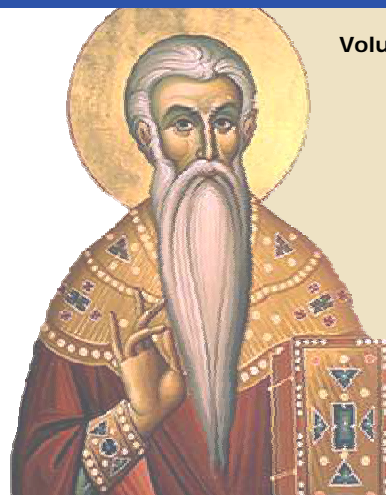


in Touch

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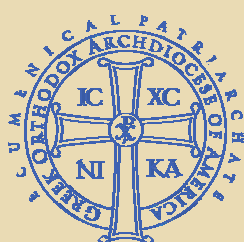
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Creation of the Stars



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

PANTELEIMON

The Great Martyr and Healer (July 27)



This Saint had Nicomedia as his homeland. His father was an idolater, but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the Faith of Christ by Saint Hermolaus

and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in

all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful." On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. This also became the cause for the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honor among them, even as Saint George is among the Martyrs.

PARASKEVI

The Righteous Martyr of Rome (July 26)

Saint Paraskevi, who was from a certain village near Rome, was born to pious parents, Agatho and Politia. Since she was born on a Friday (in Greek, Paraskevi), she was given this name, which means "preparation" or "preparedness". From childhood she was instructed in the sacred letters and devoted herself to the study of the divine Scriptures, while leading a monastic life and guiding many to the Faith of Christ. During the reign of the

Emperor Antoninus Pius, she was apprehended because she was a Christian and was urged to worship the idols, but she answered with the words of the Prophet Jeremiah: "Let the gods that have not made heaven and the earth perish from off the earth" (Jer. 10:11). Because of this she endured exceedingly painful torments, and was beheaded in the year 140. The faithful pray to her for the healing of eye ailments.





Clergy-Laiety Congress

Every two years, our Archdiocese hosts the Clergy-Laiety Congress. It is being held this month in Atlanta, Georgia, from July 4 – 8. The Congress is an important gathering of our Church of which all of us should be aware since its decisions apply to all parishes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Here are the answers to some general questions regarding the Clergy-Laiety Congress.

1. What is the purpose of the Clergy-Laiety Congress? As stated in the Archdiocese Uniform Parish Regulations, "Except for dogmatic and canonical matters, the Congress is concerned with all other matters which affect the life, mission, growth and unity of the Archdiocese and especially the uniform administration of the Archdiocesan District, the Metropolises and the Parishes. It is also concerned with the educational programs, financial programs and philanthropic concerns of the Archdiocese as well as the participation and role of the Archdiocese in the life of America. The Congress makes such decisions as it deems appropriate." (Article 4, Section 2)

2. Can anyone attend the Clergy-Laiety Congresses? Yes, but to be eligible to vote, one must be registered as an official delegate of the Congress. "The Congress is comprised of the Archbishop, the members of the Synod, Auxiliary Bishops, the voting members of the Archdiocesan Council, the Chancellors of the Metropolises, the Vice Presidents of the Metropolis Councils, each of whom are voting Delegates (collectively referred to herein as the "Ex Officio Delegates") and clergy and lay representatives of each Parish in the Archdiocese." (Article 4, Section 5)

3. Do decisions made at Clergy-Laiety Congresses go through a ratification process? "The decisions of the Congress are submitted by the Synod through its President, the Archbishop, to the Patriarchate for approval. In the event that no response is received from the Patriarchate within ninety (90) days following receipt of the decisions by it, the decisions shall be deemed approved." (Article 4, Section 14)

4. Are decisions voted upon

at the Congresses binding on all parishes of our Archdiocese? "Following approval (from the Patriarchate), the decisions must be faithfully and firmly adhered to by the Archdiocesan District/Metropolises as well as all Parishes, whether or not they were represented at the Congress and regardless of whether they voted with the minority or abstained." (Article 4, Section 15)

Archbishop Demetrios will deliver the keynote address on Monday morning of this year's Congress, focusing on the expanded theme:

"Gather My People to My Home – Come and See." Following the address, delegates will break into eight groups presided over by one of the Metropolitans who will discuss the theme and invite reflections from delegates.

The agenda includes two educational forums, Orthodoxy: Yesterday and today, and Orthodox Reality in America. In addition, eight ministry sessions, led by a panel of

(Continued on page 6)

This year marks the 40th Clergy-Laiety Congress of the Archdiocese of America.



