



# THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

MAY - JUNE 2014

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HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**MAY 25, 2014  
SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NOTICE & AGENDA  
ENCLOSED**

## QUICK NEWS



Hundreds of faithful process around the new Holy Trinity Church in the first Holy Friday Procession on April 18, 2014. Want more photos of the life and ministries of Holy Trinity Church? See the Community Life Photo Journal on pages 6-13 or visit our online photo gallery site at [photos.HolyTrinityPgh.org](http://photos.HolyTrinityPgh.org).



## "A Pascha New and Holy!"

First Resurrection Celebration at the New Holy Trinity Church

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, Protopresbyter  
Church: 412-366-8700  
Home: 412-831-3574  
E-mail: [fjt@HolyTrinityPgh.org](mailto:fjt@HolyTrinityPgh.org)

### Production

Mary Portellos, Secretary/Office Administrator  
E-mail: [office@HolyTrinityPgh.org](mailto: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](http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org)  
Email: [office@HolyTrinityPgh.org](mailto:office@HolyTrinityPgh.org)

Holy Trinity Church is a parish of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh ([www.odpgh.org](http://www.odpgh.org)) and Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America ([www.goarch.org](http://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

#### 2014 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](http://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!



## From His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace.

John 1.16

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

“Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!” And for the first time, that glorious news was proclaimed with the lit candles, joyful voices and open hearts in the new Holy Trinity Church. And in doing so, we have rounded out the liturgical year of great feasts as we approach

the one year anniversary at our new location, having moved in on June 22, 2013.

It seems that for so long, the first Pascha in our new church was so far away it was hard to imagine. But just last month in this same column, I invited you to join me in doing just that: imagining what that the moment would be like. “We will, as always, await with great anticipation the light emerging from the darkened sanctuary at midnight, but this year—for the first time in Holy Trinity history—that divinely-illuminated glow will cast its light not only upon the faces of those standing on the *terra firma* of the church floor, but also on the grand and beautiful Resurrection icon as it soars above the darkness.” Indeed, that was the case, the first moments of which were captured in the photo to the right.

Whether you were in the front row, the back row, at the Holy Altar, anywhere in between, or even watching on our live Internet broadcast, it is hard to imagine how it could have been any more beautiful, glorious and, as stated above from the Gospel of the Resurrection Liturgy, filled with His fullness and grace. Emerging from the darkness of the Holy Sanctuary through the Royal Gates with a candle lit from a candle blessed on the actual Tomb of Christ, it amazed me how quickly and glowingly the entire temple was filled with that light, and how beautifully that light was filled with His grace and peace. What a great joy it was that we could share that together as a Holy Trinity family. To God be the glory!

I offer my deepest pastoral and personal thanks to all those who contributed so generously of their time, talents and treasures during Lent and Holy Week, equipping us with all that was necessary throughout the season: Parish Council, Choir, Chanters, Acolytes, Church School Staff, Philoptochos, youth ministries, and of course, my beloved fellow clergy, starting with Father Radu and including Father George Daskalakis and the various visitors during Lent and Holy Week.

So as we go forth from here in the brightness of the Resurrection toward the one-year anniversary of the opening of those holy doors, we are finally able to “settle in” to the rhythm of our new life here with the first year behind us, but we should never be willing to “settle back” and think this divine work is done. Remember, when the Apostles received the Good News of the Resurrection from the Myrrh-bearing women, it was not the end of the story, but just the beginning. It is likewise with us: it is just the beginning. Christ is risen!



Herald Personal Sponsor for this Issue:  
**In memory of Steve Karavolos  
by his family**

**WORSHIP LIFE**

**Weekday Services ..... May/June**

Please take note of the following weekday Liturgies for the feast days in May and June. Unless otherwise indicated, Orthros is at 8:30 a.m., followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30 at the St. George Chapel (SG).

**Wed. May 21:** Ss. Constantine & Helen (SG)

**Wed. May 28, 6:30pm:** Vespereal Liturgy of the Ascension of the Lord. Note: This is an evening Liturgy and will take place on the last "Faith and Family Wednesdays" session of the season at Holy Trinity Church.

**Sat., June 7:** Saturday of the Souls (SG)

**Pentecost Sunday, June 8:** Pentecost Sunday Liturgy at Holy Trinity Church, followed by the "Kneeling Vespers" of the Holy Spirit. This is our Feastday weekend.

