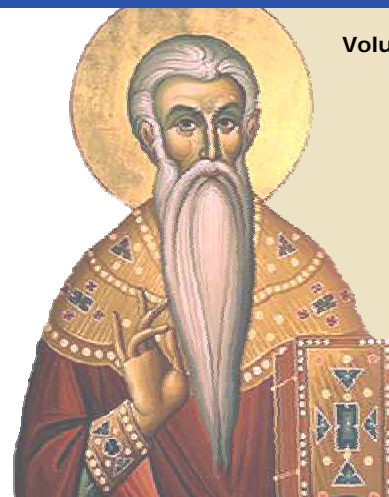


in Touch

Volume 17, Issue 8

August 2009



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

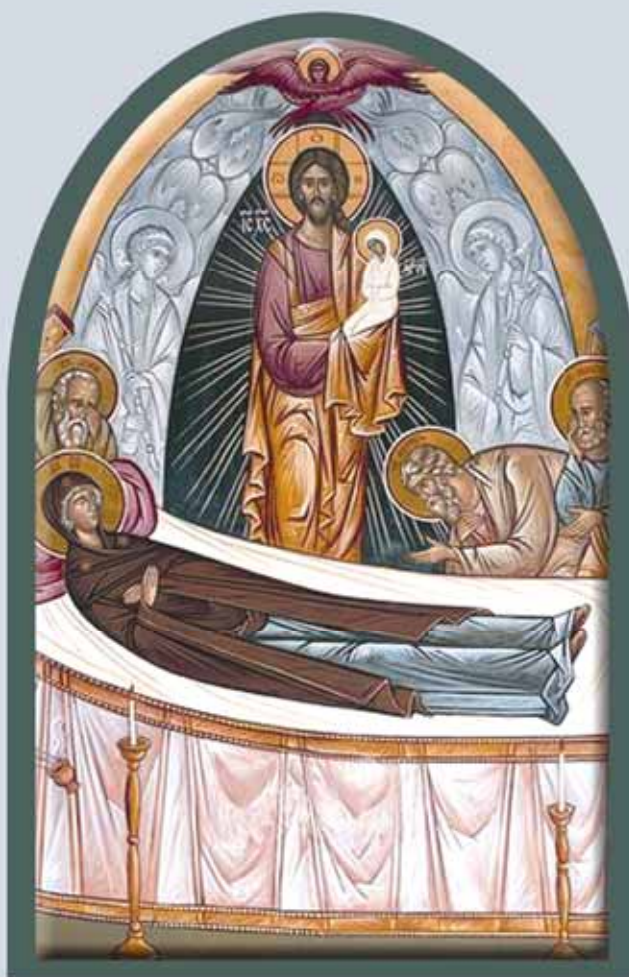
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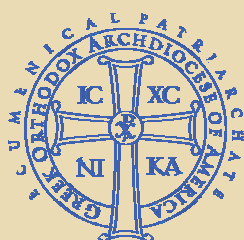
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***“Most Holy Mother of God,
intercede for us.”***

