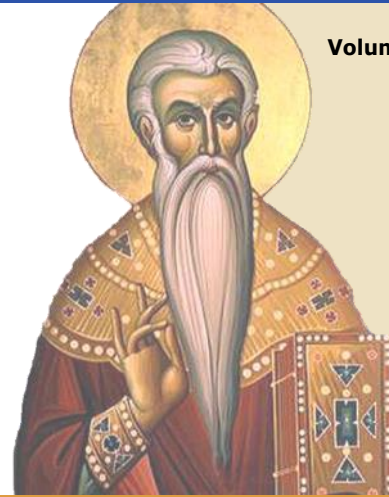


in Touch

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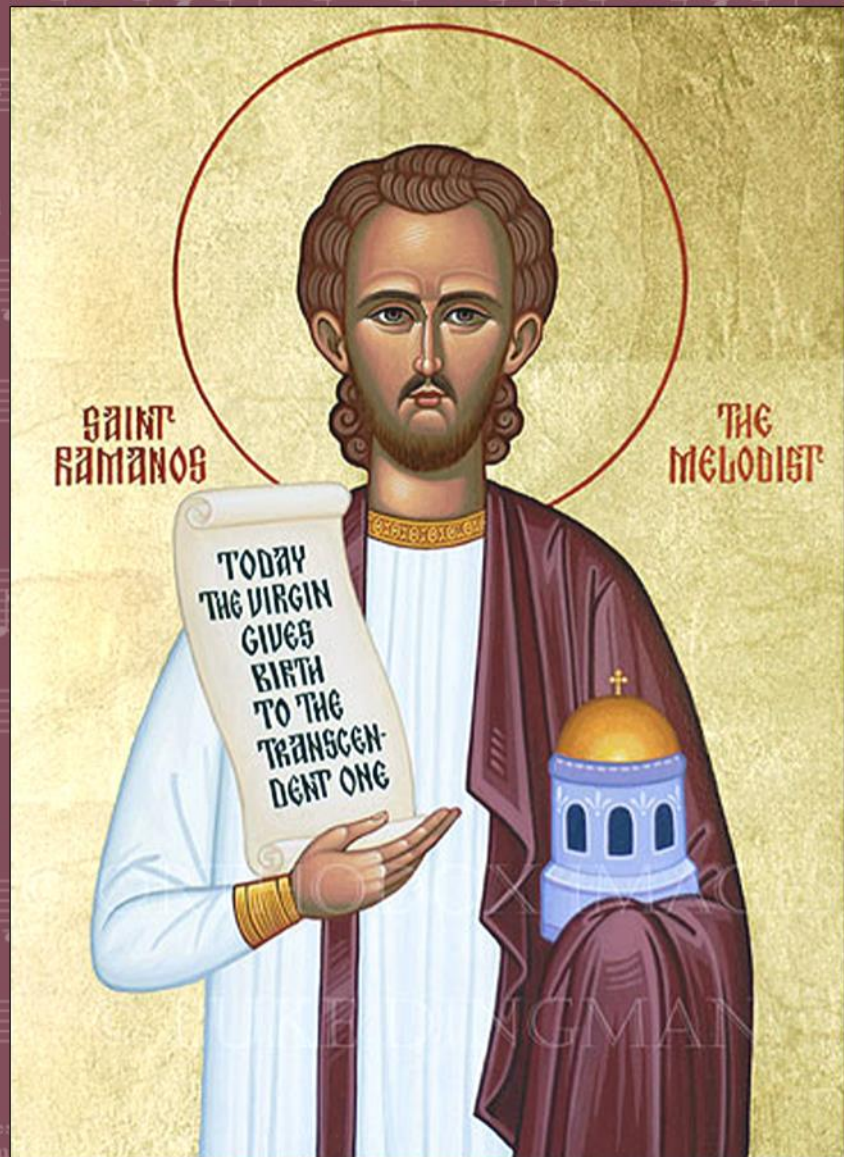
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National Church Music Sunday
Sunday, October 7

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

By Popular Request

Mary Manos, who fell asleep in the Lord last month at the age of 96, was one of the most dedicated parishioners in the history of Saint Haralambos Church. In addition, she was married for 63 years to her husband, Arthur, of blessed memory. At the celebration of her 50th wedding anniversary, Mary shared some words of wisdom regarding this milestone. Her words were read last month during her funeral service, and many have asked that we share them in this month's newsletter.

Golden Anniversary Marks 50 Years of Love

By Mary Manos

How does a couple stay together for 50 years? Very Carefully.

As the song says, "you've got to give a little, take a little and let the clouds roll by a little." Marriages that last are one long and careful negotiation. We had some friends who got out of it because they just tired of compromising.

