



Monthly Parish Newsletter
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Fr. John Touloumes, Ekonomos

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REMINDER:
DIVINE LITURGY STARTS
AT 9:30 AM THROUGH
OCTOBER

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

1923 · EIGHTY YEARS OF MINISTRY · 2003

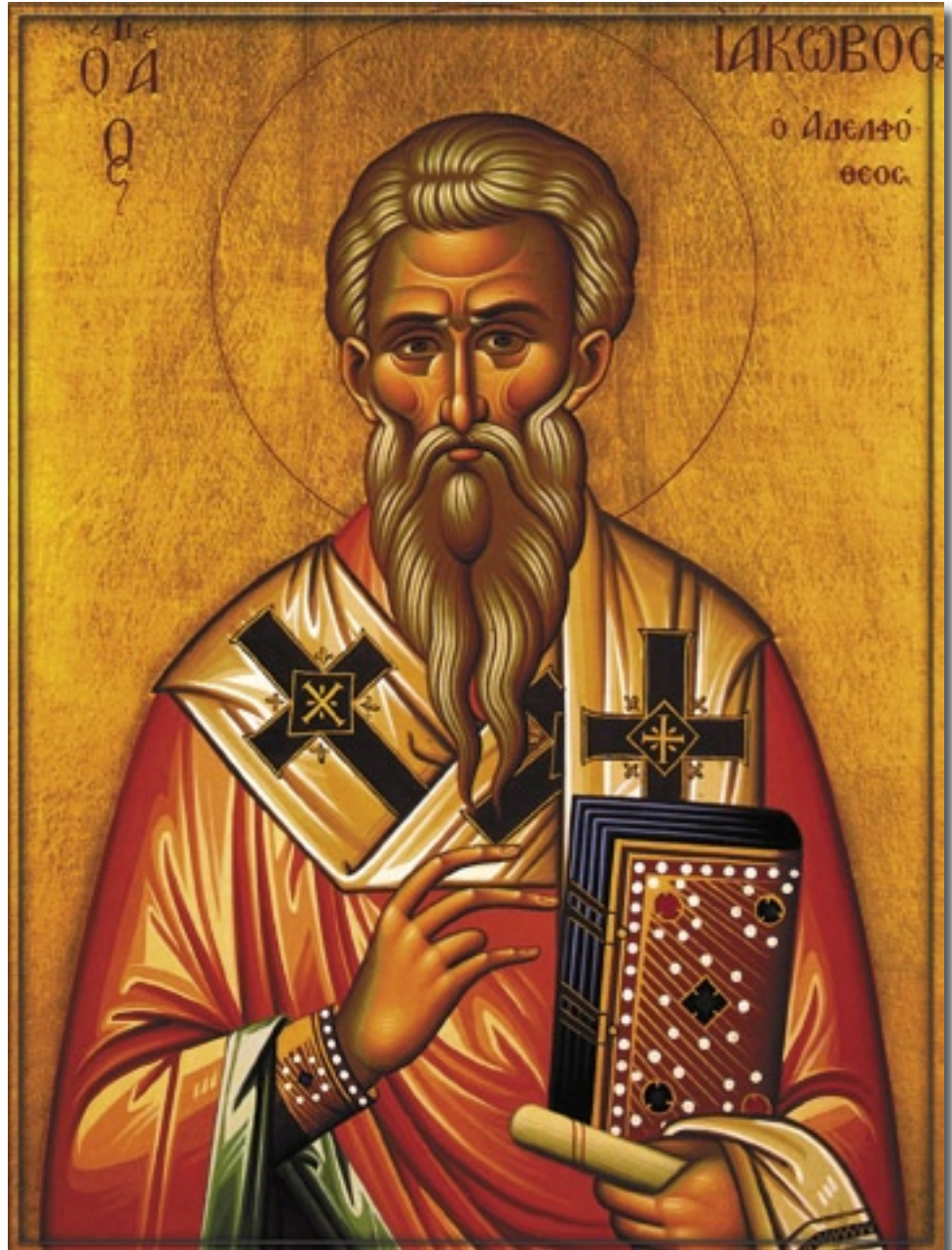
Our Mission: To proclaim and live the Orthodox Christian Faith in its fullness as faithful members of the Body of Christ

