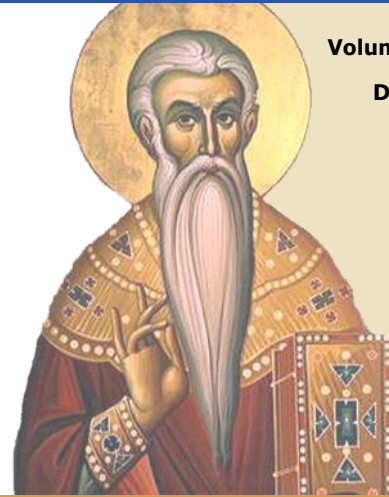


in Touch

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Christ is Born! Glorify Him!



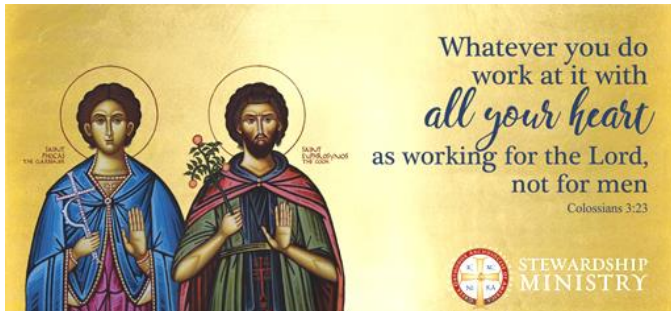
O Come, let us adore Him!



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

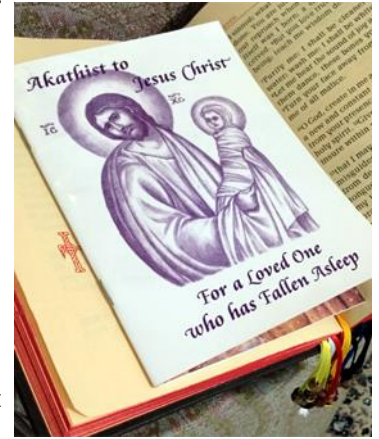
Stewardship Sunday

All parish families are reminded to complete the 2018 Stewardship brochures and return them to the Church either on Stewardship Sunday, Dec. 24, or before the end of the month. Please note any corrections or updates to the family data so our records remain current. A completed Stewardship brochure not only helps with parish administration and budgeting, but is a practical means of committing our time, talents and treasures in support of our Church, and as a means of spiritual growth as Christians.



A Quiet Gift

As we leave Thanksgiving season to enter the gift-giving Nativity season, it's an appropriate time to recognize and thank our Gathering of Prayer members. Their loving gift of spiritual charity for our parish family members who have fallen asleep in the Lord doesn't come with a price tag. Their gift of prayer is beyond price in the conventional sense (love is like that) generous, and offered at a critical time of transition for those passing from this life. This kind of loving care for our brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Haralambos is truly something to be grateful for. In spite of our crazy times and many activities, our prayer group members quietly stand in solidarity, ready to spiritually assist our newly departed with prayer during the 40 Day Memorial Akathist.



We still have a few open days for anyone interested in joining us by adopting one of the 40 days. Please contact Kay if you have questions about this ministry or would like to join us.

Parish Council Elections

Elections for the parish council are taking place on Sunday, Dec. 10, following the Divine Liturgy.



Christmas Food Drive

During the month of December, we will be collecting food for ten needy families served by the City of Peoria Community Action Agency. We can use everyone's help in donating ham, turkey, canned and boxed foods for a wonderful Christmas dinner. Volunteers are needed on Monday, Dec. 18 at 11 am to help sort food and prepare the family food boxes for pickup. Donation sign-ups are on Sundays during Coffee Hour.

Christmas Angel Tree

Our annual Christmas Angel tree will be set up this month in the Narthex. The angels on the tree will be used for gifts for needy families living in Peoria. Please consider taking an angel home and return it with your gift by Monday, Dec. 18. You may be helping someone you may never have met. This type of anonymous giving represents true giving, since your gift comes from the heart and cannot be repaid by the recipient. Will you be a Christmas angel this year?





