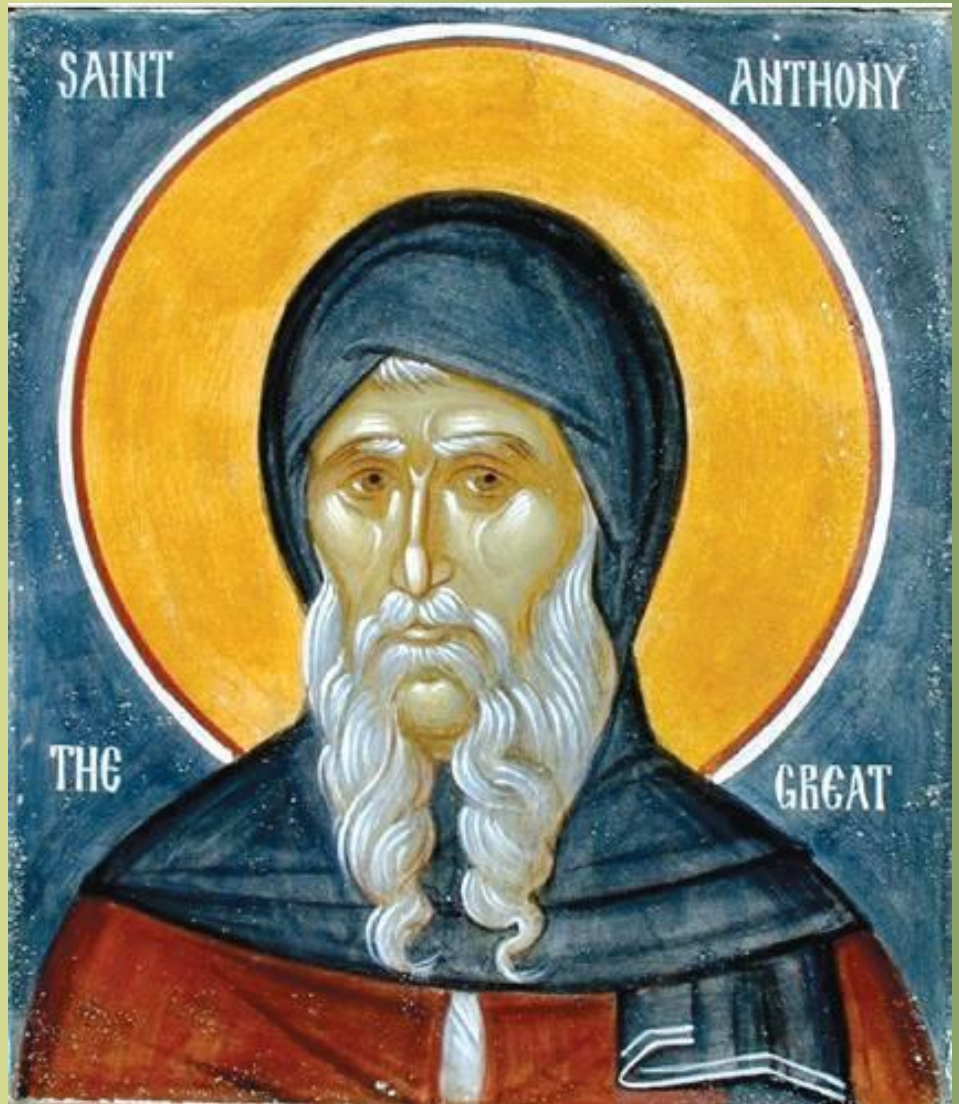


# THE NET

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH— STEUBENVILLE, OHIO  
JANUARY, 2020 VOLUME XII • ISSUE 1

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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

PARISH PRIEST:

FR. MATTHEW MOORE
PHONE: (740) 282-9835

EMAIL: FM@HOLYTRINITYSTB.ORG

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

CINDY RICHARDS

EMAIL: OFFICE@HOLYTRINITYSTB.ORG

PARISH ADDRESS:

