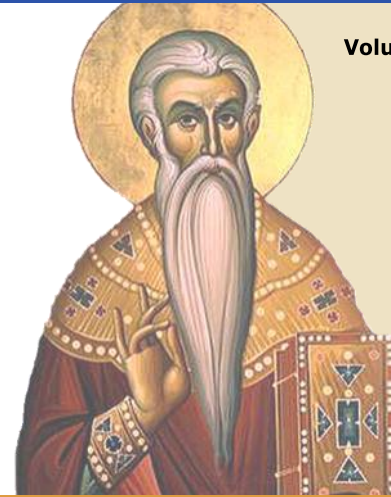


# in Touch

Volume 34, Issue 5

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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

**Food  
Charity • 2**

**A Taste  
of Greece • 2**

**Restoring and  
Rebuilding • 3**



*Restoration of our  
Church Home*



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

# Responding to the call for food charity.

*'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

Mathew 25:35,37,40

Our Lord tells us to care for others, whether they be strangers, hungry, naked, sick or in prison. Responding to this call, St Haralambos Church has been a longtime supporter of Valley View Food Bank in Sun City. So that we can continue to fulfil this command, you are invited to share your generosity and compassion with our neighbors in need.

Please place your donations of canned and dried items in the food collection container located in the rear atrium area. Items such as canned fruits and vegetables, beans,

rice, pasta, tuna, and peanut butter/jelly are most helpful. Every contribution, large and small, helps make a difference!

Thank you for continuing to live out the spirit of generosity that defines our community. Together we can help ensure that those less fortunate do not go hungry.



## A Taste of Greece!



Earlier this year it was announced that after a six-year absence, the Peoria Greek Festival would be returning in October. Due to the need for us to re-focus our attention on the restoration of our building, to limit scheduling conflicts, and to align more

closely with our Patron's feast day, the date has now been moved back to **February 5-7, 2027**.

While the flavor of the festival might be Greek, our festival is a community wide celebration, showcasing who we are as Orthodox Christians. The new timeline allows us to be even more thoughtful in our planning and to think outside of the box in re-imagining what our festival will look like seven years later... and it will be better than ever!

Numerous subcommittees, focusing on many different aspects of festival planning, have been forming. These

include permitting and insurance, menu and serving lines, bar and beverages, kafenio and pastries, music and entertainment, children and family activities, cultural and religious experience, vendors; sponsorships, social media and promotion; and parking and security. **Currently we have need for someone to take the lead on physical layout, setup and breakdown; volunteer coordination; and ordering, inventory and supply management.**

Everyone has unique talents to offer and your enthusiasm is NEEDED. The above list is not exhaustive and there is much work to be done, not only on festival weekend, but more importantly, in advance. To express your interest, offer your help, and **get involved**, call the church office or reach out to Father Michael, Committee Chair Dennis Georgen, or any member of the Parish Council. Don't wait to be asked!

Please share this exciting news with family, friends and neighbors. OPA!!

## Spring General Assembly

All are welcome and encouraged to attend our parish Spring General Assembly on Sunday, May 3, following church services. General Assemblies are open to all, however, only those who are parish Stewards will be eligible to vote on any issues.

Stewardship Forms are available at the candle stand in the Narthex.



## Restoring and Rebuilding

Dear Parishioners and Friends,  
Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

As many of you know, earlier this year, on January 9th, our sanctuary experienced unexpected flooding that caused significant damage to our church home. While this was a difficult moment for our parish, it has also revealed an opportunity, one that allows us to restore, renew, and thoughtfully improve the spaces we've shared for so many years.

Although insurance will help cover a portion of the repairs, it does not extend to many of the updates and improvements our building now truly needs. Over the past 16 years since acquiring our church, we have made numerous adjustments to support our growing community. Today, however, the natural wear and tear, along with the recent damage, has made it clear that more comprehensive improvements are necessary. With hope and faith, we are reaching out to ask for your support in helping us move forward.

Our goals include:

- Replacing carpeting throughout the building with durable, waterproof luxury tile
- Updating the sanctuary seating with comfortable upholstered pews
- Enhancing the sanctuary ceiling with more fitting and ornate tiles

- Installing new, improved sanctuary lighting
- Repainting and refreshing the sanctuary space

In addition, the flood revealed several underlying issues that require immediate attention, needs that fall outside of insurance coverage but are essential to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all. This is more than a restoration, it is an opportunity to create a space that reflects the beauty, warmth, and strength of our faith and community.

*This is more than a restoration, it is an opportunity...*

We humbly ask you to consider making a donation, no matter the size. Every contribution will bring us closer to restoring and enhancing our church for current and future generations.

