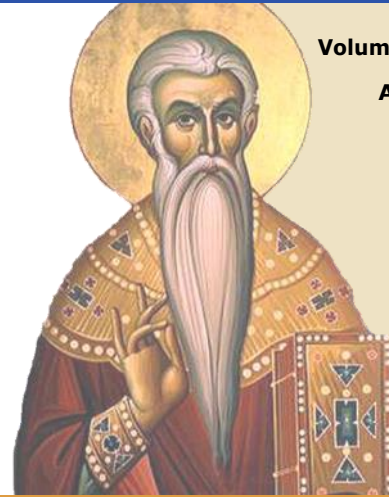


in Touch

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April-May 2019



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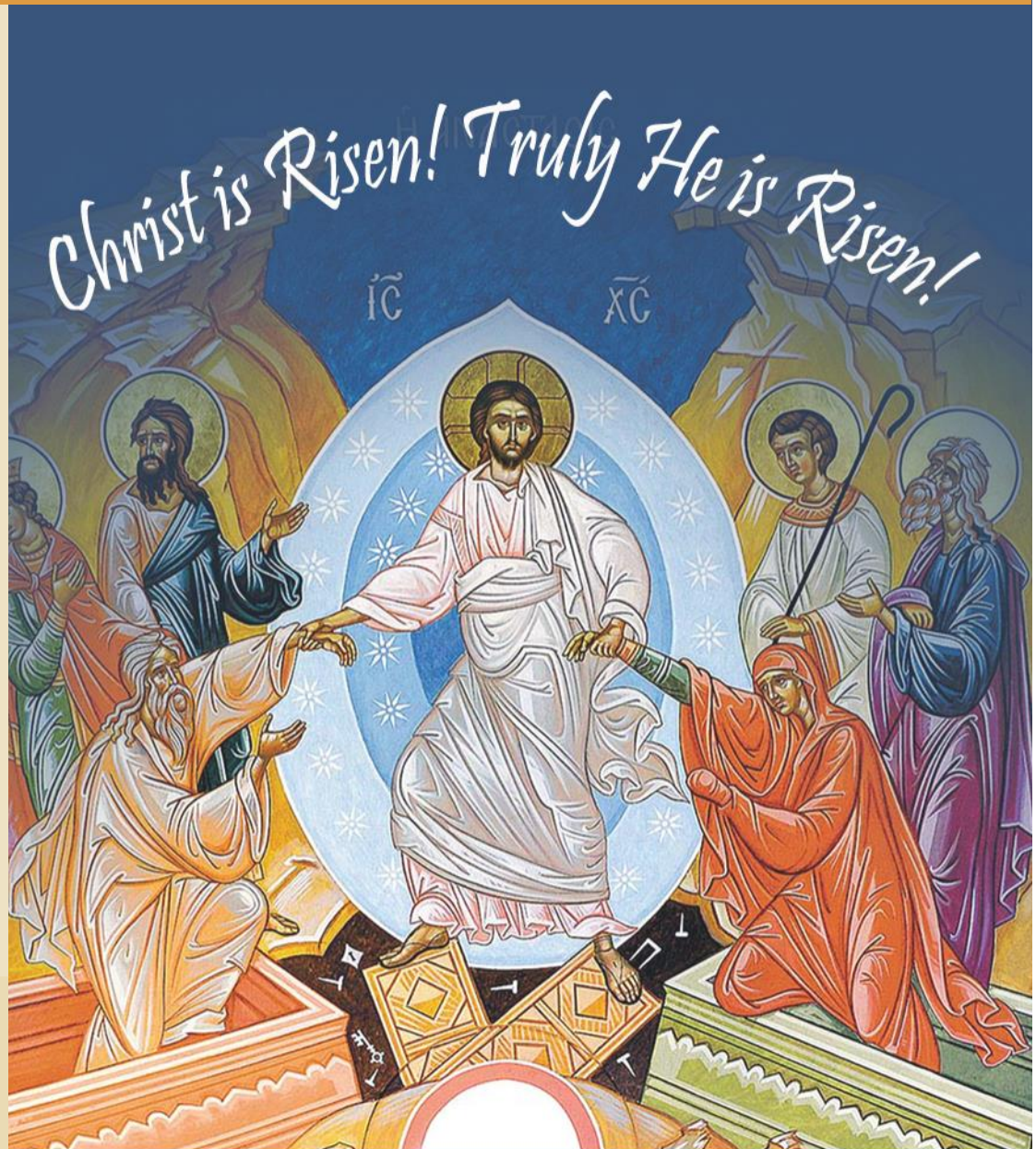
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Christos Anesti! Al Massih Qam! Khristos Voskrese!

