

# *in* Touch

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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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*Our Father  
Who Art in Heaven...*



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

# Sunday eBulletin

Have you been getting the weekly Sunday bulletin sent to your mailbox? If not, just send the church your email address and we'll be happy to add you to the list.

Especially helpful when travelling or sick and homebound, the eBulletin gives you the hymns and readings for the Sunday liturgy, as well as a listing of any parish events and activities during the week. It's another way to help improve communication among our parish family.

Do you know a family member or friend who would enjoy receiving the Sunday eBulletin? Let them know it is available each week and we'd be happy to include them on our weekly mailing.

The Church office email address is [Office@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com).



## ST. HARALAMBOS CHURCH

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd.

Peoria, AZ 85383

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Pallad

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[FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com)

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## GOSPEL AND EPISTLE READINGS

### Epistle Reading:

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

[...Read Full Text >](#)

### Gospel Reading:

John 7:37-52; 8:12

Holy Pentecost

[...Read Full Text >](#)

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST

### Thirsting for God

Fr. Michael Pallad, June 23, 2013

In today's reading from Chapter 7 of the Gospel of St. John, Jesus makes an interesting [...Read Full Text >](#)

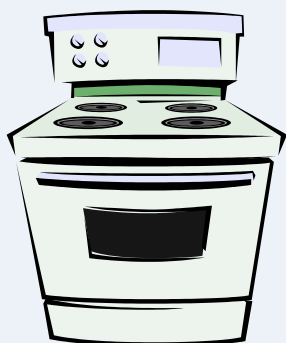
## APOLYTIKION AND KONTAKION HYMNS

### Apolytikion for Holy Pentecost

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fishermen all-wise, sending upon them the Holy Spirit and, through them, netting the world. O Loving One, glory to You. - copyright Narthex Press and used by permission. All rights reserved.

### Kontakion

When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men (Babel), He divided the Nations. When He dispensed the Tongues of Fire, He called all to unity, and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit. - copyright Narthex Press and used by permission. All rights reserved.



## Equipment Needed

### The church needs a new range.

The range in the kitchen is no longer operational and needs to be replaced. If you (or someone you know) are able to donate an electric smooth-top/glass-top range, please contact the church office. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!



## Praying from the Heart

Read the words of our Lord, Jesus Christ, concerning prayer:

“And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.” (Matthew 6:5-7)

Doesn't it seem strange that when our Lord gives instructions on prayer, the majority of them are cautions on how not to pray? Then again, if everyone were praying as they should, no instructions would have been necessary. His teachings were necessary in his day and age, and they are just as necessary today in ours.

His teachings on prayer center around sincerity and solitude. It's best to find a quiet place, without any interruptions; alone time to

decompress after a long day, or quiet time before the day gets going. How to begin? Sometimes words are not necessary, but He did give us a wonderful prayer we can (and should) become familiar with. The Lord's Prayer is a good way to begin prayer time.

The caution would be to watch that we don't rush through it, saying the words, but thinking about other things. This goes to the other teaching: sincerity. Prayer to God really needs to come from our heart, a heart-felt prayer. We will never say anything that God needs to hear, but a heart-felt prayer is something that we need to say; and when said in faith, can give us a most calming sensation, one that gives us confidence in God's presence.

There is no shortage of available prayers in the Orthodox Christian tradition. Reading and memorizing them can be a great help with personal prayer time. Here is a prayer from Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow that is appropriate for the beginning of the day.

“Lord, grant me to greet the coming day in peace. Help me in

all things to rely upon Your holy will. In every hour of the day, reveal Your will to me. Bless my dealings with all who surround me. Teach me to treat all that come to me throughout the day with peace of soul and with firm conviction that Your will governs all. In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all things are under your care. Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others. Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day and all that it shall bring. Direct my will, teach me to pray, pray Yourself in me. Amen.” (Prayer of Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow)

Whenever making the time for prayer, remember the Lord's teachings found in the above passage from Chapter 6 of St. Matthew's gospel: solitude and sincerity. See how they help strengthen your faith and personal relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

*In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all things are under your care.*



**St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox  
Church**

[www.stharalambos.org](http://www.stharalambos.org)

**Rev. Michael Pallad**

### Sunday Worship

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

### Office

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7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383  
[Office@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com)  
[FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com)  
  