October 2003

www.HolyTrinityPgh.org

Volume 11 – Issue 10

Saint Iakovos the Apostle and "Brother of the Lord" - Feast Day October 23



FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY INFORMATION ENCLOSED

November 9 General Assembly Agenda / Parish Council Elections Form

Father John's Message

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

Parish Newsletter of
Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Church
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The Cultural Side

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Publication Schedule

The Herald is published monthly.
The information deadline is the 15th of each
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the Herald, please contact the church secretary
at 412-321-9282 to volunteer your help.

This issue of
The Herald
is sponsored
in memory of the
departed members
of the
Pan-Ionian Society
of Pittsburgh
May their memory
be eternal!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One cannot drive very far around Pittsburgh without seeing a church. Every denomination and style of architecture is represented here. And most of them have signs, identifying who they are. Some of them are large and say much about the parish and its people by the listings of services, activities, speakers, etc. Whether by design or oversight back in 1960 when this parish was built, no such sign was erected. Yes, there are two small metal plaques on the corners of the buildings (one in Greek, one in English), but it is obvious by the number of people who knock on our office door that our identity is sometimes unclear.

How, then, if we do not have a sign, can anyone know who we are? It seems to me this requires looking inside the building. Just as one cannot tell what a home is like inside by looking at the house outside, it is easier to see what the Holy Trinity community is all about by

paging through this issue of The Herald than by looking at a sign.

One of the wonderful results of seeing a community in that manner is that it does not fix our identity in cement or metal, but casts it in the dynamic and creative mold formed by the Holy Spirit at any given time. So, what would someone find who is trying to identify this community in that way? Look through and see for yourself:

- An active religious education ministry to bring children into the light of Christ.
- Growth and learning ministries for adults seeking to deepen their faith and commitment.
- An army of volunteers ready to serve and support their Church whenever its needed.
- The hands of love reaching out to serve the needs of the poor both locally and globally.
- A worshipping community of prayer and love for the Lord, His Scriptures and His Church.
- A people who respect and honor their heritage and the sacrifices of their ancestors.
- A Christian family with its arms open to all.

These are just a few of the ways to say, "This is Holy Trinity Church," and they are best said through the wonderful souls that God uses to bring life to this Church on a daily basis. You are an important part of that body, as Saint Paul reminds us in 1 Cor. 12.12: "Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ."

During our Festival, many people commented again to me and to others about the warmth and hospitality of our people. It is hard to find a better compliment when it is understood that hospitality comes from love ... and love comes from God. And some day, perhaps that love will be perfected when we are truly ready to bear witness of our full calling, when we will be able to invite those friends and guests for our Festival and let them know that the support they offer does not go into the operating budget of our parish to keep the doors open, but into the projects and ministries which help make the world around us an experience of God's love, through outreach, mission and mercy. Until then, God knows our heart and will continue to empower us to move in that direction. That is why it is such a tremendous statement of who and what this community is and desires to be that we are opening those very same doors used for selling food to people at the Festival to provide a free offering of love to the needy once again in November at the "Feed the Homeless" event.

Please continue to serve with all your heart and to pray for the future of our community. Our Vision Committee is still in pursuit of that place to which God is calling us to be in the future physically (a report will be offered at the General Assembly), but in the mean time we all have a role in fulfilling the place God wants us to be spiritually. May our loving God keep us all in His care and His love always.

With many thanks and with glory to God for all things,

News & Events

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

Church School "Trading Places" Open House .. 10/19

Parents: When was the last time you were in "Sunday School?" Do you know who your children's teachers are? What are they studying? What books are they using? What do they do during a typical class session? And Students: What do all the adults do when you're in class, anyway? Well, the answers to all these questions can be found at this year's Church School "Trading Places" Open House. On Sunday, October 19, the Church School students and Parents will trade places following Holy Communion. Parents will be dismissed to attend a class and meet their children's teachers. Students will remain in the Divine Liturgy for a special session with Father John, who will be speaking to them instead of the parents for the main sermon of the day. Be there!



