



ST. HARALAMBOS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
CANTON, OHIO

KOINONIA

CHRIST IS RISEN!



TRULY HE IS RISEN!

MAY & JUNE 2024

2024 PARISH ADMINISTRATORS

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

PHONE: 330-454-7278 **FAX:** 330-454-0099

EMAIL: Haralambos251@stharalambos.com

WEBSITE: www.stharalambos.com

CLERGY

REV. PROTOPRESBYTER NICHOLAS V. GAMVAS, DMIN, PHD, IERATIKOS, PROISTAMENOS

REV. DEACON DR. KYRIACOS J. SHIEPIS, D.C.

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DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE:	JOANNA VOLAS
MAIDS OF ATHENA:	GIA SOTIROPOULOS



My dear brothers and sisters,

Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

Christ is Risen from the grave, and there is a glory beyond all telling to be proclaimed and shared!! The first few hours of Pascha Sunday morning, however, were nothing short of pandemonium. All four gospels relate this fact. St. Matthew writes that an angel descending from heaven came and rolled away the stone, and that his appearance was like lightening, the guards were shaken and became like dead men because they were so afraid of the angel (Matthew 28:2-4).

Later that same morning, Mary Magdalene and some other women came to the tomb and found it empty. They ran immediately to tell Peter and John what they thought had happened: "they have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him" (John 20:2).

Place yourself in the sandals of these people for a moment - having buried Him just days before, you decide to place some flowers by the grave; but when you arrive you find the grave wide open and the body of our beloved Lord missing. Now, can't you see why there was such pandemonium?

Peter and John run to the empty tomb to verify the women's story. The two disciples running towards the empty tomb represent all of us, who are in the midst of the pandemonium around us (and perhaps within us!) are racing—even desperate—to find the answer to our deepest questions and to our deepest longings; who really need the stone to be rolled away, and death and darkness to be defeated, and for life to finally triumph.

Well, Pascha is the most important feast we celebrate as a Christian people precisely because that's exactly what has happened in Resurrection of our Lord Jesus from the dead: the stone has been rolled away, death and darkness have been defeated, and life—*real life in Christ*—has triumphed. We need to take this mysterious, wondrous fact as personally as we can.

May the joy of our Lord's Resurrection fill our hearts with hope!

With Love in the Risen Christ,

+ Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas

ST. HARALAMBOS CHURCH

MAY & JUNE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MAY 2024

MAY 1	WEDNESDAY	HOLY WEDNESDAY - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 9:00 am HOLY WEDNESDAY - HOLY UNCTION 6:00 pm
MAY 2	THURSDAY	HOLY THURSDAY - ST. BASIL LITURGY 9:00 am HOLY THURSDAY EVENING - 12 GOSPELS 7:00 pm
MAY 3	FRIDAY	HOLY FRIDAY MORNING - ROYAL HOURS 9:00 am HOLY FRIDAY APOKATHELOSIS 3:00 pm HOLY FRIDAY LAMENTATIONS 7:00 pm
MAY 4	SATURDAY	HOLY SATURDAY MORNING - ST. BASIL LITURGY 9:00 am HOLY SATURDAY EVENING 11:15 pm - 11:45 pm Orthros
MAY 5	SUNDAY	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA - RESURRECTION 12 Midnight Service GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA 12:30 am Orthros GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA - PASCHAL LITURGY ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 1:00 am HOLY PASCHA, AGAPE VESPERS 11:00 am
MAY 6	MONDAY	FEASTDAY OF ST. GEORGE MASSILLON 9:00 am - Orthros - 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
MAY 10	FRIDAY	RENEWAL/BRIGHT FRIDAY—THEOTOKOS OF THE LIFE-GIVING FOUNDATION 9:00 am - Orthros - followed by Divine Liturgy
MAY 12	SUNDAY	ST. THOMAS SUNDAY 9:00 am - Orthros - 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
MAY 19	SUNDAY	SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMAN 9:00 am - Orthros - 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
MAY 21	TUESDAY	STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN 9:00 am - Orthros - followed by Divine Liturgy
MAY 26	SUNDAY	SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
MAY 27	MONDAY	MEMORIAL DAY - TRISAGION @ FOREST HILL CEMETERY - 9:00 am TRISAGION @ NORTH LAWN CEMETERY - 10:00 a.m. TRISAGION @ SUNSET HILLS - 11:00 a.m.

ST. HARALAMBOS CHURCH

MAY & JUNE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

JUNE 2024

JUNE 2	SUNDAY	SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy
JUNE 9	SUNDAY	SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
JUNE 13	THURSDAY	ASCENSION OF CHRIST 9:00 am - Orthros - followed by Divine Liturgy
JUNE 16	SUNDAY	FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy
JUNE 22	SATURDAY	SATURDAY OF SOULS 9:00 am - Orthros - followed by Divine Liturgy GREAT VESPERS @ HOLY TRINITY—TBA
JUNE 23	SUNDAY	HOLY PENTECOST—ST. HARALAMBOS CELEBRATING AT HOLY TRINITY 8:30 am - Orthros 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
JUNE 29	SATURDAY	STS. PETER & PAUL 9:00 am - Orthros - followed by Divine Liturgy
JUNE 30	SUNDAY	SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY APOSTLES 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy



MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 a.m. †Holy Wednesday- Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m. †Holy Wednesday- Holy Unction	2 9:00 a.m. †Holy Thursday- St. Basil Liturgy 7:00 p.m. †Holy Thursday- 12 Gospels	3 9:00 a.m. †Holy Friday- Royal Hours 3:00 p.m. †Holy Friday- Apokathelosis 6:40 Choir 7:00 p.m. †Holy Friday- Lamentations	4 9:00 a.m. †Holy Saturday- St. Basil Liturgy 11:00 Choir 11:15 p.m.- 11:45 p.m. †Holy Saturday Evening
5 12:00 a.m. †Holy Pascha Resurrection 12:30 a.m. †Holy Pascha Orthos 1:00 a.m. †Holy Pascha Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom 11:00 a.m. †Holy Pascha Agape Great Vespers	6 9:00 a.m. †Feastday of St. George - Massillon 7:00 p.m. Greek Fest Mtg.	7 5:30 p.m. Greek School Party	8 .	9 11:00 a.m. Catering Event 4:30 Dance Practice 7:30 Dance Group Meeting	10 9:00 a.m. †Renewal/Bright Friday - Theotokos of the Life-Giving Foundation	11 Catering Event
12 9:00 a.m. †St. Thomas <i>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!</i>	13	14 5:30 p.m. Philoptochos Mother's Day Dinner	15	16 4:30 Dance Practice	17	18 Catering Event
19 9:00 a.m. †Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Woman AHEPA & DOP Memorial Coffee Hour Youth Celebration Sunday	20 7:00 Greek Fest Mtg.	21 9:00 a.m. †Sts. Constantine & Helen 12:00 Silver Liners' Luncheon	22	23 4:30 Dance Practice	24	25 Catering Event
26 9:00 a.m. †Sunday of the Paralytic †Sacrament	27 †Memorial Day Services 9:00 a.m. - Forest Hill 10:00 - North Lawn 11:00 - Sunset Hills	28	29	30 4:30 Dance Practice	31 Catering Event	

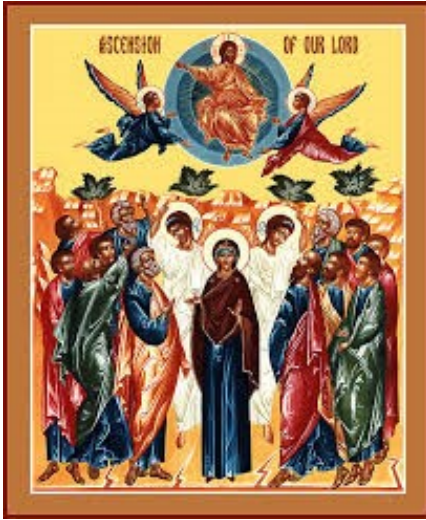
JUNE 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 a.m. †Sunday of the Samaritan Woman	3 7:00 p.m. Greek Fest Mtg.	4	5	6	7	8
				OPA! ANNUAL CANTON GREEK FEST!		
				Catering Event		
9 9:00 a.m. †Sunday of the Blind Man	10	11	12	13 9:00 a.m. †Ascension of Christ	14 †Sacrament	15
16 9:00 a.m. †Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council †Sacrament	17	18 12:00 Silver Liners' Luncheon	19	20	21 Catering Event	22 9:00 a.m. †Saturday of Souls TBA †Great Vespers @ Holy Trinity
23 9:00 a.m. †Holy Pentecost @ Holy Trinity	24	25	26	27	28	29 9:00 a.m. †Apostles Peter & Paul
30 9:00 a.m. †Synaxis of the Holy Apostles						



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

+ Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas



Thus we have come to the last day of Christ's physical presence on Earth. This marks the fulfillment of all things, since His Conception at the Annunciation to the Holy Virgin, His Birth and all the events of His earthly life, recorded for us in the Gospels. Christ came down from Heaven in order to destroy the power of Satan over mankind.

Christ was crucified and rose from the dead in order to destroy death. Christ ascends into the skies in order to raise up fallen human nature to the heights of Heaven. But He ascends not as He came down. He ascends taking with Himself a human body, a human soul, a human mind, a human will, all the attributes of human nature, except of course for sin, for Christ's human nature is human nature as it was first intended to be, not fallen human nature, but human nature redeemed and made all comely.

We should note, however, that all these victories of Christ over Satan, death and sin are accomplished in humility. At His Birth there was, as we would say now, no media. All happened in obscurity, lowliness and poverty, as the Savior of mankind was born in a cave by the ox and the donkey.

At His Crucifixion also there was no glory: on the contrary, there was shame, thieves, reviling, mockery, bodily death, a lonely death. At His Resurrection, nobody saw anything. The women who saw the empty tomb were not even believed. Only a few dozen believers came to believe in the first few weeks after His Resurrection. So also at His Ascension the only witnesses were His Mother and the eleven disciples amid the obscure olives groves on the Mount outside the City. We see that all the great events, all the victories, of the life of Christ were accompanied by humility. This is because in the Church victory is humility. Every act of humility is a victory over the pride of Satan. And in order to grant us the opportunity for humility, at the last event of His physical presence amongst us, Christ gives us two things:

Firstly, He comforts us and the disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Who will guide us into all truth, into all humility. Secondly, through His holy angels, He reminds us that as He ascends, so He will return, with angels and a cloud of glory. He reminds us that He will return in His Second and Glorious Coming to judge all the Earth.

When He ascends, He promises us the Holy Spirit. When He descends at the Second Coming, He will come in glory as the Victor over death to judge all deathly acts, that is, all sins, for as the Apostle writes, the wages of sin are death. Thus God is victorious in humility. Therefore the Orthodox Church and faithful Orthodox Christians are also victorious, but only in humility.

God is the Merciful Savior among us, granting us the Holy Spirit in order to guide us on our path to the victory of humility. As we have sung this day: 'I am with you and no-one will be against you'.

God is the Righteous Judge among us, granting us His Coming again as the Judge of the Universe, guiding us on our path to the victory of humility: 'I am with you and no-one will be against you'. Amen.



PENTECOST

Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas

One of the most important feast days of the Christian Church - the birthday of the church - is Holy Pentecost. The word Pentecost is a Greek word meaning fiftieth.

Just before Jesus Christ ascended into heaven on the fortieth day after His resurrection, he promised his faithful disciples and followers that very soon the power of the Holy Spirit would be with them to give them spiritual strength to carry the message of Christ throughout the world. The followers of Christ, however, were simple fishermen, and they had very little education. They gathered together in the “upper room” waiting for a sign from heaven. Suddenly on the fiftieth day after Pascha, there came a great sound from heaven which was like a rushing mighty wind. It filled the house where the disciples were waiting. Then a miracle happened. Great tongues of fire were seen over each of the heads of the disciples. It was the power of the Holy Spirit which brought divine inspiration to all in the house. They began to speak many languages, and they were “filled with the Holy Spirit”. This was the fulfillment of the promise which the Lord had given to them.

St. Peter delivered the first sermon in Jerusalem on this first Pentecost. Over 3000 people became Christians. The disciples traveled to the far corners of the earth to bring the message of Jesus Christ to all men. All this was made possible by the power of the Holy Spirit on that eventful and historic day of Pentecost in the city of Jerusalem almost 2000 years ago.

During the Divine Liturgy, all Orthodox Christians take part in the beautiful service known as “the service of kneeling”. The priest reads three beautiful prayers about the miracle of Pentecost. During each prayer the entire congregation kneels and prays also. It is during this time that we pray very hard that the power of the Holy Spirit will enter our hearts also and give us spiritual strength to live out our lives according to the will of God. Let the Holy Spirit enter our hearts. This is the true meaning of Pentecost!





SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN

Commemorated on May 21

+ Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas

Saints Constantine and Helen are two of the greatest saints in the Orthodox Church. In fact, they have been given the title “Equal-to-the-Apostles” for their witness of faith and contribution to the life of the Church. Saint Helen was the mother of Saint Constantine. Saint Constantine was the last emperor of the Roman Empire.

Constantine converted to Christianity during a battle when he was vastly outnumbered by an enemy force. In the sky he saw the vision of a cross with the words “*en touto nika*” “In this sign, you will be victorious.” Ordering his soldier to put crosses on their shields, he won the battle and became a Christian. In 313, through the Edict of Milan, he made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. This was a turning point for Christianity, as for the first time, churches, Christians and Christianity were not being persecuted. In 325, St. Constantine moved the capital of the world from Rome to Turkey, to a city he renamed Constantinople. Thus ended the Roman Empire and began the Byzantine Empire, which stood from 325-1453. Saint Constantine also convened the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea in 325. This Council gave to us the Canon of Scripture (The Bible) as well as the Nicene Creed, our basic statement of faith. Saint Helen, Constantine’s mother, was a big influence on him and his introduction to Christianity. A saintly person in her own right, St. Helen organized a group of soldiers to go and find the true Cross of Christ, which they found buried on Golgotha.

