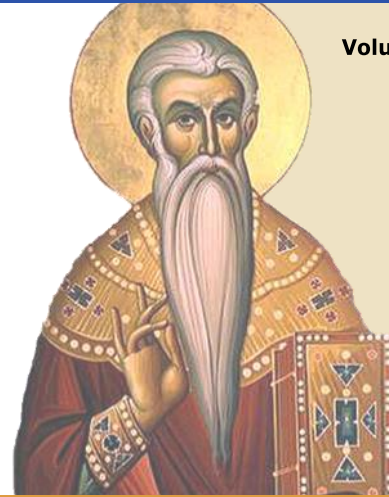


# *in* Touch

Volume 24, Issue 4

April 2016



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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We worship Your passion, O Christ.  
Show us also Your Glorious Resurrection.



Lord, You know that men are flesh and blood; forgive them their sins and pour out Your blessing on all. — St. Haralambos

# Forever Young

By Julie Karoutas & Robyn Pappas

Greetings to all Forever Young members, I hope that all is well with you, good news to announce; Robyn Pappas is feeling much better, still has a way to go but well on her way to recovery; In fact, Robyn will be helping me with the Forever Young ministry, thank you, Robyn. I have been told by Peter Alexopoulos that Alex Anastasiadis is much better also. Please keep them in your prayers for a full recovery.

There were 25 of us attending the *Fiddler on the Roof* musical production at the Arizona Broadway Dinner Theatre, it was fantastic! An outstanding performance! We all enjoyed it tremendously!

On Sunday, Apr. 3 at 3 pm, the Arizona Winds Concert Band will perform *Under the Big Top*; the concert will be held at the Cactus High School Auditorium at 6330 W. Greenway Rd., Glendale, AZ 85306. If you have not as yet attended one of their concerts you are missing out! Please make an effort to attend, you will be happy that you did. Please mark your calendars for the May concerts: On Sunday May 15; *Epic Marches* at 3 pm at Cactus High School Auditorium; the same concert will be repeated on Sunday, May 22 at the Sun City Grand Ballroom.

On Tuesday, Apr. 5 we will meet at the AMC Theater at the Westgate location to see the new release of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2*, (time to be determined once schedule of showings



will be released), following the movie will go to the OPA Life Greek Café for a delicious late lunch. Their web site is: [OpaLifeGreek.com](http://OpaLifeGreek.com) (check out their menu, many good Vegetarian choices) they have a beautiful patio area also. Dress is casual. WESTGATE is conveniently located at Loop 101 & Glendale Avenue, 6800 N. 95th Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85305.

Seeing that April will be another busy month with church services and preparing for Holy Pascha, I am adding some special events in May; Russ Skocypec will be hosting another Day at the Races Potluck at his home. Details will be sent out with the May newsletter.

The Phoenix #219 Ahepa will again be hosting their annual Mother's Day Brunch at Holy Trinity following church services on Sunday, May 8, it is a fantastic brunch. What a beautiful way to honor your Mother, Wife or Special Lady on her special day! This affair is popular, please make your reservations early.

We are also planning another day at the theater, this time at the Hale Centre Theater in Gilbert, it will be a Saturday afternoon matinee, with lunch first, across the street at famous JOE's BBQ. Hale is a theater in the round, so to speak, all seating is excellent and the performances are great! More detail to follow. We can car-pool for this outing.

Please notify either Robyn or me; I can be reached at: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com) or 623-972-2382 or call or text my cell, 623-313-8720. Robyn can be reached at 623-202-7714 or [rpiphx@cox.net](mailto:rpiphx@cox.net). Please leave name of all wishing to participate and a contact number.



## Parishioner Lent Guide

Everyone is encouraged to pick up their copy of the 2016 Lent Guide, a small booklet containing the Lenten service schedule, descriptions of fasting, prayer and works of charity, to help us on our Lenten Journey. These are available Sundays in the Narthex.





## Holy Week

As we enter the fourth week of Great Lent this month, and approach Holy Week, I pray that God grant us strength to continue to *“fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to keep the faith inviolate, to crush underfoot the heads of unseen tempters, to emerge victors over sin, and to come, without reproach, to the worship of (His) Holy Resurrection.”* (Divine Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts)

The spiritual battle continues! Great Lent is a time of seeing who we are and what we are truly made of. It is a time to say “No” to the many things that take our time away from Christ and the Church, and to say “Yes” to the things that bring us closer.

All the Church can do is offer a variety of opportunities and encourage your participation. The ball is forever in your court; Christ the Savior has done his part and is always knocking at the door of our hearts. The choice of whether to let him in or not remains ours.