Stewardship in the New Year

At last month’s General Assembly, the 2018 parish budget was presented and unanimously approved by parishioners. The budget, a financial roadmap for the new year, is not imposed on our parish from an outside source, but from our own parish families. The important difference should be obvious: all of us who accept St. Haralambos Church as our Church Home, need to accept the responsibility of meeting the budget we all approved.

The unanimous approval of the assembly gave the “Amen” for us to move into the new year with a tightened financial belt, while at the same time striving to expand our parish ministries. This two-fold approach goes to the very foundation of parish life: on the one hand being fiscally prudent so as not to place too heavy a financial burden on our parishioners, and on the other, to realize that even in uncertain financial times, the mission and ministry of the Church does not stop.

We realize that because the Church is both a divine and human institution, we do not work by or for ourselves, but under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our goal is not just to make sure we stay within the restrictions of a balanced budget, but to look with open eyes and hearts to the spiritual needs of our neighbor, which are not always satisfied by dollars and cents.

We are asking all parish families to continue to give from their hearts to the ongoing ministries of St. Haralambos Church through their Stewardship pledges. This giving is not compulsory, but must only come from the heart, willingly and cheerfully.


The Church never intends to tax its members and provide services in return. Quite the contrary, what the Church offers, though its regular schedule of worship and sacraments, education, fellowship and ministries, are benefits both priceless and intangible.

The support of time, talent and treasures of parishioners should be in grateful recognition of this, along with an awareness that everything we have in life comes from God’s love and mercy. If we cannot cheerfully return back to God, through our stewardship in the Church, a portion of His blessings, then we haven’t yet come to a mature understanding and appreciation of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

...along with an awareness that everything we have in life comes from God’s love and mercy.

Stewardship Sunday is Dec. 24. This is a day for each of us to happily offer not just a pledge card to help support the parish budget, but to acknowledge ourselves as God’s servants, working together with our God-given talents, abilities, cheerful attitudes and encouraging spirits to build up St. Haralambos Church, and glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A very merry Christmas to all, and a healthy and happy New Year!

 <p>St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church</p> <p>www.stharalambos.org</p> <p>Rev. Michael Pallad</p>	<p>Sunday Worship</p> <p>Matins: 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.</p>	<p>Office</p> <p>623-486-8665 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383 Office@StHaralambosAZ.com FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com</p> <p>Hours Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p>	<p>Parish Council</p> <p>Marina Finch Dennis Georgen Anna Kinniburgh</p> <p>Nardos Russom Solomon Woldesilassie</p>
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Festival Baking Schedule

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 9:00am Koulouria
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:00am Melomakarouna Paximadia
21	22	23	24 9:00am Karithopita	25	26 9:00am Tsourekia	27 9:00am Tsourekia
28	29	30	31			

Birthdays



- Stella Pagos (1)
- Olga Carlson (6)
- Ethel Nicholas (6)
- Kay Fulghum (9)
- Gabriel Gavrilidis (9)
- Thomas Bryson (14)
- Adrianna Micka (18)
- Jean Baxter (19)
- Maximus Gavrilidis (21)
- Christos Kotsobeis (25)
- Peter Retsinas (25)
- Milton Agelastos (27)
- John Hrapchak (29)
- Brianna Selles (29)

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.

FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 9:00am Kourabiedes
4	5 9:00am Baklava	6 9:00am Diples	7	8	9	10

Name Days

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| St. Myrope (2nd) | St. Modestos (16th) |
| St. Theodore of Alexandria (3rd) | St. Sebastian (18th) |
| St. Barbara (4th) | St. Juliane (21st) |
| St. Savvas (5th) | St. Anastasia (22nd) |
| St. Nicholas (6th) | St. Eugenia, Virgin and Martyr (24th) |
| St. Ambrose (7th) | Nativity of Christ (25th) |
| St. Daniel the Stylite (11th) | St. Simeon (28th) |
| St. Lucia (13th) | St. Melania (31st) |