In the Feastday Gospel is from John 10:1-9. Taken together with verses 9-16, they speak of Christ as the Good Shepherd, those this phrase “the Good Shepherd” is in verses 9-16. Jesus speaks in words that people of the time could understand, comparing Himself to a shepherd who cares for a flock of sheep, the people. He contrasts Himself to others who came before Him, claiming to be good shepherds of the sheep (the people of Israel) but were in fact more like robbers and thieves who didn’t care for the sheep.

Jesus said that the one “*who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way. . . is a thief and a robber.*” (John 10:1) The one “*who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.*” (10:2) The sheep hear the voice of their shepherd and follow the shepherd because “*they know His voice.*” (10:4) The people are confused, we are told, in verse 6. So, Jesus erases all doubt when He says to them “*I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers but the sheep did not heed them.*” (10:7-8) Jesus concludes this passage by saying that He is the door by which we are go in and out and find pasture. He is the door by which we will find our salvation. He is the door by which we will go out to the pasture to graze. And we will ultimately graze on Christ and on His word. If we want to find pasture, if we want to be fed and protected, Jesus is THE door (the one and only door) that makes this possible.

Jesus uses the image of the shepherd with the sheep because it is something people of that time understood. They understood that sheep need a shepherd to protect them, that the only place to be safe from wild animals was in the sheep pen, with a shepherd who would guard the door and keep them safe. Unlike sheep, however, who were not intelligent by nature and needed to be prodded and poked to move to safety, Jesus knows that we are rational sheep who need to be loved by the shepherd, and He presents Himself as the shepherd who loves the sheep and who would be willing to lay His life down for them. Saints Constantine and Helen were two disciples who provided “doors” by which Christianity was able to spread throughout the Empire and beyond.



DECORATION DAY KNOWN AS MEMORIAL DAY

Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day, and was first proclaimed by General John Logan on 5 May 1868 to honor the soldiers who died during the American Civil War. The beginning of General John Logan's order begins:

"The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit." – General Order No. 11

Decoration Day was observed in 17 states in 1868. Maine became the first state to declare a legal holiday for the day in 1874, followed by Massachusetts in 1881. Other northern states followed. By the end of the Great War (World War I), Memorial Day was a legal holiday in most northern states and a handful of southern states including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and North and South Carolina (though the day was marked on different dates in these states).

The holiday became popularly known as Memorial Day by the late 19th century and its scope gradually expanded to remember the deceased veterans of all the wars fought by American forces. In a newspaper article from 1899 titled "Memorial Day of the Future", General Marcus P. Miller writes that the Memorial Day serves to remember all those soldiers, from all across the United States, who have fought and died in the Spanish war in Cuba, Puerto Rico, as well as the Philippines.

With the passage of the National Holiday Act (or Uniform Monday Holiday Act; Public Law 90-363) in 1968, Memorial Day was given the floating date of the last Monday in May across the country starting in 1971.

The Memorial Day weekend is three days long for most people since many companies close for the holiday. It is the unofficial beginning of the summer vacation season that lasts until the first Monday in September, which is Labor Day.

There are numerous traditions followed on Memorial Day. One is the U.S. flag quickly being raised to the tops of flagpoles, then slowly lowered to half-mast, and then raised again to full height at noon. The time at half-mast is meant to honor the million-plus fallen U.S. soldiers who have died for their country over the years. Re-raising the flag is meant to symbolize the resolve of the living to carry on the fight for freedom so that the nation's heroes will not have died in vain.

It is also very common for people across the country to visit military cemeteries at this time of year to decorate the graves. Small American flags, flowers, and wreaths are commonly placed by the tombstones.

Many wear or put on display red poppies on this day. This tradition grew out of the famous poem by Canadian John McCrae known as "In Flanders Fields," which he was inspired to write upon seeing red poppies growing over the graves of World War I soldiers.

Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul



Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy, Glorious and All-Praised Apostles Peter & Paul. These two men were chosen by Christ God to stand in the very forefront of the ranks of the holy apostles, and indeed of all the saints throughout the history of the whole world. As we gather to celebrate their holy memorial, it is necessary that we seek to understand—insofar as it is possible—why the Lord chose to glorify precisely these two men, exalting them to the greatest of spiritual heights and through them enlightening all the ends of the earth with the light of the Gospel.

Many of us believe—or at least live as though we believe—that the Christian life is essentially about attaining perfection. And this is true (our Savior commanded us to be perfect just as His Heavenly Father is perfect), but it is not at all true in the way that we usually imagine. Perfection is not measured by the keeping of rules. Perfection is not acquired by the avoidance of mistakes or even great falls into sin. Indeed, paradoxically it is often our greatest failures that, in the Divine Providence, bring us the closest to God.

The two greatest apostles, depicted before us in the holy icon in the middle of the church and mystically present here with us in the Divine Liturgy, teach us this truth by their lives. St. Peter denied the Lord during the very hours of His greatest suffering. St. Paul's hands had been stained by the blood of the infant Church. These men were not chosen by the Lord because they did not make mistakes. They were not chosen because they were above falling even into most grievous sin. Why, then, were they chosen? What virtue united these two men, so different in character and in background? What hidden quality attracted such great mercy from the Lord?

It was the fervent, burning love which each of them had in his heart towards God. St. Peter's love was reckless, impulsive, and unrestrained, but utterly unable to be turned aside toward any lesser love. St. Paul's heart was revealed in his total dedication, his unswerving faithful service toward the God that he had sought with singleness of mind all his life long. For both of these men, their meeting with the Lord Jesus Christ was the absolutely definitive moment and fact of their lives.

Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul

~Continued~

God calls to each one of us in the Holy Scriptures: “My son, give me thine heart.” This is the only commandment. This is the only sacrifice which can possibly be offered to the Lord, Who has given everything and sacrificed everything for our sakes. The only thing which any of us really has is our heart. And the only meaning, the only choice of our lives is what we will do with it.

These two holy men were holy only and precisely because their hearts were given wholly, unstintingly to God. There is no asceticism, no obedience, no rule of prayer or fasting or mercy or martyrdom which can possibly replace the love of God. Without a heart that has been given to God, these virtues are mere rags on a corpse.

Not so with these two men standing before us today. For them, nothing mattered other than God. And though one was a persecutor and the other a denier, nevertheless neither of them was merely shallow and indifferent, neither of them could possibly be satisfied by anything other than to be consumed by the fire of the living God.

And this must be our own goal and our own struggle. We do not need to fear our failures and our falls, because our God is a God of mercy and the Lover of Mankind. He can and does forgive every weakness and sin and vice which we find within ourselves. But He will not, in the end, force us to become a saint if we do not want to become one. He will not hold captive those who do not want to be with Him. And so we see that what ultimately will matter, when we stand before the Throne of God, will not be what we have done or have not done, but what our hearts have desired—whom our hearts have loved.

This is why Sts. Peter and Paul have been glorified with such splendor by the Church and Her Bridegroom. Not because of their deeds or their virtues or the eloquence of their words, but because of the love filling their hearts which overflowed into the virtues and miracles and God-inspired preaching that brought that love to all the ends of the earth.

And so as we glorify with our mouths the lives of these two holy men, let us fervently beseech them intercede for us, so that the same Spirit which kindled such surpassing and all-consuming love in their hearts would come also upon us through the reception of the Holy Mysteries. And let us strive, however feebly and haltingly, to cherish and to fan that flame during all the days of our life, guarding it against the winds of the deceitful world with its lusts and riches, so that we together with these holy apostles and all the saints might glorify the All-Holy Trinity, one in essence, who is glorified unto the endless ages of ages. Amen.

Η Αγία Πεντηκοστή

Ο Αιδ. Νικόλαος Β. Γαμβας



Πράγματι, ο σκοπός της επίγειας ζωής μας, σύμφωνα με τους αγίους Πατέρες και το υψηλό περιεχόμενο της σημερινής γιορτής (Κυριακή της Πεντηκοστής), δεν είναι άλλος από την απόκτηση του Αγίου Πνεύματος. Η υπόσχεση της Παλαιάς Διαθήκης ήταν ο ερχομός του Χριστού, και η υπόσχεση της Καινής Διαθήκης ήταν ο ερχομός του Αγίου Πνεύματος στην Εκκλησία. Οι γιορτές της Πεντηκοστής και του Αγίου Πνεύματος, μας εισάγουν σε ένα γεγονός που αποτελεί το θεμέλιο της ζωής της Εκκλησίας. Διότι με την κάθοδο του Παρακλήτου, 10 ημέρες μετά την Ανάληψη του Κυρίου, πραγματοποιήθηκε η υπόσχεση που έδωσε ο Χριστός στους αποστόλους κατά το Μυστικό Δείπνο: «Δεν θα σας αφήσω μόνους και ορφανούς, θα ξανάρθω κοντά σας... Το Πνεύμα το Άγιο, που θα στείλει ο Πατέρας στο όνομά μου, ΕΚΕΙΝΟΣ

θα σας διδάξει τα πάντα, και θα φέρει στη μνήμη σας όλα όσα σας έχω πει εγώ» (Ιω, 14, 15-18, 26). Κατά την Πεντηκοστή επανέρχεται ο Χριστός, μετά την Ανάληψή Του, εν Αγίω Πνεύματι, για να ζει μέσα στους πιστούς Του για πάντα. Αυτό σήμαινε ο λόγος του Χριστού κατά το Μυστικό Δείπνο: «Λίγο χρόνο ακόμη και δεν θα με βλέπετε, και πάλι λίγο χρόνο και θα με δείτε» (Ιω. 16,16). Ότι ο Χριστός θα ζει μεταξύ των πιστών δια του Παρακλήτου. Γι' αυτό και η Πεντηκοστή είναι η εκπλήρωση του σκοπού της Δημιουργίας και της ιστορίας, το μεγαλύτερο δώρο στην ανθρωπότητα, αφού κατ' αυτήν έχουμε την ίδρυση της Εκκλησίας.

Ο Παράκλητος, που είναι το τρίτο θείο πρόσωπο της Αγίας Τριάδος, και όχι φυσικά απλή δύναμη και ενέργεια του Θεού, όπως πίστευαν και πιστεύουν ακραίες προτεσταντικές ομάδες, μεταδίδει τη Χάρη του σ' όλη την κτίση, μέσα από τη λατρεία. Τα υλικά στοιχεία, όπως είναι το ψωμί, το κρασί, το νερό, οι καρποί, ο χρόνος, ο τόπος, προσφέρονται στον Τριαδικό Θεό, για να αγιαστούν και να ενταχθούν στην πνευματική βασιλεία Του. Αυτό γίνεται με τα μυστήρια και τις αγιαστικές πράξεις της λατρείας μας. Τα μυστήρια αγιάζουν την ύλη και την μεταβάλλουν σε φορέα της άκτιστης χάρης του Θεού. Προσφέρουμε λόγου χάρη «άρτον και οίνον» στη Θεία Ευχαριστία, και κοινωνούμε Χριστό και σωτηρία. Το λάδι αγιάζεται δια του Ευχελαίου, το νερό δια του Βαπτίσματος και του αγιασμού. Ακόμα και το λιβάνι συμβολίζει την πνευματική ευωδία που πρέπει να αναδίδει η ζωή του χριστιανού. Η Εκκλησία ζει επομένως στη θεία Χάρη και τη μεταδίδει συνεχώς στον κόσμο. Δεν υπάρχει ατομικιστική σωτηρία, μακριά από την μεγάλη οικογένεια που λέγεται ενορία και εκκλησιαστική ζωή. Ο Ορθόδοξος χριστιανός άλλωστε μαθαίνει να ζει, λίγο ή πολύ, μέσα στο κλίμα της άσκησης, της προσευχής και της λατρείας, και να ζητεί με αυτά το Άγιο Πνεύμα, διότι δεν μπορεί κανείς να δεχθεί το Χριστό ως Σωτήρα και Κύριο χωρίς τη χάρη του Παρακλήτου.

Η Πεντηκοστή επίσης υπήρξε, και είναι για τον κόσμο, μια διόρθωση της σύγχυσης που υπέστη με την Βαβέλ, επαναφέρει στο Θεό, και προσφέρει τα χαρίσματα του Θεού στους ανθρώπους, με κορυφαίο χάρισμα την αγάπη, την αγάπη μάλιστα προς τους εχθρούς, που είναι ανύπαρκτη στις προχριστιανικές και εξωχριστιανικές θρησκείες. Η Εκκλησία, χωρίς το Άγιο Πνεύμα, δεν θα διέφερε άλλωστε από κάποιο ίδρυμα, ή θα ήταν ένα φιλανθρωπικό σωματείο και μόνο, ή κάποια ιστορική λέσχη, αφού δεν θα αποτελούσε ζωντανή και Θεανθρώπινη κοινότητα. Δια του Παρακλήτου η Εκκλησία είναι όμως χώρος αναγέννησης και γνήσιας θεραπείας. Ο πιστός, στην πορεία της ζωής του και στον αγώνα του, όσες φορές τραυματιστεί από την αμαρτία, μπορεί να καταφύγει σ' αυτήν, γιατί κατά τον ιερό Χρυσόστομο, η Εκκλησία είναι 'ιατρείον πνευματικόν', δηλαδή πνευματικό νοσοκομείο. Οι άγιοι θαυματουργούν γιατί είναι κατοικητήρια της άκτιστης δόξας του Θεού. Και κάθε πιστός καλείται, με τη χάρη του Τριαδικού Θεού, να γίνει άγιος, ώστε η ανθρώπινη κοινωνία να γίνει κοινωνία αγίων,

Η Αγία Πεντηκοστή

~Continued~

Ο Αιδ. Νικόλαος Β. Γαμβας

Όπως προείπαμε, ορισμένες ακραίες προτεσταντικές ομάδες ΑΡΝΟΥΝΤΑΙ ΤΗ ΘΕΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ, το οποίο θεωρούν απλή ενέργεια και δύναμη του Θεού. Αντίθετα, το Άγιο Πνεύμα ονομάζεται από τον απ. Παύλο «Κύριος» και εύχεται: «Ο ΚΥΡΙΟΣ να κατευθύνει τις καρδιές σας στην αγάπη του Θεού και στην υπομονή του Χριστού» (Β' Θεσ. 3,5) και πάλι λέγει: «Ο ΚΥΡΙΟΣ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΤΟ ΠΝΕΥΜΑ Όλοι εμείς αντανakλώντες την λαμπρότητα του Κυρίου, μεταμορφωνόμαστε σε ομοιότητα με αυτόν ... Αυτό προέρχεται ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΚΥΡΙΟ, ΤΟ ΠΝΕΥΜΑ» (Β' Κορ. 3,15-18). Ο απ. Πέτρος αποκρίθηκε στον Ανανία: «Γιατί κυρίευσε την καρδιά σου ο Σατανάς, ώστε να πεις ψέματα στο Άγιο Πνεύμα; Δεν είπες ψέματα σε ανθρώπους, ΑΛΛΑ ΣΤΟ ΘΕΟ» (Πραξ. 5, 3-4).

