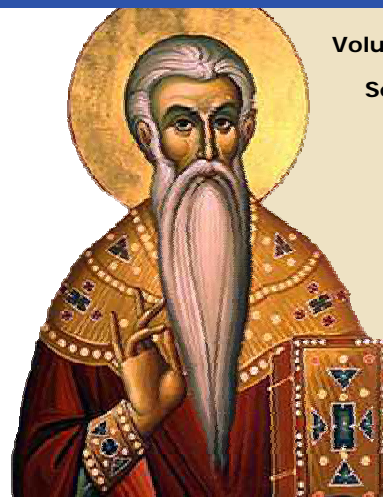


in Touch

Volume 14, Issue 9

September 2006



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

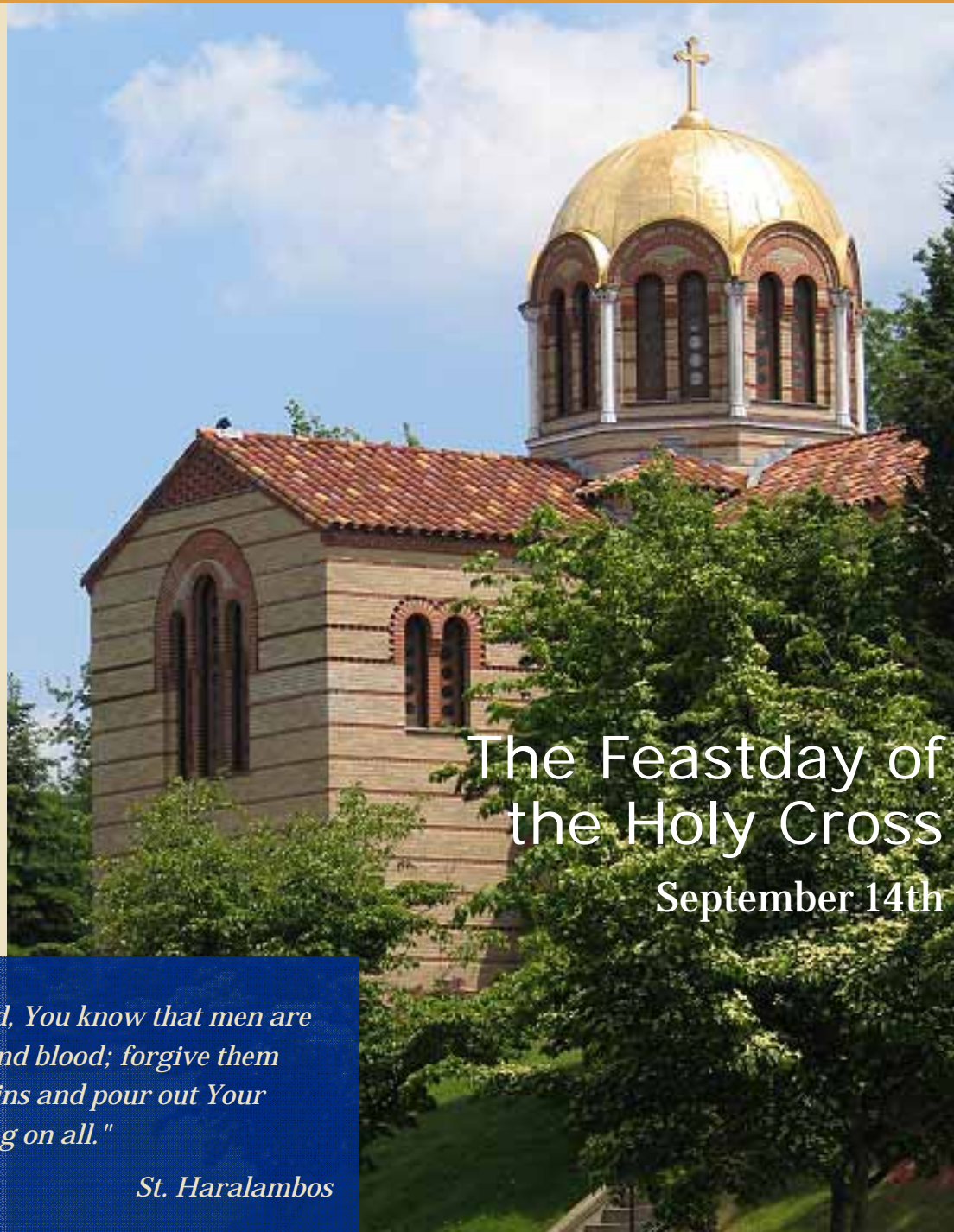
*Metropolitan
Gerasimos • 2*

*Vacation Bible
School • 2*

*Know the
Faith • 5*

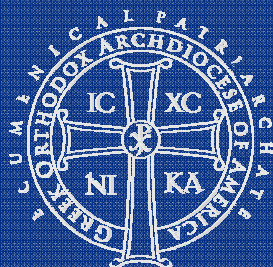
*Charity
Fundraiser • 5*

*Support
Workshop & Expo • 7*



The Feastday of
the Holy Cross

September 14th



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

St. Haralambos

VISIT OF Metropolitan Gerasimos

*Following the
tonsuring of the
altar boys
service, on the
first visit of His
Eminence
Metropolitan
Gerasimos, on
Sunday, July 9th*



Vacation Bible School



**Join us this
summer!**



Feastday of the Holy Cross

Sitting atop of the 52-acre campus of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology is its beautiful byzantine chapel, shown on the front cover of our newsletter. Because it shares the name of this month's celebration of the feastday of the Holy Cross, it is appropriate to bring to mind our Archdiocese Seminary which has trained virtually every priest serving the Archdiocese of America today.

History of our Seminary

First, a bit of background (from the seminary's website: holycross.hchc.edu): The institution was originally founded as Holy Cross Theological School in 1937 in Pomfret, Connecticut. Since then Holy Cross has served as the seminary of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas. In 1946 the school was moved to Brookline, Massachusetts, where the students and faculty could take advantage of the educational and cultural opportunities of Greater Boston. In response to the emerging needs of the Church, and by virtue of its own academic maturation, in 1966 Holy Cross expanded its

collegiate division into a full four-year liberal arts college, a distinct undergraduate institution known as Hellenic College. Today the faculties and students of the undergraduate and graduate schools continue to form one community, sharing the same campus and facilities. Holy Cross has developed into an accredited graduate school of theology, and as such has become one of the most important institutions of the Orthodox Church in the Western hemisphere.

The Chapel was built in 1962 in the magnificent Byzantine style through the efforts of the Greek Orthodox Youth of America. It is dedicated to the memory of Archbishop Michael and the founders of the Greek Orthodox Youth Organization in the Americas.

History of the Feastday

The Feastday of the Holy Cross is celebrated on September 14th. On that day we commemorate the finding of the cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. From the Synaxarion (daily festal readings), we learn the history of this event in the life of the Church.

"Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha, to defile and cover with oblivion the place where the saving Passion had been suffered. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the

