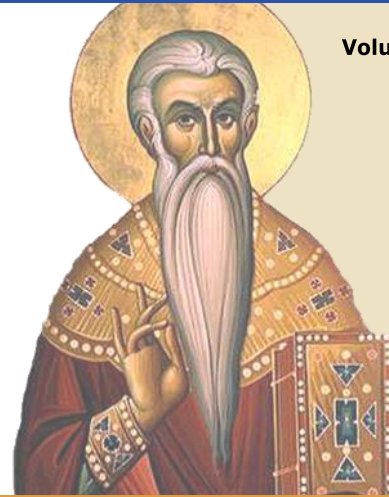


# *in* Touch

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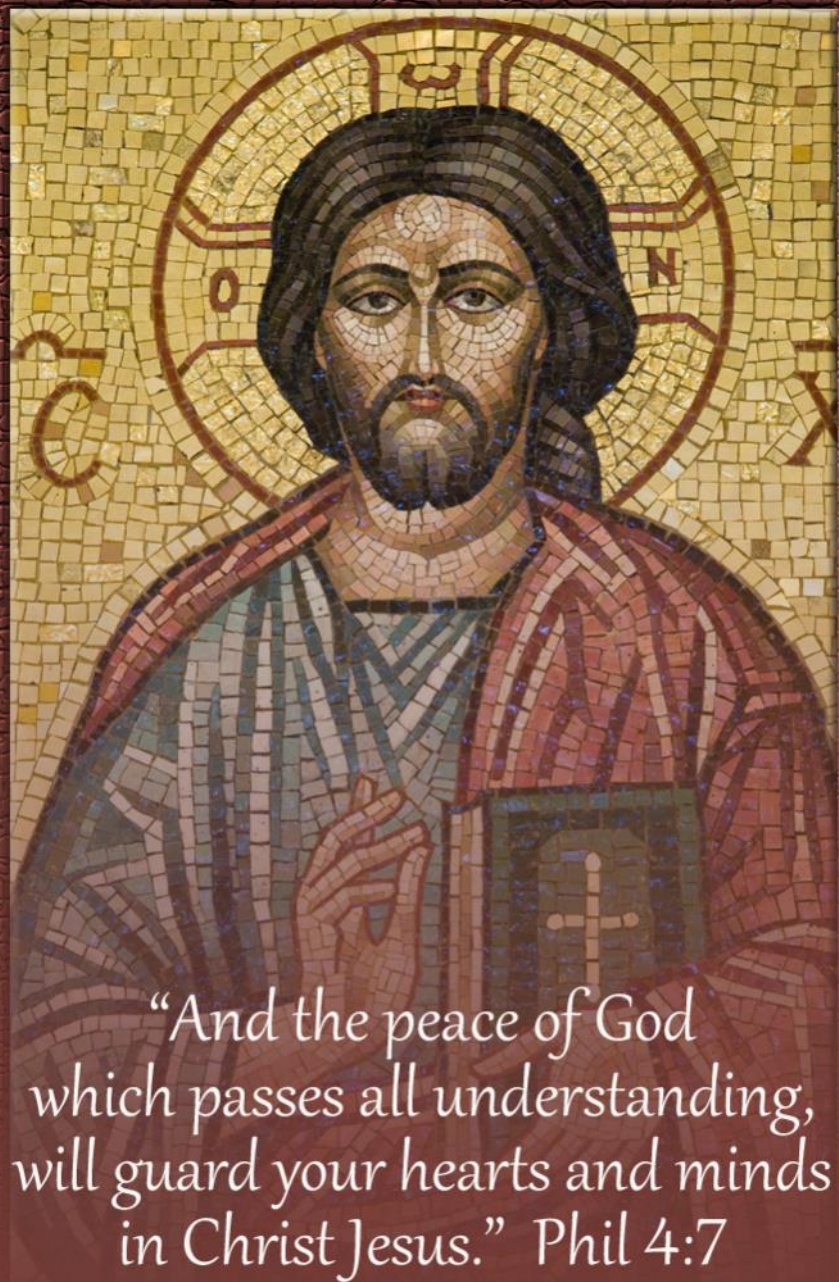
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*“And the peace of God  
which passes all understanding,  
will guard your hearts and minds  
in Christ Jesus.” Phil 4:7*



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

# Forever Young

By Julie Karoutas

Greetings to All “Forever Young” members, I hope that all is well with you; Robyn Pappas has had an unfortunate set-back in her recovery and at present she is not up to taking calls, a card would be very welcome I am sure; please keep her in your prayers for a full recovery.