Online donations can be made at our parish website: [www.stharalambos.org](http://www.stharalambos.org), and clicking on the Online Donations and Prayer button, then clicking on the Donate button, and selecting "Building Restoration and Beautification Fund" from the dropdown menu. Please send all cash and check donations to the church address above.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support, prayers, and commitment to our parish family.



**St. Haralambos  
Greek Orthodox  
Church**

[www.stharalambos.org](http://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](mailto:Office@StHaralambosAZ.com)  
[FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com](mailto:FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com)

### Hours

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

### Parish Council

Evan Bachanos	Daniel Teska
Avery Brightwell	Vivian Teska
Angie Cholas	Basil Tripsas
Virginia Dent	Eleni Tucker
Stella Pagos	Solomon Woldesilassie
Catalina Raicioff	Linda Zakas

## Stewardship

One of our parish goals for 2026 is to have all parish families become Good Stewards of Saint Haralambos Church. This means carefully completing the 2026 Stewardship brochure, making sure your family information is correct, becoming involved in parish ministries, and making a financial pledge for the year.

When we recognize that everything we have: health, wealth, time and talents, are all gifts from God, there should be no hesitation in thanking God by using those



gifts to build up His Church and to glorify His name. To exercise good stewardship is to use God's gifts in ways that glorify Him and build up His Church. This means using our gifts for the benefit of others, giving a portion of our time and treasure for the strengthening of the Church. When one is aware of their God-given blessings, then sharing them with others and through His Church is a very natural and joyful response.

If needed, [Stewardship brochures](#) are available at the Narthex candle stand.

## 2026 Stewardship Families

Abitt, Dimetra  
 Abbott, Paula  
 Anest, James & Vaso  
 Asfaha, Mogos & Almaz  
 Bachanos, Evangelos & Jewelene  
 Basha, Genti & Elda  
 Bastell Rudenio & Suad  
 Bekiaris, Harry & Cynthia  
 Brightwell, Avery & Brook  
 Cahlamer-Hallick, Michael & Athanasia  
 Chambers, Michael  
 Christian, Thalia  
 Conklin, Tom & Maria  
 Cornetta, Alexander  
 Danielek, Chrissy  
 Deinhard, Kimi  
 Deming, Janet  
 Dent, Virginia  
 Evangelinos, Paraskevas & Elpida  
 Farr, Jeff & Judy

Finch, Dennis & Marina  
 Foondle, Jeff and Rebecca  
 Ghattas, Edward and Nada  
 Giannias, Elaine  
 Govis, William  
 Hartsel, Barbara  
 Hooper, Sophia  
 Horne, Kevin & Denise  
 Huth, Cynthia  
 Jolly, Judith L.  
 Kinniburgh, Anna  
 Kondiles, Stellos & Anastasia  
 Laios, Efthimios (Tim)  
 Lazzelle, Estelle  
 Levendi, Mary  
 Mavridis, Christos  
 Milonas, Nick & Jane  
 Moore, Michael & Lauren  
 Nathanson, Irene  
 Pagos, Stella  
 Pallad, Fr. Michael & Pres. Kristen  
 Pappas, Irene

Raiciof, Catilina  
 Russom, Bereket & Nardos  
 Sambol, Patricia  
 Schepers, Duane & Nadia  
 Selles, Argiroula & Brianna  
 Servetas, Charlotte  
 Singleton, Melanie  
 Surman, Dina  
 Swagerty, Keith & Janet  
 Tesfay, Ocbai & Genet  
 Teska, Daniel & Vivian  
 Thieke, James & Lucy  
 Trakas, Georgia  
 Tripsas, Basil & Ann  
 Tucker, Marvin & Eleni  
 Vardalos, Peter & Lindsay  
 Woldesilassie, Solomon & Lydia  
 Wysmierski, Ray & Mary  
 Yannakopoulos, George & Helen  
 Zakas, Speros & Linda  
 Zaruba, Estelle

## Birthdays



Kristen Benjamin (5)  
 Charlotte Servetas (5)  
 Despina Tremoulis (8)  
 Megan Pallad (10)  
 Lourdes Kotsobeis (16)  
 Constantine Teska (16)  
 Tony Panousopoulos (18)  
 Aristithi Vardalos (18)  
 Nicoletta Crough (21)  
 John Zafiroopoulos (22)  
 Genet Tesfay (23)  
 Anita Calivas(Colter) (26)  
 Katherine Stithem (26)  
 Barbara Hartsel (29)

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.

## Name Days

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

St. Irene (5th)	St. Glykeria (13th)	Sts. Theodosios and Theodosia (29th)
Prophet Job (6th)	St. Symeon (24th)	
St. Christopher (9th)	Sts. Constantine and Helen (21st)	
St. Simon (10th)		

# MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Sunday of the Paralytic</b> 11:30am Spring General Assembly	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>The Samaritan Woman</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Sunday of the Blind Man</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Ascension of the Lord</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Saturday of Souls</b>