



"FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY."

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Reverend Father John Touloumes, *Proistamenos*
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WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY CHURCH!

WEEKLY BULLETIN – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

Hours: Orthros 8:15 am / Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

Ἀδελφοί, ἴδετε πηλικοὺς ὑμῖν γράμμασιν ἔγραψα τῇ ἐμῇ χειρὶ. Ὅσοι θέλουσιν εὐπροσωπῆσαι ἐν σαρκί, οὗτοι ἀναγκάζουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμενεσθαι, μόνον ἵνα μὴ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Χριστοῦ διώκωνται. Οὐδὲ γὰρ οἱ περιτετημένοι αὐτοὶ νόμον φυλάσσουσιν, ἀλλὰ θέλουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμενεσθαι, ἵνα ἐν τῇ ὑμετέρᾳ σαρκὶ καυχῶσινται. Ἐμοὶ δὲ μὴ γένοιτο καυχᾶσθαι εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· δι' οὗ ἔμοι κόσμος ἐσταύρωται, καὶ γὰρ τῷ κόσμῳ. Ἐν γὰρ Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ οὔτε περιτομὴ τι ἰσχύει, οὔτε ἀκροβυστία, ἀλλὰ καινὴ κτίσις. Καὶ ὅσοι τῷ κανόνι τούτῳ στοιχήσουσιν, εἰρήνην ἐπ' αὐτοῦς, καὶ ἔλεος, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Ἰσραὴλ τοῦ θεοῦ. Τοῦ λοιποῦ, κόπους μοι μηδεὶς παρεχέτω· ἐγὼ γὰρ τὰ στίγματα τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι μου βαστάζω. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μετὰ τοῦ πνεύματος ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί. Ἀμήν.

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

Gospel Reading – Thirteenth Sunday of Luke

Luke 18:18-27

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἄρχων λέγων· διδάσκαλε ἀγαθέ, τί ποιήσας ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσω; εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· τί με λέγεις ἀγαθόν; οὐδεὶς ἀγαθὸς εἰ μὴ εἷς ὁ Θεός. τὰς ἐντολάς οἶδας· μὴ μοιχεύσης, μὴ φονεύσης, μὴ κλέψης, μὴ ψευδομαρτυρήσης, τίμα τὸν πατέρα σου καὶ τὴν μητέρα σου. ὁ δὲ εἶπε· ταῦτα πάντα ἐφυλαξάμην ἐκ νεότητός μου. ἀκούσας δὲ ταῦτα ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἔτι ἐν σοὶ λείπει· πάντα ὅσα ἔχει πώλησον καὶ διάδος πτωχοῖς, καὶ ἔξεις θησαυρὸν ἐν οὐρανῷ, καὶ δεῦρο ἀκολούθει μοι. ὁ δὲ ἀκούσας ταῦτα περίλυπος ἐγένετο· ἦν γὰρ πλούσιος σφόδρα. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτὸν ὁ Ἰησοῦς περίλυπον γενόμενον εἶπε· πῶς δυσκόλως οἱ τὰ χρήματα ἔχοντες εἰσελεύσονται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ! εὐκόπωτερον γὰρ ἐστὶ κάμηλον διὰ τρυμαλιᾶς ραφίδος εἰσελθεῖν ἢ πλούσιον εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰσελθεῖν. εἶπον δὲ οἱ ἀκούσαντες· καὶ τίς δύναται σωθῆναι; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· τὰ ἀδύνατα παρὰ ἀνθρώπους δυνατὰ παρὰ τῷ Θεῷ ἐστίν.

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

- Thirteenth Sunday of Luke
- Our Holy Father Clement, Pope of Rome
- St. Hermogenes, the Martyr
- Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple
- St. Peter, Archbishop of Alexandria
- Sts. Philoumenos and Christopher, the Martyrs

APOLYTIKION AND KONTAKION HYMNS SUNG AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fifth Tone (Page 53)

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. Of His own will He mounted the Cross in the flesh, He suffered death and raised the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Apolytikion for the Entry of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone (Page 58)

Today is the prelude to God's good will, and the announcement of the salvation of all. In the Temple of God the Virgin is seen openly, foretelling to all the coming of Christ. Wherefore let us cry out to her with all our strength: "Joy to you, fulfillment of the Creator's plan!"

Kontakion for a Memorial Service in the Eighth Tone

English: Remember, O Lord, as You are good, your servant(s), and forgive every sin he (she,they) have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Greek: Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθός, τοῦ (τῆς, τῶν) δούλου (δούλης, δούλων) σου, καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἤμαρτεν (ἤμαρτεν, ἤμαρτον) συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γάρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰμὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος, καὶ τῷ (τῇ, τοῖς) μεταστάντι (μεταστάσει, μεταστάσι) δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Apolytikion of Holy Trinity Church (Page 75)

English: Blessed are You, O Christ our God, Who has shown forth the fishermen to be most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. And through them, You drew the world into Your net. O merciful One, glory to You!

