



THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

JANUARY 2014

VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Father John's Message
- 3 News & Events
- 5 Gheronda's Corner
- 7 The Cultural Side
Η Πολιτιστική Πλευρά
- 8-9 New Starting January 8:
**"Faith and Family
Wednesdays"**
- 10-11 Community Life
Photo Journal
- 12 Nativity Flower Donors
- 13 House Blessing Schedule
- 14 Ask the Elders
- 16 House Blessing Request
Form

- INSERTS -

- January Parish Calendar
- HT Basketball Tournament
Volunteer and Donations Form
- "A Sampling of Holy Trinity" flyer
- "Essence of Joy" Concert flyer

QUICK NEWS



Holy Trinity GOYs took to the snowy field for the annual GOYA Thanksgiving Turkey Bowl football game. Want to see more photos of the life and ministries of Holy Trinity Church? See the Community Life Photo Journal on pages 10-11 or visit our **new** online photo gallery site at photos.HolyTrinityPgh.org.



ORTHODOXY 365: THE YEAR IN SAINTS AND FEASTS

An icon that gathers together hundreds of major saints and feasts celebrated throughout the year on the Orthodox Christian liturgical calendar. Although this one is of Russian origin, this style of icon is also popular in the Greek tradition as well. It is offered here as a faith overview of the year of saints to come and an invocation of their prayers. (Can you find your saint?)

Our Mission: To proclaim and live the Orthodox Christian Faith in its fullness as faithful members of the Body of Christ

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

About the Herald

The Herald is the Monthly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Editor

Father John Touloumes, Ekonomos

Church: 412-366-8700

Home: 412-831-3574

E-mail: fjt@HolyTrinityPgh.org

Production

Mary Portellos, Secretary/Office Administrator

E-mail: office@HolyTrinityPgh.org

Contributors

Voula Hareras

Vickie Bellios

Rev. Fr. John Androutsopoulos

Rev. Fr. Radu Bordeianu

Photographers

Mary-Magdalene Welsh

Peter Gagianas

Theanne Gagianas

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About the Parish

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

985 Providence Boulevard

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Phone: 412-366-8700 • Fax: 412-366-8710

Web site: www.HolyTrinityPgh.org

Email: office@HolyTrinityPgh.org

Holy Trinity Church is a parish of the
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh
(www.odpgh.org) and Greek Orthodox
Archdiocese of America (www.goarch.org)
under the Spiritual Jurisdiction of the
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Parish Administration

Clergy

Rev. Fr. John Touloumes, Proistamenos

Rev. Fr. Radu Bordeianu, Assistant Priest

2013 Parish Council

George Dickos, President

Dean A. Balouris

Marios Kritiotis

George Danis

Charles Petredis

Andrew Janis

Joyce Athanasiou

Jason Farmakis

Stephanie Sedor

Louis Kort

Alex Trilivas

Leo Loomis

Gerri Valliant

Ministries

Please visit the Holy Trinity website at www.HolyTrinityPgh.org for descriptions and contact information on Holy Trinity Church's ministries, including educations, youth, senior, family and cultural opportunities. There is something for everyone, so please get involved today!



Lead a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1.15

Dear Faithful Servants of Christ,

For the past few years, we have been living in anticipation and waiting. Along the way we have observed a lot of "lasts" and "firsts" as we have been led by the Spirit of God along our journey of faith as a community. You may remember the first service on the new church property with His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos; the last Divine Liturgy at 302 West North Avenue; the first day of construction after the Groundbreaking service with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas; and, the culmination of it all, of course, the Thyranoxia ("Opening of the Doors") and the first Orthros, Divine Liturgy, Saturday of the Souls Memorials and Pentecost Feast Day in the new church.

After all that waiting and moving from one step to the next, one might sit and ask, "What now?" Sometimes after great life events as these, there is a sense of denouement or loss of purpose that leaves one somewhat empty. I will compare it to something many of our children and young adults have experienced after returning from the summer camp ministry: "post-camp let-down." That time at camp is so exciting and engaging that young people who have been there for a week or counselors who have been there over a month have a sense of missing the great adventure, the wonderful brothers and sisters who walked it with them and the life of immersion in faith as they walked with God along the way. It only lasts a while, and it can go two ways: if it is allowed to take emotional root it can be quite destructive because they think it's all over, but if it is allowed to take spiritual root it is quite powerful because they know a new part of their life in Christ is just beginning.

So what is next for us at Holy Trinity Church? If we are to live up to the calling as the witnesses for Christ He has called us to be, what's next is set forth in Saint Paul's quote above: "a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." It is understanding that the building is not the end of our work, but the beginning of our new calling, which we can only receive and live when we live lives that bear those marks: worthiness, fruitfulness, goodness, productivity and growth in the Lord.

It is impossible for us not to do so if we are to continue to faithfully be the Body of Christ. Who said, "No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a bushel, but on a stand, that those who enter may see the light" (Luke 11.33). Imagine if we hung a sign on that beautiful, shining new dome that said, "Our work here is done." "Impossible!", says the Lord. Instead, the banner on the lawn reads, "Come and see!" (John 1.46), as an invitation to all. And they keep coming and coming. What a joy to behold that our newest challenge is not growing but being faithful stewards of that growth so that all who enter here inspired by the external beauty may find an even greater witness inside.

An important part of sharing, bearing witness to and teaching the Faith is knowing it in the first place, so Saint Paul calls us to be always "increasing in the knowledge of God." Here at Holy Trinity Church we are embarking on an exciting new opportunity to do so with our "Faith and Family Wednesdays." I join our Spiritual Life Ministry, Parish Council and Council of Ministries in inviting you to participate every Wednesday, starting January 8th. See pages 8-9 of this issue for more information and a listing of the offerings and schedule. There will be something for everyone, and we will be ready to respond to the needs of the community and adapt as we go along. This is our own unique design based on models successfully used for years in some other Orthodox parishes, and we look forward to your participation and feedback.

May the Lord of mercy bless you, your family and the entire Holy Trinity community with a blessed New Year!

In Christ,

WORSHIP LIFE

Fast-Free Celebration of the NativityDec. 25-Jan.4

In celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord, please note that the holy canons indicate that there is no fasting from December 25-January 4. This refers, of course, to the daily fasts of the church and does not eliminate the eucharistic fast (no food or drink from the time of waking up until Liturgy) for those receiving Holy Communion. Question? Please see Father John or Father Radu. Christ is born! Glorify Him!

