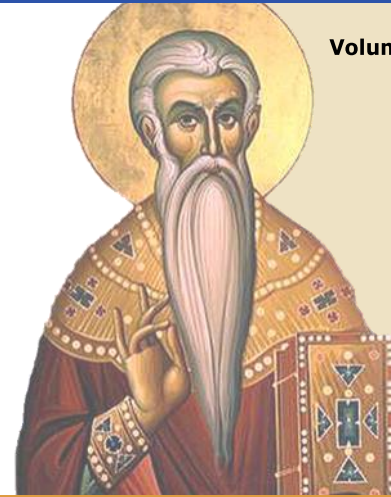


in Touch

Volume 31, Issue 10

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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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Ministry FAIR



Come Serve With Us!

October 1, 8 and 15 | Fellowship Room



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

4th Annual Blessing of the Animals

"For ask the animals and they will teach you...in His hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind." Job 12:7-10

Get your pet's leash and carriers ready! Once again, St. Haralambos is celebrating the worth of all animals by hosting a free outdoor Blessing event on our church grounds. We invite you, your family, and friends to join us Saturday, Nov. 4 at 9 am for a brief and beautiful service which is based on the 7th century prayer by Saint



Modestus. Saint Modestus was patriarch of Jerusalem from 631-644 AD and is considered the Patron Saint of Animals. The Eastern Orthodox Church commemorates him on December 18.

Space is limited in our courtyard so we are asking for advance registration. Call the church office, 623-486-8665, Monday through Friday from 10-2 pm, to let us know the total number of people and animals in your party. Early planning will ensure a safe and pleasant experience for all.

Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting donations of pet food. You can place cans and unopened dry food and snacks in the church drop box, located in the Observation area. Our donations will be taken to the Food Bank for needy pet owners.

Raffle tickets to win either a dog or kitty basket full of prizes will be sold prior and during the event. Tickets will be drawn on the day of the Blessing and winners need not be present.

The following will be observed on the day of the Blessing:

- All dogs must be leashed
- Small pets must be in a carrier

We look forward to gathering and sharing our love for animals. Thank you for supporting our Parish and this special event!

Front Entry Portico: Contract Awarded!

Our recent General Assembly voted unanimously to approve the construction of the beautiful Front Entry Portico. The contractor has been selected, and the building materials will be ordered shortly.

Can you help with a gift this month? Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated to help us build this wonderful addition to our building. Donate online at www.stharalambos.org or checks can be made payable to Saint Haralambos Church and sent to the church office.



Book Club

Save the Date

Sunday, Oct. 29, during coffee hour fellowship: Planning meeting to restart and discuss ideas for St. Haralambos monthly Book Club.



Parish Ministries

From Choir to Sunday School, from Fundraising to Philoptochos, from Book Club to Caring Friends, and from Prison Correspondence to Food Bank support, we encourage all to visit the Parish Ministry Fair during Coffee Hour on the first three Sundays in October!

Leaders of the Saint Haralambos parish ministries will be eagerly waiting to talk with interested parishioners each Sunday about what their ministry does and to welcome newcomers!

What are your talents, your gifts and your interests? How would you like to share them in helping others, and in turn, giving yourself new opportunities for personal spiritual growth? Remember that your God-given talents are given to you for the benefit of others, so take advantage of the many and various opportunities for ministry on each of the first three Sundays this month!

October is also Fellowship and Education Month at St. Haralambos. From the Wednesday morning Bible Study to the Tuesday evening Journey to Fullness sessions on Orthodox Christianity, and the Divine Liturgy discussion sessions available on either Monday evenings or Saturday afternoons! Please check the Community Calendar for days and times.


St. Paul, in addressing the love of husbands and wives, relates this love to the relationship between Christ and the Church in his letter to the Ephesians. “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.” (Eph 5:25).

St. Cyprian, 3rd century Bishop of Carthage, put it quite plainly, “He cannot have God for his Father who has not the church for his mother.” The Church, in other words, is not just a place we visit on Sunday mornings, but rather a community, a family, a gathering of faithful who work, play, struggle, learn, forgive and grow in their faith and work as Christians.

Most of us come to a point in our lives when we ask ourselves, “What is my purpose? Why am I here?” The answer will be different for each person, but with a common foundation for every human being: We are here in this world, as part of God’s creation, to live as His children – to glorify Him and build up the Church by using the good gifts that He has given us. With this understanding as knowing that God gives each of us gifts not for us, but to be used by us for the benefit of others, and to glorify Him as the Giver of Gifts, we can begin to know our purpose.

Most of us come to a point in our lives when we ask ourselves, “What is my purpose?”