Feastday of the Dormition of the Theotokos, August 15



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

Two-Day Ground Breaking Celebration

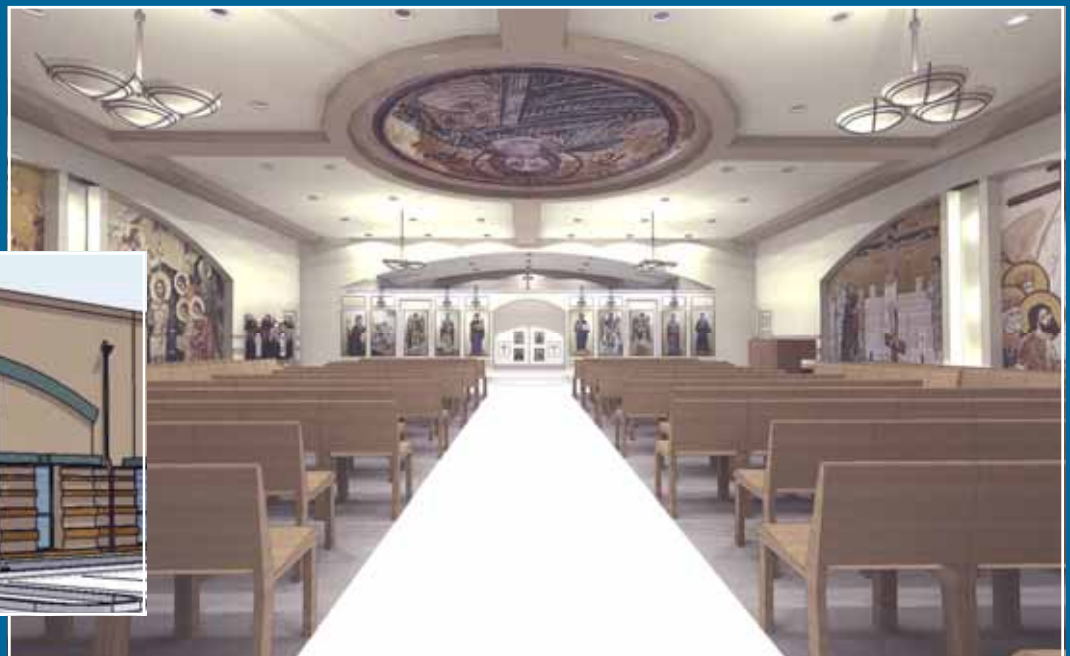


The time has finally arrived for us to celebrate and be celebrated. We have all worked hard for this and we should all be proud of our achievements. Plan to attend and be a part of this milestone event as we remove that first shovelful of dirt and start the long-awaited building process at our new location, 75th Avenue and Greenway Road.

The festivities will start with Vesper Services at 5 p.m., Saturday, September 19. His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos will be in attendance to officiate at all the Liturgical Services over the weekend. After Vespers we will be hosting a Reception and Dinner on our grounds. Our own Festival chefs will be preparing a sumptuous feast that will delight your culinary senses. Invitations will be forthcoming and reservation requests should be made early since there is limited seating. During the celebration dinner, the winners of the \$10,000 Cash Raffle will be announced.

On Sunday, September 20, services will begin with Matins at 8:45 a.m. followed by a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m. A Social Hour between 12 and 1 p.m. will be hosted by the Ladies of our Philoptochos Society. At 1:30 p.m. we will gather at 75th and Greenway for the official Groundbreaking Service. Everyone is welcome to attend and celebrate our "LEAP OF FAITH"

Saturday
& Sunday
September
19 & 20





St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church

As summer draws to a close this month, so does the Church (Ecclesiastical) year, which begins on Sept. 1. For our parish, Fall 2009 will be the start of a very significant year, beginning with the Ground-breaking ceremonies on Sept. 19 and 20, for the construction of our new church facilities at 75th Ave. and Greenway Rd. It's another important milestone that has been slowly coming to fruition over many years, and one that brings great anticipation along with, as you might expect, a bit of anxiety.

We continue our fund-raising efforts for the construction of our new fellowship hall, and are planning on moving and occupying the new building by December 2010. In the meantime, we are sharing our current Church with St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church, whose community, as we have all learned by now, is the new owner, and is holding services each Saturday morning.

Who are the Coptic Orthodox? As with all Orthodox Churches, the Copts (as they are commonly referred

to) have a long and interesting history which begins in Alexandria, Egypt, where the Christian gospel was spread by St. Mark the Evangelist. The current Coptic Patriarch, His Holiness Pope Shenuda III, is the 116th successor of St. Mark, whose seat is still located in the historic city of Alexandria.

Because of a difference in defining the human and divine nature of Jesus Christ, the Coptic Church became separated from the rest of the Orthodox Churches following the decisions of the Fourth Ecumenical Council held in the city of Chalcedon in 451. As a dialogue between the Greek and Coptic Orthodox Churches continues, we hope and pray for an eventual reconciliation that will bring our two churches back into full communion with each other.

As the Coptic Orthodox Church began to take root in the United States, the Diocese of Southern United States was established in 1993, and the first Coptic Church in Arizona, St. Mark's, was built in Scottsdale. (To learn more about the history of the Coptic

Orthodox Church, please visit www.suscopts.org). Many of the founding members of St. Mary's were members of St. Mark's, and as more families moved into the west valley, the need for a new mission parish became apparent. St. Mary's is being served by Fr. Philemon Hanna, who is also serving St. Mark's and several other mission parishes in Arizona and New Mexico.