Sunday, April 28

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

District Oratorical Festival

Our church community will be hosting the Southwest District Oratorical Festival on Saturday, Apr. 6, beginning at 1 pm. Top junior and senior division speakers from the local parish festivals will be presenting their talks to a new slate of judges. Following the speeches, everyone will enjoy fellowship and dinner together. Winning speakers will move on to the Metropolis Festival on May 4 – 5 at Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in Dunlap, California.



Open House



We will be hosting an Open House for our neighbors on Saturday, May 11 from 11 am – 3 pm. The purpose is to welcome local residents and give them an opportunity to learn about our parish and about Orthodox Christianity.

Hot dogs, coleslaw, cookies and drinks will be offered at no charge, and Fr. Michael will be giving a brief talk in the church at 1:30 pm. Volunteers able to help for this event are asked to contact parish council members Anna Kinniburgh or Paul McGinn.

8th Annual Arizona Walk for Missions

Enjoy a beautiful walk around the pond and help support the Orthodox Christian Missions Commission at Kiwanis Park in Tempe, on Saturday, May 4 from 8 am – 9:30 am. This Pan-Orthodox event brings parishioners together to enjoy fellowship and learn about the missions programs of OCMC.

Please see John Hrapchak for further details and registration/donation forms.

Kiwanis Park, Tempe, AZ

Direction from I-10: exit Baseline East. Turn South (right) on Mill. Turn right onto All American Way. Take the first Right into the (first) Parking Area. Proceed to the water: Ramadas #11 & #12 by the bathrooms.

Directions from 101: exit Baseline West. Turn South (left) on Mill. Turn right onto All American Way. Take the first Right into the (first) Parking Area. Proceed to the water: Ramadas #11 & #12 by the bathrooms.

Debt Free 2020

By Dean Milonas, Treasurer

Owe no one anything, except to love one another.
(Romans 13:8)

We recently received a memorial donation of \$410,000 from Mary and Arthur Manos. The Parish Council has agreed that applying these funds toward our mortgage reduction would be the most logical course of action for the wellbeing of our community while still leaving over \$100,000 in savings to cover any unforeseen emergencies. We currently owe \$511,074 and are on track to spend \$207,000 in interest. If we apply these funds towards the mortgage principle, we would save the Church over \$200,000. Every month we delay, we are unnecessarily spending over \$2,000 for nothing.

The next goal would be to pay off the remainder of the mortgage by the end of the year. This would resolve our ongoing budget deficit problem we've had over the last

several years. Our mortgage payment is \$52,300 annually, our current budget deficit is \$29,000. Being free of our mortgage burden would change the budget deficit to a surplus of \$23,000. We would like to start a "Mortgage Payoff" campaign and encourage everyone to take part in helping this come to fruition.

We want to keep you all informed and will not take any action until we receive your approval at the General Assembly meeting on May 19. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me prior to the meeting.

May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless our community as we move forward and help us to focus on pleasing Him in our actions.





Hope in the Resurrection

Fr. Anthony Coniaris, Pastor Emeritus of St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church in St. Paul, Minneapolis, having served the parish for 44 years, is one of the most prolific contemporary Orthodox Christian authors. His books are readily available from virtually every Orthodox Christian supplier.

One of the favorites I have enjoyed, is the collection of his sermons, which show not just a ready theological understanding of a given subject, but a very down-to-earth way of engaging his parishioners with real-world stories and examples.

I hope you enjoy the following timely sermon as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection this month.

"Three of the saddest words in the English language are: "We had hoped..." They capture some of the deepest pain, loss, and disillusionment human beings can feel. "We had hoped that our marriage would work out... We had hoped that our business venture would be more successful... We had hoped that life would treat us more fairly than it has... We had hoped that our son or daughter would turn out the way we wanted... We had hoped that illness would not be such a constant source of sorrow and financial drain... We had hoped that death would not separate us so soon or so unexpectedly... We had hoped that our child would be normal and healthy.

"Easter began as a "we had hoped" experience. Christ had warned his disciples that he would rise from the dead, but they missed the meaning of his promise. And who wouldn't? We just don't expect the dead to rise. Nothing seems so permanent to us as death. We had hoped! Right after Jesus was killed, a couple of his disciples were slowly making their way to the town of Emmaus with very heavy hearts. Their dreams about the way life was going to

be had been shattered. They saw the crucifixion of Jesus as an end to all their hopes and dreams for the future. They didn't remember the words of Jesus when he had told them, "You have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and then you will rejoice and no one can rob you of that joy." (John 16:22) "The disciples were not looking forward to seeing Jesus again, and when they were told that He was no longer in the tomb, they thought His body had been stolen. As the two disciples walked along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they were talking about Christ's death when suddenly Jesus Himself came and walked beside them. But they didn't recognize Him.