Μάλιστα, Ο ΚΥΡΙΟΣ που στα ΠαλαιοΔιαθηκικά χρόνια πειράστηκε (δεν τον υπάκουαν και τον αρνήθηκαν στην πράξη πολλές φορές) στην έρημο από τους Εβραίους (Εξ. 17,7) ΔΕΝ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΑΛΛΟΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΑΓΙΟ ΠΝΕΥΜΑ: «Όπως λέει το Πνεύμα το Άγιο: 'Σήμερα εάν ακούσετε τη φωνή Του, να μη σκληρύνετε τις καρδιές σας, ΟΠΩΣ ΤΟΤΕ ΠΟΥ ΜΕ ΠΙΚΡΑΝΑΤΕ (πολύ, με τη δυσαρέσκειά σας) στην έρημο, όπου με έβαλαν σε δοκιμασία οι πατέρες σας, ΜΕ ΔΟΚΙΜΑΣΑΝ δηλαδή παρ' ότι είδαν για σαράντα χρόνια ΤΑ ΕΡΓΑ ΜΟΥ (υπέρ αυτών)'» (Εβρ. 3,7-9). Ακόμη, τα λόγια του Θεού δια του Ησαΐα προς τους Ιουδαίους: «Πήγαινε και πες σ' αυτόν τον λαό: Θ' ακούτε μα δεν θα καταλαβαίνετε. Θα βλέπετε, μα δεν θα εννοείτε....» (6,8-10), ο απ. Παύλος τα αποδίδει και πάλι στον Παράκλητο: «Σωστά ΤΟ ΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΤΟ ΑΓΙΟ ΜΙΛΗΣΕ δια μέσου του προφήτη Ησαΐα στους πατέρες μας λέγοντας: 'πήγαινε σ' αυτόν τον λαό και πες: με τ' αυτιά θ' ακούσετε μα δεν θα εννοήσετε και βλέποντας θα κοιτάξετε αλλά δεν θα δείτε'...» (Πράξεις 28,25-27).

Λατρεύουμε λοιπόν και εμπιστευόμαστε, στην λυτρωτική Αποκάλυψή Του, έναν Θεό που είναι Τριαδικός, δηλαδή ΕΝΑΣ είναι στην ουσία, αλλά Τριαδικός στις υποστάσεις-πρόσωπα. Διότι και ο Ιησούς, μιλώντας στους μαθητές Του, λέγει τα εξής: «Ο ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΤΟΣ, το Άγιο Πνεύμα το οποίο θα σας στείλει ο Πατέρας στο όνομά μου, ΕΚΕΙΝΟΣ θα σας διδάξει τα πάντα, και θα σας υπενθυμίσει όλα όσα σας είπα» (Ιω. 14,26). Ενώ λοιπόν ο Χριστός είναι ο Παράκλητος, ο συνήγορος και μεσίτης μας προς τον Θεό Πατέρα (Α' Ιω. 2,1), ο ίδιος ονομάζει Παράκλητο και το Άγιο Πνεύμα, διδάσκοντας έτσι ότι είναι το τρίτο ισότιμο πρόσωπο της Αγίας Τριάδος.



Paschal Message 2024 - God Is In Control

+FR. NICHOLAS V. GAMVAS



If we learned anything from our journey through Holy Week, it should be this: Nothing happens outside the knowledge and will of God. No matter how dark and unsettling things appeared during the Passion of Christ – especially with the betrayal of Judas, the rejection of Jesus by His own people, the hypocrisy and blindness of the religious leaders, the cruelty of the Roman soldiers, and the unfairness of the perfect man becoming a sacrificial lamb crucified on the Cross for an ungrateful world – nothing happened outside the knowledge and will of God.

God is in control!

Jesus understood that He was a part of a greater plan to save the world. He understood that Divine Love will always conquer hatred and evil. Uncreated Light will always shine forth in the deepest darkness. Death can never have the final say over the Source of Life.

God is in control!

From our limited human perspective, sometimes it appears that evil wins out, sometimes it appears that hope has been lost, sometimes it appears that hatred is too great, sometimes it appears that life is too uncertain, sometimes it appears that death has the final say. Yet, we must never forget that our human perspective is limited. Our ways are not God's ways.

When everything seemed dark and hopeless, God revealed once again that His ways are not our ways, and that ultimately, **He is in control!**

Holy Pascha, our celebration of Christ's Resurrection, this Paschal Season is first and foremost a participation in Christ's victory, and a remembrance that we are never alone, that no darkness is greater than the Paschal Light, and that no event in history stands outside the will of the One "who is, who was, and who is to come, the Lord Almighty." May we not forget this even as we get tired of this current crisis. The and all of the evil in the world, it isn't outside the control of God. The economic disaster, suffering, and loss of human life, isn't outside the control of God. And whatever happens to each one of us personally is not outside the control of God.

Christ is Risen! God is in control! And with faith in the Risen Lord, we can go forth in peace facing whatever tomorrow will bring. Don't allow any anxiety, fear, worry, or stress ever let you forget that **Christ is Risen and God is in control!**

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! CHRISTOS ANESI! ALHQWS ANESI!





METROPOLIS OF
PITTSBURGH
May/June 2024

ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

REV. PROTOPRESBYTER NICHOLAS V. GAMVAS, D.MIN., PH.D., IERATIKOS PROISTAMENOS

Dear St. Haralambos Parishioners,

Καλή Ανάσταση! Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ has Risen!

By the time you receive this edition of the KOINONIA, we will be entering Holy Week. I hope everyone has a wonderful Pascha! Thank you in advance to Father Nick, Deacon Kerik, the chanters, the choir, the Altar Boys, Myrrh bearers and everyone who will help to make all Great Lent and Holy Week a truly special time for our parishioners and our community.

As we approach the end of spring and the beginning of summer, that can only mean one thing for our St. Haralambos community, the Canton Greek Fest! This year the dates of the Canton Greek Fest are June 6, 7 & 8, 2024.

The Canton Greek Fest committee has been meeting, planning, and working very hard to make sure we have another successful festival, but we need many, many helping hands to make this truly a community effort. Even if you have just one hour, we can use your help! Even if you have never volunteered before, we can use your help! Do your children or grandchildren need community service hours for graduation? We can use their help! You can schedule yourself directly by following this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/13575df01a6cee9c1ae7-canton#/> or by scanning this QR code with your phone. If you have additional questions, or need to help signing up, please reach out to our Canton Greek Fest Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Natale at (330) 495-8427 or via email at lindaandrewsnatale@gmail.com. If you are not able to attend this year, consider helping the Canton Greek Fest with a general sponsorship or placemat ad. In this edition of the *Koinonia*, you will find all the information you need for the 2024 Canton Greek Fest.



We need you, your family, and friends to support our church in this event. This is the single largest fundraiser our church does each year. The proceeds from the Canton Greek Fest help to support the operations of the Church all year long.

I also want to take this time to congratulate all our Class of 2024 High School and College graduates. Your St. Haralambos community is very proud of you and all your accomplishments. We wish you all the best as you enter this next chapter of your lives.

In closing, I encourage everyone to reach out to myself and of the parish council members, we are all here to help in any way we can. I look forward to hearing from all of you. Please feel free to call or text me at (330) 327- 9180 or email me at mike@paxosplating.com at any time, about any topic. Our future can only be strengthened by open communication.

See you June 6, at the 7 & 8, 2024 Canton Greek Fest!

Sincerely,

Mike Paxos

2024 Parish Council President



Christ's Resurrection Our Eternal Salvation

By the grace of God, we have reached the Paschal Season. **CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!** Those six words are the greatest words that we not only proclaim but are also proclaimed to us. Unfortunately, because we live in the fallen world, death, destruction, disease etc. is what we see and experience in our lives. We do not often talk about it, until it “hits close to home” but over all human life, death rears its “ugly head.” It is though death taunts us saying, “go ahead, do everything you can, achieve everything in your power. I still have the final answer. I will bring down to destruction everything you can accomplish.” One of the main tricks that the devil uses against us is to take our minds off our eminent mortality, by using wealth, fame, pride of life etc. (to name a few things), getting us to not think about the moment that our souls will leave our earthly bodies and be called back to Jesus, where we will have to give an accounting for our lives. We must never forget that “we were bought with a price” Jesus’ death on the Cross! So, it goes—homes, properties, friendships, love, beauty, creative achievements to name a few things. Nothing is spared from the ravages that death eventually brings to each one of us. No one can evade the eventual confrontation & our appointment with death and its verdict upon our time here on earth. Enoch & Elijah were two created human beings that the Lord deemed worthy not to partake of human death. For the rest of us, our appointment with death is eminent. We are to reaffirm our faith in life everlasting.

There is but one alternative to seeing life as ultimate frustration and doom under the black shadow of death. That is to see & experience it in the brilliant light of life, of life eternal. **CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, BY DEATH TRAMPLING UPON DEATH AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS HE HAS GRANTED LIFE.** We are to recognize that death does not have the final answer after all. “O death where is thy sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” For the final answer lies with Jesus Christ and Him granting us eternal life. From the beginning this has been at the very heart of the Christian Gospel. Death is swallowed up in Jesus’ victory! All other possible alternatives are futile and eventually get us back to the black answer of death. Yet many people still have a difficult time believing He rose from the dead. This should not come as a surprise to us. Even the disciples had a difficult time believing He was alive. Although Christ had predicted His suffering, persecution, denial & death, His warnings had not made sense to them. How much less did they understand His promise that He would rise from the dead? After the crucifixion, they went away heartbroken, hopeless, and helpless. They could not believe the reports of those who had seen Jesus alive. Despite how closely they had walked with the Savior, the disciples were unable to accept His resurrection until they saw the Lord for themselves. Thomas even declared “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” Thomas required direct proof of the Resurrection. What type of proof is required now almost two thousand years after the Lord’s Resurrection? A blessed faith is one that trusts in the risen Christ without proof.

However, when the apostles finally realized Jesus had risen from the dead, their lives were radically changed. They went from cowering in fear to proclaiming the gospel boldly. The powerful message of Jesus’ Resurrection should also transform our lives. We as Orthodox believe in eternal life because Jesus never made any promises that He did not keep and we know that He is faithful to His promises & we know from John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Many men are eager to know the details of what life is beyond the grave. How can there be life without the physical body? Jesus answered those questions when He appeared to His disciples after the Resurrection and even ate with them. If we honestly believe in the love of God and that He is always faithful to His promises, we do not need to know of all the details of what life is like after our physical death. Jesus told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them.



DEACON KERIC'S CORNER

REV. DEACON KERIC SHIEPIS, D.C.

We believe in eternal life because we believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is no Christian gospel without this: CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! As He lives, we too shall live. This was the message of the early Christians, the dynamic that empowered them. “Hell took a body, and it discovered God.”” It took earth and discovered Heaven.” Death could not hold Christ. Until His disciples had that message, they had no message. They were utterly defeated and disheartened. Until He appeared to them, they did not know where to turn or what to do. When He appeared to them and they were assured that He had conquered death, that even being crucified on the cross could not destroy Him, they faced all things in His name, confident in “the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave them victory over death.”

Eternal life, by definition, is everlasting. That means you and I cannot lose what the Father has given us in redemption. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit as God’s children (Eph. 1:13-14). Does this give us permission to live sinful lives? Of course not. The Lord will chasten us because He loves us too much to let us get by with sin. If we “stay the course” our eternity is secure.

The biblical truth is that we will have a resurrected body. When Jesus walked the earth, He looked just like any other human. After the resurrection, His body was human, but glorified. Christ was completely healed from his wounds that he incurred during His passion. This is why His disciples did not recognize Him at first until Jesus “enlightened” them. Our Savior’s body was not ghostly-the disciples touched Him and he even ate food with them. Yet it differed from ours in that He could pass through walls and disappear in the blink of an eye. The risen Christ comes to open our eyes to His mystical presence and to leave our hearts burning with His love-especially when we partake of His Holy Sacraments.

The Bible teaches that one day we will have new bodies (Rom. 8:23). Jesus will “transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory” (Phil. 3:21). Although we as humans try to rationalize everything, we do not know a lot about our future ethereal bodies. What we have been taught by Christ’s example is that our glorified bodies will be healthy and perfectly suited for our heavenly home.