The members of St. Mary's Church are excited to be the new owners of this church site, just as we were back in 1988. It has been a blessing to watch this mutually beneficial purchase/sale agreement finally conclude. Until full communion is restored, we cannot participate in each other's sacraments; nonetheless, an open invitation is extended to join them in worship on Saturday mornings. May we all remember St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church in our prayers, that God continue to guide their progress and growth in the years ahead.

we hope and pray for an eventual reconciliation that will bring our two churches back into full communion with each other



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**

Rev. Michael Pallad

www.stharalambos.org

Sunday Worship

September - May
Matins: 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

June - August
Matins: 8:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 9:30 a.m.

Office

623-486-8665
10320 N. 84th Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345
Office@StHaralambos.phxcoxmail.com
FrMichael@StHaralambos.phxcoxmail.com

Hours

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

Parish Council

Ray Wysmierski, President
Mike Danielek, Vice-President
Mary Wysmierski, Secretary
Stella Pagos, Treasurer
Angie Cholas
Dave Fredericksen

Mary Manos
Peter Retsinas
Roberta Szklarski
Katherine Tally
Peter Tremoulis



Sold – Saint Haralambos Church

One year ago, on Saturday Jul. 5, 2008, a representative of St. Haralambos met with representatives of St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church and began the negotiation process for the sale of our blessed and dearly loved Church.

On Monday Jun. 22, 2009, St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church was formally sold to St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church. The deed was recorded in the County Recorder's Office completing the sales transaction.

We sold the Church for \$575,000 with a down payment of \$50,000. St. Haralambos is holding the mortgage and thus is the lender and 1st lien holder for St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church. We will begin receiving \$3,322 per month after we occupy our new Church. This monthly payment will continue for 20 years. St. Haralambos will receive a grand total of \$847,280 for the Church after the final payment is made. St. Mary's may accelerate the pay off of the mortgage by paying St. Haralambos \$798,800 cash.

Our legal counsel is a St. Haralambos steward who donated his services on behalf of our parishioners while drawing up the sales agreement and fixed rate note. We are in deep gratitude for his service and guidance during this vital process. He will be recognized during our groundbreaking weekend.

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco was required to verify that we

followed all rules, regulations and requirements as set forth in the 2007 Amended Rules & Regulations of the Archdiocese. The Metropolitan provided a letter of final approval for the sale.

The Pioneer Title Agency oversaw the sale: the document gathering, legal document reviews, deed & title searches, as well as the final sale and recording with Maricopa County and the State of Arizona.

One of the most important aspects of the sales agreement is that for the next 18 months, while we are building our new Church, we may use our current Church as we have done so for the past 21-1/2 years. No exceptions. We have a place to worship, celebrate, meet, and have fellowship and our Festival until we can occupy the new site.

WE now have 18 months, until Dec. 21, 2010, to build, commission and occupy our new Church at 75th Ave. & Greenway Road. If you have not taken our movement into the future seriously as of yet, please understand that we are pleading for your immediate Stewardship PLEDGE to our Capital Campaign. The immediacy and critical nature of raising \$888,000 is now extremely evident and WE NEED YOU - ALL OF YOU - NOW, not next month or next year – BUT NOW! PLEASE HELP ST. HARALAMBOS NOW – by making (or increasing) your pledge.

Coffee Hour

Thank You to Our Coffee Hour Hosts/Sponsors

July 5	Elaine Tsialafos, Laine Kinney
July 12	Argyro Vasquez, George & Ethel Nicholas
July 19	Zoe Dress, Angie Cholas, Judy Jolly
July 26	Available
Aug 2	Pam Lemons
Aug 9	Available
Aug 16	Available
Aug 23	Available
Aug 30	Available

Note: Due to publication printing deadlines, any modifications or changes to coffee hour listing will be noted in next month's newsletter.



