

## A POWERFUL SIGN OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

**T**he first act a child learns in our religion is **THE SIGN OF THE CROSS**. Parents teach their children to put three fingers together, the other two fingers down on the palm, and then trace the sacred symbol over the head, heart, and shoulders. It is an act that will be used a lifetime; it is never unlearned, never changed. And often it is the last conscious act made before departure from this world.



This custom is as old as the Christian faith. By the third century, Tertullian would write about it: **“At the beginning and during the performance of all that we do, when we go in and out of the house, when we dress ourselves, when we lie down to rest, in fact in everything, we mark ourselves . . . with the Sign of the Cross.”**

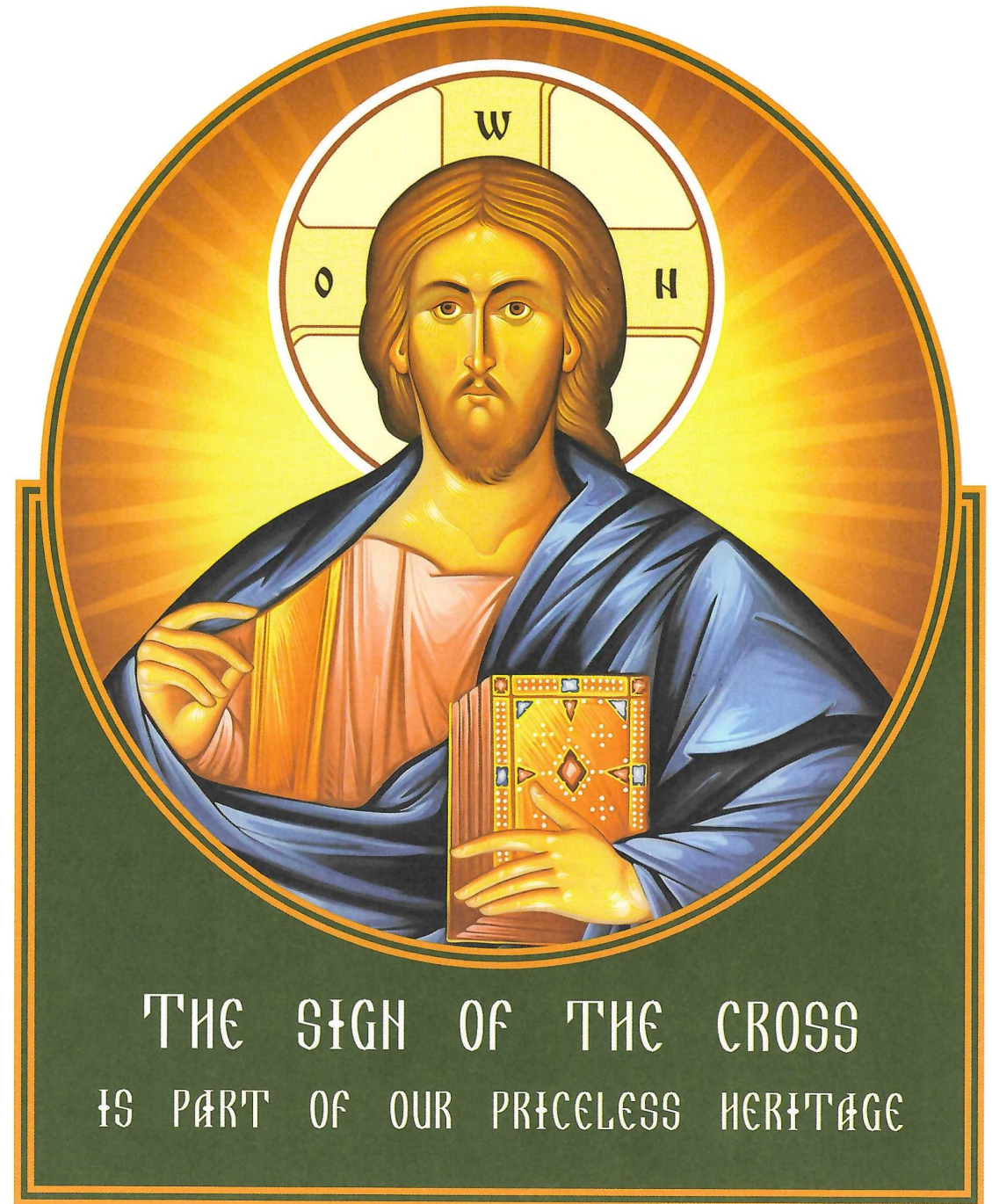
The act serves as an **IDENTIFICATION**. By blessing oneself, a person in essence says: **“I am a Christian; I belong to Christ.”** It is an act that harkens back to our Baptism when we were born into the family of Christ.

The act serves as a **CONFESSION** of faith. The two main beliefs of the Christian religion are professed by this sign. The three fingers together express our belief in the Holy Trinity: God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The two fingers down express our belief in the Incarnation: God the Son became Man and came down to earth to save us.

The act is a **PRAYER** in times of temptation. St. Anthony would say: **“There is no more powerful means to overcome temptations and gain victory than the sign of the Cross.”**

Both in private prayer and in public worship, making this gesture of faith is a profound witness of our religion. So simple, even a young child does it; so profound, it embraces the totality of the Christian faith. **AMEN.**

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.



