers who helped make our delicious Christmas bread on Thursday, December 5th.

Philoptochos Christmas bread, \$12 a loaf, plain or with sesame seeds, will be sold TODAY, Sunday, December 8 in the narthex and community center after Divine Liturgy. Cash or checks payable to Holy Cross Philoptochos. The Christmas bread will be sold next Sunday, December 15, if available. Thank you for supporting your Philoptochos in its philanthropic endeavors. ~Elaine Sofis, esofis@comcast.net or cell 412 327-7017



TODAY Sunday, December 8th we will be having our **GR&EK DANCE KICK-OFF** during coffee hour! We will share practice schedules, have food, and do some dancing to get in the spirit for the year. Please join us. Use the QR code to sign up if you haven't already!



Attention High School Seniors and Parents: The application for the **Popi Hagelios Memorial Philanthropy Award of the Philoptochos Society** of Holy Cross Church is now available in the narthex, Elaine Sofis, esofis@comcast.net or Denise Melis, dmelis@comcast.net, electronically. The application is due by March 16, 2025. The award is available to a PLEDGED 2025 Holy Cross family member who is a 2025 graduating high school senior. A similar application is available from Mt. Lebanon High School. You may apply to both philanthropy awards, but will only be eligible for one \$1,500 award.

HOLY CROSS MARKET

VASILOPITA. SPECIALTY BREADS. SOUP & SWEET TREATS!

HOLY CROSS COMMUNITY CENTER DURING COFFEE HOUR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 & 29 (MORE DATES TO COME)



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HOLY CROSS ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT

GREEK-AMERICAN PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
ΕΛΛΗΝΟΑΜΕΡΙΚΑΝΙΚΟΣ ΠΡΟΟΔΕΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ

You are cordially invited to G.A.P.A.'s annual

Christmas Dinner & Dance

Hosted by the Socrates-Daphne Lodge of Pittsburgh, PA

Saturday, December 14, 2024

Cocktails & Hors D'oeuvres: 6:00 PM | Dinner: 7:00 PM

Crowne Plaza Hotel Pittsburgh South
164 Fort Couch Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Live music by the fabulous Stigma Band

Dinner & Dance - \$65 | Dance Only - \$25 (6:00 PM)

For reservations, please contact Becky Bertos at (412) 421-9427 or-
Joanne Melacrinis at (412) 400-4607 no later than Saturday, 12/7/2024

We are extremely grateful for the outpouring of love and support for our **Holy Cross Iconography project!**

Thank you to the many who have pledged partial and full support to the icons. All of our efforts today are in preparation for this tremendous project to take place in July 2025.

We prayerfully ask you to consider supporting this project and creating a legacy for your family. No gift is considered small and can be fulfilled over three years (2024, 2025 & 2026).

May you and your family be blessed for what you can offer this project. All donation amounts are appreciated and can be contributed to the overall project or join with others for a specific icon.

Icons still available include:

The Four Evangelists: St. Mark*

The Old Testament symbols for each evangelist:
Eagle, Ox, Lion, Young Man

Saints:

- St. Haralambos
- St. Andrew of Crete
- St. Cyril of Alexandria
- St. Gerasimos of Abydos*
- St. Nicholas Velimirovich
- St. Innocent of Alaska
- St. Raphael of Brooklyn

Large Icons: Pentecost

Some icons listed may already have a partial donor, and your commitment may help complete that one.

Please contact Vasso Paliouras at vassopaliouras@gmail.com or 412-606-4314 with any questions or specific requests.

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

Now through Epiphany...

GIVE A GIFT

LET HOLY CROSS HELP YOU WITH YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!
MAKE A DONATION IN HONOR OF A LOVED ONE, AND A CARD WITH RECOGNITION OF YOUR GIFT WILL BE SENT TO THEM.

ANY DONATION IS A BLESSING AND WILL LAST FOR GENERATIONS AT HOLY CROSS

CHECKS MAY BE MADE PAYABLE TO:
HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH WITH ICONOGRAPHY IN THE MEMO.
PLEASE INCLUDE A NOTE OF GIFT RECIPIENT'S NAME & ADDRESS

ALL DONATION AMOUNTS ARE ALWAYS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT SHARED WITH GIFT RECIPIENT



Holy Cross Art Auction

To support our iconography project, we will have an online art auction in March! We'd love to showcase the many talented artists in our community. To learn more, contact Vasso Paliouras:

Contact:
412-606-4314
Vassopaliouras@gmail.com