Hours  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

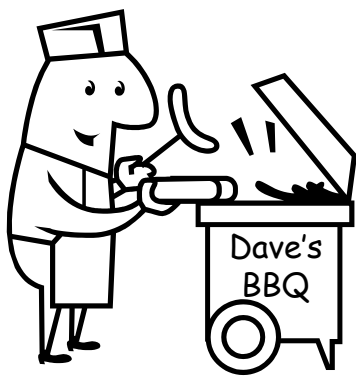
### Parish Council

Roy Christian  
David Durgam  
Dennis Georgen  
Timothy Harvey  
Dean Milonas  
Russel Skocypec

Tony Panousopoulos  
Peter Vardalos  
Dorothy Vordos  
Lee Vordos  
Ken Wrona  
Russell Zook

## Father's Day BBQ

Thanks to Dave Durgam for his awesome hotdog-barbecuing skills at the Father's Day BBQ last month, and to the rest of our Parish Council for hosting this event. Congratulations to the winning Bingo players: Irene Nathanson, Dennis Georgen and Mary-Elaine McGinn who each won a gift card to Rita's (Ice, Custard, Happiness)!



## NPR and the Good News

By Dennis Georgen, Parish Council President

This past week, my favorite radio station, KJZZ (NPR) held another membership drive. If you are a listener like me, you know how annoying these can be. Whenever they have a membership drive I often wonder why anyone would want to pay for something that they can get for free. All you have to do to get it is to tune your radio to 91.5 on the dial, and there it is, for free. So why should I, or anyone, give?

I have been a member for a number of years and, during their last drive, chose to become a "sustaining member" and contribute monthly. Why? Because I believe that NPR is about the only source of un-biased news reporting available to us and I value and appreciate getting the news straight. They also offer interesting programming such as Morning Edition and All Things Considered. It's a product that I am happy to support, willingly.

Back to the membership drive; NPR is listener supported. If I, and many others like me, didn't believe in the value proposition that NPR offers, I would not choose to be a member. And if NPR didn't have members willing to give, they would not be able to offer the news and information they do. It wouldn't exist. The membership drive is what sustains them and is what we must endure in exchange for not having to listen to commercials.

The Church is a membership organization that we the faithful choose to belong to. And just as with member radio, churches have to offer outstanding programming. They have to offer something that people want, that they want to be a part of, and that they want to contribute to, willingly. We choose to

attend St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church because we believe that we are getting something of value that does not exist elsewhere; The Good News, unfiltered and unchanged. And we appreciate the unbiased reporting we are getting from our news editor and bureau chief, Fr. Michael.

Just as with member radio, we could choose to tune in and get the Good News for free. There is nothing that prevents anyone from driving to 7950 W Pinnacle Peak on Sunday morning and dropping in; there is no admission fee charged. In fact, we would welcome them! But, if we, you and I, appreciate the Good News, the information and insights we are getting when we come to Church on Sunday, we need to support it because just like member radio, if we don't support it financially, it may not be there. NPR calls members who give regularly "sustaining members." In the Church, we call them Stewards.

Yes, we do have other options; more fundraisers and events like our festival. While the Festival can be a worthy event, if the primary reason that we are doing it is simply to provide for the financial support of our Parish, it becomes a three day long commercial. And it gets in the way of the Good News.

The KJZZ membership drive this past week focused primarily on gaining new members, listeners who haven't contributed. Perhaps we might borrow a page from NPR's script and focus on building our base of Stewards. As annoying as KJZZ's membership drive can be, it works! For the Church to be sustained, it also needs to gain new Stewards, sustaining members, people who seek to hear the Good News.

## Parking Lot – Russ Skocypec Challenge

We have received new bids for the work to re-seal our parking area. Not surprisingly, they came in a bit higher than we expected. To date we have also raised \$4,400 towards the cost of the work. That leaves us about \$1,600 short of the amount needed.

Russ Skocypec has offered up a challenge match. Russ will match all contributions designated towards the parking lot received during the month of July, up to \$800, so that the work can be completed. Let's not disappoint Russ. We need you to help meet his challenge!