When this happens, when we begin to understand and fulfill our God-given purpose in this life, we begin to feel a sense of joy and enthusiasm to find new ways to put our God-given gifts to use. This is why the ministries of the Church play such an important role. Take advantage of the Church Ministries Fair this month, and see if you can find a new opportunity to serve and grow as a servant of Christ our Lord and Savior.



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**
www.stharalambos.org
Rev. Michael Pallad

Sunday Worship
Matins: 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.
[Services live online](#)

Office
623-486-8665
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Office@StHaralambosAZ.com
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com
Hours
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parish Council
Cynthia Bekiaris
Deborah Chionchio
Virginia Dent
Hope Evangelinos
Anna Kinniburgh
Dan Teska
Vivian Teska
Mary Wyszmierski
Ray Wyszmierski
Solomon Woldesilassie

Parish Council News

Birthdays



Tom Conklin (7)
 Charles Davis (9)
 Virginia Dent (11)
 Henry Lafayette (11)
 Aria Basha (12)
 Dutch Rosenberg (13)
 Dimetra Abbitt (15)
 Sophia Bolas (15)
 Chrissy Pritchard (16)
 Stanley Singley (16)

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.

By Ray Wysmierski, President

We again have been busy getting all the projects done with the FEMA grant. The back block wall is up and repaired! The cameras are completed and now the fence will be installed around our entire property at 5'11", in black wrought iron with gates at the appropriate driveways.

And finally, the lighting is still with the city of Peoria in deciding what they want based on our engineer's evaluation, that is our final step. We can then secure the contractor to install the lights.

We are looking at the fire alarm since we have had numerous false alarms, and we get charged by the city for each one. The system is 20 years old and needs either updated or replaced. It is imperative since we have the daycare as our tenant too. The council will be presented the two options and cost here in the coming weeks.

We thank you for your patience as we endeavor these projects to make our church safe and secure.

We also had a surveyor come out to mark our property since the fence

company needed to identify the lot lines. At the same time our entire property is going to be consolidated into one lot.

This process again involves the city of Peoria with an application, fees and after about 3-4 months its presented to city council and the mayor to sign off.

As I always say "I'm working for Jesus". And boy I can tell you he does keep me busy.

When you're approached to think about parish council please give it prayerful consideration. Your voice and talent is welcome.

I pray by the next newsletter article I will be giving you the final update on the FEMA project, and you will see the fence going up.

As always, your donations and stewardship is always welcome once you have made the decision to support God's house.

2023 Stewardship Families

Abbitt, Dimetra
 Asfaha, Moges
 Bastell, Rudenio (Suad)
 Baxter, Jean
 Berhe, Almaz
 Bekiaris, Harry & Cynthia
 Bravos, Frosene
 Bryson, Tom & Joan
 Carlson, Olga
 Chionchio, Debbie
 Cholas, Angie
 Christian, Thalia
 Conklin, Maria
 Contes, Jamie
 Covault, Lloyd & Angela
 Danielek, Michael and Chrissy
 Davis, Mary

Deming, Janet
 Dent, Virginia
 Dodd, Voula
 Evangelinos, Parry & Hope
 Farr, Paula
 Farr, Kevin
 Farr, Jeff & Judy
 Finch, Dennis & Marina
 Gardener, Semos
 Giannias, Elaine
 Gryparis, Demetri and Magda
 Hartsel, Barbara
 Javaras, Harry
 Jolly, Judith
 Kapetenakis, Voule and Cathy
 Karabetsos, Andreas & Angel
 Kinniburgh, Bob & Anna

Lafayette, Henry & Maria
 Lazzelle, Estelle
 Levendi, Mary
 Loukas, Christos & Peggy
 Magnani, Sharon
 Mavridis, Christos
 Michas, Peter
 Milonas, Nick & Jane
 Munteanu, Mirela
 Nathanson, Irene
 Nicely, Edna
 Pagos, Stella
 Pallad, Fr. Michael & Pres.
 Kristin
 Pappas, Irene
 Servetas, Charlotte
 Singleton, Melanie

Stratos, George & Irene
 Surman, Dina
 Tally, Katherine
 Tesfay, Ocbai & Genet
 Teska, Dan & Vivian
 Tsioutsopoulos, Demetre & Holly
 Vardalos, Peter & Lindsay
 Vasquez, Argyro
 Woldeasilassie, Solomon & Lydia
 Wysmierski, Ray & Mary
 George & Helen Yannakopoulos
 Zakas, Speros & Linda
 Zaruba, Estell

Treasurer's Report

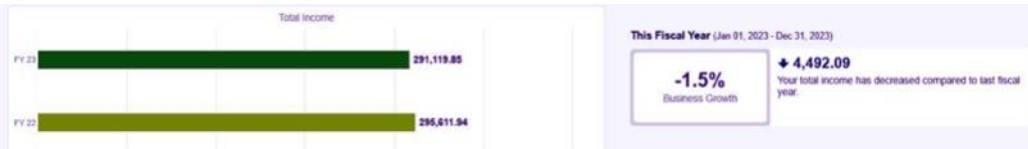
By Cynthia Bekiaris, Treasurer

Although the graph below shows a decrease in our income from last year at this time, we are doing better than July and August 2023.

