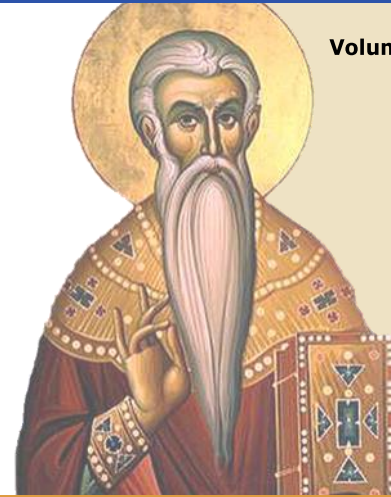


in Touch

Volume 32, Issue 10

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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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National Church Music Sunday October 6, 2024



*All of creation rejoices
in you, O full of grace:
the assembly of angels
and the human race.
You are a sanctified
temple and a spiritual
paradise, the glory from
whom God was
incarnate and became a
child; our God, existing
before all ages. He
made your womb a
throne, and your body
more spacious than the
heavens. All of creation
rejoices in you, O full of
grace. Glory to you.*

Magnificat to the
Theotokos
Divine Liturgy of
St. Basil the Great



*Honoring Church Musicians
across the
Archdiocese of America*

WWW.CHURCHMUSIC.GOARCH.ORG



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

Narthex Beautification

Four beautiful icons were recently framed and installed in our Narthex. They are the icons of Ascension, Pentecost, Presentation of the Lord, and Presentation of the Theotokos. We are very thankful for the artistic gifts of iconographer Khourie Randa Azar, and Kay Fulghum for the framing and wall designs.

We also thank Anna Kinniburgh for her gift of the blue fabric covering for the Narthex icon stand!



“One Day, One Hymn” Singing Event

All who enjoy singing with others, from ages 8 – 108, are encouraged to register for “One Day, One Hymn,” a day of musical fellowship that brings together parishioners from the Arizona Orthodox Christian churches. Sponsored by the Orthodox Christian Choral Fellowship (www.occfellowship.org), the One Day event is being hosted by St. Haralambos Church on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 10 am – 3 pm.

Starting rehearsals at 10am, participants will be learning the beautiful Trisagion Hymn by Fr. John Finley. After an enjoyable lunch, singers will move into the church for a video recording of the hymn that will be posted to social media.

If you love to sing, you’ll love this event!

Register today at www.occfellowship.org!

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHORAL FELLOWSHIP
ONE DAY, ONE HYMN!

Saturday, November 16, 2024 10 AM - 3 PM
St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church - Peoria, AZ

Sing with Us!
COME SING WITH US!
BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH “TRISAGION HYMN”
BY FR. JOHN FINLEY
VIDEO RECORDING
FOR SOCIAL MEDIA
DELICIOUS LUNCH
FAMILY EVENT FOR AGES 8-108
**IF YOU LOVE TO SING,
YOU’LL LOVE THIS EVENT!**
Have money on us!

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 23
at occfellowship.org
Adults \$15 Children (12 & under) \$10
Additional children in same family \$5

For more information, please email us:
info@occfellowship.org

occfellowship.org facebook.com/occfellowship

Orthodox Christian Choral Fellowship, OCCF, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster fellowship among the members of Orthodox Christian parishes through participation in choral singing.

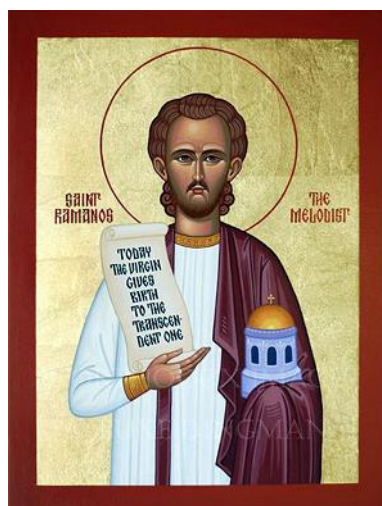


Honoring our Church Musicians

The first Sunday on or after the Feast of St. Romanos (October 1st) is designated by our Archdiocese as National Church Music Sunday. Each year on this Sunday, we pause to honor the gifts and contributions of our church musicians — clergy, choir directors, cantors, choir members, organists, and Church School music educators. We thank them for their devotion to our Church through their ministry of music

The hymnologists of the Orthodox Church are Christians of virtue and great faith, having been endowed with musical talent as well as the power of religious inspiration. Their creations enrich our worship services and help turn our souls towards God. Perhaps the greatest of all hymnologists is St. Romanos the Melodist. Many other hymnologists wrote ecclesiastical hymns, but none of them inspired the Christians as much as St. Romanos.

