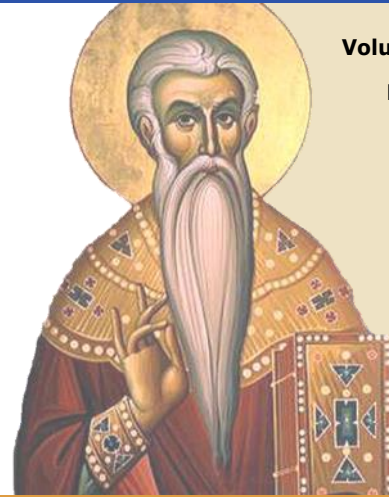


in Touch

Volume 26, Issue 2
February 2018



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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PEORIA GREEKFEST 2018 Food & Dance Festival

Fresh Authentic Greek Food and Pastries

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 9	February 10	February 11
5 pm to 10 pm	11 am to 10 pm	11 am to 6 pm

*Live Greek Music • Folk Dancing
Market Place • Children's Activities*



**NORTHWEST VALLEY
St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox Church**
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ
Just east of 83rd Ave. on Pinnacle Peak Rd.

**Admission: \$3.00
Children and Active Military: Free!**
For more information call 623-486-8665 or
visit our website at www.peoriagreekfest.com



**Peoria Greekfest
2-for-1
Admission**
CODE: STHFLYER



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

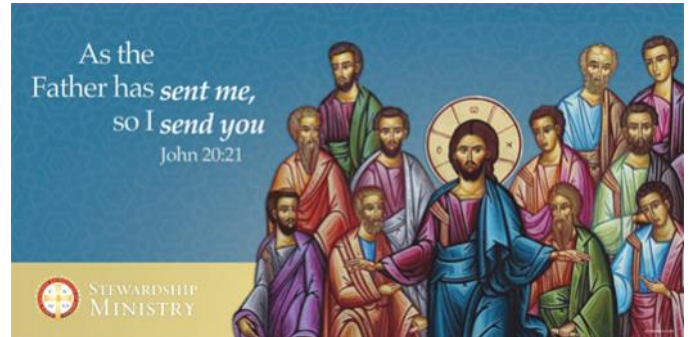
Stewardship

The goal for 2018 is to have all parish families become Good Stewards of Saint Haralambos Church. This means carefully completing the 2018 Stewardship brochure, making sure your family information is correct, making a financial pledge for the year, and becoming involved in parish ministries.

When we recognize that everything we have: health, wealth, time and talents, are all gifts from God, there should be no hesitation in using those gifts to build up His Church and to glorify His name. To exercise good stewardship is to use God's gifts in ways that glorify Him and build up His Church. This means using our gifts for the benefit of others, giving a portion of our time and treasure for the strengthening of the Church. When a person realizes his dependency on God's blessings, sharing them with others and through His Church is a very natural and joyful response.

Help us reach our goals; you can see the progress thermometer poster on the bulletin board in the Observation Area.

If needed, new/blank Stewardship brochures are available on Sundays.



Adult Education: Journey to Fullness

All are invited and welcome to attend the six Journey to Fullness classes on Tuesday evenings following the compline service at 7 pm. The video presentations and discussions will take place in the Fellowship Room.

The six topics are: God With Us; Our Ultimate Purpose; Salvation as Participation; Orthodox Worship; A Beautiful Rhythm; and The Journey Continues

2018 Lenten Retreat

Forgiveness: Transforming Wounds into Wisdom

Sponsored by St. Irene Philoptochos, Chandler, AZ



With Guest Speaker Cynthia Kostas

Cynthia Kostas leads retreats, seminars and workshops for audiences of varied beliefs on a wide range of topics pertaining to nurturing one's spirit and enhancing one's character. Her non-profit, Photophoros, has been announced by Metropolitan

Isaiah of Denver as a ministry of the Metropolis of Denver. Photophoros is committed to training and encouraging individuals to deepen their genuine connection to God by developing their

spirit and integrating their soul and body according to ancient Christian principals.

In this retreat we explore the meaning of forgiveness, what it is, what it is not. During breakout sessions, we will work through a process that will help us shift our view of ourselves, the offense, and the offender in a helpful and health-full manner.