St. Lydia's Women's Fellowship October 9, 23

The St. Lydia Women's Study Fellowship is a ministry for women to share in fellowship and to study scripture, the Orthodox Faith and family life in today's world. The meetings take place every other week on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at a home in the North Hills. New participants are always welcome! The fellowship is enjoyable and the approach is casual, but the subjects are important for today's families. For further information on this worthwhile and informative group or for directions to the meetings, call Paula Valliant at 412-487-3977. A complete schedule of dates and topics can be found on our web site at www.HolyTrinityPgh.org.

St. Nikodemos Men's Fellowship Oct. 14, 28

The St. Nikodemos Men's Study Fellowship is an Orthodox men's fellowship, study and discussion group which meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at from 12:15 to 12:50 p.m. at the office of TriadUSA, Suite 460, Two Gateway Center, downtown. The group seeks to provide a regular meeting for working men to discuss issues of faith, work and family. It is open to all interested men and has been centrally located downtown



to accommodate easy access for the lunchtime meetings. Each second Tuesday of the month the discussion is focused on a different issue of contemporary life and faith; each fourth Tuesday of the month the men are studying the New Testament Epistles of St. John. For directions, call Gus Georgiadis at 412-880-4999. A complete schedule of dates and topics can be found on our web site at www.HolyTrinityPgh.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

GOYA Fellowship Night October 19

The GOYA will hold the first of its monthly fellowship nights for the season at the home of George and Andrew Athanasiou on Sunday, October 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. These casual meetings provide and opportunity for discussion, time with friends, questions for Fr. John and other GOYA matters as needed. For information, contact George Athanasiou at 412-322-6002.

GOYA Steelers Bake Sale October 26

Please plan on supporting our GOYA for their Steelers Bake Sale on Sunday, October 26. Take home some treats to (hopefully) celebrate another victory for the Black and Gold!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fall Community Homeless Outreach. Nov. 15

Holy Trinity Church has been blessed once again with the opportunity to host the "Feed the Homeless" Outreach event. You may remember the last event in the spring, when our parish, which so often asks for the support of the community around us for the Festival, Wednesday Lunch, etc., instead offered our facilities to the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood and opened its doors to the poor and needy the Lord commands us to serve in His name.

Now, returning to that blessing, on Saturday, November 15, the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood will again sponsor a sit-down lunch for the homeless here at Holy Trinity Social Hall from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. This philanthropic outreach will be sponsored by various Orthodox parishes in the area, who will bring food and provide volunteers to set up, clean up and serve. In addition to offering the use of our hall, it is important that the Holy Trinity community steps forward to serve. If you would like to help by cooking, serving or donating, please contact Julie or Mike Kritiotis at 412-766-5001. During the Lenten season when we are called to prayer, fasting and almsgiving, this is truly

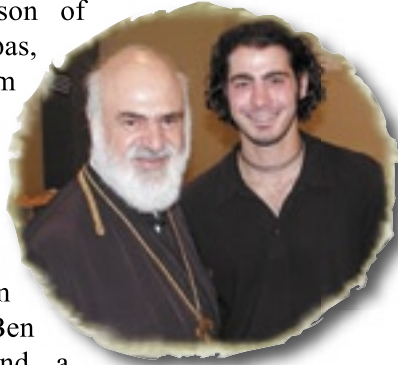
News & Events

a wonderful way to fulfill the commandment of Jesus Christ: "As you did it to these, the least of my brethren, you did it to Me" (Mt. 25.40).

Christopher Bonfield Graduates from Penn

Christopher Bonfield, son of Reggie and Marianne Bonfield and grandson of Frank and Anne Chapas, graduated Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA, this May. During his distinguished term at Penn, we was a Ben Franklin Scholas and a member of the Ski Team, as well as the Epsilon Pi fraternity. In his junior year, Christopher attended the "College Year in Athens" program in Greece.

