

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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Fr. Michael Kallaur
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✠ SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025 ✠ EVE OF THEOPHANY ✠

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 4:5-8

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Gospel According to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Last Sunday, December 29th, **Coffee Hour** was sponsored by the family of †Emmanuel Moissakis.

Today, **Coffee Hour** is sponsored by **Philoptochos**.

TONIGHT: 5pm Vespers

THIS WEEK:

Monday, January 6 Theophany
8:15 Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Water

Tuesday, January 7 St. John the Baptist
8:15 Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy
7pm GOYA Meeting

Wednesday, January 8 **4:30PM GREEK SCHOOL**
6:45pm GOYA Basketball
NO BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, January 9 7PM CATECHISM CLASS

Friday, January 10 **10am First Steps of Christ**

Saturday, January 11 5pm Vespers



First Steps
of Christ
will be meeting
every second
Friday of the
month at
10:00 am.

For more
information,
contact
Sophia
Alfaras-Melainis
412-251-3209

HOLY CROSS MARKET

All proceeds benefit the Holy Cross Iconography Project

BREADS

BOUGATSA

SPANAKOPITA

& MORE!!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

AFTER LITURGY IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER



House Blessings

Every year, on the Feast of Epiphany, Orthodox Christians around the world have a blessing of the waters to celebrate the Baptism of Christ as well as the revealing of the Holy Trinity to mankind. We then received the blessing of this Holy Water to renew ourselves in Christ and to remind ourselves that through Christ all things are again made clean. We also extend that blessing to the homes in which we live, to wipe away temptations and attacks that might lead us away from Christ.

If you wish to have Fr. Michael come and bless your home, please complete this form and return it to the Church office at your earliest convenience. Please **PRINT** clearly.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please suggest THREE (3) dates and times for your house blessing

STARTING JANUARY 5TH

(You will receive a call confirming date and time of blessing.)

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____



Please prepare the following, to the best of your abilities, for the blessing:

- 1) Make an effort to have the entire family present.
- 2) Set out an Icon in a central area of the house where the prayer service will begin.
- 3) Write two lists of names, one of the living and one of the departed family members for whom you would like the Priest to pray during the house blessing.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out and return this form, either in the basket in the narthex or to:

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228

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. 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

A collage of religious art. It includes a large icon of the Holy Trinity, a painting of a still life with a vase of flowers and fruit, a smaller icon of the Holy Trinity, and a painting of a woman playing a guitar. The text 'CALLING ALL HOLY CROSS ARTISTS' is overlaid on the collage.

CALLING
ALL HOLY
CROSS ARTISTS

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:

412-606-4314
VASSOPALIOURAS@GAMIL.COM