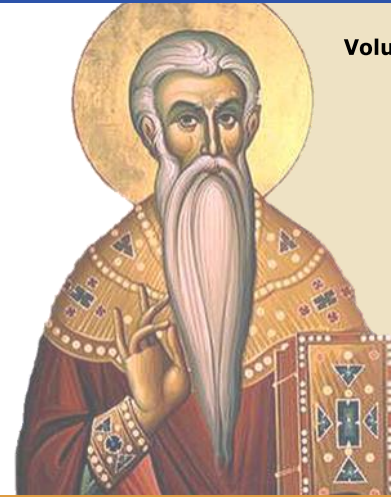


# in Touch

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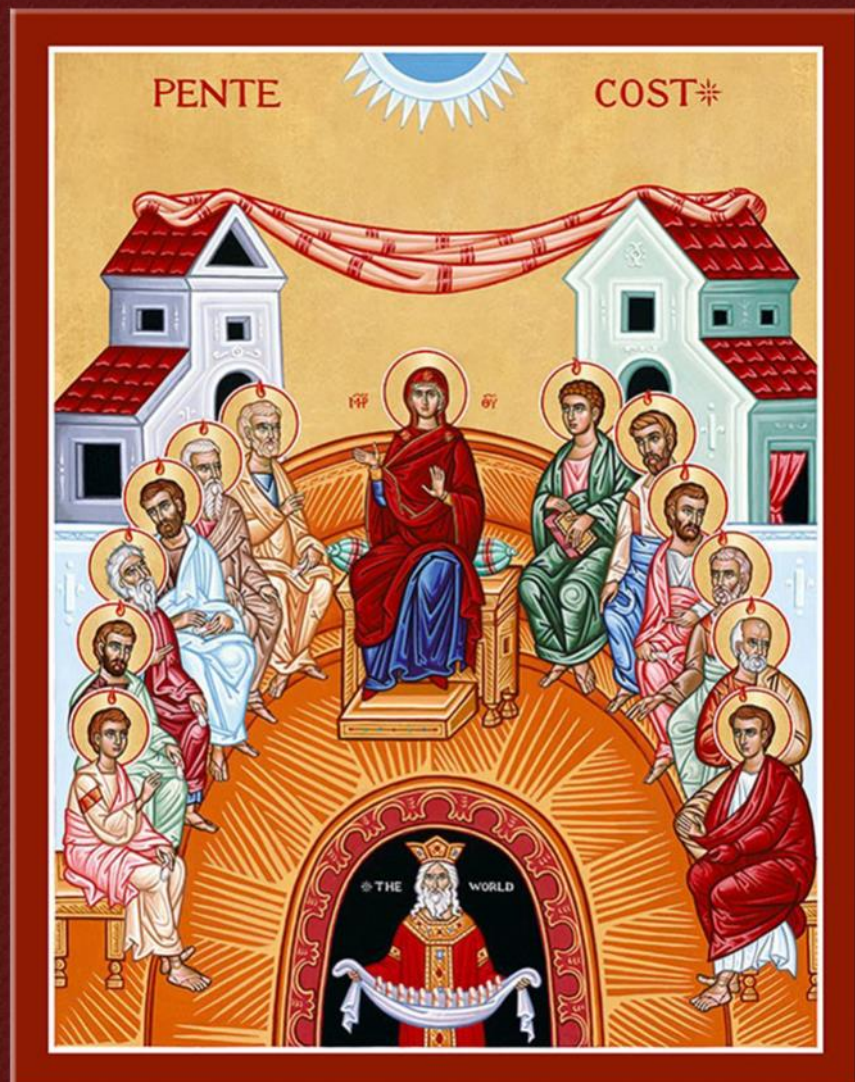
The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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**Sunday of Pentecost**  
June 8



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

# 2025 High School Graduates



Nile Solomon graduated from Paradise Valley High School recently and is looking forward to a very bright future. In the fall, Nile will go south to University of Arizona in Tucson to pursue a degree in Architecture, a five year program.