He is currently attending the University of Pittsburgh Medical School. Christopher is pictured above bring congratulated by His Eminence, Metropolitan Maximos at the recent Holy Trinity Greek Festival.



LITURGICAL LIFE

Weekday Services..... October

Please take note of the following weekday Liturgies for the feast days in the month of October. Orthros is at 8:30 a.m., followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30.

St. Gerasimos of Cephalonia..... October 20
"OXI" Day and the Feast of the
Holy Protection of the Theotokos..... Oct. 28

REGIONAL EVENTS

Walk For Missions 2003..... October 12

The Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh will once again sponsor its annual Walk for Missions on Sunday, October 12 at 2:00 p.m. at the South Park Fair Grounds. Proceeds from the Walk will benefit the Orthodox Christian Missions Center (OCMC), which sends Orthodox Christian missionaries throughout the world: 35 long-term missionaries and over 800 short-term missionaries to 21 countries. OCMC also supports the ministries of indigenous (local) clergy in mission areas of over 12 countries, with over 240 clergy in areas such as Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Nigeria and Tanzania. A registratoim form/flyer was enclosed in the last issue of *The Herald*. Please notify

Holy Cross Church at 412-833-3355 if you plan to participate.

Bone Marrow Registry Screening October 19

The Aristotelis Chapter #34 of the Order of AHEPA is conducting a Pittsburgh area Bone Marrow Screening for the National Bone Marrow Registry on Sunday, October 19, 2003 at the St. Nicholas Cathedral, 419 S. Dithridge Street, in Oakland, after Divine Liturgy until 3:00 PM.

Why register? Through such efforts, thousands of lives are saved every year by bone marrow transplantation. Over 50 diseases including the leukemias, aplastic anemia, severe combined immune deficiency, sickle cell anemia and radiation poisoning are treated by bone marrow transplants. The odds are 1 in 20,000 of identifying an unrelated compatible marrow donor...much higher, however, for patients of minority heritage. You could be that special life-giving person!

Certified Phlebotomists will perform all screenings, and there is no cost for testing. There will be an Informational Session on October 5, 2003 -12:30PM at St. Nicholas Cathedral, where a video presentation will be offered, as well as an opportunity for questions to be answered. For more information, Please contact: George Yanulis, by email: yanulis@excite.com or phone: (412) 621-6441; or Philip Yamalis: pyamalis@comcast.net or (412) 343-8355.

ATTENTION HOLY TRINITY PARISHIONERS:

PLEASE NOTE NEW DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE
"REGULAR HOURS" (Apr.-Oct.) 9:30 AM
"WINTER HOURS" (Nov.-Mar.) 10:00 AM

After a conducting a test-run of extending the 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy hours and evaluating feedback from our parishioners along with the Parish Council, the schedule posted above will now be in effect at Holy Trinity for all Sunday and Weekday Divine Liturgies.

As your pastor, responsible for the entire spiritual life of the community, I offer my personal thanks to those who offered their opinions on the time change, because even though no single plan was everyone's first choice, everyone's input was considered seriously during this evaluation.

With thanks in the Lord,
 Father John

Mouse Tales: The St. Spyridon Church School Library Update

Hello..o..o!

Yes, I'm back my precious children and friends! It is I, Spero. I am so..o..o glad that fall is coming. I just love all of God's seasons. Soon God's hand will touch His entire outdoors in very colorful ways. Leaves and plants will have beautiful hues to them. We will see colors of gold, red, orange, yellow, green, and more. The sky will have fantastic color and stars will be bright, the air crisp and clean. (Unless you live in Los Angeles!)



The smell of burning wood will make its way up chimneys across the orange and brown tree tops. Sweaters will come out of storage and more time will be spent with family and friends as the holidays draw nearer.

It's also a good time to be reminded of God's promise, "I will reward you for what you have done". What kind of rewards will Our Heavenly Father give us?