New Year's Eve Liturgy/Celebration December 31

Want to start the New Year out "on the right foot?" Well, point that foot toward Holy Trinity Church and start your evening with the first Divine Liturgy of the New Year by celebrating the Feast of Saint Basil with Vespertine Liturgy at 6:00 p.m., followed by an exciting New Year's Eve Celebration featuring the live Greek band "The Levendes" from Detroit starting at 7:30. Be sure to prepare as usual for an evening Liturgy, with no food or drink following your noon meal, and of course the appropriate prayers of preparation for Holy Communion. There is no better way to sanctify yourself, your family and the entire New Year. "Kali Hronia!" Happy New Year to all!



Weekday Services January

Please take note of the following upcoming liturgical dates. Unless otherwise indicated, Orthros starts at 8:30 a.m., followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.. Guide to locations of services: "HT"=Holy Trinity Church, 985 Providence Boulevard, Pittsburgh; "SG"= Saint George Chapel, 8941 Ringesen Road, Allison Park.



Sun., Jan. 5: The Forefeast of Theophany

This is the first of two Theophany Divine Liturgies and services of Great Blessings of the Waters. The Liturgy will be followed by the Great Blessing of the Waters service. Please note that this is a fasting day in preparation for Theophany. (HT)

Mon., Jan. 6: The Holy Theophany of our Lord

This is the main Orthros and Divine Liturgy of this great Feast. We will offer the Great Blessings of the Water at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. (HT)

Tue. Jan. 7: The Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

This feast of the "greatest of the prophets" and Forerunner of Christ is held on the day after Theophany. (SG)

Fri. Jan. 17: Saint Anthony the Great

The feast of Saint Anthony will be celebrated at the Saint Anthony parish in Clairton. Watch the bulletin for details.

Thu. Jan. 30: The Three Hierarchs

Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Three Hiearchs, St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian and St. John Chrysostom, will be held at the Saint George Chapel.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

No Church School ClassDec. 29

Attention, parents: there will be no Church School class on December 29, so please join together to worship as a family.

Great Blessing of the Waters..... January 5

For our first year in our new facility, one of the two Great Blessing of the Waters service for Theophany falls on a Sunday. To give the entire parish family an opportunity to participate and receive that blessing, all our Church School students and staff will remain in the church at following Holy Communion for the water blessing service. Following that service, the Church School will proceed to their classes, and one of our priests will go around to each class and bless the classrooms and the students and staff. This is a wonderful way to the children to not only receive the blessing for their class but to offer their class to the Lord as well. Parents, please be sure to have your children there on January 5!

Saint Lydia Women's Study Ministry ... January 9, 23, 29

Attention women of all ages: you are invited to participate in the exciting 15th year of Holy Trinity Church's St Lydia Women's Study. This ministry is dedicated to the concerns and spiritual needs of women and begins with your choice of fellowship with others or quiet prayer time in the Church at 9:30am. The study portion takes place from 10:00-11:15am. NEW THIS YEAR: Since we have our wonderful new facility, the group gathers in the warmth and comfort of the Fireside room. This year's study topic is "Women of Faith," and will look at many inspiring examples of women in the life of the Church and the Bible through scripture readings, stories of saints, spiritual writings and hymns, all with an eye toward applying their examples in our own lives. Please come and bring a friend, sister, koumbara, etc! The topics for January are "St. Melanie: Philanthropy" (Jan. 9) and "St. Juliana: Tears" (Jan. 23).

The remaining schedule of meetings for Winter/Spring 2014 is: January 9 & 23, February 6 & 20, March 6 & 20, April 3 and May 15. Also, on January 29 and April 30 there will special "Faith and Family Wednesdays" evening sessions to give those who can't attend during the day an opportunity. For more information contact Stacy Dickos 412-298-9409 or saintlydia@HolyTrinityPgh.org or find the schedule at www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/saintlydia.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

GOYA MeetingJanuary 12

The GOYA teen ministry will hold a meeting following Church School on Sunday, January 12. Teens, please be present to plan for a busy winter and spring!

GOYA Basketball PracticesJanuary 6, 14, 28

Ready for GOYA basketball tournament season? Not without practices! All our teens are asked to attend practices on the following nights at these locations:

Monday, January 6, 6:30-8:30pm - Peebles Elementary

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30-8:30pm - Hosack Elementary

Tuesday, January 28, 6:30-8:30pm - Hosack Elementary
Questions? Please contact Presvytera Becky at GOYA@HolyTrinityPgh.org or 412-874-5195.

GOYA Metropolis Basketball TournamentsJanuary

In addition to hosting our own tournament this year (see below), our teens will be participating in two tournaments: January 17-19 and January 31-February 2. GOYAns: please confirm your attendance dates immediately with your coaches so our teams can plan their participation. Thanks!

HOPE and JOY Ministries Sleepover January 24

The HOPE and JOY ministries will host a sleepover at Holy Trinity Church on Friday January 24. For more information contact Jeanne Torlidas Willow at 412-369-8464 or jean-torlidas@verizon.net or Lori Thomas at 412-931-3707 or lthomas4@comcast.net and watch the HOPE and JOY email.

Volunteers Needed for HT Basketball Tourney ..Feb 14-16

Holy Trinity GOYA is putting out a call for all who are interested to help with the Metropolis GOYA Basketball Tournament being hosted at Holy Trinity Church on the weekend of February 14-16, 2014. Special areas of need are: hospitality greeters and guides, gymnasium supervisors, concession stand personnel, cooks for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday meals being served at the Church, and general setup and cleanup for the beginning and end of the event. Donations are also needed to help extend our Holy Trinity hospitality to our hundreds of visitors.

Although this is a GOYA event, basketball tournaments at Holy Trinity have always been a community project, and our teens will be depending on our help, since they are wrapped up in the games during the weekend.

Please use the form included in this issue of the *Herald* or contact Presvytera Becky (GOYA@HolyTrinityPgh.org or 412-874-5195) or Steve Hodge (tournament@HolyTrinityPgh.org) to volunteer or donate.

PHILOPTOCHOS MINISTRY NEWS

Vasilopita Celebration..... January 26

The Philoptochos will sponsor the annual Vasilopita Celebration on Sunday, January 26, following Divine Liturgy (normally held in early January but rescheduled for later than usual due to the feast of Theophany and other conflicts). Representatives from all parish ministries are asked to be present. In addition to commemorating the Feast of St. Basil, a collection will be taken to benefit St. Basil Academy, the young people's philanthropic institution run by the Archdiocese in Garrison, NY. Thank you for your participation!

