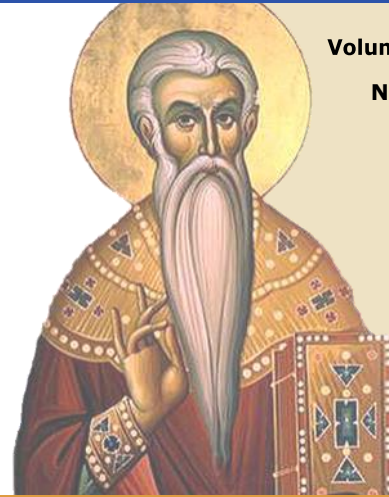


in Touch

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*Give
thanks
to the
Lord
for He is good,
His love endures
forever.*



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

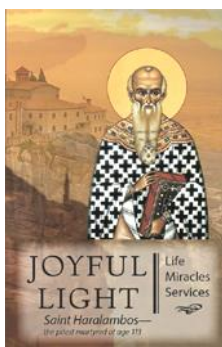
Thanksgiving Food Boxes

During the month of November, we are working with the City of Peoria Community Action Agency in putting together Thanksgiving dinners for 12 under-privileged families. We are asking for donations of frozen turkeys, canned and boxed foods that can be dropped off to the church Monday – Friday, between 10 am and 2 pm, or on Sundays. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway leading to the Fellowship Room. Please bring all food donations by Sunday, Nov. 24.

Thank you for helping give the less fortunate in our community a wonderful Thanksgiving meal!



Annual Book Club to Start Soon



The St. Haralambos Book Club Ministry will once again host regular meetings to read inspiring books of faith and have an engaged, small group discussion. Our first book will be *Joyful Light—Saint Haralambos—the priest martyred at age 113*.

Written by a nun of Saint Stephen’s Monastery, *Joyful Light* is a memoir tribute of the life of Saint Haralambos.

Reading it will leave you with a new and deeper appreciation of this heroic witness of faith.

It is available in our Bookstore and through Zoe Press at www.zoepress.us.

Thank you to Samuel Soles and Kimi Deinhard for offering to facilitate the group! Please direct any questions and your preferences to Samuel, and let him know if you can attend via Zoom, or in-person, and which day and times work best. Details will be announced.

“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!

Event poster for 'One Day, One Hymn' singing event. The poster features a blue background with white clouds and a sunburst effect. Text includes: 'ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHORAL FELLOWSHIP ONE DAY, ONE HYMN!', 'Saturday, November 16, 2024 10 AM - 3 PM St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church - Peoria, AZ', '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!', 'REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 23 at occfellowship.org Adults \$15 Children (12 & under) \$10 Additional children in same family \$5', and 'For more information, please email us: info@occfellowship.org'. Social media links for occfellowship.org and facebook.com/occfellowship are provided. A footer note states: '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.'



Thanksgiving

November is the month of Thanksgiving for two reasons: the first is celebrated on the 21st of the month when the Orthodox Church commemorates the Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple when, according to tradition, she was three years old; and the second is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of the month when our nation celebrates Thanksgiving Day.

What was the reason for giving thanks on the day when the Lord's mother, the Theotokos, was presented in the Temple? Who was thankful, and what were they thankful for?

Although the account is not mentioned in the New Testament, but in a document known as the Proto-Evangelion of Saint James, we learn that it recalls the day that Mary's mother and father, Joachim and Anna, brought her to the temple to dedicate her to God, and to thank God for blessing them with a child.

This was to fulfill a promise they made to God. Joachim and Anna were unable to conceive children, yet were both told by angels of God that their prayers were heard, and that they would be soon become parents. When Mary was three years old, she was brought to the temple to be consecrated to God.

Celebrated soon afterwards, (this year on Thursday, November 28) we come to the American

religious holiday of Thanksgiving, celebrated each year on the fourth Thursday in November.

Having lost nearly half of their group the first year to the harshness of winter, and suffering from lack of food, the pilgrims set aside a day of feasting and prayer in thanks to God the following year for having survived with the help of native American Indians.


