

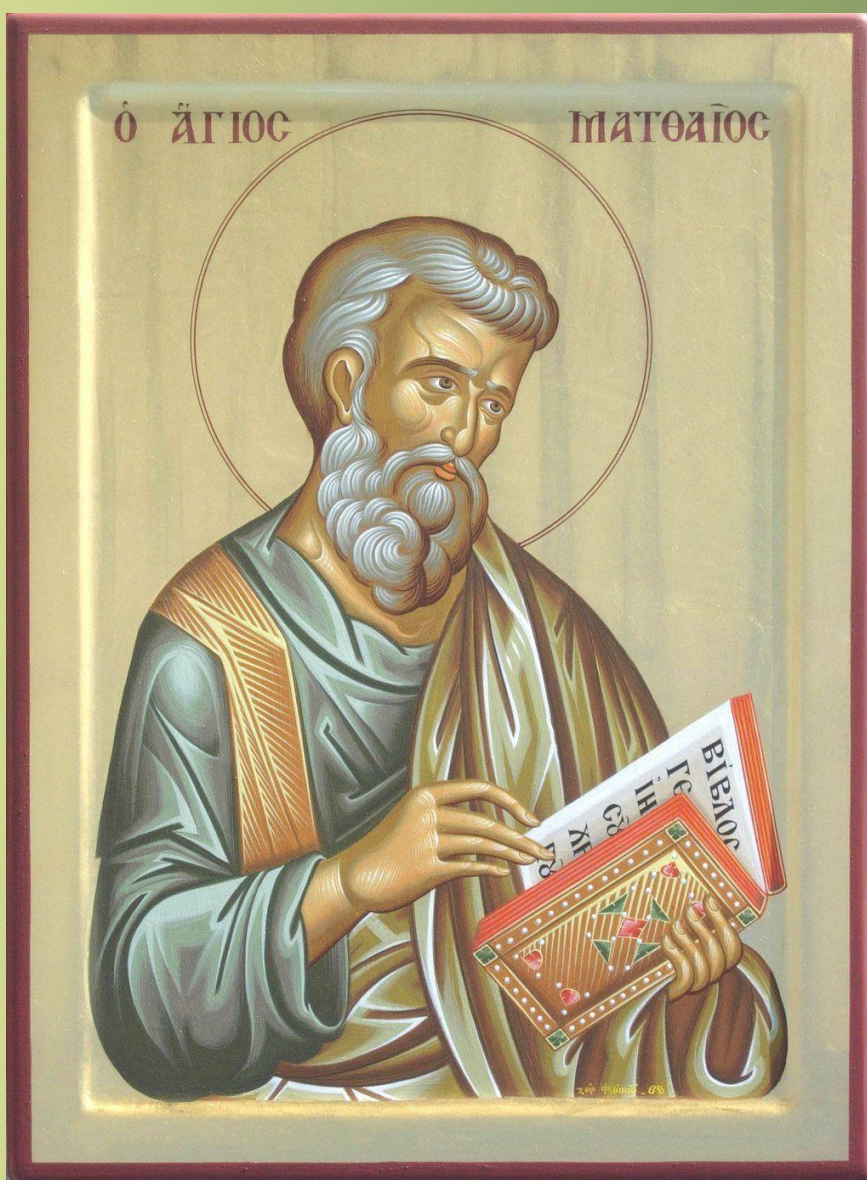


# THE NET

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH— STEUBENVILLE, OHIO  
NOVEMBER, 2019 VOLUME XII • ISSUE 10

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METROPOLIS OF  
PITTSBURGH



*THE MISSION OF THE HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, IS TO BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST BY SHARING THE JOY OF THE ORTHODOX FAITH THROUGH LOVE, COMPASSION AND CHARITY FOR ALL.*





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

PARISH INFORMATION

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

PARISH MINISTRIES

PARISH COUNCIL

Nick Riley President
Tony Mougianis Vice President
Rana Mahfood Secretary
Rikki Kamarados Treasurer
Don Kronstein Asst. Treasurer
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Nick Demitras Nicholas Mastro
Maria Matzorkis Don Richardson

- Philoptochos Angie Mahfood
Religious Education
Stewardship
GOYA Rikki Kamarados
JOY Maria Matzorkis
HOPE Maria Matzorkis
Choir Pete Caleodis
Library / Bookstore Louise Kronstein
Senior Citizens Barbara Lee Maragos
Chian Society John Kamarados
Pan-Icarian Brotherhood Stacey Kotsanis
AHEPA Tommy Kotsanis

November, 2019

Delivering our Prayers

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The holiday season is close upon us!