Seniors Fellowship Ministry Tamburitians TripFeb. 16

The Senior Fellowship Group has reserved a limited number of seats for a Tamburitians performance scheduled to take place at 2:00 pm on Sunday, February 16, 2014, at the Cumberland Woods Village Legacy Theatre, less than 5 minutes from church. This show is certain to sell out quickly, so get your reservations in ASAP. With our group discount, tickets are only \$20.30 each (normally \$34.00 at the door).

Prepayment is required to secure your reservation. Please see Tina Fiedler during Coffee Hour or give her a call at 412-364-1545. America's longest-running multicultural song and dance company, the Duquesne University Tamburitians is a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists dedicated to the performance and preservation of the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

Parish Council Election Results/InstallationDec. 29

Thank you to all those whose names were submitted for Parish Council elections this year. The results from the vote have placed the following members on the Council for the 2014-2015 term: Dean A. Balouris, George Dickos, Jason Farmakis, Louis Kort, Marios Kritiotis and Alex Trilivas. Continuing on for the remainder of their term are: Joyce Athanasiou, George Danis, Andrew Janis, Leo Loomis, Charles Petredis, Stephanie Sedor, and Gerri Valliant. Parish Council installation will be held on Sunday, December 29, followed by the election of officers. May God be their guide and strength in all things, and may they all have our support at all times!

"Faith and Family Wednesdays" Begin! January 8

It's here! Starting January 8, Holy Trinity ministries are offering great new way to learn, grow, worship and participate in the life of the Church on a regular, weekly basis. Each Wednesday will feature a worship service followed by a series of learning and growing opportunities for adults and children of all interests and ages. The evening will go from 6:30 to 8:30pm. For growth in faith learning, there is a Bible Study, the Orthodox Book Club and Orthodoxy 101 for inquirers or anyone interested in the basics of the Faith. There will also be Orthodox Life Lessons in Byzantine chanting classes, liturgical cooking workshops, wellness sessions, Greek language classes, Greek dance practice, youth activities for GOYA, JOY and HOPE and other special offerings on a periodic basis. More information can be found on pages 8 and 9 of this issue of the *Herald*, so starting January 8, save Wednesdays evenings for Holy Trinity!

House Blessings.....January

Services for Holy Theophany and its surrounding feasts will be held as usual on January 5-7. An important part of that celebration is the Great Blessing of the Waters service. In order to bring the blessings of the feast and the Lord into our homes, Orthodox Christians traditionally invite the priest to bless their home with the Holy Water from the feast. Please see the enclosed information and schedule your visit by January 5. Never has your house blessed before? This is a great year to start! A House Blessing Request Form can be found on the back page of this issue. Please note that dates of your area and be available at that time. Rescheduling will only be done for cases of inclement weather.

New Year Holiday Office Schedule January 1

The offices of the Archdiocese, Metropolis and Holy Trinity Church will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, in observation of the New Year holiday.

Part of a regular series of contributions by our resident "Gheronda" (respected elder clergy), Father John Androutsopoulos

JANUARY 2014 – "THE VOICE OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH"

"A NEW DIRECTION FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR"



**Father John
Androutsopoulos**

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Rejoice in the Lord always!

A New Direction

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8a).

Beloved, let us redirect the ambitions and strivings of your life! That is the constant appeal of James to the early Christians. He has severe words for Christians who

would try to serve two masters. "God and Money", Matthew 6:24 and Luke 16:13.

But James never forgets the hope of the Gospel, with its power to heal our divided selves and set us in new directions. His final words to us are promises not denunciations. Despite our mistakes and our sins of the past, we are called to draw near to God and assured he will draw near to us. The Christian life is a life of constant renewal. It means daily repentance – seeing how we have lost the way in human situations and turning ourselves around.

In the turning, God is at hand. He gives us the strength to change. This is a message for young people, and for persons past 30, even those who have reached old age – whatever that is. The central message of Christianity is that through the gift of God's grace in Christ, we are reconciled to God, to ourselves, and to God's creatures around us.

A Happy New Year

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13, 14).

God is the giver of many wonderful new things. We come to Him by faith in Christ and He gives us spiritual regeneration. Then He gives us a new nature, a new heart, a new life, a new hope, and a new task.

Now to you and me, God is giving a New Year. This means a new start for some of us. We have not done so well in the old year – we have not lived for God as we should. Now we have a chance to make a new start. This means a new hope for some. We have dreamed that certain things would happen in the old year, but these dreams have not come true, so we will hold onto the hope that they will come true during

this new year. This means new obligations for some. Maybe it means a new job, maybe it means new family responsibilities, maybe it means a new position to maintain. You are resolving to carry these responsibilities more successfully in the coming year. Maybe it means a new life to live. Well, it is time for all of us to turn over a new leaf and to write a new story on a clean page. God help us to write well.

A Prayer for the Old Year

"Our Father Who art in Heaven, we have closed the books on the old year with mingled regrets and joys. We have known victories and defeats, joys and sorrows, blessing and helpful experiences. We are thankful, Father, for them all. We earnestly pray that, as we step over the threshold into a brand new year, we shall live closer to Thee and to one another. May we profit by the experiences of yesterday, buoyed up by new faith, hope, and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In His name we invoke Thy sweetest benedictions of grace and peace. Amen."

In our text, we see Paul looking two ways. He looked backward and thought of all that he had suffered for Christ and all that he had accomplished for Christ. Then he said, "I am going to turn my back upon all of that, for there is something more important ahead." Then looking forward he said, "I am going to rededicate my life to Christ and redouble my efforts for Him. I am pressing toward the maker for

the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." In like manner, it behooves us to look back over the past for a time – we are to turn all of that over to God and leave it with Him. Then we are to look toward the New Year, resolving in our hearts that with God's help we will make it a better year for Him. We wish each other a Happy New Year, but we must do more than that. We must Repent, Resolve and Remember.

We Are To Repent And Confess Our Sins In The Sacrament Of Holy Confession In Our Church

Repentance has first brought man into good standing with God and that position can never be changed. He has become a child of God and that relationship will continue forever. However, his enjoyment of that position can be altered. He can sin and lose sweet fellowship with the Lord. So we see that a Christian sins in some manner every day – in deed,



word or thought. He needs to come to God in penitence and ask for His forgiveness in the Sacrament of Holy Confession. We should never go to sleep at night until we have looked up to God, confessed our sin, and gotten everything right with Him. And surely we ought not to go in the New Year until we have repented of all the wrongs that we have done in the old year.

