

"LET US NOW GO TO BETHLEHEM"

Some five miles south of Jerusalem, a small, unassuming town sits nestled among the rugged Judean hills. Its residents live in poverty today, as they have for centuries. Ordinarily, history would barely give such a place a passing glance, but this is no ordinary city of which we speak. This is BETHLEHEM, the site chosen by God to manifest Himself to the world in the Divine Person of Jesus Christ.

The word "Bethlehem" literally means "house of bread." Numerous references to this city are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It was the home of Ruth and the setting of the tender story of love and devotion related in the Book of Ruth. King David spent his youth in the hills around Bethlehem, and was anointed here by Samuel to be King of Israel. The tomb of Rachel, Jacob's wife, who died giving birth to Benjamin, is located just north of Bethlehem. Bethlehem was also one of the strongholds fortified by Solomon's son, Rehoboam, to guard the approaches to the city of Jerusalem.

All of these things, however, are greatly overshadowed by Bethlehem being the birthplace of Christ. Christians of all generations know every detail of the "Christmas Story" as related in the Gospel accounts of St. Matthew and St. Luke. The image of an exhausted Mary and Joseph, finally finding lodging in a stable on the outskirts of Bethlehem after their long journey from Jerusalem will forever be imbedded in the hearts and minds of all faithful believers. It was here, amidst the animals and in the stillness of the night that our Saviour was born!

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THE FEAST OF OUR LORD'S
NATIVITY

ST. HARALAMBOS SUNDAY BULLETIN

December 22, 2024

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Orthros 9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy immediately following the Orthros.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

SUN DEC 22	†Sunday Before The Nativity of Christ	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee Hour with Santa - Krassas Event Center	
	Girls Basketball Practice	
	Boys Basketball Practice	3:30 p.m.
MON DEC 23	Savvas Bournelis Book Study-Yth Rm	6:00 p.m.
TUE DEC 24	†Christmas Eve Vespers Liturgy	5:00 p.m.
WED DEC 25	†Holy Nativity of our Lord	9:00 a.m.
FRI DEC 27	†St. Stephen The First Martyr	9:00 a.m.
SAT DEC 28	Philoptochos Christmas Party	12:00 p.m.
SUN DEC 29	†Sunday After The Nativity of Christ	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee Hour - Tri-Room	
	Girls Basketball Practice	
	Boys Basketball Practice	3:30 p.m.

JANUARY SCHEDULE

WED JAN 1	†St. Basil the Great	9:00 a.m.
THU JAN 2	Hellenic Beginner Dancers - GYM	4:30 p.m.
	Hellenic Intermediate Dancers	5:15 p.m.
	Hellenic Senior Dancers	6:15 p.m.
	Girls Basketball Practice	7:30 p.m.



ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

December 22, 2024 - TEAM D

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be CLOSED
on Tuesday, December 24th (half a day),
Wednesday, December 25th and
Thursday, December 26th.



ST. HARALAMBOS CHRISTMAS EVE TIME CHANGE

December 24, Christmas Eve
Vespers Liturgy from
6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SANTA IS COMING TO COFFEE HOUR TODAY!



SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 22, 2024

SPONSORED BY:
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fellowship ~ Music ~ Lunch
Entertainment ~ Mrs. Claus

AFTER CHURCH IN THE
KRASSAS CENTER



PLEASE
NOTE

ST. HARALAMBOS BOOK STORE

Will be closed during the week
from December 23rd - January 2nd



VASILOPITA SUNDAY

January 5, 2025

Please join us for our traditional
Vasilopita on Sunday, January 5th
in the Krassas Event Center
following church services.

Sponsored by: The St. Haralambos
Ladies Philoptochos



Want to Sponsor
a Coffee Hour?

Contact Stephanie Boka @
330-495-8798 or sign up on
the poster board located in
the lobby.

St. Haralambos Hellenic Dancers 40th Year Anniversary Dance & Epiphany Greek Night Celebration!