Have you been attending the weeknight Lent services? Are you continuing with fasting? Have you found ways to offer works of charity for others? Is this seven-week season of Great Lent making a difference in your life?

The spiritual battle continues, but the results are always worth the required time and energy.

Holy Week begins Monday, Apr. 25. (The service schedule will be sent out shortly, and is also printed in this month’s Community Calendar.) It is one very intense week of worshiping together as a community. Each night we hear readings and

moving hymns reminding us of our Lord’s passion, the final week of His earthly life leading to His Crucifixion and Resurrection.

There is no other week during the year like Holy Week. It is a week for us, as much as possible, to keep other activities to a minimum so that we can worship together, receive the sacraments together, and be reminded of how much our Lord struggled, physically, emotionally and spiritually, towards the end of his earthly life and ministry.

Reading the prescribed bible passages is helpful, but doesn’t have nearly the same effect as being present in our church together. If it did, there would be no need for the Holy Week services. The point is not to read about the Passion Week, but to come together in prayer and worship, and experience the Passion Week.

The spiritual battle continues, and I pray you take an active part. It truly does the soul and body a world of good.

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*...and be reminded of how much our Lord struggled, physically, emotionally and spiritually*

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**St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox  
Church**

www.stharalambos.org

**Rev. Michael Pallad**

### Sunday Worship

Matins: 8:45 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

### Office

623-486-8665  
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383  
Office@StHaralambosAZ.com  
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

### Hours

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Parish Council

Marina Finch  
Dennis Georgen  
Kathie Harvey

Russ Skocypec



## Visit of our Metropolitan

We welcome His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos who will be in the Phoenix area the weekend of April 1 – 3. He will be celebrating Divine Liturgy with us on Sunday, Apr. 3.

His Eminence is not able to visit all the

parishes in the San Francisco Metropolis even once a year, so this is a wonderful opportunity to welcome our spiritual father to our parish, worship together, and enjoy fellowship during the coffee hour following.

## St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

St. Haralambos Church will be hosting the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival on Saturday, Apr. 9 at 2 pm for the Southwest District. The district includes Greek Orthodox parishes from Las Vegas and throughout the state of Arizona. Everyone is welcome to listen to the speeches.

We will be welcoming the top speakers from the individual parish festivals. The top speakers from the District festival will move on to the Metropolis Oratorical festival in May and then on to the

Archdiocese festival in June. All eighteen finalists at the Archdiocese Finals participate in a weekend of activities at the host site, which is being hosted by St. Nektarios Church in Charlottesville, North Carolina from Jun. 10 to Jun. 12.

The Oratorical Festival Scholarship Fund provides college scholarships to the top speakers. In 2015, the top three speakers of each division received college scholarships of \$2,000, \$1,500 and \$1,000 and each Honorable Mention speaker was awarded \$500.

## Summer Camp

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco is proud to announce the 36th year of its Summer Camp ministry at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. All three sessions of Summer Camp are for campers ages 8–18.

### The dates for the 2016 Metropolis Summer Camp are:

- Staff Orientation Week - July 5-9
- Session I - July 10-16
- Session II - July 17-23
- Session III - July 24-30

*Due to high demand, campers are now limited to registering for only ONE session of summer camp.*

### Pricing for 2016:

- \$475 Early Registration (Dec 1–Feb 29)
- \$500 Normal Registration (Mar 1–Apr 30)
- \$525 Late Registration (May 1–Jun 15)

*All siblings receive a \$25 discount.*

### Online Registration

Camper Registration and more information is now available online at [www.gosfyouth.org](http://www.gosfyouth.org). You can make a deposit now to lock in the “Early Registration” pricing and make payments until Jun. 15.



## All Saints Camp

All Saints Orthodox Summer Camp, building upon the generations before us, is gearing its 30TH YEAR! Get ready for the Southwest's best summer camp experience!

The camp session will run from Sunday, May 29 through Friday, Jun. 3 at Pine Summit in Prescott, Arizona. Follow this link to our NEW website for all registration information: [AllSaintsCampArizona.org](http://AllSaintsCampArizona.org)

## St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Anna Kinniburgh, President

*"He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust."* Psalm 91:2

Great Lent is here and St. Anna's Philoptochos met to discuss our spiritual journey as well as to plan for the Lenten meals that follow Wednesday Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Services. If you are interested in hosting a Lenten dinner, please contact me.

