



The Net

A monthly publication of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
January 2021 | Vol. 13 | Issue 1

Directory

Fr. Matthew Moore
Parish Priest

Erin Harris
Office Manager

Parish Council

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

Ministries

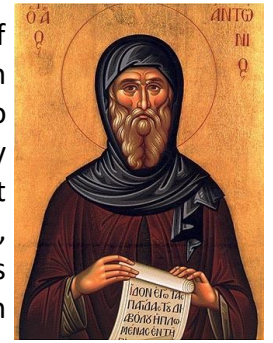
- Philoptochos** Angie Mahfood
- Religious Education**
- Stewardship**
- GOYA** Rikki Kamarados
- JOY** Maria Matzorkis
- HOPE** Maria Matzorkis
- Choir** Pete Caleodis
- Chanters** Erma Rangos
- Senior Citizens** Barbara Lee Maragos

Fraternal Organizations

- Chian Society** John Kamarados
- Pan-Icarian** Stacey Kotsanis
- AHEPA** Tommy Kotsanis

Anthony the Great January 17

Saint Anthony the Great is considered the founder of Christian monasticism. He was born near Memphis in central Egypt about the year 251 to a well-to-do Christian family. He was left an orphan at an early age. In church one Sunday, when he was about twenty years old, he heard the words of the Gospel, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Matthew 19: 21).



Without hesitation Saint Anthony literally obeyed the words he had heard and disposed of all his possessions. He went out into the desert to live a life of prayer, fasting, and manual labor. At first he was plagued by many temptations, but by the grace of Christ he overcame them. He returned to civilization only twice, to aid suffering fellow Christians during the persecutions instigated by the Emperor Diocletian and to support Orthodoxy against the Arian heresy, which denied that Christ was God.

As Saint Anthony's reputation for holiness spread, others went out to share his way of life and to learn from him. So many gathered around that he began to miss the solitude of the early years. He withdrew deeper into the desert, to a cave in a remote area near the shore of the Red Sea, where he spent the rest of his life. Saint Anthony's biography was written by Saint Athanasius, the great archbishop of Alexandria, who knew him personally and relied on him for support and advice. Saint Anthony died in the year 356. His feast day, our parish patron feast, is January 17th.



Λίγο Ακόμα

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

This last year was a trying time for many around the world. But with lots of great news regarding vaccines, as well as

better treatment procedures, 2021 shows a lot of promise! I'm pleased to sing loudly *Auld Lang Syne* to 2020.

At the time of writing this message, His Eminence Metropolitan Savas has directed our parishes to stop all in-person, non-worship gatherings until at least January 2. We're still in the 'Green Phase' of our parish COVID response, so for now we will continue to worship as we have. If there are any major changes, I'll be sure to send out an email and a OneCall.

Although I'm very excited about what the Spring and Summer hold for us, (could we have a normal-ish Pascha?) I have to remind myself to be patient. We just need to ride out this waiting period as our medical professionals guide us towards a healthier public existence. If I've waited 10 months already, what is another 3 or 4? I like to recite a portion of poem to encourage myself to have patience. It's in the 23rd stanza of *Mythistorema*, written by the Greek Noble Prize poet, George Seferis. I want to share it with you.

Λίγο ακόμα

θα ιδούμε τις αμυγδαλιές ν' ανθίζουν
τα μάρμαρα να λάμπουν στον ήλιο
τη θάλασσα να κυματίζει

λίγο ακόμα,

να σηκωθούμε λίγο ψηλότερα.

A little farther

we will see the almond trees blossoming
the marble gleaming in the sun
the sea breaking into waves

a little farther,

let us rise a little higher.

Fr. Matthew

January Memorial - 01/03/2021

O, God, give rest to the souls of your servants, those men and women of Holy Trinity that went before us

Mrs Maria Theodosiou Kirlagkitis

Georgios Chrisanthos Mousetis

Apostolos K. Tsouris

Ioannis Anthoulis

Nikolaos Theodoros Gekas

Archimidis Fragkakis

Georgios Pavlidakis

Afroditi Konstantinou Skavdi

Stelios Georgiou Kourpas

Evangelos Michail (Michael) Galapoulas

THANK YOU to everyone who has begun to support our monthly memorials. It is a blessing that donors have already provided enough for us to buy the materials for koliva through April.

Happy January!



Beloved parishioners of Holy Trinity welcome to January! Kalo Mena! Xristos Anesti!

As we continue on with the pandemic restrictions and the Green Phase of our coming back to worship at Holy Trinity, a continued thanks to everyone for your cooperation as we continue to allow up

to 50% of our sanctuary's capacity into our church for Divine Liturgy.

We are always working diligently to make it fair and as safe as it possibly can be for everyone; and so far it has gone very well. Please continue to follow the rules of distancing: sitting with close family members only. As with last month many have shown a desire to attend church, though many have also preferred to stay home for the time being; and that's perfectly fine. There's no right or wrong here; it is solely based on your personal comfort. This arrangement will change as the pandemic changes, so our hope is that the numbers stay the same or even drop so that we can continue to worship together.

We must stay vigilant and continue to follow the rules strictly as the infection numbers rise. Please follow the rule of wearing a mask, washing and sanitizing your hands, and keeping a six foot distance as often as you can. These steps make such a difference as well as save lives!

Though in the interim, and for those of you who cannot attend or desire not to, please continue to watch our services live every Wednesday and Sunday at :www.holytrinitystb.org/live

Again, please look at our renovated website that Fr. Matthew has worked on so diligently: www.holytrinitystb.org and surf through the many pages of information, church calendars schedules and updates.