Friday, January 3, 2025
Krassas Event Center
7:30 - Midnight

Featuring DJ Puff and Performances by
St. Haralambos Hellenic Dancers

\$20/person
\$15/registered dancer or
under 12 years of age

Ticket Contact:
Georgia Paxos (330) 933-7596

Mezethes (Appetizers) &
Desserts included
Cash Bar



2025 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

For those parishioners using envelopes, the 2025
Stewardship Envelopes are now available for pickup
in the hallway leading up to the church.

PLEASE NOTE: The envelopes are arranged in
alphabetical order by LAST NAME, not by envelope
number.

Please begin using your 2025 Stewardship
envelopes on January 1, 2025.

INTERACTIVE BOOK STUDY By Savvas Bournelis, M.Div

Mondays @ 6:00 p.m. ~ GOYA Room
RSVP to Savva @ sbournelis@hchc.edu
(330) 904-8504

SCAN ME



[Make a Donation \(tithe.ly\)](https://tithe.ly)

Tithe.ly Online Stewardship Payment Options

You can now scan the QR code to your left to log into Tithe or go directly
to their website (tithe.ly) to make Stewardship, Memorial or Candle
payments.

To scan QR code:

Apple iphone- use your camera app and click on the yellow link that
appears on the screen.

Android (non-apple) phone- use QR code scanner if already installed or
go to Google Play Store and download.

Either option will take you directly to our donation website for your
donation to St. Haralambos Church.



2025 ST. HARALAMBOS GOYA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

As we prepare to host our 2025 GOYA Tournament January 31st through February 2nd 2025, we are asking our church community to support the weekend and ensure the children have a safe and joyous time in fellowship.

We are raising funds for music, food, gym rentals etc.

Please contact Aristeia Tzouloufis at 330.936.9072 if you are interested in donating."

HOLY TRINITY AMBRIDGE NEW YEARS EVE DANCE



MUSIC BY:
ALPHA OMEGA
W/GIORGIO FROM THE GRECIAN KEYS

DRESS TO IMPRESS | FOOD INCLUDED | CASH BAR
18 & OVER \$50 | 10-17 \$25 | 5-9 \$15 | UNDER 5 - FREE

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL: 724-266-5336

PAN HELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The 2024/2025 application is now open and accepting applications!

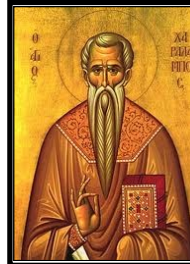
Exceptional undergraduate students of Hellenic descent from all fifty states are encouraged to apply.

Applications should be submitted electronically by January 31, 2025.

To be eligible to apply for a scholarship, applicants must be US Citizens or US permanent residents and of Hellenic descent. Applicants must be full-time undergraduate students at an accredited 4-year university this Fall 2024 and have a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA.

For inquiries please email: Elizabeth Danielides, Director of Scholarships at edanielides@panhellenicsf.org or call (312) 357-6432.

<https://www.panhellenicsf.org/apply>



SAVE THE DATE!

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

ST. HARALAMBOS
NAME DAY CELEBRATION

Pan-Orthodox Outdoor Blessing of the Waters



Monday, January 6 (Epiphany)

Noon

Stadium Park, Shelter # 5

Stadium Park Dr. NW

Nimishillen Creek



The Stark County Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

Just a
friendly
reminder...

It's that time of
The year again!

Just a friendly reminder asking you to fulfill your 2024 Stewardship pledge to the church.

Payments must be received in the church office on or before Friday, December 27th, 12:00 noon.



Canton Greek Fish Fry

Save the Dates for the 2024/2025
Canton Greek Fish Fry Events!

January 10, 2025 - Drive Thru Only

February 7, 2025 - Drive Thru Only

March 7, 2025 - Dine In & Drive Thru

April 4, 2025 - Dine in & Drive Thru

Interested in volunteering?
Contact Peter Volas [216-312-4255]



2025 Canton Greek Fest Meeting Dates

Join the Planning Committee for
the 2025 Canton Greek Fest

Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
Tuesday, April 22, 2025
Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Tuesday, June 3, 2025

***All Meeting begin at 7pm
in the Youth Room***

Questions?