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**

Rev. Michael Pallad

www.stharalambos.org

Sunday Worship

September - May
Matins: 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

June - August
Matins: 8:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 9:30 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

Ray Wysmierski, President
Mike Danielek, Vice-President
Dennis Georgen, Secretary
Stella Pagos, Treasurer
Angie Cholas
David Durgam

Demetri Gryparis
Mary Manos
Dean Milonas
Roberta Szklarski
Katherine Tally
Mary Wysmierski



Chanter Training

During the summer, because our choir does not hold weekly rehearsals, this is ideal time to welcome any parishioners who would like to learn to chant for the morning Matins service, as well as to learn the hymns for various other services throughout the year. Please check the monthly calendar for Thursday evening rehearsals at 7pm because they are not scheduled every week.

Imagine a Church

What thoughts would come to mind if you were asked to stop and think about what the Church is, and to imagine what it could become? Would it be a community of inspirational worship, fellowship, service and witness? Would it be a community that encouraged its members to use their God-given gifts in a way that would be personally fulfilling and challenging?

Imagine a Church community whose children were taught by people with the gift of teaching, whose senior citizens were served by people with gifts like caring and encouragement. Can you imagine a Church community that inspired its members to discover their God-given gifts so that they felt confident and motivated to serve in the Church? A Church community that had the right people, in the right places, for the right reasons, at the right time?

This Fall a new ministry begins at

St. Haralambos Church, one that offers adults (18 and over) an opportunity to discover their God-given spiritual gifts and how best to put them to good use. There are a variety of gifts, as St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians, all coming from the same spirit, and no one gift is more important than another.

The first seminar on Spiritual Gifts is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 8 (Sessions 1 and 2), Wednesday, Sept. 15 (Sessions 3 and 4) and Wednesday, Sept. 22 (Sessions 5 and 6), from 7pm to 9pm each night. The cost of the seminar, to be held in the church Social hall, is \$25 per person, which includes the workbook and materials for all six sessions.

To register for the seminar, please complete the form below and return it to the church with the registration check made payable to St. Haralambos Church, before the Aug. 25 deadline.

Seminar on Spiritual Gifts

September 8, 15 and 22

7pm – 9pm

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

_____ I am enclosing the Registration fee of \$25 per person, payable to St.

Haralambos Church.

Please return this registration form before Aug. 25, 2010.

Open House

We are looking forward to later this summer and our planned Open House event. This two-day event is designed to introduce our Church to our new North Peoria neighbors, but please plan to invite your neighbors and friends as well.

On Saturday, Aug. 28, from 2pm to 5pm, the Open House will feature tours, various presentations, children's activities and baklava Sundaes.

The open house will continue on Sunday, Aug. 29, with a special narrative Divine Liturgy, when there will be a running commentary throughout the liturgy to help explain its background and history, as well as time for questions and answers afterwards.

Following services, coffee and refreshments will be provided in our Fellowship Hall at which time we will also hold the drawing for our Fall Break raffle.

(You can obtain raffle tickets by contacting the church office.)

This exciting event will showcase our new Church home, raise awareness of our Church in the community, and inform people of our various programs and ministries.

Most of us would not hesitate for a moment to invite our friends and neighbors to our Taste of Greece festival. The Open House gives us an excellent opportunity to invite our friends and neighbors to come and see our new church home and learn more as well.

Of course, we can use your help in preparing for the event, and need volunteers for publicity, refreshments, tours, and children's activities. If you can lend a hand, please call the church office or see Dennis Georgen during Sunday Coffee hour.

**Saturday
August 28
2pm – 5pm**

Mortgage Protectors

It is with great joy that we at St. Haralambos Church are able to further the advancement of our Eastern Orthodox Faith by acquiring a new facility to glorify Him.

With this in mind, we need a number of individuals to help safeguard our goals and enable us to offer many of the services and programs that we were unable to offer at our previous facility. The additional expense of a mortgage will greatly hinder these efforts, so this newly formed group, 'The Mortgage Protectors of St. Haralambos' will help defray the cost of the mortgage expense we have undertaken.

The purpose of the 'Mortgage Protectors' is to ensure that the mortgage expense is covered over the next five years. To fully meet this purpose, a total of

42 individuals are needed.

