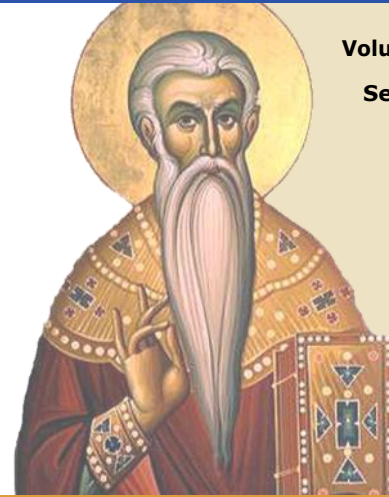


# in Touch

Volume 23, Issue 9  
September 2015



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

**Forever  
Young • 2**

**From Generation  
to Generation • 3**

**Christmas  
Concert • 4**

**Orthodox  
Christianity 101 • 4**

**Youth  
Night • 7**

## NEW *Beginnings*

*God is with you  
no matter what life brings*

**Joshua 1:9**

**September:  
The New Church Year Begins**



*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

Greetings to All “Forever Young” members, I hope that you have all had a wonderful Summer, it is time to get ready for our Fall events; we start with the “Musical Instrument Museum” better known as MIM, event



“Experience India”, we will be attending on Saturday, Sep. 5; arrival time is 9:30 am; admission is \$20 per person (group rate) and must be paid to me by Sunday, Aug. 29th as payment must be made in one transaction (we cannot pay individually). This is a very special event with all sorts of entertainment and programs during the day, at no extra cost beyond the admission fee. Please note that the original date to attend was changed so that we can enjoy this added event. The Bistro will also be open if anyone wishes to have some refreshment and for those who wish, we can go out after we leave to one of the fine Scottsdale restaurants and enjoy a late lunch or early dinner and continue to enjoy our Fellowship. Please let me know if you need a ride, so that we can coordinate carpooling.

On Saturday, Sep. 26 at 4:00 pm, we will meet at Russ Skocypec’s home in Sun City Grand, to enjoy our “A Day at the Races” event. You will receive your invitation and directions via email & we also have copies and a signup sheet at the church during “Coffee hour”.

I have also booked the fabulous musical “West Side Story” at the Arizona Broadway Dinner Theatre, the group

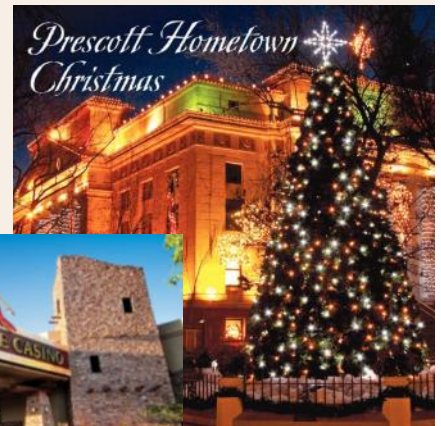
rate for the musical is only \$56 for this particular performance. The date will either be on Thursday, Oct. 28 or Nov. 12 (I’m trying to secure the Nov. 12 date) for their Matinee performance. We must have at least 10 to get this group rate, please notify me as soon as possible and payment by check made out to me, Julie Karoutas (I will have to give a 25% deposit in a week and final payment a month before the performance.) It is imperative that I receive payment no later than Sunday, Sep. 29.

The Arizona Concert Band will be starting their concerts soon, usually at the end of October, they have not as yet posted their 2015 – 2016 performance schedule. I will post it as soon as it becomes available.

There is much excitement for our Dec. 7 trip to Cliff Castle Casino and Prescott, Arizona’s Christmas City. The flyer was posted in the August issue of the “In Touch”.

Payment for that trip is due by Friday, Nov.

20, please make a note to make the check out to: CC & Company for \$45.



Thanking you in advance for your timely response to our outings, we have much more being planned. Please remember that all are welcome, you are considered a “Senior” if you are 50+, so don’t hesitate; join us for fun and fellowship.