Heaven is our true permanent home. When life becomes difficult, remember this world is not our home. We will live forever in a perfect existence-paradise on earth. Scripture teaches us that this planet will be renewed, transformed into a paradise similar to the Garden of Eden in its purity, beauty, and eternal nature. There, we will reign with Christ forever. In our glorified bodies we will serve, love, worship and praise Him. Although we do not know all the details we will experience in eternity, we can look forward to purposeful and joyful activity in the Blessed Trinity’s presence, with the communion of all the Saints and Angels.

Relationships are important to God. Scripture tells us that husbands are to love their wives; children are a blessing from the Lord; and we as Christians are to care for other people. God created relationships, so it makes sense that we will know our loved ones in Heaven. Remember that the disciples recognized Jesus (after their eyes “were opened”). What a beautiful thought to be reunited with all our loved ones from times past and to share the blessings of the Lord into eternity. With all these thoughts in mind what an unbelievable, indescribable feeling it will be when we hear the words of our Lord exclaiming to us “Well done my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord!” Always remember that exclamation and sing with all your strength **“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, BY DEATH, TRAMPLING UPON DEATH, AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS HE HAS GRANTED LIFE!!!”**

Myself, along with my Diakonisa Melissa, Kerissa, Costandinos, & Xenia wish everyone a blessed, safe, and prosperous Paschal Season.

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

READ "THE ORTHODOX BIBLE STUDY BIBLE" IN A YEAR

DONE	DATE	DAY	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
	May 01	243	Prov 25-27	Eph 5
	May 02	244	Prov 28-31	Eph 6
	May 03	245	Eccl 1-3	
	May 04	246	Eccl 4-6	
	May 05	247	Eccl 7-9	Phil 1
	May 06	248	Eccl 10-12	Phil 2
	May 07	249	Song 1-3	Phil 3
	May 08	250	Song 4-6	Phil 4
	May 09	251	Song 7-8	Col 1
	May 10	252	Wis 1-3	
	May 11	253	Wis 4-6	
	May 12	254	Wis 7-9	Col 2
	May 13	255	Wis 10-12	Col 3
	May 14	256	Wis 13-15	Col 4
	May 15	257	Wis 16-19	1 Thes 1
	May 16	258	Sir Pro-2	1 Thes 2
	May 17	259	Sir 3-5	
	May 18	260	Sir 6-8	
	May 19	261	Sir 9-11	1 Thes 3
	May 20	262	Sir 12-14	1 Thes 4
	May 21	263	Sir 15-17	1 Thes 5
	May 22	264	Sir 18-20	2 Thes 1
	May 23	265	Sir 21-23	2 Thes 2
	May 24	266	Sir 24-26	
	May 25	267	Sir 27-29	
	May 26	268	Sir 30-32	2 Thes 3
	May 27	269	Sir 33-35	1 Tim 1
	May 28	270		1 Tim 2
	May 29	271	Sir 36-28	1 Tim 3
	May 30	272	Sir 39-41	1 Tim 4
	May 31	273	Sir 42-44	
	Jun 01	274	Sir 45-47	
	Jun 02	275	Sir 48-51	1 Tim 5
	Jun 03	276	Hos 1-3	1 Tim 6
	Jun 04	277	Hos 4-6	2 Tim 1
	Jun 05	278	Hos 7-9	2 Tim 2
	Jun 06	279	Hos 10-12	2 Tim 3
	Jun 07	280	Hos 13-14	2 Tim 4
	Jun 08	281	Amos 1-3	Titus 1
	Jun 09	282	Amos 4-6	Titus 2
	Jun 10	283	Amos 7-9	Titus 3
	Jun 11	284	Mic 1-3	Philemon 1
	Jun 12	285	Mic 4-7	Heb 1
	Jun 13	286	Joel 1-4	Heb 2
	Jun 14	287	Obad 1	
	Jun 15	288	Jonah 1-4	
	Jun 16	289	Nah 1-3	Heb 3
	Jun 17	290	Hab 1-3	Heb 4
	Jun 18	291	Zeph 1-3	Heb 5
	Jun 19	292	Hag 1-2	Heb 6
	Jun 20	293	Zech 1-3	Heb 7
	Jun 21	294	Zech 4-6	
	Jun 22	295	Zech 7-9	
	Jun 23	296	Zech 10-12	Heb 8
	Jun 24	297	Zech 13-14	Heb 9
	Jun 25	298	Mal 1-3	Heb 10
	Jun 26	299	Isa 1-3	Heb 11
	Jun 27	300	Isa 4-6	Heb 12
	Jun 28	301	Isa 7-9	
	Jun 29	302	Isa 10-12	
	Jun 30	303	Isa 13-15	Heb 13

Reference: Greek Orthodox Archdiocese

Submitted by: Deacon Keric J. Shiepis, D.C.



ASK FATHER NICK...

Question: "Why does God allow the Enemy to attack us?" Anonymous

Answer: Satan's attacks against us come in various forms. 1) He uses the ungodly world (which he controls, 1 John 5:19) to stir up fleshly lusts within us that tempt us to sin. 2) He uses the unbelieving world to attempt to deceive us with worldly "wisdom" opposed to God's truth. 3) He uses false Christians to try to mislead us into a false gospel centered on a false Jesus. 4) He sometimes physically afflicts us or our loved ones with sickness, crime, tragedy, or persecution. Knowing that God is the sovereign Ruler of the universe, we naturally ask, why does God allow Satan to attack us in these ways?

The Bible teaches that God allows Satan a certain amount of freedom (see Job 1:12), but that freedom is always limited. Satan cannot do all that he wishes. Satan chooses to attack God's children (see 1 Peter 5:8), and his design is always evil; Satan is a murderer (John 8:44). In contrast, God's design in allowing certain satanic attacks is always good; God loves His children (1 John 4:16). Joseph faced many satanic attacks in his lifetime, but in the end he could speak with confidence of two opposing purposes behind the same events: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good" (Genesis 50:20).

We cannot blame God for what Satan does. Our vulnerability to satanic attack started with Adam's choice to follow Satan's lying suggestions in the garden of Eden. When Satan attacked Job through the loss of his family, wealth, and health, Job didn't blame God. Notice Job 1:21-22, "And he (Job) said: Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong."

As believers experience the attacks of Satan, they can trust the truth of Romans 8:28, "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God..." Therefore, the assumption is that we will experience "good" things and "bad" things, but "all" of these things can be made to contribute toward "good" ends as God works them out. So even the attacks of Satan, although evil, can and will have a "good" result, ultimately, as God uses them to conform us to Christ, His Son (see Romans 8:29). Attacks from Satan, along with all other tribulations, can cause believers to love God more, resist Satan more, practice patience, and grow stronger in our faith in many other ways. Praise God for His sovereign protection. Thank Him for His plan to make everything—even Satan's attacks—"work together for good" for us!

Question: Why does the Church forbid consulting with mediums and psychics? Anonymous

Answer: The Bible strongly condemns spiritism, mediums, the occult, and psychics (Lev. 20:27, Deut. 18:10-13).

God can reveal the future to his prophets or to other saints. Still, a sound Christian attitude consists in putting oneself confidently into the hands of Providence for whatever concerns the future and giving up all unhealthy curiosity about it. Improvidence, however, can constitute a lack of responsibility.

All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely supposed to "unveil" the future. Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power over time, history, and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone.

If we are looking to anything other than God for help with the present or future, we are violating the first commandment.



COMMUNITY NEWS



*Congratulations to all of these families!
May God bestow many blessings of good health,
much happiness, and many years to all of you!*

BAPTISMS:

Artemis Stone Withers was baptized on March 3, 2024. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas and Brooke Withers. His Godmother is Maria Kalaitsides.

Hannah Marie Walch was baptized on March 9, 2024. She is the son of Dr. Michael and Maria Walch. Her Godmother is Marissa Kazes.

Leo Sebastian Maurice was baptized on April 14, 2024. He is the son of Dr. Matthew Maurice and Dr. Stella Paparizos. His Godmother is Christina Psellas.

CHRISMATION:

Thomas Clair VanDusen was chrismate on March 3, 2024. His sponsor was Elaine Poulos.



Thank You to Father Nick and all the parishioners of St. Haralambos for your prayers and condolences on the passing of my brother, George.

A special Thank You to The Ladies Philoptochos Society for all of their hard work on the Makaria.

With gratitude,
Angela Vagotis



AHEPA FAMILY MEMORIAL COFFEE HOUR

The May 19th Coffee Hour will be sponsored by the AHEPA #59 and DOP Chloris #40.

AHEPA always welcome new members, so applications will be available in the lobby for anyone interested in joining AHEPA Chapter 59.



*Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers
are with all of these families
for the loss of their loved ones.
May their loving memories be eternal!*

DEATHS:

Darlene (Meyers) Panagopoulos
February 25, 2024

George Vagotis
February 22, 2024

Eleni (Hatzakis) Esber
February 26, 2024

Catherine Sophia (Demos) Usner
March 31, 2024

Tom Cazantzes
April 11, 2024

UPCOMING MEMORIALS:

40-Day Memorial: May 19, 2024
Catherine Sophia (Demos) Usner

40-Day Trisagion: May 19, 2024
Tom Cazantzes

25yr-Memorial: May 26, 2024
Carl Bozeka

3yr-Memorial: June 16, 2024
Angelo Bozekas

A Tribute to:

**Tom the Chanter (Thoma)
Trisagion - Sunday May 19, 2024**



Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! (Psalm 103:1). Tom the Chanter's (Thoma) favorite Psalm. All of us at Saint Haralambos will miss him dearly for his dedication at the Psalterion and for the many services he chanted for the Glory of God. God gets the glory.

May his Memory be Eternal.
With love in Christ Jesus,
Your Saint Haralambos Church Family



2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Haralambos Men's Club Xen Griveas Scholarship

Applications are now available for graduating seniors entering college whose family are members in good standing. Application forms are located in the organizer located outside the church office.