300 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
P.O. BOX 788
STEUBENVILLE, OH 43952

PHONE: (740) 282-9835 | FAX: (740) 282-2091

EMAIL: OFFICE@HOLYTRINITYSTB.ORG

WEB: WWW.HOLYTRINITYSTB.ORG

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
Anthony Mougianis
Rana Mahfood
Joanne McCraley
Nick Demitras
Niko Mastro
Maria Matzorkis
Don Richardson
Michael Riley
Greg Matzorkis
Pete Caleodis
Chris Vogagis

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

January 2020

Accountability

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a safe and happy Christmas season. Like many Americans you also may be making big goals for January 1. And it's reflected in the economy; gym membership signups rise dramatically, as does membership in Weight Watcher. Whether it's to lose weight, exercise more, smoke less, or even keep a journal, there's a real draw to the idea of 'new year, new you'. And so on January 1 we set out to make that big change, confident and hoping for the best, that will affect the rest of our life.

If only that were the case, though.

I read a psychological study that found 55% of New Year's Resolutions fail by January 12. And by February the attrition rises to 83%. While there are a number of reasons this failure is the case, researchers found that those who were most successful in their resolutions were those who joined with groups of people, whom they could both check in with and check up on. In other words, they were more successful because they had accountability in their lives. It's exponentially more difficult to effect change on our own.

We Christians have a similar phenomenon in our relationship with Christ and the Church. We mistakenly think we have the ability to be better Christians on our own. We might say we'll come to Liturgy more, pray more, curse less, be less negative, practice loving people without attachments. I referenced our "Spiritual New Year's" resolutions back in September; our life in Christ is constantly changing and requires our vigilant attention. And just like exercise, or anything else, without accountability we're setting ourselves up to fail. Two-thousand years of Church history tells us: our relationship with Christ grows and flourishes only in the presence of other Christians. But what if we could grow without judgment, fear, or embarrassment? What if we had a connection to a personal trainer, someone who pushes us, wants for us to be better? We do!

The Sacrament of Confession is for us accountability par excellence. Each one of us, as Orthodox Christians, has the opportunity to avail ourselves to a Father Confessor. In your Father Confessor you have a man who loves you unconditionally, no matter your sins, shames, or failings. You have a man who will go before God with you to make your confession, to lovingly encourage and correct you, and declare God's forgiveness in your life. What's even better is that there's really no limit to how many visits you make, and it's always confidential. No, really. The sacrament of confession is so serious that our privacy is legally binding. We're not to divulge what transpires in confession even when it risks our life.

No empty promises, no fluff. Just you and your Father Confessor, relying on God's grace to lead you along the path towards Christ.

Fr. Matthew (handwritten signature)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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

**January**

Christine Joyce	1-01	Mary Markis	1-25
Carmen Alexander	1-10	George Sergakis	1-25
StephanieKamarados	1-12	Jake Bostaph	1-28
Kim Paluch	1-14	Hope Halkias	1-28
Angie Kirsch	1-16	Eurydice Kamarados	1-28
Kayla Koehnlein	1-16	Angie Mahfood	1-28
Kay Bellas	1-17	Nick Cheruvathoor	1-29
Marie Calfa	1-20		

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** ..... **Jan 9 2020**  
Fr. Matthew starts Bible study on Thursday, January 9 at 10:00AM. We will be studying the Gospel of Matthew. Classes will go until February 27.

**PARISH GROUPS**

**CHOIR** ..... **January 6**  
Choir rehearsals are held on the first Monday of each month at 5:00 P.M. Anyone interested in joining is welcome.

**PHILOPTOCHOS** ..... **January 2**  
The Philoptochos Ladies will have their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 2, at 6:30 P.M. at Steubenville Country Club.

**PARISH COUNCIL** ..... **January 14**  
Parish Council meetings are normally held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the church unless otherwise stated.