# ST. HARALAMBOS SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 10, 2025

## 9TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

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

### AUGUST SCHEDULE

|            |                                                  |           |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| SUN AUG 10 | †9th Sunday of Matthew                           | 9:00 a.m. |
| MON AUG 11 | †Paraklesis Services                             | 6:30 p.m. |
| WED AUG 13 | †Paraklesis Services                             | 6:30 p.m. |
| THU AUG 14 | †Great Vespers<br>Dormition of the Theotokos     | 6:30 p.m. |
| FRI AUG 15 | †Dormition of the Theotokos                      | 9:00 a.m. |
| SUN AUG 17 | †10th Sunday of Matthew<br>Paniyri Family Picnic | 9:00 a.m. |
| SUN AUG 24 | †11th Sunday of Matthew                          | 9:00 a.m. |
| SUN AUG 31 | †12th Sunday of Matthew                          | 9:00 a.m. |

### SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

|             |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| TUE SEPT 2  | Silver Liners' Board Mtg.<br>Philoptochos Board Mtg.<br>Philoptochos Mtg.                                                                                          | 10:00 a.m.<br>5:00 p.m.<br>6:00 p.m. |
| SUN SEPT 7  | †Before the Holy Cross                                                                                                                                             | 9:00 a.m.                            |
| MON SEPT 8  | †Nativity of the Theotokos                                                                                                                                         | 9:00 a.m.                            |
| TUE SEPT 9  | Sunday School Kick-Off Meeting                                                                                                                                     | 6:00 p.m.                            |
| WED SEPT 10 | Choir Rehearsal                                                                                                                                                    | 6:00 p.m.                            |
| SUN SEPT 14 | †Elevation of the Holy Cross<br>Choir Begins<br>1st. Day of Sunday School<br>GOYA meeting - Youth Room<br>Sunday School S'mores Event-Tri-Room<br>Jr. GOYA meeting | 9:00 a.m.                            |

**BIG SALE! LOOK FOR THE BOOKSTORE'S  
DISPLAY OF GREETING CARDS IN THE  
UPCOMING WEEKS.**

**Tithe.ly Online  
Stewardship  
Payment Options**

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

SCAN ME



### ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

August 10, 2025 ~ TEAM C

### ST. HARALAMBOS PANIYRI FAMILY PICNIC



**AUGUST 17, 2025  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LITURGY**

### JUNIOR GOYA TRUNK-OR-TREAT

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025**

**Join the fun by decorating your  
trunk and handing out goodies!**

**Anyone interested, contact  
Marcia @ 330-309-3428**



### AFGLC/PETER & SOPHIA KOURMOLIS SCHOLARSHIP

Two scholarships will be awarded to college students (undergraduate or graduate) for the 2025 academic year.

To be considered, applicants or their parents must be Orthodox Christians and must submit their application and OFFICIAL transcript of their academic work by **August 15, 2025**.

Scholarship forms are available  
in the lobby.



## St. Haralambos Greek School

Greek School Classes will begin on  
September 23, 2025.

Classes will be on Tuesdays  
from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Tuition is \$40 per child for the year.

All students must be age 7+  
by December 31, 2025.

This year's Greek School teachers are:  
Eleni Paxos, Joanna Volas, Maria  
Fakelis, Marissa Kazes & Eleni Volas.

Registration forms can be found  
in the organizer located outside  
the church office.

## JOY Registration is Now Open!

Scan the QR Code with  
your phone's camera to  
access the registration link.

JOY is for children in  
Kindergarten through  
4th Grade.  
Registration Ends  
Sept. 7, 2025



Contact Stephanie Sakel with questions: 330.949.8085

**GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH**  
Metropolitan Savas  
invites YOU to  
the 2nd Annual

**Sat. Aug. 23rd**  
11am - 9pm

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

## GOMOPALOOZA

Are You a  
Musician,  
Band  
or Artist?

Want to  
Perform or  
Display Art?

Contact  
Fr. Joe  
DiStefano

frjdistefano@  
yahoo.com

Fun for  
All the  
Family!

2 Music  
Stages

Kids  
Games

Art & Craft  
Exhibits

Food &  
Beverages

Free  
Admission

**AUG. 23 2025**  
**MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL**

Free  
Parking

Scan me!



All Proceeds go to  
the GOMoP Youth &  
Young Adult Ministries

Bands  
Solo Acts  
Arts & Crafts

## SAVE THE DATE!

**WINE, DINE, & DANCE GLENDI**  
**OCTOBER 18, 2025**

*Hors d'oeuvres @ 5:00 p.m.*

*Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.*

*Tickets: Adult \$50 ~ Youth \$30*

*Call: Tina Wey 330-414-2912; Carol Capocci  
330-412-0022; Barb Lambrou 330-418-1034;  
Stephanie Machamer 330-704-8558 or the  
Church office 330-454-7278.*

*Tickets for this event will be sold in the  
lobby after church services.*

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Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος πλ. δ  
Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ Εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς  
τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς Ἦχος βαρύς  
Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς  
ἠδύναντο. Λάμπσον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἶδιον, πρεσβεΐαις τῆς  
Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

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

Κοντάκιον Ἦχος βαρύς  
Ἐπὶ τοῦ ὄρους μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς ἐχώρουν οἱ Μαθηταί σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστὲ ὁ  
Θεὸς ἐθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἴδωσι σταυρούμενον, τὸ μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν ἐκούσιον, τῷ δὲ  
κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἀληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τὸ ἀπαύγασμα.

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Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode pl. 4  
You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial,  
to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You!

Apolytikion of the Feast Grave Mode  
You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples  
Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine  
Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to  
You.

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 Grave Mode  
Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far  
as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they  
might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth  
You are the Father’s radiance.

August 10, 2025 Ninth Sunday  
1 Corinthians 3:9-17



Epistle

The reading is from Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians.

Brethren, we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — each man’s work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and that temple you are.

August 10, 2025 Prayer of the Gospel  
Matthew 14:22-34



Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was out on the sea, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.” And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.” And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.