Summer Schedule

For the hot summer months of June, July and August, we will be moving the Sunday service schedule ahead by half an hour. Please note that Matins will begin at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Regular schedule will resume in September.

Parishioner Profile



Ann Yacyshyn was born in Pennsylvania and moved with her family to Cleveland, Ohio during World War II where she met and married her husband, Steven.

Ann was a stay-at-home mom raising a son, Steven, Jr., now living in Chicago and a daughter, Sherry, living in Cleveland and has two grandchildren. Ann and her husband Steven stopped to visit friends in Youngtown Arizona, fell in love with the area, and after Steven retired they moved to Sun City.

When she first came to Arizona, Ann attended St. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Phoenix.

Ann has been a member of St. Haralambos since 1994, and has lived in Sun City for 30 years. She loves her Church and participates in the choir, Philoptochos, helps with the festival and has been taking care of the roses in front of the church.

Ann also loves dancing and when she first moved to Sun City she was a member of The Tip Top Tap Dancers Club. She likes to line dance, is an avid reader, and loves to quilt.

Ann is a wonderful addition to our church family and we appreciate all she does for our church.

Fund Raising Activities

\$10,000 Cash Raffle

The purchase of the raffle tickets has slowed significantly. Please read your ticket stub as to how the cash prizes will be distributed if less than 500 tickets are sold. Whatever the percentage of tickets sold will be the percentage of the cash won. If 350 tickets were sold, that would be 70% of each prize level to be distributed. Example of 70% pay out level: First prize \$7,000, Second prize \$2,100, Third prize \$1,400.

Holiday \$10,000 Cash Raffle

This fund raising campaign will begin on Monday, Sept. 21 with the winners to be drawn on Sunday Dec. 20.

Ground Breaking Ceremony & Celebration

Sept. 19 & 20 - \$10,000 Cash Raffle winners announced at the banquet on Sept. 19.

Letters for Gifts

August & September

Letter for Donations

August & September

Wine & Cheese Tasting

September

Orthodox Observer Donation Advertisement

November

Walk-A-Thon

November

Piggy Bank Building Fund Program

If you have any fund raising ideas, activities or questions please contact John Obren at jpobren2@cox.net or Mike Danielek at mdanielek1@cox.net or during our Coffee Hour in our Fellowship Hall after Divine Liturgy. Thank You.

Name Days

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

St. Teodosios of Argos (7th)
St. Laurentios (Laurence) (10th)
Repose of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th)
St. Stamatios (16th)
St. Theophanes (19th)
St. Irenaios (23rd)
St. Moses the Ethiopian (28th)

Birthdays



Dorothy Ayan (5th)
Olga Fredericksen (6th)
Helen Lape (7th)
Pres. Miriam Paraschou (9th)
Tom Langas (13th)
Aphrodite Devolites (14th)
Victoria Georgen (15th)
George Christie (16th)
Kristian A. Barbes (17th)
Fr. Michael Pallad (18th)
Anna Yacyshyn (22nd)
Greg Solomon (24th)
Evanthia Vardalos (25th)

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2009-10

Saint Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

(Please Print All Information)

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Grade in School This Year: _____ Grade in Sunday School: _____

Public or Private School Activities (Band, Athletics, Choir, etc.): _____

St. Haralambos Activities (Greek Dance, Altar Boy, etc.) _____

Medical Alert - Allergy Information (Food Allergies, etc.) _____

PARENT INFORMATION

Mother Name: _____ Phone: _____

Father Name: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Would you be willing to help our Sunday School this year?

Prepare Snacks: ☐Yes ☐No When Available: _____

Serve Snacks: ☐Yes ☐No When Available: _____

Teach: ☐Yes ☐No Grade Level: _____

Assistant Teacher: ☐Yes ☐No Grade Level: _____

Christmas Pageant: ☐Yes ☐No ☐Director ☐Costumes ☐Scenery ☐Props

Other: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sunday School

Registration for St. Haralambos Sunday School will begin during the month of August. Use the form on the previous page or you register after Divine Liturgy during coffee hour Aug. 2 through Sept. 6.

May the Blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ bring us together again for another successful year. We are excited and honored to have your children under our

care and we pray that we build an Orthodox Christian foundation that will hold all of us under our Lord's care.

