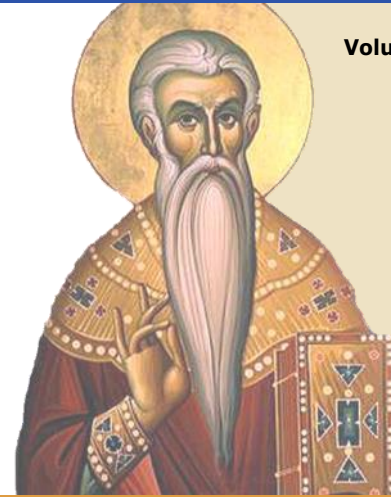


in Touch

Volume 28, Issue 4

April 2020



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Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

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



A lot can happen in a month!

Last month we were enjoying the success of the Peoria Greek Fest, and although we were all aware of the coronavirus, social distancing was not a common phrase, schools were still in session, and we had no thoughts of livestreaming our church services.

Today we are looking toward the next few weeks as the potential peak in the number of infected people in Arizona, and it is not likely that we (and all other Orthodox churches) will be celebrating Holy Week together this year.

Looking outside our community, we're seeing businesses and schools close, which means people out of work, students potentially missing their graduation, and hospitals and healthcare workers overwhelmed with the numbers needing medical attention.

Yes, everyday life has changed quite a bit over the past month, and it is not likely to return to normal for several more months. We're being forced to adapt, to come up with solutions to problems many of us have never faced. No one has all the answers, which is why we need to calmly listen to one another, work together, stay connected, and behave with kindness and compassion towards all people.

Our parish leadership is preparing plans to effectively reach out, in an organized way, to our members to assess needs and see how our church can respond to those needs. Everyone can help by staying in touch via email and/or phone and let us

know of any urgent conditions or situations within your, or fellow parishioner's, families.


We are live-streaming Sunday morning services as well as weekday services on our Facebook page. These can be viewed by anyone with internet access by going to Facebook.com and searching for Saint Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria, Arizona.

We will be sending notices regarding Holy Week and Easter services, and remind all that whether we celebrate together as a Church or at home as a family, the Resurrection is as real, as powerful and as true today as it was when Mary Magdalene and the apostles discovered the empty tomb.

If we are not able to sing "Christ is Risen" together, sing it alone or with your family; if we cannot light candles together at the Resurrection service, light a candle in your home. Do not spend your time despairing about things we can't do; find ways to enjoy the things we can!

Christ is Risen!

*the Resurrection is as real,
as powerful and as true
today as it was when Mary
Magdalene and the
apostles discovered the
empty tomb*



**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**
www.stharalambos.org
Rev. Michael Pallad

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

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

Parish Council

Philip Bell	Ted Manos
Angie Cholas	Dean Milonas
Roy Christian	Ken Wrona
John Hrapchak	Valla Wrona
Anna Kinniburgh	

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Reni Milonas, President

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).



Metropolis Philoptochos President Jeanie Ranglas held a conference call with all of the Philoptochos Presidents via Zoom. Here are some excerpts from the meeting:

Jeannie opened with the words about not being dismayed about the brokenness of the world today with the Coronavirus, but that all things can be made whole and that each of us should go into the world with love.

Jeannie announced the Kids'n' Cancer Reception in California has been cancelled. Regarding the virus, it was mentioned that our older population may feel very isolated and that we could reach out to them to see what they may need. A recommendation was made that we could send a supportive letter or a call.

The conference call was very productive and we will meet via Zoom in a few months.

While everyone is social distancing and the church services, meetings, bible study

etc. are canceled, the Palm Sunday Luncheon has been cancelled as well.

Pray for the people infected and that a vaccine and cure will be found soon. Stay in touch with one another and be kind to one another. Remember, this too shall pass.

April's commitments:

National: Sisterhood of St. Basil Academy-\$25, IOCC-\$350

Metropolis: Kids 'N' Cancer-\$500

Our scheduled commitments for various charities for the year 2019-2020 total \$4,728. This is why your continued support is so vital to help us achieve our goals.