Greek: Ευλογητός εἰ Χριστέ, ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Phoenetics: Ev-lo-yi-tos i Hri-ste o The-os i-mon. O Pan-so-fous tous a-li-is a-na-di-xas ka-ta-pemp-sas af-tis to Pnev-ma to A-yi-on, ke di af-ton tin i-kou-men-in sa-i-nef-sas, fi-lan-thro-pe, do-xa si.

Kontakion of the Entrance of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone (Page 59)

The most pure Temple of the Savior*, His most precious bridal chamber*, the Virgin, sacred treasury of God's glory*, enters today into the house of the Lord*, bringing with her the grace of the divine Spirit.* Wherefore the angels of God are singing*: "Behold the heavenly tabernacle!"

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

TODAY'S EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Philoptochos Sunday

Today, our Holy Trinity Philoptochos will host "Philoptochos Sunday", a day on which we celebrate the many years of Philoptochos service to our church, our community, our friends, and our families. In honor of this event, the Philoptochos will offer a memorial for departed members and hold a special collection for the benefit of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Memorials Today

Memorial prayers will be offered at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy today for the repose of the souls of the servants of God, Rhea Pantelakis (3 years) and the departed members of our Ladies Philoptochos. May their memory be eternal!

Hospitality Hour

Today's Hospitality Hour is being sponsored by Nick & Betty Kakavis, in memory of their son, Scott Kakavis. May his memory be eternal!

Philoptochos Meeting

Our Holy Trinity Philoptochos will hold its monthly meeting today in the Fireside Room following Divine Liturgy. All members are invited to attend. Ladies, still not a member of Philoptochos? Sign up at the meeting!

Annual Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert

The Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh invites you to attend the Annual Pan-Orthodox Christmas Concert to be held today beginning at 4:00pm at St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church (2110 Haymaker Rd, Monroeville, PA 15146). The concert will feature choirs from multiple Orthodox jurisdictions and the Pan-Orthodox Choir of Greater Pittsburgh. Freewill offering will benefit various Orthodox Charities. Join all for fellowship following the concert.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Upcoming Services - Locations: (HT) Holy Trinity Church; (SG) St. George Chapel, 8941 Ringeisen Rd, Allison Park, PA

- **Monday, November 25**, 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Liturgy: St. Katherine the Great Martyr (SG)
- **Tuesday, November 26**, 6:30pm: Paraclesis to St. Nektarios (SG)
- **Saturday, November 30**, 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Liturgy: St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle (SG)

Fast in preparation for the Nativity of Christ - Through December 24

Please remember that the Fast of the Nativity is underway, lasting until Christmas morning following Liturgy. Though the first part of the fast (through December 12) is lighter, the Fast rises to the level of strict fast for the last two weeks (starting on December 13). Fasting, attendance at services, increased attention to our prayer life and participation in Holy Confession are all important parts of our preparing a place in our heart to receive the Lord at Christmas. Please see Father John with any questions you might have about this important tradition or to schedule a time for Confession.

Faith & Family Weekdays – Fall 2024

Faith and Family Weekdays is Holy Trinity's offering of ways for each of us to grow in the knowledge and practice of our faith. Ready to learn more about the Bible, about the Orthodox Church, about navigating life's challenges as a Christian, a woman, or a man? It's all there. There's a lot more to church than Sundays, and here is where to find it.

THIS WEEK:

- **Mon. Nov 25, 7:00pm: "Journey to Fullness"** – An overview of the Orthodox Christian Faith for newcomers interested in joining or life-long members yearning to deepen their understanding. Videos and Q&A discussion. The remaining dates are Nov 25 and Dec 2. All are welcome!



Offices Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

The offices of the Archdiocese, Metropolis and Holy Trinity Church will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday this Thursday and Friday. May God bless us all with safe travels and a peaceful, safe and blessed celebration to all!

[Dec 1] GOYA Turkey Bowl



GOYA will hold its annual Turkey Bowl Football Game on Thanksgiving Sunday following Divine Liturgy. This is a fun and friendly GOYA tradition, and everyone is invited, players, non-players, cheerleaders, parents and fans! Players should bring a change of clothes and shoes for play. The flag football game will be followed by hot chocolate and other goodies. Yum! See you there!

[Dec 2] Bereavement Ministry Dinner

As we soon end another year, the Bereavement Support Ministry Team has decided to do something different. Please join us for dinner and casual conversation on Monday, Dec 2, 6:00 p.m. at Olive Garden, McIntyre Square. It will be a relaxing evening together as we share stories and celebrate the lives of our loved ones who have fallen asleep in the Lord. Feel free to contact Amy Armanious with questions at visitation@holytrinitypgh.org

[Dec 3] Annual Philoptochos Seniors Christmas Luncheon

The Holy Trinity Philoptochos will host its annual Seniors Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 3. Holy Trinity members, ages 60 & over, are invited to attend. The day will begin with church services at 8:30am Orthros/9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of the Prophet Zepheniah, followed by the Luncheon at 11:00am in the Grand Room. Please RSVP to Yvonne Balouris at 724-316-2847, by Nov 29th, with your meal selection of fish or chicken.