There are sins to be repented. Ah, we remember them!

We remember when we stepped aside and did the things which were wrong in God's sight and since we are Christians, we have not been happy about it. If we are real Christians and if we sin, we are not going to have an easy conscience. We are not going to say, "Oh, that wasn't anything." We are going to be miserable until things are right between us and our Lord. If we can go on sinning day after day and year after year and feel no pang of conscience about it, it just means that we have never known Jesus as our Saviour or God as our Heavenly Father.

Think of Simon Peter – he was Jesus' right-hand-man and nearest and dearest to him. But when the testing time came, when Jesus was in trouble, Peter wondered away. He slipped into the courtyard and warmed himself by the enemy's fire. He stood shoulder to shoulder with those who were crying out for the blood of Christ. Someone asked him if he knew Jesus. Three times he lied and said that he never knew Him. His last denial was accompanied by an oath. Do you think Peter was happy? No, he went out and leaned against the wall and wept bitterly. There was no peace in his heart until he came back to Jesus, sobbing out the words, "Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love Thee." So if you have any sins standing between you and God today, pull them out of your heart, hold them up to the light, forsake them and cast them away asking God to forgive and forget. And He will do just that. He has so promised and He always keeps His promise. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). There is neglect to be repented. We may not have indulged in open sin, but we have neglected our Christian duties.

Beloved, remember for the New Year we are to resolve to be a better person, a better Christian and to remember what Jesus did for us. What has He done? He knew that we had sinned and that the wrath of God would fall upon us. So He went to the cross and took our place and died in our stead.



A Prayer for Repentance

O Lord our God, good and merciful, I acknowledge all of my sins which I have committed every day of my life, in thought, word and deed; in body and soul alike. I am heartily sorry that I have ever offended Thee, and I sincerely repent; with tears I humbly pray Thee, O Lord: of Thy mercy forgive me all my past transgressions and absolve me from them. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy Grace, to amend my way of life and to sin no more; that I may walk in the way of the righteous and offer praise and glory to the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

A Prayer for the New Year

Dear Father, as we begin a New Year, we pray that all bitterness and wrath and malice and anger and evil speaking shall be put away from among us, and that we shall be kind to one another. Help us, Father, to be faithful to Thee. In the name of Thy Son Jesus. Amen.

Happy New Year!

A Happy Nameday to all of those who celebrate their namedays in the month of

January! May We all have a blessed, healthy and happy New Year.

*With His Love,
Rev. Fr. John K. Androutsopoulos, Protopresbyter*

Editor's Note:

Having received the blessing of our beloved "Gheronda," Father John, for all those who celebrate their namedays in January, I will take a moment of editor's privilege and, on behalf of the entire Holy Trinity community, offer our return prayers and blessings for him as well, for he, too, celebrates his own nameday on January 7th, the Feast of the Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist, Prophet and Forerunner. As Father John has often told me, when he was ordained by the respected Archbishop Iakokos of blessed memory, His Eminence exhorted him to always preach with the zeal and fervor of his patron saint. Now, even after many years of active parish ministry, Father John continues to heed those words and bring us his inspiring messages of faithfulness to Christ, His Holy Church and the Holy Scriptures. Thank you, Father John, and may God grant you many more years ... and many more articles!

With deepest respect and love, Father John Touloumes

A Greek language composition titled "A Mother Writes" adapted from the Greek periodical, "Pros Tin Nikin."

ΜΙΑ ΜΗΤΕΡΑ ΓΡΑΦΕΙ



Voula Hareras

Παιδί μου,
Υπάρχει μιά κρυφή νεανική
ἀρετή. Μ'αυτό θέλω νά πώ ότι,
ἐνώ φαίνεται ότι εἶναι φυσικό
νά μήν τήν ἔχουν οἱ νέοι, ἀλλά οἱ
μεγάλοι πού ἔχουν ἀντιμετωπίσει
πολλά καί ἀντίξοα στή ζωή, γιά νά
τήν κατορθώσουν κανείς πρέπει νά
διαθέτει νεανική δύναμη.

Ἰσως δέν μπορείς νά ὑποπτευθεῖς
ὅτι πρόκειται γιά τήν ἀρετή τῆς
ὑπομονῆς. Ὑπομονή σημαίνει νά ἔχεις - καλύτερα νά βρίσκεις
- τό θάρρος καί νά ἔχεις τήν τόλμη νά ἀντιμετωπίζεις τήν
δυσκολία πού συναντάς στά καθημερινά ἀλλά καί στά
μεγάλα θέματα τῆς ζωῆς, ὅχι μέ τό νά ἀντεπιτίθῃς
ὀργισμένος, οὔτε μέ τό νά παραδίδῃς φοβισμένος, ἀλλά μέ
μιά σοφή στάση ἀναμονῆς, πού θά σοῦ δίδει τό χρόνο καί τή
δυνατότητα νά δείξ καθαρά τί εἶναι αὐτό πού ἔχεις μπροστά
σου καί μέ ψυχραιμία καί ἀξιοπρέπεια καί ἐξυπνάδα νά τό
ἀντιμετωπίζεις θετικά.

Ἡ ὑπομονή ἐπείτα σοῦ δίδει τή δύναμη νά νικάς τά
ἐμπόδια χωρίς νά κατατρίβῃς μ'αὐτά, χωρίς νά ἀγανακτεῖς,
χωρίς νά μοχθεῖς ὅπως ὅποτε νά τά ἐξαφανίσῃς. Σκέψου
ἀθλητικά. Φαντάσου ὅτι μετέχεις σέ ἱππικούς ἀγώνες
μέ ἐμπόδια. Τό ἀλόγό σου τρέχοντας συναντά τό πρῶτο
ἐμπόδιο καί πασχίζει μέ τήν ὀρμή καί τή δύναμή του νά τό
ἐξαφανίσει ἀπό τό μέσο τοῦ δρόμου του. Εἶναι αὐτό τό πιό
ἀποτελεσματικό, Ἀν ἀσχοληθεῖ μέ αὐτό χάνει καί χρόνο καί
δυνάμεις καί ἡ νίκη ὅλο καί ἀπομακρύνεται, γιὰ αὐτή τρέχει
μέ φτερά. Ἀλλά εἶναι γνωστό πώς τό γυμνασμένο ἀλόγο
βάζει τά δυνατά του, ψηλώνει τά πόδια του καί τίς δυνάμεις
του κι ἀφίνει τό ἕνα ἐμπόδιο πίσω ἀπ' τ' ἄλλο καί τρέχει
ἀκάθεκτο πρός τό τέρμα.

