

# in Touch

Volume 21, Issue 5

May 2013



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

**Summer  
Camp • 2**

**The Most Holy  
Celebration • 3**

**Greek  
Festival • 4**

**Family  
Fellowship • 4**

**General  
Assembly • 5**



**The Holy Resurrection of Our  
Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ  
Sunday, May 5**

**Come Receive the Light  
Saturday Evening 11:15 pm**

**Easter Sunday Vespers and Egg Hunt  
Sunday 1:00 pm**



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

# YOUTH GROUP



Our Youth Group has a couple fun events coming this month!

First, we will be having our 3rd annual Holy Friday Retreat on May 3 from 10:30-2:30. This year, the youth will learn about the Holy Trinity

through various stations, activities and crafts. We are excited to have our largest group yet! It's not too late to sign up your children or grandchildren or Godchildren. Call the church office or see Lindsay Vardalos to sign up. Thank you to all of you who have already donated money or gift-cards to help fund the retreat, we really appreciate it!

*Thank you for making our youth group a success!*

We also will be meeting for the final time this school year on Saturday, May 11 from 4-7 in the social hall. We will have a pizza and ice cream social that is sure to be a hit with all of the kids. Families, we need ice cream toppings donated for this fun night so please bring something to share. There just might be water balloons, too, which should be a blast! Everyone is welcome...



even if you have never attended a youth event; the more, the merrier!

*If you would like to attend the Fellowship Dinner, please complete form on page 4.*

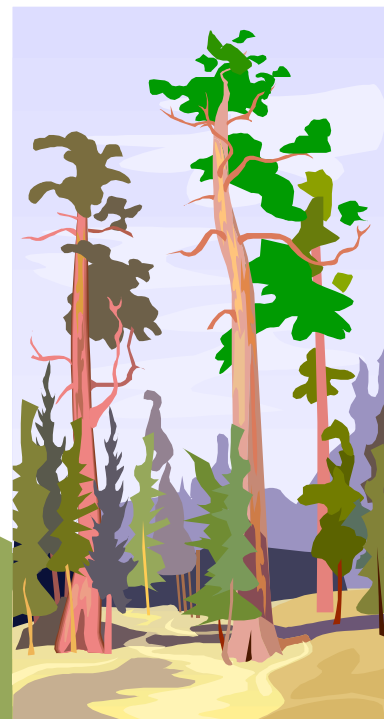
## All Saints Pan-Orthodox Summer Camp 2013

Sunday, June 2 through Friday, June 7  
Prescott, Arizona

A wonderful week-long program is planned and all young people between 3rd - 12th grades are encouraged to register by Friday, May 17.

Camper applications and information can be found at [www.allsaintscampaz.org](http://www.allsaintscampaz.org).

Volleyball • Basketball • Capture-the-Flag • Climbing Wall  
Hiking • Miniature Golf • Bonfires • Songs • Games • Arts and Crafts  
Organized Olympics • and much more...





## The Most Holy Celebration of the Christian Year

“Whoever is a devout lover of God, let him enjoy this beautiful, bright Festival!”

So begins the great Easter homily of St. John Chrysostom, read aloud in all Orthodox Churches early on Easter Sunday morning. It is filled with encouragement, lovingly urging all to celebrate the holy Resurrection of Christ – those who arrive at church on time and those who come late, those who fasted from the start and those who did not fast at all, young and old, rich and poor, this is the time for all to celebrate the great love of God, the feast of Life over death, the triumph of the universal Christian gospel.

In all, there are three services of the Orthodox Church which marvelously celebrate the resurrection, each with a different character and emphasis. They begin with the Divine liturgy on Holy Saturday morning, with the Old Testament stories of Jonah and the whale, King Nebuchadnezzar and the Three Holy Youths in the Furnace. At the conclusion of the Epistle reading, rose petals are strewn throughout the church while singing out,

“Arise, O God, and judge the earth!” This liturgy is sometimes referred as the “first” resurrection service.

The late night Resurrection service begins 11:15pm Saturday evening and includes Matins, Resurrection service and Divine Liturgy. The focal point of the evening service is the darkening of the Church, and spreading the light of the Resurrection to everyone in the congregation while the hymn, “Come, receive the Light” is chanted. Once the church is filled with candle light, we begin chanting the hymn of the Resurrection, “Christ is risen from the dead, and by His death, he has trampled down upon death, and to those in the tombs he has granted, granted life, everlasting life.” All church lights are brought back on and the Divine Liturgy continues.