Romanos was a Syrian Christian who lived in the beginning of the 6th century. A convert to Orthodoxy from Judaism, he was ordained a deacon and served in the Church of Beirut. His talent was great. Unlike others, he wrote his hymns in simple language and produced a pleasant meter



in the verse by the way he accented words. The hymns he composed appealed to the hearts of the people, and are still sung today.

Romanos has been called "Sweet Singer", "Melodist", and "Righteous Chanter". He wrote hundreds of hymns celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the living of a Christian life. One of his

most famous compositions is the hymn celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, "Today the Virgin gives birth to One who is above all living things..." (I Parthenos Simeron). St.

Romanos is also said to have composed the Akathist Hymn, a kontakion that we still chant during the Friday evening Salutations services of Great Lent.

Romanos died on October 1st in 510 AD. He was a productive genius and artist, writing and accenting thousands of kontakia. He has been called the

patron saint of all who sing for the Church. Others say he is the leader in the world of religious hymnology. Surely, he has made a profound contribution to divine worship and deserves to be recognized by all who sing and by all who listen to the hymnology of our services. (Visit churchmusic.goarch.org for further information)

Romanos has been called "Sweet Singer", "Melodist", and "Righteous Chanter".



**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
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383
Office@StHaralambosAZ.com
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

Hours

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parish Council

Cynthia Bekiaris	Vivian Teska
Harry Bekiaris	Solomon Woldesilassie
Deborah Chionchio	Mary Wysmierski
Angie Cholas	Ray Wysmierski
Virginia Dent	Linda Zakas
Dan Teska	

Parish Council News

By Ray Wysmierski, President

We are now on a steady course of maintaining our church. Keep in mind the General Assembly is coming up and we need to examine our inner selves to consider running for Parish Council. We will have 7 openings this year. You need to be a member in good standing, a steward of the church for 1 year. The church needs your help. This venture will take the most volunteers at once, meeting once a month for at least 2 hours.

You will hear more details at the General Assembly regarding our current investments and future planning of tackling our ongoing finances. In case your wondering about the tanker parked in back, we have made a barter exchange with Viason, who has rented our space in the past, to seal our entire lot and re-stripe it in exchange for using the space for 6 weeks. We just saved 10-15 thousand dollars.

If you can't make the council meetings in person there is always zoom.

Also, if someone were so inclined, the walk in cooler needs more extensive repairs since it had sat idle for so long. It's the compressor, motor, etc. that is outside of the building above the ovens outside.

We will take any donations earmarked for the repairs. A \$20,000 walk in cooler/freezer is too expensive to use for dry good storage.

Whatever you can do to assist in the church is deeply appreciated.

Thanks to those who have purchased the tiles to date, we have plenty of room for more to be purchased. Thank you to our sales volunteers, securing the material and engraver.

This is a very nice way to recognize the living and deceased members, friends and family.

Please note as of Sep. 1 we will be activating the main gate. It will be left open for Sunday and other liturgical services. However, during the week it will be closed and you will need the gate code.

The plan is to have a gate code for the parishioners (Same Code), the daycare to have their own for all parents and staff, our delivery services, and safety forces have activation devices on their vehicles to gain access.

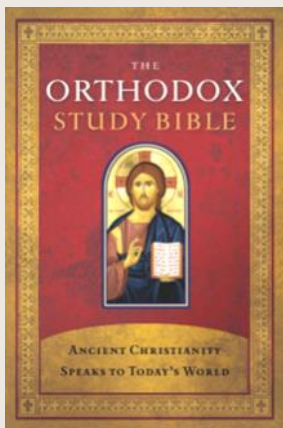
Harry has also had a sign at the gate made with the daycare and office phone numbers. Father Michael will have a remote, the daycare and also our front office.

If you're stuck, please call the phone number for the office if you're making your visit between 10 am and 2 pm, unless you have meetings with Father Michael, who may also give you access via remote. We will also be printing the notice in the weekly bulletin.

This is a nuance, so bare with us as it is a work in progress.

Bible Study

The weekly Thursday morning Bible Study continues this month beginning Thursday, Oct. 10 in our library at 10 am. The study will be on the Gospel of Saint Mark. All are welcome!



Stay Informed on Parish News and Events

In addition to the monthly InTouch Newsletter, we also maintain email and cell phone number databases to help deliver more timely announcements and

information. To help ensure you stay current on parish events and activities, be sure to send us your current email address and cell phone number.

Thank You from Project Mexico

Dear Fr. Michael and Parishioners of St. Haralambos,

I send you warm greetings from our orphans and formerly homeless of Mexico! I just wanted to drop you a note to thank you for your regular giving. It has made the world of difference for us. It has afforded us the ability to plan for our monthly food, material, labor and educational expenses. It has been a great help!