"He looked at their sad faces and said, 'What are you so concerned about?' 'Haven't you heard?' one of them named Cleopas said. 'You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about the terrible things that happened there last week.' "Jesus listened as they poured out their sad tale to Him, about the wonderful Jesus of Nazareth who had done such great miracles that they were sure He was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel, but the religious leaders had handed Him over to the Roman government and He had been crucified. The men spoke as if they had just witnessed the greatest tragedy the world had ever known. 'We had hoped,' they said, 'that this Jesus was going to liberate Israel.' On top of it all, they said, the body of Jesus was missing from the tomb. And some women said they'd seen angels who told them that Jesus was alive. The men seemed certain that the last bit of news could only be a fairy tale. "Then Jesus said to them, 'You are such foolish people! You find it so

They saw the crucifixion of Jesus as an end to all their hopes and dreams for the future.

(Continued on page 5)



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**

www.stharalambos.org

Rev. Michael Pallad

Sunday Worship

Matins: 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

Office

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Office@StHaralambosAZ.com
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

Hours

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Parish Council

Jean Baxter
Olga Carlson
John Hrapchak
Anna Kinniburgh
Ted Manos
Paul McGinn
Dean Milonas

Birthdays

April

Areti Karandreas (3)
Noah Solomon (3)
Kyla Waters (3)
Ms. Kyla Waters (3)
Abraham Durgam (5)
Sophia Karandreas (6)
Chris Fredericksen (7)
Jovany Zarate (7)
Miss Brynn Bowen (9)
Stefanos Macrides (12)
Barbara Savaidis (12)
Dennis Germenis (14)
Almaz Berhe (15)
Paula Farr (15)
Nardos G Yohannes (15)
Kimon Ayan (18)
Jeff Farr (20)
Georgia Trakas (20)
Julia Houser (21)
Katelyn Pritchard (22)
Melanie Singleton (22)
Roy Christian (28)
Eve Devolites (30)

May

Beylul Russom (1)
William Georgen (3)
Charlotte Servetes (5)
Shirley Germenis (8)
Despina Tremoulis (8)
Megan Pallad (10)
Mrs. Vickie Bowen (12)
Tamara Kurilova (12)
Roy Dent (13)
Hermela Desta (13)
Lourdes Kotsobeis (16)
Tony Panousopoulos (18)
Voule Kapetanakis (19)
Alexandra Pallad (19)
Panagiotis Levendi (20)
Nicoletta Theoharatos (21)
Constance Waters (21)
John Zafiroopoulos (22)
Kosta Christakos (23)
Yiorgos Papamatheakis (23)
Genet Tesfay (23)
Anita Calivas (26)
Katherine Stithem (26)
Ann Morley (28)
Mrs Christy Zarate (28)
Barbara Hartsel (29)

If you don't see your name, or those of family members, and would like to be included on the monthly birthday listing, please send the information to the church office.

Spring General Assembly

Sunday, May 19, is the date for our parish spring General Assembly. The agenda is being mailed separately, indicating the topics on the agenda. Everyone is encouraged to stay to listen to

the presentations and to stay informed about future plans for our parish. The Philoptochos will be preparing a light lunch in order to enjoy fellowship together before the assembly begins.

Lenten Food Drive

We continue to support the Valley View Community Food Bank in El Mirage. Started in 2007, the Food Bank now serves 300,000 people per year. During Lent, please bring your canned or boxed (non-

perishable) foods to the church and place them in the collection bin in the Observation Area (where Sunday refreshments are served).

Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers

Please join our Brothers & Sisters at the host parishes for these Sunday Evening Lenten Vespers services. **All Vesper Services Begin at 6:00pm**

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

March 17, 2019
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85016
602-264-4863
Homilist: TBD

The Second Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019
Saints Peter & Paul OCA
1614 E. Monte Vista Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85006
602-253-9515
Homilist: TBD

Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross

March 31, 2019
St. Nikolas Serbian Orthodox Church
11640 N. 16th Pl.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
602-943-0941
Homilist: TBD

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

April 7, 2019
St. Ignatius of Antioch Orthodox Church
5515 E. Redmont Circle
Mesa, AZ 85215
480-892-6224
Homilist: TBD

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 14, 2019
St. John the Baptist Romanian Orthodox Church
3749 W. Behrend Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85308
623-582-3150
Homilist: TBD

Memory Eternal

May God grant eternal rest to the soul of his servant, Angela Hapgood, who fell asleep in the Lord on Mar. 11. Angela was a long-time and very active parishioner of both St. Haralambos Church and Holy

Trinity Cathedral. Services were held at Holy Trinity Cathedral at 10am on Friday, Mar. 15.

May her memory be eternal.