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Stella Pagos, President

St. Anna's Philoptochos, Chapter 4052, met on Nov. 5 and the following commitments were discussed and voted on:

National

- General Medical Fund: \$25
- UNICEF, Emerg. Children's Fund: \$25

Metropolis

- St. Nicholas Ranch: \$150
- BAPSAEF: \$500
(Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund)

Local

- Fisher House for Veterans \$81
(Coffee Hour donations on Nov. 12)

The month of December is a joyful month of giving and sharing as we anticipate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is also the time we reach out to all of our faithful to consider joining our Philoptochos and help make a difference to those in need. Not only are you welcome to join us, you are needed. Please see any Philoptochos member for a membership form.

We will again be offering a special Memorial Service to be held at the end of Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 31 for remembering our loved ones who have

fallen asleep. Enter their names on the Dove form to be attached to the Dove Tree on display in the Sanctuary. Forms are available in the Social Hall. A nominal \$10 donation is appreciated.

Our extra-special December Deli/Bake Sale will be held two Sundays in a row, Dec. 10 and 17. We will be featuring Tsourekia and Kourabiedes for your Christmas enjoyment. 8" x 8" pans of frozen spanakopita ready to be baked in your oven are also available.

How You Can Help

- Become a Philoptochos member.
- Host a Sunday Coffee Hour. Please see Anna Kinneburgh to sign up.
- Make a free-will donation into the Coffee Hour donation basket.
- Shop at this month's Deli/Bake Sale, Sundays, Dec. 10 & 17
- Join us at our annual Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon.
- Link your Fry's card to the Fry's Community Rewards Program. (See or call Stella Pagos, 623-975-0027, for more information on how to participate.)

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 4 starting with a Christmas Pot Luck at 6 pm.



Community Christmas Card

We will again be providing parishioners the opportunity to send Christmas greetings with a beautiful full-color icon greeting card to all our parish families. For each family name, the cost is just \$10.

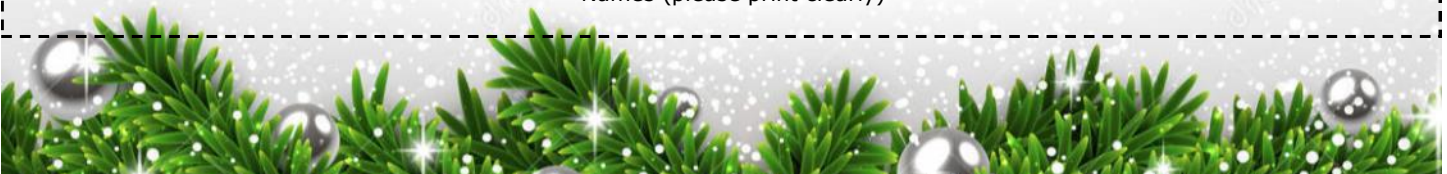
Please print your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on the card. You may mail this form to the church office or sign up on Sundays during the Coffee Hour. Please make checks payable to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church. **The deadline is Monday, Dec. 4, 2017.**

Please include my family's name in this year's Community Christmas Card.

Enclosed is my check for \$10.

(Please return to the church office)

Names (please print clearly)



DECEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	4 9:00am Divine Liturgy Sts. Barbara John of Damascus 6:30pm Philoptochos	5 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Parish Council Candidate Seminar	6 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Nicholas	7 7:00pm Choir	8	9 9:00am Divine Liturgy Conception of St. Anna 9:30am "Be the Bee" Youth Retreat
10 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Parish Council Elections	11	12 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Spyridon 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	13	14 7:00pm Choir	15	16
17 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Christmas Program	18	19 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	20	21 7:00pm Choir	22 9:00am Christmas Service The Royal Hours of Christmas	23
24 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Stewardship Sunday 5:00pm Christmas Eve Vespers	25 9:00am Divine Liturgy The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day	26	27	28 7:00pm Choir	29	30
31 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy New Year's Eve						