**Mon., June 9:** Feast Day of the Holy Spirit. This is the Nameday Liturgy of our parish (HT).

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Church School Graduation Date ..... May 25**

Attention Church School Staff, Parents and Students: Please note that the last day of Church School for this semester will be May 25. Church School Graduation will be held on that day, and all students are asked to attend and sit with their class during Liturgy. Following the service, the Church School will have a graduation celebration and picnic lunch.

**YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**HOPE/JOY "Wake Up the Garden" Day..... May 10**

The Holy Trinity JOY and HOPE groups will be bringing the Church community garden back to life on May 10, 2014, from 10:00am to 2:00 pm. They will be building new planter beds and planting vegetables. Bring your garden tools (shovels, rakes, gloves, hammers, wheel barrows, etc.) and the whole family to help with this community event.

**GOYA Hoagie Sale..... May 11**

Holy Trinity GOYA will be selling hoagies from May 1-11 and will have them ready for pick-up or delivery May 17 & 18. Thank you for supporting our teens!

**GOYA Meeting..... May 18**

Our GOYA teen ministry will hold a summer planning meeting on Sunday, May 18, following Liturgy.

**Summer Camp Dates . . Register Today! Filling Up Quickly!**

Attention all Holy Trinity campers and families: Online registration is now available on the Metropolis Web Site, pittsburgh.goarch.org. Please note the deadline for registering without a late fee and for receiving the Holy Trinity grant is **May 17, 2014**. All applications submitted online by that published date will have a total fee of only \$350 (Regular registration fee of \$500 - \$150 Holy Trinity grant). It just doesn't make sense to waste the money: Going to camp? ... get your application in today! To receive the Holy Trinity grant you must register online and use the **Holy Trinity discount**

**code "SC14HTP"** at the time of registration. Don't wait - Week 4 has filled already! Please note that Holy Trinity campers are attending all four weeks, so pick one soon!

**FESTIVAL NEWS**

**Holy Trinity's Taste of Greece ..... Labor Day Weekend**

Please mark Wednesday, August 27, through Sunday, August 31 on your calendar for the second Taste of Greece food festival at our new location. The Festival Committee is asking everyone, new members and old hands, young and young at heart, to pledge a donation of their time and talents so that we can achieve our two big goals: 1) another "most successful festival ever", and 2) fellowship with all of our new Holy Trinity church family members! See you there!

**Festival Volunteers Needed by the Day, Not Just the Hour!**

The Festival Committee is looking for parishioners to fulfill a variety of roles—there is something for everyone and everyone's help will be needed! Please consider donating your day (or days!) as your offering of stewardship to Holy Trinity Church. Many of our parishioners use vacation days from work, as we will need lots of help during the weekday lunches on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you are subscribed to the parish mailing list, look for more information in your inbox soon! To learn about how to help, please email festival@holytrinitypgh.org or contact one of the following festival chairpeople: Harry Athanasiou:412-292-4205, Leo Loomis: 412-563-2323, or Stephanie Sedor: 412-780-6183.

**Spanakopita Preparation ..... Tuesdays in May**

Spanakopita preparation is being held every Tuesday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm through May 20. All are welcome to help. Contact Kay Balouris at 412-766-1263.

**Pastry Cooking..... Tuesdays in June & July**

Pastry preparation and cooking will be held every Tuesday from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm beginning June 3 and continuing through July 15. All are welcome to help. Contact Joyce Athanasiou at 412-292-4206.

**Souvlaki Lamb Cutting..... June 7, July 25 & July 26**

Please sharpen your knives and mark your calendars for souvlaki cutting and skewering! The dates are: Saturday, June 7: 12:00 noon-5:00pm, Friday, July 25: 3:00pm-Midnight and Saturday, July 26: 7:00am-12:00 noon.

**COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Spring General Assembly..... May 25**

The Regular Spring General Assembly will be held on Sunday, May 25, following Divine Liturgy. An agenda is enclosed with this issue.

**Holy Trinity Golf Classic..... June 30**

See the enclosed flyer for information on the Sixth Annual Holy Trinity Golf Classic at Diamond Run Golf Club. Proceeds benefit the Holy Trinity Capital Campaign. For information, contact Anthony Loomis at 412-953-5007 or anthonytloomis@gmail.com.