How you can help

- Become a Philoptochos member.
- Host a Sunday Coffee Hour.
- 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. (Enter the St. Haralambos Church Account #VJ497 when enrolling.)

Parish Council

Members: Phillip Bell, Roy Christian, Angie Cholas, John Hrapchak, Anna Kinniburgh, Ted Manos, Dean Milonas, Ken Wrona, and Valla Wrona.

We miss our dear Brother in Christ George Semancik. May his memory be eternal!

As Fr. Michael advised the Parish Council at the meeting on Mar. 12, changes are being made due to COVID-19. The Metropolis has recommended exchanging touching practices, such as the kissing of icons and the kiss of peace, with non-touching practices, such as venerating without touching and bowing to our neighbors. In the ensuing days, we have also learned that the services of Lent have been canceled. All Metropolis and CDC recommendations are being followed.

Fr. Michael has sought out and set up an account with Bright Arrow Technologies (www.brightarrow.com) to improve church communications. Bright Arrow offers mass communication via email, text and phone calls. The minimum cost will be \$300 per year for 150 people. One of our parishioners has donated the cost of the first year.

The Strategic Planning Committee is working diligently to review the results

provided by Survey Monkey and the written responses. A report is being developed for the parish and will be available soon.

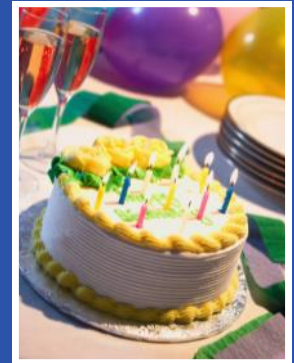
The council is looking at ways to address our budget deficit. Parishioners ideas are always welcome.

As the Lenten and Sunday services have been closed to parishioner participation, though they are being live-streamed on our Facebook page, please remember to mail in your stewardship and any donations you can to help us stay afloat through this crisis. The address may be found on the website.

Also, since we are no longer dropping off food donations at the church, please consider donating online to the Valley View Food Bank, www.feedingaz.org. I would imagine that those in need are having a particularly difficult time right now. The website accepts both monthly and one-time donations. If you would rather send a check, please call them at 623-933-3358, to confirm that they are taking checks.

The next parish council meeting is scheduled for Apr. 9 at 6:30 pm.

Birthdays



Areti Karandreas (3)
Noah Solomon (3)
Kyla Waters (3)
Abraham Durgam (5)
Ms. Adonna Moges (5)
Miss Anastasia Rivera (5)
Sophia Karandreas (6)
Chris Fredericksen (7)
Jovany Zarate (7)
Stefanos Macrides (12)
Barbara Savaidis (12)
Dennis Germetis (14)
Almaz Berhe (15)
Paula Farr (15)
Mrs Nardos G Yohannes (15)
Ms Annastasia White (17)
Jeff Farr (20)
Ari Harris (20)
Georgia Trakas (20)
Julia Houser (21)
Katelyn Pritchard (22)
Melanie Singleton (22)
Roy Christian (28)
Eve Devolites (30)

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

APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 7:00pm Akathist Hymn (Complete)	4
5 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 5th Sunday of Lent	6	7 7:00pm Lenten Compline Service	8	9	10	11 9:00am Divine Liturgy Lazarus Saturday
12 7:45am Matins 9:00am Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday 6:00pm Eve of Holy Week: Christ the Bridegroom	13 Holy Monday 7:00pm Christ the Bridegroom	14 Holy Tuesday 7:00pm Christ the Bridegroom	15 Holy Wednesday 9:00am Divine Liturgy 4:00pm Holy Unction 7:00pm Holy Unction	16 Holy Thursday 9:00am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm 12 Passion Gospels	17 Holy Friday 9:00am Royal Hours 3:00pm Vespers: Descent from the Cross 7:00pm Lamentations	18 Holy Saturday 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:15pm Resurrection Service
19 Easter Sunday/ Holy Pascha 1:00pm Vespers of Love	20	21	22	23 9:00am Divine Liturgy George the Great Martyr	24	25
26 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Thomas Sunday	27	28	29	30		