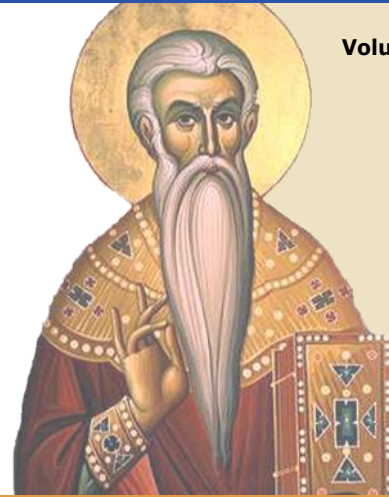


in Touch

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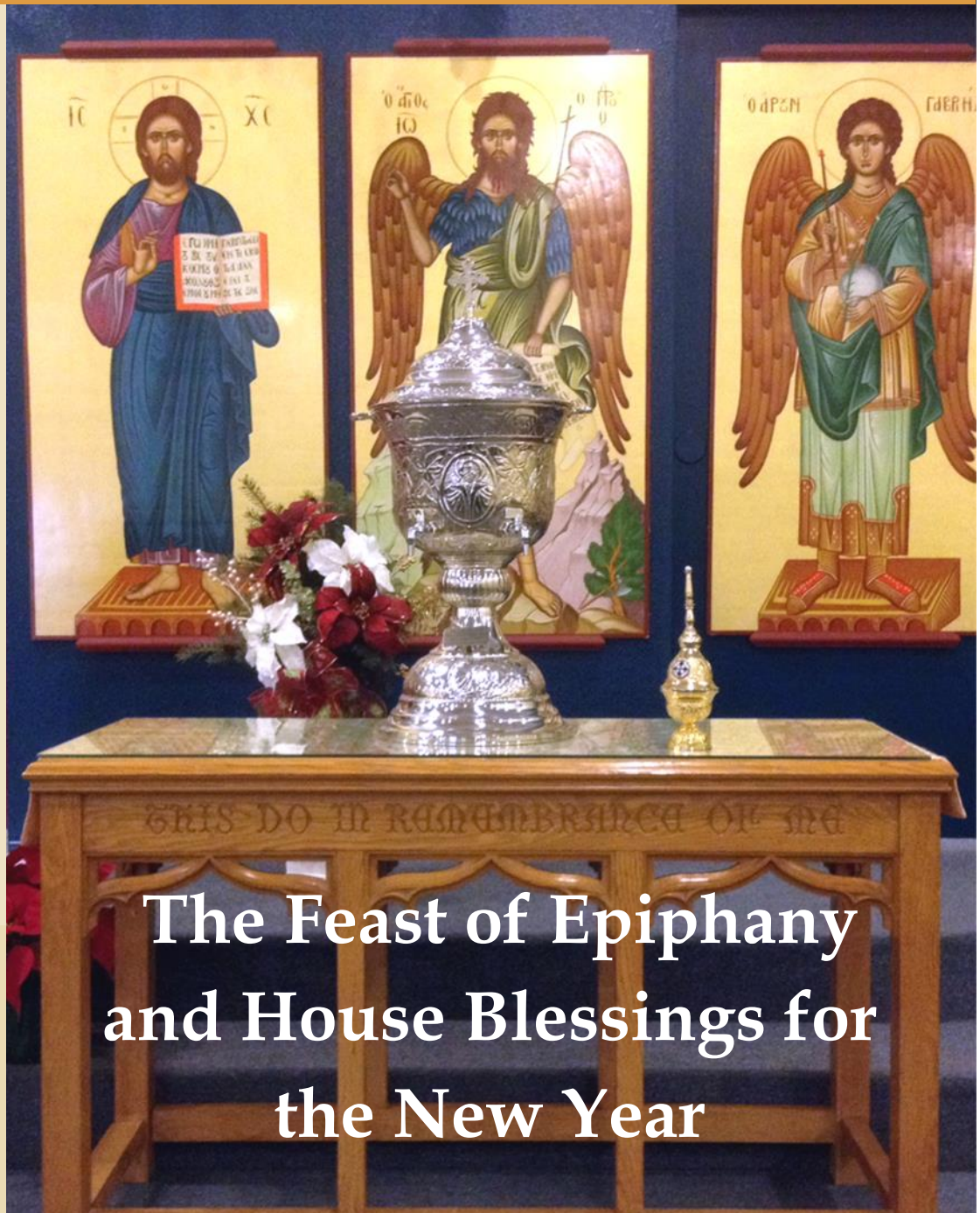
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**The Feast of Epiphany
and House Blessings for
the New Year**

