

Visitors, please read

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today.

**Holy Communion is the greatest gift on earth. It is given by God to baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians, who have prepared themselves with regular prayer, fasting (from midnight, unless there is a medical condition), and confession, and who have the blessing of their spiritual father or confessor to receive it.**

We welcome anyone visiting for the first time, and we trust that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Orthodox Christian Church is actually a community of local Churches, whose roots are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in Jerusalem, Syria, Egypt, and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus, Russia, North America, and throughout the world.

As a continuation of the ancient Church, we engage the whole person, heart, mind, and all senses in divine worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among men" (Russian Primary Chronicle). That experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship.

Our worship culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life among all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for practicing Orthodox Christians, who have properly prepared themselves with prayer, fasting, and recent confession. This is because the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity with other Christian groups when actual unity of faith and practice does not exist.

While working to restore the full communion that did exist among Christians in antiquity, today we offer the blessed bread (*antidoron*) at the conclusion of the Liturgy, as a gift of hospitality and of growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or Holy Communion, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the other clergy following the Liturgy.

Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.

*We hope you enjoy your visit with us here at Holy Cross, and we thank you for joining us today.*

*We formally invite you and/or your guests to join us for coffee hour in the community center next door. If you can stay, we would love to have you!*

Sunday, July 28, 2019

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:6-14

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

The Gospel According to Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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Fr. Michael Kallaur  
Fr. Daniel Korba  
Dn. Frank Dickos

*Coffee hour luncheon is hosted today in loving memory of †David Schultz  
by Chryssa Schultz & family*

*Memorials: †David Schultz 40 days  
†Anthony Heliopoulos 10 years (Uncle of Diane Hoenig)  
†Nicholas Mitrakos 20 years (Father of Tom Mitrakos)*

**This Week:**

**Monday – July 29** 8:30am ~ Noon Vacation Church School  
9:30am Crossroads Mailing  
4-7pm Farmer's Market

**Tuesday – July 30** 9 am ~ Noon Vacation Church School  
7pm **50th Year Committee meeting in the Library**

**Wednesday – July 31** 9 am ~ Noon Vacation Church School

**Thursday – August 1** *Dormition Fast begins*  
9 am ~ Noon Vacation Church School  
6:30pm Paraclesis  
7 pm Youth Paraclesis @ Canonsburg

**Friday – August 1** 9 am ~ Noon Vacation Church School  
6:30pm Paraclesis

**Saturday – August 2** 9am @ Saxonburg Monastery 25th Anniversary  
Divine Liturgy and Memorial for Gerontissa Taxiarchia  
5pm Vespers

\*\*\* Ministry Opportunity - We have a Holy Cross Parishioner who is coming to the completion of their incarceration. The parishioner has the possibility to finish their sentence and transition to a home setting with a stable family. If you are willing to open your home to this parishioner please see Fr. Michael for the details.



**Thank you to our Coffee Hour sponsors!!!**

**August 4 - OPEN**

August 11 - Sponsored by Joan and Mark Hummel, Stephanie and Keith Myers, and Mary and Steve Kladakis IMO †Pauline Croussouloudis (40 day Memorial)

August 18 - Fitsioris, Frommeyer, Koett, Kostelnik and Staub families

**August 25 - OPEN**

**Please sponsor a Coffee Hour. Call the church office to confirm your date.**

The Philoptochos Autumn Food Fair and Yiayia Joan's Treasures and Market, October 2,3,4, continues to be the main fundraiser of our organization. Please volunteer a few hours in food preparation. The cooking is over the span of 8 weeks. We appreciate and need your help! Reminders will be sent via the church email and Sunday bulletins. Thank you for supporting Philoptochos to assist those in need! If necessary, slight adjustments will be made to the food preparation times. Please mark your calendars! Thank you for your support!

**Monday, August 5, Tiropita**, 35 pans, 9:30am until completion, Kathy Frommeyer, Chairperson

**Monday, August 12, Galatobouriko**, 40 pans, 9:30am until completion,

Kathy Frommeyer, Chairperson

**Monday, August 19**, 9:30am until completion and

**Tuesday, August 20, Spanakopita**, 100 pans, 9:30am -1:30pm AND 5pm-7pm,

Jane Kokanos and Marica Mitsos, Chairpersons

**Monday, August 26**, 1400 **Souzoukakia**, 9:30am until completion, Elaine Sofis, Chairperson

**Monday, September 9**, 10am-2:00pm and 5-7pm and

**Tuesday, September 10**, 10am-2:00pm and 5-7pm, 3600 Koulourakia baking and packaging,

Rita Manganas, Chairperson

**Wednesday, September 18**, chicken rolls, 9:30am cooking and shredding, **Thursday, September 19**,

chicken rolls prep, 700 chicken rolls, 9:30am until completion, Domenica Merante, Chairperson

**Sunday, September 29**, after Divine Liturgy, Mous-saka preparations, Takis Kontoulis, Chairperson

**Monday, September 30**, 9:00am- completion, 40 Moussaka & 60 Pastitsio,

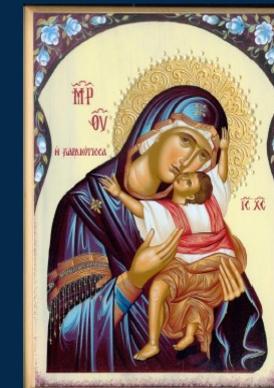
Takis Kontoulis, Chairperson

Elaine Sofis, Chairperson  
[esofis@comcast.net](mailto:esofis@comcast.net) with questions



The Philoptochos Autumn Food Fair  
and  
Yiayia Joan's Treasures & Market,  
October 2,3,4  
will ONLY be accepting  
jewelry and books in mid-September.  
Please honor our wishes.  
Vendors will also be selling their  
products at the market.

2019 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh  
**Regional Youth & Young Adult Paraclesis**  
*Just like at camp!*



**Thursday August 1st @ 7pm**  
All Saints Greek Orthodox Church  
Canonsburg, PA  
Contact: Dn. George Athanasiou 412-292-4208

**Friday August 2nd @ 7pm**  
Sts Constantine & Helen Cathedral  
Cleveland Heights, OH  
Contact: Mr. Theodore Cherpas 216-932-3300

**Monday August 12th @ 7pm**  
St. Nicholas Cathedral  
Bethlehem, PA  
Contact: Fr. Alexandros Petrides  
[fralexandros@stnicholas.org](mailto:fralexandros@stnicholas.org)

Campers and Staff... past, present, and future...need that Summer  
Camp feeling just one more time before you go back to school?  
Miss your camp friends and want an opportunity to see them?

Join us for our annual Youth Night Paraclesis Service at one of the  
parishes listed above as we prepare for the feast of the Dormition of  
the Theotokos. Invite your friends & get your cabin mates to come!

Fellowship and Light Lenten Refreshments to follow