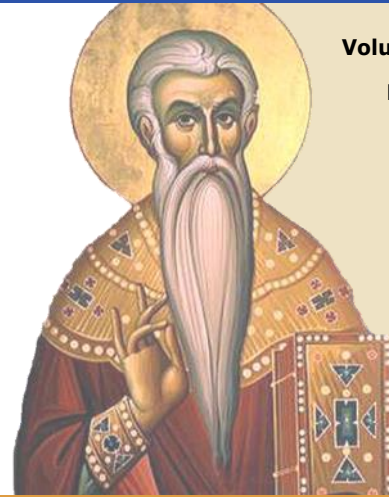


in Touch

Volume 28, Issue 2
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The Official Publication of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church

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33rd Annual PEORIA GREEKFEST 2020 Food & Dance Festival

Friday
February 7
4pm to 10pm

Saturday
February 8
11am to 10pm

Sunday
February 9
11am to 7pm

Authentic Homemade Greek Food & Pastries
Live Greek Music • Live Folk Dancing
Market Place • Children's Activities

General Admission: \$3 | Children & Active Military: **FREE**

St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church
7950 W Pinnacle Peak Rd, Peoria, IL 61614
www.peoriagreekfest.com | Follow us on Facebook | 623.486.1234
No Weapons or Pets



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

Mortgage Burning Dinner

Our Mortgage Burning Banquet, held Saturday, Jan. 11, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, was an unqualified and very enjoyable success!

We welcomed His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos who offered very inspirational words during the banquet.

Dinner was provided by John Mitchell catering, and music for enjoyment and dancing by Tony Bafaloukos.

Well-deserved thanks go to Banquet Chairwoman Anna Kinniburgh, and to all the Philoptochos members who helped prepare the delicious desserts and set up the beautiful hall.

One more milestone accomplished in the life of Saint Haralambos Church, Peoria, Arizona.



A Special Blessing

On Sunday, Jan. 12, Fr. Michael was elevated to the office of Ekonomos, a special blessing by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, in recognition of his 25 years serving St. Haralambos parish. Shown with Fr. Michael are His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, Presvytera Kristin, Alexandra and Megan Pallad.



Young Adults

St. Haralambos Young Adults met on Saturday, Jan. 18, at Thunderbird Park and enjoyed a beautiful day in nature while hiking the mountain trails.

More fun events and interesting discussions are planned in the months ahead. Contact James Seletos at jseletos09@gmail.com, or Alexandra Pallad at apallad@asu.edu for more information.

Please visit our Facebook page: [St. Haralambos Young Adult Ministry](#), for previous event photos and information on upcoming events!





33rd annual Greek Festival

2020 marks the 33rd annual Greek Festival hosted by St. Haralambos Church! Over the years we have welcomed thousands of families, friends and neighbors to our church where they've learned the identity of Saint Haralambos, all while enjoying some of the best home-made Greek foods and pastries available anywhere!

Yes, I'm biased, but it's a bias that comes with lots of experience, having tasted Greek food at many restaurants, Greek festivals and Greek islands!

The difficult part about hosting, of course, is that we're not able to enjoy the festival as we do when visiting other festivals. It's very nice to welcome visitors and watch as they enjoy the fruits of our labors, but it's also pretty tiring. But that's the job of the host!

Please, if you have yet to sign up to help for the festival: baking, working in a booth, or grounds set-up, please call the church office today.

We're bringing back hot-air balloon tether rides, and have, for the first time, a rock-climbing wall in the kid's area. We'll be enjoying music again by the fabulous Synthesi Greek band, along with a variety of vendors, church tours, and Greek folk dancing by our own young dancers.

Our parish feastday comes right after our festival, on Monday, Feb. 10. We will, as we always have, celebrate with Divine Liturgy in honor of Saint Haralambos, beginning at 9 am. Vespers will be celebrated at 5 pm on Sunday evening, Feb. 9.

As February comes to a close, we move right into Great Lent which begins on Monday, Mar. 2. We invite all parishioners to the Vespers of Forgiveness on Sunday evening, March 1st at 6 pm.

Also on Sunday, Mar. 1, we will be having our parish Oratorical Festival following the Divine Liturgy. This program is an opportunity for our young people to write and deliver speeches (and for adoring parents to listen!) on selected topics first in their home parish, then the top speakers move on to the district, Metropolis and finally, the Archdiocese festival, this year hosted in Denver, Colorado, where college scholarships are awarded to the top speakers.

As February comes to a close, we move right into Great Lent



**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

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

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Reni Milonas, President

Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor. Proverbs 22:9

St. Anna's Philoptochos met on Jan. 5 and the following commitments were discussed and approved – NATIONAL: Proceeds from Vasilopita Sunday, Social Services \$50, Cancer and Other Major Illness \$50, Autism \$100, St. Photios Shrine \$25 - METROPOLIS: Membership Dues \$40.

The Agape Ball was a huge success!! Thank you to everyone who attended the Ball, made a monetary donation and/or donated gift baskets. (All proceeds benefit the Kids n Cancer camp.)

Our next meeting is Sunday, Mar. 8 at 12 pm.

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.)



Stewardship

By Butch and Maria Lafayette, Stewardship Committee

It has been over a month since Stewardship Sunday this past Dec. 29, 2019, and we're pleased to share with you that 140 Stewardship forms were mailed to parishioners. Additionally, 34 Stewardship forms were sent via e-mail to our young adult community.