Staying married is part luck, part work, part abracadabra. Jockeying for position starts the minute a couple opens their eyes. He does not want decaf, he wants high cholesterol bacon and eggs; she says he should have his bran cereal with fruit. Ask him to take out the garbage, but he has no time as he will be late for his tee time. And so, it goes week after week, year after year, until one day you wake up together and realize you have been locked in this 2-step dance for 50 years. You can't explain how you got here, except that day after day, it seemed the right thing to do.

Oh, you bet there were times when you were ready to throw in the towel. There were forgotten birthdays, sad holidays, football season, golf tournaments, late office commitments, and of course, there were days when the parents and the in-laws got in the way.

Later, as you become more settled, you fantasized about having the whole house to yourself for a week or maybe a

month. But it never worked out because you knew that you were needed to be there to say "Did you remember to take your pills?" "Your car keys are over there on the desk." "I don't know where you laid your glasses." "Do not forget to keep your dentist appointment." And, "Do not forget to lock the doors."

All these little rituals of communal life are the ones that stitch the marriage together and hold in its seams and sides and close its loose ends. You not only finish each other's sentences orally, but sometimes you do it mentally.

You know just when to bring up the subject of a new bedroom set or a new stove or even a new car, and you can prove that there is enough in the checkbook to do it.

Celebrating 50 years together with friends and relatives, there will be toasts, and a river of goodwill will be flowing across the couple as high points of their life together are reviewed, such as when Dwight Eisenhower was in the White House, Russians launched Sputnik, Joe DiMaggio wore a Yankee uniform, Jack Nicklaus was the top golfer, your trip to Greece and the Holy Land, and being baptized in the River Jordan.

There will be merriment, and everybody will have a good time, and as the couple of the hour, you will be gracious and thankful while you count your blessings in public. It was acquired through some quarrels, some scares and some raptures of ordinary Tuesdays and maybe some special Fridays.

After 50 years, anger has evaporated, hurts have mostly healed, passions have cooled, and many memories have been preserved. What is precious is being together, and being apart is unthinkable.

As our milestone is applauded, there will be only two people in the room who really know how they got here – 50 whole years! - and the rest of you will just have to envy their long and big secret.

Perryville Prison Crochet Ministry



and they are very grateful for giving them the materials to help put their creative skills and talents to good use.

The Crochet Ministry at Perryville Prison in Goodyear has grown considerably in the past six months. Each

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,

month more and more inmates are signing up to learn a new skill and contribute to making baby blankets, toys, hats and slippers. Each month we collect the finished items and they are given to Phoenix Children's Hospital and Maggie's House to benefit the children and families they serve.

Please help this ministry by donating yarn, either leftovers from finished projects, or by purchasing new yarn from a local craft store. All donated yarn is delivered to the prison once a month. Yarn donations can be dropped off Monday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm, or after Sunday services. The donation box is in the observation area where refreshments are served on Sunday morning.



God Does Not Play Favorites!

"You ask Him!"
 "No, you ask Him!"
 "I'm not going to ask Him, you ask Him!"
 "I know, let's get mom to ask Him!"

"Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him. And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom." (Matt.20:20-21)

The above paragraph from St. Matthew's gospel is copied verbatim, word for word. The dialogue in the first paragraph is, of course, just a presumption of what may have transpired between the disciples James and John prior to their mother's request. Not having the courage to approach Jesus directly, they seek out mom instead.

"But Jesus answered and said, 'You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They said to Him, "We are able." So He said to them, 'You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.' (Matt. 20:22-23)

Although mom had the courage to ask for her sons, the answer couldn't have been what they were expecting to hear. "Well, thanks anyway, mom!" the two must've been thinking.

"And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great

among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your servant, just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.' (Matt 20:24-28)

This scripture reading is a great reminder of just how human the disciples were, and, at the same time, how truly divine our Lord was.

It's good for us to know that God does not play favorites and sees every human being as equal; not identical, but equal. He is the most impartial judge imaginable. He cannot be bought (God has need of material possessions?) or swayed (He's heard it all before).

Each of us are going to stand or fall on our own merits.

Each of us are going to stand or fall on our own merits.

What is pleasing to God is to live a life that keep us on the path towards the Kingdom of Heaven. We can learn to love one another, we can practice patience, mercy, forgiveness and charity. And one more thing, taken from the above passage: we can learn to serve one another. This, our Lord teaches, is what really makes a person great in God's eyes.

This means not focusing exclusively on our own needs and wants, but serving the needs of others. It doesn't mean to neglect ourselves, but not to become selfish and egotistical, thinking that we're better than others. In God's eyes, we are all equal, all human, all imperfect, all struggling, and all part of His creation.