## Greek Festival

By Pam Lemons, Festival Chairman

Do you have experience with social media, Facebook, Twitter, etc? The Festival Committee could use your assistance in promoting the Taste of Greece. Volunteers are needed in many areas. If you would like to help in some way, please contact the church office.

Also, we are still in need of corporate sponsors/advertisers to offset Festival expenses. The sponsor letter and form are once again included in the newsletter. Please try to secure at least one sponsor. Additional forms are available in the church office.

***Don't forget to like us on Facebook at Peoria Greekfest-Taste of Greece.***



## Sunday School

By Martha Stithem, Sunday School Director & Teacher

For the 2012-2013 academic year, our Sunday School Ministry was blessed to have a dedicated group of volunteer teachers and snack providers, some of whom have given of their time, talent, and treasure consistently for the past several years. It's been a blessing to be able to count on these volunteers each Sunday. However, the Sunday School Ministry really needs the participation of other parents and members of our Parish family, too. We need to have a reliable pool of teachers and substitutes to cover each Sunday School class every week.

In a recent June sermon, Father Michael talked about how our Parish changes each year as people come and go. Such changes also affect volunteer participation in the Sunday School Ministry. Another issue Father Michael

discussed was the fact that having the same volunteers performing the same job year after year can cause burnout. Recently, the core volunteer teacher group has dwindled and we don't want to risk burning out those still remaining.

Although the 2013-2014 liturgical and academic year starts in September, I ask now in July that more of our Parish family members start thinking about how they can share their Time, Talent, and Treasure as teachers, substitutes, snack volunteers, and Christmas Pageant coordinators. For anyone who has an interest in teaching, but can't commit to every Sunday, that's okay. Let me know of your interest and we can work out a schedule that works for you. Becoming part of a teacher pool has worked nicely in recent years. I especially hope that new members will think about joining the Sunday School Ministry and share their God given talents.

## Name Days

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

St. Kyriaki (7th)  
 SS. Cyril and Methodios (7th)  
 St. Euphemia (11th)  
 St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain (14th)  
 St. Macrina (Sister of St. Basil) (19th)  
 St. Mary Magdalene (22nd)  
 St. Paraskevi (26th)  
 St. Panteleimon (The All-Merciful) (27th)  
 St. Irene (Chrysovalantou) (28th)  
 St. Joseph of Arimathea (31st)

# ORGANIZATIONS

## Birthdays



Marius Pagos (3)  
Christine Gero (5)  
Alexandros Papamatheakis (6)  
Stravros Theoharatos (7)  
Cathy Kapetanakis (8)  
Alexander King (11)  
Lisa Theoharatos (11)  
Peter Michas (14)  
Alaina Perreault (14)  
Marc Cooper (18)  
Pam Solomon (18)  
George Trakas (18)  
Sophia Rodriguez (19)  
Laine Kinney (20)  
Ioannis Papamatheakis (23)  
Jeannette Hollander (25)  
Elaine Yaghooti (26)  
Desiree Milonas (27)  
Raluca Sofronie (27)  
Sharon Bolas (29)  
Magda Gryparis (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.

## St. Christopher's Bookstore

### Holy Joy: The Heartbeat of Faith

by author Anthony M. Coniaris

If drudgery and despair surround you and you yearn for more joy in your life then this book is for you. It will remind you of the joys of Christianity and change your focus.

Too often we become mired in the tragedies of the news and the suffering in our world. Although this makes us compassionate to people's pain it can also lead to pessimism and depression if we don't remember that "God created us for joy not for sorrow."

What is joy? Coniaris writes that "joy is the echo of God's life in us...it is not the product of mood but of one's personal relationship with the Lord Jesus." Mother Theresa defines joy as prayer, strength, and love. The author quotes a famous writer who was attracted to Christians as he saw "their joy, their certainty and their completeness." And of course Christianity's greatest joy is Christ's amazing resurrection, transformation of death, and promise of eternal life.