Παιδί μου, στό δρόμο σου καθημερινά κι ἐσύ συναντάς
κάποια ἐμπόδια. Μιά δυσκολία ἐδάφους, ἄς πούμε - ἕνας
πειρασμός ψυχῆς, μιά ἀποτυχία, κάποια ἀδικία, μιά ἐλλειψη
κατανοήσεως ἐκεῖ πού δέν τό περιμένεις, ἡ κακία τοῦ κόσμου,
μιά ἀρρώστια, ἕνα οἰκογενειακό πρόβλημα, σοῦ ἀφαιροῦν
κάποτε τήν αἰσιοδοξία καί σοῦ δημιουργοῦν ἀναστολές γιά
νά συνεχίσῃς ν' ἀγωνίζεσαι.

Τότε εἶναι ἡ ὥρα τῆς δυναμικῆς ἀρετῆς τῆς ὑπομονῆς, πού

θά σοῦ δώσει τή δύναμη νά δημιουργήσεις ὁ, τί ὠραίο καί
μεγάλο. Τό εἶπε ὠραία καί ὁ ποιητής -

«Χέρια τῆς θέλησης νικοῦν τά δυνατά κι ἐνάντια,
κι ὡ χέρια τῆς ὑπομονῆς, πού τρίβετε διαμάντια!»

Γ. Δροσίνης

Ναί, γιὰτί ἡ ὑπομονή χαρίζει στόν ἄνθρωπο μιά
ἀλυσίδα ἀρετῶν ὅπως ψυχική ἀντοχή, ἐπιμονή γιά τήν
πραγματοποίηση τοῦ σκοποῦ, συνεργατικότητα, ἐσωτερική
ἐλευθερία. Εἰς φαίνεται πώς βάζει τόν ἑαυτό του κάτω ἀπό
τά γεγονότα, δηλαδή τά δέχεται ἐτοιμος νά τά ἀντιμετωπίσῃ,
ἡ κάτω ἀπό τούς ἀνθρώπους, πού δέν τούς ἀπορρίπτει ἀλλά
τούς φέρεται ψυχραῖμα καί μεγαλόψυχα, δέν αἰσθάνεται
καθόλου νικημένος.

Ἐνα αἰσθημα πνευματικῆς ἀνωτερότητας πλημμυρίζει
τήν καρδιά του, πού δέν μπορεί νά τό δοκιμάσῃ ὅποιος,
χάνοντας τήν ὑπομονή του, γίνεται ἀντίμαχος τοῦ ἄλλου, πού
τοῦ ἀνταποδίδει τά ἴσα χωρίς ποτέ ἐστὶ νά ἀναδεικνύεται καί
νικητής.

Εἶδα μικρά παιδιά, πού ἀντιμετώπιζαν γλυκά τά νεύρα τῶν
μεγάλων. Κι εἶδα μεγάλους νά τούς μαλακώνουν τήν καρδιά
αὐτά τά παιδιά. Εἶχα ἀκούσει γιά τήν ὑπομονητική ἐργασία
παιδιῶν πού δέν εἶχαν τίς δυνατότητες νά σπουδάσουν κάτι
σπουδαίο, γιὰτί δέν εἶχαν τά μέσα. Κάποτε καί γιὰτί δέν
φαίνονταν νά ἔχουν τίς ἀπαιτούμενες διανοητικές δυνάμεις.
Κι ὅμως αὐτά τά παιδιά μέ τήν ὑπομονή τους κέρδισαν ὁ,
τι δέν ἐφτάσαν ἄλλα παιδιά, πού εἶχαν ἰδεώδεις συνθήκες.
Θαύμασα καί τούς ἀθλητάς τῶν παραολυμπιακῶν ἀγώνων.
Αὐτά τά θαυμάσια παιδιά τῆς ὑπομονῆς!

Τήν ὑπομονή τή ζήτησε ἀπό μάς ὁ Κύριος Ἰησοῦς Χριστός,
ὅταν ἔλεγε - «ἐν τῇ ὑπομονῇ ὑμῶν κτήσασθαι τάς ψυχάς
ὑμῶν.» (Λουκ. κα'19)

Μέ τήν ὑπομονή μας, πού πηγάζει ἀπό τή νίκη τῆς
ἀνθρώπινης ἀδυναμίας κι ἀνυπομονησίας, πού ζητά τά
πάντα εὐκόλα καί ἀμέσως, θά κερδίσουμε τίς ψυχές μας, θά
ἀγγίξουμε τόν οὐρανό μέ τά αἰώνια βραβεῖα. Οἱ ἅγιοι τῆς
Εκκλησίας μας ἐξῆσαν αὐτή τήν ἥρωική πραγματικότητα
ὁ καθένας στήν προσωπική του ἱστορία καί φώτισαν καί
εὐεργέτησαν τόν κόσμο.

Ὁ δρόμος τῆς ὑπομονῆς τους εἶναι καί γιά μάς ἀνοιχτός.

Ἡ μητέρα σου

Πρός τήν Νικην

HOPE and JOY Christmas Caroling | Community Life Photo Journal



December 13, 2013: The HOPE and JOY ministries offered their annual tradition of Christmas carols for seniors at Cumberland Manor and the Vincentian Home. Father Radu led the group of youngsters and parents in bringing the joy and love of Christ to everyone there.

WORSHIP — BYZANTINE MUSIC — GREEK LANGUAGE CLASS — LITURGICAL COOKING

ABOUT THIS MINISTRY

How often have you heard or felt expressions like these?

“I don’t know enough about my faith.”

“I would like to understand the Bible better.”

“I wish I knew how to chant/make prosforo/kollyva?”

“I would like to learn to speak conversational Greek?”

As the Ethiopian said to the Apostle Philip in Acts 8.31,

“How can I, unless someone guides me?”

The Faith and Family Wednesdays ministry offers guides, teachers and practical experience in all these areas and more. The list below is just the start as it is inaugurated.

It also provides the “something for everyone” opportunity to spend time around your Holy Trinity family and enjoy worship, fellowship, growth and sometimes just fun! It’s a great way to live and learn your faith between Sundays!