I have returned from spending 5 days as a volunteer at the “Kids with Cancer/Camp Agape”. What a beautiful experience to

spend time with these wonderful families. I came back home with a happy feeling of having received so much love from the children and their parents! God bless our Philoptochos Sisters who either donated to this cause, baked koulourakia or attended the Agape Ball, to help fund this camp trip for 20 families; their names



given to us from the Phoenix Children’s Hospital. It was wonderful to see Father Michael there on Saturday for a few hours.

I hope that you are all keeping cool, I am sure that you are very busy this summer as am I. If time allows, I will plan a movie-luncheon date for August.

Please mark your calendars for our September “Koukla’s Kitchen Potluck” on Thursday, Sep. 15 at 11:30

am, in Fellowship Hall at church. I will send out a list for the potluck. We can plan for the upcoming months and enjoy the fellowship!

October brings us to an evening of enjoyment at the AZ Broadway Dinner Theatre to see the fantastic musical, “Funny Girl”. The cost is \$65 pp inclusive; please make your checks out to me. Your ticket includes the performance and dinner, which includes your choice of soup or salad, one of 5 main entrée’s, fresh rolls, coffee and or Iced Tea and basic gratuity. Alcoholic beverages & soda are available at a separate charge, as are desserts, etc. The theatre is located on the SW corner of Paradise Lane & 77th Ave., 1 block south of W. Bell Rd. Your quick response is always greatly appreciated; payment must be made by Sep. 7. I will be making a \$325 deposit payment on August 1st in order to hold the good seats that I have reserved. Those who went to see “Fiddler on the Roof” were amazed at the spectacular performance these very professional actors give. The actors come from all over the country and are some of the very best! This is a very enjoyable outing, don’t miss out on it.



As always the Arizona Winds Concert Band will be performing at the end of October. Details have not as yet been released. I will send them out as soon as I have received them.

Please notify me; I can be reached at: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com) or 623-972-2382 or call/text my cell at 623-313-8720. Please leave name of all wishing to participate and a contact number. As always, a quick response is greatly appreciated.

## US Independence

We wish everyone a Happy Independence Day celebration this month. Here is a bit of US Independence Trivia:

Historians have long disputed whether Congress actually signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, even though Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin all later wrote that they had signed it on that day. Most historians have concluded that the Declaration was signed nearly a month after its adoption, on August 2, 1776, and not on July 4 as is commonly believed.

Coincidentally, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the only signers of the Declaration of Independence later to serve as Presidents of the United States, died on the

same day: July 4, 1826, which was the 50th anniversary of the Declaration. Although not a signer of the Declaration of Independence, but another Founding Father who became a President, James Monroe, died on July 4, 1831, thus becoming the third President in a row who died on the holiday. Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President, was born on July 4, 1872, and, so far, is the only U.S. President to have been born on Independence Day. (Source: Wikipedia.org)







## The Summer of 2016

No one expects tragedy to strike. It's not normal to live that way. Most days are predictably routine, and we expect our day to go as planned. When something unexpected happens, it can be enjoyable - like running into an old friend, or something we can laugh about later - like running out of gas. That's how most days go.

But the unexpected tragic or horrifying events, so many of which have happened recently, are not just unexpected, but just plain wrong.

We don't expect someone with a gun to open fire while waiting for an autograph after a concert or while dancing in a night club. We don't expect that an alligator is going to snatch a child from a lagoon inside a resort, or (going back a little further) that a wildfire would overtake 19 firefighters, that a plane is going to fly into a building or that a tire is going to blow on the freeway.

Many unexpected tragedies are accidental, but some, difficult as it is to imagine, are planned in advance; they're done intentionally.