Application Deadline is: May 5, 2024 by Noon

~~~~~

### St. Haralambos Sunday School Laura Anne Dieringer Memorial Scholarship

This \$500 scholarship is available to all graduating high school seniors of the St. Haralambos Sunday School who meet certain eligibility requirements.

The Application is an essay up to 200 words. See the KOINONIA for essay topic & details.

**Deadline: Sunday, May 5, 2024**

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2024 Michael & Dolly Sousaris Memorial Scholarship

Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating high schools seniors or students presently enrolled in a higher education program.

Applications available in the church office.

Deadline: Sunday, May 31, 2024

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### 2024 Harry Thomas Memorial Scholarship

Two (2) \$2500 scholarships are available; one for a graduating high school senior, one for an undergraduate student.

Applicant's family must be members in good standing to obtain an application. Please call the church office for an application.

**Deadline: June 28, 2024**

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2024 Kourmolis Scholarship
Information coming from
AFLC in Tampa, Florida



Attention All Graduates!

College & High School

Let Us Know!

In our July & August issue of the *Koinonia* we will feature our annual **HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES** section.

Please submit the following information:

- Student's name
- Parent's name
- School graduating from
- School attending in the future if any
- Future field of study
- Student picture, *headshot*

Congratulations! Let Us Know!!

Please submit all information to the church office labeled "Koinonia" or email info & picture to Lauri@stharalambos.com.

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE is JUNE 10, 2024!

It is time to honor our 2024 graduates!

Register your graduate using the following links by
May 1, 2024.

High School: tinyurl.com/GOMoPHS2024

All College Degrees: tinyurl.com/GOMoPC2024





St. Haralambos Church Altar Boy Schedule

Thank you to all of our Altar Boys
for your dedication to our Lord!

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Please be ready to start at 9:45 a.m.

TEAM A - May 5
June 2
June 30

TEAM B - May 12
June 9

TEAM C - May 19
June 16

TEAM D - May 26
June 23

TEAM A

John (Kaden) Higgins
Yianni Sotiropoulos
Aristides Kapalko
George Tzouloufis

TEAM B

Thaddeus Fakelis
Fotis Vonortas
Steven Zoumberakis
Zachary Volas
Stamatios Paxos

TEAM C

Nicholas Hallaman
Yanni Loukas
Andrew Rocco
Dimitri Bahas
Leonidas Paxos
Constantinos Paxos

TEAM D

Luke Morgan
Minas Paxos
Yianni Fakelis
Ianni Colón

MISSED PARISHIONERS

THE CANTON REGENCY

4515 22nd Street NW,
Canton, Ohio 44708

PAULA MACRIS
IRENE GIANAKIS

THE INN AT WHITEWOOD VILLAGE

3146 Whitewood St. N.W.,
North Canton, Ohio 44720

330-933-4467
STEVE BASIAKOS

THE INN AT BELDEN VILLAGE

.3927 38th Street NW
Canton, Ohio 44718

330-493-0096
DIANE FORADAS

ST. LUKE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY

.220 Applegrove St. N.E
North Canton, Ohio 44720

330-499-8341
DAN TRIFELLOS

THE WINDSOR

1454 East Maple St. NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

330-499-8300
JACK USNER

ROSELANE SKILLED NURSING HOME

5424 High Mill Ave. NW
Massillon, Ohio 44646

MIKE NICHOLS

BETHANY

626 34th Street NW
Canton, Ohio 44709

LISA (COTOPOLIS) FERENCZ



Memorial Day Trisagions

May 27, 20204

9:00 a.m. ~ Forest Hills
10:00 a.m. ~ North Lawn
11:00 a.m. ~ Sunset Hills



*Just a
friendly
reminder...*

Parishioners ages 18 &
older, including students,
should fill out a pledge
card for 2024.

Please mail your signed and completed
pledge card to the church office or give it
to one of the Parish Council Members on
Sunday.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK SCHOOL



CANTON GREEK FEST

www.CantonGreekFest.com
40 years of Celebrating Summer the Greek Way!

Dear Parishioners,

Καλό Πάσχα! Καλή Ανάσταση! Wishing you a blessed upcoming Easter and Resurrection!

We hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the warm summer months and what better way to kick off the summer, than by our Canton Greek Fest! The committee has been working very hard to ensure a tremendously successful 40th Anniversary event coming up June 6, 7 & 8, 2024 here on the grounds of our beloved St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church.

We need many, many helping hands to make this truly a community effort. Even if you have just one hour, we can use your help! Even if you have never volunteered before, we can use your help! Do your children or grandchildren need community service hours for graduation? We can use their help! You can schedule yourself directly by following this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/13575df01a6cee9c1ae7-canton#/> or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone. If you have additional questions, or need help signing up, please reach out to our Canton Greek Fest Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Natale at (330) 495-8427 or via email at lindaandrewsnatale@gmail.com.



Also included in this Koinonia is:

- 2024 General Festival Sponsorship Information
- 2024 Placemat Ad Information
- 2024 Complete informational brochure with schedule, map, and all menus for all areas of the festival
- Silent Auction Basket information

We hope that you can support the Canton Greek Fest thru a personal and/or business sponsorship and/or placemat ad and attend what is looking to be our best festival yet. We have added some additional entertainment offerings this year, with American Idol and Broadway star, Constantine Maroulis performing a complimentary show on Friday, June 7 along with local artists Hey Monea, outside under the main tent, the Hall of Fame City Greek Night on Thursday, June 6 and closing out the 2024 Canton Greek Fest will be fantastic professional fireworks show on Saturday, June 8. We have posters and flyers available in the church office if you'd like to stop by and pick them up to post at your place of business or hand them out to your friends and co-workers. Help us spread the word about our event and our Church.

If you have any questions, please contact us at any time. Thank you for support and we look forward to seeing you June 6, 7 & 8, 2024 at the Canton Greek Fest!

+ Fr. Nicholas V. Gamvas

Rev. Dr. Nicholas V. Gamvas, Protopresbyter

Mike Fakelis & Mike Paxos

Mike Fakelis & Mike Paxos
2024 Canton Greek Fest Chairmen

251 25TH STREET, NW | CANTON, OHIO 44709 | (330) 454 – 7278
WWW.CANTONGREEKFEST.COM



St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church | 251 25th Street, NW | Canton, Ohio 44709 | (330) 454-7278

info@cantongreekfest.com

June 6, 7 & 8, 2024

2024 Event Sponsorship Contract

Parthenon \$15,000

- Overall presenting sponsor
- Your name or company logo featured on banner on the 40 ft x 100 ft outdoor tent
- Your name or company logo featured on Greek Fest website and all event signage
- Your name or company logo featured in all print and radio advertising
- Vendor table for your company at the festival
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Dionysus \$10,000

- Only two sponsors in this category
- Your name or company logo featured on a banner behind the entertainment stage
- Your name or company logo featured on Canton Greek Fest website (www.cantongreekfest.com) and all event signage
- Your name or company logo featured in all print and radio advertising
- One six-foot table for your company at the festival
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Acropolis \$5,000

- Presenting sponsor of any area (indoor dining, outdoor dining, kids play area, dessert dining, wine tasting room, cooking demonstration room)
- Your name or company logo featured on Greek Fest website and all event signage
- Your name or company logo featured in all print
- Vendor table for your company at the festival
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Aegean Sea \$2,500

- Your name or company logo featured on Greek Fest website and all event signage
- Your name or company logo featured in all print
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Athens \$1,000

- Your name or company logo featured on Greek Fest website and all event signage
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Philhellene \$500

- Your name or company logo featured on all event signage
- Placemats with your name or company logo

Your Contact Information

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please list the name that you would like listed for the sponsorship: _____

*****Email hi-resolution logo to info@cantongreekfest.com*****

Total Enclosed: \$_____

Make checks payable to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church or call 330-454-7278 to charge by phone

**Mail Payment and Completed Form to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
c/o 2024 Canton Greek Fest
251 25th Street, NW
Canton, Ohio 44709**

~donation receipt upon request~



2024 Placemat Sponsorship Form Business & Individual

Purchaser First and Last Name: _____

Purchaser Address: _____

Purchaser Phone Number: _____ Purchaser Email: _____

Please use the following information for my ad: Please type or print. – See reverse for examples – to submit logo, email logo to info@CantonGreekFest.com

Actual Full Placemat size is 14" W x 11" H -- Please select your square size:

Square Information	Width	Height	Price per Square		Qty		Total
A. Full Placemat	13 1/2"	10 1/2"	\$ 1,000	X		=	\$
B. Half Placemat	6"	5"	\$ 500	X		=	\$
C. 6 squares, center	6"	6"	\$ 300	X		=	\$
D. 5 squares, column	2-1/2"	9-3/4"	\$ 250	X		=	\$
E. 4 squares, center	6"	4"	\$ 200	X		=	\$
F. 3 squares, column	2-1/2"	6"	\$ 150	X		=	\$
G. 2 squared, column	2-1/2"	4"	\$ 100	X		=	\$
H. 2 squares side-by-side	6"	2"	\$ 100	X		=	\$
I. 1 square	2-1/2"	2"	\$ 50	X		=	\$
J. 1/2 square	2-1/2"	1"	\$ 25	X		=	\$
GRAND TOTAL							\$

PLACEMAT FORMS DUE: MAY 24, 2024

Please make checks payable to: **St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
c/o 2024 Canton Greek Fest Placemat Ad
251 25th Street, NW
Canton, Ohio 44709**

Credit Cards Accepted:   

Call our church office at (330) 454-7278 to pay by credit card.

Questions about Placemat Ads?

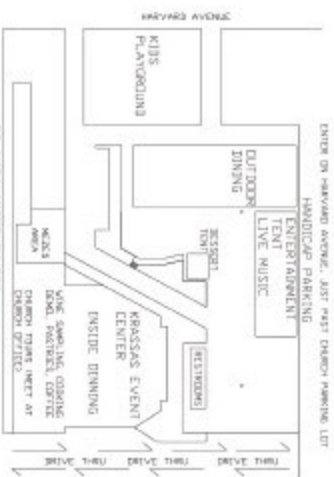
Contact Stephanie Fakelis (330) 327-0250 or sfakelis@gmail.com

DRIVE THRU MENU

Thursday, Friday & Saturday 11:00am to 7:00pm
Drive Thru entrance is located at 251 25th Street, NW
Cash and Credit Cards (3% service charge) accepted in all
areas. Items on this menu are only available
for in car, drive-thru service.

PLEASE ORDER BY NUMBER BELOW:

- #1 **CHICKEN SOUVLAKI**
(Includes pita bread and potato chips) **\$8.00**
 - #2 **PORK SOUVLAKI**
(Includes pita bread and potato chips) **\$8.00**
 - #3 **GYRO**
(Gyro with tomato, onion & tzatziki sauce wrapped in pita bread and served w/ potato chips) **\$10.00**
 - #4 **GREEK SAMPLER**
(Pastitsio or Moussaka or Meatless Moussaka, Dolmades, Tzatziki, Spanakopita, Kefthedes & Rice) **\$22.00**
- ### PLATTERS
- (All platters features include salad, bread & butter and your choice of two sides -- rice pilaf, potatoes or green beans)
- #5 **GREEK CHICKEN**
(1/4 Chicken baked with Greek Seasoning) **\$17.00**
 - #6 **PASTITSIO**
(Layered macaroni, seasoned meat, topped with cream sauce) **\$15.00**
 - #7 **LAMB CHOPS**
(3 Grilled lamb chops with Greek seasonings) **\$21.00**
 - #8 **LAMB SHANK**
(Baked shank in a tomato-based broth) **\$20.00**
- ### DESSERT
- #9 **RICE PUDDING** **\$4.00**
 - #10 **PASTRY SAMPLER** **\$12.00**
(Includes assorted pastry items)
- ### BEVERAGES
- Pop or Bottled Water **\$2.00**



PASTRY MENU

Open 11am - 9pm
Located inside the St. Haralambos Cultural Center
Credit Cards (3% service charge), Cash and
Debit Cards (no service charge) accepted in all areas.

- ### BAKLAVA
- (Filo dough filled with a nut mixture) **\$3.00**
- ### KOURAMBIEITHES
- (Butter cookie covered in powdered sugar) **\$1.00**
- ### GALATOBoureko
- (Custard filled filo dough) **\$3.00**
- ### THEEPILES
- (Thin sheets of fried dough drizzled with honey, cinnamon and ground walnuts) **\$3.00**
- ### KARITHOPEITA
- (Honey walnut cake with honey syrup) **\$2.00**
- ### KOULOOURIA
- (Buttered cookie twists) **\$3.00**
or 13 for \$12.00
or 13 for \$12.00
- ### PAXIMATHIA
- (Spiced Greek Biscotti) **\$3.00**
or 13 for \$12.00
or 13 for \$12.00
- ### MELOMAKARONA
- (Rich honey dipped cookie) **\$15.00**
- ### TSOUREKI
- (Sweet Bread) **\$12.00**
- ### PASTRY SAMPLER
- (Includes assorted pastry items) **\$12.00**
- ### BEVERAGES
- Bottled Water **\$2.00**
Coffee (Regular or Decaf) **\$2.00**
Frappe (Greek Iced Coffee) **\$5.00**
Frappailly (Frappé with Bailey's) 21+ only **\$7.00**
Greek Coffee **\$5.00**
5m \$3.00 / Lg \$4.00

MEZEZ (APPETIZERS / SMALL PLATES)

- 4:00pm to 11:00pm Thursday & Friday
11:00am to 11:00pm Saturday
- Located in the Courtyard Adjacent to Wine Tasting Room
Cash and Credit Cards (3% service charge) accepted in all areas.
All items available for dine-in or carry-out.
- ### Calamari
- \$9.00**
- ### Smelts