Each member is required to commit to two semi-annual donations of \$500 for a total of \$1,000 a year for five years. This group will elect officers to oversee and manage the efforts of the program and send out reminder notices to those members who are on the roster to contribute that month. In the event a member can no longer fulfill their commitment, the vacancy created will allow for another interested individual to join for the remainder of that person's term.

The "Mortgage Protectors" will enhance the stability of our Church and allow us to grow.

If you would like to join the Mortgage Protectors of St. Haralambos, please contact Stella Pagos, Parish Council Treasurer.

Summer Schedule

Please be aware that for the months of June, July and August, the Sunday service schedule is moved ahead by half an hour: Matins will begin at 8:30am and Divine Liturgy at 9:30am.



ORGANIZATIONS

In Touch Online Survey

Our monthly newsletter is available on our website and with postage costs continuing to rise, the question regarding the need to mail the newsletter to all our families needs to be asked.

We realize that not all parish families have access to the internet, and many prefer to read through their own printed copy. But are there any families who would prefer or who only need on-line access to the In Touch newsletter, and wouldn't mind if they stopped receiving a printed copy at home? If so, please let us know by sending an email to: Office@StHaralambosAZ.com



Stewardship

By Roberta Szklarski

We would like to thank all the "New Stewards" for offering to share your personal and family background, which helped make our third annual Welcome New Stewards Reception such a wonderful success. As always, it is a privilege to be able to welcome, introduce, and recognize new stewards to our Church family. Like all of the members that comprise our church family, we feel honored to be a part of such a warm, welcoming, and inspiring group.

You have made the choice to become part of our parish family, and we encourage your continued participation as part of the spiritual community of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church. I feel very fortunate to have had the pleasure to speak with, and personally meet, many of you before and after the reception. Again, I would like to express my sincerest welcome to all of you, and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Family Movie Night

The second Family Movie Night is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21 at 7pm. All families and their friends are welcome. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the movies begin at 7pm. Everyone is asked to bring a canned or boxed food item, which will be donated to the West Side Food Bank.



Pastor's Column

(Continued from page 3)

priests and laymen, are planned: Stewardship Outreach, Evangelism and Missions, Family, Marriage and Interfaith Marriage, Youth/Young Adult Camping Ministries and Ionian Village, Religious Education, Greek Education, Communications/Internet Ministries, and "Social" Ministries (addiction, nursing, special needs, bereavement and elderly). One plenary (full) session is planned to include the finance report, administration report, national ministry reports and various endowment and institution reports. The Congress officially ends with

the Grand Banquet, held on Wednesday evening, except for the Clergy Breakfast with the Archbishop on Thursday morning.

This year marks the 40th Clergy-Laity Congress of the Archdiocese of America. The Clergy-Laity Congress offers a forum for clergy and laity alike to address administrative and ministerial concerns of the Church in our Archdiocese, in addition to providing fellowship and a means to recognizing and celebrating the unity of the 540 parishes throughout our Archdiocese.

St. Christopher's Bookstore

THE GREAT I CAME'S OF JESUS: Meditations on the great "I came..." statements of Jesus wherein He explains the reasons for His coming into the world.
Anthony M. Coniaris. 1980, 195 pp.

Fr. Coniaris is very knowledgeable about the Bible, the Orthodox Faith and its history. Furthermore, he seems very well read in a variety of other areas, enabling him to quote many other people. In addition to the following quotes, he quotes many interesting people such as Admiral Perry, Alexander the Great, Diogenes and Winston Churchill.

T. S. Eliot "Where is the life you have lost in the living?"
Many people making a living are making death, not life."

Augustine: "If we are looking for a happy life without God, we are looking in a graveyard.

"Matisse, the great painter, when asked if he remembered all of the works he painted: 'No, I don't remember all of them; I remember each and every one of them.' God loves us with that kind of an individual and personal love."

Bobby Richardson, former New York Yankee second baseman prayed: "Dear God, Your will, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. Amen'."

Quarterback: "Coach gave us an excellent game plan and we stuck to it.' Has not our Coach (Jesus) given us the best game plan of all, one that guarantees ultimate victory? Are we sticking to it?"

Evelyn Underhill compares the perfect Christian to a sheep dog: "It listens to learn the will of its master and then dashes off to do what the master wants happily wagging its tail.' This is the kind of...joyful obedience God deserves."



C. H. Hough: "The tragedy of the world is that men have given first-class loyalty to second-class causes."

Augustine: "Love God and do as you please.' If we love Him, we will always do what is pleasing to Him."

Virgin Mary: "I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say" (Luke 1:38). When the angel told her she would bear a son of the Most High, she didn't protest or make excuses."