Finally on Sunday afternoon, the Vespers of Love begins at 1pm. The hi-light is the gospel reading from St. John read in English, Greek, Spanish, German, French, Arabic and Chinese! In as many languages as we have readers for, we proclaim the resurrection gospel, to show its universal message for all humankind.

Come for one, two or all three services, it’s the most holy celebration of the Christian year. Bring the whole family; bring friends, everyone is welcome!

For the next 40 days, the Orthodox greet one another with, “Christ is risen!” and respond, “Truly He is risen!” It is the major theme not just of the season, but of the Christian faith.

St. John’s homily drives the message home, and concludes:

“O death where is your sting; O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and the demons have fallen!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is risen and life is liberated! Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of the dead! For Christ, having risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be the glory and the dominion to the ages of ages. Amen!”

*For the next 40 days, the Orthodox greet one another with, “Christ is risen!” and respond, “Truly He is risen!”*



**St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox  
Church**

**Rev. Michael Pallad**

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

### 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](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

## Successful Rummage Sale

Our Rummage Sale last month was a huge success, raising just over \$1,500. Thank you to chairmen Lee and Dottie Vordos, and to their wonderful helpers, Voula Dodd and Edna Nicely for helping prepare and set up the hall as well as helping during the Sale, and to Toni Pandi, Peter Michas and George Petro who helped from 7 am until closing!

There were many compliments on the organization of the item in the hall, happy faces on people roaming up and down the isles and even enjoying doughnuts and coffee.

Thanks also to everyone who donated household goods and clothing. Keep an eye out for the next Rummage Sale this Fall!



## Greek Festival October 25, 26 and 27

By Pam Lemons, Festival Chairman

The planning has begun... This year the Festival Committee will be implementing some new ideas and activities to enhance the overall Festival experience for our guests. The Publicity Committee has already started working to improve media coverage and boost attendance. We are currently seeking sponsors and advertisers to offset our Festival expenses

and we could use everyone's help in securing at least one sponsor. Please share the enclosed letter and form with individuals or businesses that you think might benefit or like to participate in sponsoring the Festival. Additional copies are available in the Church office. Also, if you would like to volunteer in the pre-Festival duties, please let me know or call the office. Thanks! OPA!

## Family Fellowship Dinner

Everyone is invited on Saturday, May 11 at 5 pm to the Family Fellowship Dinner. This is a family fun night that includes dinner (pizza, beverage and ice cream), music, games and prizes! Advance ticket sales only, no tickets

sold at the door! Adults: \$10; Children 12 and under: \$5. Deadline to purchase tickets is Sunday, May 5. Tickets available during Coffee Hour on Sundays or by returning the form below (must be received by Wednesday, May 8)

### Family Fellowship Dinner Saturday, May 11, 5pm

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending:

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults: \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ Children 12 and under: \$5

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed (Please make checks payable to St. Haralambos Church)

**Must be received by Wednesday, May 8, 2013**



## Spring General Assembly

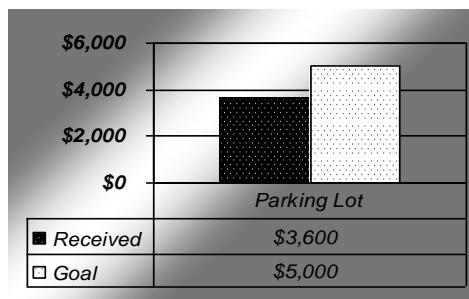
By Dennis Georgen, Parish Council President

A few weeks ago our Parish met for the Spring General Assembly. I was pleasantly surprised at how many Stewards decided to stay! For a variety of reasons, too often, many of us are unable to stay for and participate in the church's "business" meeting. As is our practice, the various organizations and ministries of our Parish report on their progress and activities during the Spring General Assembly. This year, unlike in years past, this agenda item proved to be most interesting and informative.

Over the past few years, when we speak of Stewardship, here at St Haralambos, we have focused on increasing involvement in Parish activities. It was not only exciting, but inspiring to hear how many different active organizations and ministries we have today. Our list has grown to include not only Sunday School, Choir, and Philoptochos, which remain central to our Parish Mission. The list now includes a wide variety of ministries including a book club, Bible study, Sr. fellowship, prayer circle, adult religious education, youth group, men's choir, family fellowship dinners, and much, much, more. What may have once been a sleepy little parish today has meetings, gatherings, services and activities almost every day of the week! And we won't stop adding more... Come and join us!!!