Think about the twelve men who left everything to follow Jesus, their jobs, homes, and families. Did the twelve Disciples ever wonder if they would receive rewards? Yes, they did in the Bible according to Matthew 19:27-29, Peter asked Jesus "We have left everything to follow you, what reward will be given to us?" Jesus replied to them, "When the Son of man sits on His glorious throne, then you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones. You will judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Everyone who has left homes or families or fields because of me will receive a hundred times as much, they will receive eternal life."

We must remember that God gives us more than a beautiful earth: Heaven is a gift of Our Heavenly Father, too! It is not a reward for doing well, because we can't ever earn it. But, He does promise to reward you in Heaven for being faithful servants here on Earth. He sees everything even when others do not notice or appreciate what you do. He sees all and He will reward us for everything.

So do not do good deeds to be seen and praised by others. God wants each of us to be especially generous to those who cannot repay you. Treat everyone the way that you would treat Jesus. He accepts everything you do as if you have done this for Him.

Love in Christ, Spero

Community Life Photo Journal

Photo highlights from the 2003 Holy Trinity Greek Festival, August 27-31



Community Life Photo Journal

Photo highlights from the 2003 Holy Trinity Greek Festival, August 27-31

Time and space do not allow enough room to adequately portray all the excitement, dedication, hard work and enthusiasm shown by our beloved Holy Trinity parishioners for their Church through their labors and offerings of love at this year's Holy Trinity Greek Festival. These few highlights are offered as a thanksgiving to God and a reminder to us all that each of us is an important part of the Body of Christ which is this Church. May the Lord continue to bless us with success that we may serve Him always!



Community Life Photo Journal

Photo highlights from the 2003 Holy Trinity Greek Festival, August 27-31



Community Life Photo Journal

An on-going photo journal of scenes from the active parish life of Holy Trinity Church.



September 8: Members of the Holy Trinity community attended the Feast Day Liturgy at the Holy Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery in Saxonburg, PA. (Not pictured: Tom and Georgia Mitrakos)



September 6: Fr. John and GOYA Advisor Presvytera Becky take time out at the GOYA Kick-Off for a photo with the 2003/2004 GOYA officers: Eleni Valliant (Recording Secretary), Dean Dickos (Corresponding Secretary), Marios Kritiotis (Activities Coordinator); Andrew Athanasiou (Treasurer) and George Athanasiou (President). Not pictured: Nicholas Balouris (Vice-President).



Michael Georges and Alex Elderkin take their turn on a human-powered cruise around the lake at "Limni," the Kritiotis house near Franklin, PA



September 12: Parents and youth of the JOY ministry ("Junior Orthodox Youth," ages 8-12) gather to prepare bag lunches for distribution to the homeless. This program is coordinated by the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh and has been providing lunches for the homeless of the Northside area for over 10 years. Top: JOY parents Arnette Georges, Nick Sarandou & Debbie Jewell organize the sandwich making. Top Left: Katie Sarandou unpacks the bread. Bottom Left: Demetri Danis polishes the hand-picked apples to provide some fruit and good nutrition to the food recipients.



Above: Holy Trinity GOYs get off to a great start at their annual Kick-Off at "Limni." This year's GOYA membership includes over 50 teens from age 13 to 18! Left: New GOYA members Anthony Balouris, George Touloumes and Jason Hodge bask in the moment as they are introduced as new members to the rest of the GOYs.

Gheronda's Corner

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



**Father John
Androutsopoulos**

What Does the Church Mean to Us?

"O come let us worship
and bow down: let us kneel
before the Lord our maker."
Psalm 94:6

St. Luke in his Gospel
tells us it was the custom of

our Lord Jesus Christ to attend the services in the synagogue on the Sabbath day. The Church is Christ's body. Through the Church the faithful Christian is to realize the presence of the Lord to feel the power of His grace. In becoming members of His Church, we say to God and the world that we aim at all times to follow in the footsteps of our Savior. By participating in the Sacraments and the activities of His Church, we become witnesses to His Lordship over our lives.