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

Mortgage Burning Dinner

If you have not yet purchased your ticket for our Mortgage Burning banquet, please call the church office at 623-486-8665 by Monday, Jan. 6 for reservations.

We will be welcoming His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos who will be joining us for the banquet and Divine Liturgy the following morning.



A wonderful feast is being prepared by John Mitchell Catering as well as music provided by DJ Tony Bafaloukas, for the celebration of this milestone in our parish history.

Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$20 for children under 17, and free for children under 5, and may be purchased on Sundays during Coffee Hour.

Parish Council Election Results

Congratulations to the following parishioners who have been elected to serve on the Parish Council beginning this month: Angie Cholas, Roy Christian, Anna Kinniburgh and George Semancik.

They will be joining Phillip Bell, John Hrapchak, Ted Manos, Dean Milonas, Ken Wrona and Valla Wrona.

We thank the following Parish Council members whose terms of service finished last month: Paul McGinn, Olga Carlson.

May our Lord bless and guide our Parish Council to administer our Church community with love, respect, humility and patience.

Parish Council News

Members: Phillip Bell, Olga Carlson, Roy Christian, John Hrapchak, Anna Kinniburgh, Ted Manos, Paul McGinnis, Dean Milonas, George Semancik, Ken Wrona, and Valla Wrona

The festival is rapidly approaching. We need to have a coordination of the volunteers. Please contact the church

office if you are able to help with setting up volunteers for the festival or if you are able to help in some other way. If you are a booth chairman, please advise if you have all the volunteers you need.

The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14 at 6:30 pm.

Christmas Angel Tree

This year three City of Peoria vehicles were needed to transport all the food boxes and gifts from the Christmas Angel tree! Thank you to all whose donations of food and

gifts made the Christmas holiday much more enjoyable for the 10 needy families we supported this year.

Young Adult League

The Young Adult League met last month for an evening of Gingerbread House making! This month the group is going hiking at Thunderbird Park Trailhead on Saturday, Jan. 18. For more information, please contact James Seletos at JSeletos09@gmail.com or Alexandra Pallad at apallad@asu.edu.





New Year's Blessings

This month begins a new year and a new decade: 2020! We're beginning the new year with a wonderful celebration on Saturday, Jan. 11, having reached the enviable milestone of retiring our church building mortgage. We will welcome back His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, who will be our guest at the banquet, and will be celebrating Divine Liturgy with us on Sunday, Jan. 12.

This banquet comes just days after celebrating the feast of Epiphany, the baptism of our Lord, Jesus Christ, on Jan. 6. The feastday hymn reminds us of what took place on that day: "As You were baptized in Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father gave added witness, naming You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of that word. O Christ, who revealed Yourself as God, and brought light to the world, glory to You."

The rest of the month of January is a unique time in the life of Orthodox Christian parishes, specifically with the blessing of houses. Holy Water is blessed during services on Sunday evening, Jan. 5, as well as at the morning liturgy on Monday, Jan. 6. We use the beautiful Holy Water font (see the front cover) for this service, from which the priest fills the ratistiri (Holy Water sprinkler) for house blessings.

Holy Water is brought by the priest to the homes of parishioners and, in a special service, is sprinkled throughout the house offering the Epiphany blessing for the New Year. Every family

can request a house blessing by completing the form found in this month's newsletter, and returning it to the church office.