INTRO
FAITH
Wednesdays
 AT HOLY TRINITY

ABOUT THE

We are blessed with talented community members, volunteers, clergy and visiting teachers and experts who w

Father John Touloumes - Protopresbyter and Proistamenos of Holy Trinity Church. **Father Radu Bordeianu** - Ass

Loredana Bordeianu - Theology major with professional training in Conservation and Restoration of Icons on W

Peter Papadakos - Byzantine Chant Instructor and Protopsalti of the Metropolis of Pittsburgh. **Guy and Stephani**

Holy Trinity Greek Festival and Spiritual Life Ministry Chairperson. **Anita Sinicrope Maier** - Psychotherapist sp

COMPLETE GUIDE TO JANUARY 2014 “FAITH & FAMILY WEDNESDAYS”

TRACK DATE	WORSHIP 6:30-7:00	STUDIES 7:15-8:30	GROWTH 7:15-8:30
JANUARY 8 Second Wednesday of the month	Vespers Service	Bible Study Father John	Orthodox “Learning the Faith” Father Di
JANUARY 15 Third Wednesday of the month	Service of the 9th Hour and Confessions	Orthodox Book Club Father Radu	Journey to Mount Sinai Couples Pre-Marriage Father J
JANUARY 22 Fourth Wednesday of the month	Paraclesis Service to the Theotokos	Bible Study Father John	Orthodox “Learning the Faith” Father Di
JANUARY 29 Fifth Wednesday of the month	Holy Unction	“God’s House/Our Responsibility” Group Service Project	Saint Lydia Vespers Ministry Father J

BIBLE STUDY — WELLNESS SEMINARS — ORTHODOX BOOK CLUB — JOURNEY TO MOUNT SINAI



ABOUT THE SCHEDULE

The most important thing about the schedule is simple: be there at 6:30 and there will be both a blessing and an opportunity for you. And bring the entire family, because there is something for them, too!

The worship service will go from 6:30-7:00pm. After a brief fellowship break, there will be a series of simultaneous learning, growth and activity sessions from 7:15-8:30pm. All sessions will take place in the various facilities of Holy Trinity Center.

There are five tracks each week: Studies, Growth, Youth, Greek Culture and Orthodox Life. Topics and specific activities will vary from month to month, and information will be published in the Herald, the Bulletin on the email list and on the website.

THE PEOPLE

will be offering lessons in all the tracks listed below. Here is an intro to just some of those already scheduled:

Assistant Priest of Holy Trinity Church and Associate Professor of Theology at Duquesne University. **Presvytera** Food. **Father Dimitri Callozo** - Proistamenos of the Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church in Youngstown. **Guimond** - Certified Paramedics and CPR instructors. **Joyce Athanasiou** - Longtime Pastry Chairperson of the specializing in Eating Disorders. **Joanne Germanos** - Registered Nurse. **Jessica Thomas** - Pitt Nutrition Major.

"FAITH AND FAMILY WEDNESDAYS" AT HOLY TRINITY

6:30	YOUTH 7:15-8:30	GREEK CULTURE 7:15-8:30	ORTHODOX LIFE 7:15-8:30
Orthodox 101 "The Faith" Dimitri	HOPE & JOY Ministry GOYA Teen Ministry	Adult Greek classes	Byzantine Chanting Class Peter Papadakos
Marriage Marriage Prep John	Youth Greek Dance Lessons	Adult Greek classes	The Orthodox Kitchen: Liturgical Cooking/Prosforo Joyce Athanasiou
Orthodox 101 "The Faith" Dimitri	Youth Movie & Game Night	Adult Greek classes	Wellness Seminar: CPR/Choking/AED Guy and Stephanie Guimond
Women's Bible Study John	"God's House/Our Responsibility" Group Service Project	Adult Greek classes	"God's House/Our Responsibility" Group Service Project



November 12, 2013: Holy Trinity Church's "Council of Ministries" holds its first meeting in the new church facility. Pictured here are leaders of the many ministries of the parish, working to coordinate and grow the ministry offerings and to involve everyone in the life of the Church.



November 17, 2013: Holy Trinity Choir holds one of its many Christmas season rehearsals under the direction of its director, Harriet Valliant. They worked hard during the holiday season to prepare both liturgical offerings and a special program of Christmas hymns and carols.



December 1, 2013: A great old tradition in a great new home! The GOYA Thanksgiving Turkey Bowl was played for the first time on the lawn (well, on the snow on the lawn!) at the new Holy Trinity Church. Referees Jim Balouris and Bob Marsh kept things in good order on the field for the players. Meanwhile, things stayed warm and cozy inside with hot chocolate, snacks and a Christmas card-writing project to support our troops for the holidays.



December 5, 2013: Holy Trinity Philoptochos graciously hosted its annual Christmas Luncheon for Seniors, held for the first time in the beautiful and sunny Gallery of the new Holy Trinity Church. The day featured great food from Arista Catering, gifts for each senior, Greek Christmas carols and even a visit from Santa Claus!



Thank You | 2013 Nativity Flowers Donor List

Many thanks to the following parishioners and friends for sponsoring the beautiful poinsettias for the decoration of the church during the Christmas holidays. May the Lord remember them and those whom they have honored!

