

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 ~ SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 26:1, 12-20 In those days, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At mid-day, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles—to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

The Gospel According to John 9:1-38 At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our

eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

Memorials:

† John Kalakos	40 days
† Thomas Stevenson	6 months
† Peter Teris Sr	3 years
† George Cardone	6 years
† Samuel Cardone	6 years
† Heather Hilterman	6 years
† Peter Teris Jr	7 years
† Thomas Gillen	18 years

*Altar flowers are sponsored in loving memory of
† John Kalakos by his family.*

Coffee hour is sponsored today by Philoptochos.



THIS WEEK:

- Monday, May 22 6:30pm Paraclesis**
- Tuesday, May 23 7pm Sts. Mary and Martha**
- Wednesday, May 24 *Apodosis of Pascha* 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy**
 11am Kourambiethes prep
4:30PM GREEK SCHOOL
 7pm Bible Study
- Thursday, May 25 *Ascension* 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy**
 11am Kourambiethes prep
- Friday, May 26 AD BOOK DEADLINE**
- Saturday, May 27 *Wedding* ~ NO Vespers**

FOOD FAIR FOOD LINES need volunteers on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday lunches June 13, 15 & 16 anytime from 10:45am-3:45pm. The Thursday & Friday, June 15 & 16 dinner food lines need volunteers anytime from 3:45pm-8pm and on Friday until 9pm. ANY of your time is appreciated! Please contact Elaine Sofis, esofis@comcast.net or Home 412 344-7046, Cell 412 327-7017.



Saints Mary & Martha Women's Fellowship:
The Akathist Hymn
May 23, 2023 Aspile
 Speaker: Elias Diamond
 At the home of
 Maria & Elias Diamond
 35 Highland Rd #1113 15102

Interested in working the Pastry Booth at our Food Fair? Contact Dena Yamalis at 412.589.2646 or dyamalis@comcast.net



Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 11
LAST CALL!

Graduating High School & College
holycrosspittsburgh@gmail.com



Submit ASAP to be included in June Crossroads

- ~Name of Graduate and parents
- ~School graduating from
- ~Major intends to study or degree earned
- ~Plans to further education or employment

Please email a photo as well!!

Students entering their first year undergraduate university or community college are eligible to apply for the Supreme Lodge GAPA College Achievement Award. **The deadline for applying for the GAPA Scholarship is May 30, 2023.**

Contact Sophia at Sophiaalexides54@msn.com for additional information.

FILIA



Holy Cross Church
 Men's Fellowship (21+)
 Wednesday, June 7
 (a fast-free Wednesday)
 7pm-9pm
 Primanti's Mt. Lebanon
 A chance to socialize.

**FORMATIVE
 FOOD FELLOWSHIP FUN**

Contact Bryan Elderkin for more information.
 724-255-1255
smelder@gmail.com

FESTIVAL AD BOOK

**DEADLINE EXTENDED TO
 FRIDAY, MAY 26**

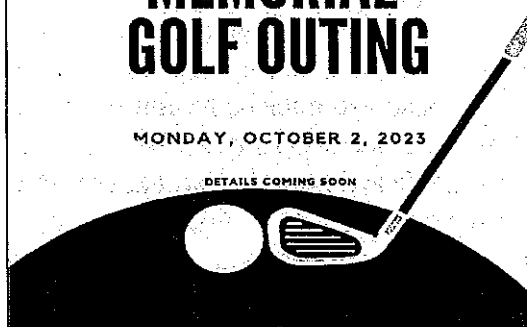
SAVE THE DATE

THE 9TH ANNUAL

**HOLY CROSS
 MEMORIAL
 GOLF OUTING**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023

DETAILS COMING SOON



HOLY CROSS GREEK FESTIVAL JUNE 13-16

ACROSS FROM THE GALLERIA

**Ignite the
Festival Spirit!
Yard Signs
Available Now!**
Spread the festival
fever! Display our
vibrant yard signs not
just at home, but also
in busy intersections
throughout your
neighborhood!

**They are available at
the Narthex entrance
and the community
center.**

Your *Landscaping/ Beautification Committee* is getting excited with the arrival of Summer!

We look forward to the wildflower and Native plantings blooming in this coming season at the lower slope and driveway entrance to our Church!

We have begun the process of obtaining bids for our next phases –which include the Entryway, the Cross Garden, The Garden of Love, and the large slope beneath that area.

Through the Committee's efforts and the generosity of over 20 families who love the vision presented in the 'Master Plan (viewable at <https://www.holycrosspgh.org/improvement-project>)

The 'Matching side' of our donations has been raised/committed. (\$102,000) As you know we are depending now on our parishioners for funds to be donated that can be matched by those who gave in the initial request as Matching Contributions. We thank them and are asking for more families and individuals to donate.

Any size donation is welcome, and will be matched, dollar for dollar. We hope to raise the full \$200,000 to pay for this next phase, with work commencing in the Fall!

Please make checks payable to Holy Cross, with 'Landscape/Beautification Project' in the memo. You may also donate through the Holy Cross website link.

We also are excited to announce our *Summer Garden Gala* on Saturday, July 29th (save the date!). We are planning an exceptional evening with great food, live music, dancing, and fun! Be a part of this renaissance with those 'who love the beauty of His House!



Save the Date



Saturday, July 29, 2023
Holy Cross Community Center

Join us for an evening of
Cocktails, Strolling Buffet,
Greek Band, Dancing, and
much more.

-Blacktie Optional-

Details at www.holycrosspgh.org/summergala