True greatness, as Jesus taught, comes through serving; opening up our eyes, and responding to the needs of our neighbor. And who is our neighbor? (Answer: read the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37.)

(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

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

Birthdays



Henry Lafayette (11)
Dutch Rosenberg (13)
Chrissy Pritchard (16)
Chrissy King (17)
David Rodriguez (19)

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.



Stewardship

Are you a Steward of Saint Haralambos Church?

The goal for 2018 is to have all parish families become Good Stewards of Saint Haralambos Church. This means returning a completed 2018 Stewardship brochure, making sure your family information is correct, making a financial pledge for the year, and becoming involved in parish ministries.

When we recognize that everything we have: health, wealth, time and talents, are all gifts from God, there should be no hesitation in using 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 a person realizes his dependency on God's blessings, sharing them with others and through His Church is a very natural and joyful response.

If needed, new/blank Stewardship brochures are available on Sundays.

Memory Eternal

May God grant eternal rest to the soul of His servant, Mary Manos, who fell asleep in the Lord on Sep. 8. The Funeral service at St. Haralambos Church was on Saturday, Sep. 15, and interment took place at Sunland Mortuary in Sun City. May our Lord Jesus Christ grant comfort to her family. May his memory be eternal!

May God grant eternal rest to the soul of His servant, Thomas Panos, who fell asleep in the Lord on Sep. 8. The Trisagion service for Tom, who was the uncle of George Theoharatos, was held on the evening of Sep. 14. Interment will be take place out of state. May his memory be eternal.

Greek Festival

Festival planning is gearing up. The first meeting in September was open to everyone and proved to be a productive brainstorming session. Thanks to all who were able to stay and contribute.

With just over 4 months to prepare, there are many areas in which assistance is needed prior to the Festival:

- Supplies inventory
- Vendor recruitment
- Social media promotion
- Grounds/building preparation
- Flyer distribution
- Food and pastry preparation

If you plan or would like to work in a food/beverage area, you must have a current Food Handler Card. Online classes are available at:

www.statefoodsafety.com/food-handler

Also, we are currently soliciting corporate, business and individual sponsors to offset expenses. If you know of a business owner or someone who may like to promote their business or name at our Festival, please share the enclosed sponsor letter and form. Forms are also available at the Church. Cash donations as well as in-kind contributions (i.e. food, supplies, gift cards, raffle/door prizes, etc.) are very much appreciated.

This month's activities:

October 21

Greek Dance Practice (following Sunday School)

Festival Meeting (11:30 following Liturgy)

If you are interested and would like to assist or have questions, please contact Pam Lemons at peoriagreekfest2019@gmail.com or call the Church office. OPA!

St. Anna's Philoptochos Society

By Stella Pagos, President

*So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7*

The September meeting of St. Anna's Philoptochos was highlighted with a grand array of food brought in by the ladies of our chapter. After dining and visiting with old and new friends, the meeting was called to order. The following commitments were discussed and voted on:

National

- Holy Cross Scholarship \$150
- Retired Clergy & Widowed Presbyteres \$100

Metropolis

- Women's Health and Wellness \$25

Our scheduled commitments for the year 2018-19 total \$4,316 and may be more depending on the needs of the various charities we support. 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 (Oct. 7, featuring Melomakarona).
- 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, Oct. 7 at 12 pm.



Sunday Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts.

September

- 2: Dina Surman
- 9: Olga Carlson & Genet Tesfay
- 16: Philoptochos
- 23: Nardos G'Yohannes and Lydia Woldesilassie
- 30: Philoptochos

October

- 7: Available
- 14: Charlotte Servetas & Valla Wrona
- 21: Available
- 28: Available

November

- 4: Available
- 11: Available
- 18: Available
- 25: 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)

We do well to remember the many scripture references teaching that God shows no partiality among His people.

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord

Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.” (Col. 3:23-25)

“But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.” (Romans 2:10-11)



Seminar on Strategic Planning

All who are interested in attending a one-day seminar on Strategic Planning on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 10 am – 2 pm, are asked to RSVP to the church office by phone or email. The seminar will be led by

Steve Tibbs parishioner of St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine, California, who is the director of Strategic Planning for the Metropolis of San Francisco.

The Way: Adult Education Series

The Tuesday evening adult education series, *The Way*, continues this month with the following topics:

October 9: Why did Jesus Come to Us?;
October 16: Salvation in Christ;

October 23: The Holy Spirit;
October 30: What on Earth is the Church?

Each evening begins at 6 pm with dinner, followed by the presentation and discussion.