(Continued on page 7)

The Feastday of the Holy Cross is celebrated on September 14th. On that day we commemorate the finding of the cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified.



10320 N. 84th Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**

Rev. Michael Pallad

www.stharalambos.org

Sunday Worship

September - May
Matins: 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 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 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Parish Council

Larry Coor, President
Dave Fredericksen, Vice-President
Dean Milonas, Treasurer
Jane Milonas, Secretary
George Christie
Joan Coor

Mary Dascalos
Steve Hargan
Georgia Hargan
Greg Krochta
Mary Manos
Nick Milonas

Crisis in the Middle East

An Appeal for Help



Reverend Fathers, Parish Council Presidents, and Beloved Faithful in Christ,

Christ is in our Midst!

The crisis that has emerged in Lebanon since July 12th, 2006 has reached disastrous levels. Hundreds have died, hundreds of thousands are displaced and without food, sanitation, shelter, safe drinking water, and medical assistance. Many who are suffering are children. Sending aid to the thousands who need it has been hindered by the destruction of bridges and roads. In light of this humanitarian crisis, the

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has issued an emergency appeal, seeking to raise \$500,000 to help alleviate the suffering and pain that the people in Lebanon and Gaza are enduring. To this end, I urge you to assist the IOCC in providing emergency relief. There are three ways through which you can contribute to IOCC's endeavors in this tragic situation. You can call IOCC's donation hotline toll-free at 1-877-803-4622. You can make a gift on-line at www.iocc.org; or you can mail a check or money order payable to "IOCC" and write "Middle East Crisis 2006" in the memo line to: IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, MD. 21263-0225.

My brothers and sisters in the Lord, the present crisis must be met with the full force of God's love. I urge you to support the IOCC in their efforts to manifest God's presence and healing to those

suffering in the Middle East. It is we, gathered together in the name of Christ, who continue the Risen Lord's ministry of healing. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we continue to make Christ real to a world that is broken, to a people that are crying out for mercy and compassion. We must give ear to the voice of their cry, for God has given us an abundance of blessings for this very reason—to share it with those who do not have these blessings. The true hallmark of a Christian is to love one another, for by doing this "shall all people know you are" Christ's disciples. I am confident that we will rise to the occasion and show that we are Christ's disciples and demonstrate the power of God's love by supporting the efforts of the IOCC.