- \$9.00**
- ### Saganaki
- \$6.00**
- ### Dolmades
- 4 for **\$6.00**
- ### Kefthedes (meatballs)
- 4 for **\$6.00**
- ### Spanakopita
- 3 for **\$6.00**
- ### Tiropita
- 3 for **\$6.00**
- ### DESSERTS
- Rice Pudding **\$4.00**
Pastry Sampler **\$12.00**
- ### BEVERAGES
- Beer (domestic, imported, IPAs) **\$5.00-\$8.00**
Pop or Bottled Water **\$2.00**

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
251 25th St. NW • Canton, Ohio 44709
(330) 454-7278

CANTON GREEK FEST

cantongreekfest.com

40 Years of Celebrating
Summer the Greek Way!

June 6, 7 & 8, 2024

11am to 11pm

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
251 25th St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44709
(330) 454-7278



CANTON

GREEK FEST

cantongreekfest.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2024

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

Drive-Thru Open 11am - 7pm
 Indoor Dining 11am - 9pm
 Bookstore 11am - 9pm
 Silent Auction Bidding 11am - 9pm
 Church Tours 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm & 7pm
 Esber Beverage Wine Tasting 4pm - 9pm
 Kids Playground 4pm - 9pm
 Outside Dining 4pm - 11pm
 Hellenic Dancers Performances 5:30pm, 6:30pm & 8:30pm
 Greek Cooking Demonstration 7pm
 Outdoor Dance Party w/ DJ Puff 9:15pm

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024

Drive-Thru Open 11am - 7pm
 Indoor Dining 11am - 9pm
 Bookstore 11am - 9pm
 Silent Auction Bidding 11am - 9pm
 Church Tours 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 6pm & 7:30pm
 Esber Beverage Wine Tasting 4pm - 9pm
 Kids Playground 4pm - 9pm
 Outside Dining 4pm - 11pm
 Hellenic Dancers Performances 5pm, 7pm & 8:30pm
 Greek Cooking Demonstrations 5:30pm & 7:30pm
 Constantine Maroulis Concert 9:15pm
 w/special guests Hey Moneai!

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

Drive-Thru Open 11am - 7pm
 Indoor Dining 11am - 9pm
 Bookstore 11am - 9pm
 Silent Auction Bidding 11am - 9pm
 Esber Beverage Wine Tasting 11am - 9pm
 Kids Playground 11am - 9pm
 Outside Dining 11am - 11pm
 Church Tours 11am, 4pm, 6pm & 7:30pm
 Live Music and Dancing 11am - 11pm
 Hellenic Dancers Performances 3:30pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7pm & 8:30pm
 Greek Cooking Demonstrations 5:30pm & 7:30pm
 Fireworks After Dark

Schedule Subject to Change.

40 years of Celebrating Summer the Greek Way!

OUTDOOR DINING MENU

4:00 pm to 11:00 pm Thursday & Friday
 11:00 am to 11:00 pm Saturday

Cash and Credit Cards (3% service charge - no service charge on debit cards or cash) accepted in all areas.
 All items available for dine-in or carry-out

TAVERNA/GREEK GRILLE

Make item below into a platter with rice, olives, peppers, tomatoes & feta for an additional \$4.00

- #1 ONE CHICKEN SOUVLAKI \$7.00
(includes (1) pita bread)
- #2 TWO CHICKEN SOUVLAKIA \$13.00
(includes (2) pita bread)
- #3 ONE PORK SOUVLAKI \$7.00
(includes (1) pita bread)
- #4 TWO PORK SOUVLAKIA \$13.00
(includes (2) pita bread)
- #5 REGULAR GYRO \$9.00
Gyro with tomato, onion & tzatziki sauce wrapped in pita bread
- #6 CHICKEN GYRO \$9.00
Chicken gyro with tomato, onion & tzatziki sauce wrapped in pita bread
- #7 LAMB CHOPS \$21.00
(3 chops with pita bread, rice, olives, peppers, tomatoes & feta)

OTHER ITEMS (SERVED WITH CHIPS)

- #8 LAMB SLIDERS \$15.00
(Two sliders of roasted lamb topped with grilled onions and tzatziki)
- #9 HOT DOG \$3.00
- #10 CHICKEN TENDERS (3 tenders) \$10.00

SIDE DISHES

- #11 FRENCH FRIES \$6.00
- #12 GREEK FRIES \$7.00
(French Fries w/ Crumbled Feta & Greek Seasoning)
- #13 GYRO FRIES \$10.00
(French Fries with gyro meat, tomato, onions, and tzatziki)
- EXTRA TZATZIKI \$1.00

OUTDOOR BEVERAGES

- Pop, Iced Tea, or Bottled Water \$2.00
- Fresh Squeezed Greek Style Lemonade \$5.00
- Fresh Squeezed Greek Style Strawberry Lemonade \$6.00
- Froppe (Greek Iced Coffee) \$5.00
- Greek Coffee \$5.00
- Beer (domestic, imported, IPAs) \$5.00 - \$8.00
- Wine \$6.00

DESSERTS

- Loukoumades 6 for \$4.00 or 13 for \$8.00
- Baklava Sundae \$5.00
- Root Beer Float \$4.00
- Rice Pudding \$4.00
- Vanilla Ice Cream \$3.00
- Pastry Sampler (Includes assorted pastry items) \$12.00

INDOOR DINING MENU

Open 11:00 am to 9:00 pm / Located inside Alex D. Krassas Center
 Cash and Credit Cards (3% service charge) accepted in all areas.
 All items available for dine-in or carry-out

PLATTERS

(All platters include salad, roll & butter and choice of two of the following sides - rice pilaf, potatoes or green beans)

- LAMB SHANK (Baked shank in a tomato-based broth) \$20.00
- FROSO'S PLAKI (Baked cod smothered with onions) \$17.00
- GREEK CHICKEN (1/4 Chicken baked with Greek Seasoning) \$17.00
- PASTISIO \$15.00
(layered macaroni, seasoned meat, topped with cream sauce)
- MOUSSAKA \$15.00
(layered meat, eggplant, tomatoes topped with cream sauce)
- MEATLESS MOUSSAKA \$15.00
(layers of roasted eggplant & potatoes in a tomato sauce topped breadcrumb sauce)
- GYRO PLATTER \$12.00
(gyro with tomato, onion & tzatziki sauce wrapped in pita bread) *no roll
- KEFLETIES (6 baked meatballs in tomato sauce) \$14.00

SAMPLER

- GREEK SAMPLER (not a platter) \$22.00
(Pastisio or Moussaka or Meatless Moussaka, 3 Dolmathes, 1 Tzatziki, 1 Spanakopita, 2 Kefleties & Rice)

CHILDREN'S MENU

- Kefleties (4 baked meatballs with rice pilaf, roll & butter) \$14.00
- Chicken Tenders (3 tenders with rice, roll & butter) \$10.00

A LA CART ITEMS

- Village Style Greek Salad with Gyro Meat \$10.00
(includes pita bread)
- Pastisio or Moussaka or Meatless Moussaka (1 piece) \$9.00
- Gyro \$9.00
(gyro with tomato, onion & tzatziki sauce wrapped in pita bread)
- Village Style Greek Salad \$7.00
(Cucumbers, tomatoes & feta) Includes roll & butter
- Tzatziki 3 for \$6.00
(layers of buttered phyllo and filled with a cheese-egg mixture)
- Spanakopita 3 for \$6.00
(layers of buttered phyllo and filled with a spinach cheese mixture)
- Dolmathes 4 for \$6.00
(Ground Beef mixed with rice and wrapped in grape leaves)
- Kefleties (Baked Meatballs in tomato sauce) 4 for \$6.00
- Avglemono Soup \$5.00
(Chicken, egg, lemon with orzo pasta)
- Feta Cheese & Kalamata Olives \$5.00
- Side Salad \$3.00
- Greek Style Green Beans \$3.00
- Greek Potatoes \$3.00
- Roll & Butter \$1.00

DESSERTS

- Rice Pudding \$4.00
- Pastry Sampler (Includes assorted pastry items) \$12.00

INDOOR BEVERAGES

- Pop, Iced Tea, or Bottled Water \$2.00
- Fresh Squeezed Greek Style Lemonade \$5.00
- Coffee (Regular or Decaf) \$2.00



SILENT AUCTION 2024

We are again asking for donations and or items for this year's baskets for the 2024 Canton Greek Fest.

If you or someone you know has any services or items to donate to make a basket, please let us know! Items must be in new condition please.

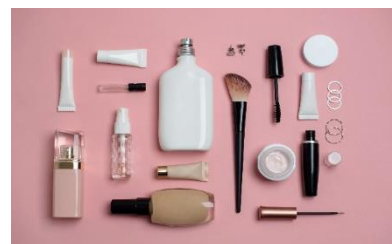
Get together with friends and families to go in on your basket donation!

Deadline to donate auction items is May 28, 2024

- Lottery Ticket Tree
- Golf Packages and Items
- Salon & Spa Packages and Items
- Jewelry Items
- Makeup Items
- Kitchen Items
- Gluten-Free Basket
- Specialty Coffee and Tea Items
- Lotions, Soaps, Perfumes, Colognes
- Coloring pencils, crayons, books, etc.
- Computer Accessories
- Nuts & Snacks Basket
- Specialty Coffee & Tea Items
- Movie Theatre Basket
- Barbecue & Grill Items
- Children's Board Games
- Movie DVD's Basket
- Specialty Food Items
- Children's Books
- Wine & Bar Items
- Beer & Bar Items
- Olive Oil & Vinegars
- Chocolate Basket
- Popcorn Basket
- Baby Basket
- Baking Items Basket
- Phone Accessories
- Gardening Basket
- Exercise Items
- Sports Themes Items & Apparel
- Scarves, Pins, & other accessories
- Specialty Pasta & Sauce Items
- Pet Items
- Outdoor Lawn Games
- Photo Frames
- Camping Items
- Picnic Items
- Specialty Candles
- Gift Cards too!
- ***Any idea, it is limitless***

Questions? Please contact Auction Basket Chairperson:
Marcia Bournelis | mbourn60@gmail.com | 330-309-3428

In person bidding is available at the Canton Greek Fest Thursday, June 6, Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8 11am to 9pm in the Krassas Center Lobby





Pascha Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donated the beautiful flowers and items needed for Pascha!
May God bless all of you and your families with good health
and may the memory of your departed loved ones be eternal.

DONOR	HOLY DAY	DONATION	BLESSING
The Bookstore Ladies	1st Salutations	Floral Wreath	In memory of Sophie Usner
Costas & Eleni Paxos	Akathist Hymn	Floral Wreath	For the health of the Costas & Eleni Paxos Family.
Anna Paxos	Annunciation	Floral Wreath	In memory of Lambros M. Paxos
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Palm Sunday	Palms	For the health of the Apostalides grandchildren.
John & Gina Koutras	Sunday Eve	Floral Wreath	In memory of loved ones and for the health of our family.
Anonymous	Monday	Floral Wreath	In memory of my husband.
Costas & Eleni Paxos	Tuesday	Floral Wreath	In memory of family members.
Anonymous	Wednesday	Oil	In memory of my husband Zaxaria and son, Dimitrios.
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Wednesday	Holy Unction Items	For the health of the St. Haralambos community.
John & Cynthia Loukas	Thursday	Crown of Thorns & Flowers	In memory of our parents, Philip & Irene Meshel and Nick & Angie Loukas
Anonymous	Thursday	Prosforo, Wine & Oil	In memory of my husband Zaxaria and son, Dimitrios
Katherine Mandas	Thursday	Prosforo, Wine Oil, Incense & Candles	In memory of her brothers, Michael and her parents, Athenas & Dimitriou & loved ones.
Chris & Elbus Kellamis	Thursday	Trumpet Lilies @ Foot of the Cross	In memory of our departed loved ones.
Melody Bowman	Thursday	Wreath/Roses Adorning Crucifix	For the health of family
Costas & Eleni Paxos	Thursday	12 Gospel Candles	For the health of the Costas & Eleni Paxos family.
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Thursday	3 Candles on Crucifix	In memory of our deceased family members.
Katherine Mandas	Friday	Incense & Candles	In memory of her brother, Michael and her parents Athenas & Dimitriou & loved ones.
Costas & Eleni Paxos	Friday	6 Altar Candles	For the health of the Costas & Eleni Paxos family.
Anonymous	Friday	White Linen Sheet	In memory of my husband Zaxaria and son, Dimitrios.



Pascha Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donated the beautiful flowers and items needed for Pascha!
May God bless all of you and your families with good health
and may the memory of your departed loved ones be eternal.

DONOR	HOLY DAY	DONATION	BLESSING
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Friday	3 Candles on Crucifix	For the health of the Bournelis & Apostalides family.
Anonymous	Friday	Prosforo, Oil & Wine	In memory of my husband Zaxaria and son, Dimitrios.
Katherine Mandas	Friday	Candles & Incense	In memory of her brother, Michael and her parents, Athenas & Dimitriou & loved ones.
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Friday	Rose Petals & Lemon Leaves	In memory of Pete, Roneo and Sam Pete Apostalides
Anonymous	Saturday	Prosforo, Oil & Wine	In memory of my husband Zaxaria and son, Dimitrios.
Katherine Mandas	Saturday	Incense & Candles	In memory of her brother, Michael and her parents, Athenas & Dimitriou & loved ones.
Angela Vagotis & Family	Saturday	Resurrection Banner	In loving memory of my parents, Esther & Jack Vagotis and my brother, George Vagotis.
Anonymous	Saturday	White Roses on Altar	For the health of our family.
Anonymous	Saturday	30 Doz. Eggs	In memory of our deceased family members.
Costas & Eleni Paxos	Saturday	6 Altar Candles	For the health of the Costas & Eleni Paxos family.
Griveas, Nastoff, and Frustaci families	Saturday	Priest's Paschal Candle	For the health of family and in memory of loved ones.
Michael & Helen Apostalides	Saturday	Resurrection Icon	In memory of Apostalides, Chrisanthus, and Bandurka family members.
John Tsikles	Saturday	Football Mums	For the health of family.
Helen Tsarwhas	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of my husband, George.
Niki & Tasos Kalantzis	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of our deceased loved ones and for the health of our family members.
Anonymous	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of loved ones.
Francine Nichols	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of our deceased loved ones.
John & Susie Foradas	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of our loved ones and the health of our family.
Bill & Freda Skendelas	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of our loved ones & the health of our family.
Ron & Mary Feltz	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of love ones and health of our family.



Pascha Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donated the beautiful flowers and items needed for Pascha!
May God bless all of you and your families with good health
and may the memory of your departed loved ones be eternal.

DONOR	HOLY DAY	DONATION	BLESSING
Flora Anderson	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of John Anderson and deceased family.
Sophia Politis & Children	Epitaphion	Flowers	For the health of the Politis family.