When I was growing up, my mom had a tradition we'd observe during Thanksgiving. It's the venerable tradition maybe you followed too, that is everyone around the table has to say what they're thankful for.

When I was younger I was absolutely mortified about this tradition. It wasn't that I wasn't thankful; I just didn't like to be forced to talk about it. But I grew to appreciate the sentiment. Because even if I'm struggling I'm still doing better than a lot of other people in this world. During the year it's easy to lose sight of that, and then become hardened to the suffering that's around us. It reminds me of what Christ calls us all to do if we call ourselves Christians, told in the following story:

A poor famer had an accident one day and broke his leg. That meant he would be laid up for a long time, unable to work. His family was large and needed help, so someone organized a prayer meeting at the church to pray for his family. While the people were praying, asking for God to help the family, there was a loud knock at the door. Someone tiptoed to the door, opened it, and there stood a young boy who said, "My dad couldn't attend the prayer meeting tonight, so he just sent his prayers in a wagon." And there was the wagon loaded with potatoes, meat, apples, and other produce from the farm.

This is what intercessory prayer (praying for others) is all about. Far from being an escape from involvement, it motivates us to help the person being prayed for in whatever way we can. Too often we hear someone say, 'I'll pray for you' but it's never followed up with any action. It's easy pray for God's will; it's another story to be God's agent for change. There may not be a higher calling! Christ says that those who serve the hungry, sick, imprisoned, poor, and lonely have served Christ himself.

There are several rituals we observe during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We buy presents, cook (and eat!) a lot of food, and attend and plan parties with family and co-workers. Another venerable tradition is the Angel Tree. Far from depressing, we are reminded of the children in our city who are in need and commit to buying them a couple of Christmas gifts. It's a small gesture that we can make to bless a child in a way we'd bless our own children.

This month, when the time comes, find an "angel" for Christmas. Once you're given one, don't just buy them gifts but commit as a family to pray for them by name every night. Pray that God will give them ease amidst suffering, joy instead of sorrow, and that their family make it through, and hopefully out of, poverty.

In Christ,

Fr. Matthew (handwritten signature)

### Happy Birthday

The following people will be celebrating their birthdays in the month of November:

#### November

Irene Harrington	11-16	Anita Entinger	11-26
Nicholas Petrides	11-10	Barbara Dawson	11-27
Grace Kourpas	11-12	Michelle Collaros	11-23
George Sardonas	11-14	Peter Panagis	11-4
Michael Vitellas	11-9	Nicole Zorne	11-7
Kevin Young	11-21	Christopher Hart	11-25
Valerie Caras	11-15	Jackie Hart	11-25
Lanae Coloras	11-29	Hannah Cebula	11-10
Magdalene Crisante	11-4	Dimitrios Collaros	11-26

If your name was not listed and you had a birthday during this month, please contact the office; and we will be happy to place it on our roster for next year.

### Religious Education

#### Bible Study

Please note Bible Study wraps up on November 14<sup>th</sup> and will resume in January.

### Thanksgiving Food Baskets

GOYA is collecting funds for their yearly Thanksgiving basket drive. You can turn money into Vasile Matzorkis, Oliva Balakos, or Rikki Kamarados. The deadline to turn in funds is **November 17**.

### Gyro Sale

The next Philoptochos gyro fundraiser is Tuesday, November 12 from 10A.M.-1P.M. Gyros are \$7/ea. & chicken gyros are \$8/ea. Koulourakia (twist cookies) are \$6/doz. Please join us for this event, and lend a hand either on the 12<sup>th</sup>, or on the 11<sup>th</sup> for setup, from 9A.M.-11A.M.

### Hat & Glove Drive

For the month of November our AHEPA chapter is sponsoring a hat and glove drive for the needy children of our community. They are asking for new hats and gloves, in any children's size. Please put them in the donation box that will be in our social hall.

Thank you for your support!