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Stella Pagos, President

St. Anna's Philoptochos, Chapter 4052, met on Sunday, Mar. 10 and the following commitments were discussed and voted on:

National

- Christian Mission Center: \$75
- Support a Mission Priest: \$75

Metropolis

- Social Welfare, Emerg. Relief: 400

Palm Sunday Luncheon

We will again be celebrating Palm Sunday with a delicious Fish Luncheon on Sunday Apr. 21. Adult tickets are \$12 each and children under twelve are \$6. Please make your reservations now. On that day we will also be sponsoring a Deli/Bake Sale, so plan to shop for your Easter giving, and enjoy lunch and fellowship!

Resurrection Service

We welcome any finger foods you would like to share at the resurrection reception. Please bring your dish to the kitchen before the service.

How you can help:

- Become a Philoptochos member.
- Host a Sunday Coffee Hour. Please see Anna Kinniburgh to sign up.
- Make a free-will donation into the Coffee Hour donation basket.
- Shop at the Deli/Bake Sales.
- Join us at our annual Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon.
- Link your Fry's card to the Fry's Community Rewards Program. (See or call Stella Pagos, 623-975-0027, for more information on how to participate.)

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Apr. 7 at 12:00 pm.



Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts.

March

- 3: Anna Kinniburgh & Kathie Harvey
- 10: Available (Cheese Fare Sunday)
- 17: Milonas Family
- 24: Philoptochos
- 31: Genet Tesfay & Almaz Asfaha

April

- 7: Available
- 14: Available
- 21: Palm Sunday Luncheon
- 28: Easter Sunday

May

- 5: Available
- 12: Available
- 19: Available
- 26: Available

Note: due to publication printing deadlines, any changes to the coffee hour listings will be noted in next month's newsletter.



Clergy Column

(Continued from page 3)

hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted by the prophets that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering His time of glory?'

"Then Jesus quoted them passage after passage from the writings of the prophets, beginning with the book of Genesis and going right on through the Scriptures explaining what the passages meant and what they said about himself (Luke 24:25-27). "By this time they were coming near the town of Emmaus, and since it was getting late, the two men asked the stranger to spend the night with them. They still had not recognized Him! Jesus came home with them, and when 'they sat down to eat, he asked God's blessing on the food and then took a small loaf of

bread and broke it and was passing it over to them, when suddenly – it was as though their eyes were opened – they recognized Him!' (Luke 24:3-31) "At last they believed. The Risen Savior had come to them in their despair. In the midst of our shattered dreams and our broken hopes, in the midst of all our "if onlys" and devastated expectations, in the midst of all our "we had hoped" experiences, the Risen Christ comes even today to bring hope and victory.

We had hoped! The risen Christ has liberated us from such pessimism. That is why as we light our Easter candles we sing full of hope and joy: Christ is risen! Christ is risen, and the demons have fallen. Christ is risen, and the tombs have been emptied of their dead. Christ is risen, and life is liberated."

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service 7:30pm Video: The Journey Begins	3 6:00pm Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts 7:00pm Lenten Fellowship Dinner	4	5 7:00pm Akathist Hymn, 4th Stanza	6 1:00pm Southwest District Oratorical Festival
7 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 4th Sunday of Lent 6:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers (St. Ignatius, Mesa)	8	9 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service 7:30pm Video: Christ's Passion	10 6:00pm Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts 7:00pm Lenten Fellowship Dinner	11	12 7:00pm Akathist Hymn, Complete	13
14 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 5th Sunday of Lent 6:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers (St. John, Glendale)	15	16 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service 7:30pm Video: Christ's Resurrection	17 6:00pm Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts 7:30pm Lenten Fellowship Dinner	18	19	20 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Lazarus 10:30am Breakfast & Palm Crosses
21 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday 12:00pm Baked Fish Luncheon 6:00pm Bridegroom Matins Service	22 HOLY WEEK 7:00pm Bridegroom Matins Service	23 7:00pm Bridegroom Matins Service	24 9:00am Divine Liturgy 6:00pm Sacrament of Holy Unction	25 9:00am Divine Liturgy 6:00pm 12 Passion Gospels	26 9:00am Royal Hours 11:00am Youth Retreat 3:00pm Vesper Service Descent from the Cross 7:00pm The Lamentations Procession of the Epitaphios	27 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:15pm Resurrection Service and Divine Liturgy
28 PASCHA/ EASTER 1:00pm The Agapi/ Love Vespers Youth Easter Egg Hunt	29	30				

MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 9:00am Arizona Walk for Missions
5 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Thomas Sunday 12:00pm Philoptochos Meeting and Elections	6	7 10:00am Bible Study	8	9	10	11 11:00am Parish Open House
12 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Mother's Day	13	14 10:00am Bible Study	15	16	17	18
19 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Spring General Assembly	20	21 10:00am Bible Study	22	23	24	25
26 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	27	28 10:00am Bible Study	29	30	31	