Our society voted on our National commitments for the month which were \$75 to the Orthodox Christian Mission Centers and \$75 to Support a Mission Priest. Our Metropolis commitment was \$100 to the Emergency Relief Fund. We also reviewed a letter from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America which outlined the national funds disbursed by Philoptochos in 2015. Nationally, the Society disbursed \$1,736,748 through various funds and drives! For a list of the specific charities supported please see me.

On Palm Sunday, Apr. 24, Philoptochos will once again host a delicious Lenten Fish Luncheon following church services. More information to follow in the church bulletins.

### Sunday Coffee Hour

The April Sunday Coffee Hour schedule is as follows. Please consider hosting by signing up or contacting me.

April 3 - Philoptochos

April 10 - Philoptochos

April 17 - Memorial for Eulia Feutz

April 24 - Philoptochos Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon

### Next Meeting

The next Philoptochos meeting is Monday, Apr. 4 at 6:30 pm. We invite you to join us! We ask for your talents and skills to actively support our parish and the less fortunate!



## Stewardship

Please remember to complete and return your 2016 Stewardship Pledge Card. These are available from the church office or can be picked up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.

Stewardship is the loving gift of Time, Talents and Treasures for the well-being of our parish and the spiritual growth of each one of us.

## Arizona Orthodox Christians Host Walk in Support of Mission Organizations

Everyone is encouraged to offer their support of the fourth annual "Arizona Walk for Missions" event on Saturday, May 14, at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. Participants can register by submitting a registration form at the event. (see pages 8-9)

Sponsored by the Arizona Council of Eastern Orthodox Church, the Walk for Mission will help support St. Innocent Orphanage with Project Mexico and the Orthodox Christian Missions Center.



## Name Days

Many years/*Chronia Polla* to those named after the following saints:

St. Mary (of Egypt) (1)  
St. Joseph (the Hymnographer) (3)  
St. Alexandra (21)  
St. George (23 )  
St. Mark (25)  
Sts. Jason and Sosipater (29)



## Birthdays



Noah Solomon (3)  
 Brooklyn Nicholas (4)  
 Paula Sallas (4)  
 Sophia Karandreas (6)  
 Dorothy Vordos (7)  
 Stefanos Macrides (12)  
 Barbara Savaidis (12)  
 Dennis Germenis (14)  
 Paula Farr (15)  
 Nardos Yohannes (15)  
 John Dicks (17)  
 Kimon Ayan (18)  
 Chrissy King (18)  
 Jeff Farr (20)  
 David Rodriguez (20)  
 Georgia Trakas (20)  
 Julia Houser (21)  
 Katelyn Pritchard (22)  
 Melanie Singleton (22)  
 Roy Christian (28)  
 Katherine Janofsky (28)  
 Eve Devolites (30)  
 Elisabeth Rodriguez (30)

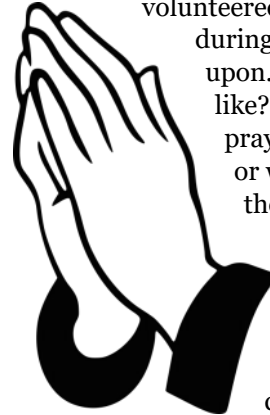
If you don't see your name, or those of family members, and would like to be included on the monthly birthday listing, please send the information to the church office.

## A Gathering of Prayer

By Kay Fulghum

Our Lenten journey can sharpen our focus on charity as a partner to fasting and prayer. Most often, we think of charity in material terms; to increase our efforts to provide food, drink, clothing and other forms of assistance to those in need. Our Gathering of Prayer ministry is also a form of charity - spiritual charity, that is offered to our parish brothers and sisters when they are most in need our love and support.

It's rightly said that dead or alive, we live our Christian lives together - in community. It's a loving community that offers up prayers for those who are facing the scariest transition of our existence. How beautiful it is that even here, our Orthodox faith provides us with a way to love our brother. How gracious our Lord is, to accept our pleas on behalf of our parish brothers and



sisters who stand at the door of the kingdom and knock.

I am so thankful for each and every one of prayer group members who have volunteered to stand ready to participate during the prayer effort when called upon. What does their service look like? It takes about 20 minutes to pray the Akathist prayer - at home, or wherever they want, at any time they want during their 'adopted day' out of the 40 days. Think of it as a 20 minute gift to your brother or sister in Christ. We still have a few open days waiting to be claimed.

