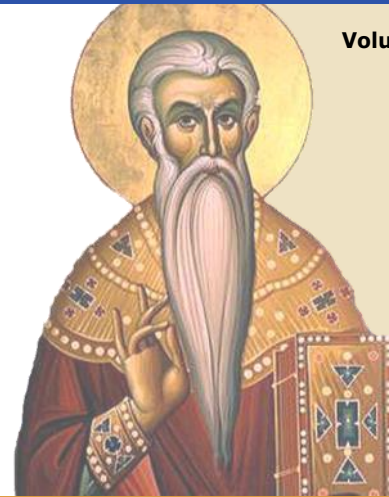


# in Touch

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## The Sunday of Pentecost

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**“O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,  
present everywhere and filling all things...”**



*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

Χριστός Ανέστη! - Christ is Risen!



On Mar. 25 we had an impromptu gathering of Hellenes and Philhellenes at the home of Cathy Chohlas and Ed Wood; we

thank Father Michael for attending and blessing the banquet that we had prepared, for it was a celebration of the Annunciation of our Blessed Virgin Mary. We also celebrated Greek Independence Day! That magical day on Mar. 25, 1821, the Greeks began their fight for independence from the Ottoman Empire. We can thank our Greek Orthodox Church Fathers and the brave Greek people who died defending their birth rights of Faith and Freedom! We enjoyed a Greek Lenten dinner as well as well as the Fellowship of those attending.



To those who attended the Agape Ball, and or donated items for the Silent Auction, Raffle, or gave a monetary donation, our Philoptochos members are truly grateful for helping us to make this Fund raiser a successful event (benefiting "Kids with Cancer, Camp Agape")! It was the main activity for our group in April, held at St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church in Chandler, sponsored by St. Haralambos, Holy Trinity, Assumption and St. Katherine's Philoptochos Chapter.



The month of May is also a very busy month with Mother's Day and the Memorial Day holidays coming up; the Arizona Winds Concert Band, on Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day), at Mountain Ridge High School, 22800 N. 67th Ave., Glendale, AZ 85310; doors open at 2:30pm; concert begins at 3pm. Please join us in paying tribute to one of America's Greatest National Parks, Yosemite! This is a free concert, will be great for the entire family, and will feature a variety of Patriotic tunes. What a wonderful tribute to Mom it would be to take her out for lunch followed by a wonderful concert that the whole family can enjoy!

For those that wish to go to an excellent brunch, the Phoenix #219 Ahepa is having its Annual Mother's Day Brunch at Holy Trinity following

church services the cost is \$25 per person. Also in the works for later in May, will be a "Koukla's Kitchen" Potluck luncheon for our Forever Young group. Details are still being worked out. Contact Julie Karoutas at 623-972-2382, text at 623-313-8720 or email: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com) to make your reservations, and to those of you who's email address I have, I will send out a notice.

Please note: Anyone who likes to sing, a Special Choir is being assembled for a One and Only One Church Service on Father's Day, Sunday Matins, Jun. 21, check church bulletin for all information, Sunday rehearsals begin Apr. 26. We have more coming up, concerts, pot-lucks, speakers, join us, and do not miss out.



## Holy Pentecost

The great prayer to the Holy Spirit, which is prayed at the beginning of nearly every service of the Orthodox Church (except for the Divine Liturgy), is taken from chapter 15 of St. John's Gospel, which reads, "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

Our Lord Jesus Christ was speaking to his disciples and preparing them for his impending crucifixion and death. Aware that the grief of the disciples would be great, the Lord offers the solace that can only come from One who has overcome fear and death. Only by our Lord's ascension and return to the throne of His Father, could He send the Holy Spirit to be with the Church forever, teaching, inspiring and strengthening all who know and follow Christ the Savior.

The Lord promised his disciples that he would not leave them orphans, and that He would send the Holy Spirit to them. This promise was fulfilled on the day of

Pentecost, fifty days after our Lord's Resurrection.

Immediately after receiving the Holy Spirit, the disciples began spreading the Good News of the Resurrected Christ in a variety of languages, traveling many hundreds of miles teaching about Christ, and establishing Church communities.

The Orthodox Church has always understood prayer to be a gift of the Holy Spirit; it is the Spirit that teaches and encourages us to pray. The complete text for the prayer to the Holy Spirit, which begins on the cover, is as follows:

"O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present everywhere and filling all things, the treasury of blessings and the Giver of Life; come and dwell in us, cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Gracious One."

The icon of Pentecost, also on the front cover, is interesting in that in addition to showing the Holy Spirit descending on to the heads of the disciples as tongues

of flame, there is another figure at the bottom center, holding a white cloth.

This figure represents the human race, who is surrounded in darkness representing sin and evil. He is holding a cloth which has several scrolls laying on it.

These represent the teachings of the apostles as they prepare to go forth and begin spreading the Good News.

The feast of Pentecost, then, is not just about the descent of the Holy Spirit, but about the great work of the apostles once they have received the spirit. God and Man working together to accomplish the divine Will of the Father, is the greatest work human beings can aspire to. The feastday of Pentecost is the beginning of this awesome relationship.

