

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church  
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Fr. Michael Kallaur  
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**Sunday, December 13, 2020**

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11**

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

**The Gospel According to Luke 14:16-24** The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

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**Memorials:**

+Athena Hareras (40 days)  
+MaryBeth Kusturiss (5 years)

**Live streaming from Holy Cross:**

<https://www.holycrosspgh.org/church-live-stream>

**Monday, Dec 14** 11am Funeral for Patsy Hatzimbes (live stream only)  
6:30pm Paraclesis

**Tuesday, Dec 15** *Hieromartyr Eleutherius*  
8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy  
7pm Parish Council via Zoom

**Wednesday, Dec 16** 7pm Bible Study via Zoom

**Thursday, Dec 17** *Prophet Daniel and the Three Youths*  
8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy  
1-3pm Christmas Bread available lower level Community Center  
7pm *Effective Christian Ministry* via Zoom

**Friday, Dec 18**

**Saturday, Dec 19** 5pm Vespers/Confessions

Dear Holy Cross Families,

Due to Covid we have adjusted our Saturday lunch preparation program that benefits the Neighborhood Resilience Project. Parishioners prepare 10 lunches in their homes. Each consists of two sandwiches, a piece of fruit, and a snack and beverage of your choice. The lunches are dropped off Saturday morning between 10:30-11 am at Holy Cross for delivery. If you are interested in participating in the new year, please contact Cindy Heddaeus at [cahmy3son@comcast.net](mailto:cahmy3son@comcast.net). Thank you.

Cindy Heddaeus

### Philoptochos news

Mediterra Bakehouse Christmas Bread: 29 available with sesame seeds, \$10/loaf, as a fundraiser for Philoptochos, ONLY in the Community Center after Divine Liturgy TODAY. Checks payable to Holy Cross Philoptochos.

Christmas Bread, 100 loaves, plain or with sesame seeds, will be sold this Thurs., Dec. 17 from 1-2:30 pm in the lower Community Center entrance. Please drive to the door and volunteers will assist you. The bread will NOT be sold next Sunday, December 20. Please contact Elaine Sofis, [esofis@comcast.net](mailto:esofis@comcast.net) or home, 412 344-7046, for more info or to reserve for Thursday. Thank you to ALL who have supported Philoptochos in this endeavor. Merry Christmas from Philoptochos!

Philoptochos is grateful to Mediterra Bakehouse for this generous donation of bread. Thank you, Mediterra!

Attention High School Seniors and Parents! The application for the Popi Hagelios Memorial Philanthropy Award of our Philoptochos Society is available in the Narthex, from Elaine Sofis, electronically, [esofis@comcast.net](mailto:esofis@comcast.net) or Denise Melis, electronically, [dmelis@comcast.net](mailto:dmelis@comcast.net) The application is due by Sunday, March 14, 2021. The award is available to a 2021 PLEDGED Holy Cross family member who is a graduating high school senior in 2021. A similar application is available at Mt. Lebanon High School. You may apply to both awards but will only be eligible for one \$1500 award.

**TO RENEW OR JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS for 2021**, please 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!*



The Nationality Rooms Program at the University of Pittsburgh  
VIRTUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE 2020  
Presents the Greek Room Committee's

## "The Twelve Days of Greek Christmas Trivia Game"

December 7<sup>th</sup> – December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Did you know that-

- some key Greek Christmas traditions have their beginning in the time of ancient Greece?
- some ancient Greek festivals influenced the development of early Christian religious customs surrounding the feast of the Nativity of Christ?
- the Christmas Tree tradition began in Constantinople, during the time of the Byzantine Empire and was then carried north?
- the festive Christmas period begins in November and ends in January?
- St. Nicholas does not bring gifts to children, but instead, St. Basil does?

For more information and details, as well as for instructions for how to participate:  
<https://pahellenicfoundation.org/ChristmasTriviaGame>

Game play takes place every day, beginning on December 7th and ending on December 19th, 2020, anytime between 7 AM - 10 PM. A donation of \$7 accesses a VIP code for one game. Two prize winners daily.

All donations will go to the Greek Room's Scholarship Fund.

## ★ Neighborhood Resilience Project ★ Christmas Food Drive continues until next Sunday, Dec. 20

Collection of new/unused warm socks, hats,  
gloves & scarves benefitting the Holiday Project.

November 1—

December 15, 2020

Drop off locations:

\* Holy Cross Church  
(123 Gilkeson Road,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228)

\* 209 Twin Oaks Drive,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237



The Allegheny County Holiday Project provides new/unused holiday gifts for children and youth (babies—18 years old) who have experienced child abuse or neglect.

Visit: [www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/News-Events/Events/Holiday-Project.aspx](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/News-Events/Events/Holiday-Project.aspx)  
for more information.