This is a blessing for the entire family, so parents should try to find a time when children are home, and no other activities are taking place in the house. The significance of the house blessing, in addition to offering prayers for a holy and healthy start to the new year, makes a direct connection with the feastday of Epiphany.

Jesus was baptized with water in the Jordan river; the prayers at the Great Blessing of the Waters service ask for our Lord to bless the prepared water for the health of soul and body, and for the sanctification of homes.

Holy Water is a sacred union of a fundamental element of human life (water) together with the invisible grace of the Creator of all life. This is the great blessing of Epiphany, our Lord's baptism.

It is a joyful and sacred celebration, and provides a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to start the new year by having their homes blessed with Holy Water. Don't be bashful or mistakenly think it's an imposition; this is truly one of the joys of being a priest!

May 2020 be filled with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

*This is the great
blessing of Epiphany,
our Lord's baptism.*



**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

Philip Bell
Olga Carlson
Roy Christian
John Hrapchak
Anna Kinniburgh
Ted Manos

Paul McGinn
Dean Milonas
George Semancik
Ken Wrona
Valla Wrona

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Reni Milonas, President

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor. 9:7

St. Anna's Philoptochos met on Dec. 1 and the following commitments were discussed and approved - NATIONAL: UNICEF \$25 & General Medical Fund \$25, METROPOLIS: St. Nicholas Ranch \$150 & BAPSAEF \$500, LOCAL: Community Christmas Card \$10 & Adopted Seminarian, Jason Bowen \$100.

Philoptochos Membership is due in January. If you need a form please see Anna Kinniburgh or Stella Pagos.

Our annual Christmas party was a success! We had a wonderful turn out with plenty of food and Christmas gifts for the gift exchange. Special thanks to Paul McGinn and his ukulele for playing and singing Christmas carols and his Paul's solo rendition of, "Mary Did You Know?"

On Saturday, Jan. 25, the Arizona Philoptochos Chapters will host our Twelfth Annual Agape Ball, a fundraising event for Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape. The event will be held at 6:30 pm in the Holy Trinity Cathedral Community Hall, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue in Phoenix. This event is open to everyone and we are hoping to have at least 300 people attend. It is our main source of fundraising for Camp Agape Arizona. We are seeking

sponsorship from our local businesses and friends to help support this wonderful ministry. We are also seeking donations of gift items for our silent auction and raffle. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$25 for children. To make reservations or to make a donation, please contact Reni Milonas at 602-548-9900 or rmilonas@cox.net.

Vasilopita Sunday is Jan. 12. Everyone is encouraged to bring some vasilopita to be sold at our silent auction. Proceeds benefit Saint Basil Academy.

Our next meeting is Sunday, Jan. 5 at 12 pm.

Our scheduled commitments for various charities for the year 2019-2020 total \$4,728. This is why your continued support is so vital to help us achieve our goals.

How you can help

- Become a Philoptochos member.
- Host a Sunday Coffee Hour.
- 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.
- Link your Fry's card to the Fry's Community Rewards Program.
(Enter the St. Haralambos Church Account #VJ497 when enrolling.)



JANUARY 2020 - FESTIVAL BAKING

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

FEBRUARY 2020 - FESTIVAL BAKING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:30am Spanakopites
2	3 8:30am Baklava	4	5	6	7 OPA	8 OPA

Name Days

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

St. Basil (Vasilios) (1st)	St. Mark of Ephesos (19th)
St. Malachi (3rd)	St. Euthymios (20th)
Epiphany (6th)	St. Timothy (22nd)
St. Gregory (10th)	St. Xenia (24th)
St. Tatiani (12th)	St. Gregory the Theologian (25th)
St. Anthony (17th)	St. Ephraim (28th)
St. Athanasios (18th)	

Birthdays



Suad Bastell (1)
 Christine Hollander (2)
 Sharon Magnani (3)
 Ruth Panousopoulos (5)
 John Papakalos (7)
 Lauren Retsinas (10)
 Judy Farr (12)
 Antonios Papamatheakis (13)
 Philemon Russom (13)
 Elaine Giannias (14)
 Naomi Solomon (21)
 Andrea Pagos (22)
 Dimitrios Theoharatos (22)
 Lynnmarie Hadaway (24)
 Irina Budziszewski (25)
 Zachary Bingham (26)
 Maria Macrides (26)
 Scott Farr (27)
 Ocbai Tesfay (27)
 Catherine Baxter (28)
 Michael Danielek (29)
 Frosene Bravos (31)
 Reni Milonas (31)
 George Semancik (31)

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.

