

Second half of December 2019 Crossroads

DECEMBER 2019

Holy Cross Philoptochos December News Letter

Thirty-one members attended the November 5 meeting. \$500 was voted to donate to the Light of Life Rescue Mission. \$5000 was voted to donate to the Neighborhood Resilience Project led by Fr. Paul Abernathy.

Thank you to Connie Carahalis, membership chairperson and her social committee, for a lovely membership evening social on November 5.

Thank you to co-chairs Dina Petrakis and Cynthia Henry for a memorable Veteran's Recognition on Sunday, November 10. Thank you to our Veteran's for their service.

Thank you to Dena Yamalis and ALL who helped at the Saturday, November 16 breakfast of the Metropolis Folk Dance Festival and assisted throughout the festival.

Kathy Pyros is our FOCUS representative. She will take clothing and other needed items to FOCUS. Please set the items outside the office door and mark FOCUS on the bags. There will be a FOCUS Christmas Food Drive on Sundays, December 8, 15, 22. Thank you to Kathy for dedicating many hours to serving FOCUS.

Dress for Success needs a chairperson. Please let me know if you are interested in this worthwhile effort.

Thank you to Georgina Callas and Mary Zotis who are shopping and assembling the College Care Packages.

The Blanket Ministry will be offering blankets to the Linus Project.

Philoptochos Christmas Bread, \$10 a loaf, will be prepared Mon, Dec 9 beginning at 10am. Many hands are needed to roll, twist, bake and package the bread. The wrapping of the bread will be from 2-5pm. Any of your time is appreciated. The fresh bread will be available after 2pm on Monday, December 9 and on Sundays December 15 and if available December 22. Thank you for your time and efforts and for supporting Philoptochos!

An application for **The Popi Hagelios Memorial Philanthropy Award** of the Philoptochos Society of Holy Cross will be available in the narthex, office or Elaine Sofis beginning on Sunday, December 15. The application is due by Sunday, March 22. The application is available to a PLEDGED Holy Cross family member who is a graduating high school senior in 2020. A similar application is available at Mt. Lebanon High School. You may apply to both awards. You will only be eligible for one \$1500 award.

The Philoptochos Christmas Party, Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30pm. at the beautiful setting of Le Mont, is chaired by Mary Zotis. 412 835–2381 for reservations. Entrée selections are Rack of Lamb, \$42, Filet Mignon, \$44, Salmon, \$35, Chicken, \$32. Deadline for reservations is Friday, November 29. Please mail checks payable to Holy Cross Philoptochos to Mary Zotis 419 Longleaf Drive. Venetia 15367 Please state names and entrée choices on your checks. DEADLINE for reservations is November 29. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Wishing Holy Cross Philoptochos and church members a Blessed Nativity season. A Happy and Healthy 2020!

Future Philoptochos and Orthodox Events, Tuesday, December 3, Philoptochos Christmas Party at the Le Mont, Mary Zotis, Chairperson, 6:30pm, see article for info. Sundays, December 8, 15, 22, FOCUS Christmas Food Drive Monday, December 9, 10am, Christmas bread making and selling. \$10 a loaf. Additional sales on December 15 & if available, Dec. 22 Tuesday, December 10, Community Night, 6pm Wednesday, December 11, Blanket Ministry, 6:30pm, Philoptochos Room Tuesday, December 17, Circle of Angels baskets filled Tuesday, January 7, Philoptochos meeting, 7pm., weather permitting. Sunday, January 12, Vasilopita Thursday, January 16, Community Night, 6pm. Much is planned. Please share your time and talents with us. Reminders will be sent via-email and hope to see you at ALL of our events! PLEASE consider joining Philoptochos! **Elaine Sofis, Philoptochos President**

TO RENEW OR JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS for 2020,

please complete and return to church or to *Connie Carahalis*, 224 Mt. Lebanon Blvd, Pittsburgh 15234

Name

Address_

Telephone_

Email

*From your Philoptochos Stewardship donation, \$15 is sent to National Philoptochos in NYC and \$10 is sent to the Pittsburgh Metropolis Philoptochos. Anything over \$25 goes to Holy Cross Philoptochos. **Or see any Board Member to pay your dues!**

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday later in November, the FOCUS Christmas Angels will be distributed during coffee hour on Sunday, Nov. 24th and Sunday, Dec1st. All gifts will be due back at the church no later than Sunday December 8th. Thank you for your generosity with this project. I wish you and your families blessed holidays. ~Kathy Pyros Each week various parishes of the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood provide 120 lunches for distribution at FOCUS. Holy Cross coordinates these efforts and has a new volunteer, Niko Stang, shopping for all the items used to pack the lunches.

GOYA Bake Sale to raise funds for youth at the Auberle Shelter





Honoring our Veterans







Sts. Mary & Martha Women's Fellowship 2019-2020 And then what happened?

A look at the life of the church after the pages of the Bible.



January 28

Hostess: Tika Dickos, 810 Kingsberry Circle, Mt Lebanon 15234 RSVP to 412-341-6009

February 25 Hostess: Irene Zotis, 76 Woodland Dr, Mt Lebanon 15228 RSVP to 412-721-0146

March 17

Hostess: Domenica Merante, 43 Ridgewood Dr, McDonald 15057 RSVP to 412-302-9093

April 28

Hostess: Carol Halkias, 1401 Meadowlark Dr, Scott Twp 15243 RSVP to 412-276-5002

May 26

Hostess: Pres Joanna Ferencz, address TBA RSVP to 724-953-1091

Thanksgiving is November 28/Pascha is April 19

Metropolis GOYA Basketball Tournament Hosted by Holy Cross February 21-23, 2020



AD FORM **Deadline: February 1, 2020**

Please attach to this form or email your message to ADGOYA2020@gmail.com

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Telephone	
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	t paíd:
Please make check with this form to:	A payable to HOLY CROSS GOYA and mail along Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church ATTN: Basketball Tournament 123 Gilkeson Road Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Any questions, call Denise Melis at 412.341.9264

Please return no later than February 1, 2020.