May the Lord continue to bless you with the means to bless us.

In service to the less fortunate,
Fr. Phil Armstrong, Assistant to the Executive Director

Visit www.projectmexico.org for more information.



Evangelism Ministry

The Evangelism team hopes that our first official Evangelism Season helped you grow your faith and confidence in what Orthodox evangelism means. Thank you, Father Michael for leading us in instruction and prayer, and for inspiring us during the six-week observance. Now let us continue to grow in our spiritual development and look for God-given opportunities to practice evangelism year-round.

Here are some tips and resources that can help:

Read Michael Keiser's book *Spread the Word-Reclaiming the Apostolic Tradition of Evangelism*. At the conclusion of this helpful book, there are Instructions from St. Innocent, our selected Evangelism Saint, on Missions. Here are just a few to inspire you about Evangelism:

- Pray, pray, pray
- Conversion comes from God, not from the evangelist
- Love your work and those to whom you are (speaking)
- (Speak) to their hearts, not their minds, from your heart

Follow DesertDeacon.com for daily email prompts which include practical tools and encouragement

Access the MEM website (Mission and Evangelism Ministry) at groworthodoxy.org

Continue to pray the Evangelism prayer, and for St. Innocent to intercede, for those on your prayer card.

Journal/Write out your testimonial: "What brought you to Orthodoxy and why do you keep coming back?" Read it, practice saying it to others, and be prepared to tell your story when asked.

Invite seekers to attend Liturgy and to visit our Parish

And lastly, the Evangelism team invites you to contribute to next year's Evangelism Season.

Michael Chambers, John Cotton, Kimi Deinhard, Irene Nathanson



5th Annual Blessing of The Animals

Pet owners get ready for the return of St. Haralambos Blessing of the Animals! This free outdoor event honors the worth of all animals and will be held on the church grounds Saturday, Nov. 2 at 9 am. We invite you, your family and friends to attend this 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.

To help us plan for a safe and pleasant experience, please register in advance by calling the church office, 623-486-8665, Monday through Friday from 10 am-2 pm. We will need to know the total number of people and pets in your party.

Raffle tickets to win an Animal Gift Basket, which includes a \$50 gift certificate, will be sold prior and during the event. The winning ticket will be drawn on the day of the Blessing and winner 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

Thank you for supporting our Parish and this special tradition. We look forward to gathering, praying and sharing appreciation for animals.

Birthdays



Sarah Nicholas (4)
Tom Conklin (7)
Virginia Dent (11)
Henry Lafayette (11)
Yotham Moges (11)
Athena Papamatheakis (11)
Aria Basha (12)
Wesley Nicholas (12)
Dutch Rosenberg (13)
Dimetra Abbitt (15)
Sophia Bolas (15)
Stanley Singley (16)
Joseph Durgam (21)
Sam Nicholas (22)
Lindsay Vardelos (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 Journey to Fullness

Registration is now closed for this series of classes, but walk-ins are welcome for a \$10 donation per session with dinner, or no charge for the class session only.

Fall Session

All class sessions begin with dinner at 6 pm in the Fellowship Room.

Session 1: Wednesday, Oct 2: Is this Trip Really Necessary?

Session 2: Wednesday, Oct 9: What is the Orthodox Church?

Session 3: Wednesday, Oct 16: When did Orthodoxy Begin?

Session 4: Wednesday, Oct 23: Characteristics of Orthodox Christianity

Session 5: Wednesday, Oct 30: Mindset Matters

Session 6: Wednesday, Nov 6: A Healing Purpose

Session 7: Wednesday, Nov 13: Truth and Tradition

Session 8: Wednesday, Nov 20: How Do I Understand the Bible?

Are You a Steward of St. Haralambos?

We encourage all our parish families to send in the parish Stewardship form each year, together with their offerings of time, talents and treasure. If Saint Haralambos Church is the church you regularly attend, please consider becoming a steward, one who not only supports the church financially, but also with involvement in parish ministries and activities.

There are no Membership Dues in the Orthodox Church. Not only to support the continued ministries and functioning of our Church, our offerings show our willingness to return to God a portion of His blessings of time, talent and treasure. In addition, being a parish steward fulfills the Archdiocese requirements of being a Member in Good Standing, allowing you to serve as godparents and sponsors for Orthodox sacraments, as well as being able to vote at parish General Assemblies.



Our financial contributions should be a percentage of our financial resources. This continues the biblical teaching on deciding an appropriate amount each year. It is fair because percentage giving is not a fixed amount applicable to all families, and it is biblical because of the teaching of the tithe, or a 10% gift back to the Church. Above all, our giving should be cheerfully given, recognizing our desire - not simply obligation - to give back to God a portion of our blessings we receive from Him.