**GYRO FUNDRAISER**

The next Philoptochos gyro fundraiser is Tuesday, January 14 from 10Am-1PM. Gyros are \$7/ea. And chicken gyros are \$8/ea. Koulourakia (twist cookies) are \$6/doz. Please join us for this event and lend a hand on January 13 at 9:00AM or January 14 at 10:00AM.

**OFFICES CLOSED**

The church offices will be closed on January 1 in celebration of New Years Day and on January 20 to commemorate Martin Luther King Day.

**FESTIVAL PREPARATION BEGINS**

The sounds and smells of the 2020 Festival are already upon us. We will be grinding walnuts the entire week of January 13. We are baking baklava on January 21 and 23. On January 28 and January 30 we will be making kourambiedes and shells. Come and join us!

**GOYA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

Our Parish GOYA is once again going to basketball tournaments this year! In January, the weekends are January 17 – 19 in Cleveland, and January 31 – February 2 in Canton. Please contact Rikki Kamarados if you are planning on attending either of these weekends.

**PROSFORA WORKSHOP**



**PROSFORA WORKSHOP**

*"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 and quick method for making prosfora. You don't have to bring anything at all, though you're encouraged to bring a seal if you have one.

Learn to make Prosfora from start to finish

Learn the symbols of the Prosfora

All supplies provided

But bring your seal if you have one!

For youth, teens, and adults

Fellowship with your parish family

**HOLY TRINITY HELLENIC HALL**

**Saturday, January 11 2p-4p**

**RSVP by January 5 740-282-9835**

**STEWARDSHIP**

Thank you to those who have already completed and turned in their 2020 Stewardship commitment.

**Total Pledging Families to Date: 33**

Please turn in your stewardship commitment as soon as possible! More forms are available at the parish office.

## Philoptochos Christmas Party



## Christmas Tree Decorating



## 2020 Baking Schedule January - March

### January

**Week of January 13** Grind walnuts

**January 21 & 23** Baklava

**January 28** Kourambiedes and make shells

**January 30** Finish baklava (if needed)

### February

**February 1, 4** De-stem grape leaves

**February 13, 18, 20, 25** Assemble dolmathes

### March

**March 3** Souzoukakia and make shells for galaktobourekos

**March 10** Galaktobourekos



## A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX  
BRING THE BOX TO CHURCH ON  
JANUARY 26 AND THE BOX WILL BE  
DELIVERED TO AN AREA FOOD BANK.**

*Please No Expired Items*

JANUARY 1 – BOX OF CEREAL  
JANUARY 2 – PEANUT BUTTER  
JANUARY 3 – STUFFING MIX  
JANUARY 4 – BOXED POTATOES  
JANUARY 5 – MACARONI AND CHEESE  
JANUARY 6 – CANNED FRUIT  
JANUARY 7 – CANNED TOMATOES  
JANUARY 8 – CANNED TUNA  
JANUARY 9 – CAKE MIX  
JANUARY 10 – JAR OF APPLESAUCE  
JANUARY 11 – CANNED SWEET POTATOES  
JANUARY 12 – CRANBERRY SAUCE  
JANUARY 13 – CANNED BEANS  
JANUARY 14 – BOX OF CRACKERS  
JANUARY 15 – PACKAGE OF RICE

JANUARY 16 – PACKAGE OF OATMEAL  
JANUARY 17 – PACKAGE OF PASTA  
JANUARY 18 – SPAGHETTI SAUCE  
JANUARY 19 – CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP  
JANUARY 20 – TOMATO SOUP  
JANUARY 21 – CAN OF CORN  
JANUARY 22 – CAN MIXED VEGETABLES  
JANUARY 23 – CAN CARROTS  
JANUARY 24 – CAN GREEN BEANS  
JANUARY 25 – FROSTING/ICING

