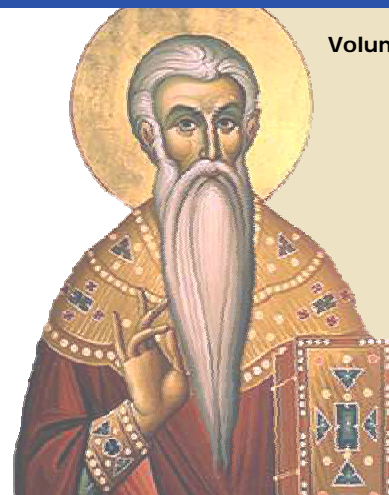


in Touch

Volume 17, Issue 10

October 2009



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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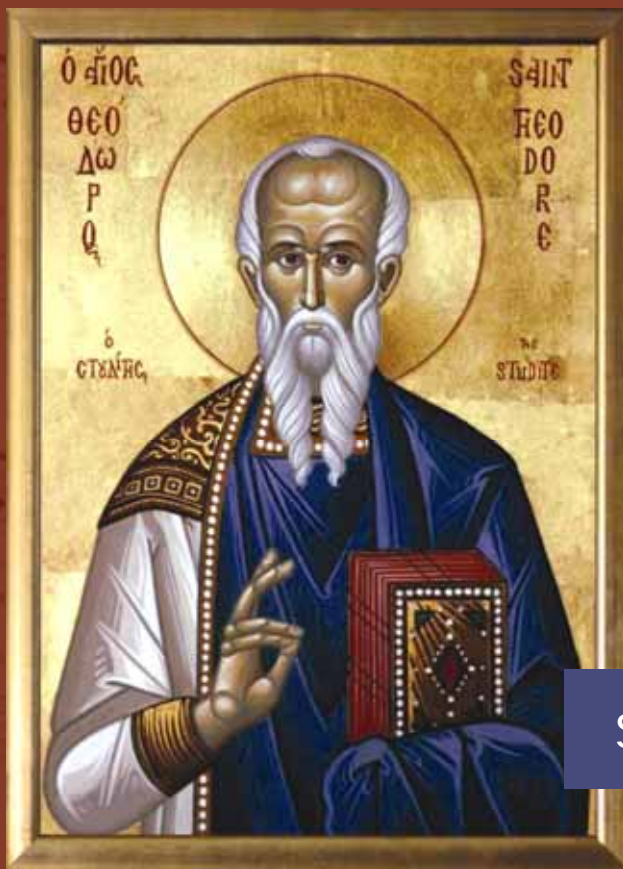
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National Church Music Sunday

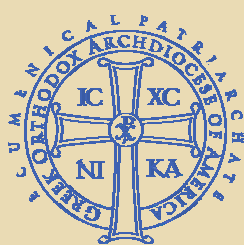


*O Theodore most
wise, you have
enlightened all by
your teachings.*

*Harp of the spirit,
pray to Christ our
God to save our souls.*

*Apolytikion of St.
Theodore the Studite,
Plagal of the 4th Mode*

Sunday, October 4



Honoring Church Musicians Across the Archdiocese of America

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

October 23,
24 and 25

Taste of Greece Festival

The Taste of Greece Festival is just around the corner and final preparations are being made to once again bring the finest Festival to the West Valley.

Your help is needed.

- Volunteers are not only needed during the Festival weekend but during the month of October preparing food and pastries, distributing flyers, setting up, and more. (See the enclosed calendar for food preparation and baking schedule.)
- Keep a lookout for Penny Obren and Despina Medina who will be available on Sundays throughout September and October to sign up volunteers.

Be sure to make plans now to spend the weekend enjoying beautiful music and delicious foods of the Greek culture while sharing the history of St. Haralambos Church and the warm hospitality of our Parish with our community.

Tell your friends, co-workers and family about the event.

Please note: the Festival will open early on Friday, October 23rd at 4:00 pm to accommodate early diners.



Let's make this a Festival to remember!



Three simple words: Can I help?

With last month's memorable Groundbreaking celebration now a part of our parish history, we look forward to receiving, in the weeks ahead, the Building Permit from the City of Peoria, and then watching the construction of Phase 1 of our building project, the multi-use Fellowship Hall at 75th Ave. and Greenway Rd.