With great sadness we had to cancel our festival this year but I am proud to report that the COVID-19 Relief Campaign has been extremely well received. Thank you to everyone who has given. The festival committee is very thankful, and your generosity has allowed our church to operate properly during this unprecedented and difficult time. So far, this campaign has brought our church over \$80,000, which has done wonders in keeping our church going strong. Donations are still welcome; keep them coming in! God Bless each and everyone of you! Thank you again!

Online giving has been available and makes it easy to give to our Beloved Holy Trinity. Please Go to our church website at <http://holytrinitystb.org/online-giving/> in order to access online giving and follow the easy directions.

Stewardship:

Our parish strives "To lead people to God through Orthodox Christianity and to provide ways for them live and share God's love." It does so in good days and in bad, such as we now experience. Church attendance may be difficult or impossible for you, but we endeavor to spread the "good news" as best we can. Any financial help that you might offer, or can send us is deeply appreciated.

Please continue to pray for the sick who have contracted this horrible virus, and for the families of the many that have lost their lives throughout the world and here in our country. Also continue your prayers for our sick here within our own church family.

Our outreach committee has met and is currently refining our church roster and data base. If you would like to join the outreach committee, please contact Fr. Matthew, Greg Matzorski or myself.

We are looking to fill several committees, anyone is welcome to join and participate. Currently, we need help with the following:

- 1.) Outreach
- 2.) Education
- 3.) Ways and Means

If you have an interest in any of these committees please either call Fr. Matthew or Erin in the office or myself to join! We need your help!

I want to thank all of you for your steadfast support and faith in a year and time that has been so very difficulty for all of us. It reminds me of 2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight" and though it is easier said than done, we must stay strong and know that this too shall pass.

As always, thank you for all that you do in helping make Holy Trinity great; it takes a village and each and everyone of you makes an enormous difference!

In closing and as always let us remember:

1 John 4:7

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God...

Love will always conquer all. Much love and continued blessings.

Have a happy, healthy and abundant 2021,

Tony





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



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

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| Christine Joyce | 1-07 | Marie Calfa | 1-20 |
| Carmen Alexander | 1-10 | Mary Markis | 1-25 |
| Stephanie Kamarados | 1-12 | George Sergakis | 1-25 |
| Angie Kirsch | 1-16 | Eurydice Kamarados | 1-28 |
| Kayla Koehnlein | 1-16 | Angie Mahfood | 1-28 |
| Kay Bellas | 1-17 | Nick Chereuvathoor | 1-29 |



If you have been omitted from any birthday month and would like to be included; please let us know by emailing the office at office@holytrinitystb.org or by calling Erin in the office at 740-282-9835.

WAYS TO SERVE THE CITY

Urban Mission

Urban Mission is always looking for volunteers to help package food boxes in their warehouse. They are also looking for help sorting through donations at their thrift store, Urban Thrift. These are jobs that can be done by people both young and old! Speak with Father Matthew to learn more about the opportunities for Holy Trinity to serve the poor in the Ohio Valley.

Sycamore Center

Do you have a skill you can share?

Want to be a role model for our city's youth?

Pastor Bobbyjon Bauman is always looking for volunteers to help teach life skills or activity classes for their after school program. He already has a list of classes and activities he needs help with, but is also receptive do starting a new program. Please contact Father Matthew for more information about how you might help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church office will be closed on Friday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day.

NO JANUARY HOUSE BLESSING

For safety and logistical reasons we will look to have house blessings in September, as has been done in years past.

PHILOPTOCHOS

President Angie Mahfood is happy to report, that even during the current pandemic the Philoptochos Society has to been able to make their monthly donations.

For the month of December the Philoptochos were able to donate to: Jefferson County Department of Job and Family Services, Holy Trinity Agape Fund, and Center of Hope Friendship Room.

Angie would like to wish everyone a happy, blessed, and healthy 2021.

KEEPING CONNECTED

If you haven't gotten an email or you are not receiving "one calls" from us lately, perhaps we don't have current information for you. Please contact Erin at the office at office@holytrinitystb.org or by phone at (740) 282-9835 to keep your contact information up to date.

Parishioners can also take advantage of the following online aids:

- Spend time at the appropriate moments to participate in the services via video. You can find online services at <https://www.goarch.org/live-broadcasts>
- Those with newer AppleTV devices, Roku, or Amazon Fire can find the Archdiocesan channel: <https://www.goarch.org/tv>
- Utilize the Archdiocesan Online Chapel for texts of services, daily readings, and lives of the Saints: <https://www.goarch.org/chapel>
- There are many edifying bible studies and educational podcasts available via Ancient Faith Ministries (<https://www.ancientfaith.com/>) or Orthodox Christian Network (<http://myocn.net>)
- Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis offers a wonderful daily message through his "Prayer Team" ministry. Sign up using the following link: <https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin>



*Blessings and prayers to all for a
happy, and healthy 2021!*

January 2021

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | 1  2 <i>Office Closed</i> | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 Eve of Theophany 9:00 AM Royal Hours | 6 Holy Theophany 9:00 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy | 7 Synaxis of John the Baptist | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Martin Luther King Jr Day | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Three Hierarchs 9:30 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy |
| 31 | | | | | | |

NET-MINDERS

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

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of Nicholas
Mougianis**

**In Memory of Our
Friend,
Annette Kirlin Kazalas**





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Philoptochos Society
"Friends of the Poor"

Women and Men Invited

See Angie Mahfood or Joanne McCraley to Join

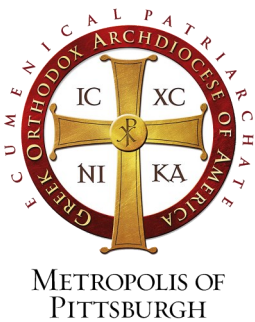


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Submissions for THE NET are to be submitted by the 20th of each month

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church



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

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.