## From Generation to Generation

One fairly obvious characteristic of youth is an appreciation for speed, for moving quickly and getting things done (that is, of course, things they want to get done) as fast as possible. Asking a young person to wait, to exercise a little patience, can easily result in being pushed aside or in being given an exasperated look that says, "What for?"

On the other end of the spectrum are the elderly for many of whom moving quickly is a thing of the past, and for whom patience has become a necessity. Having lived longer and experienced more of life, they also realize the gift of taking more time, not necessarily to get more done, but to enjoy the process, not rushing to finish tasks or projects.

I think one of the greatest benefits of church communities is providing opportunities for seniors and young people to work together, say, in a festival booth, for example, or for a

young person to learn from someone with more life experiences the benefits of honesty and integrity, the struggles of jealousy and envy, the joys of helping someone in need.

How helpful would it be to have a couple that has been married for 40 or 50 years to sit with newlyweds and share their experiences? It can very educational for one generation to teach, and learn from, another. Churches are, by definition, multi-generational communities, and this is something that should be not just recognized but celebrated.

During the Divine Liturgy, it is not uncommon to see three, and sometimes four, generations in one family worshipping together. This is a tremendous blessing. Christian faith is strengthened in our young people when they see everyone in the family participating and becoming involved in the Church together.

It is also a sign of unity, within the family, and from one family to another. The Church is one body, one family, in Christ. We worship together, learn from one another, enjoy fellowship together.

The next time you witness the 40-day Blessing of a newborn, understand the significance of welcoming the family back into the Church family, thanking God for the safe delivery of the child and looking forward to the day of its baptism. At that blessed event, a new soul is no longer a "child of the body, but a child of the Kingdom."

The Church brings all of us together as one family. Let's enjoy, and benefit from, this great blessing of our unity in Christ as Orthodox Christians.

---

*At that blessed event, a new soul is no longer a "child of the body, but a child of the Kingdom."*

---



**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  
Russel Skocypec  
Russell Zook

## Birthdays



Anna Kurilova (2)  
Elaine Tzialafos (2)  
Gary Nicholas (3)  
Angie Cholas (4)  
Emily Wirsing (6)  
Katherine Tally (7)  
Theodora Stoia (10)  
Erini Papamatheakis (14)  
Sabrina Gavrilidis (16)  
Solomon Woldesilassie (16)  
Efrosini Curran (19)  
Kathleen Harvey (19)  
P. Chris Theotocatos (19)  
Trenton Wilkins (20)  
Philip Williamson (21)  
Jane Milonas (22)  
Christine Batalis (24)  
Irene Howerin (24)  
Lydia Ghebrehiwot (25)  
Michael Dicks (29)  
Alexander Milonas (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.

## Creating and Maintaining Healthy Parishes

What are the hallmarks of a healthy church community? Are we willing and interested to see how St. Haralambos Church can become a more vital and healthy parish?

Fr. Jonathan Ivanoff, an Orthodox priest and director of Orthodox Natural Church Development ([www.ONCD.us](http://www.ONCD.us)) since 1992, will be spending the weekend of Sep. 11-13 with us, introducing our parish to the process and benefits of ONCD.

The weekend begins with a one-hour presentation, open to everyone, on Friday evening, Sep. 11 in the church sanctuary. The presentation, "Creating Vibrant Orthodox Parishes with ONCD," will begin at 7 pm, and will include time for Question

and Answers and refreshments afterwards.

On Saturday, Sep. 12, Fr. Ivanoff will be leading a six-hour training seminar for our Parish Health Team, which is responsible for implementing the process of ONCD in the months ahead. Our Parish Health Team consists of six parishioners: Jean Baxter, Frosene Bravos, Chrissy Pritchard, David Rodriguez, Bereket Russom and Peter Vardalos.

Fr. Ivanoff will also be with us for Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Sep. 13.

