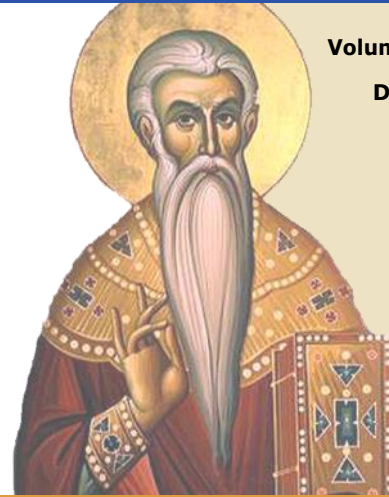


in Touch

Volume 26, Issue 12

December 2018



The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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*Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and his name shall be called Emmanuel.*



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

Christmas Services

Beginning with the Reading of the Royal Hours of Christmas at 9 am on Monday morning, Dec. 24, there are several opportunities to gather together for Christmas worship services. Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy will begin at 6 pm, and Christmas Day liturgy will begin at 9 am.

Let's come together, as one parish family, to praise, adore and worship the sacred birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



Gathering of Prayer

As we close out this year and approach the Nativity season with its focus on gratitude and charitable giving, it's a great time to say both 'thank you' and 'welcome' to our prayer partners.

Thank you to all of our Gathering of Prayer members for your generous gifts of spiritual charity throughout the last year. I have been privileged to receive many thanks directed to you from parishioners for your prayers on behalf of their loved ones. Your prayers provide so much comfort to others!

This year our prayer group resurrected an old Orthodox tradition of the Bright Week cemetery visitation. We went to Sunland Memorial Park to share the joy of the

Resurrection with our departed and visit their gravesites. Thank you to all who came out with us!

During our 'giving season' I'd like to invite you to join us by adopting one of the days in our Memorial Akathist prayers for our newly departed parish members. Your "20 Minute Gift" of prayer doesn't cost any money but is extremely valuable to someone who has just fallen asleep in the Lord – and is a great comfort to family. Contact Kay if you have questions about what we do.



May the Lord bless you with peace during the coming year.



The Holy Land

Angie Cholas and Ted Manos will be giving a pictorial presentation of the Holy Land at the coffee hour on Dec. 16. Please join us for this event. We had a lot of spiritually interesting experiences that we want to share with the congregation.

Perryville Prison Crochet Ministry

Thank you to all who are continuing to donate yarn for the Perryville Prison Crochet Ministry! The women depend on our donations to continue their ministry. Our parish has become their sponsor, and they are very grateful for giving them the materials to help put their creative skills and talents to good use.

All donated yarn is delivered to the prison each month. Finished items are donated to Phoenix Children's Hospital and Maggie's House to benefit children and families.

Yarn donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday 10 am to 3 pm, or after Sunday services. The donation box is in the observation area where refreshments are served on Sunday morning.





Calling All Angels!

No, you don't need wings or even a halo. You only need to open up your eyes and your heart, to see and respond with love to those in need. They are here in our community, in every community.

We can pretend they are not here, or that they really aren't in need, or that they should take care of their own needs without the assistance of others. Or we can be angels, love our neighbors as ourselves, move outside of the boxes we too often place around ourselves, open up our eyes and hearts and see that the needs of our neighbors are real.

We have an Angel Tree set up in the Observation Area filled with opportunities to show love to our neighbors. Of course not all needs can be written down and hung on a tree; but some of them are, and in most cases, can easily be met.

St. Haralambos Church is providing food and gifts for 10 Peoria families in need. All items will be picked up by City of Peoria staff on Monday, Dec. 17. It is a program we have been assisting for more than 20 years.

How did we get started?


For those who remember our previous location in Old Town Peoria, we were right across the street from the Peoria Community Center. City of Peoria staff sent a letter asking for help for

needy families during the holidays. In those days, once the food and gifts had been wrapped and boxed up, all we had to do was put them on a cart and walk them across the street!

When we moved to our current location, we assured the city staff that we would continue assisting with this program, but they would need to send a truck to pick up our donations. And this is what has been happening each year since.

Be an angel this Christmas for someone you've never met, someone you don't know, someone who can't repay your kindness. It's a wonderful feeling; the feeling we get when God touches our hearts saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

*Be an angel this
Christmas for
someone you've
never met*

**St. Haralambos
Greek Orthodox
Church**

www.stharalambos.org

Rev. Michael Pallad

Sunday Worship

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

Office

623-486-8665
7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383
Office@StHaralambosAZ.com
FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

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

Parish Council

Olga Carlson	Paul McGinn
Anna Kinniburgh	Nardos Russom
Elizabeth Martell	Solomon Woldesilassie

Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 9. We will hear from parishioners about what Christian Stewardship means to them. The Parish Council will be hosting a special lunch after services in the Fellowship Room. Everyone is welcome, and there is no cost for this lunch.

The 2019 Stewardship forms were sent via US mail, and extras are available in the church office. Everyone is asked to prayerfully consider your stewardship of St. Haralambos Church for 2019, willingly and cheerfully giving of your time, talents and treasures for the benefit of the Church, and for our continued spiritual growth.