With barely enough time to catch our breath, we move on, this month, with final preparations, including all the baking, for our annual Greek Festival. (Please see the enclosed Festival Baking Calendar.) We look forward once again, not just to a successful outcome for the festival, but to our largest volunteer event, which brings more parishioners and friends together for the benefit of St. Haralambos Church.

Our festival is a great time for everyone to ask three simple words: Can I help? Three simple words that so many people take for granted! Because our parish has put on more than 20 annual festivals, it may seem to some as though everything is under control and there is enough help.

Think for a minute about parishioners that have been helping with the festival for the past 20+ years: if they began in their 40's they're now in their 60's; if they began in their 50's they're now in their 70's. Is everyone aware that there are a good number of festival volunteers well into their 80's? Wouldn't it be nice for the next generation to step up and give those people a well-deserved break?

Our festivals are successful because of the incredible dedication of a small number of parishioners who will keep going until they can no longer get up and move. They plan for months beforehand, they cook for weeks, help set up their booths, work in their booths the entire weekend, and help teardown and put things away.

They will tell you they love doing it, they love the fellowship, and they love working for their church. But if pressed, they will also tell you that they'd love to see more young volunteers step up and begin to take a little of the burden off of their shoulders, arms, legs and fingers. Help is needed in virtually every area

of the festival, from advertising to cooking, from set-up to tear-down.

Just ask: Can I help? Find Penny Obren – you can't miss her; she is in church every Sunday with a terrific smile and a note pad. The smile says she loves her church; the notepad says she's waiting to take names. She's been the festival volunteer coordinator for years, and she does a fantastic job.

There really is something for everyone. There's plenty to do before, during and after the festival. Help is both needed and appreciated. Don't wait to be asked! Find Penny Obren, Stella Pagos, Pam Lemons or any parish council member and ask, "Can I help?" They will be happy to answer that question for you in no time flat.

St. Haralambos volunteers have done an outstanding job over the past 20 years. To keep our festival going, though, we'll need to see some new faces offering to help. Three simple words: Can I help?

They will tell you they love doing it, they love the fellowship, and they love working for their church.



**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
10320 N. 84th Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345
Office@StHaralambos.phxcoxmail.com
FrMichael@StHaralambos.phxcoxmail.com

Hours

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

Parish Council

Ray Wysmierski, President
Mike Danielek, Vice-President
Mary Wysmierski, Secretary
Stella Pagos, Treasurer
Angie Cholas
Dave Fredericksen

Mary Manos
Peter Retsinas
Roberta Szklarski
Katherine Tally
Peter Tremoulis

Parishioner Profile



John Obren was born in Chicago, Illinois, and Penny was born in Joliet, Illinois. They met at the YMCA in Joliet in 1953 and were married in All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet, in 1954. They have four children: two sons and two daughters.

John was an engineer with the US government, Department of the Army. Penny worked for the State of Illinois Unemployment Office. They moved to Sun City West in 1993 and became members of St. Haralambos Church that same year.

John was Parish Council Treasurer for two years and substitute Treasurer for four more years. He worked hard to coordinate our new church property mortgage payoff in 2005. At the Mortgage

Burning Banquet, John received a special award for all his help in achieving this important goal. He can be found each year in the bank room during the festival where he has helped for many years.

Penny also plays a very important part in the smooth running of our annual festival. She coordinates all of the volunteers needed for the all areas of the festival. She is a member of Philoptochos and the Special Events chairperson. You can find her most Sunday mornings working as a greeter and also coordinating those who help each Sunday morning.

When asked what they would like to see happen at St. Haralambos in the next year, John replies, "To see the immediate construction of the new Fellowship Hall at our 75th Avenue location" and Penny responded, "To see more members added to our St. Anna's Philoptochos Society."

This busy couple works tirelessly as an integral part in making our Church a better place to be. Thanks to both of them for all they do.