We look forward to welcoming Fr. Ivanoff, and to using the time-tested methods of ONCD for the betterment of our St. Haralambos Church community.

## Christmas Concert

Time to dust off the holiday songbooks! All interested parishioners who would like to perform at the St. Haralambos Community Christmas concert, which is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19 at 7 pm, should send an email to [StHaralambos@qwestoffice.net](mailto:StHaralambos@qwestoffice.net), including the names of all performers, the name of the song being performed, and the composer/arranger.

All music for the concert must be traditional Christmas music, with a specifically Christmas (as opposed to "Winter" or "holiday") theme, performed alone or with a group. (Limit one song per group or individual, please.)

Deadline to submit concert entries is Wednesday, Sep 30.

## Orthodox Christianity 101

Sometimes, a review of the basics of what we believe as Orthodox Christians can be a helpful refresher. This is the purpose of Orthodox Christianity 101.

Six Wednesday evening classes beginning the 18th of this month will review the fundamental teachings, history and development of Orthodox Christianity (Greek, Russian, Romanian, Antiochean, etc.), as well as similarities and differences

with other Christian traditions, and customs and traditions regarding Church and family life.

There is no cost for this class, but if you are planning on attending, please call or email the church office so we know how many copies of handouts will be needed. Friends and family from outside our parish are welcome to attend.

## St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

"Faith without works is dead." James 2:14

### New officers

Anna Kinniburgh, President

Marina Kay-Finch, Vice-President

Thalia Christian, Secretary

Reni Milonas, Treasurer

Valla Wrona, Advisor

Board: Julie Karoutas, Despina Medina,  
Stella Pagos, Charlotte Servetas

Remember: Individual assessment for St. Nicholas Shrine is due by the end of 2015.

Due to the Labor Day holiday, our next meeting will be Sep. 14, at 6 pm. Potluck supper followed by our meeting. FYI: Sept. 14 is a strict fast day, but the fast is over at 6 pm. Enjoy!!!

Hope you had a happy, restful summer.



## Youth Night

Tuesday evenings are Youth Night! Beginning with dinner at 6 pm, all parish youth from Elementary School through High School, are invited and encouraged to attend Youth Night each Tuesday evening.

Creative and fun lessons, activities, music and games are included to help our young people grow spiritually and make new friends with their church family.

Youth Night will finish at 8 pm. See Lindsay Vardalos for further information.

## Eternal Memory

May God grant eternal rest to the soul of his servant, Martha Jannis, who fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, Aug. 10. May her memory be eternal.

## Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts/sponsors.

### August

- 2: Lindsay Vardalos
- 9: Koula Ratliff & Andriana Henson
- 16: Philoptochos
- 23: Sunday School
- 30: Community Potluck

### September

- 6: Available
- 13: Desi Medina
- 20: David & Sophia Rodriguez
- 27: Irene Nathanson

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



## Name Days

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

- St. Symeon (1st)
- St. Sozon (7th)
- St. Efrosynos (11th)
- St. Niketas (15th)
- St. Euphemia (16th)
- Sts. Faith, Hope and Love (17th)  
and their mother Sophia
- St. Euphrosyne (25th)
- St. Chariton (29th)
- St. Gregory (30th)

# SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Mortgage Reduction Tray	<b>7</b> <b>Labor Day</b> (Church Office Closed)	<b>8</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Nativity of the Theotokos</b> 7:00pm Parish Council	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study	<b>11</b> 7:00pm "Creating Vibrant Parishes with ONCD" by Fr. Jonathan Ivanoff	<b>12</b> 9:00am ONCD Training Seminar (Parish Health Team only)
<b>13</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>14</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Feast of the Holy Cross</b> 6:00pm Philoptochos Pot Luck	<b>15</b> 6:00pm Youth Night	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy IOCC Offering Tray	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00pm Youth Night	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>28</b> 7:00pm Executive Council	<b>29</b> 6:00pm Youth Night	<b>30</b> 7:00pm Orthodox Christianity 101			