With Paternal Blessings,
+ Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

"In Touch" Monthly Newsletter



This month our newsletter takes on a new name and a new look. "In Touch" will continue to bring you parish information and news each month, but with a brighter, more professional look. We are thankful to St. George Publishing for taking care of the printing, to Nick Milonas for the layout, and to

our advertisers who make this publication free of cost to our church.

If you have a business, or work with an organization that would like to advertise in our monthly newsletter, please call the church office and let us know, and a representative

from St. George Publishing will give you more details. If enough ad revenue is generated, it will pay not only for the printing costs but for the postage as well!

Keep reading "In Touch" and stay informed on our parish activities and events.

Know the Faith

Don't quite remember lessons from Sunday School?

Ever feel uneasy answering questions about our faith from friends, co-workers or your children?

Then make the time to attend this Fall's "Know the Faith"

classes, beginning Wednesday, September 13th at 7:00p.m. The classes will be held in the church library at 7:00p.m. each week, finishing on Wednesday, November 15th. Different topics will be covered each week from the beginnings of creation to the birth of Christ; from the start of Christianity through the development of the

Christian Church.

Food, drink and an enjoyable atmosphere are all provided. Come with paper and pencil, a bit of curiosity and the desire to learn, and see if you don't "Know the Faith" a little better by the final class!



Regular Service Schedule

Please note that this month we resume the regular Sunday service schedule: Matins at 8:45a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 10:00a.m.

Charity Fundraiser

Enjoy a wonderful evening of wine, cheese and Silent Auction, all while supporting the work of International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). Join parishioners throughout the valley on Saturday, September 30th at St. George Orthodox Church in Phoenix.

IOCC is the official charitable organization for all Orthodox Churches in America. Since its inception, IOCC has contributed millions of dollars in aid to the poor

and suffering throughout the world. Through its ability to leverage government matched funding, IOCC has been able to turn every dollar donated by Orthodox faithful into nearly ten! There is no other organization that can make your donations go as far to help the needy.

Please make the time to support the work of IOCC. Call the St. George Church office for more information at (602) 953-1921.

Test Your Bible IQ

There are the names of 16 books of the Bible in this paragraph. See how many you can find. (*answers in next month's newsletter*)

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts... and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.



*Don't forget aluminum cans: we are still collecting aluminum cans for recycling. **Please remember:** we can **only** accept aluminum soda cans (not steel, tin or other materials) for this program. Please bring them in bags and leave them in specially marked barrels in the hallway. Thank you!



ORGANIZATIONS

Sunday School

Sunday School Registration and Classes

***One Form,
One Family -
Register your
children this
Sunday***

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins Sunday September 10th, immediately after Holy Eucharist. If you haven't registered your children yet, don't fret! Sign-ups continue on Sunday September 3rd. Be sure to fill out the ONE FORM for the whole family.



Registration for the 2007 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (June 11th to 15th, 2007) is also taking place in the Narthex.

This year we have added a Bible Story coordinator who will be using our

'felt board' story boards every other Sunday in

both the Pre-School classes and the Primary-School classes (1st, 2nd, 3rd grade).

We look forward to welcoming back all our Sunday school students and teachers to the new 2006-2007 Church Year.

Philoptochos

Hope you all had a Happy and "Cool" summer! Welcome to our next meeting on Tuesday, September 5th at 6:30p.m., which will be a "Pot Luck". See you all there.



Building Maintenance



Church Improvements

Our parish Building Maintenance committee, under the chairmanship of Dean Milonas has been working hard this summer on a variety of improvements. First and foremost, all broken windows, and windows of varying colors have been replaced, making the exterior more attractive, and bringing in much more light to

the offices and rooms inside! Our choir members have a bit more elbow-room thanks to the removal and re-aligning of the back pews. Several areas, including the front walkway and throughout the back yard, that had significant drop-offs or were not level were filled in and smoothed out, and drip lines were installed to keep our

rose bushes blooming. Future plans include, among others, the installation of new screens to the exterior of the sanctuary windows.

If you are willing and able to help with church building maintenance, please contact Dean Milonas during the Coffee Hour after Sunday liturgy.

Personal Money Management

On Monday evening, September 18th, a presentation on how to manage your personal finances by Katrina Anderson, a parishioner associated with Prime America, will be offering helpful hints on managing personal income, getting and staying out of debt and planning for a healthy financial future.

There is no cost for this seminar, and teens and young adults are especially encouraged to attend.