Coffee Hour

Thank You to Our Coffee Hour Hosts/Sponsors

Sept 6	Stella Kosta
Sept 13	James & Andrea Constant
Sept 20	Philoptochos
Sept 27	Sue Charbel

Oct 4	Available
Oct 11	Available
Oct 18	Available
Oct 25	Available

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

Spirit of Stewardship Awards Banquet

The first annual Spirit of Stewardship Awards Banquet, hosted by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and the Philoptochos Societies from each parish, was held at Holy Trinity Cathedral on Sunday, Sep. 27. The purpose of this banquet was to recognize the dedication of two stewards from each of the valley's Greek Orthodox parishes. Similar banquets are also being held in other parts of the San Francisco Metropolis.

The two stewards from St. Haralambos Church that were given awards by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos were Penny Obren and Michael Danielek, both long-time members of our parish and both very deserving of this award. Our warmest congratulations to Penny and Mike, and heartfelt thanks for their tireless gifts of time, talents, and treasures to St. Haralambos Church.

Adult Education and Study

The Know the Faith classes continue this month on Wednesday, Oct. 7 and 14 (no classes scheduled for Oct. 21 and 28). These classes explore the history and development of Orthodox Christianity.

The Tuesday morning Bible Class continues its study of St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians at 10:30am in the library. Friends are welcome.

Parish Family Events

On Saturday, Nov. 14, a tour of the Indian Sikh Temple on 51st Avenue, north of Hwy 101 in Phoenix has been arranged. All St. Haralambos parishioners are invited but everyone who is interested must sign up with Penny Obren by Sunday, November 1st so an accurate count can be given to the Temple for their lunch preparation.

We will meet at St. Haralambos Church at 10:30 am and carpool to the Temple to arrive by 11 am where we will have an escorted tour, see a slide show and have a light lunch prepared by their members. We will return to St. Haralambos Church between 1:30 - 2 pm. There is no charge for the tour but donations are gratefully accepted. (Note: If some would prefer to meet at the Temple, please let Penny know in advance – we still need an accurate count.)

A little further into the future, we're planning a visit to St. Paisius Serbian

Orthodox Women's Monastery in Safford, Arizona. The date is scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 6, 2010, a bit into the future, but if you are at all interested please reserve the date now. More information regarding bus cost, proper attire, etc. will be available later; but this is definite: we will leave St. Haralambos Church at 6:30 am. and arrive at St. Paisius Monastery around 10:30 am. We will have lunch together, attend Vespers, be given a tour of the facilities, and leave for home at 3:30 pm and arrive back at St. Haralambos Church by 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited, including friends and other parishioners from the other Orthodox parishes who would like to attend.

For more information see Penny Obren at church on Sunday or call her at 623-214-1289.

Saturday, November 12, 2009

Sikh Temple, Northwest Phoenix

Saturday, March 6, 2010

St. Paisius Monastery, Safford, Az

Thought for the Month

"Life does not put things in front of you that you are unable to handle."

NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY is a day we set aside particularly to honor the contributions of local choir members, chanters, and music educators who serve their churches through the hymnology of our Orthodox Church. In addition, it is a day when we recognize the work of the diocesan choir federations as well as the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, who through their music ministry, strive to enhance the development of church choirs, church musicians, and liturgical music at diocesan and archdiocesan levels.

To these ends, the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians encourages local parishes to use NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY to recognize the contributions of church musicians at three levels each year:

- To honor your LOCAL CHURCH MUSICIANS: your choir director and choir members, your chanters, and other church musicians for their service to the parish;
- To reaffirm your support of your METROPOLIS CHOIR FEDERATION and participate in its activities; and
- To support your national church ministry, the work of the NATIONAL FORUM OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS by becoming a Steward of the National Forum and making a contribution to its Annual Church Music Fund Drive held during October.





Philoptochos

By Charlotte Servetas, President

"Faith without works is dead"
(James 2:26)

Sep. 1 was our first meeting of the year. A great potluck supper, productive business meeting and the oath of office for our new board was administered by Father Michael.