- ✓ Saturday, February 17, 11 am to 4 pm
- ✓ St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
2716 N. Dobson Rd., Chandler 85224
- ✓ Free Event - Lunch Included

Register by contacting the church office via email: office@st-katherine.org or calling 480-899-3330.

Festival Baking Last 3 days! All help is welcome.

Saturday Feb. 3
9:00 am - Kourabiedes

Monday Feb. 5
9:00 am - Baklava

Tuesday Feb. 6
9:00 am - Diples



A Month of Fellowship, Prayer and Worship

At 113 years of age, Saint Haralambos fell asleep in the Lord. You might imagine that his last year was spent peacefully, but you would be wrong. In his final year on this earth, Saint Haralambos was put to the ultimate test, choosing to endure savage torture rather than deny his faith in Christ.

What type of people would torture a man at his age? What were his crimes? The pious saint only continued to preach, teach and baptize in the face of the ultimatum given him by the local authorities. Saint Haralambos was not persuaded in the least, and was attracting more attention in his village. Finally ordered beheaded, as the executioner was carrying out his orders, a voice was heard from heaven, "Well done my good and faithful servant; enter now into the joy of your Master." At that moment, the saint gave up his life without having been executed.

Praised in his festal hymn as "an unshakable pillar of the Church of Christ," Saint Haralambos is an example of how strong faith can give us courage to face anything in life.

This month we remember and celebrate the life of our patron saint. Vespers are celebrated on Friday, Feb. 9 at 3 pm, shortly before the opening of our festival at 5 pm. Saturday morning we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 9 am, shortly before the opening of our festival at 11 am. Sunday morning's Divine Liturgy is starting at 9 am, one hour earlier than normal, and shortly before the opening of our festival at 11am.

The following weekend we begin Great Lent and enter into a 7-week period of spiritual disciplines including fasting, works of charity, and prayer.

Certainly the month of February is a busy one for our parish. But with the combination of fellowship, prayer

and worship, this is the type of busyness that is appropriate for our church community.


Let's come together to work for a successful festival, remembering the celebration of our patron saint during the same weekend. Then let us switch gears to begin the period of Great Lent and challenge ourselves to reach greater spiritual heights through prayer, fasting and works of charity. What may seem impossible for you and I, is always possible with God's help.

We work together for a successful festival, and we should also work together during Lent. How? By attending the weeknight Lenten services (see the calendar for dates and times). It is encouraging to worship together with our church family just as we work together in festival booths. Your presence in church services is uplifting to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The bonds of fellowship we form at the festival are strengthened by praying together. If you're not sure, I challenge you to give it a try. But make an honest effort for the seven weeks of Lent, and you will see the results.

Our patron saint Haralambos would challenge us today if he were here. And since none of us has reached the age of 113, we really have no good excuse not to push ourselves to increase our faith and love of God. Let's not allow spiritual laziness become our excuse, and let us instead remember and imitate the incredible example of Saint Haralambos, the beloved patron saint of our parish.

What may seem impossible for you and I, is always possible with God's help.



**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

Vaughn Bachanos	Paul McGinn
Olga Carlson	Nardos Russom
Anna Kinniburgh	Solomon Woldesilassie

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Stella Pagos, President

St. Anna's Philoptochos, Chapter 4052, met on Monday, Jan. 8 and the following commitments were discussed and voted on:

National

- Autism Assistance Fund \$100
- St. Photios Shrine \$25

Our Annual Vasilopita Auction was a big success raising \$320 for the benefit of St. Basil's Academy. Thank you to all who participated. "Kai tou Chronou me egia", (May we do it again next year with health).

The Easter Lenten season is fast approaching and we will again be hosting Lenten Suppers after the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to volunteer to host one of the suppers listed below, please call me or see me during the Sunday Coffee Hour.

- Wed. Feb. 21: Anna Kinniburgh and Thalia Christian
- Wed. Feb. 28: Charlotte Servetas and Valla Wrona

- Wed. Mar. 7: Estelle Zaruba and Mary -Elaine McGinn
- Wed. Mar. 14: Available
- Wed. Mar. 21: Available
- Wed. Mar. 28: Available

How You Can Help

- Become a Philoptochos member. Please see Stella or Reni for a form.
- Host a Sunday Coffee Hour. Please see Anna Kinniburgh to sign up.
- Make a free-will donation into the Coffee Hour donation basket.
- Shop at the Deli/Bake Sales.
- Join us at our annual Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon, Apr. 1
- 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 Sunday, Mar. 4 at 12:00 pm.