"But somehow Christianity has become synonymous with joylessness...and many

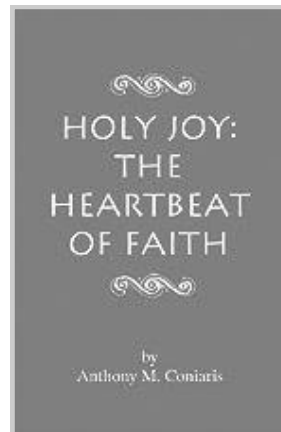
consider it a religion of gloom." Famous writer, Sheldon Vanauken writes that "the strongest argument against Christianity is Christians—when they are somber and joyless, when they are self-righteous and smug...when they are narrow and repressive, then Christianity dies a

thousand deaths." For some the fasting and repentance that coincides with Lent creates joylessness but St. John Climacus calls this time a "joy-creating sorrow." Other Saints are also quoted from the Bible as are scholars, writers, theologians, and philosophers on the subject of gladness.

The author even writes of things we often wonder about but never verbalize such as

"does God smile; does God have a sense of humor; was Jesus a man of sorrow, does God laugh?"

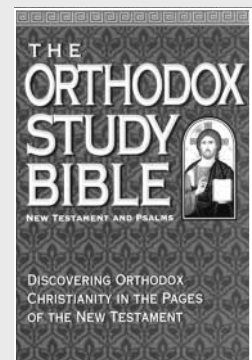
Easy to read and uplifting, Holy Joy will rejuvenate your spirit and convince you to feel the love of our faith through a "joyful heart and a smiling face....resting back in the amazing fact that Jesus died for us and rose from the dead [so] we can have His joy all the days of our life."



## Orthodox Study Group

Every Thursday at 7 pm, in the Church conference room, we are having contemporary discussions about our religion. Currently we are reviewing the Gospel of St. Luke.

All are invited and encouraged to attend.





## SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Web: [www.stharalambos.org](http://www.stharalambos.org) • E-mail: [Office@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com) • [FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com)

Spring, 2013

Dear Friends,

The planning has begun for the 2013 “Taste of Greece” Food and Dance Festival at St. Haralambos Church in northwest Peoria. Celebrating 26 years in Peoria, this annual event is slated for October 25, 26 and 27, 2013 at the Church grounds located at 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road. The “Taste of Greece” is the only Greek Festival in the greater west/northwest valley and thousands of residents and visitors attend each year. If you haven’t had the opportunity to attend our event, please check out our website at [www.peoriagreekfest.com](http://www.peoriagreekfest.com) for a peek at what we have to offer.

We are seeking sponsors and supporters to help offset Festival expenses and have enclosed a Sponsorship Form for your consideration. A limited number of sponsorships are available offering company benefits and recognition throughout the festival weekend. For your information, St. Haralambos Church is an Arizona tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation and the Federal tax ID number is 86-0594146.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 623-486-8665. Thank you in advance for your consideration and we hope that you will join us for a spectacular weekend of homemade Greek cuisine, pastries, live entertainment and family fun on October 25-27 at the Peoria Greekfest. OPA!

Sincerely,

Pam Lemons  
Festival Chairman

**ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**2013 "TASTE OF GREECE" FOOD AND DANCE FESTIVAL**

October 25, 26 & 27, 2013

**SPONSORSHIP FORM**

**Company/Individual Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INDICATE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

Check One	Type	Amount	Benefit
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOLD	\$10,000	Company name/logo in all promotional materials, news releases, bill-boards, event website, corporate tent and sponsor-provided banner displayed at event, verbal recognition during event; 10 free admission & dinner tickets. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SILVER	\$5,000	Company name/logo in all promotional materials, news releases, event website, booth sponsor banner, recognition in event program, verbal recognition at the event; 6 free admission & dinner tickets. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	BRONZE	\$1,000	Booth sponsor banner displayed at event, name/logo recognition in event program. <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLYMPIAN	\$500	Business card/logo recognition in event program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATHENIAN	\$100	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARTAN	\$50	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	BOOSTER	\$25	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (please specify - food, gift card, etc.):	\$ _____	Name recognized in event Program

***Please provide logo or business card in .jpg format or camera ready artwork .***

Email artwork to: office@stharalambosaz.com

***Respond by September 30, 2013 for inclusion in the event program.***

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!**

**Please return completed form to:**

Attn: Peoria Greekfest/Taste of Greece Festival

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Peoria, AZ 85383

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



# JULY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Independence Day Church Office Closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>8</b>  7:00pm Parish Council	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray	<b>22</b>  7:00pm Executive Council	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

Holy Friday



Agape Service

