

inTouch

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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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PEORIA GREEKFEST 2015 Food & Dance Festival

Fresh Greek Food and Pastries

Friday
February 6
5 pm to 10 pm

Saturday
February 7
11 am to 10 pm

Sunday
February 8
12 pm to 8 pm

*Live Greek Music • Folk Dancing
Market Place • Activities for All Ages*



NORTHWEST VALLEY
St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox Church
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ
Just east of 83rd Ave. on Pinnacle Peak Rd.

Admission: \$3.00

Children and Active Military: Free!

New Dates for Greek Festival
February 6 – 8, 2015

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

Church Interior Design Project

Part of 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, 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 **this current 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. The large icons on the iconostasion will be framed and securely hung, 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.

Here is an opportunity for all parish families to help beautify 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 immense! Watch for progress in the weeks ahead.

Forever Young

Picnic at Viewpoint Lake Park in Sun City, Oct. 19

We are planning a beautiful day to **"Picnic" at Viewpoint Lake Park in Sun City.** If you have never been to this park, you are in for a wonderful experience. We will first of all have the food brought in and share in the cost, we will have our main meal, dessert and cold beverages, iced tea, soda, etc. if you wish to bring something stronger, please do so in an enclosed cooler or bag; secondly, dress comfortably and wear comfortable



shoes, there is fishing in the lake (you do not need a fishing license); there are two paddle boats that we can use; two row boats; miniature golf is right there; restrooms are close by as are water fountains. There are several large Ramadas; I will be there early that day to be sure to get one for us. They can comfortably seat 18 to 24 people. There is a beautiful waterfall, several ponds, a walking trail around the lake with beautiful swans and geese swimming there. There is a special area close to a pond with benches for smokers. It is so tranquil and beautiful, that you are sure to enjoy it.

Please remember that St. **Katherine's is having their Festival the first weekend in October and Holy Trinity is having theirs the second weekend in October.** We can carpool if anyone wishes to go. Please let me know and we can make arrangements.

Please make your reservations ASAP; we need to have a count to know how many people to plan for.

Please contact Julie at 623-972-2382 or juliekaroutas@gmail.com, or at church on Sunday.

Please mark your calendars for Nov. 16, we are planning an outing to cruise **Lake Pleasant on the "Phoenix" which** is a 65 foot 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. This ship is state of the art. After the cruise we will head over to Scorpion Bay to have a late lunch, early dinner **at Dillon's on the lake. There is a \$6 charge per car to enter the park.**

On Sunday Dec. 7 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!** Check the flyer on our web site; we will have some copies printed.

On our outings we have enjoyed not just the food or the music, but the **"fellowship".**



St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero

The only house of worship to be destroyed on September 11, 2001, was St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero in New York. Since that time, our Archdiocese has been negotiating the re-building of this historic church into a national shrine.

The Ground-blessing ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18. Here is an article from the St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero website regarding the plans to rebuild.

In a recent New York Times article (Nov. 20, 2013), David Dunlap wrote about the elevated park above Liberty Street in the rebuilt World Trade Center site, "that will command a panoramic view of the National September 11 Memorial." This "Liberty Park" will **create "...a landscaped forecourt for the new St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church; to provide a gathering space for as many as 750 people at a time; to allow visitors to contemplate the whole memorial in a single sweeping glance from treetop level..."**

It should not difficult for anyone to see that Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero, a National Shrine of our Archdiocese,

will truly be, as the Lord preached in the Sermon on the Mount, "the city set on a hill that cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).

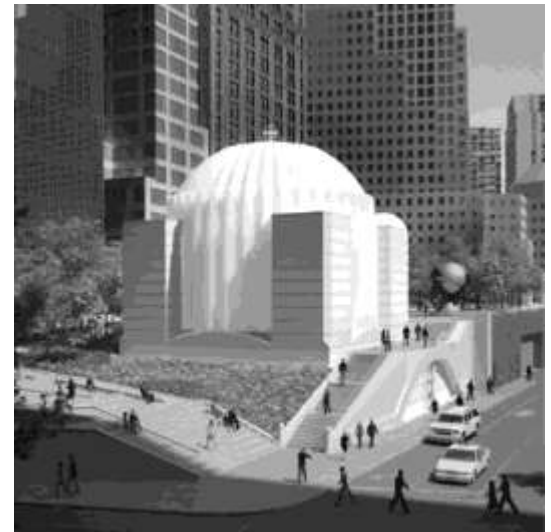
The "city set on a hill" or the "high city" is in fact an "acropolis," a word that speaks volumes not only to Greek Orthodox Christians everywhere, but to most people in the Western World. But the Greek word, **AKPOΣ**, actually means "highest," "topmost," "utmost," and even "consummate." So an "acropolis" is always the citadel set on the highest point of any city, and throughout the ancient world, numerous examples can be found, even if only in ruins.

Now the resurrected Saint Nicholas is not located on the earthly highest point of New York City. However, it is certainly set on the sublime spiritual summit that witnessed the horror and the heroism of that pivotal day we know as 9/11. The elevated physical position of the church structure has tremendous implications for the mission and relevancy of the Shrine to New York City and to the world. Literally millions of visitors to the Memorial and Museum will pass by Saint Nicholas Shrine year after year. The opportunities for witness

to the transcendent human values of the Orthodox Christian Faith are as many as those millions of pilgrims who will come to Ground Zero to remember and to pray.

The new Saint Nicholas, like the Parthenon that graces the Acropolis, has the potential to inspire these millions. Many will enter the Shrine and light a candle. Some will kneel to pray and venerate the icons. Some will make it a point to make it their house of worship. Others will sit quietly and meditate. Still others will go to the bereavement space on the second floor to find solace in their own tradition.

