

**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, September 22, 2019**

**The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 1:21-24; 2:1-4**

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

But I call God to witness against me - it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

**The Gospel According Luke 5:1-11**

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church  
 123 Gilkeson Road  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
 (412)833-3355 website: www.holycrosspgh.org email: holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org

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

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS WITH FR. DAN WILL MEET IN THE PHILOPTOCHOS ROOM.  
 TOPIC IS "JOURNEY TO FULLNESS."**

**Coffee hour is sponsored today by  
 George & Mary Halkias, Damon & Carol Halkias, George & Christine Peters, and  
 Sandy (Photini) Welty / For the Love of Sweets.**

**Monday – September 23** *Conception of St. John the Baptist*  
 8:30am Orthros/9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 4-7pm Farmer's Market   
 6:30pm Paracletis/Bible Study (Acts of the Apostles)

**Tuesday – September 24**

**Wednesday – September 25** 8:45am Golden Club Outing  
 4:30 Greek School

**Thursday – September 26** *Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian*  
 8:30am Orthros/9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
 7pm Chant Class  
 7pm Young Professionals *Coffee and Conversation* at Dickos home

**Friday – September 27**

**Saturday – September 28** 5pm Vespers

September is the last month for the Farmer's Market, so be sure to visit tomorrow SEPTEMBER 23RD and next Monday the 30TH to stock up on your favorite goods!!

 Please contact Cindy Heddaeus at 412-849-3033 if you are interested in shopping during the week for groceries as needed for our Saturday **FOCUS lunch program**. Thank you! 

**FOCUS Back To School Drive** ends next Sunday, September 29th. Please place items in boxes in the vestibule marked FOCUS. Items requested are: Toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, mouthwash, bath soap, shampoo, conditioner, combs, brushes, deodorant and socks. As always we thank you in advance for your continuous generosity. Your new FOCUS rep, Kathy Pyros

**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 upcoming Coffee Hour sponsors:**

September 29 ~ GOYA  
 October 6 ~ Zacharias Family in loving memory of +John Zacharias (3 years)  
 October 27 ~ Dickos/Countouris Families in loving memory of +Jim Dickos (3 years)



October 13 ~OPEN  
 October 20 ~OPEN

**Philoptochos Autumn Food Fair**

- Thank you to ALL who helped to prepare 825 chicken rolls this week.
- Thank you to those who helped at the Joy Fest Luncheon yesterday.
- There is NO cooking next week.
- Jewelry and books are being accepted NOW for the Yiayia Joan's Treasures.
- Please call Diane Babb C-412 979-1955 or Dena Yamalis 412 343-8355 to tell what cookies, cakes and pastries you are willing to donate for the food fair. *Your generosity is appreciated.*
- Volunteers needed to sell pastries, too.
- Please see Elaine Sofis at coffee hour to volunteer at the Autumn Food Fair, October 2,3,4,11:30am-8:00pm
- Venues still need volunteers. All evening food lines need volunteers.
- Autumn Food Fair yard signs are available in the vestibule and community center.
- NEXT Sunday, September 29, following coffee hour, set-up begins in the community center and carpeted area for the Autumn Food Fair. Please bring a change of clothes and help for a while. *Your time is appreciated.*
- Moussaka and Pastitsio preparations will begin on Monday, September 30 at 9am. 40 pans of Moussaka and 60 pans of Pastitsio will be prepared. Set up will continue in the community center, too.
- Tuesday, October 1, at 11am, preparation will begin in the prep room of traying dolmathes, cutting feta and cupping gyro sauce. Please join us. Set-up continues.
- Senior dancers will perform on Thursday & Friday, October 3 & 4. Please watch our youth and enjoy dinner!
- Clean up will be October 4, 8pm and October 5, 10am.

Elaine Sofis- [esofis@comcast.net](mailto:esofis@comcast.net) or 412 344-7046

**Save the Date**  
**Monday October 7th, 2019**

**The 6th Annual Holy Cross Michael Megaludis Golf Outing**

Golf, Dinner, Fun, and Fellowship




**Register Now!** <http://www.holycrosspgh.org>