Stewardship also means attending to the financial health of our Parish. As has been

previously discussed in In-Touch, our parking lot requires maintenance. Again, I was inspired at how so many of you jumped in and made your statement at the General Assembly by making a pledge so that this work can begin soon. Thank you! Others of you, when you became aware of our balance sheet, identified various opportunities where we can work to address the deficit by working together as one community. Truly inspiring!



If these examples don't illustrate to you how much progress our Parish is making on so many different fronts, I don't know what will. Every week I am more and more excited and energized about the direction of our Community and the future of our Parish. I sincerely hope and pray that you are too.

In just a few days we will be celebrating the Resurrection. If you haven't found the time to attend any of the Lenten services, make it a point to attend during Holy Week. As St John Chrysostom says in his Resurrection Homily, even if you have waited until the 11th hour, come!!



## Parish Maintenance

Saturday, May 18 at 8am

The church needs some work and in order to get it all done, we need your help.

All are invited.

## Name Days

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

St. Irene (5th)  
Prophet Job (6th)  
St. Christopher (9th)  
St. Simon (10th)  
St. Glykeria (13th)  
St. Symeon (24th)  
Sts. Constantine and Helen (21st)  
Sts. Theodosios and Theodosia (29th)

## Fund Raising

A special thank you to our friends at Christ's Church of the Valley (CCV) for allowing us to participate in their recent classic car show with a Greek pastry booth. This unexpected fund raising opportunity is surely a blessing to our parish. Also, thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped make this event a success.

## *Birthdays*



Beycue Russom (1)  
Charlotte Servetas (5)  
Shirley Germanis (8)  
Despina Tremoulis (8)  
Megan Pallad (10)  
Tamara Kurilova (12)  
William McBride (12)  
Hermela Desta (13)  
Helene Georgiou (17)  
Tony Panousopoulos (18)  
Aristithi Vardalos (18)  
Voule Kapetanakis (19)  
Alexandra Pallad (19)  
Jeff Sokol (20)  
Nicoletta Theoharatos (21)  
Yiorgos Papamatheakis (23)  
Genet Tesfay (23)  
Ann Morley (28)  
Barbara Hartsel (29)

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

**Living the Liturgy** by Stanley S. Harakas

What in the world does a strand of nine pearls have to do with the Divine Liturgy? Not much, you think, but author Stanley Harakas disagrees and after you've read Living the Liturgy you will also embrace the image of a beautiful strand of pearls the next time you attend Sunday's Service!

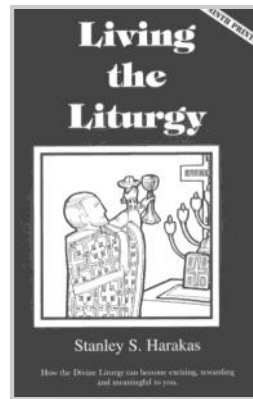
Like pearls strung on a string, "the services of the Orthodox Church have a pattern, a structure...providing units of comprehension..." Upon closer study, one realizes that the frequent and repetitive shorter litanies, like a chorus in a song or a theme in a symphony, signal the end of a particular section and separate the Divine Liturgy into distinct parts. There are nine clearly defined sections of various lengths or "pearls" in the Divine Liturgy.

Harakas examines these nine pearls word by word and unfolds the beauty of the Divine Liturgy, taking it from a static robotic experience to an active, personal union for the worshiper. In this way the service is not "a kind of show, an event which Christians view and observe and to which, at best, they pay attention but do not live."

Recognizing the structure and flow of the liturgy, knowing the nine pearls, and anticipating their movement increases a person's involvement during the Service and leads to a more meaningful, personal, and vivid experience. Here are just some of the ways we can come alive during the Divine Liturgy: by receiving Holy Communion, by actively praying, knowing the symbolism of the service, sub-singing the hymns, using our bodies to worship, reciting the Creed and Lord's Prayer, and listening to the readings and sermon. In

this way we become lively participants and not dazed witnesses.

Harakas warns that we must pray the liturgy, not parrot it. We must pray and reflect on the hymns in our own words and not become lost in the chanting and music. Like St. Paul, we must "sing with the spirit and sing with the mind also." Otherwise words lose their meaning and we are absent and far from God despite our presence. Then "no spirit underlies it, it is not the expression of {our} faith, {our} affirmation, {our} reality as the Body of Christ."