### Parish Council Election Deadlines

The following are the deadlines for the upcoming Parish Council elections:

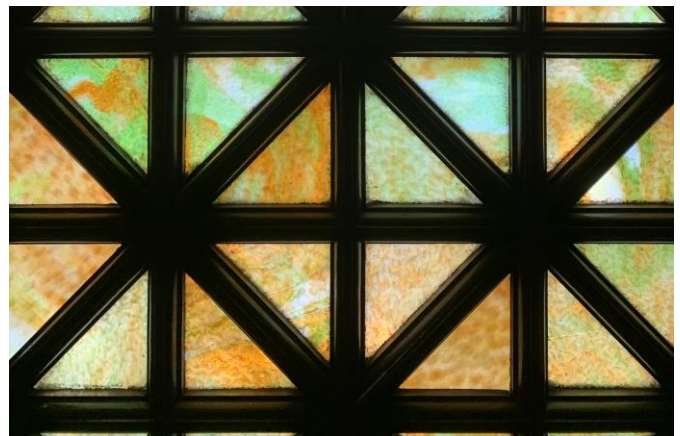
**November 9** – All absentee ballots must be received

**November 10** – Election Day - end of liturgy until 1pm

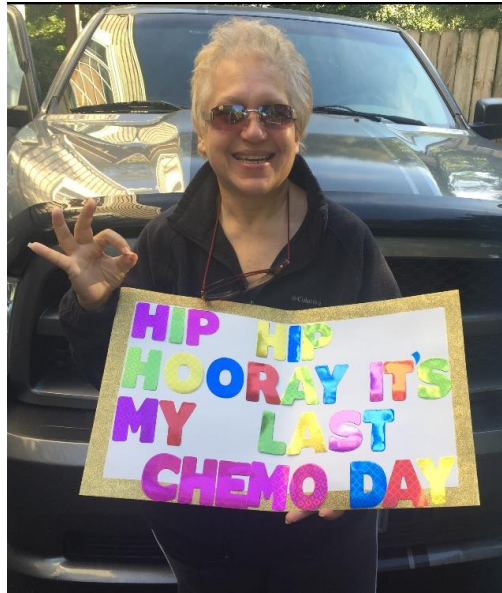
### Items for Sale

We have 1 tray of Tiropita @ \$17, 5 trays of Spanikopita @ \$17 each, 15 trays of Pastitio @ \$50 each, and 13 half trays of Moussaka @ \$25 each. To purchase any of these items, please contact: Stacey Kotsanis 740-632-2792, Marlane Figurski 740-381-9318, or Angela Mastos 740-632-9555.

### Where In Our Church...?



Where in the parish was this photo taken? Some of you were totally stumped by this photo in last month's *Net*. You'll find these windows in the wall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Street side. There's one in the entryway and another back in Father's altar office. They're especially beautiful with the sun shining through them. Congratulations to our entire elementary school class to finding it! We'll have a new challenge in the December *Net*.





## PARISH FAMILY NIGHT MAKING PROSFORA

*"Your own of Your own we offer to You..."*

The height of our experience in the Divine Liturgy is taking the body and blood of Jesus Christ, which we believe are present in the bread and the wine, God's own creation, that we offer to God as a gift. It's a great blessing for us as individuals to offer these gifts. We know where to get the wine, but how do we make the prosfora? Father Matthew will show you a simple method for making prosfora.

Learn to make  
Prosfora from  
start to finish!

Learn the symbols  
of the prosfora

All supplies  
provided

For youth, teens,  
and adults

Fellowship with  
your parish family

Dinner provided

HOLY TRINITY  
HELLENIC HALL

Friday, November 8  
6p-8p

RSVP by November 5  
740-282-9835

Metropolis of Pittsburgh presents

## 2019 GOYA FALL RETREAT

# PUT ON CHRIST

"AS MANY OF YOU HAVE BEEN  
BAPTIZED IN CHRIST, HAVE  
PUT ON CHRIST"

A weekend exploring your  
identity in Christ with  
speakers Dr. Andrew &  
Anna Abboud

November 22-24, 2019

Camp Nazareth, Mercer, PA | Cost: \$175

Registration closes Sunday, November 17

For more information, regarding scholarship information, or to  
register, please visit: [y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/retreats](http://y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/retreats)

*\*Financial aid provided by the generosity of Leadership 100*

## 2019 COMMUNITY

## CHRISTMAS CARD



### Share the Joy of Christmas

Include your name on Holy Trinity's Community Christmas Card

Return this form to the church office by  
December 2, 2019.

I am enclosing a donation of \_\_\_\_\_  
I would like my name(s) to appear as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_

# Thank you

Dear Parish Family,

October was full of blessings gifted to me by our beautiful community of Holy Trinity. On the 17th, many women in our community gathered together at a luncheon to welcome me. Thank you to those of you who helped plan, for those who attended, those who sent their regrets, and those who could not be with us. It was beautiful and I felt very warmly welcomed.