Gus & Maria Fakelis	Epitaphion	Flowers	In memory of John Fakelis
Griveas, Nastoff, and Frustaci Families	Pascha	Lilies	For the health of family and in memory of loved ones.
Niki & Tasos Kalantzis	Pascha	Lilies	In memory of our deceased loved ones and for the health of our family members.
Mr. & Mrs. John Christian Jim Warner & Zeke Winter	Pascha	Lilies	In loving memory of our Grandfather & Grandmother, Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Kalochristianakis & for the health of our family.
Helen & Richard Meder	Pascha	Lilies	In memory of Harry & Irene Laggeris
Louis & Maria Calandros	Pascha	Lilies	For the health of our family.
Sophia Politis	Pascha	Lilies	In memory of my husband, Christos Politis
Helen & Richard Meder	Pascha	Lilies	In memory of Sophie Usner
Tina Fasoulas-Wey	Pascha	Lilies	In memory of Niove Fasoulas
George & Voula Sotiropoulos	Pascha	Lilies	For the health of the Sotiropoulos family.
George & Dina Nikolaou	Pascha	Lilies	For the health of the Nikolaou family.



ST. PHOTIOS AWARDS - METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

2024 ST. PHOTIOS AWARDEES:

CAROL LYNNE CAPOCCI & JOANNA VOLAS



Carol Lynne Capocci

Carol Lynne (Cotopolis) Capocci is a faithful, life-long member of Saint Haralambos. She continuously gives of her time and shares her many talents in dedicated service to her church, always helping wherever needed.

Carol serves as Parish Council, Philoptochos and Silver Liners Board member and as representative at numerous Clergy/Laity Conferences. She lends her beautiful voice to the Choir, has taught Sunday School and served as GOYA Advisor through the years.

She works tirelessly at the annual GreekFest in many areas; however, her main role and focus is Church Tour Guide, which she fulfills enthusiastically and with great knowledge.

Carol annually Chairs the Saint Haralambos Nameday Banquet in loving memory of her father, Harry Cotopolis. In memory of her beloved mother, Helen, she cares for the church, manages the church hall and assists in the office.

Wife to John, mother to Cassandra (Sergio), Matthew (Beth) and Yiayia to the one who holds her heartstrings, Milo.



Joanna Volas

Joanna has been a lifelong parishioner of St. Haralambos. She has been a member of JOY, GOYA & YAL, a Sunday School teacher for 18 years and member of the audit committee since 2010. She has served as a member of the Daughter's of Penelope for 28 years and is the current President of the Canton chapter. Her greatest contribution is to the St. Haralambos Hellenic Dancers.

She has been a member, instructor, and assistant director for the past 40 years. She is dedicated to teaching the art of Greek folk dance to the youth, reinforcing the ties between the church's spiritual and cultural values. Joanna met her husband Peter at the Greek Folk Dance Festival in Pittsburgh and served on the Metropolis Youth Commission with him in this capacity. She is the proud mother of three children: Eleni, Yanni & Kosta. Professionally, Joanna is a C.P.A and accountant for Paxos Plating, Inc.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

TINA WEY, PRESIDENT

May/June 2024 EDITION

COFFEE ANYONE



Please consider hosting a coffee hour after church on Sunday. Get a group together and do a whole month or just take a week. We so much appreciate those who do volunteer. Our community looks forward to the fellowship during Sunday coffee hours. Please contact the church office if you are interested. There will be no coffee hour during the summer unless there is a memorial.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER



We look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Annual Mothers Day Dinner Purple, Pumps and Pearls



Please join us on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 in the Cultural Center for our annual Mother's Day Dinner. Get out your pearls and pumps or wear something purple. Make your reservations by May 3rd.

Thank you

Thank you to those who helped with our Pre-Sanctified reception on Wednesday, March 27th. Whether you cooked, brought something, set up or cleaned up, we so much appreciate it! We had excellent attendance from area Orthodox churches and had a wonderful spread for everyone.

Thanks to those who visited our shut ins on Lazarus Saturday and thank you to JOY for also providing goody bags to take along.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Inviting all members and **new members** to our upcoming meetings and events. Board meetings at 5:30 and general meetings at 6:00 Enter through the Agape Courtyard. **BRING A FRIEND**

Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Mother's Day Dinner
Tuesday, September 3, 2024
First meeting of the new year

If you haven't paid your dues yet, the deadline has passed. Please drop off or mail to the church office to attend the Mother's Day Dinner. Thank you.



Congratulations to Carol Capocci and Joanna Volas for winning the St. Photios award. Both are very well deserving.

Congratulations to Jaime Rocco for a very successful first year of the Sunday School "Raise the Barr" and Philoptochos Feeding the Hungry partnership. We look forward to next year.



THE METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
2024 DAFFODIL LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024



2023-24 OFFICERS

President, Kathy Dieringer
Vice President, Helen Tsarwhas
Treasurer, Georgia Trikkas
Asst. Treasurer, Goldie Manos
Secretary, Mary Trifelos



Brett Lamb, Bagpiper,
featured performer at
the March meeting

MARCH/APRIL 2024

Kathy Dieringer, President

Silver Liners Spotlight

Trips/Events >>>

Lovin Louisville
Derby Experience

July 16-18, 2024

Payment & Reservation due by
May 31, 2024

(See flyer enclosed)

Board Members

Helen Apostalides
Mary Griveas
Tony Koutras
Carol Capocci

Georgia Matthews
Helenann Meder
Carol Trifelos
Betty Tsangeos

Kitchen Crew

Helen & Michael Apostalides

Joe Foster Jim Dieringer Takis Tzouloufis
Elaine Christ, Hospitality Chairperson Anna Paxos
Lefkothea Bourlas Olga Tsenekos Volunteers

**Luncheons
are held the
third Tuesday
of each month
\$6 per person**

**MEMBERSHIP FOR AGE 55 +
MEMBERSHIP DUES ONLY \$10/YEAR
JOIN TODAY**

Upcoming Meeting Dates and Programs

Tuesday, May 21

Tuesday, June 18
Complimentary "picnic"
for all paid up members

**Luncheons are
held in the
Krassas Event
Center
at 11:30 a.m.**



Lovin' Louisville Derby Experience Plus Bourbon Trail

July 16-18, 2024

\$710 (double occupancy)



Day 1

- **Depart 8:00 AM** and travel to Louisville, Kentucky with a rest stop and lunch stop (on own) enroute
- **Admissions to the Louisville Slugger Museum & Bat Factory** – enjoy interactive displays, exhibits and film highlighting the history of the company and baseball. Tour includes a visit through the working factory where they produce over one million baseball bats each year. Everybody will receive a souvenir bat.
- **Dinner** included in the package
- Two nights of rooms in the Louisville area - Hampton Inn.

Day 2

- **Breakfast** is included
- **Tour at Churchill Downs** – There's no experience quite like Churchill Downs. **Tour the Museum** which is filled with the sounds, images and artifacts that bring the pageantry and excitement of the Kentucky Derby to life. New exhibits include high-tech computerized hands-on displays and video graphics. You will also see "The Greatest Race", a film presentation of Derby Day and the activities surrounding it. Feel the excitement of the crowds and hear the thunder of hoofs as you view this award-winning show.
- **Guided tour of Churchill Downs**
- **Mint Julep University and Derby Pies**
- **Evan Williams Bourbon Experience** – Located on Louisville's historic "Whiskey Row," you'll step back in time to 1783 and experience life and Bourbon making as it was in the early days of the Republic through a guided tour, video and, of course, samplings.
- **Back to hotel to freshen up**
- **Dinner Buffet/Cruise aboard the Mary M. Miller** with live music.

Day 3

- **Breakfast** is included
- **Depart for Lexington**
- **Bourbon Tour at either Woodford Reserve (first choice-based on availability) or James E Pepper Distillery**
- Lunch included in the package
- **Admissions to Kentucky Horse Park**
- Depart for home.
- Arrive home about 9 PM



Cost : \$710 (double occupancy)
\$670 (triple occupancy)
\$850 (single occupancy)

Reservation deposit \$100 (refundable until April 26)

Balance due May 31

INCLUDES

Bus
Lodging
3 breakfasts
2 dinners
Bourbon tastings

All gratuities
Tours
2 lunches
Admissions

youth

Celebration Sunday!

Growing Together In Christ!

SUNDAY SCHOOL JOY Jr. GOYA GOYA

**Let's Celebrate
Another Great
Year Together!**

May 19

**In the Tri-Room
after Liturgy!**

**ALL Sunday School & Youth Group kids
and their immediate family are
welcome at this FREE celebration!**

Enjoy chicken tenders and fries for lunch,
sponsored by SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Plus, enjoy an Ice Cream Sundae Buffet
sponsored by JOY, Jr. GOYA & GOYA!

Don't Miss The Fun & Fellowship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOT

Stephanie Machamer, Director



Upcoming Events

May 5 - EASTER SUNDAY - CHRIST IS RISEN
No Sunday School. A visit from the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt on front lawn after Agape Service.

May 12th - Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Sunday...THANK YOU Teachers . Your commitment to our kids is very much appreciated.

Reminders

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL IS MAY 19
Awards will be given upstairs followed by a combined celebration with all our youth in the Tri-Room after Liturgy. Thank you to Gus Fakelis for always being there for us. Thank you to our JOY, Jr. GOYA, and GOYA for the build your own Sundae Buffet. All Sunday School and youth group members & families are welcome to attend.

"RAISE THE BARR"

Sunday School & Philoptochos teamed up together to feed 70 elementary children once a month for the entire school year. We appreciate the combined efforts of not only our Philoptochos but ALL OF YOU!!! Your donations have truly been a blessing and we were able to do God's work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

The voices are angelic. Thank you Alex. The kids will be singing this summer. Stay tuned.

MAY/JUNE 2024

We will be accepting kid friendly foods all summer for our "Raise the Barr" program beginning again in September. Canned pasta, oatmeal, chips, applesauce, etc. THANK YOU!

THANK YOU

Tula Pirovolos for preparing a wonderful Mini Lenten Retreat for our families. The topic was informative. and enjoyed by all.

Linda Natale for your beautiful work and the Red Egg that each family took home.

Stephanie Likouris & Kathy Hardesty for preparing the Lenten Mini Lunch for the Retreat.

Jaime Rocco for the most successful first year of our new "Raise the Barr" feeding the hungry. Looking forward to another great year ahead.

Father Nick - your guidance & support is very much appreciated.

Traditionally, Easter eggs are dyed throughout the Orthodox Christian world on Holy Thursday, and they are dyed red to represent the redeeming blood of Christ that was shed on the Cross, the white egg (before being dyed) represents the white marble tomb where Christ's body was laid after He was taken down from the Cross, and the hard shell of the egg symbolises the sealed tomb of Christ.



THE JOYful NEWS

Have A Great Summer!

Christos Anesti! Our JOY kids did an amazing job in April making Easter gifts for our missed parishioners! Thank you, Philoptochos, for partnering with JOY to deliver our baskets during your Easter visits.

THANK YOU!

It's hard to believe our 2023/2024 JOY session is already coming to a close! It was a pleasure getting to know all of our JOY families, and watching the kids embrace each and every one of our special projects with kind and giving hearts! JOY wouldn't be the same without all of the wonderful family participation! Thank you so much for bringing your kids to be a part of JOY!

CONGRATULATIONS To Our JOY Graduates!

There are 6 JOY members moving up to Jr. GOYA in the fall! We have LOVED having their fellowship in JOY, and I know they'll all continue to do amazing things as they grow within our youth group programs! Each of you did an outstanding job during your time in JOY!



2024 JOY GRADUATES

Jordyn Apostalides
Makayla Apostalides
Thomas Benno
Alexis Bournelis
Rhyann Higgins
Kerissa Shiepis



Graduates, please see me at the Youth Celebration on May 19 to receive your graduation certificate!

SAVE THE DATE

May 19

Youth Celebration Sunday!

Sponsored by JOY,
Jr. GOYA, GOYA and
SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Enjoy Lunch & an Ice Cream
Buffet in the Tri-Room right
after Liturgy, for all Youth
Group and Sunday School kids
and their immediate family.

This event is FREE!



JOY 2024/2025

Please watch for a registration
reminder in August for our
upcoming JOY session.

JOY is for our youth in
Kindergarten through 4th grade.

Please feel free to reach out
anytime this summer with
questions:

Stephanie.Sakel@gmail.com

Spring Cleaning with JOY!