She has been very active in our church and also in her school. First, Nile served as President of National Honors Society. Second, she was active in the

Society of Women Scholars. Third, Nile has danced her whole life and served as Co captain of the Paradise Valley High School Dance team. She also participated in HOSA, (future health professionals) Link crew, Black student union, Bring Change to Mind and CREST Engineering

Nobody in our parish would be surprised that somehow she found time to participate in her school's Speech and Debate Team. Nile is a gifted speaker who has worked at developing her talent. At church, Nile has participated in the Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival since seventh grade. Several years she advanced to the metropolis level and this year she advanced to the national level. Other church involvements include years of Sunday School, myrrh bearers, festival volunteer and service projects.

Nile we are so proud of you and all your accomplishments so far. We are looking forward to hearing about your next adventures. We all love you and will continue to pray for you.

Malia Panousopoulos is a graduate of Tonopah Valley High School in Tonopah, Arizona. Malia's post-graduate plans are to continue her education, having been accepted at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon, where she will be majoring in Animal Science. Our congratulations to Malia, and to her parents, Tony and Ruth.

Malia is pictured with her brother, Niko!



## OCMC

A huge THANK YOU to all who prayed, supported, and contributed to the recent Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) drive. Once again, we raised funds to make a significant donation. Know that your generosity supports mission priests and mission efforts around the world, spreading the Gospel and Orthodoxy to the unevangelized. St. Haralambos is proud to be part of this crucial ministry and is grateful for your incredible support!





## The Promise of our Lord, Jesus Christ

*“If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.” (John 14:15-18)*

It is good to remind ourselves of at least two things: 1) the continuous and unconditional love of Jesus Christ; and 2) The fulfillment of His promise of sending the Holy Spirit into the world: the day of Pentecost.

This is the “Helper” that Jesus gives to His disciples, the Holy Spirit which is sent into the world on the day of Pentecost, 50 days following Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, which the Orthodox Christian Church celebrates on the 8th of this month.

It is the fulfillment of His promise to be with us forever, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, which abides with us forever, a continuous spiritual connection with God, given to each of us personally on the day of our baptism.

Certainly we may feel, during times of anxiety and fear of the unknown, that God has abandoned us, leaving us to unknown and unpredictable dark forces that wreak havoc on our world. The Gospel does not deny that demonic forces are continually at work in our world, but at the same time, it is good for us to remember our Lord’s victory over the power of darkness and death.

And this is why it is good to remind ourselves of the quote above from Chapter 14 of Saint John’s

Gospel. This is what faith is all about, and is especially needed in times of stress and fear of the unknown.

Above all, as Christians, let us remind ourselves, and one another, of the promise of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the He has not left us alone, not for a minute. Let us turn to Him in prayer, asking for faith, patience, strength and compassion. Let us not turn against one another out of anger or fear or differences of opinion. Let us be helpful to one another, recognizing that we are all brothers and sisters, struggling in ways that we may not be a ware of.

Pentecost is the fulfillment of God’s love for us, His promise that He loves us and desires to dwell within us personally. He is not only our Creator, but Savior, Redeemer and Great Benefactor.

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*He is not only our  
Creator, but Savior,  
Redeemer and Great  
Benefactor.*

---

The prayer of the Holy Spirit is read at the beginning of Matins each Sunday: “Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present everywhere and filling all things, treasury of blessings and Giver of Life. Come and abide within us, cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Gracious One.”

Let us come together with love and joy on Sunday, June 8, and celebrate the great feastday of Pentecost. As we see in the icon of the feast, the Holy Spirit descended upon each of the Apostles as fire, filling them with the grace of the Holy Spirit. That same Spirit is present in the Church today and in the lives of all baptized believers.



