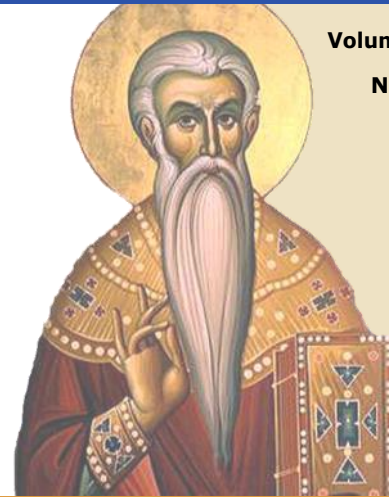


in Touch

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November 2014



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

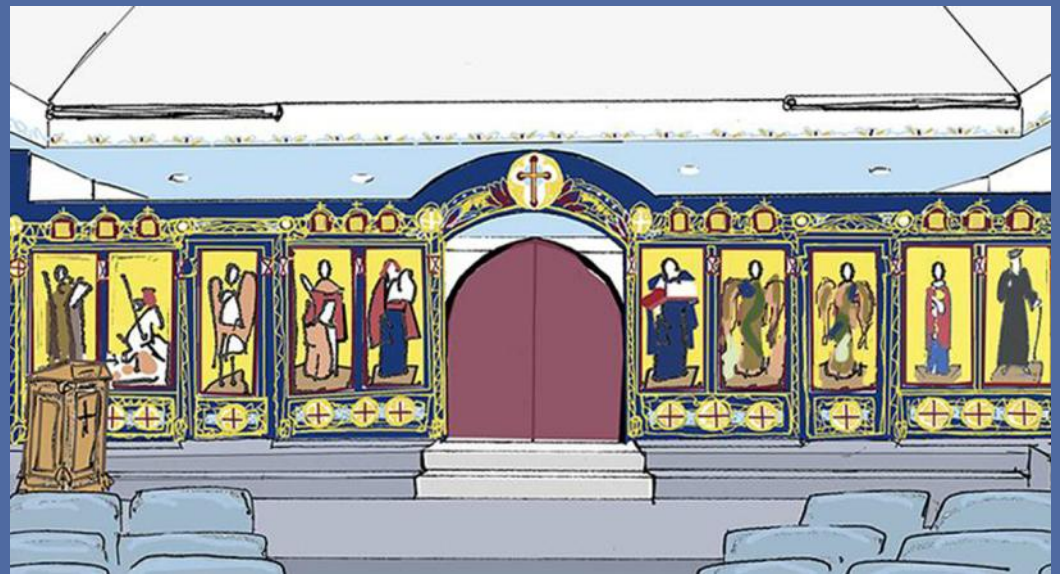
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Church Interior Beautification Project



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

Forever Young

Fall has arrived, and so will the new season for the Arizona Concert Band on Sunday, Nov. 2, at 3:00 p.m., at the Deer Valley High School Auditorium; located at 18424 N. 51st Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85308. This is a new location and there may be a small charge for the concert; it is usually free, donations accepted. This concert may be especially good to bring your grandchildren to: Theme from "E.T."; King Kong; Lord of the Rings; Harry Potter, etc.

We can go for Pizza before the concert, and plan to be there by 2:30 p.m. These concerts are very popular and fill up quickly. What a beautiful way to spend time with a grand-child or just with your friends.

Date change: Saturday, Nov. 15, we are planning an outing to cruise Lake Pleasant on the "Phoenix" which is a 65' 149 passenger vessel which is

climate controlled in the enclosed main deck with seating for up to 100; the top deck is open air and can also seat 100. This is a 90 minute guided tour of the lake by the captain. Boarding for the cruise begins at 12:00 p.m., please plan to be there by 11:30 a.m. The discounted group rate for the cruise is \$16 each, please pay me by Sunday, Nov. 9, they want one pre-paid payment for the group. After the cruise we will head over to Scorpion Bay to have a late lunch, early dinner at Dillon's on the lake. Food cost to you is off of menu. There is a \$6 charge per car to enter the park, it would be wise for us to carpool. Make your reservations ASAP; we need to know how many people to plan for, contact Julie at 623-972-2382 or juliekaroutas@gmail.com.

On Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m., Arizona Winds "Lighter Side of

Christmas" concert at Midwestern University, 19555 N. 59th Ave. Glendale, AZ 85308 (south of loop 101, 59th Avenue/Utopia) Refreshments following concert at Julie's.

On Tuesday Dec. 9 an all day trip up to Prescott with several stops along the way to enjoy the Holiday Magic that Prescott offers. It is known as Arizona's most Christmas City! Contact Julie for more information, call or email.