October 11th through 14th, I was blessed to be able to attend the National Sisterhood of Presvyteres retreat in Delray Beach, Florida. Thank you so much to our parish leadership for choosing to sponsor this trip for me, and for all of you for welcoming and making my dear mother-in-law, Deb, feel at home here.

I had a beautiful time with my sister presvyteres learning about self-care and how to use it to fuel our unique ministry in the church, which is to be the wife of the priest.

Your priest loves you in a way no one else can. He loves you as your spiritual guide, a man who is responsible for your souls, and one who will be there for you when you are at your best, and when you are at your worst. At night, you are often the last thing he thinks about. He grieves with you. He celebrates with you. In short, he loves you, he worries about you, he thinks of you always. The priesthood is not a full-time job. It is an all-the-time job.

When he was ordained, the bishop placed in Father's hands the Lamb of God, the body of Christ, and said to him, "Matthew, receive this pledge and preserve it whole and unharmed until your last breath, for you shall be held accountable for it at the fearful coming of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ." His Eminence was not talking only about the Eucharist but about all of us, as well. That is a blessed and heavy weight.

So, as his presvytera, as your presvytera, my main ministry in this church community is to support my husband. To be the buttress that helps keep him upright and energized. To attempt to keep a peaceful home, to encourage him, to pray for him our beautiful parish. To live and schedule our life in a way that makes him available to you when you need him. His ministry permeates nearly every aspect of his life, and so it does mine. And, while that is a blessing beyond imagination, it can also be exhausting. Sitting on a beach, worshipping in liturgy, learning in a conference room with seventy of my sister presvyteres were immeasurable gifts to me. It was refreshing and edifying, and I am so grateful for your love and support in this humbling ministry. Thank you!

With love in Christ,

Presvytera Jennifer



# HOLY TRINITY'S CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias: \$15.00



If you would like to donate a poinsettia to be placed in front of the church, please complete the form below and return it to the church office by December 2.

Limited supply, so donate yours today.



**Purchased by:**



# Joseph the Hesychast, America's New Saint

Press Office - Stavros Papagermanos - [pressoffice@goarch.org](mailto:pressoffice@goarch.org) - (212) 570-3530

October 21, 2019

NEW YORK – The faithful of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America glorify God as they receive with great joy the news from Mount Athos and our spiritual father, His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who announced the forthcoming canonization of four Athonite fathers: Elders Ieronymos of Simonopetra, Daniel Katounakiotis, Joseph the Hesychast and Ephraim Katounakiotis.

The First Monastic Synaxis of the Archdiocese of America that convened at the Holy Monastery of Saint Nektarios, Roscoe, NY., on Sept. 21-22 dedicated the next monastic meeting under the theme: "The spiritual heritage of Geron Joseph the Hesychast and his contribution to Orthodox Monasticism in America." The second Synaxis will take place Oct. 9-11, 2020 at the Holy Monastery of the Life Giving Spring, the Mother of God, in Fresno, California.



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, commenting on the forthcoming canonization of Elder Joseph, the Hesychast, said:

"We are grateful to our Patriarch and spiritual father because he proved once again that he knows how to listen to the feelings of his flock. We are especially blessed in America because the founder of monasticism here, Elder Ephraim, made sure that he would bring us the sacred skull of Elder Joseph, who is also his spiritual father. I look forward to the time when I will visit Arizona and venerate this relic, and it would be the relic of a saint of our Church in America".