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

**MAY 2014 – "THE VOICE OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH"**

**CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!**



**Father John  
Androutsopoulos**

**What Is A Mother?**

It takes a Mother's love to make a house a home, a place to be remembered, no matter where we roam. It takes a Mother's patience to bring a child up right, and her courage and cheerfulness to make a dark day bright. It takes a Mother's thoughtfulness to mend the heart's deep "hurts", and her skill and endurance to mend the socks and shirts. It takes a Mother's kindness to forgive us when we err, to sympathize in trouble and to bow her head in prayer. It takes a Mother's wisdom to recognize our needs, and to give us reassurance by her loving words and deeds. It takes a Mother's endless faith, her confidence and trust, to guide us through the pitfalls of selfishness and lust. And that is why in all the world there could not be another who could fulfill God's purpose as completely as a Mother. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL!

**The Fifth Commandment: "Honor Thy Father And Mother"**

God tells us how sons and daughters should treat their mothers and fathers. The family is a divine institution. God established it. It is the foundation of all human society. When the home decays, the church decays and the state decays. And the home decays when we don't have the right relationship between the children and their parents. We honor our parents by giving them the proper respect and reverence. We are never to call them "the old man" or "the old lady."

Think of what we owe our parents. We are obligated to them for life itself. They gave us life, they brought us into the world, their very blood flows in our veins. Then they gave us love. Now, because God loved us and gave His Son to die for us, He expects and demands our gratitude. Nothing in the world is so like God's love as the love of a good mother and father. Therefore, this love places us under greatest obligation to them. Shakespeare says, "How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child." Then think of the sacrifice our parents made for us.

The Bible is strong on this matter of honoring parents: to honor them is the foundation of Christian duty, decency and morality. We honor our parents by obeying them. Our parents are God's representatives. They are for us in God's stead. We have no more right to disobey our parents than we have to disobey God.

In Ephesians 6:1 we read, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." Many modern children have changed this verse. They say, "Parents, obey your children, or you will catch trouble."

Disobedience to parents leads to crime and unhappiness. The biggest business in America today is the crime business, and the majority of criminals come from homes where no wholesome discipline is known. Every criminal once sat in some mother's lap. Parents, you are doing the worst thing

you can do for your children when you don't enforce obedience. Children, you do not like this discipline now, but someday you will thank God that your parents made you obey. Jesus gave us a beautiful example of obedience to parents. His mother was Mary and his foster-father was Joseph. Jesus was always obedient and kind to them.

We honor our parents by caring for them in their time of need. One of the most serious problems of the day concerns what to do with people when they become old and helpless. Our parents loved us in spite of our faults. We should feel the same way about them, especially when they grow old. If we must carry them in our arms, we remember that they carried us. If we must feed them with a spoon, we must remember that they fed us with a spoon. If we must clothe them, we must remember that they clothed us. If we must provide for them, we must remember that they provided for us. Jesus on the Cross provided for His mother and again set an example for us.

A young couple had to take care of their aged parents. The old folks had palsy and when they ate their meals, they often dropped food on the tablecloth. So, the son made a wooden trough from which they were forced to eat. One day, the little boy in the home was seen to be building something. His mother asked him what he was building, and he replied, "I am building a wooden trough for you and daddy to eat out of when you get old and I have to keep you." As Christians, we must take care of our parents.

**The Parents' Part**

If the parents expect to be honored, they must be worthy of honor. What must you do to win their honor? The parents must live for Christ. So, if you parents today want your children to remember you in the right way, parents must lead their children to Christ. You want your children to have good physical health, but what about their spiritual health? You call the doctor when your children are physically sick. Do you pray when they are spiritually sick? You want them to learn the things of the world. How about the things of God? The Bible tells us to bring up our children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." This means that we are to begin early by telling them Bible stories and teaching them of Christ and their need of Him. It means taking them to Church and Sunday school. Then you will be worthy of the honor of your children.

Let us enter into the joy of Him who said "Rejoice". There is no power that can completely overpower the Truth; there is not such barrier which would be able to permanently halt the procession into the world of triumphant Love. What can be more radiant and cheerful than this faith in the ultimate celebration of Truth, Love and Goodness! Enjoy ye all the feast of faith; for Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

*With the Love of the Risen Lord,  
Rev. Fr. John K. Androutsopoulos, Protopresbyter*

Hello to All My Precious Children!

Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

"Yiayia," I said to one of my favorite people in the world, "why do I always have to tell Zoe, 'I'm sorry,' when I do something to her? Sometimes I think I'm right, anyway. And besides, I'm her big brother! But Mommy says I must apologize and mean it."



"Well, Spero," my Yiayia said, "did you know that an apology can stop a fight, even between brothers and sisters? There is a story in the Bible about this. Abigail's husband, Nabul, was rude to King David. That made the king so angry, he decided to start a fight. An apology would have stopped things, but Nabul just wouldn't say those three powerful words, "I am sorry." Abigail knew that a fight would be terrible, so she brought dinner to the king's men. It was very dangerous for her to do; the men might have been so angry, they might have killed her. But she took the chance, and she apologized for her husband's behavior. King David accepted the apology and he promised not to fight. Spero, can you imagine what might have happened if there was no apology? Remember, the Bible tells us, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God' (Matthew 5.9)."

Funny thing, a few days later my little sister, Zoe, came and asked me, Spero, a tough question, too. "Spero," she said, "how can I have more patience?" "Well, Zoe," I said, putting my Yiayia thinking cap on, "I know that it is not always easy to have patience, so when I have trouble being patient I always think about a man named Job from the Old Testament. Job had a very good relationship with our Heavenly Father. But one day, Job lost everything he had: his flocks were stolen, his children were killed, his house was destroyed and his money was lost. He became poor almost instantly. His friends turned against him, and even his wife challenged his faith. Then he got sick." "Oh, Spero," said Zoe, "that sounds terrible! Why did God let so many terrible things happen to him?" "Well, little sister," I said, "Job didn't understand, either, why these things happened to him. He asked God about it, but he got no answer. So Job had to be patient and wait and put his trust in Him. All that time, Job never stopped praying and blessing God. Because he was so patient, the Bible says he gave Job twice as many blessings as he'd had before all his tragedies started. Remember, Zoe, just like our Heavenly Father took care of Job, He will take care of us, too. All we have to do is trust in Him!"

"And while we are speaking about the Old Testament, little sister, I have another story to share, this time about family. Do you know it's very important to show your family that you love them and care about them? The story of Joseph and his brothers teaches us a lot about that. It's not so nice in the beginning, because Joseph's brothers were very mean to him. They were so mean, in fact, that they sold him to be a slave to the Egyptians. But God was watching over him and had a special plan. Eventually, Joseph became a very powerful assistant to the Pharaoh and was like a ruler. One day, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt looking for food during a terrible famine and found Joseph, but they didn't know it was him. Joseph recognized them, however, and even though they had done a terrible thing to him, he forgave them because God intended it for something good. When he told them about it, he even cried because he was so glad to see them. So, Zoe, I would like to remind all my precious little ones how important it is to think of many ways to say, 'I love you!' to our family and friends."

"That goes especially for our parents, since God says we should honor our mother and father, and during the month of May we should especially find ways to let our Mommies, Yiayia's, Nouna's and other mothers know just how much we love and appreciate them! Happy Mother's Day to all!"

Love in Christ,  
Spero



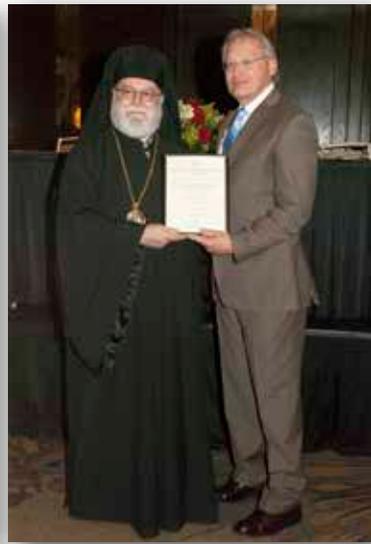






# Community Life Photo Journal | Metropolis Awards Banquet

**April 26, 2014:** Two members of the Holy Trinity community were honored at the First Annual Metropolis of Pittsburgh Saint Photios Awards Banquet at the Westin Convention Center Hotel. Katherine (Kay) Balouris and William (Bill) J. Fiedler, Jr., were recognized for their long-time and significant, dedicated stewardship and labors of love for Holy Trinity Church. Many fellow Holy Trinity parishioners attended in recognition of this honor. "AXIO!!" (They are worthy!) Congratulations!





