



HOLY CROSS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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✠ SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026 ✠ PRODIGAL SON ✠

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20 Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Gospel According to Luke 15:11-32 The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Memorials: † John (brother-in-law of Caryn and Jim Mustakas)

† Francis Czolba 1 year

† Paul Czolba 1 year

† Elias Mourtakos 3 years

† George Libbos 4 years

† Linda Mourtakos 10 years

† Constantine Zotis 13 years

† Petko Nekezov 20 years

† Maria Mourtakos 47 years

† Demetrios Mourtakos 50 years

*Altar flowers are sponsored in loving
memory of † Mary & † Nicholas Perinis,
mother & father of
George & Alexander Perinis.*

TODAY!!!

Godparent/Godchild lunch

Sunday February 8th

After church!

Godparent/Godchild Luncheon by GOYA TODAY

THIS WEEK:

Monday, February 9

6:30pm Paraclesis
8pm BasketYAL

Tuesday, February 10

St. Haralambos
8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy
6:30pm Fellowship & Fitness Adult Pickleball
7pm GOYA Meeting

Wednesday, February 11

4:30pm GREEK School
6:30pm GOYA Basketball
7PM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, February 12

11am Golden Club
7PM CATECHISM CLASS

Friday, February 13

Saturday, February 14

Saturday of the Souls
8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy
5pm Great Vespers


FESTIVAL NEWS

We are officially **130 days away from our festival**, and the Festival Committee and all our chairpersons are excited—and a little anxious—to start cooking and baking as we prepare for what we hope will be **another record-breaking event!** To make it all happen, we are looking for a few additional chairpersons to join our Festival Team:

- **Assistant Festival Chairperson** – Someone I can mentor and work with closely in the planning and execution of the festival
- **Online Sales Chairperson** – This role requires some basic computer skills
- **Pre-Festival Setup Chairperson** – On the day before the festival, this person will oversee hanging signage, setting up stanchions, and installing the yellow ropes that organize the lines into the Community Center
- **Decorating Chairperson** – Eva will be away, but she will set you up for success ahead of time
- **After-Festival Cleanup Chairperson** – We hire a crew on Saturday, but we need a hands-on “Sergeant” to help John Klimko keep everything moving and organized. If you’re willing to help—or want to learn more—we **would love to have you on the team.** Please call or text me: **Demetrios** 305-606-5627

Thank you for supporting our festival and our community!

CELEBRATE ORTHODOXY!



THE ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD OF GREATER PITTSBURGH INVITES YOU TO THE PITTSBURGH AREA

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY PAN-ORTHODOX VESPERS

Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 4:00 PM
All Saints Greek Orthodox Church
601 West McMurray Road, Canonsburg, PA
Celebrant and Homilist: His Grace Bishop Thomas
Service featuring the Pan-Orthodox Choir of Pittsburgh
Vespers will be followed by fellowship and Lenten refreshments.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

THE HOLY CROSS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO OUR

2026 MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

SUNDAY, FEB. 15 - 3 TO 6 PM

PLEASE RSVP BY FEB. 8

Renew your membership for 2026 or become a new member!

Doors open at 3:00 PM. Dinner served at 4:00 PM
Community Center Carpeted Area

Optional BYOB Wine Tasting!
If you love wine, bring a favorite bottle to share.

Membership dues are \$25.
Any additional donations benefit our Outreach programs.

RSVP TO CHRISTINE PICARD
412-951-7258 OR CHRIS.PICARD57@GMAIL.COM








PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIPS

Non Active:
Your donation supports our local and national charitable outreach. You receive our email meeting minutes and announcements.

Active:
In addition to the above, choose your level of involvement. We have multiple fundraising and fellowship activities throughout the year and welcome any of your time. We are a friendly group of women comprised of all ages.

We have a lot of fun doing a lot of good!



OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2026		
Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)		
SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Normal Fast Week FEBRUARY 8th	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, “Today I will be humble.” Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 15th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare FEBRUARY 22nd FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! FORGIVENESS SUNDAY Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 1st	 GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 8th	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent MARCH 15th	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS HALF WAY TO PASCHA! Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent MARCH 22nd	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent MARCH 29th	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 5th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 GREAT AND HOLY WEEK ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 10th	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ’s Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 12th NO FASTING!	 BRIGHT WEEK HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with “CHRIST IS RISEN!” & say it before good morning and goodnight!

High School Seniors & Parents Reminder: The Popi Hagelios Memorial Philanthropy Award of the Philoptochos Society of Holy Cross Church is available NOW to download online at [holycrosspgh.org- events- Holy Cross Philoptochos Philanthropy Award](http://holycrosspgh.org-events-Holy-Cross-Philoptochos-Philanthropy-Award), in the nar-thex, esofis@comcast.net or Denise Melis, dmelis@comcast.net, electronically. The award is available to a PLEDGED 2026 Holy Cross family member who is a 2026 graduating high school senior. Two \$1500 philanthropy awards are a possibility. The application is due by Sunday, March 29, 9pm. Elaine Sofis, 412 327-7017