Call Mike Fakelis (330-327-5317) or
Mike Paxos (330-327-9180)

December 22, 2024: FEAST: Pre-Nativity: The Genealogy; Proeortia (Preparation) of Nativity of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ; Greatmartyr Anastasia, the Deliverer from Poison (+304); Chrysogenes and Theodota, Martyrs (+304).

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Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος α΄

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

Προεόρτιον Ἦχος δ΄

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ, ἥνυκται πᾶσιν ἡ Ἑδέμ. Εὐτρεπίζου Ἐφραθᾶ, ὅτι τὸ ξύλον τῆς ζωῆς, ἐν τῷ Σπηλαίῳ ἐξήνθησεν ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου. Παράδεισος καὶ γάρ, ἡ ἐκείνης γαστήρ, ἐδείχθη νοητός, ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον φυτόν, ἐξ οὗ φαγόντες ζήσομεν, οὐχὶ δὲ ὡς ὁ Ἀδὰμ τεθνηζόμεθα. Χριστὸς γεννᾶται, τὴν πρὶν πεσοῦσαν, ἀναστήσων εἰκόνα.

Τῶν Πατέρων Ἦχος β΄

Μεγάλα τὰ τῆς πίστεως κατορθώματα! Ἐν τῇ πηγῇ τῆς φλογός, ὡς ἐπὶ ὕδατος ἀναπαύσεως, οἱ ἅγιοι Τρεῖς Παῖδες ἠγάλλοντο, καὶ ὁ προφήτης Δανιήλ, λεόντων ποιμήν, ὡς προβάτων ἐδείκνυτο. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ

Ὡς στῦλος ἀκλόνητος, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας Χριστοῦ, καὶ λύχνος αἰέφωτος, τῆς οἰκουμένης σοφέ, ἐδείχθης Χαράλαμπες· ἔλαμψας ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, διὰ τοῦ μαρτυρίου. ἔλυσας καὶ εἰδώλων τὴν σκοτόμαιναν μάκαρ· διὸ ἐν παρρησίᾳ Χριστῷ. Πρέσβευε σωθῆναι ἡμᾶς.

Κοντάκιον Ἦχος γ΄

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουλευθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

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Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode 1

The stone having been sealed by the Pharisees and chief priests, and Your all-immaculate body being guarded by soldiers, You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. Then the powers of the heavens cried out to You, O Giver of Life, and shouted, “Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your eternal rule! Glory to Your plan for saving us, only benevolent God!”

For the Forefeast Mode 4

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. Christ is born, so that He might raise up the formerly fallen image.

For the Fathers Mode 2

Magnificent are the accomplishments of faith! The holy Three Servants greatly rejoiced, as they stood in the fountain of fire, as if beside the still waters; and the Prophet Daniel appeared to be a shepherd of lions, as if they were sheep. At their entreaties, O Christ God, save our souls.

Hymn of the Church

As a pillar unshaken of Christ’s holy Church, and lamp ever-burning to all the world you emerged, O wise Haralambos; in all the world you shined, with the martyrdom you suffered, you dispelled the dark night, of the idols, O blessed; whence, with courage do intercede, to Christ that we may be saved.

Kontakion Mode 3

On this day the Virgin Maid goes to the grotto to give birth to the pre-eternal Word in an ineffable manner. Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds Him who willed that He appear as a newborn Child, the preeternal God.

Epistle

The reading is from Paul’s Letter to the Hebrews.

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets — who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, illtreated — of whom the world was not worthy — wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Ammin’adab, and Ammin’adab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Bo’az by Rahab, and Bo’az the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uri’ah, and Solomon the father of Rehobo’am, and Rehobo’am the father of Abi’jah, and Abi’jah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehosh’aphat, and Jehosh’aphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzzi’ah, and Uzzi’ah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezeki’ah, and Hezeki’ah the father of Manas’sseh, and Manas’sseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josi’ah, and Josi’ah the father of Jechoni’ah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoni’ah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerub’abel, and Zerub’abel the father of Abi’ud, and Abi’ud the father of Eli’akim, and Eli’akim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eli’ud, and Eli’ud the father of Elea’zar, and Elea’zar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne her firstborn son; and he called his name Jesus.