2009-2010 Officers

Charlotte Servetas, President

Voula Dodd, Vice President

Chryss Danielek, Secretary

Alice Hecht, Treasurer

Mary Manos, Asst. Treasurer

Directors: Arliss Dennison, Lola Durand,
and Catherine Pallad

Sunday social hour has a new chairperson, Arliss Dennison. Please make her feel comfortable in this position. If you would like to host or contribute sweets, fruit or beverage for a certain week, please contact Arliss at 623-487-2058 or the church office. Remember, Social hour is about time spent greeting friends, newcomers and visitors; but it is not lunch!

FYI

1. \$2,000 donation was made to our Building Fund
2. Sharon & George Speros were the winners of the Quilt raffle drawing.
3. The "new edition" of our cookbook is available. Cost is \$12.00 per copy.

Our next meeting is Oct. 5 at 7 pm
Won't you join us?

Birthdays



Artemesia Tremoulis (10th)

Dutch Rosenberg (13th)

Joan Coor (20th)

Carl Surman (23rd)

Sabrina Tremoulis (23rd)

Dimitri Genes (29th)

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.

Assisted Living/Hospitalization

The following parishioners may not be able to be with us physically, but are still loved members of our parish, and we ask you to please remember them in prayer: Orin Davis, Lee Feutz, John and Mary Karavaras, Gus Macrides.

Sacraments

Congratulations and God's blessings to the newly-baptized Alyssa Paladino, daughter of Rhett and Christine, who was baptized on Saturday, Sept. 12. Alyssa's Godmother is Andrea Romkowske of Palm Desert.

Name Days

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

St. Romanos (1st)	St. Luke (18th)
Sts. Cyprian and Justina (2nd)	St. Gerasimos (20th)
St. Philip the Deacon (11th)	St. James (Iakovos) (23rd)
St. Artemios (14th)	St. Sebastiane (24th)
St. Kosmas (14th)	St. Demetrios (26th)
St. Lazaros (17th)	

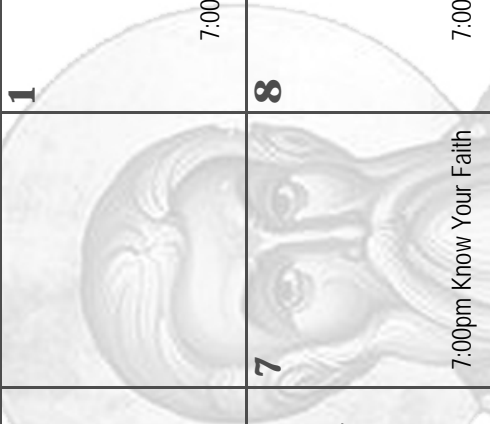
FESTIVAL BAKING AND FOOD PREP SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 8:30am Till ? Tsourekia Kitchen	3 9:00am Till ? Tsourekia Kitchen
4	5	6 9:00am Till ? Koulouria Social Hall	7	8 9:00am Till ? Spanakopites Social Hall	9 9:00am Till ? Tiropites Social Hall	10 9:00am Till ? Melomakarouna Paximadia Kitchen
11	12	13 9:00am Till ? Kourabiedes Social Hall	14 9:00am Till ? Mousaka Kitchen	15 9:00am Till ? Pastitsio Kitchen	16 8:00am Till ? Dolmades Social Hall	17
18	19 9:00am Till ? Baklava Social Hall	20 9:00am Till ? Diples Social Hall	21 9:00am Till ? Pastry Packing Pastry Room	22 9:00am Till ? Pastry Packing Pastry Room	23 OPAA!	24 OPAA!
25 OPAA!	26	27	28	29	30	31

No Experience Necessary - Will Train! Just come with your enthusiasm and an apron.

SIGN UP WITH PENNY OBREN: 623-214-1289

OCTOBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
4 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Church Music Sunday	5 7:00pm Philoptochos	6 10:30am Bible Study	7 7:00pm Know Your Faith	8 7:00pm Choir	9	10
11 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	12	13 10:30am Bible Study	14 7:00pm Know Your Faith	15 7:00pm Choir	16	17
18 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	19	20 10:30am Bible Study	21 7:00pm Parish Council	22 7:00pm Choir	23 4:00pm Greek Festival	24 10:00am Greek Festival
25 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Greek Festival	26 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Demetrios	27 10:30am Bible Study	28	29 7:00pm Choir	30	31