## THANKS BE TO GOD

**For all those joys & comforts You have given me and  
my loved ones. For all those blessings I eagerly seek,  
knowing that my faith in You unlocks every door.**

# NET-MINDERS

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

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Anthony N. Mougianis

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**Philoptochos Society**  
 "Friends of the Poor"  
 Women and Men Invited  
 See Angie Mahfood or Joanne McCraley to Join

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# 2020 January

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
29		30		Dec 31		1		2		3		4	
						Offices Closed		6:30 PM Philoptochos Meeting					
5		6		7		8		9		10		11	
Eye of Theophany 8:50 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Waters		Holy Theophany 9:00 AM Orthros, Divine Liturgy, & Water Blessing - Theophany 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal		9:00 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy - St. John the Baptist		5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis		10:00 AM Bible Study				2:00 PM Prosfora Workshop	
12		13		14		15		16		17		18	
Vasiloptia Cutting after Liturgy 8:50 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy		9:00 AM Gyro Sale 9:00 AM Grind Walnuts for Festival		9:00 AM Grind Walnuts for Festival 10:00 AM Gyro Sale 7:00 PM Parish Council		9:00 AM Grind Walnuts for Festival 5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis		9:00 AM Grind Walnuts for Festival 10:00 AM Bible Study		GOYA Basketball Tournament - Cleveland 9:00 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy - St. Anthony 9:00 AM Grind Walnuts for Festival			
19		20		21		22		23		24		25	
GOYA Basketball Tournament - Cleveland 8:50 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy		Offices Closed		Father Out of Town 9:00 AM Bake Baklava for Festival				9:00 AM Bake Baklava for Festival					
26		27		28		29		30		31		Feb 1	
8:50 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy				8:00 AM Festival Kourambiedes and Make Shells		5:00 PM Confession 6:00 PM Paraklesis		9:00 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy - Three Hierarchs 9:00 AM Finish Festival Baklava if Needed 11:00 AM Bible Study		GOYA Basketball Tournament - Canton			
2		3		<b>Notes</b>									

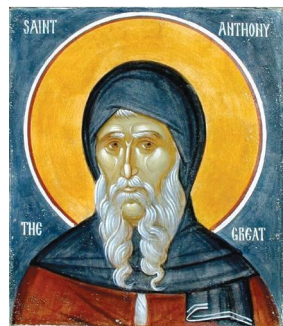


Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
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Submissions for THE NET are to be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month

### About the Icon on the Cover



#### ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT

Saint Anthony, the Father of monks, was born in Egypt in 251 of pious parents who departed this life while he was yet young. On hearing the words of the Gospel: "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell what thou hast, and give to the poor" (Matt. 19:21), he immediately put it into action. Distributing to the poor all he had, and fleeing from all the turmoil of the world, he departed to the desert. The manifold temptations he endured continually for the span of twenty years are incredible. His ascetic struggles by day and by night, whereby he mortified the uprisings of the passions and attained to the height of dispassion, surpass the bounds of nature; and the report of his deeds of virtue drew such a multitude to follow him that the desert was transformed into a city, while he became, so to speak, the governor, lawgiver, and master-trainer of all the citizens of this newly-formed city.

Saint Anthony began his ascetic life outside his village of Coma in Upper Egypt, studying the ways of the ascetics and holy men there, and perfecting himself in the virtues of each until he surpassed them all. Desiring to increase his labors, he departed into the desert, and finding an abandoned fortress in the mountain, he made his dwelling in it, training himself in extreme fasting, unceasing prayer, and fierce conflicts with the demons. Here he remained, as mentioned above, about twenty years. Saint Athanasius the Great, who knew him personally and wrote his life, says that he came forth from that fortress "initiated in the mysteries and filled with the Spirit of God."

#### Apolytikion of Anthony the Great - Fourth Tone

O Father Anthony, you imitated the zealous Elijah. You followed the straight paths of the Baptist and became a desert dweller. By prayer you confirmed the universe. Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.