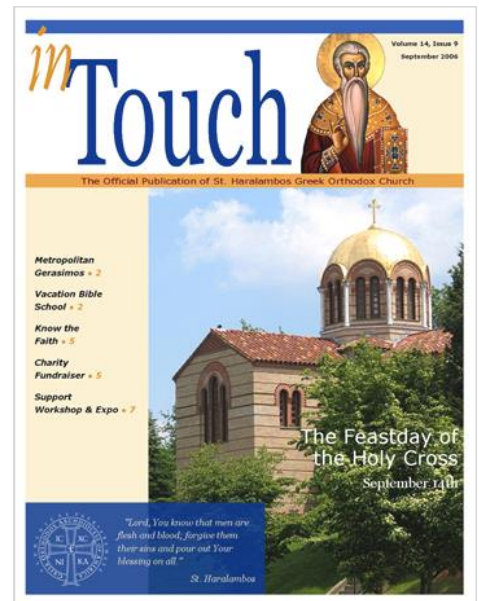
During the Lenten season, I will be available to sign up anyone interested in joining our group. Prayer books will be available for you to examine should you have any questions. Have a blessed Lenten journey.

## In Touch Newsletter Distribution

The In Touch monthly newsletter is available on our parish website ([www.StHaralambos.org](http://www.StHaralambos.org)). The link to the In Touch web page will be posted on the weekly eBulletin.

If you haven't yet sent your current email address to the church office, please do so today.

For those without internet access, please call the Church office to make other arrangements for your copy of the newsletter.



## Orthodox Study Group

The orthodox study group will suspend activities until after Lent. There will be no further Thursday meetings until further announced.

## Church Beautification Project

We are getting closer to making the improvements to our Nave lighting! Upgrading our lighting will not just bring a quality visual payoff for our worship space, but it will bring a financial benefit as well. The new lighting is state of the art LED technology that uses much less power, and is very stable. The bulbs will not need replacement for decades, so we will have something that is very efficient in addition to bringing beauty into our Church. You

can expect to see a dramatic increase in light quality, and Father Michael will get his wish to have the ability to dim our lights for Vespers and other special services.

I am so very grateful to all of you who have contributed financially to this project - your support and prayers has made this effort possible. Thank you for your support and patience!

## New Icons for Church Interior

The next phase of our Church Interior Beautification Project is the selection, painting and installation of icons of Orthodox Saints. These icons will be installed in the top portions of the 12 arches located in the Narthex. The icons will be created in the traditional Byzantine style, by local iconographer Randa Azar, wife of Fr. Mansour Azar of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Phoenix. You may have seen some of her beautiful iconography displayed in her booth at our recent Greek festival.

Each icon, using egg-tempra paint and gold leaf background, can be sponsored for a donation of \$1,000. Please select from the list of saints below. (If another saint is desired, please contact Fr. Michael.) So that more of our parish families have the opportunity for these icon sponsorships, we are requesting a limit of one icon donation per family.

Please return the tear-off below to the Church address, indicating the saint of your choice, together with your donation of \$1,000, payable to Saint Haralambos Church. (Credit card payments also accepted.)

### List of Saints for Church Interior

Saint Anastasia  
Saint Anna  
Saint Andrew  
Saint Barbara  
Saints Constantine & Helen  
Saint Demetrios  
Saint Iakovos  
Saint Irene  
Saint Katherine  
Saint Kyriaki  
Saint Marina  
Saint Nektarios  
Saint Paraskevi  
Saint Panteleimon  
Saint Photini  
Saint Photios  
Saint Spyridon  
Saint Stephen the First Martyr



### St. Haralambos Icon Sponsorship

Name of Saint: \_\_\_\_\_

Icon sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

# Arizona Walk *for* Missions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Antonia Adams-Clement

AZWalkforMissions@cox.net

## **Arizona Orthodox Christians Host Walk in Support of Mission Organizations**

PHOENIX, March 15, 2016 – The Arizona OCMC and Project Mexico Missions Alumni invite members of the Orthodox Christian community to sign up for their fourth annual “Arizona Walk for Missions” event on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. Participants can register by submitting a registration form at the event.

The “Arizona Walk for Missions,” supported by The Arizona Council of Eastern Orthodox Clergy, will equally benefit both Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage and the Orthodox Christian Mission Center. Registration for the event is free, and participants who raise \$25 or more will receive a free “Arizona Walk for Missions” T-shirt. Checks are payable to “Project Mexico.”

The 2.5-mile walk starts at 8 a.m., with participant registration starting at 7:30 a.m. Refreshments will be available prior to the walk, and representatives from OCMC and Project Mexico will also share information about their organizations. A prayer will precede the walk at 8 a.m., and a closing prayer will take place at 9:30 a.m.

