

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, August 18, 2019

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

The Gospel According to Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

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

The urns of flowers for Panagia this past week were donated in loving memory of William and Ponny Conomos and Peter S. Gidas from their families.

Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of Gus Nicholas by his children and grandchildren .

Coffee hour is sponsored today by the Fitsioris, Frommeyer, Koett, Kostelnik and Staub families.

Memorials: †Gus Nicholas 10 years
†Kassiani Tsourides 31 years (Great-grandmother of Peter and Kristen Landis)
Omitted from last week: †George Bouzos 4 years

Altar flowers were sponsored in loving memory of Geroge Bouzos by Dean and Irene Zotis.

This Week: Fr. Michael will be away. In Case of emergency, please contact Fr. Dan 412.262.4589 or Fr. John 412.249.8862

Monday – August 19 9:30am Spanakopita prep
4-7pm Farmer's Market 
7pm Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday – August 20 9:30am-1:30pm and 5-7pm Spanakopita prep
7pm 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting

Wednesday – August 21

Thursday – August 22

Friday – August 23

Saturday – August 24 5pm Vespers

Thank you to all who helped to prepare 52 pans of Galatobouriko on Monday.

Please join us tomorrow, Monday, August 19, as approximately 100 pans of Spanakopita will be prepared at 9:30 am until completion. On Tuesday, August 20, Spanakopita prep continues at 9:30am-1:30 pm and 5pm-7pm. Your help is appreciated and Late arrivals are always welcome! Jane Kokanos and Marica Mitsos, Chairpersons

NEXT Monday, August 26 at 9:30am until completion, 1400 Souzoukakia will be prepared. Thank you for your help. Elaine Sofis, Chairperson

Autumn Food Fair yard signs are available in the narthex, community center and office area.

*** 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 25 - *Memorial Coffee Hour - Family of James Spanos

September 1—OPEN

September 8—OPEN

September 15 - Parish Feast Day Picnic

September 22 - *Memorial Coffee Hour - Family of John Zacharias

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

Save
The
Date

GOYA Kickoff: September 8

Contact DMelis@Comcast.net

Sunday School Teacher Gathering: September 20

JOY Fest: September 21

Contact Manoli: emmanuelmaginas@gmail.com

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