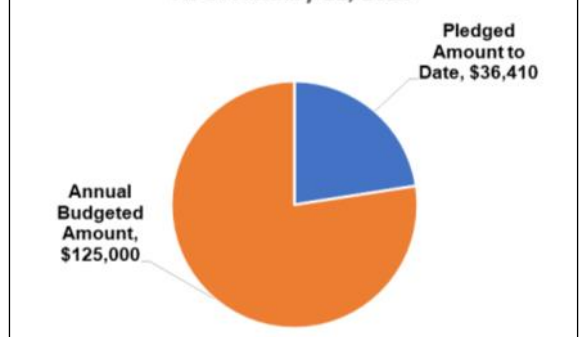
We are off to a wonderful start in meeting our 2020 budgeted Stewardship commitment. As of Jan. 21, nearly 30% of the Stewardship forms have been returned to the church. Parishioners have pledged \$36,400 which reflects approximately 29% of our 2020 Stewardship annual budget that was approved by the General Assembly on Dec. 5.

Paraphrasing the Metropolitan's words, having completed a major milestone in paying off the mortgage, we must look ahead to our next challenges (whatever they may be). I would like to remind all of us that Christ will guide us in a path He

wants us to follow, but it is Stewardship (our gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure) that will enable us to meet and even exceed our next challenges.

We ask that those who have yet to submit their 2020 Stewardship forms, prayerfully approach their 2020 commitment and provide their best gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure to St. Haralambos and return their forms to the church. Forms may be obtained through the church office or within the weekly bulletin which is e-mailed to all parishioners.

St. Haralambos 2020 Stewardship Budget Outlook
As of January 21, 2020



Sunday School

Sunday School continues for ages preschool through high school following communion. Newcomers are always welcome. There will be no Sunday School the Sunday of the Festival Feb 9.

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival will take place immediately following liturgy on Sunday Mar. 1. We all look forward to hearing our youth express their faith.

Special Thanks

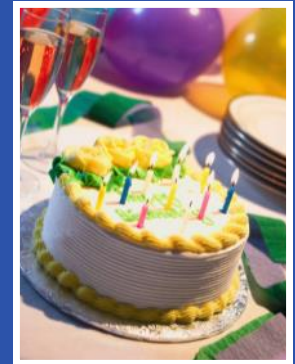
We are so excited to let you know! The fundraiser in 2019 for Brynn's bike chair to be built was a success and we made our goal. Brynn and our family wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who helped us reach our goal of getting a bike chair made for Brynn. We wanted to let everyone know who prayed and donated for our fundraiser that the chair has been built and is wonderful. It was specifically designed for her and was built by a wonderful company in Washington that provides this service to disabled people. We included a few pictures of the bike chair and Brynn in it so you can keep a lookout for her on the trails :). Brynn already had her first bike ride ever and loves it. She couldn't stop talking about it for a few days! Brynn is now a pro and has been out for a number of bike rides and loves being out on the trails and the wind hitting her face. She gets to experience the world in a way she



normally does not. It was also a huge blessing to be able to go out for a bike ride as a family for the first time. Thank you!

Love, The Bowens, Brynn, Sophie & Jason

Birthdays



- Christina Harris (1)
- Romulus Stoia (1)
- Koula Ratliff (5)
- Kenneth Wrona (9)
- Mr. Dennis Augoustatos (10)
- Erini Braddock (11)
- Anne Georgen (12)
- Olivia Nicholas (12)
- Emil Sprintz (17)
- Kaia White (19)
- Harry Calivas (02/24/0195)
- Dennis Georgen (24)
- Solomon Tesfay (24)
- Speros Zakas (24)
- Timothy Harvey (25)
- Robert Kinniburgh (25)
- Elizabeth Baxter (28)
- Stephanie Baxter (28)

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.

Memory Eternal

May God grant eternal rest to the souls of the following members of Saint Haralambos Church:

Jan Morin who fell asleep in the Lord on Nov. 13, 2019

Alice Hecht who fell asleep in the Lord on Dec. 4, 2019

Kimon Ayan, who fell asleep in the Lord on Dec. 7, 2019

Leonidas Karandreas who fell asleep in the Lord on Jan. 1

Pantelis Levendi who fell asleep in the Lord on Jan. 10

May God grant comfort to their families, and may their memory be eternal.



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

October, 2019

Dear Friends,

The 2020 Peoria Greekfest will be held February 7, 8 & 9, 2020 at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church located at 7950 W. Pinnacle Peak Road. We are currently seeking sponsors/donors for the event and have included a sponsorship form for your consideration. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce and promote your business.

Celebrating 32 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 623-486-8665 or contact peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

We hope that you will join us at the 2020 Peoria Greekfest for a spectacular weekend of homemade Greek cuisine, pastries, live entertainment and fun for all ages. OPA!

ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Peoria Greek Festival - February 7, 8, 9, 2020

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"/>	OLYMPIAN	\$1,000	Business card or logo recognition in event program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATHENIAN	\$500	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARTAN	\$100	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	DONOR	\$50	Name recognized in event Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER DONATION (gift card, etc.)	\$ _____	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 3, 2020

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

FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Presentation of Christ	3	4 10:00am Bible Study	5	6	7 4:00pm Peoria Greekfest	8 11:00am Peoria Greekfest
9 7:45am Matins 9:00am Divine Liturgy Tax Collector and Pharisee 11:00am Peoria Greekfest 5:00pm Parish Feastday Vespers	10 9:00am Divine Liturgy St. Haralambos	11 10:00am Bible Study	12	13	14	15
16 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Prodigal Son	17	18 10:00am Bible Study	19	20	21	22 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Souls
23 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Meatfare Sunday	24	25 10:00am Bible Study	26	27	28	29 9:00am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Souls