**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

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Evan Bachanos     | Catalina Raiciof       |
| Harry Bekiaris    | Vivian Teska           |
| Avery Brightwell  | Demetria Themistocles  |
| Deborah Chionchio | Solomon Woldeasilassie |
| Angie Cholas      | Ray Wysmierski         |
| Virginia Dent     | Linda Zakas            |

## All Saints Sunday



“Your Church, O Christ our God, clothed itself in the blood of Your martyrs from throughout the world, as though it were a robe of linen and purple; through them, she cries out to You, ‘Send down upon Your people compassion, grant peace to Your commonwealth, and to our souls, great mercy.’”

In the Orthodox Church calendar, the Sunday after Pentecost is known as the Sunday of All Saints, this year celebrated on Sunday, June 15. “This commemoration began as the Sunday (Synaxis) of All Martyrs; to them were added all the ranks of Saints who bore witness (the meaning of "Martyr" in Greek) to Christ in manifold ways, even if occasion did not require the shedding of their blood.” (source: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org))

Many Saints throughout history are well-known, and their biographies written and maintained in the church service books. The Church also acknowledges the lives of

many saints who are unknown to us, and known only to God. The Orthodox Church remembers and prays for them as well on the Sunday of All Saints.

“In this celebration, then, we reverently honor and call blessed all the Righteous, the Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Shepherds, Teachers, and Holy Monastics, both men and women alike, known and unknown, who have been added to the choirs of the Saints and shall be added, from the time of Adam until the end of the world, who have been perfected in piety and have glorified God by their holy lives. All these, as well as the orders of the Angels, and especially our most holy Lady and Queen, the Ever-virgin Theotokos Mary, do we honor today, setting their life before us as an example of virtue, and entreating them to intercede in our behalf with God, Whose grace and boundless mercy be with us all. Amen.” (source: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org))

## Name Days

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

St. Dorotheos (5th)  
St. Cyril (9th)  
St. Methodios (14th)  
St. Tychon (16th)  
St. Jude (19th)  
St. Julian (21st)  
St. Sampson (27th)  
Sts. Peter and Paul (29th)

## Father's Day Poem

By Rebecca D. Cook

He wasn't a hero  
Known by the world,  
But a hero he was  
To his little girl.

My daddy was a god  
Who knew all things.  
And better than Santa,  
With the gifts he'd bring.

I knew his voice  
Before I could speak  
And loved it when  
He would sing me to sleep.

He changed my diapers  
And sat up all night  
When my body was weak  
And I'd put up a fight.

He'd come home late  
With not much to say  
And made us all kneel  
As he taught me to pray.

He taught me life's lessons  
Of right from wrong  
And instilled in me values  
That I might be strong.

And so through the years,  
Like a hero he stood.  
Working to give  
All that he could.

His presence was important,  
And we loved to see him smile,  
For no one in the world  
Could emulate his style.

And so, dear Dad,  
My best memory to recall  
Is the gift of your presence,  
The greatest gift of all.



## Stewardship

We remind all that there are no Membership Dues in the Orthodox Church. To become a Member in Good Standing, all parishioners must complete and return the Stewardship brochure pledging offerings of our time, talents and treasure in support of our Church, recognizing that all we have, including life itself, are gifts from God.

The 2025 Stewardship brochures have been mailed to all parish families. Additional brochures are available in the Narthex and the church office. Please print legibly, and enter your contributions of time, talents and donations. Completed brochures can be mailed to the office or dropped off on Sundays.

The teaching on Christian Stewardship remains consistent to help us learn to be



good stewards: we give back to God from what He has given us. We come into this world with nothing, and we leave it with nothing. All that we have in this life comes from God's blessings.

Returning back a portion to God through His Church, is our way of acknowledging the source of our blessings.

Financial contributions should be a percentage of our financial resources. This continues the biblical teaching of tithing or percentage

giving rather than setting a fixed amount applicable to all families. Above all, our offerings should be cheerfully given, recognizing our desire - not simply obligation - to give back to God a portion of our blessings we receive from Him.