This, of course, is not new. Cain, as we read in the first book of the Bible, intentionally killed his brother Abel. In today's society, however, whether tragedies occur in Orlando, Prescott, New York, London or Afghanistan, we hear about them immediately, and there are both positive and negative results of this.

One positive result of 24 hour news is that we have the ability to respond to tragedies faster than at any previous time in history. A negative result is

that we can become numb to these events because we hear about them faster than at any previous time in history.

People with good hearts and minds will always respond to tragedy with love, will ask questions about exactly what happened and how they can help, will want answers about how some people can commit such evil acts, and what can be done to prevent them from occurring again.

Christians must also respond with something more.

The gospel teaches us that we live in a fallen world, one in which the devil and his angels relentlessly tempt us with lies and distortions with one purpose in mind: to turn us away from believing, trusting and loving God.

Christians must respond to a fallen world with love, with patience and with prayer. Evil is not going to go away, but it will certainly increase when we respond to evil with evil and not love, when we lose faith and stop trusting in God's providence, and when we give in to the false notion that prayer cannot solve anything.

If there ever was a time to increase our presence at Sunday Divine Liturgies, to increase our personal prayers, and to increase our love for our brothers and sisters at home and throughout the world, it would have to be the summer of 2016.

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*Christians must respond to a fallen world with love, with patience and with prayer.*

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**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

Marina Finch  
Dennis Georgen  
Kathie Harvey

Russ Skocypec

## Birthdays



- Alexandros Papamatheakis (6)
- Cathy Kapetanakis (8)
- Nicholas Pappas (8)
- Elizabeth Anderson (9)
- Alexander King (11)
- Lisa Theoharatos (11)
- Lauren Retsinas (12)
- Patricia Martin (14)
- Peter Michas (14)
- Alaina Perreault (14)
- Eugene Gavrilidis (15)
- Michael Gavrilidis (17)
- Pam Solomon (18)
- George Trakas (18)
- Sophia Rodriguez (19)
- Laine Kinney (20)
- Ioannis Papamatheakis (23)
- Catherine Chohlas (25)
- Jeannette Hollander (25)
- Steven Gavrilidis (27)
- Desiree Milonas (27)
- Anastacia Kelly (29)
- Kathy Williamson (30)

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.

## Adult Education

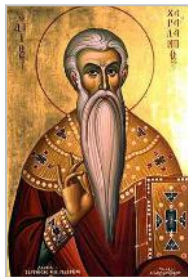
A new adult education program, The Way, will be offered on Wednesday evenings this Fall, beginning Sep. 14. The program, produced by the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies in Cambridge, England, consists of 12 weekly presentations on various topics

designed as an introduction to Orthodox Christianity.

More information along with the Registration form, which is required since dinner is part of the evening program, will be available next month. Highly recommended!



## Parish 30th Anniversary



Now at the half-way point of the year, it's time for the first announcement that 2017 will mark the 30th anniversary of Saint Haralambos Church of Peoria, Arizona!

Several events will commemorate our anniversary,

and all families are encouraged to have their families photographed for the 30th anniversary directory.

More information to follow in the months ahead.

## Eternal Memory

May God grant eternal rest to the soul of Lord grant comfort to her family, and may Nancy Anastasia Smirniotis who fell asleep her memory be eternal. in the Lord on Tuesday, Jun. 14. May the

## In Touch Newsletter Distribution

The In Touch monthly newsletter is available on our parish website ([www.StHaralambos.org](http://www.StHaralambos.org)). The link to the In Touch web page will be posted on the weekly eBulletin.

changes to the church office at [StHaralambos@QwestOffice.net](mailto:StHaralambos@QwestOffice.net).

For those without internet access, please call the Church office to make other arrangements for your copy of the newsletter.



Please send any email address

## Name Days

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

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| St. Kyriaki (7th)             | St. Panteleimon (27th)         |
| SS. Cyril and Methodios (7th) | St. Irene (28th)               |
| St. Euphemia (11th)           | St. Julietta (30th)            |
| St. Mary Magdalene (22nd)     | St. Joseph of Arimathea (31st) |
| St. Paraskevi (26th)          |                                |

# JULY 2016

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