All enjoyed our "Picnic" on Oct 19, not just the food, but the "fellowship".



Sunday School

As part of an exercise during the first day of Sunday School, the Junior and Senior High School class prioritized completing a community service project that would impact third world or war torn areas. They further defined the project to target children. While researching how to accomplish this lofty goal, we found that the IOCC offered a worthwhile project – school supply kits. Over the next few weeks, the class determined how to obtain the necessary supplies, wrote and practiced a script for asking for donations, assembled the kits and wrote individual thank you notes.

The community's generous donations paid for the postage to ship 24 school kits to the IOCC. The kits included basic school supplies – notebooks, pencils, rule, eraser, scissors, crayons and pencil sharpener, that our students take for granted.

Thank you for your generous contributions towards making this project a success and for supporting the youth of our congregation.



Roy Christian

and

Thalia Zorbas

Cordially invite you to their wedding

On Sunday, the 30th of November

At St. Haralambos Church

following Liturgy (approximately 11:45)

A luncheon reception will follow

No gifts, please

*RSVP: If you can come, please reply
by Nov. 16th to either*

Roy: 623-810-5657 | rrccamps@gmail.com

Thalia: 623-218-6953 | thalia.zorbas@gmail.com



Church Interior Beautification Project

The future plans of our parish include the construction of a new Church, a Byzantine-style temple that was designed under the direction of Callahan Studios four years ago, and we all hope to see that dream become reality. Until we are able to begin construction, we will continue holding services in our current worship space, which, although accommodating, looks nothing like the interior of a traditional Orthodox Church temple.

That's about to change.

Last month the Parish Council approved plans to beautify the interior of our Church, including the Narthex, Nave and Altar. The project, which has been in the design phase for the past several months, will include the addition of traditional liturgical colors that will, for as long as we use our current worship space, help give it more of an "Orthodox" look.

Once the base color paints have been applied, decorative borders will be painted around the icons on the walls of the Nave. The large icons on the iconostasion will be framed and securely installed, as

well as additional decorative borders and new vigil lights. Paint color and style of design will be consistent from the church entrance, throughout the interior and into the altar.

Kay Fulghum, who is donating her artistic talents to this project, will be painting the borders and decorative elements throughout the Nave and Narthex that she designed in consultation with Fr. Michael. Drawings of the finished project will be on display this month.

Here is an opportunity for all parish families to help beautify the interior our Church! The expense for this interior design project is just \$5,000: \$3,500 for the initial paint contract, plus additional materials. If each of our families would consider a donation of \$100 (even \$50), the cost would be covered completely. The cost is



minimal, but the enjoyment will be immense!

A presentation was made last month on Sunday, Oct. 26, which showed the various design elements and colors that will be used, as well

as ways parishioners can be involved in supporting this project. See Kay Fulghum on Sundays for additional information.

Over the next weeks and months as the project develops, we will all be able to witness the wonderful transformation taking place, beginning with the Narthex. The addition of appropriate liturgical colors, shapes and other decorative elements will enhance our worship space. When complete, our church interior will offer a much deeper sense of inspiration, beauty, prayer and peace.

Watch for progress in the weeks ahead!

The addition of appropriate liturgical colors, shapes and other decorative elements will enhance our worship space.



**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

Evanne Cuccorelli
Dennis Georgen
Kathy Harvey
Timothy Harvey
Lali Mekvabishbili

Russel Skocypec
Russell Zook

Fall General Assembly

The annual Fall General Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 23, in our Social Hall, following the Divine Liturgy. All parishioners are encouraged to hear and discuss issues affecting the future plans of our parish. Our Philoptochos will

be serving lunch for everyone. The General Assembly agendas and proposed 2015 parish budget will be mailed separately. Hope to see everyone on the 23rd.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

This month, we're collecting food for ten needy families served by the Peoria Community Action Agency. We can use everyone's help in donating turkeys, canned and boxed foods for a traditional

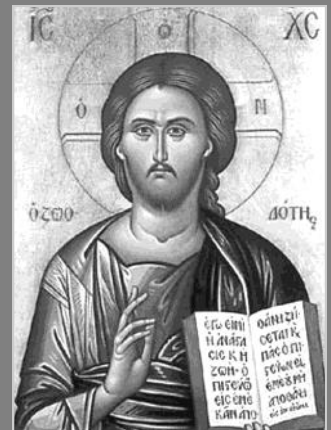
Thanksgiving meal. Volunteers are needed on Monday, Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. to help sort food and prepare and the boxes for pickup. Please call the church office to offer help or for any other questions.

Orthodox Study Group

Orthodox study group will meet this Thursday Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. at the church. We are still doing ACTS. Please join us.