Living the Liturgy reinforces that increasing our knowledge of the "pearls" in the Divine Liturgy and consciously becoming more involved will create a richer and deeper experience during worship. Harakas acknowledges that of course we all have "dry days when we will find it very difficult to pray actively and to share energetically in the Service." He encourages us

not to despair but to persist in our efforts and continue to practice. If we do, inevitably we will be "Living the Liturgy."

### From The Bookstore

Here's an invitation to apply the knowledge you have learned from the Saint films which were shown after Compline Services: familiarize yourself with the gifts of a particular Saint and buy a loved one an icon of that Saint. An example is giving an icon of Saint Nektarios to a person who has cancer. Sharing your knowledge with them that Saint Nektarios is the Saint of cancer will not only honor them with a beautiful spiritual gift but also support our parish bookstore. If you do not see a particular icon that you would like, you can order one through Lali.



## SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383 • Tel.: (623) 486-8665 • Fax: (623) 486-5290  
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*



# MAY 2013

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			<b>1</b> <b>Holy Wednesday</b> 9:00am Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 4:00pm Holy Unction (children) 7:00pm Holy Unction	<b>2</b> <b>Holy Thursday</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy  7:00pm 12 Passion Gospels	<b>3</b> <b>Holy Friday</b> 9:00am Royal Hours 11:00am Holy Friday Youth Retreat 3:00pm Vespers: The Descent from the Cross 7:00pm The Lamentations	<b>4</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b> 10:00am Divine Liturgy  11:15pm Resurrection Service and Divine Liturgy
<b>5</b> <b>Orthodox Easter Sunday</b> 1:00pm Easter Agapi/ Love Vespers Children's Easter Egg Hunt	<b>6</b> Bright Week (No fasting)  7:00pm Philoptochos	<b>7</b> 10:00am Mending Hearts  7:30pm Men's Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  5:00pm Family Fellowship Dinner - Pizza and Ice Cream Social
<b>12</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:00am Mending Hearts  7:30pm Men's Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  7:00pm Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Sunday School End of Year Recognition IOCC Offering Tray	<b>20</b> 7:00pm Parish Council	<b>21</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Sts. Constantine and Helen</b> 10:00am Mending Hearts 7:30pm Men's Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>27</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> (Church office closed)	<b>28</b> 10:00am Mending Hearts  7:00pm Executive Council	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  7:00pm Choir	<b>31</b>	

## St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Reni Milonas, President

Christ Has Risen! Truly He Has Risen!  
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

I want to thank all of the hosts and hostesses that provided Lenten meals for the Wednesday night Pre-sanctified Liturgies. Thank you as well to everyone that dyed eggs, decorated the Epitaphio, helped clean up after service, and brought food for the Paschal midnight service reception.

The following have been elected to serve on the Philoptochos Board for years 2013-2014:

Reni Milonas-President, Edna Nicely-Vice President, Valla Wrona-Secretary, Julie Karoutas-Treasurer, Charlotte Servetes-Advisor, Flo Curran-Board Member, and Lali Mekvabishvili-Board Member. I'm blessed to have these fine ladies to work with for the next two years.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7 at 6 pm. We will have a potluck and we

will play Bunco. Please bring a wrapped white elephant gift if you are playing Bunco.

### National Commitments

- **75th Anniversary Founders Fund**  
(Amount: Determined by Chapter) *Provides support to long term care facilities serving the aging Greek Orthodox population in the US and to establish similar facilities.*
- **Orthodox Christian Fellowship**  
(OCF) (Amount: Determined by Chapter) *Provides Orthodox Christian support to college students on campuses in the U.S.*

### Metropolis Commitments

- **Kids 'n' Cancer**  
(Amount: \$500 or more) *Provides a carefree camp experience for children afflicted with cancer and their families.*
- **Pennies and Prayers**  
(Amount: Determined by Chapter) *Provides support for Missions all over the world.*



## Sunday School

By Martha Stithem, Sunday School  
Director & Teacher

To learn more about Holy Week, which carries over into the first week of May, and Pascha, which is May 5 this year, families can visit the archdiocese website at <http://www.lent.goarch.org>. This rich and meaningful internet ministry teaching tool includes articles, scripture, prayers, hymns, audios, videos, and much more.

May all our parish families be blessed as we celebrate the joyous Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### May Sunday School Schedule

There will be no Sunday School classes held on Pascha, May 5. The last day of class before summer break will be May 12. On Sunday, May 19, there will be an end of year presentation of certificates for our students and teachers following Divine Liturgy.