**April 5, 2014:** Holy Trinity Church had the honor of hosting the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) Syria Relief Fund Dinner in our new facilities. Hundreds of Orthodox Christians and supporters of religious freedom attended, contributing over \$30,000 to IOCC's humanitarian relief efforts. The event was co-sponsored by Holy Trinity Philoptochos with many volunteers from Philoptochos and the GOYA assisting in preparing for an running the event.



Another significant honor for Holy Trinity Church during this event was the presence of Metropolitan Silouan (L) of Buenos Aires, the Antiochian Patriarchal Vicar of New York. It was His Eminence's first appearance in the Pittsburgh region as he tends to the transition of the Antiochian Archdiocese to a new leader following the repose of Metropolitan Philip. He is pictured here with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas (R) and His Grace Bishop Thomas (C).



**March 30, 2014:** Father John was invited and honored to serve the Divine Liturgy and to be the guest homilist at the Orthodox Chapel at Princeton University. The Chapel is a permanent Orthodox Mission and one of the rare campus instances where an Orthodox priest conducts services every Sunday for students at the University as well as other Orthodox Christians in the area. Pictured here are: Michael Kochis (student), Fr. Dan Skvir (Chaplain), Deacon Michael Sochka, Fr. John and George Touloumes (student),



# Thank You | 2014 Lenten and Paschal Donations

Thank you to the many parishioners and friends who offered donations for Lent and Holy Week through the envelope system. Thank you also to the following donors of special flowers and items used during this holy season. Thank you also to all those who served so generously throughout the season setting up, running events, preparing meals and making the season so beautiful!

## Salutations to the Theotokos Services Flowers for the icon of the Theotokos

Bill & Lynda Areheart..... For the health of Benjamin William  
 Connie Fries ..... For the health of Family and Friends  
 Nicholas & Joy Loomis..... In memory of Mary & John Kokoros and Cornelia & John Sampson  
 Nicholas & Joy Loomis..... For the health of their Family  
 Peter & Mary Panos..... For the health of the Panos Family

## Holy Week & Resurrection Services

Annunciation Icon Flowers..... Chris & Kathy Balouris and Family, for the health of their parents>>  
 >>Fr. John & Presvytera Ethel Androustopoulos and Anthony & Helen Balouris  
 Processional Flowers for the Veneration of the Cross ..... Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
 Saturday of Lazarus Icon Flowers..... Harriet M. Navarro, in memory of the Karras Family and for the health of the Navarro Family  
 Making of Palm Crosses and Preparation of Holy Friday/Anastasi Candles ..... Holy Trinity Church School students, staff & families  
 Palm Sunday Icon Flowers ..... Katherine Balouris, in memory of her husband Themistocles C. Balouris  
 Palms for Palm Sunday ..... Thomas & Elizabeth Geanopulos, in memory of their parents  
 Christ the Bridegroom (Nymphios) Icon Flowers ..... Dorothea K. Zikos  
 Crucifix Wreath of Flowers ..... Toula Giannoutsos, in memory of her husband John Giannoutsos  
 Burial Shroud Sheet for Epitaphion..... Sophia Bridoux, in memory of her sister Athanasia Geanopulos  
 Holy Friday Rosewater..... Chris T. Balouris & Family in memory of his father Themistocles C. Balouris  
 Holy Friday Icon Flowers ..... Charles E. Siebott & Irene Karavolos, in memory of Steve Karavolos  
 Decoration of the Epitaphion ..... Joyce Athanasiou, Holy Trinity Philoptochos, Women and Youth of the parish  
 Flowers for the Epitaphion..... Holy Trinity Offering Trays, Envelopes, plus the following:

Anonymous

George & Rhea Pantelakis, in memory of their parents John & Maria Pantelakis>>

>>and John & Stavroula Scopelitis

Athena Bober

Helen J. Chapas, in memory of John W. Chapas and their parents & grandparents

Cindy Morris Criss, for the health of the Morris Family

Frank, Katina, Helena & Mike Erdeljac, in memory of Mike & Theologia Alexiades

Andrew & Sofia Janis, in memory of Clifford & Athanasia Geanopulos

Evan & Teri Rigas, in memory of John & Theologia Rigas

Charles E. Siebott & Irene Karavolos, in memory of Steve Karavolos

Vaso Kourouklis, in memory of Lucky Kourouk-

lis and Stavrou Repana

Angie Roman in memory of Gus Roman

James S. Statheas,

in memory of Steve & Demetra Statheas

Violetta Lambou Vlahos

& Family



(continued  
 next  
 page)