(Continued on page 4)



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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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
Dorothy Vordos
Lee Vordos
Russell Zook

Know the Faith

An Introduction to the Teachings of Orthodox Christianity

All adults are welcome to attend the new Know the Faith classes which meet Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Church. The final class is Wednesday,

November 12. The classes explore the history and development of the teachings and traditions of Orthodox Christianity, similarities and differences with other Christian traditions, and the various customs and traditions in Orthodox Church family life. All are welcome.

Birthdays



- Aristi Ballas Baroutas (4)
- Banna Tesfay (5)
- Rafat Samawi (10)
- Athena Papamatheakis (11)
- Vincent Gheorge (12)
- Dutch Rosenberg (13)
- Sophia Hibner (15)
- Theodore Manos (15)
- Chrissy Pritchard (16)
- Julie Leros (17)
- Ammiel Desta (18)
- Carl Surman (23)
- Nikita Reisler (31)
- Lindsay Vardalos (31)

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.

A Gathering of Prayer

WhooHooo we're Two!

By Kay Fulghum

Our Gathering of Prayer ministry is two years old this month. I am so grateful to our prayer group members who have generously taken time to adopt one of the 40 days during the Memorial Akathists that we have held for our parish family members that have fallen asleep in the Lord. It has been a blessing to work with you! What a miracle it is that the Creator of the Universe would grant us the privilege of being heard in prayer by Him, when we ask for His mercy on behalf of others....

If anyone is interested in joining our prayer group, please leave contact information for Kay with the Office, and **I'll be happy to** answer any questions you may have.

Thanks also to those of you who have joined us occasionally to help.



St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero

(Continued from page 3)

This sacred Shrine will truly be a house of prayer for all people.

And this will be the result of the mere physical presence of Saint Nicholas at Ground Zero. But there is also the question of its wider mission, its **ΔΙΑΚΟΝΙΑ** and its **ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ**. The message of God's forgiving, mercy-filled love for every human person can be enshrined in this Shrine, through its programs, outreach, and everyday

witness. And every member of our Archdiocese can partake in this mission. There is the solidarity of prayer. There is the participation in the special events that will define its goals. There is the shared responsibility of regular support. All of these and more will be available to every member of the Church and beyond. Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at Ground Zero is truly our "city that is set on a hill," our American Parthenon. We cannot hide it. We will not hide it. We will let it shine.

Orthodox Study Group

Orthodox bible study will continue to meet on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the church. We are now doing ACTS of the Apostles. All are invited.

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Valla Wrona, President

"He set His eye upon their hearts to show them the majesty of His works."

Wisdom of Sirach 17:7

Our Philoptochos meeting will be begin at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 6 and will finish **following Mrs. Starkston's presentation.** Please come out and show your support, especially if you would like to see more events like this.

October 5, our ladies of Philoptochos will be selling paximadia. We will also be selling domestic feta cheese and Kalamata olives, each for just \$6 per pound. You may preorder the baked goods at any time by contacting Anna Kinniburgh at 623-546-6101. Please consider preordering if you want to ensure that you get some, we sell out quickly.

For the remaining months of the year, we have tentatively scheduled the following:

November 2: melomakarouna

December 7: tsourekia, koulouria, and kourabiedes

Won't you consider hosting a coffee hour one Sunday? We have many open dates right now. I would like to emphasize that this should not be an expensive endeavor. All we need are some small bites: cheese and crackers, fruit or vegetable, and a cookie. This is just something to tide us over from the fast while we kibbbitz (aka fellowship) with one another before leaving for our homes. Please contact Stella Pagos to set up a date, 623-975-0027.

Book Presentation by Author
Judith Starkston

Everyone is invited on Monday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m., to hear a presentation by author Judith Starkston discuss her recently published historical fiction novel, Hand of Fire, based on the Trojan War.

Ms. Starkston will speak about what inspired her to bring to life the story of a forgotten captive woman, Briseis, of the legendary Trojan War. She will also discuss her travels and research which provided the background for her story. A question and answer period will follow. After the presentation, we will be conducting our monthly Philoptochos meeting.

Here is a review of Hand of Fire from **the Historical Novels Review:** "In Hand of Fire, Judith Starkston frees Briseis from the actions of Achilles and Agamemnon and gives her the power to become the **heroine of her own story.** ... Starkston does a lovely job of bringing the characters to life, and her descriptions of the religious rites, the scenery of Mount Ida, and life as a woman of privilege in the ancient world put me firmly in the story. The love story between Briseis and Achilles is well-rendered, as are Briseis' relationships with her father and brothers, her nurse, and the other women in the city and in the camp. A wonderful new take on a timeless story."

If you're interested in purchasing the book, it is available through all major online bookstores. You can also see more information on her website and read excerpts from the book, www.judithstarkston.com.



Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts/sponsors.

September

7: Sue Charbel
14: Penny Obren
21: Philoptochos
28: Philoptochos

October

5: Available
12: Russ Skocypc
19: Available
26: Dina & Carl Surman

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



OCTOBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	
5 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy National Church Music Sunday	6 7:00pm Philoptochos	7 7:00pm Know the Faith	8 7:00pm Know the Faith	9 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	10 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	11
12 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	13 7:00pm Parish Council	14 7:00pm Know the Faith	15 7:00pm Know the Faith	16 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	17	18 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Luke the Evangelist
19 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray	20 7:00pm Executive Council	21 7:00pm Know the Faith	22 7:00pm Know the Faith	23 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	24	25
26 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	27 7:00pm Executive Council	28 7:00pm Executive Council	29 7:00pm Know the Faith	30 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	31	