

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, November 17, 2019

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Gospel According Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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

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

Coffee Hour sponsored in loving memory of †James Gianaris by his family.

Memorials : †Helen Kamtsios 40 days
†Mary Dades 2 years
†Peter Economos 9 Years
†Helen Economos 18 Years
†Lemonia Katsaros 35 Years
†John Economos 43 Years
†Vasile Katsaros 58 Years

The **Thanksgiving Food Drive** for **FOCUS** ends NEXT Sunday November 24th. There are boxes in the narthex for collection. Some suggestions for are cereal, pastas, sauce, peanut butter, jelly, coffee, tea, canned fruits, vegetables, soups, mac and cheese, tuna. No glass please. As always your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

THIS WEEK:

Monday – November 18 6:30pm Paraclesis/Bible Study

Tuesday – November 19 7pm Sts Mary & Martha

Wednesday – November 20 4:30pm Greek School
6pm GOYA Spanakopita making
6:45pm GOYA Basketball

Thursday – November 21 **Entrance of Theotokos** 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy
6pm Community Night

Friday – November 22 GOYA Fall Retreat

Saturday – November 23 Wedding/NO Vespers

GOYA will be making spanakopita to sell for the holidays on Wednesday, November 20 from 6-9pm. Parents are invited to help. All family members are welcome to help. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO BE THERE. Many hands make little work. Bring your favorite brush, tie on your apron and join us. See you WEDNESDAY. Details coming on how and when to order/buy.

Thank you to Veteran's Recognition co-chairs, Cynthia Henry and Dina Petrakis for honoring our past and current Veterans. We thank our Veterans for their service.

Please join us for the Philoptochos Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 3, 6:30pm, at the beautiful setting of the Le Mont. Mary Zotis, chairperson, 412 835-2381, will take your reservations by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29. NO EXCEPTIONS! Entrée selections are Rack of Lamb \$42, Filet Mignon \$44, Salmon \$35, Chicken \$32. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross Philoptochos and mail to: Mary Zotis 419 Longleaf Drive Venetia, PA 15367

Save the Date for the annual Christmas bread making on Monday, December 9 at 10am. Many hands are needed for rolling, twisting, baking and wrapping. Bread, \$10 a loaf, will be sold on baking day and December 15 and if available December 22.

Ministry Opportunity: We have a Holy Cross Parishioner coming to completion of incarceration. The parishioner has the possibility to finish their sentence and transition to a home setting with a stable family.

**General Assembly Meeting
next Sunday, November 24.
Lunch will be provided .**

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday later in November, the **FOCUS Christmas Angels** will be distributed during coffee hour on Sunday, Nov. 24th and Sunday, Dec 1st. 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

The Socrates-Daphne Lodge of Pittsburgh GAPA
invites you to the
Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

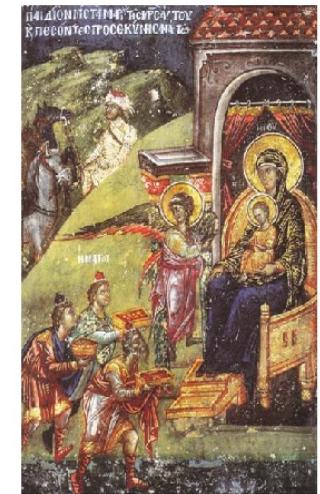
Saturday December 7, 2019
Crowne Plaza Hotel - Fort Couch Road

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



**"COME, GATHER TO SEE A NEWBORN BARE,
THE GOD BEFORE TIME"**

A Byzantine Musical Oratorio-Celebration
of the Complete Kontakion of the Nativity
by Romanos the Melodist

A Program by the Byzantine Choir
of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh
and Invited Musical Guests

Sunday, December 1, 2019,
6 PM
Rick Fine Arts Auditorium, 650 Schenley Drive,
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Open to the public

TO RENEW OR JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS for 2020, please complete and return to church or to *Connie Carabalis, 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!**