Operation Christmas Child

A guest speaker will be giving a presentation on Samaritan's Purse/ Operation Christmas Child on Sunday, Oct. 21, during coffee hour. Please stay to

learn more about this International Relief Organization and how the Gospel is spread to needy children all over the world.

Thank You

My dearest St. Haralambos Family,

Please accept my sincere heartfelt thanks and that of my family for the outpouring of your love, prayers, donations, flowers, visits, and all the things that each of you said and did when my beautiful husband, Carl Surman, was sick and subsequently fell asleep in the Lord.

I have wanted to write to each of you individually, but it has been too difficult, so I am writing this in hopes you will understand the delay. Your acts of love have kept me afloat and your charity has meant so much to us.

Fr. Michael, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the care and guidance you

gave us during this difficult time. You were also always there for Carl which meant so much to us.

Finally, our warmest appreciation and thanks to all of you wonderful Philoptochos ladies. You came through on a moment's notice to put together such a lovely makaria. Your time and care to this was so touching and took such a burden off my shoulders. I would also like to thank Ted and Donna Manos for your special acts of love and charity.

Each of you played such an important part and truly reflected God's love and mercy.

God bless you,
Dina Surman

Name Days

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

St. Ananias (1st)
Sts. Cyprian and Justina (2nd)
St. James (9th)
St. Philip (11th)
St. Lazaros (17th)
St. Luke (18th)
St. Gerasimos (20th)
St. James (Iakovos) (23rd)
St. Sebastiane (24th)
St. Demetrios (26th)

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival purpose is to give our youth (grade 7 thru grade 12) an opportunity to learn, write, and speak about their Orthodox Faith, Church and Heritage.

The 36th National Oratorical Festival will be hosted by the Direct Archdiocesan District and the Parish of Archangel Michael in Port Washington, NY on Jun. 7-9, 2019. Our parish festival speeches for Junior (grades 7 thru 9) and Senior (grades 10 thru 12) Division are tentatively scheduled on **Sunday Mar. 24, 2019**. Upon receipt, the dates for the district and metropolis festivals will be distributed.

First step is for all participants to select a topic from the official 2019 Topic list included below. The second step will be to complete the on-line registration, once available. Need more information about the Oratorical Festival? The Department of Religious Education publishes information about the Oratorical Festival at their website address www.goarch.org/-/st-john-chrysostom-oratorical-festival along with Facebook and Twitter. Want more information locally from our parish? Please contact Jeannette Hollander at jechollander@gmail.com or Father Michael.



Oratorical Festival Topics

Junior Division (Grades 7–9)

1. Martyrs of the Church and some of the early monastics are both described as “athletes.” What does it mean to be an athlete for Christ?
2. On January 30th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Three Hierarchs: St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom. Select one of these Church Fathers and discuss his contribution to the Church.
3. Discuss the significance of water in the Church – Baptism, Theophany, holy water, etc. – and what this suggests about our responsibility for the natural world.
4. Discuss the new commandment of John 13:34: “Love one another, even as I have loved you...” What does it mean to love one another as Christ loved us?
5. In 1 Timothy 6:10, St. Paul writes, “For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.” How should Orthodox Christians relate to money and wealth?

Senior Division (Grades 10–12)

1. Many of the Church’s services employ objects from the natural world (such as

wheat, wine, oil, or water) in order to confer a blessing upon the faithful. Why does the Church do this, and what does this suggest about our responsibility for the natural world?

2. From ancient Greece to the present, politicians have aligned themselves with religious concepts and constituencies. How is an Orthodox Christian to discern whether today’s politicians do this out of genuine piety or in order to manipulate the electorate?
3. The hymns of the Church contain the whole of its theology. Pick one hymn from the Lenten or Holy Week period and describe how it speaks to you personally.
4. Describe how science and technology should always be at the service of humanity and, ultimately, of God, in harmony with His purposes.
5. In view of St. Paul’s exhortation in Colossians 3:16, “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom,” discuss the importance of being biblically literate today.



SAINT HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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

OCTOBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm The Way Being Human: Fully Alive	3	4 7:00pm Choir	5	6
7 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Philoptochos Meeting	8 Church Office Closed	9 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm The Way Why did Jesus Christ Come to Us?	10	11 7:00pm Choir	12	13
14 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy	15	16 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm The Way Salvation in Christ	17	18 9:00am Divine Liturgy St Luke the Apostle 7:00pm Choir	19	20
21 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:30am Greek Dance Practice 11:30am Festival Meeting	22	23 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm The Way The Holy Spirit	24	25 7:00pm Choir	26 9:00am Divine Liturgy St Demetrios	27
28 8:45am Matins 10:00am Divine Liturgy Holy Protection of the Theotokos	29	30 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm The Way What on Earth is the Church?	31			