Know the Faith

The final Know the Faith class will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Church. Everyone is welcome as we complete our look at the history and development of Orthodox Christianity.



Community Christmas Card

We will again be providing parishioners the opportunity to send Christmas greetings with a beautiful full-color icon greeting card to all our parish families. For each family name, the cost is just \$10.

Please print your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on the card. You may mail this form to the church office or sign up on Sundays during the Coffee Hour. Please make checks payable to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church. **The deadline is Monday, Dec. 8, 2014.**

Please include my family's name in this year's Community Christmas Card.

Enclosed is my check for \$10.

(Please return to the church office)

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Valla Wrona, President

"O Israel, how great is the house of God, and how far-reaching the place He possesses!" Baruch 3:24

Those who came for Author Judith Starkston's presentation on Oct. 6 can tell you they were not disappointed. But not to worry, if you missed it, you will have a chance again during the festival. She will be giving the same presentation in the sanctuary during the festival, so see the program for dates and times.

Don't forget about our bake sales. We will be baking several items for December for all of your holiday guests and parties. They also make great hostess presents. If you would like to pre-order to make certain you get what you need, please call Stella at 623-975-0027.

November 2: melomakarouna (\$5 pkg)

December 7: tsourekia, koulouria, and kourabiedes

Saturday, Nov. 1, will be the Divine Liturgy for the patron saints of Philoptochos, Sts. Kosmas and Damianos. We will be offering a light breakfast following the Liturgy, so please join us.

At the Nov. 3 meeting, Parish Council Member Evanne Cuccorelli will be offering us a special pre-holiday presentation about accessorizing for our holiday outfits. There will also be a raffle. Come join us for the fun!

Also plan on joining us for the December potluck and caroling, which will be held on Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. The community is invited, so please join us for eating, drinking, and merriment!

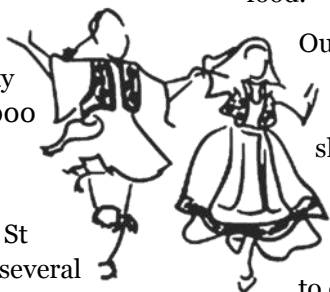


2015 Greek Food Festival

By Jeannette and Alvin Hollander

Many exciting changes have taken place since the last time we reported to the congregation. The biggest is our relationship with the city of Peoria. They are providing us with a portable stage so that we can invite outside performers to attend the festival and invite their families and friends. They also have inflatables we might be able to use as entertainment for the children. Both are at no charge to us. Most important, however, is that they will include a festival flyer, which they have developed, in their utility bills that will reach 60,000 households.

A few weeks ago we attended the festival for St Katherine. We spoke to several vendors who would be glad to participate in our event. We also had our



initial meeting with the Pro Em people regarding the layout we want to use this year and how much of the set-up and tear-down they will be providing. There will be changes to the foot print previously used that will help move traffic through the various food lines and make it easier to visit vendor booths. We have also contacted Le Cordon Bleu culinary school in Phoenix and they are going to advertise our event to the students and ask for volunteers to help us prepare and serve food.

Our next meetings are tentatively set for Nov. 8 and Dec. 6 at 9:30 in the church. All chair people should plan on attending. We look forward to your participation. If anyone has any questions, concerns, or ideas, please feel free to contact us at email peoriagreekfest@gmail.com.

Name Days

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

- SS. Cosmas and Damian (1st)
- St. Nektarios (9th)
- St. Theodore (11th)
- St. John Chrysostom (13th)
- St. Philip (14th)
- St. Gregory (14th)
- St Theodora (15th)
- St. Matthew (16th)
- St. Philemon (22nd)
- St. Katherine (25th)
- St. Andrew (30th)

Birthdays



Maria Maniatis (1)
Dan Milonas (2)
Thomas Papazoglou (2)
Argyro Vasquez (3)
Rakan Samawi (4)
Kelly Sokol (4)
Annette Karones (5)
Kate Savoy (7)
Julie Karoutas (8)
Marina Kaye (8)
Toula New (8)
Lali Mekvabishvili (12)
Irene Stratos (17)
Mary Dascalos (19)
Judy Jolly (19)
Brittany Retsinas (20)
Sarah Christenson, II (21)
George Stratos (24)
Madison Nicholas (25)
Nikolas Panousopoulos (25)
Markos Papamatheakis (27)
Dean Milonas (28)
Kristin Pallad (28)
Estelle Lazzelle (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.

Parish Council Elections

We Want You!