A person who unexpectedly visited her friend: "Does your house always look this neat?" The friend replied, "Of course! I

never go to bed without leaving my house in dying condition.' Christians should try "to leave everything in dying condition, especially [their] relationship to God and ...loved ones."

An orphan dropped a note over the orphanage wall: "To anyone who finds this: I love you.' God did not send us a letter to tell us that He loves us. He sent His only Son to tell us in Person."

Young woman dying slowly when asked if she suffered much: "Yes...but He had the nails. I have the love...He had the thorns. I have the forgiveness."

St. Anthony of the Desert: "I pray God will send...the fire of [His] love.' May the Church of Jesus spread...today—like fire!"

St. John of Kronstadt: "[D]o not let your heart be cold, but burn with faith and love.' Is not this a sad commentary on the state of many Christian parishes today [that] are lukewarm?"

Budda, near death: "I am still searching for the truth.' But Jesus said, 'I am the embodiment of truth.'"

Parish Pay

is a means of sending church contributions electronically via the internet. By going to our parish website (www.stharalambos.org) and clicking on the "Parish Pay" button, you are directed to the Parish Pay site to easily set up your account.

There is no cost to parishioners, and you decide how much and how often contributions are sent for stewardship, building fund or any other fund you designate. Contributions can be a one-time gift, or you can set up regular monthly payments to be deducted from a checking or savings account or credit card. It is a safe and secure system.

For further information, please contact our Parish Council Treasurer Stella Pagos at 623-975-0027. Consider Parish Pay for all your church donations.

ParishPay
Making it Easier to Give™

Sacraments

Congratulations to Nick and Katherine Hoskins on the baptism of their daughter, Adriana Nicole, on Saturday, June 5. Adriana's godmother is Tally Bringas. May God grant them many years of good health and happiness.

Birthdays



Jan Morin (5th)
 Stavros Theoharatos (7th)
 Catherine Pallad (9th)
 Nicholas Genes (9th)
 Lisa Theoharatos (11th)
 Lee Retsinas (12th)
 Bill Winn (17th)
 Alexandra M. Barbes (19th)
 Mike Hansford (21st)
 Desiree Milonas (27th)

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.

Hospitalization and Confidentiality: New Policies

At a recent meeting of Volunteer Chaplains and Spiritual Care Givers at Banner Boswell Hospital, several new policies regarding patient confidentiality were addressed that affect information we are allowed to print in our monthly newsletter. (Although this meeting addressed policies at Banner hospitals, we were told they have now become standard policies throughout the healthcare industry.)

We can no longer publicize, in print or by other public announcement, that parishioners have been admitted to a hospital or any information regarding their medical condition. Hospitals no longer contact churches when one of their parishioners has been admitted. Visiting clergy (with appropriate identification) can get a listing of parishioners who have been admitted only after checking in at the information desk.

This is a sensitive issue; some people prefer to keep their medical condition private, and we must respect those wishes. As before, parishioners and/or family members may notify the church that they have been admitted to a hospital, but the church may not publish this information.

Cover Icon

Although this icon has no feastday on the Orthodox church calendar, it's a wonderful reminder of our loving God, the creator of all things, "visible and invisible."



Name Days

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

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)

JULY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	
4 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy Independence Day	5 Archdiocese Clergy—Laity Congress (Atlanta, Georgia)	6	7	8	9	10
11 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy Saint Ephemia	12	13	14	15 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	16	17
18 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	19	20 9:00am Divine Liturgy Prophet Elias	21 7pm Family Movie Night	22 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	23	24
25 8:30am Matins 9:30am Divine Liturgy	26	27 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saint Panteleimon	28	29 7:00pm Chanter Rehearsal	30	31 7:00pm Youth Program Meeting



Youth Programs are Coming!

We are taking a survey to help meet the needs of our Parish Family.
Please take a moment to fill out the survey and return it to the church office.
Your assistance will help make the program a success.

Youth Program Survey

Name _____ Email _____

Spouse _____ Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Names and ages of your children: _____

What are you interested in? _____

What day would be the best for your family? _____

Would an evening or afternoon be better? _____

Would you be willing to help in: Hosting an event ☐ Leading a lesson ☐ Refreshments ☐

Transportation ☐ Planning ☐ Communication ☐ Sports ☐ Crafts ☐ Camping/Retreats ☐

Any other ideas _____

Next planning meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Thursday, July 29. Please RSVP to church office if you can make it.
For further information, contact: Father Michael at 623-486-8665

