

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 14, 2019

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

The Gospel According to Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

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(412)833-3355 website: www.holycrosspgh.org email: holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org

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

Coffee hour is sponsored today by the family of Harry Sappas, wife Elaine, children Stephanie, Dean and Michelle, and grandson Fitz.

Memorials: †Harry Sappas 5 years

This Week:

Monday – July 15 4-7pm Farmer's Market
NO Paraclesis/Bible Study

Tuesday – July 16

Wednesday – July 17 *St. Marina* 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy
7:30pm Board of Advisors Meeting in the Library

Thursday – July 18

Friday – June 19 *Prophet Elias* 6pm Vigil (Vespers/Orthros) @ Monastery in Saxonburg

Saturday – July 20 *Prophet Elias* 9am Divine Liturgy @ Monastery in Saxonburg
Wedding—NO Vespers

The Philoptochos Autumn Food Fair, YiaYia Joan's Treasures, will ONLY be accepting jewelry and books this year in September. Please honor our wishes.

*** 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.

**NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY**

With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Savas & their Spiritual Father Elder Ephraim,

Gerontissa Theophano and the Sisters invite you to join them for the

**Feast Day of the Prophet Elias
July 19th & 20th, 2019**



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

July 19th - Friday
6:00 pm: Vespers, Orthros

July 20th - Saturday
9:00 am: Hours, Divine Liturgy

Lunch follows

A variety of hand-crafts made by the Sisters will be available for purchase.

Buses are welcome and we ask that the Monastery be informed in advance of buses or large groups.

Visitors should be modestly dressed.
Women are asked to wear long skirts and men to wear long pants.

121 St. Elias Lane; Saxonburg, PA 16056; Phone: 724-352-3999
www.NativityoftheTheotokosMonastery.org

Thank you to our July Coffee Hour sponsors!!!

July 14- Elaine Sappas and family IMO Harry Sappas (5 years) 
July 21- Farmer's Market Committee 
July 28 - Chryssa Schultz & family IMO David Schultz (40 days)

Please sign up to sponsor a Coffee Hour. Call the church office to confirm your date. Dates available: August 4th & 11th (18th and 25th are taken)

The Parish Council has accepted Chris Pfanstiel's request for a temporary leave of absence from his position as President and as a member of the Parish Council. This request was made due to personal reasons, which were caused by numerous unfounded complaints filed to a regulatory agency in Chris' profession, regarding activities at Holy Cross. Some of the complaints were filed anonymously, others allegedly by priest(s) of Holy Cross. Many accusations were determined unfounded by the compliance departments at Chris Pfanstiel's employers. The parish council, in conjunction with our legal counsel, will be investigating the real source of these complaints and has asked the Board of Advisors for counsel on this matter. Until this is resolved, Konrad Mayr, formerly serving as Vice President, will serve as Acting President.

New Website & e-GIVING launched

You may have already noticed that we have a new Holy Cross Website with live stream of our services! The new Website also launches the new E-giving we have already announced earlier.

All parishioners are now able to:

- ✓ Make a one-time payment on-line with your credit card or directly from your checking account
- ✓ Set up recurring credit card or check payments by creating your own private log-in Profile

With this initial launch, the following funds will be available for contribution:
Stewardship (Pledge), Agape Donations, Building Fund (General), and Building Fund (Memorial)

Here is how you can access the on-line donation portal:

Go to the www.holycrosspgh.org

Either select the top menu item: 'Donations & Stewardship'

Or: just click the button 'Stewardship Pledge'

In both cases, you will be directed to the 'Donation' page:

Click the 'Donate online' button or within the highlighted section,

Click on the button: 'Click here to access the e-Giving site'

In both instances, you will be directed to the form section to enter all your payment or log-in details

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact any member of the Parish Council or the Stewardship Committee and/or Committee Chair, Konrad Mayr (412) 877 7780 or via E-mail at mayr.konrad@me.com