It takes a lot of work to keep our church spaces looking beautiful, so the JOY kids helped out and wiped and scrubbed the desks & chairs in ALL of the Sunday School classrooms! They also cleaned the toys and surfaces in the Nursery room! They did a pristine job!





Great Teamwork
in Action!

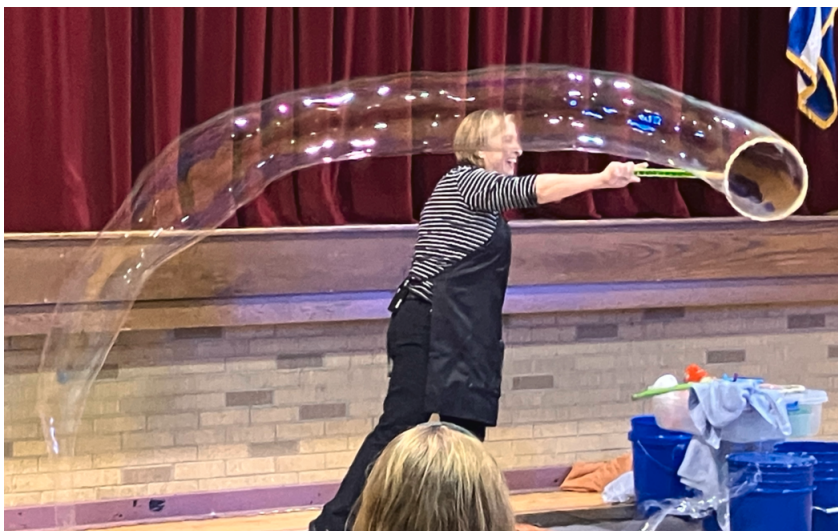
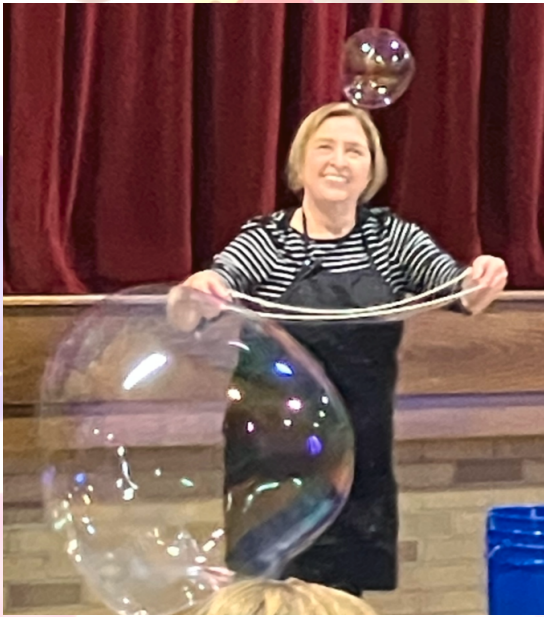
Joy

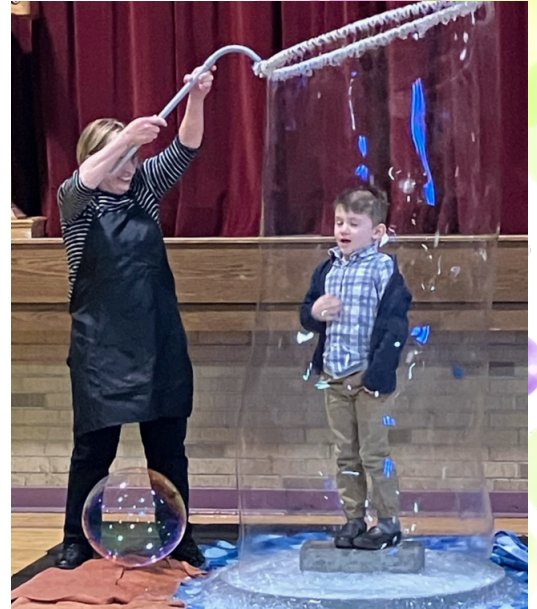
THE BUBBLE LADY

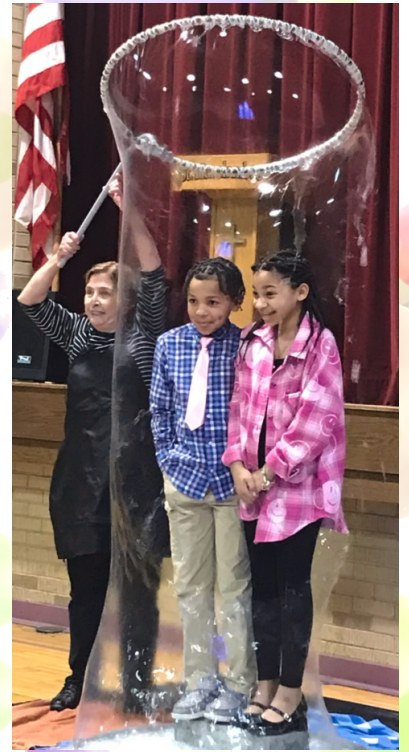
Show Was Bubbles of Fun!

The coolest bubbles were on display, PLUS,
bubble fans experienced being inside a giant bubble!









Thank
you to
everyone
who came
to this
memorable
event!



YOUTH GROUP

It was an amazing Metropolis Tournament season for our GOYA members! Our Senior and Junior Boys combined with our sister church Holy Trinity. The members of our Senior Girls were Goyans from St. Haralambos. We participated in 3 Metropolis tournaments. The 3 tournaments were hosted by Holy Trinity Canton, Akron Assumption and Holy Trinity Pittsburgh. The last tournament honored our amazing graduating seniors, Gia Sotiropoulos, Kenna Loukas, Angelina Paxos, Thad Fakelis, Minas Paxos and Steven Zoumberakis! Our Goyans played with passion, dignity and respect! They represented the St. Haralambos community with honor and esteem both on and off the court!

Special thanks to our wonderful parents who supported our Goyans throughout the 3 weekend events!



YOUTH GROUP



YOUTH GROUP



The Spring retreat on March 8-10th at Camp Nazareth was attended by 5 Goyans. The theme of the weekend was Being Prepared on our Lenten Journey!



Metropolis of Pittsburgh
Summer Camp 2024

Week 1: June 16-22 *2nd-4th Grade*
Week 2: June 23-29 *5th-7th Grade*
Week 3: June 30-July 6 *7th-9th Grade*
Week 4: July 7-13 *10th-12th Grade*

Registration will open March 25, 2024!
More Information:
y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/summercamp

We have a most generous donation from Mr. Tony Vaitis for 5 Goyans to attend the upcoming Summer Camp! The cost to attend is \$675 per camper and we are so grateful to be able to offer this to our Goyans and their families!

Upcoming events include:

- Weekend of service on April 20-21

Good Friday 2024
GOYA Luminary Project



GOYA is sponsoring a Luminary project, for the benefit of our youth program. Our luminary display will be Friday evening, during the Good Friday evening service. The luminaries will adorn the path of the procession with the Epitaphio. Individual luminaries can be purchased in memory of, or for the health of your loved ones, for a donation of \$5.00 each. Complete this form and return with your \$5.00 donation to:

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
Attention: GOYA
251 25th St. NW
Canton, OH 44709
Checks payable to: St. Haralambos GOYA

Your Name:	
Telephone Number:	
In Memory of:	
In Memory of:	
In Memory of:	
For The Health of:	
For The Health of:	
Total Quantity of Luminaries:	
Donation per Luminary:	_____ x \$5.00
Total Amount Enclosed:	

Please Note: The last day to order luminaries is Wednesday, May 1 2024

For any questions, please contact:

Debbie Paxos-Morgan (330.704.5930) or dpaxos@hotmail.com ,
Phaidra Sotiropoulos (614.668.7303) or PhaidraT78@yahoo.com

- **Egg wrapping - May 4th, Holy Saturday morning**

Looking back on this GOYA year, we have had the privilege to be guided by 5 Senior Leaders who will be moving on to the next chapter in their lives. Kenna, Gia, Angelina, Thad, Minas and Steven we wish you the very best and know you will be missed!

As their Seniors are moving on, so too will Mrs. Georgia Paxos and Stefanie Fakelis our most valued Advisors. They have given their time and talents to our youth and we are so grateful! Their organizational skills and unwavering support for our youth is nothing but astonishing. They carry themselves with humility and grace! Mrs. Paxos and Mrs. Fakelis you will not be forgotten!

St. Haralambos GOYA will be hosting a Metropolis Basketball Tournament on January 31 - February 2, 2025. We are hoping to have the support of our St. Haralambos community to make this event happen! Stay tuned!!!!



ST. HARALAMBOS HELLENIC DANCERS



Dance Practices: MAY 9, 16, 23 & 30

BEGINNERS: 4:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

INTERMEDIATES: 5:00 P.M. - 5:45 P.M.

SENIORS: 5:45 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

MEETING FOR ALL GROUPS - MAY 9 at 7:30 p.m.

****Senior practice will end @ 7:30 p.m. on May 9th***

GreekFest Performances:

Thursday, June 6th:

Intermediates @ 5:30 p.m.

Seniors @ 6:30 p.m.

Seniors @ 8:30 p.m.

Friday, June 7th:

Beginners @ 5:00 p.m.

Seniors @ 7:00 p.m.

Seniors @ 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 8th:

Beginners @ 3:30 p.m.

Intermediates @ 4:30 p.m.

Seniors @ 5:30 p.m.

Seniors @ 7:00 p.m.

Seniors @ 8:30 p.m.

The Saint Haralambos Icon, Gift and Bookstore Volunteer Spotlight

Sophie Usner has volunteered faithfully in our St. Haralambos Icon, Gift and Bookstore since 2004. Sophie has added beautiful bonuses in efficiency, icons, and gifts. Each task as buyer, record keeper, or saleswoman, Sophie accomplished wholeheartedly with her enthusiastic spirit and solid knowledge of our Faith.

Jack, Sophie's husband, supported her patiently while waiting as Sophie gave 100% to solving each request.

We can clearly see her love for St. Haralambos Church, our parishioners and our Bookstore. We are all tremendously grateful for her years of high-quality comradery and devotion. May her blessed memory be eternal. She will be missed.

Jan and Tony Koutras

For many years, every Thursday evening, our St. Haralambos Bookstore was manned by two generous, reliable, and kind volunteers.

Jan Koutras organized our jewelry, had ideas galore, and brought refreshments for everyone. Jan enriched us with her smile, book recommendations, and enthusiasm for our bookstore gifts.

Tony created our jewelry display case from St. Haralambos' original wooden sand filled candle stand. He fitted and framed two glass top opening secure lids.

Without mentioning a word, Tony just pitched in with repairs of Icons, jewelry, and many other items. Jan and Tony Koutras are a Blessing.

We love our time together.



St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

Byzantine Choir ~ Schedule



May:

3rd, Friday
4th Saturday/Sunday
19th, Sunday

Holy Good Friday 6:40 pm
Pascha Resurrection 11:00 pm
Final Choir Sunday 9:40 am

June:

23rd, Sunday

Pentecost at Holy Trinity 9:15 am



FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR :

On behalf of Father Nick, the Parish Council, and the entire church community, I would like to thank the choir members for their tremendous devotion to our choir.

Throughout the year choir members faithfully dedicated themselves to all rehearsals, Sunday Services and Holy Week services singing praises to our Lord.

May the Lord continue to Bless our members with good health! God Bless You All!

Alex Christ



***We are in need of a
church organist.***

***If you can play the piano or organ
and are interested, please contact:***

Dr. Alex Christ at 330-284-9606



**The Senior Choir welcome
and need new members**

**All new members are
welcome!**

GOMoPalooza

Music & Arts Festival

Do you like music and art?

It has been His Eminence Metropolitan Savas' dream for years to host an annual music and arts festival, showcasing the many talents of the people of our metropolis.

That dream will finally become a reality this year with our first ever GOMoPalooza Music and Arts Festival! This will be an event for **the whole family**, held on Saturday, August 17th at the St. Demetrios Community Center & Festival Grounds in Warren, OH.

"GOMoP" stands for "Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh," and all the music performed and art displayed will be offered by our very own GOMoP people, young and old.

We also have a very real need to raise funds for our Metropolis Youth & Young Adult Ministries, and all proceeds from this event will be used to impact the spiritual formation of our young people.

The festival will feature music performances, art and craft exhibits, delicious food and beverages, beautiful festival grounds to enjoy and much, much more!

Please consider being a donor to this event. This will be an event that is free to all attendees. We need your support to help us raise funds for our Youth & Young Adult ministries and to underwrite festival expenses.

Metropolitan Savas invites YOU to the First Annual

St. Demetrios Community Center
3223 Atlantic St. NE
Warren, OH

Saturday August 17th
11am - 9pm

Free Admission & Parking

Fun for All the Family!

2 Music Stages

Karaoke

Art & Craft Exhibits

Food & Beverages

Scan me!

Are You a Musician, Band or Artist?

Want to Perform or Display Art?

Contact Fr. Joe DiStefano
frjdistefano@yahoo.com

All Proceeds go to the GOMoP Youth & Young Adult Ministries

The Meraklides Clergy Supergroup **Metri & the Metro Individual Artists & Groups**

Donor Levels

Record Co. Executive	\$2,500
Rock Hall of Famer	\$1,000
Pop Star	\$500
Indie Artist	\$100
Karaoke King	\$50
Shower Singer	\$25

•The Deadline for donations is Sunday, May 5th.

This link will take you to the Metropolis of Pittsburgh Donor Web page. Choose "GOMoPalooza" in the donation drop down menu: <https://www.pittsburgh.goarch.org/support>. You can also scan the QR Code above.

See you on August 17th!

Fr. Joseph Z. DiStefano
GOMoPalooza Festival Committee Chairman
frjdistefano@yahoo.com
724-304-1230





**Metropolitan
Savas
invites YOU
to the
First Annual**

**Are You a
Musician,
Band
or Artist?**

**Want to
Perform or
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Fr. Joe
DiStefano**

**frjdistefano@
yahoo.com**

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GOMOP Youth & Young
Adult Ministries**

**The Meraklides
Clergy Supergroup**

**Metri & the Metro
Individual Artists & Groups**

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& Parking**

**Fun for All
the Family!**

2 Music Stages

Karaoke

**Art & Craft
Exhibits**

**Food &
Beverages**

Scan me!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

ST. HARALAMBOS CHURCH

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



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1
Bonnie Eustathios
James Rutter

2
Athanasia Gaitanos
Dawna Natale

3
Michael Arnas
Gina Koutras

4
Alex Christ

5
Clara Fakelis

6
Natalie Bourlas-Quinn
Nicolette Bourlas
Katerina Burns
Katerina Koufos
Janice Koutras
Karen Lazoran

7
Dennis Tzouloufis

8
Michelle Frangos Mastros
Georgene Pagonis
Maria Politi

9
Peter Michalos

11
Linda Natale
Elizabeth Panopoulos
Luke Sarris

12
George Contos
Michael Kosmides
Michael Morgan
Soula Stamatelopoulos

13
Alexander Bahas
Stephanie Machamer

14
Antonieta Poulos

15
Nick Kouris

16
Thomas Ballas
Carolyn Hill
Sam Kragalot

17
Stamatios Paxos

18
Ronald Feltz
Foteini Oikonomiou

19
Vondie Thomas

20
Paisia Kantzos
Marissa Kazes
Elaine Vallos

21
Thea Kiminas
Jaime Rocco
Matthew Rocco
Yanni Volas
Douglas Xides

22
Eric Koehler
Collette Prendes
Gia Sotiropoulos

23
Diane Foradas
Derek Manos
Alexander Regas
Hannah Shiepis

24
Gabriella Kalaitsides
Ross Likouris
Paul Stavrianou

25
Violetta Konstantacos

26
Vassa Delis-Parker
Jason DiDonato
Theodore Prendes

28
Georgia Koutras
Dino Nikolaou
Minas Paxos

29
Mary Dover
Grace Margaritakis
John Regopoulo

30
Phillip Wood

31
Steve Bench
Stephanie Marinos

1
Alexios Sakellariou
Bill Stamaton

2
Carrie Godbey
Elbus Kellamis

3
Robert Forinash

4
Maria Kalikas
Peter Lemos
Christopher Machamer

5
Brad Tank

6
Athanasia Armatas
Ianni Colón
Vanthia Proios
Chris Vallos

7
William Ballas
Louis Varlamos

8
Janet Darrah

9
Petros Gaitanos
Rebecca Spilios
Sam Trikilas

10
Crystal Apostalides
Aristea DiGiacomo
Aris Kapalko
Isabella Kapalko
Leah Loukas
Eleni Paxos
Jennifer Regas
George Theodosiou

12
Lia Bench
Peter Volas
Zachary Volas

13
George P. Sotiropoulos
Aristea Tzouloufis

14
Georgia Kalantzis
Kylie Tsenekos

15
Maria Frustaci
John Halkias
Daunia Kellamis
Robert Worthington

16
Cynthia Koumoutzis
Steve Polychronis

17
Makayla Apostalides
Michael Apostalides
Vincent J. Arrigo
Peter Fostines
Katherine Giustino
Brayden Johnson
Nick Koumoutzis

18
Samuel Poulos
Dean Sarris

20
Malaina Manuselis

21
Dean Darrah
Andrea Norris
Dimitra Panopoulos

22
Ron R. Darrah
Mary Hinkel
Max Maurice

23
Michael Fakelis
Constance Guist
Atlas Zoumberakis

24
Marcia Bournelis
Emily DiDonato
Irene Kalaitsides
Tim Leonakis

25
H. Steven Poulos

26
Dave Gastin
Zafi Panopoulos

27
Goldie Cotopolis
James Cotopolis

28
Penny McCullough
Craig Waikem

29
Julia Apostalides
Keith Selby

30
George Armatas
Ashley Carona
Patricia Demis

St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox Church
251 - 25th Street N.W.
Canton, OH 44709

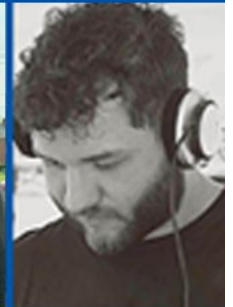
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CANTON GREEK FEST

June 6, 7 & 8, 2024 • 11am to 11pm
cantongreekfest.com

40 Years of Celebrating Summer the Greek Way!



St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
251 25th St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44709 • (330) 454-7278