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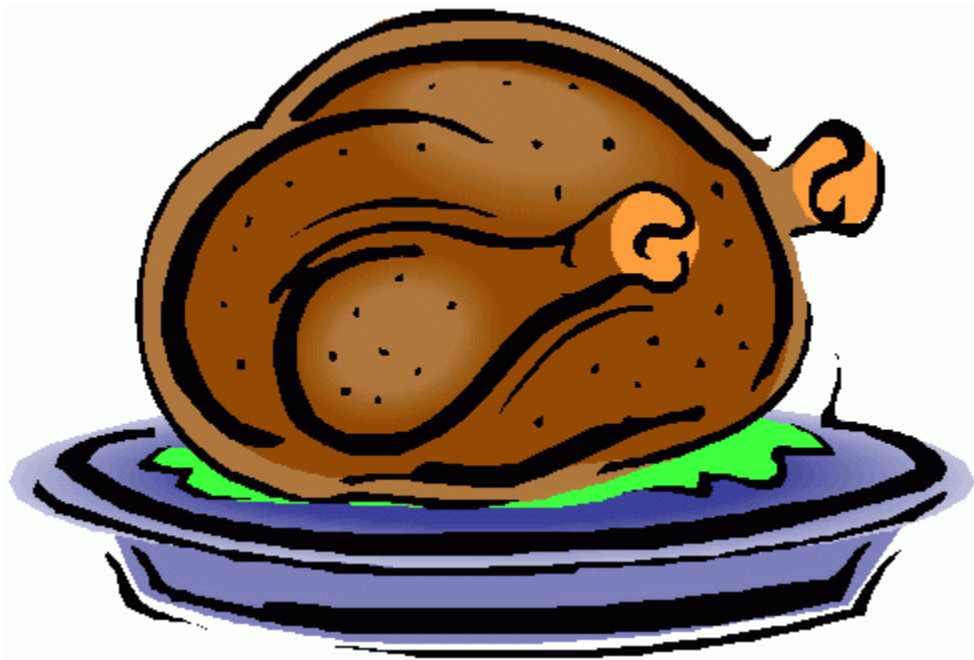
"You think that your voice did not immediately reach the saints, our Panagia, and Christ. On the contrary, even before you cried out, the saints rushed to your aid, knowing that you would call upon them and seek their God-given protection. However, since you do not see beyond what is apparent and do not know how God governs the world, you want your request to be fulfilled like lightning. But this is not how things are. The Lord wants patience. He wants you to show your faith."

Saint Joseph the Hesychast

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# Happy



# Thanksgiving

# NET-MINDERS

The Parish of Holy Trinity would like to thank the following benefactors for making this Monthly Newsletter possible:

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*In Loving Memory*



*Of the Countess*

## In Loving Memory Of Thomas & Angeliki Caneris



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## Philoptochos Society

"Friends of the Poor"  
 Women and Men Invited  
 See Angie Mahfood or Joanne McCraley

## In Loving Memory Of Nicholas Mougianis

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# 2019 November

Holy Trinity - Steubenville

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
27		28		29		30		Oct 31		1		2	
3	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	4	5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5		6	5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis	7	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Philoptochos Meeting	8	6:00 PM Prosfora Workshop	9	6:00 PM Great Vespers & Confession
10	AHEPA Pancake Breakfast 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Christmas Dinner Meeting	11	Offices Closed 9:00 AM Gyro Sale Setup	12	9:00 AM Gyro Sale 10:00 AM Philoptochos Gyro Sale 7:00 PM Parish Council	13	5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis	14	10:00 AM Bible Study	15	Nativity Fast Begins	16	St. Matthew the Apostle 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Great Vespers & Confession
17	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	18		19	5:30 PM Ahepa Meeting	20	5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis	21	Entrance of the Theotokos 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	22	GOYA Fall Retreat	23	
24	GOYA Fall Retreat 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	25	St. Katherine the Great 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	26		27	5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis	28	Offices Closed	29		30	6:00 PM Great Vespers & Confession
Dec 1		2		Notes									

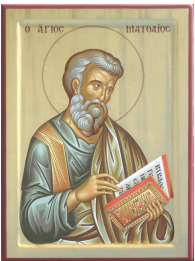


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Steubenville, OH 43952

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**Submissions for THE NET are to be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

### About the Icon on the Cover



This Apostle, who was also called Levi, was the son of Alphaeus and had Galilee as his homeland. A publican before being called by Christ, he became one of the Twelve Apostles, and an Evangelist. While still in Palestine, he wrote his Gospel first in Hebrew, being also the first of all to write the Gospel. When he is depicted in icons, there is portrayed next to him the likeness of a man, one of the symbolic living creatures mentioned by Ezekiel (1.10), which, as Saint Irenaeus writes, is a symbol of our Savior's Incarnation. He stands as an example to all of God's mercy and redemption in our lives. He also is Fr. Matthew's patron saint.

#### **Apolytikion of The Apostle and Evangelist Matthew in the Third Mode**

O holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

#### **Kontakion of The Apostle and Evangelist Matthew in the Fourth Mode**

When you had shed the yoke of being a publican and took instead the yoke of justice and virtue, you proved yourself to be a clever merchant and most wise, gaining for yourself the wealth of the wisdom from heaven. Thus you preached the word of truth, O Evangelist Matthew. And you have roused from slothfulness our souls, clearly describing the hour of Judgment Day.