“Please remember that when you are walking in the Arizona Walk for Missions, you also walk with our newly-baptized brothers and sisters in East Africa,” said Kenneth D. Kidd, an OCMC development officer. “Many of them walk for two or more hours for the opportunity to worship in Liturgy and receive the Eucharist.”

“Every step you take in the Arizona Walk for Missions is a step towards building hope in Mexico,” said Soula De La Riva, a director at Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage. “Hope for abandoned and abused adolescent boys, hope for impoverished and struggling families, and hope for volunteers of all ages who come, serve, and bear witness to what putting their faith into action can truly accomplish.”

All pre-walk and post-walk activities will take place near the parking lot at Kiwanis Park. Parking is available next to the ramadas, just southwest of Mill Avenue and All America Way. The fundraising goal is \$2,000, and Orthodox Christians from any jurisdictions are welcome to attend.

### **About the Orthodox Christian Mission Center**

OCMC serves to bring people to Christ and His Church. This ministry includes the preparation and organization of short-term and long-term mission teams and the training and support of indigenous Church leaders. Priority is given to parts of the world that have never heard or accepted the Gospel, thus fulfilling Christ’s great commission to “go and make disciples of all nations.”

### **About Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage**

This Orthodox Christian ministry provides housing for impoverished Mexican families and operates St. Innocent Orphanage, a home for abandoned and abused teenage boys.



# Arizona Walk *for* Missions

**ALL PROCEEDS EQUALLY BENEFIT:**  
 Orthodox Christian Mission Center  
 Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage

Saturday, May 14, 2016  
 Kiwanis Park, Tempe, Arizona



## PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM

Participants raising \$25 or more receive a free Arizona Walk for Missions T-shirt!

**Participant's Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Parish:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Age:**

Participants younger than 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult

**Emergency Contact:**

**Phone:**

**Photo Release** My photo *may* \_\_\_\_ be used / *may not* \_\_\_\_ be used in promotional materials for the Arizona Walk for Missions and or in fundraising efforts for OCMC and Project Mexico.

**Waiver Release** I hereby waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC), Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage, The Arizona Council of Eastern Orthodox Clergy, the Arizona Walk for Missions Committee and the event's sponsors.

**Walker Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

For participants younger than 18 years old

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I cannot participate in this year's Arizona Walk for Missions, but please accept my gift of:

☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Checks payable to **PROJECT MEXICO**

(Fill out below to receive a tax deductible charitable donation receipt)

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**City:**

**Email:**

**State:**

**Zip:**



**SPONSORED BY:** Arizona OCMC and Project Mexico Missions Alumni  
**SUPPORTED BY:** The Arizona Council of Eastern Orthodox Clergy

# APRIL 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00am Church Maintenance
					7:00pm Akathist Hymn (3rd Stanza)	
<b>3</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> 6:00pm Lenten Vespers (Assumption Church)	<b>4</b> 6:30pm Philoptochos	<b>5</b> 6:00pm Youth Night 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	<b>6</b> 6:00pm Divine Liturgy <b>Pre-Sanctified Gifts</b> (Lenten Dinner following)	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Choir	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Akathist Hymn (4th Stanza)	<b>9</b> 2:00pm District Oratorical Festival
<b>10</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> 6:00pm Lenten Vespers (Sts Peter & Paul Church)	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Parish Council	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Youth Night 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Divine Liturgy <b>Pre-Sanctified Gifts</b> (Lenten Dinner following)	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Choir	<b>15</b> 7:00pm Akathist Hymn (Complete)	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> 6:00pm Lenten Vespers (Holy Cross Church)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00pm Youth Night 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	<b>20</b> 6:00pm Divine Liturgy <b>Pre-Sanctified Gifts</b> (Lenten Dinner following)	<b>21</b> 7:00pm Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Lazarus Saturday</b> Lenten Breakfast Palm Crosses
<b>24</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Palm Sunday</b> 6:00pm Christ the Bridegroom Service	<b>25</b> <b>Holy Monday</b> 7:00pm Christ the Bridegroom Service	<b>26</b> <b>Holy Tuesday</b> 7:00pm Christ the Bridegroom Service	<b>27</b> <b>Holy Wednesday</b> 9:00am Pre Sanctified Liturgy 4:00pm Holy Unction (Children) 7:00pm Holy Unction	<b>28</b> <b>Holy Thursday</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm 12 Passion Gospels	<b>29</b> <b>Holy Friday</b> 9:00am Royal Hours 3:00pm Vespers The Descent From the Cross 7:00pm The Lamentations	<b>30</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b> 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:15pm Resurrection Service and Divine Liturgy