December 12 – "AOA" Holy Trinity Active Older Adults Christmas Movie

The AOA will be showing the movie "Christmas with the Karountzoses", a funny, cute movie about a Greek family during Christmas on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 1:30pm in the Fireside Room. Following the movie we will have a meatless potluck lunch. Pizza and drinks will be provided. Whoever wishes can also bring a meatless dish to share. We'll also have a gift exchange for those who wish to participate (Bring a wrapped gift if you do). Questions or comments call Tasy at 724-612-9245.

Visitation Ministry Needs Your Help

Currently, we have a few elderly parishioners who are in need of help in their homes. They need regular visits for companionship, light housekeeping, laundry care, and grocery shopping. It would require about 1-2 hours depending on the person's schedule and needs. If you can offer some help and time, please contact Amy Armanious, Visitation Ministry coordinator at visitation@holytrinitypgh.org or you can contact the church office and ask Amy to call you. Thank you!

"Church School vs. Holy Trinity Community" Fall Food Drive: Through December 8

The Holy Trinity Church School is holding its annual Fall Food Drive and once again, it's Church School vs. the Community! For Church School students, each Sunday bring your bags (with your nametag attached) to the Conference Room. For the Community, there is a collection bin located in the Gallery. Items will be donated to the Orthodox Christian ministry at the Neighborhood Resilience Project in the Hill District of Pittsburgh. A shopping list of requested items was included as an insert in the November edition of the Herald and extra copies can also be found at the church office window. Thank you!

OUTREACH – Thank you! And More Opportunities to Give This Season

A huge "Thank You" to everyone who picked up Christmas Angels. All 120 of them were distributed, and shoppers are now busy making children's and seniors' wishes come true! Please remember to return the gifts (with the tag attached) on or before December 8.

-- *What Else Can We Do?* -- Many who missed this outreach, or wish to do more, have asked for other opportunities to give. Locally and nationally supported charities - a sample below - have wish lists of items needed or can use monetary help. Please visit their websites:

- Neighborhood Resilience Project: <https://neighborhoodresilience.org/donate/>
- North Hills Community Outreach: <https://www.nhco.org/sharing-project-donations>
- MHY Family Services: <https://mhyfamilyservices.org/mhy-giving-program/>
- IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities): <https://iocc.org/>
- FOCUS North America: <https://focusnorthamerica.org/>
- Lending Hearts: <https://www.lendinghearts.org/donate>

And, just in time for the season of giving, Tuesday, December 3rd is #GivingTuesday! Giving Tuesday is an annual day of giving held on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Following traditional days of spending, including Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday stands in contrast and is focused on the act and spirit of giving back and helping others. This is an important event for charities as many are offered matching funds from generous donors, so please consider being a part of it. And always remember: Your donations change lives!

Welcome, Holy Trinity Guests!

We welcome all our guests to Holy Trinity Church today, whether as visitors from out of town, family members joining others here for worship today or even soon-to-be members here for the first time. No matter what the reason the Holy Spirit brought you here today, we welcome you with open arms and hearts filled with the love of Christ. Please help us welcome you by signing in at the hospitality table in the Narthex, where you will be presented with a yellow lapel Cross to help us know that you're here. And please be sure to stay and enjoy our after-Liturgy Hospitality Hour!

About Receiving Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

We welcome all who have come to worship with us today. Whether you are an Orthodox Christian, an inquirer to the faith or a first-time guest in an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us and thankful for the opportunity to share and bear witness to this ancient and timeless Faith. **In accordance with the holy canons and traditions of the Church, please note that Holy Communion and the other Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) are received only by those who are baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared** through prayer, fasting and confession. All others are invited receive the antidoron (blessed bread) and a blessing from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Please also join our parish family for Hospitality Hour and allow us to meet and welcome you. Interested in joining or learning more about the Orthodox Christian Faith? Please see one of our priests or complete a visitor's card today! **How to receive:** Please remember the following helpful hints aimed at helping to preserve the solemnity and safety of the Holy Mystery. Anyone wearing lipstick should remove it before receiving. Be sure to offer your baptismal name to priest before receiving. Please take great care that the red cloth held by the acolytes (you should not hold it) is fully under your chin, then **use the centuries-old practice of receiving: please fully open your mouth, then gently close your lips to make sure the Holy Gifts are securely in your mouth and so that none of the holy and precious Body and Blood of Christ is accidentally spilled.** Thank you for your cooperation, and may God have mercy on us all!