(continued)

Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday..... Cindy Morris Criss, for the health of the Morris Family  
 Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday..... Joanne Ladakos Watson  
 Rose Petals for Holy Saturday..... Katherine Balouris, in memory of her parents Demetrios & Maria Mourtakos  
 Rose Petals for Holy Saturday..... James & Judith Mermigas, in memory of Theodore Mermigas & for the health of Mary Mermigas  
 Myrrh Bearing Women Icon Flowers..... Antonios & Susan Zikos, for the health of George and Veronica  
 Resurrection Icon Flowers ..... Sally Hionedes, in memory of her husband Paul Hionedes  
 Resurrection Banner Ribbons ..... Chrissie Georgiadis  
 Dying and Preparation of Red Resurrection Eggs..... Holy Trinity Parishioners  
 Priest's Resurrection Candle ..... Robert & Marianne Stearns and Stephen, in memory of Eric Michael Stearns  
 Assistant Priest's Resurrection Candle..... Katina Tanner, in memory of her husband Nicholas Tanner  
 Lilies ..... Holy Trinity Offering Envelopes, plus the following:



Lynda Areheart, for the health of and in honor of Mary-Magdalene Welsh  
 Mark & Amy Armanious, for the health of the Armanious Family  
 Efthalia & Lynn H. Barker, in memory of >>  
 >> James & Julia Kalogeras and Emmanuel & Efthalia Geanous  
 The Chapas – Bonfield Families, in memory of Frank Chapas  
 The Chapas – Bonfield Families, for the health of Anne Chapas  
 Cindy Morris Criss, for the health of the Morris Family (2 plants)  
 Christine Dickos, in memory of her husband Dinos Dickos  
 George & Stacy Dickos, in memory of Dinos G. Dickos  
 George & Stacy Dickos, in memory of Peter S. Gidas  
 Jeff & Mina Durosco and Family, in memory of William & Elizabeth Durosco  
 Jeff & Mina Durosco and Family, in memory of James & Elli Stephanou  
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Erdeljac, in memory of Mike & Theologia Alexiades  
 Eugenia Graser, in memory of her husband Robert Graser  
 Eugenia Graser, in memory of her parents Michael & Maria Patsalos  
 Michael & Julie Kritiotis, for the health of Agapios & Maria Kritiotis  
 Despina Ladakos, in memory of Anthony & Stella Paterakis  
 Despina Ladakos, in memory of Peter Ladakos  
 Despina Ladakos, in memory of Walter & Catherine Hartig  
 Despina Ladakos, in memory of James Hartig  
 Despina Ladakos, in memory of Paul Hionedes  
 Angela Leist, in memory of the deceased members of the Phaturios Family  
 Nicholas & Joy Loomis, in memory of their parents (2 plants)  
 Orestes & Arlene Paras, in memory of John & Maria Paras and Albert, >>  
 >> Rose & Arthur Russell  
 Angie Roman, in memory of Gus Roman  
 Joanna Sideris, in memory of Mary Constantino, Olga Litsakis >>  
 >> and Sophie Sideris  
 Charles E. Siebott & Irene Karavolos, in memory of Stefanos Karavolos  
 Sam & Jennifer Stepanow, for the health of their new baby (2 plants)  
 Mary-Magdalene Welsh, in memory of her mother Julia Welsh  
 Agnes Zappas, in memory of the deceased members of the Athas Family  
 Agnes Zappas, in memory of the deceased members of the Zappas Family  
 Antonios & Susan Zikos and Family, in memory of the deceased members of the Lutkevich Family  
 Antonios & Susan Zikos and Family, in memory of the deceased members of the Zikos Family  
 Prosforon (Offering Bread) ..... Katherine Balouris, Evdoxia Danis, Stacy Dickos, Mary-Magdalene Welsh  
 Wine for Holy Communion for Lent and Holy Week ..... Anonymous  
 Pentecost Icon Flowers..... Cindy Morris Criss, for the health of the Morris Family

WORSHIP — BYZANTINE MUSIC — LITURGICAL COOKING — ICONOGRAPHY — OUTREACH PROJECTS

# FAITH AND Family Wednesdays

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Feel like you don't know enough about your Faith? Want to understand the Bible better? Like to learn more about living an Orthodox life? The “Faith and Family Wednesdays” ministry offers guides, teachers and practical experience in all these areas and more. It also provides a great 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!