House Blessings

Start the New Year with a special family event, according to the traditions of the Holy Orthodox Church, asking God's blessings for your home and your family!

Please complete the form below to indicate your preferred date and schedule your house blessing. Mail the form to the church office, or bring it with you to church on Sunday. You will be contacted by our secretary to confirm your day and time.



House Blessing Request Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE

Zone 1: North of Bell Road and West of 99th Ave./Lake Pleasant Pkwy

_____ Wednesday, January 8 _____ Wednesday, January 15
_____ Saturday, January 25

Zone 2: North of bell Road and East of 99th Ave./Lake Pleasant Pkwy

_____ Thursday, January 9 _____ Thursday, January 16
_____ Wednesday, January 22

Zone 3: South of Bell Road and West of 99th Ave./Lake Pleasant Pkwy

_____ Monday, January 13 _____ Sunday, January 19
_____ Thursday, January 23

Zone 4: South of Bell Road and East of 99th Ave./Lake Pleasant Pkwy

_____ Tuesday, January 14 _____ Tuesday, January 21
_____ Monday, January 27



SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383 • Tel.: (623) 486-8665 • Fax: (623) 486-5290
Web: www.stharalambos.org • E-mail: Office@StHaralambosAZ.com • FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

October, 2019

Dear Friends,

The 2020 Peoria Greekfest will be held February 7, 8 & 9, 2020 at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church located at 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road. We are currently seeking sponsors/donors for the event and have included a sponsorship form for your consideration. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce and promote your business.

Celebrating 32 years, the Peoria Greekfest is the only Greek Festival in the greater west/northwest valley and thousands of residents and visitors attend each year. Check out www.peoriagreekfest.com for a peek at what the Festival has to offer.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call 623-486-8665 or contact peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

We hope that you will join us at the 2020 Peoria Greekfest for a spectacular weekend of homemade Greek cuisine, pastries, live entertainment and fun for all ages. OPA!

ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Peoria Greek Festival - February 7, 8, 9, 2020

SPONSORSHIP/DONATION FORM

Company/Individual Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____

PLEASE INDICATE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

Check One	Type	Amount	Benefit
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLYMPIAN	\$1,000	Business card or logo recognition in event program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATHENIAN	\$500	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARTAN	\$100	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	DONOR	\$50	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER DONATION (gift card, etc.)	\$ _____	Name recognized in event Program

***Please provide logo or business card in digital format to:
peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com***

Deadline for inclusion in the event program is January 3, 2020

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!

Please return completed form to:

Attn: Peoria Greekfest

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Peoria, AZ 85383

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

JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Basil the Great New Years Day (office closed)	2	3 1:00pm The Royal Hours of Theophany	4
5 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Forefeast of Theophany 11:00am Blessing of the Waters 12:00pm Philoptochos Meeting 5:00pm Vespers of Theophany	6 9:00am Divine Liturgy Theophany 10:00am Blessing of the Waters 12:00pm Blessing of Tempe Town Lake	7 9:00am Divine Liturgy Synaxis of John the Baptist 10:00am Bible Study	8	9	10	11 5:00pm Mortgage Burning Banquet
12 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Vasilopita Sunday	13	14 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Parish Council	15	16	17 10:00am Divine Liturgy Saint Anthony the Great	18
19 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	20	21 10:00am Bible Study	22	23	24	25 10:00am Divine Liturgy Gregory the Theologian
26 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	27	28 10:00am Bible Study	29	30 10:00am Divine Liturgy Three Great Hierarchs	31	