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*These represent the teachings of the apostles as they prepare to go forth and begin spreading the Good News.*

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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

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Office@StHaralambosAZ.com  
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

### Hours

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Parish Council

Evanne Cuccorelli  
Dennis Georgen  
Kathy Harvey

Timothy Harvey  
Russel Skocypec  
Russell Zook

## Birthdays



Beylul Russom (1)  
Christian Gheorghe (3)  
Charlotte Servetes (5)  
Shirley Germenis (8)  
Despina Tremoulis (8)  
Megan Pallad (10)  
Tamara Kurilova (12)  
Hermela Desta (13)  
Melani Ioannou (16)  
Tony Panousopoulos (18)  
Aristithi Vardalos (18)  
Voule Kapetanakis (19)  
Alexandra Pallad (19)  
Jeff Sokol (20)  
Nicoletta Theoharatos (21)  
John Zafiroopoulos (22)  
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.

## General Assembly

Everyone is invited to the Spring General Assembly which is scheduled for Sunday, May 17 in the fellowship room. This is everyone's best opportunity to hear

news – current and future – about our parish, and to offer thoughts and recommendations for the benefit of our church community.

## 25-year Seminary Graduation Reunion

This month, Fr. Michael will be traveling to Brookline, Massachusetts to

attend the 25th Anniversary Reunion of his graduation from Holy Cross Seminary.

## Special Matins Choir

A wonderful opportunity for singers and for our entire congregation continues this month with the Special Matins Choir assembled to sing the hymns and responses for Matins on Father's Day, Sunday, Jun. 21. This first-of-a-kind choir

will help introduce the Matins service to many in our congregation who have never attended, and will also offer an inspiring opportunity for the members of the choir to sing beautiful hymns and responses together.

## Sacraments

Congratulations to Dan and Anna Milonas on the baptism of their son, Alexander Nicholas, on Saturday, Mar. 28. Alexander's godfather is Jeff Milonas.

daughter, Josalyn Katerina, on Sunday, Apr. 19. Josalyn's godmother is Georgia Savaidis.

Congratulations to Adam and Erini Braddock on the baptism of their

May God grant them many years of good health and happiness.

## A Mother's Day Prayer

By George Wiseman

God could not be in every place  
With loving hands to help erase  
The teardrops from each baby's face,  
And so He thought of mother.

He could not send us here alone  
And leave us to a fate unknown;  
Without providing for His own,  
The outstretched arms of mother.

God could not watch us night and day  
And kneel beside our crib to pray,  
Or kiss our little aches away;  
And so He sent us mother.

And when our childhood days began,  
He simply could not take command.  
That's why He placed our tiny hand  
Securely into mother's.

The days of youth slipped quickly by,  
Life's sun rose higher in the sky.  
Full grown were we, yet ever nigh  
To love us still, was mother.

And when life's span of years shall end,  
I know that God will gladly send,  
To welcome home her child again,  
That ever-faithful mother.

## St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Valla Wrona, President

*"By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."*  
1 John 3:16

Thank you to ALL who helped during the Lenten Journey! There is so much to do and not one person can do it all. From the Kolyva for the Saturday of Souls, the meals served after the Wednesday Pre-Sanctified Liturgies, the Palm Sunday fish dinner, decorating Icons and the Epitaphios, changing floral arrangements, placing and removing chair covers, making palm crosses, dyeing eggs (300 this year!), baking bread and cookies, to hosting the Anastasi reception. Try to

imagine our Lenten Journey without all of the above.

As many of you have noticed, Pennies & Prayers has a new name: Mochas for Missions. I will continue to collect funds on Sundays through May to help further our goal of \$300. If you are able, please consider donating. This is a program to foster parish growth, educate the faithful, potential converts, inactive Orthodox Christians in Evangelism and Mission consonant with the Great Commission of Christ.

Our next meeting will be May 4, at 7pm Elections will be held at that time. Be sure to attend and cast your vote. Happy Mother's Day: May 10.



## Graduates

Congratulations to the following High School seniors who are graduating this month.

Georgio Thomas, graduating from Sandra Day O'Connor High School. His plans after graduation include attending Glendale Community College for two years on a Baseball scholarship, then transferring to a 4-year university to study Law.

Marianna Nicolaides, graduating from Deer Valley High School. Her plans after

graduation include enrolling in college (still deciding on which one) and studying either Forensic Science or Nutrition.

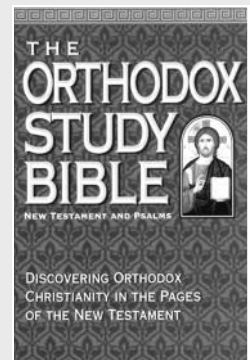
Congratulations to Cynthia Bingham for graduating from Arizona State University on May 15. She will be receiving a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies with a minor in Philosophy.

May God bless their future with good health as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

## Orthodox Study Group

Orthodox Bible Study will be meeting every Thursday in May as we continue with the Gospel of Matthew.

Please join us, 7pm at the church, with interest and questions and your bible.



## Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts/sponsors.

### April

- 5: Philoptochos Fish Luncheon
- 12: Easter
- 19: Voula Dodd & Angie Cholas
- 26: Pat Stamnas & Irene Nathanson

### May

- 5: Available
- 12: Available
- 19: Available
- 26: Available

Note: Due to publication printing deadlines, any changes to the coffee hour listings will be noted in next month's newsletter.



# MAY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Mortgage Reduction	<b>4</b> 7:00pm Philoptochos	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Mother's Day</b>	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Parish Council	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray <b>Spring General Assembly</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Ascension of Christ</b> <b>Sts. Constantine &amp; Peter</b> 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>25</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> 7:00pm Executive Council	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Saturday of Souls</b>
<b>31</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>						