When we recognize that everything we have: health, wealth, time and talents, are all gifts from God, there should be no hesitation in offering those gifts to build up His Church and to glorify His name. To exercise good stewardship is to use God's gifts in ways that glorify Him and build up His Church. This means using our gifts for the benefit of others, giving a portion of our time and treasure for the strengthening of the Church.

When we realize our dependency on God's divine care and blessings, sharing our gifts from Him with others and through His Church is a very natural and joyful response.

Birthdays



- Maria Nickolopoulos(1)
- Stella Pagos(1)
- Robyn Pappas(3)
- Olga Carlson(6)
- Ethel Nicholas(6)
- Kay Fulghum(9)
- Thomas Bryson(14)
- Daniel Martin(15)
- Leonidas Karandreas(17)
- Steve Mallos(17)
- Adrianna Micka(18)
- Sarah Savoy(18)
- Jean Baxter(19)
- Stella Kosta(20)
- Kathy Drivaras(21)
- Sheila Hrapchak(21)
- Christos Kotsobeis(25)
- Milton Agelastos(27)
- Brianna Selles(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.

Parish Council Elections

Voting for new parish council members will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2, following services. All parish Stewards who would like to vote must sign their name upon receiving a ballot and return the ballot to a member of the Elections Committee.

Candidates whose names will be on the ballot are: Jean Baxter, John Hrapchak, Ted Manos and Dean Milonas.

We thank the following Parish Council members for their service on the council, and whose terms expire at the end of this month: Elizabeth Martell, Solomon Woldesilassie and Nardos Yohannes.

Council members whose terms continue into 2019 are: Olga Carlson, Anna Kinniburgh and Paul McGinn.

Greek Festival



In just two months, the Annual Greek Festival will be upon us. This is your Festival and all hands and smiling faces are needed to make our Greekfest the best in the valley. If you have not already signed up to be a volunteer, please fill out the volunteer form and return it as soon as possible or email peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com Pastry and grounds preparations will be taking place in January. OPA!

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thanks to all who donated canned and boxed foods, pies, rolls, apples and turkeys for the 10 Peoria families we supported through the City of Peoria. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Stella Pagos, President

St. Anna's Philoptochos, Chapter 4052, met on Monday Nov. 5 and the following commitments were discussed and voted on:

National

- General Medical Fund: \$25
- UNICEF, Emerg. Children's Fund: \$25

Metropolis

- St. Nicholas Ranch: \$150
- BAPSAEF (Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund): \$500

Local

- Fisher House for Veterans: \$125

The month of December is a joyful month of giving and sharing as we anticipate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is also the time we reach out to all of our faithful to consider joining our Philoptochos chapter and help make a difference to those in need. Not only are you welcome to join us, you are needed. Please see any Philoptochos member for a membership form.

We will again be offering a special Memorial Service to be held at the end of Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 30 for

remembering our loved ones who have fallen asleep. Enter their names on the Dove form to be attached to the Dove Tree on display in the Sanctuary. Forms are available in the Social Hall. A nominal \$10 donation is appreciated.

Our extra-special December Deli/Bake Sale will be held two Sundays in a row, Dec. 16 and 23. We will be featuring Tsourekia, Kourabiedes, Koulourakia and Melomakarona for your Christmas enjoyment and gift giving. 8" x 8" pans of frozen spanakopita ready to be baked in your oven are also available.

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 (Dec. 16 and Dec. 23).
- 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 number, VJ497, when enrolling.)

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 3 starting with a Christmas Pot Luck Dinner at 6 pm.



The Way

Adult Education Series

The final Tuesday evening adult education class as part of the "The Way" series, will be Tuesday, Dec. 4, with the topic: Heaven on Earth: Members of the church and Citizens of Heaven.

This will conclude this year's adult education classes. Thank you to the parishioners who attended, and to Dena Waters for her delicious dinners!

Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts.

November

- 4: Philoptochos – General Assembly
- 11: Philoptochos
- 18: Philoptochos
- 25: Philoptochos

December

- 2: Caring Friends
- 9: Parish Counsel – Stewardship Sunday
- 16: Ted Manos & Angie Cholas
- 23: Available
- 30: Available

January

- 6: Available
- 13: Available
- 20: Available
- 27: Available

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



Festival Baking Schedule

JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 8:30am Tsourekia	12 8:30am Tsourekia
13	14	15	16	17	18 8:30am Melomakarouna Paximadia	19 8:30am Koulouria
20	21	22	23 8:30am Karithopita	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 8:30am Kourabiedes		

Name Days

Many years/*Chronia Polla* to those named after the following saints:

St. Myrope (2nd)
 St. Theodore of Alexandria (3rd)
 St. Barbara (4th)
 St. Savvas (5th)
 St. Nicholas (6th)
 St. Ambrose (7th)
 St. Daniel the Stylite (11th)
 St. Lucia (13th)
 St. Modestos (16th)
 St. Sebastian (18th)
 St. Juliane (21st)
 St. Anastasia (22nd)
 St. Eugenia, Virgin and Martyr (24th)
 Nativity of Christ (25th)
 St. Simeon (28th)
 St. Melania (31st)

FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 8:30am Baklava	5 8:30am Diples	6	7	8 OPA	9 OPA

Community Christmas Card

We will again be providing parishioners the opportunity to send Christmas greetings with a beautiful full-color icon greeting card to all our parish families. For each family name, the cost is just \$10.