Moving our attention to the Profit and Loss Statement below, as of September 18th's report, please note the following:

\$66,148.63	Total Ordinary Income (i.e. general deposits)
-\$47,741.50	Less Specified Donations (i.e. Portico)
\$18,407.13	Total Income
-\$14,052.35	Total Expense
\$4,354.78	Net Income for Church without Portico

This is wonderful news as we have a positive income in September thus far and we have received increased donations toward the Portico Project.



Profit & Loss September 2023			
	Sep 23	Aug 23	\$ Change
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
3000 · TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME			
3050 · BOOKSTORE	0.00	89.00	-89.00
3040 · DONATION - Sun/ MAIL /PP /SQ	1,239.25	3,837.51	-2,598.26
3020 · CANDLES	432.00	432.50	-0.50
3010 · STEWARDSHIP	4,120.00	3,835.00	285.00
Total 3000 · TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME	5,791.25	8,194.01	-2,402.76
3700 · OTHER INCOME			
6100 · RENT - SCHOOL	7,963.64	8,598.80	-635.16
6150 · CELL TOWER	1,330.83	1,330.83	0.00
6200 · ST. MARY'S	3,321.41	3,321.41	0.00
6300 · BANKING-	0.00	20.37	-20.37
6450 · MEMORIAL-	0.00	345.00	-345.00
6500 · SPECIFIED DONATIONS	47,741.50	2,541.00	45,200.50
Total 3700 · OTHER INCOME	60,357.38	16,157.41	44,199.97
Total Income	66,148.63	24,351.42	41,797.21
Expense			
4000 · MINISTRY	8,417.04	13,733.35	-5,316.31
4025 · MINISTRY OTHER	300.00	300.00	0.00
4050 · OFFICE PAYROLL	876.27	1,852.13	-975.86
4100 · CHURCH ASSESSMENTS	0.00	3,521.64	-3,521.64
4150 · Business Assessment	45.39	146.17	-100.78
4200 · OFFICE	89.76	320.14	-230.38
4300 · UTILITIES	2,153.38	2,529.80	-376.42
4400 · FACILITY	770.00	1,298.16	-528.16
4900 · INSURANCE	833.40	833.40	0.00
5020 · CANDLE	279.00	0.00	279.00
5200 · CHARITIES-	250.00	250.00	0.00
5800 · BANKING	38.11	120.21	-82.10
7500 · CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	39,043.92	-39,043.92
Total Expense	14,052.35	63,948.92	-49,896.57
Net Ordinary Income	52,096.28	-39,597.50	91,693.78
Net Income	52,096.28	-39,597.50	91,693.78

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Anna Kinniburgh, President

September 1 starts the churches ecclesiastical year and the start of the church ministries.

Philoptochos is one of them. Our church chapter is called St. Anna's Philoptohos and for the people not familiar with the word it means friends of the poor and our aim is to ask for donations and organize fund raising projects, to fulfill our obligations which are numerous.

We have a long list to write here, but on the bulletin board there is a list of what we support. Please take a look and you will see why we are always asking for your support.

This past spring we held elections for the year 2023-2024.

- President: Anna Kinniburgh
- Vice President: Elpida (Hope) Evangelinos
- Treasurer: Cynthia Bekiaris
- Secretary: Thalia Christian - Elda Basha
- Corresponding Sec: Irene Nathanson

This year we will be baking in November our well known koulourakia, kourabiethes and melomakarona just in time for Thanksgiving and again before Christmas. We will announce the dates of sale in the church bulletin.

All proceeds will be going toward all our obligations which when you look at it does not seem a lot, but when multiplied with all the churches and all the chapters across the country, donations become thousands to help where necessary.

All from our congregation over 18 are welcomed to join us and help the less fortunate with our kindness, for no act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted.



OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	2	3 6:00pm Journey to Fullness	4 10:00am Bible Study	5	6	7
8 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	9	10 6:00pm Journey to Fullness	11 10:00am Bible Study	12	13	14
15 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	16	17 6:00pm Journey to Fullness	18 9:00am Divine Liturgy Apostle and Evangelist Luke 10:00am Bible Study	19	20	21 1:00pm Divine Liturgy Session 1
22 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	23 7:00pm Divine Liturgy Session 1	24 6:00pm Journey to Fullness	25 10:00am Bible Study	26 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saint Demetrios	27	28 7:00am Peoria Neighborhood Pride 1:00pm Divine Liturgy Session 2
29 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	30 7:00pm Divine Liturgy Session 2	31				