The 2024 Stewardship brochures are available in the Narthex and the church office. Please print legibly, and enter your contributions of time, talents and treasure. Completed brochures can be mailed to the office or dropped off on Sundays.

Name Days

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

- St. Ananias (1st)
- Sts. Cyprian and Justina (2nd)
- St. James (9th)
- St. Philip (11th)
- St. Lazaros (17th)
- St. Luke (18th)
- St. Gerasimos (20th)
- St. James (Iakovos) (23rd)
- St. Sebastiane (24th)
- St. Demetrios (26th)

2024 Stewardship Families

Abbitt, Demetra
 Asfaha, Moges
 Bachanos, Evan & Jewelie
 Basha, Genti & Elda
 Bastell, Rudy & Suad
 Bekiaris, Harry & Cynthia
 Berhe, Almaz & Mogos
 Bruno-Doster, Jenny
 Bryson, Tom & Joan
 Carlson, Olga
 Chionchio, Deborah
 Cholas, Angie
 Christian, Thalia
 Christie, Paul & Patricia
 Conklin, Tom & Maria
 Cotton, John & Ali
 Covault, Lloyd & Angela
 Danielek, Michael & Chrissy
 Deming, Janet
 Dent, Virginia
 Dodd, Stavroula
 Evangelinos, Parry & Hope

Farr, Jeff and Judy
 Finch, Dennis & Marina
 Germanis, Dennis
 Giannias, Elaine
 Gryparis, Demetri & Magda
 Hartsel, Barbara
 Huth, Cynthia
 Javaras, Harry
 Jolly, Judith
 Kinniburgh, Anna
 Lafayette, Henry & Maria
 Lazzelle, Estelle
 Levendi, Mary
 Mavridis, Christos
 Meyer, Herman
 Milonas, Nick & Jane
 Nathanson, Alan & Irene
 Pagos, Stella
 Pallad, Fr. Michael & Kristin
 Pappas, Irene
 Raiciof, Catalina
 Ratliff, Koula

Russom, Bereket
 Sambol, Patricia
 Servetas, Charlotte
 Singleton, Melanie & Bryan Frost
 Soles, Samuel
 Surman, Dina
 Tally, Katherine
 Tesfay, Ocbai & Genet
 Teska, Dan & Vivian
 Themistocles, Demetria
 Theoharatos, George & Lisa
 Thieke, James & Lucy Schouten
 Trakas, Georgia
 Tripsas, Basil & Ann
 Tucker, Marvin & Eleni
 Vardalos, Peter & Lindsay
 Woldesilassi, Solomon & Lydia
 Wysmierski, Ray & Mary
 Yiannakopoulos, George & Helen
 Zakas, Speros & Linda
 Zaruba, Estelle

THE ORIGINAL PHOENIX

GREEK Festival

63RD ANNUAL



OCTOBER 11-13, 2024

GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING & MORE

FRIDAY, OCT 11
3pm - 10pm

SATURDAY, OCT 12
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY, OCT 13
11am - 6pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix | phoenixgreekfestival.org

@originalphxgreekfest

OriginalPhoenixGreekFestival



ADMISSION

\$5.00 - for an entire day of fun

Children under 12 free

Seniors over 60 free entry on:

- Friday 3:00 - 5:00pm
- Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm

*No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)

PARKING

FREE Parking at
Charles Schwab -
24th St. & Lincoln

Shuttles every 15 minutes

\$10.00 to park in
church parking lot



EAT . DANCE . SHOP . PLAY

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines
Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market
Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.

FOCUS North America is now hiring the first Center Director for FOCUS Phoenix!

Key Center Director Competencies:

- Service of vulnerable populations (low income, unhoused, etc.);
- Leadership & management (engaging volunteers, leading Advisory Board, etc.); and
- Finances and fundraising (managing budget, engaging donors, etc.).



Brief Summary of the Ministry:

- Begin with resource distributions and outreach;
- Develop additional distributions and partnerships; and
- Eventually establish a homeless shelter.

APPLICANTS CAN USE THE QR CODE ABOVE TO VIEW DETAILS AND SHOULD SEND A RESUME TO INFO@FOCUSNA.ORG.



OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	3	4	5
6 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy National Church Music Sunday	7	8	9 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	10 10:00am Bible Study	11	12
13 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	14	15	16 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	17 10:00am Bible Study	18	19
20 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:30am YYA Meeting	21	22	23 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	24 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Parish Council	25	26 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saint Demetrios
27 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	28 9:00am Divine Liturgy Protection of the Theotokos	29	30 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	31 10:00am Bible Study		