<u>Sacraments</u>

<u>Chrismation</u> November 3 ~ Mark Hummel Sponsor is Andrea Milinkovic.

<u>Baptism</u> November 11~ Demitra, daughter of John and Sophia (Konidaris) Haines. Godparent is Anastasia Konidaris.



November 9 ~ Evan Hareras and Meredith Fabian. Koumbara is Athena Touhey.

<u>Funeral</u>

Marriage

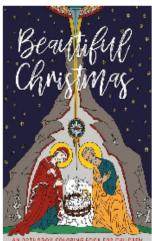
November 15 ~ **†Betty Kehayas**, age 88, was the daughter of the late John and Stella Nickolas and beloved wife of the late John N. Kehayas; loving mother of John Kehayas and the late Nicholas Kehayas.

The **Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon** is currently running an exhibit that is free and open to the public, and is called "Houses of Worship in Mt. Lebanon." **Our beloved Holy Cross Church is one of fifteen con-gregations represented in this exhibit**. The Historical Society is open on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1-4pm, and on Saturdays from 9am-3pm. The Society is located at 794 Washington Road, across from South-minster Presbyterian Church. Sunday, December 15 has been designated as our special day, along with three other congregations. However, anyone may visit on any day that the Society is open. This exhibit will run through the end of January. If you have questions, please contact the Society: 412-329-8595, or <u>hsmtlebo@gmail.com</u>.

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.

Holy Cross Orthodox Bookstore Featured Books of the Month



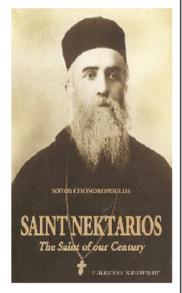
BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS: ORTHODOX COLORING BOOK FOR CHILDREN

Beautiful Christmas is a 64-page coloring book for children ages 5-12. As they color Christ in the cave or the shepherds glorifying God with the angels, they are cultivating their own sensibility to beauty while learning to recognize some of the meaningful symbols, elements, and motifs of the Church. May this small book bless those children who color and create within its pages.

Saint Nektarios:

The Saint of Our Century

Saint Nektarios is a true icon of Christian love and patience. He reposed on November 9, 1920 and was buried at the Convent of the Holy Trinity, which he established, on the small island of Aegina, Greece. His exemplary life left an unfading mark in the twentieth century; that of humility, perseverance, wise silence, and hope. Miracles continue to take place at his grave site year after year. He is considered the Patron Saint of people who have cancer, heart trouble, arthritis, epilepsy and other illnesses. By his example, St. Nektarios shows us how to live our life full of hope and the love of Christ.



Our Holy Cross Orthodox Bookstore is located in the carpeted area of the Community Center. Please be sure to stop by any Sunday following Divine Liturgy. We offer a great selection of Orthodox Greeting Cards and Books for all ages. For additional information, please contact Mary Portellos at 724-941-8699 or maryportellos@comcast.net

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Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church 123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh, Pa 15228 CHRISTMAS CARD 2019

Dear Parishioner:

Our annual campaign for the HOLY CROSS CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD has begun. In keeping with the blessed season, a very beautiful Christmas Card has been designed especially for our church family. You, as a family or as an individual, can be listed in the card for a nominal donation of \$20.* In this manner, you will benefit the your church, send greetings to our parish families and friends, save yourself the expense of buying cards and stamps, and especially, save the time spent addressing and mailing many cards.

If you would like to be listed in our Christmas Card, please complete the form below and return to **Carol Halkias** OR the church office **by** <u>Monday</u>, <u>December 2</u>, <u>2019</u>, together with your check made payable to "Holy Cross Church" and *marked for "Christmas Card."*

PLEASE return this form and payment directly to the church office.

Christmas Card Listing Form

) Enclosed in my/our \$20.00 donation.

Please list me/us as follows: (PLEASE PRINT)

Name(s):

Thank you for supporting the 2019 Christmas Card campaign!

The Socrates-Daphne Lodge of Pittsburgh

GAPA invites you to the

Annual

Chrístmas Dínner Dance

Saturday December 7, 2019 Crowne Plaza Hotel - Fort Couch Road

Cocktails and Appetizers 6 pm Festive Dinner Menu 7 pm

Music by The Grecian Flames

Featuring Ted Samaras And a performance by

The Grecian Odyssey Dancers

Dinner and Dance \$55 Dance only \$10

Join us to ring in the holiday season, and don't forget your "kefi!"

Call for reservations by Dec 2nd Becky Bertos 412-421-9427 Aliki Andrews 412-833-4596 Joanne Melacrinos 412-563-4609

2020 Stewardship Cards have been mailed out. If you did NOT receive one, please contact the church office at 412.833.3355 or holycrosspit@mail.goarch.org



* Buffet Dinner / Continental Breakfast / Vasilopita * Champagne Toast / Full Cash Bar * Entertainment by The Grecian Flames (entertainment for the children also)

Cocktails @ 8 p.m. Buffet Dinner @ 9 p.m. Dance only @ 10:30p.m.

\$45 per person, \$40 if paid by December 15th Children under 12 \$15 Dance only \$25

R.S.V.P to Joanne Melacrinos at 412-563-4609 or 412-400-4607 NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 22

HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 123 GILKESON ROAD PITTSBURCH, PA 15228

Return Service Requested

1111111 15 8am Matins /9:30am Divine Liturgy