November is the Thanksgiving month for the Orthodox Christian Church and American society; a wonderful time for us to count our blessings, and to be thankful for all that God has given to us.

November is the Thanksgiving month for the Orthodox Christian Church and American society;



What is one very practical and helpful way to thank God for our blessings? To think about sharing with others, and to help others with needs greater than our own may not be the first thought that comes to mind, but is a wonderful way to let God know that we are thankful, enough so that we pass that love on to others.

That does require a bit of humility, doesn't it? In our minds, we know that there are countless people – men, women and children – who are in need of basic necessities such as food and shelter. It is something else, though, to act on what we know; to put awareness and prayer into action. But this is the Christian response to God's love; sharing it with others. It's also such a wonderful way to thank God; to pass along His blessings.



**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](#)

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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

The year is moving fast, so fast that Viason who is sealing and striping our lot will be doing so in the spring. Since they start early morning, it is getting too cold, however it will be done.

We are looking for an all-around handyman to replace Harry Bekiaris who is stepping down, Harry will train you on the operation. With the daycare in progress during the week, sometimes those little rascals like to put toys in the toilets, so obviously they need to be removed. Changing furnace filters, and minor fixes in the church hall and classrooms is pretty much it, so let myself or Harry know if you can tackle this important ministry.

As always we strive to keep the church family safe ,sound and a pleasant,

comfortable church. The week between Christmas and New Years we will be cleaning out the parish council office and can use a couple able bodies to make trash runs to the dumpsters, let myself or Cynthia Bekiaris know if you can lend a hand for a few hours, hopefully that should do it.

Finally, everyone should have received all the financials as a pre-read for the assembly. Please look at it very carefully.

Please note that, Harry Calivas is doing a remarkable job with our cell tower money, which he is investing for us at WellsFargo. And finally, Father Michael's sermon on Oct. 26 addressed the cheerful giver, which was quoted from the Gospel passage. We give because it's not required however , we give because we love our church and want to maintain God's house.

Birthdays



Argyro Vasquez (3)
Marina Finch (8)
Maria Lafayette (8)
Lamar Forque (10)
Irene Pappas (10)
Joan Bryson (16)
Irene Stratos (17)
Judy Jolly (19)
George Macrides (21)
Kadence Kelly (23)
Lori Benjamin (24)
Nicole Benjamin (24)
Nikolas Panousopoulos (25)
Kristin Pallad (28)
Estelle Lazzelle (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.

Fall General Assembly

All are invited and encouraged to attend our Fall General Assembly, scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 3, in our Fellowship Room after services.

The General Assembly agenda, the proposed 2025 Parish Budget and related meeting materials will be sent out via email.

GriefShare Ministry

Healing from the loss of a loved one is a journey but you don't have to travel alone.

St. Haralambos will soon become a vital resource by hosting GriefShare, a 13-week support group for adults seeking help through the pain of bereavement. GriefShare is a national, Christ-centered support group program that welcomes people of all faiths as well as nonbelievers.

The group will be offered at our church to parishioners and the public. There is no charge to join the group but a \$20 fee covers the Participants Guide that includes exercises and valuable grief-related information and coping tools. Scholarships are available to apply for.

At each session, participants watch a 30-minute video and then gather for sharing and discussion led by trained facilitators. For understanding, encouragement, and resources to guide you through the loss of a loved one, consider joining this healing group.

More information on how to register, meeting dates, and details will be announced and forthcoming. Members of the GriefShare ministry team--Ann Beranis, Melanie Singleton, Kimi Deinhard and Irene Nathanson—are available to answer any questions, or you can access the website griefshare.org to learn more.

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Anna Kinniburgh, President

In the beginning of the new Ecclesiastical Year, the philoptochos had our first meeting on Oct. 13.

Our new budget was presented and approved by all.

We are grateful for all your donations and we are able to pay our obligations.