Birthdays



Christina Harris (1)
 Romulus Stoia (1)
 Kalliope Chafoulis (4)
 Koula Ratliff (5)
 Erini Braddock (11)
 Peter Vardalos (11)
 David Solomon (13)
 Chris Birtsas (14)
 Martha Tsakiris (14)
 Emil Sprintz (17)
 Dennis Georgen (24)
 Nayeli Gheorghe (24)
 Solomon Tesfay (24)
 Speros Zakas (24)
 Timothy Harvey (25)
 Mary Manos (26)
 Stephanie Baxter (28)

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 Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts/sponsors.

January

7: Alvin & Jeanette Hollander
 14: Philoptochos
 21: Ted & Donna Manos
 28: Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Bastell

February

4: Genet Tesfay, Almaz Asfaha, Fiori Desta
 11: FESTIVAL
 18: Available
 25: Available

March

4: Available
 11: Available
 18: Available
 25: Available



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

Festival Volunteers

Calling of all volunteers to help make the 2018 Peoria Greekfest a huge success. We are again partnering with the City of Peoria. We are again using SignUp.com to help organize all the volunteers needed at the festival. Please follow these simple steps to let us know your availability to make our festival a success.

1. Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/PtKqBYu>
2. Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
3. Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Memory Eternal

God grant everlasting rest to the soul of His servant, James Kapolas, who fell asleep in the Lord on Jan. 13. Funeral services were held at St. Haralambos Church on Jan. 18 and the interment at City of Mesa Cemetery. May our Lord Jesus Christ grant comfort to his family during their time of sorrow, and may his memory be eternal.

2018 Greek Festival: February 9, 10, & 11
VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

I am available to work the following booths:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admission | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Imports/Deli | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cream |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bookstore | <input type="checkbox"/> Loukoumades | <input type="checkbox"/> Main Food Line | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pastries | <input type="checkbox"/> Runner/Floater | <input type="checkbox"/> Saganaki & Kalamari | <input type="checkbox"/> Taverna |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Fries | <input type="checkbox"/> Office/Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen & Food Prep | |

I am available to work the following shifts:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Friday</u> | <u>Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5pm to 10pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 11am to 4pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 11am to 3pm |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 4pm to 10pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 3pm to 6pm |

I am available to help with the following Pre-Festival and Post-Festival needs:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Booth Setup (week before) | <input type="checkbox"/> Booth Teardown | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Pastry Preparation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flyer/Signage Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion & Advertising | |

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Your assignment will be confirmed via email from volunteer spot.
If you cannot fulfill your assignment please call the Church office: 623-486-8665.

Please return this form to the church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

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FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 9:00am Divine Liturgy Presentation of the Lord in the Temple	3
				7:00pm Choir		
4 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	5 6:30pm Philoptochos	6 10:00am Bible Study	7	8	9 3:00pm Great Vespers St. Haralambos 5:00pm Peoria Greek Fest	10 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Haralambos 1st Saturday of Souls 11:00am Peoria Greek Fest
				7:00pm Choir		
11 7:45am Matins 9:00am Divine Liturgy Meatfare Sunday 11:00am Peoria Greek Fest	12	13 10:00am Bible Study	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 9:00am Divine Liturgy 2nd Saturday of Souls
				7:00pm Choir		
18 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Cheesefare Sunday 6:00pm Vespers of Forgiveness	19 Presidents' Day (Church office closed) Great Lent Begins	20 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	21 6:00pm Divine Liturgy Pre-Sanctified Gifts (Lenten dinner following)	22	23 7:00pm Akathist Hymn (1st Stanza)	24 9:00am Divine Liturgy Ordination of Jacob Saylor (Assumption Church, Scottsdale)
				7:00pm Choir		
25 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy: Sunday of Orthodoxy First Sunday of Lent 6:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers (Assumption Church)	26	27 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	28 6:00pm Divine Liturgy Pre-Sanctified Gifts (Lenten dinner following)			