For additional information or if you would like to volunteer as a teacher or teacher's assistant, please contact the Church office or you can email Mike Danielek at mdanielek1@cox.ne.

Greek Festival

By Pam Lemons & Stella Pagos,
Festival Chairmen

The 2009 Taste of Greece Festival (October 23, 24 and 25) is just around the corner. In the next month you will be hearing about the food preparation and baking schedule, flyer distribution, set-up, etc. Our volunteers are critical to a successful Festival. If you are able to help

in any way, please let us know.

Also, there is still space available in the Festival Ad Book for Boosters and Sponsors. Don't be left out - you can be a booster for only \$25. Just return the completed sponsor form (located on the next page) to the Church office by Sep. 4.

2009-10 Sunday School Calendar

Sept. 13 - Opening Day

Sept. 20 - Ground Breaking Ceremony (no school)

Oct. 25 - 'Taste of Greece' (no school)

Nov. 29 - Thanksgiving Weekend (no school)

Dec. 27 - Christmas (no school)

Jan. 3 - New Years (no school)

Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday (no school)

Apr. 4 - Pascha/Easter Sunday (no school)

May 23 - End of Year Ceremony (no school)

Treasurer's Report January to June 2009

ORDINARY INCOME

Stewardship	\$64,144
Candle and Tray Collection	10,337
Pascha	4,939
Christmas	285
Rental Property	2,850
Miscellaneous	873

OTHER INCOME

Investment Income	-8,787
Bookstore	258
Festival (2009)	1,853
Down Payment	50,000

SPECIFIED DONATIONS

Bldg Fund	33,909
Memorials	25
Choir	1,000
Misc	2,123
	\$163,809

EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	\$48,941
Diocese Assessments	8,300
Capital Improvements	500
Closing Costs	1,384
New Bldg Expense	94,653
Charity	1,930

OPERATING EXPENSE

Utilities	8,114
Facility Maintenance	5,200
Office	4,604
Audit	2,000
Candles	1,657
Bookstore	230
Holiday Expense	1,371
Insurance	2,243
Religious	737
Sunday School	278
Choir	1,625
Educational	189

\$183,956

NET INCOME - \$20,147

Assisted Living/Hospitalization

The following parishioners may not be able to be with us physically, but are still loved members of our parish, and we ask you to please remember them in prayer: Orin Davis, John and Mary Karavaras, Gus Macrides, and Helen Sigel.

ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2009 "TASTE OF GREECE" FOOD AND DANCE FESTIVAL

October 23, 24 & 25, 2009

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Company Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

FESTIVAL PROGRAM ADVERTISING

AD DEADLINE: September 4, 2009

Check One	Type	Cost	Benefit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full Page Ad	\$500	Ad size: 4 ½" w x 7 ½" h 4 admission tickets & recognition at event
<input type="checkbox"/>	Half Page Ad	\$300	Ad size: 4 ½" w x 3 ½" h 4 admission tickets
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Card Ad	\$100	2" x 3 ½" Standard size
<input type="checkbox"/>	Festival Booster	\$25	Name recognized in Festival Program

Please provide logo, ad or business card in .jpeg format or camera ready artwork.

Email artwork to: pamruss30@msn.com

	Other	Value	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Raffle prizes-gift card, donation, etc.	\$	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!

Please return completed form to:

Pam Lemons/Stella Pagos, Greek Festival Chairmen
St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
10320 N. 84th Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345

For tax purposes, St. Haralambos Federal Tax ID Number is: 86-0594146

AUGUST 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Beginning of the 14-Day Fast
2 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	3 7:00pm Office of Supplication	4	5 7:00pm Great Vespers	6 9:00am Divine Liturgy Transfiguration of Christ 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	7 7:00pm Office of Supplication	8
9 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	10 7:00pm Office of Supplication	11 7:00pm Parish Council	12 7:00pm Office of Supplication	13	14 7:00pm Great Vespers (Assumption Church, Scotsdale)	15 9:00am Divine Liturgy: Dormition of The Theotokos (Assumption Church, Scotsdale)
16 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	17	18	19	20 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	21	22
23 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	24	25	26	27 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	28	29
30 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	31					