Please print your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on the card. You may mail this form to the church office or sign up on Sundays during the Coffee Hour. Please make checks payable to: St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church. **The deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018.**

Please include my family's name in this year's Community Christmas Card.

Enclosed is my check for \$10.

(Please return to the church office)



Names (please print clearly)



SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Peoria, AZ 85383 • Tel.: (623) 486-8665 • Fax: (623) 486-5290
Web: www.stharalambos.org • E-mail: Office@StHaralambosAZ.com • FrMichael@StHaralambosAZ.com

September, 2018

Dear Community Friends,

The 2019 Peoria Greekfest will be held February 8, 9, & 10, 2019 at St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church located at 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road. The Festival Planning Committee is currently seeking sponsors, donors and raffle/gift items for the event. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce and promote your business.

Celebrating 32 continuous years, the Peoria Greekfest is the only Greek Festival in the greater west/northwest valley and thousands of residents and visitors attend each year. Check out www.peoriagreekfest.com for a peek at what the Festival has to offer.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at 623-486-8665 or contact me at peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com.

We hope that you will join us at the 2019 Peoria Greekfest for a spectacular weekend of homemade Greek cuisine, pastries, live entertainment and fun for all ages. OPA!

Sincerely,

Pam Lemons
Festival Chairman

Encl. 2019 Greekfest Sponsorship Form

ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Peoria Greek Festival - February 8, 9, 10, 2019

SPONSORSHIP/DONATION FORM

Company/Individual Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____

PLEASE INDICATE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

Check One	Type	Amount	Benefit
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOLD	\$10,000	Corporate tent Company name/logo in promotional materials Event Sponsorship banner Recognition in event program Verbal recognition during event VIP Parking and 10 dinner tickets <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SILVER	\$5,000	Company name/logo in all promotional materials Event sponsorship banner Recognition in event program Verbal recognition at the event <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	BRONZE	\$1,000	Event sponsorship banner Recognition in event program <i>(Banner placement determined by event staff.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLYMPIAN	\$500	Business card/logo recognition in event program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATHENIAN	\$100	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARTAN	\$50	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	RAFFLE/DOOR PRIZE DONATION (please specify - food, gift card, etc.)	\$25	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER DONATION	\$ _____	Name recognized in event Program

***Please provide logo or business card in digital format to:
peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com
Deadline for inclusion in the event program is January 4, 2019***

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!

Please return completed form to:

Attn: Peoria Greekfest

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Peoria, AZ 85383

For tax purposes, St. Haralambos Church Federal Tax ID Number is: 86-0594146

2019 Greek Festival: February 8, 9, & 10
VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

I am available to work the following booths:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Festival Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Fry Station/Saganaki | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Coffee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gyros/Souvlaki | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cream | <input type="checkbox"/> Imports/Deli | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> Loukoumades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main Food Line | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastries | <input type="checkbox"/> Raffle/Door Prizes | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Runner | <input type="checkbox"/> Taverna | <input type="checkbox"/> Floater (where needed) | | |

Please note physical/other limitations which may inhibit working in a specific area:

I am available to work the following shifts:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Friday</u> | <u>Saturday</u> | <u>Sunday</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4pm to 10pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 11am to 4pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 11am to 3pm |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 4pm to 10pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 3pm to 7pm |

I am available to help with the following Pre-Festival and Post-Festival needs:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Pastry Preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> General Supplies/Inventory/Runner | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up (week prior to Festival) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flyer/Signage Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Tear down/Clean up (Monday following Festival) | |

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Your assignment will be confirmed. If you cannot fulfill your assignment,
please call Desi: 623-363-1859 or the Church office: 623-486-8665.
Please return this form as soon as possible. Thank you!

2019 Greek Festival: February 8, 9, & 10
VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

I am available to work the following booths:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Festival Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Fry Station/Saganaki | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Coffee |
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Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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Please return this form as soon as possible. Thank you!

DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Parish Council Elections	3 6:00pm Philoptochos Christmas Pot Luck	4 9:00am Divine Liturgy Sts. Barbara, John of Damascus 10:00am Bible Study	5	6 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Nicholas 7:00pm Choir	7	8
9 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Stewardship Sunday	10	11 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Parish Council	12 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Spyridon	13 7:00pm Choir	14	15
16 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Holy Land Presentation	17	18 10:00am Bible Study	19	20 7:00pm Choir	21	22
23 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Christmas Program	24 9:00am Royal Hours of Christmas Christmas Eve 6:00pm Christmas Eve Liturgy	25 9:00am Divine Liturgy Christmas Day (church office closed)	26	27	28	29
30 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Parish Council Installation	31 New Year's Eve					