Candidates for the Parish Council are wanted. Here is an opportunity to give back and make a difference in our Church. To be eligible, you must be a steward in good standing, and should be willing to work on committees and events, work well with others, have fresh ideas, and love our Church community. Through your service, you will gain a greater understanding of our faith, work with a diverse and talented team, make lifetime friendships and more fully appreciate what it takes to administer our Church.

Candidate Petition/Profile forms must be turned in no later than: Sunday, November 23 at the General Assembly

Elections will be held on Sunday, December 7th.

Parish Council Elections

Information We All Need To Know

Each and every baptized Orthodox Christian must make some effort of active commitment to his Church. Some serve their Church by participating in the Church Choir, some do so by joining the Philoptochos Society, others assist whenever the Parish sponsors a community activity and others, men and women, alike, participate in the life of the Church by serving as members of the Parish Council.

Being a member of the Parish Council is truly a responsible task that must be served by an individual committed to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The role of a Parish Council member, therefore, is a holy and spiritual one. In assisting in the

administrative responsibilities of the Church, a Parish Council member acknowledges the importance of strengthening the earthly ministry through God's Church. Being a member of the Parish Council should not be for social reasons or status in the Community, but rather an act of humility and conviction to Christ our Lord.

In accordance with the 2007 Uniform Parish Regulations, all candidates for the Parish Council shall attend a seminar conducted by the Priest prior to the election. The purpose of the Seminar is to prepare candidates for the Parish Council, as well as to make them aware of the sacred responsibilities expected of a Council member.

The seminar for prospective parish council members will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. in the conference room. All candidates, including those seeking re-election, must attend the seminar in order to be placed on the election ballot.

The following rules pertaining to the election of a Parish Council member are from the 2007 Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America:

Elections of Parish Council Members

Article 25: Section 2 – A candidate for the Parish Council must be a parishioner in good standing of the Parish for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the election and must live his or her life in accordance with the Faith and canons of the Church.

(Continued on page 7)

Parish Council Elections

(Continued from page 6)

Article 29: Section 1 – The members of the Parish Council shall attend the Divine Liturgy regularly and participate in the sacramental life of the Church, thereby setting an example for the Parishioners. Under the leadership of the Priest, the Parish Council shall:

- A. Assist the Priest in the administration of the affairs and ministries of the Parish;
- B. Establish the appropriate committees, including but not limited to Stewardship, Finance, Fundraising, Planning and Real Estate committees;
- C. Utilize the Stewardship material provided by the Archdiocese to implement and expand the Parish Stewardship program and ministries;
- D. Prepare budgets for the Parish's administration and ministries and collect the revenue of the Parish;
- E. Provide for the Priest's remuneration and benefits in accordance with the Clergy Compensation Plan of the Archdiocese;
- F. Provide financing for the salaries of the Parish personnel;
- G. Provide financial resources for the Parish's administration and for the Parish's spiritual, educational and other ministries and expenses;
- H. Buy, sell or mortgage Parish property, subject to the approval of the Parish Assembly and the provisions of these Regulations;
- I. Provide for payments and assessments for support of the Archdiocese as fixed by the Congresses;
- J. Submit to the respective Hierarch and the Archdiocese, at the end of the year,

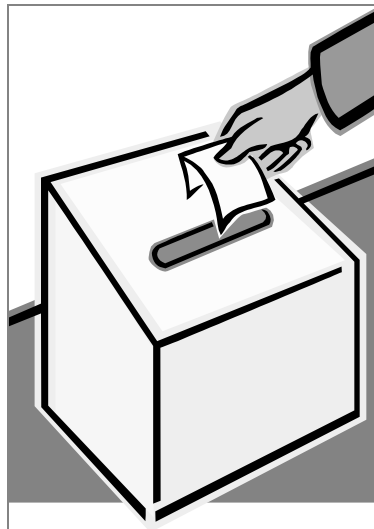
the financial statement of the Parish for that year (certified by the Parish's Board of Auditors) and the Parish budget for the ensuing year;

- K. Submit annual Parish profile reports that may be required by the Archdiocese and the respective Archdiocesan District/Metropolis; and
- L. Adhere to the Charter, the Regulations and decisions promulgated at the Congresses.

In addition, the By-Laws of Saint Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church state:

Election of Parish Council

Article V: Section 2 – A candidate for the Parish Council must be a member in good standing of the Parish who is at least 21 years of age and has been a member in good standing for at least 12 months prior to the Parish Council election. Any individual wishing to run for the Parish Council must have signed a stewardship pledge card for the current year and made some financial contribution towards that pledge prior to submitting an application.



Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts/sponsors.