I like to announce the resignation of our treasurer Cynthia Bekiaris and thank her for a job well done. We have a new Treasurer and a new member to Philoptochos and as President, according to our bi-laws, have asked her to become our new Treasurer, which she has accepted.

Her Name is Brooke Brightwell. We thank her for accepting.

We also have more new members and all are welcomed.

In the hallway where the restrooms are located there is a Bulletin Board with our news. You will see there is a certificate showing that we have paid all our obligations.

I hope and wish more parishioners to join our worthy cause.

The next Philoptochos meeting will be on Nov. 10



President, Anna Kinniburgh, displays Recognition Award for meeting all ministry commitments.

Community Christmas Card

Send Christmas greetings to our entire parish membership! Include your name on our beautiful new full-color icon Christmas Card for a donation of \$10 per family via check or credit card. Please print your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on the card.

Clip and mail this form to the church office or sign up on Sundays during the Coffee Hour. Please make checks payable to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church.

All submissions must be paid by the December 8 deadline

Please include my family's name in this year's Community Christmas Card.

Enclosed is my check for \$10.

(Please return to the church office)



Names (please print clearly)

Treasurer's Report

By Cynthia Bekiaris, Treasurer

Below you will find the 3rd Quarter Reporting for the church.

It has been a vigorous year with the completion of our FEMA Project, Portico Construction and Sale of our Cell Tower Lease.

We have happily made some investments with our proceeds providing income to equal the monthly check from

the cell tower lease. This affords us the ability to manage our cash flow in the manner needed for our church.

We will be presenting our 2025 Budget for your approval at our General Assembly on Nov. 3. Please make sure you are a member in good standing so your vote counts.



Assets		
Bank Accounts	61,527.21	
Investments from Cell Tower	302,900.04	Generates \$1250/mo income
TOTAL	364,427.25	
Income		
Daycare Rent	75,707.36	
St. Mary Lease	29,892.69	
Donations/Stewardship	107,234.71	
Bookstore	2,222.05	
Candles	7,032.95	
Holidays	3,165	
Fundraiser	5,801.45	
Specific Donations	44,528.9	i.e. Portico
Cell Tower Sale	285,316.66	
Interest	6,540.38	
TOTAL	567,442.15	
Expenses		
Ministry & Assessments	161,731.78	
Utilities/Facilities	47,467.33	
Property Insurance	8,982	
Ofc Admin Payroll	15,778.8	
Credit Card & Business Fees	4,881.92	
Charity	3,111.32	
Candles	1,435.24	
Bookstore	1,690	
Holidays	1,925.43	
Fundraisers	5,560.11	
Capital Improvements	123,070.81	
TOTAL	375,634.74	
Net Income with Cell Tower Purchase	191,807.42	

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:

- SS. Cosmas and Damian (1st)
- St. Nektarios (9th)
- St. Theodore (11th)
- St. John Chrysostom (13th)
- St. Philip (14th)
- St. Gregory (14th)
- St. Theodora (15th)
- St. Matthew (16th)
- St. Philemon (22nd)
- St. Katherine (25th)
- St. Andrew (30th)

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
 Calivas, Harry & Anita
 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
 Germenis, Dennis
 Giannias, Elaine
 Gryparis, Demetri & Magda
 Hartsel, Barbara
 Horne, Kevin and Denise
 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

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:00am Divine Liturgy Sts. Cosmas and Damian	2 9:00am Blessing of the Animals
3 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Fall General Assembly	4	5	6 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	7 10:00am Bible Study	8 9:00am Divine Liturgy Archangel Michael and Heavenly Host	9 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saint Nektarios
10 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	11 Veterans Day	12	13 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saint John Chrysostom 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	14 10:00am Bible Study	15	16 10:00am "One Day, One Hymn"
17 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	18	19	20 6:00pm A Journey to Fullness	21 9:00am Divine Liturgy Entrance of the Theotokos 10:00am Bible Study	22	23
24 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day (Church Office Closed)	29	30