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COMMEMORATIONS

Anonymous.....	For the health of my family (9 plants)
Victor and Patricia Amurgis & Family	In memory of our loving parents; William & Harriet Amurgis (3 plants)
Harry & Joyce Athanasiou.....	In memory of George Athanasiou
Harry & Joyce Athanasiou.....	In memory of George Bertos
Harry & Joyce Athanasiou.....	For the health of our family
Anthony & Helen Balouris	For the health of family & friends
Anthony & Helen Balouris	In memory of our family, past community members & friends
Reggie & Marianne Bonfield	In memory of Frank Chapas
Bill and Sophea Chapas & Family	In memory of John W. Chapas
Cynthia Morris Criss.....	In memory of Tom & Dora Morris (5 plants)
Shea Danis	In memory of Demetrios Danis (2 plants)
Helen DeMoss.....	In memory of John DeMoss and for the health of his family
Stacy and George Dickos	In memory of our fathers, Peter Gidas and Dinis Dickos
Mina and Jeff Duroske & Family.....	In memory of James & Elli Stephanou (2 plants)
Frank Katina, Helena & Mike Erdeljac.....	In memory of Mike & Theologia Alexiades
Christian, Becky, Jackson & Esme Farmakis.....	In memory of John Farmakis
Christian, Becky, Jackson & Esme Farmakis.....	For the health of Inez Jovenall
Bill and Tina Fiedler & Family	For the health of our family, friends and the Holy Trinity Community
Bill and Tina Fiedler & Family	In memory of our beloved mom Sophie, niece Danielle, grandparents, godparents, aunts, uncles & cousins
Tessie Frankos	In Memory of James Frankos and daughter Demetria
Connie Fries	For the health of family & friends
George & Phyllis Geanopulos	In memory of Harry & Helen Geanopulos
George & Phyllis Geanopulos	In memory of John and Erma Haas
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Georgiadis.....	For the health of our parents
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Georgiadis.....	In memory of Peter Georgiadis
Eugenia Graser	In memory of my parents and my husband
Sally Hionedes	In memory of Paul Hionedes
Sally Hionedes	In memory of Pete Ladakos
Sally Hionedes	In memory of Kay Hartig
Sally Hionedes	In memory of Jimmy Hartig
Athena & Steve Hodge	In memory of John & Elaine Rexine
Andrew and Sofia Janis & Family.....	In memory of Athanasia & Clifford Geanopulos
Andrew and Sofia Janis & Family.....	In memory of my deceased grandparents, aunts and uncles
Brian & Debbie Jewell	In memory of Samuel Booras
Brian & Debbie Jewell	In memory of Marsha Booras
Brian & Debbie Jewell	In memory of Kathy Page
Brian & Debbie Jewell	In memory of Bill Meni
Brian & Debbie Jewell	For the health of Georgia Booras
Brian & Debbie Jewell	For the health of Jodi Meni
George & Scarlet Karpakis.....	For the health of family & friends (2 plants)
James & Bettina Kermes.....	For the health of family & friends
Vasiliki Kourouklis.....	In memory of Lucky Kourouklis
Vasiliki Kourouklis.....	In memory of Stavroula Repana
Mike & Julie Kritiotis.....	For the health of family & friends
Susan Manesiotis.....	In memory of Louis & Nikki Manesiotis
Susan Manesiotis.....	In memory of Michael & Georgia Manesiotis
Susan Manesiotis.....	In memory of Victor & Audrey Mus
Susan Manesiotis.....	In memory of Susan Will
James and Judith Mermigas & Family.....	In memory of Theodore Mermigas
Michael P. Panos.....	In memory of Constance and Patricia Tsalas
Peter & Mary Panos.....	In memory of George & Mary Panos (2 plants)
Orestes & Arlene Paras.....	In memory of John & Maria Paras and Michael & Diana Paras
Orestes & Arlene Paras.....	In memory of Albert & Rose Russell and Arthur Russell
Charlie and Jan Petredis & Family	With Thanks to God for our Blessings
Charlie and Jan Petredis & Family	In memory of Papou Bill Petredis (2 plants)
Dorothy Phatueros & Family	In memory of Peter Phatueros
Rania Pontikos.....	For the health of Pauline Pontikos (2 plants)
James, Mary and Alexander Portellos	In memory of Maria Portellos Elderkin
Evan & Teri Rigas.....	In memory of John & Theologia Rigas (2 plants)
Angie Roman	In memory of Gus Roman
Steve & Electra Roman.....	In memory of our parents
Dean Scoumis & Family	For the health of Constantine, Jessica, Kaeley, Theodore & Angeliki (4 plants)
James F. Sicalias.....	In memory of my mother Bessie Cocheres-Sicalias
Charles Siebott & Irene Karavolos.....	For the health of our family
James Steve Statheas	In memory of Steve & Demetra Statheas
Robert and Marianne Stearns & Stephen	In memory of Eric Michael Stearns
Katina Tanner	In memory of Nicholas Tanner
Harriet Valliant	In memory of Helen Valliant
Mary Magdalene Welsh.....	In memory of my beloved mother, Julia Welsh
Michael & Virginia Zagnacky.....	In memory of our beloved daughter Danielle, her Grandma Marge, Nouna Helen and Great-Grandparents
Anthony & Aspasia Zissis.....	In memory of our parents
Lou, Julie and Ale Zozos	In memory of Eileen Hoffmann – Julie's mom and Ale's grandmother

The Feast of Theophany and the Blessing of Homes and Businesses

"At Your Epiphany, the whole creation sang Your praises. For You, our God, have appeared on earth and dwelt among men. You have sanctified the streams of the Jordan, sending down from on high the most Holy Spirit."

From the Service of the Great Blessing of the Waters



"What is Theophany?"

Every year on January 6th, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of Holy Theophany, which is the baptism of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church and is also known by the name, "Epiphany." The Baptism of Christ in the River Jordan at the hand of St. John the Baptist sets the example for our own baptism by water in the Holy Spirit.

"How do we celebrate Theophany?"

The main celebration is, of course, found in the Church with the holy services on January 5th (the Forefeast), January 6th (Theophany) and January 7th (Synaxis of St. John the Baptist). We also take the feast home with us by having our homes blessed with the Holy Water.

"What happens during a House Blessing?"

You will receive a call to confirm your appointment a day or two ahead. When the priest arrives, he will conduct a brief service either in your dining room or at the place where your family usually offers its prayers. It is best to have the entire family present if possible, especially children. Please be sure to have an icon and a list of the first names of all the members of your household. If you have a home censer, you may prepare it also. A bowl of water is not necessary, as the priest will bring the holy water sprinkler from the church.

The priest will offer the blessing service and offer the names of the people present and those contained on the family names list in prayer. As the service concludes, please lead the priest throughout the house to sprinkle the holy water while chanting the hymn of Theophany. He will bring a copy of the service so you can follow along and chant the hymn. When the service is over,

please understand if your priest needs to keep the visit brief in order to cover all the homes scheduled on that day.

"Should I Have Our House and Business Blessed **Every** Year?"

Yes! In the Orthodox Christian tradition, homes should be blessed each year to bring the blessings of the Feast of Theophany into the home and to rededicate ourselves and our family to the Lord. It is an annual commitment, celebration, thanksgiving and family prayer. It is also a pious way of asking God's blessings on our business and livelihood as good stewards of all His gifts.