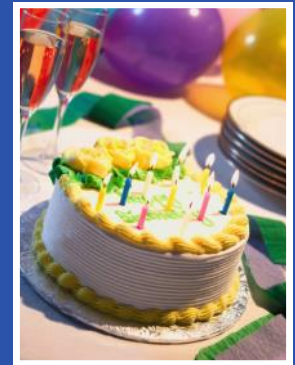
## 2025 Stewardship Families

Addy, Pamela  
Asfaha, Mogos & Almaz  
Bachanos, Evan & Jewelie  
Basha, Genti & Elda  
Bastell, Rudy & Suad  
Bekiaris, Harry & Cynthia  
Benjamin, George & Jessie  
Brightwell, Avery & Brooke  
Bruno-Doster, Jenny  
Chionchio, Deborah  
Christian, Thalia  
Conklin, Tom & Maria  
Cotton, John & Alexandria  
Danielek, Chrissy  
Deinhard, Kimi  
Deming, Janet  
Dent, Virginia  
Desimone, Nilda  
Dodd, Voula  
Donios, Sophia  
Evangelinos, Perry & Hope  
Farr, Jeff & Judy  
Finch, Dennis & Marina

Gavriilidis, Eugene & Ekaterini  
Giannias, Elaine  
Hallick-Cahlamer, Mike & Thana  
Hartsel, Barbara  
Hooper, Sophia  
Horne, Kevin & Denise  
Huth, Cynthia  
Jolly, Wallace & Judy  
Karabetsos, Angela  
Kinniburgh, Anna  
Lazzelle, Estelle  
Levendi, Mary  
Martinez, Raul & Danielle King  
Mavrides, Christos  
Milonas, Nick & Jane  
Moore, Michael & Lauren  
Nathanson, Alan & Irene  
Pagos, Stella  
Pallad, Fr. Michael & Pres. Kristin  
Pappas, Irene  
Ratliff, Koula

Russom, Bereket & Nardos  
Sambol, Don & Patricia  
Schepers, Duane & Nadia  
Servetas, Charlotte  
Singleton, Melanie & Brian Frost  
Tesfay, Ocbai & Genet  
Teska, Daniel & Vivian  
Thieke, Dr. James & Lucy  
Trakas, Georgia  
Tucker, Marvin & Eleni  
Vardalos, Peter & Lindsay  
Vasquez, Argyro, Giota Kostas and Family, & Elizabeth Kostas -Polston and Family  
Woldesilazzie, Solomon & Lydia  
Wysmierski, Ray & Mary  
Yannakopoulos, George & Helen  
Zakas, Speros & Linda

## Birthdays



Rebecca Bryson (4)  
Atticus Brightwell (6)  
George Theoharatos (6)  
Anna Milonas (7)  
Edna Nicely (7)  
Christopher King (15)  
Nile Solomon (15)  
Bethel Samuel (16)  
Harry Bekiaris (17)  
Ashlyn Booth (18)  
Stavroula Dodd (18)  
Niat Solomon (18)  
Maria Conklin (19)  
Duane Schepers (22)  
Eleni Teska (23)  
Andreanna Zafiroopoulos (25)  
Madelyn Pritchard (27)  
Anna Kinniburgh (29)  
Bereket Russom (29)  
Anastasia Pagos (30)  
Nadia Schepers (30)  
Rhone Martinez (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.

# JUNE 2025

| Sunday   | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday | Thursday  | Friday    | Saturday   |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>1</b><br>8:45am Matins<br>10:00am Divine<br>Liturgy                           | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>9:00am Divine<br>Liturgy<br><b>Saturday of Souls</b> |
| <b>8</b><br>8:45am Matins<br>10:00am Divine<br>Liturgy<br><b>Pentecost</b>       | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>15</b><br>8:45am Matins<br>10:00am Divine<br>Liturgy<br><b>All Saints Day</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b>  |
| <b>22</b><br>8:45am Matins<br>10:00am Divine<br>Liturgy                          | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>  |
| <b>29</b><br>8:45am Matins<br>10:00am Divine<br>Liturgy                          | <b>30</b> |           |           |           |           |  |