October

- 5: Philoptochos
- 12: Russ Skocypec
- 19: Pam Lemons & Andriana Henson
- 26: Dina & Carl Surman

November

- 2: Caring Friends
- 9: Athena & Danny Barbera
- 16: Paula & Chris Theocatatos
- 23: Available
- 30: Thalia & Roy Christian

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



ORGANIZATIONS

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
Peoria, Arizona

Parish Council Election Requirements

In accordance with the Archdiocese Uniform Parish Regulations (UPR) and our parish By-Laws, the following election requirements are applicable:

1) Members In Good Standing (UPR Art. VI, Sec. 1)

Any person, eighteen years of age or over, who was baptized according to the rites of the Church, or was received into the Church through the Sacrament of Chrismation, who lives according to the faith and canons of the Church, who has met his financial obligation to the parish and abides by the regulations herein and the By-Laws of the parish, is a Member in Good Standing of the parish, except that persons under twenty-one years of age shall not serve on the Parish Council when such service is contrary to local law.

2) Parish Council Candidates

Candidates for election to the Parish Council must be over the age of twenty-one, and a Member in Good Standing (see #1 above) of the parish for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election. All new candidates must meet with the priest prior to the elections to review the Archdiocese UPR, and agree to abide by them.

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

Parish Council Nomination Form

Forms must be submitted by the November 23, 2014 General Assembly Meeting.

Having read and understood the above requirements for nomination and voting, I would like to nominate the following people for the upcoming Parish Council elections.

NOVEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00am Divine Liturgy Sts. Cosmas & Damian
2 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	3 7:00pm Philoptochos	4	5 7:00pm Know the Faith	6 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	7	8 9:00am Divine Liturgy Archangels Michael and Gabriel
9 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	10 7:00pm Parish Council	11	12	13 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. John Chrysostom 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	14	15
16 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray	17	18	19	20 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	21 9:00am Divine Liturgy Entrance of the Theotokos	22
23 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Fall General Assembly	24 7:00pm Executive Council	25	26	27 Thanksgiving (Church Office Closed)	28	29
30 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy						



St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

The purpose of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is to give our youth (grade 4 thru grade 12) an opportunity to learn, write and speak about their Orthodox Faith, Church and Heritage. St. Haralambos is pleased to announce our Kick-off for the 2015 Oratorical Festival. Eligible Sunday School students will receive informational packet in November. The packets included:

- Introduction to the Oratorical Program and benefits for students
- St. Haralambos Program Goals
- Discussion of timelines and important dates
 - Parish Festival is scheduled for Sunday March 22, 2015
- Distribution of topics and program guidelines for
 - Elementary Division (Grades 4 thru 6)
 - Junior Division (Grades 7 thru 9)
 - Senior Division (Grades 10 thru 12)

Please contact Jeannette Hollander at jechollander@gmail.com or Father Michael for more details of if you have questions about the information packets

Oratorical Festival Topics

Junior Division (Grades 7–9)

1. The theme of the 2014 Clergy-Laity Congress was "The Orthodox Christian family: A dwelling of Christ and a witness of His Gospel." Discuss how today's Orthodox Christian families can strive to live according to this ideal.
2. St. Paul writes, "An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Timothy 2:5). Discuss the virtue of honesty in a time when cheating in school, sports, and other activities is reported more and more.
3. Discuss the Orthodox Christian practice of fasting from certain foods and the spiritual

discipline it teaches, especially in light of the Lord's directive in Matthew 6:16–18.

4. Malala Yousafzai is an inspirational example of fighting fearlessly for a noble cause in spite of threats against her life. Discuss a young saint or person from the Bible who illustrates such courage.
5. Several leaders in the political and religious arena have been described as people with a prophetic gift. What really is a prophet? Discuss their actions in light of the Old Testament prophets and in comparison to other contemporary examples.

Senior Division (Grades 10–12)

1. The Lord said, "I was in prison and you came to me" (Matthew 25:36). What does this teach us about our attitudes toward those in jails and imprisoned?
2. Psalm 50 (51) begins, "Have mercy on me, O Lord..." It is considered the psalm of repentance. Discuss how praying this psalm might affect our understanding of repentance, confession, and forgiveness.
3. Women apostles, martyrs, and saints have spread the Gospel and advanced the Church from the beginning of Christianity. Discuss the significance of their roles and examples for all Christians today.
4. The St. Nicholas Church at Ground Zero, which was destroyed on September 11, 2001, is soon to be rebuilt. Discuss the ways in which this tiny church building will now become a symbol of the universal themes of victory over evil; healing and hope; and being a beacon of Orthodox Christianity.
5. Using the parable of the poor widow's offering to the Temple (Luke 21:1–4), discuss the Orthodox Christian attitude of offering to the Church's ministries.