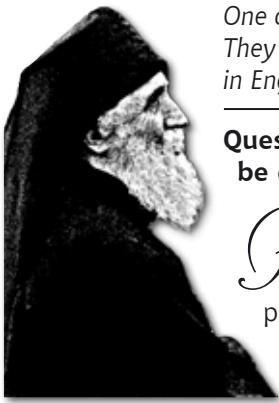
2014 House Blessing Schedule

Date	Time	Area	Zip Codes
Thu. Jan. 9	3pm-6pm	Northside, Perrysville, Bellevue, Westview	15212, 15214, 15202
Thu. Jan. 9	5pm-8pm	South Hills (all areas)	15102, 15216, 1522X, 1524X
Mon. Jan. 13	3pm-8pm	Allison Park, McKnight, Ross, McCandless	15101, 15237
Tue. Jan. 14	3pm-8pm	Gibsonia, Treesdale	15044
Thu. Jan. 16	3pm-8pm	Cranberry, Mars & North	16046, 16066
Mon. Jan. 20	3pm-8pm	Wexford	15090
Thu. Jan. 23	3pm-8pm	Wexford	15090
Fri. Jan. 24	3pm-8pm	All other areas not listed/Make-up date/Snow date	Various

Important note: Please be available at the time scheduled for your area. Re-scheduling will only be done in cases of inclement weather. Thank you for your help!

PLEASE RETURN THE FORM ON THE BACK PAGE OR EMAIL FATHER JOHN john@holytrinitypg.org BEFORE JAN. 5 TO SCHEDULE YOUR HOME. YOU WILL RECEIVE A CALL TO CONFIRM YOUR TIME.

Reminder: Please schedule your House/Office Blessing by January 5th! See back page.



Elder Paisios

One of the great blessings of Orthodoxy is the presence, prayers and inspired words of the Holy Elders of the Faith. They have been referred to as “precious vessels of the Holy Spirit.” In recent years, many books have been published in English with their writings and talks. This column provides an opportunity for each of us to be blessed by their words.

Question: Geronda, when can a person be considered to be fair?

According to the world, a fair person is one who judges on the basis of human justice. But perfection means being fair not on the basis of human justice, but on the basis of divine justice; for this is when God will bless him. When I do not insert my ego and self-interest into my actions, then, in a sense, I force God to grant me His divine Grace. All human justice, even the most perfect, always contains human elements. And as long as human justice exists in the spiritual man, the Holy Spirit attempts to remove it as a foreign body, while the man struggles with ups and downs that tire him spiritually. When he acquires divine righteousness, then comes the glow of purity and divine enlightenment.

Question: Then when someone says that he has been wronged and treated unjustly, would it be helpful if I remind him that there is also divine justice?

No, it's better to tell him to examine things in a spiritual manner according to the Gospel. For if you tell him, “There is divine justice,” he will believe that he has been indeed treated unjustly, whereas he may have treated others unjustly himself. It's true, a heart can be so pained... I met someone who attended Church regularly, who fasted and so forth, and had the impression that he lived a spiritual life. In the meantime, although he owned five apartments, received two salaries, and had no children, he wouldn't give even a drachma to a poor man. So I told him, “You have so many poor relatives, why don't you give them something? What will you do with your wealth? Give some of it to the widows and orphans.” And do you know what he said to me? “You mean I shouldn't collect rent from my widowed sister?” When I heard that, the blood rushed to my head. There, that's worldly justice for you! “Since the children who are going hungry are not mine, I'm not responsible for them. I'm not unjust. God forbid that I should be unjust to anyone!” That's what they say to comfort their thoughts, their conscience, but they don't have true peace and comfort.

With human reasoning and a worldly sense of justice, they remain indifferent to another human being's plight. How can they then experience anything spiritual? There are people who may give away an entire house as a blessing but will take someone else to court for a mere month's unpaid rent. How do you explain that?

Question: Geronda, is it human justice?

It's not even human justice. It has only a tiny bit of human justice. Someone will give away one hundred thousand to one person, and then turn around and drive a hard bargain with the taxi driver, threatening to report

him to the tourist police over a mere one thousand drachmas.

Question: Geronda, could their big gifts be out of pride to satisfy their own ego?

That's it. They give the large sums with pride; they do it for their own glory, not for the glory of God. They may even give everything away, but they don't feel love. Today there is a false spirit. Even spiritual people seek legal justice and still claim to believe and trust in God! “My just claim, your just claim...” This is the “gospel” of reason, that strange reason, which I wish didn't exist! They say, “I don't want anyone to take me for a fool.” Even Christians will file a lawsuit against someone else. Even when they are in the right, they should not go to the courts; how much even more so when they are not in the right.

This is the reason why some people become unbelievers. They see that one—who doesn't go to Church or attend vigils—will not take someone to court, while another—who does go to Church and attends vigils—will take some poor fellow to court for a small amount of money, just so that he can have what is rightfully his. I spoke to someone who wanted to take another person to court, and asked him, “Are you in need? Do you have more children? Are you being forced by your wife?” “No, I am doing it for the sake of justice,” he replied. What can you say?

What is worst of all in such cases is that such people are not even troubled by their conscience, since they say, “Such things are not for us. We are here for spiritual things.” They may even have the thought, “That person may find comfort in sacrificing himself, but I find comfort in having my peace and quiet ...” and may even criticize the other person for not being spiritual. But the truth is that Christ is comforted where there is spiritual nobility, the spirit of sacrifice that does not proclaim itself.

Question: When we see another person going through difficulty, shouldn't we help him any way we can?

Of course! But I have observed a certain worldly spirit that has crept into many spiritual people. They have set up their own worldly “gospel”, a “gospel” made to their measure, and they tell you, “A Christian must preserve his dignity; he must not appear to be a fool.” In other words, they deal with everything using a worldly rationality and sense of justice. They insist on getting what's owed them. “I'm entitled to it,” they say, “I didn't harm him, and I don't want him to wrong or harm me!”

And in the meantime, they have their conscience clear, assuming that they are in the right. And one can see in such a person all the worldly rights. He has no *philotimo*, he has no sacrifice, he has nothing; he has set up his own “gospel” but has no relationship with God. How then can such a person be overshadowed by the Grace of God?

Excerpted from Elder Paisios of Mount Athos, “Spiritual Counsels, Vol. III: Spiritual Struggle”

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**GPS: Opposite 9000 Babcock Boulevard
or at corner of Cumberland & Babcock**

Phone: 412-366-8700

Fax: 412-366-8710

Internet: www.HolyTrinityPgh.org

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<p>(NOTE: You may also EMAIL this information to: fjt@HolyTrinityPgh.org)</p> <p>A schedule and description of the House Blessing tradition can be found inside this issue of The Herald. If you would like this special blessing for your family, home or business, please mail or deliver this form to the church office by <u>January 5</u>. Your date and time will be confirmed by the day before your visit. Note: Please be available at the time indicated on the schedule. Re-scheduling will only be done in cases of inclement weather. Thanks!</p>	

Scripture of the Month: "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink." (John 7.37)