Learning, Sharing and Support Workshop & Expo

Are you concerned about aging parents? Plan on attending the "Learning, Sharing and Support Workshop & Expo" on Saturday, October 28, 2006, from 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. at the Glendale Civic Center. Topics range from exploring care options, finding respite relief,

and coping with anxiety and depression, to building communication skills for sensitive issues such as informing parents they should no longer drive. Call the church office for more information and free admission tickets.

Name Days

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

St. Symeon/Simon (1st)

St. Efrosynos the Cook (11th)

Feastday of the Holy Cross (14th)
(Stavros, Steve)

St. Euphemia the Martyr (16th)

Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity (17th)
And their mother Sophia

St. Chariton (29th)

St. Gregory the Illuminator (30th)

Birthdays



Alexandra Krochta (2nd)

Angie Cholas (4th)

Dennis Marshall (9th)

Dema Jean Milonas (10th)

Nicholas Tremoulis (17th)

Penny Obren (17th)

Jane Milonas (22nd)

Leandros Tremoulis (30th)

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.

Pastor's Column

(Continued from page 3)

ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the venerable Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Cross to their own country. Later, in the year 628, Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Cross, and after

bringing it to Constantinople himself, escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he restored it to its place."

Services for the feastday of the Holy Cross are celebrated on Thursday, September 14th, beginning with Matins at 8:00a.m., followed by the Divine Liturgy at 9:00a.m. On Sunday, September 17th all parishioners are invited to enjoy a presentation on our Seminary during the Coffee Hour.

Assisted Living, Hospitalization

The following parishioners may not be able to be with us physically, but are still loved members of our parish. Please remember them in prayer:

Marianthy Bravos, Louise Constant, Orin and Mary-Jean Davis, Alice Massahos, and George Poulos.

DONATIONS

Sunday School Rooms

We would like to spruce up our Sunday School rooms with new materials such as dry erase boards, lighting fixtures, new paint and flooring. If you can

help either with installation or with financial contributions, please contact the church office, or send checks to the church office; \$50 suggested

donation for each room, payable to St. Haralambos Church.

Orthodox Service Books

New 12-Volume Set

A new publication from Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Monastery in Boston,

Mass., is now available, and is a much-needed reference for English-speaking Orthodox Churches. The 12-volume *Minaia* (monthly service book) includes English translations of the hymns for the Feasts of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Holy Theotokos, and of the Saints

commemorated each month, as well as order of many other services celebrated throughout the year.



These volumes would be of great help for our parish, providing the English hymns and service texts not found in other sources. They are beautifully printed on the highest quality archival paper; each volume includes full color iconography of saints celebrated for the month, biographies of the saints and many other hymns and readings. The 12-volume set sells for \$1,200.00, and would become a permanent addition to our parish service book library.

Rather than asking an individual donor cover the

expense of these books, we would like to offer twelve families the opportunity to purchase one volume each (\$100.00), in memory of a beloved member of the family who has fallen asleep in the Lord. An appropriate nameplate will be placed inside the book, listing the name of the donor family.

For those interested, please complete the lower portion of this flyer, and send in your donation with your check payable to St. Haralambos Church, printing clearly the name for whom your gift is in memory of.

New Church Service Books Donation Form

Enclosed is my/our family's donation of \$100.00 for one volume of the *Minaia* Service Books for the St. Haralambos Church service book library.

Family Name: _____

In memory of: _____

Please return to: St. Haralambos Church
10320 N. 84th Ave., Peoria, Arizona 85345.

Thank You!

SEPTEMBER 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Start of the Ecclesiastical Year	2
3 8:45am Matins 10:00am Div. Liturgy	4 Labor Day (Church Office Closed)	5 6:30pm Philoptochos Pot Luck	6	7 7:00pm Choir	8 8:00am Matins 9:00am Div. Liturgy Nativity of the Theotokos	9
10 8:45am Matins 10:00am Div. Liturgy Sunday School Begins Grandparent Sunday	11	12 10:30am Bible Enrichment 7:00pm Parish Council	13 7:00pm Know the Faith	14 8:00am Matins 9:00am Div. Liturgy Exaltation of the Holy Cross 7:00pm Choir	15	16
17 8:45am Matins 10:00am Div. Liturgy Presentation on Holy Cross Seminary	18 7:00pm Seminar on Money Management	19 10:30am Bible Enrichment	20 7:00pm Know the Faith	21 7:00pm Choir	22	23
24 8:45am Matins 10:00am Div. Liturgy	25	26 10:30am Bible Enrichment	27 7:00pm Know the Faith	28 7:00pm Choir	29	30 6:00pm IOCC Fund- Raiser at St. George Church