## ABOUT THE SERIES

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 goes from 6:30-7:15pm. After a brief fellowship break, there is 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 four tracks each week: Studies, Growth, Youth, 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.

As we wrap up the first season of this exciting new ministry, many thanks to all the teachers, contributors and special guests who have made this series possible, especially Spiritual Life Ministry Chairperson Joyce Athanasiou for her coordination. After a break for the summer, sessions will resume in September.

## COMPLETE GUIDE THE TO MAY 2014 “FAITH AND FAMILY WEDNESDAYS”

TRACK	WORSHIP	STUDIES	GROWTH	YOUTH	ORTHODOX LIFE
DATE/TIME	6:30pm	7:15-8:30pm			
<b>May 7</b> First Wednesday of the month	<b>Blessing of the Waters and Blessing of the Loaves (Artoclasia)</b>	<b>Orthodox Book Club</b> Father Radu	<b>Saint Lydia Women's Study</b> Father John	<b>Off</b>	<b>Art &amp; Architecture: “The Meaning of the Hospitality of Abraham Icon”</b> Presvytera Loredana
<b>May 14</b> Second Wednesday of the month	<b>Vespers Service</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> Father John	<b>Orthodoxy 101</b> Father Dimitri Callozo	<b>Youth Bible Discussion</b> Father Radu	<b>Byzantine Chanting</b> Peter Papadakis
<b>May 21</b> Third Wednesday of the month	<b>Service of the Hours / Confession Available</b>	<b>Orthodox Book Club</b> Father Radu	<b>Journey to Marriage</b> Father John	<b>Greek Dance Practice</b>	<b>The Cultural Kitchen: “Cooking With Phyllo”</b> Joyce Athanasiou
<b>May 28</b> Fourth Wednesday of the month	<b>Special Wrap-Up the Semester Celebration: 6:30pm Vespers Liturgy of the Ascension of the Lord followed by a community covered dish dinner.</b> Please prepare for Liturgy and prepare a (non-meat) dish to share as we gather in fellowship to complete the first season of “Faith and Family Wednesdays!” (Everyone is invited, and if you can't bring a dinner item, come anyway!)				

BIBLE STUDY — BOOK CLUB — JOURNEY TO MARRIAGE — ORTHODOXY 101 — GREEK DANCE LESSONS



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## HOLY SATURDAY THROUGH THE EYES OF A TEENAGER

In the Greek Orthodox Church, the “First Resurrection” service (on Holy Saturday morning) is the beginning to the end of Holy Week. While the week’s previous services are somber, the “First Resurrection” service is more joyful. Adding to the joy at our church this year was Metropolitan Savas. It was also the first time I saw him in person.

When he entered the church, he was dressed all in black. A long white beard contrasted against his long black robe and the hat that looked like a chimney perched on top of him. His prescription lenses were tinted due to the sunlight outside and he looked more like a member of “ZZ Top” than an Orthodox Bishop. Later on, after he had changed into the proper robes for the service, he looked completely different. He stopped to explain portions of the service every now and then to make sure everyone understood the meaning and importance of the Liturgy. He turned multiple events into teachable moments by doing this and returning to his roots as a theological educator. He injected humor into different portions of the service as well.

One of the most unique things about the service is the custom of tossing bay leaves and rose petals. The bay leaves are reminiscent of laurel leaves which are traditionally a sign of victory. In this case, it is fitting as it symbolizes the victory over Hades. Metropolitan Savas also mentioned another tradition that they had in Greece. He said that he was surprised to learn that in Greece while tossing bay leaves and rose petals, they made loud noises.

Santa Claus is often associated with bringing gifts. It could be said that the same could be associated with Metropolitan Savas’ visit. With him, he brought information, humor, and humility. More importantly, he brought the message of Christ’s Resurrection and victory over Hades. His Eminence’s participation made the service even more interesting and memorable. Now, every time I hear the censor which sounds like jingling bells, I will think of Metropolitan Savas and his celebration of the Resurrection.



*Submitted by Sarah Hulse, a Holy Trinity teenager*

Scripture of the Month: “Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance” (Prov. 1.5)