Can we show our interest in His Church and remain uncommitted? The Church is God's instrument for fulfilling His plans for mankind. As members of His Church, we have a responsibility to be His faithful servants. As Orthodox Christians, we cannot escape our obligations to God. The Church is a place where we find help to learn and grow to be Christ-like. Through the love and power of God working through His people, the Church can help us change and live useful Christian lives. In the Christian fellowship within the Church we find strength, comfort, and answers to whatever we lack in ourselves for God is in the midst of His people.

God requires that we be faithful stewards in His Church. "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2) Through faithful stewardship we glorify God; we strengthen the Church which is our lifeline; our faith becomes meaningful and joyous.

There Are Two Seas

There are two seas in Israel. One is fresh, and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it, and stretch out their thirsty roots to sip of its healing waters. Along its shores the children play. The River Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. Men build their

houses near it, and birds their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows south into another sea. Here is no splash of fish no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy about its waters and neither men nor fowl will drink from it. What makes this mighty difference in the seas? Not the River Jordan. It empties the same good water into both.

This is the difference: the Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the waters of Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another flows out. The giving and receiving go on in equal measure. The other sea is "shrewder," hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulses. Every drop it gets, it keeps. The *Sea of Galilee gives and lives*. The other sea gives *nothing*. It is named the *Dead Sea*.

There are at least two kinds of people in the world just as there are two seas in Israel. Among the many enemies of the spiritual life is *stinginess*. The stingy man worships money. But God said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." A man cannot grow in grace if he puts material things before God. Remember what the Holy Bible says, "It is always more blessed to give than to receive," but let us be sure that we give in the right spirit.

Laughter: The Best Medicine

Bags of old bills were returned to the U.S. Treasury. A \$1 bill and a \$20 bill in the same sack started talking. "Gee, I went to nice stores, good restaurants, country clubs and exotic places," the \$20 bill said. "How about you?" "All I ever did was go to Church, go to Church, go to Church!"

Remember: "GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

*With His love and blessings,
Rev. Fr. John K. Androutsopoulos*



The Cultural Side • Η Πολιτιστική Πλευρά

A Greek language offering on the occasion of "OXI" day, a national holiday celebrated on October 28 in Greece



Voula Hareras

Η 28η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

*Ο Γ. Βλαχος εγραφε
εκεινες τις μερες (εφμεριδα
καθημερινη):*

Η 28η Οκτωβριου του 1940 ειναι και θα ειναι η μεγαλυτερα ημερα της Ελληνικης ιστοριας. Ολαι αι αλλαι ημεραι της Ελληνικης ιστοριας ειχον ηρωισμους, θαρρος και λογικην. Λογικην αυτη η ημερα δεν ειχε. Οταν αντηχησαν το πρωι αι σειρηνες, οι Ελληνες ολοι επιστευσαν βαθυτατα οτι εκαλουντο να αποθανουν. Και δεν ειμεθα ολοι μεχρις της παραμονης της ημερας αυτης ουτε ηρωες, ουτε φανατικοι πατριωται. Μετριοι ανθρωποι, φρονιμοι, της φαμιλιας και της δουλειας. Οχι το σπιτι, τα παιδια καιτους εαυτους μας, αλλ ουτε το περιεχομενον της τσεπης μας δεν ειμεθα προθυμοι να πεταξωμεν εις τον ερανον της Πατριδος. Και παρουσιασθη ο ερανος του αιματος, το αζεχαστο εκεινο πρωι. Και η Ελλας αμεσως χωρις λογαριασμους, χωρις σκεψιν, ανοιξε ολες τις φλεβες της. Ηταν αγων υπερ της Πατριδος. Αυτην ηγαπησαν εξα□να, με οργην και με παθος, αριστεροι και δεξιοι, αστοι και κομμουνισται, εθνικοφρονες και αναρχικοι: την ΕΛΛΑΔΑ.

αλλα και οροσημα εθνικα, αφου εσημαιναν και την απελευθερωση των ακραιφνων Ελληνων της Βορειου Ηπειρου, που δικαια πανηγυριζαν την επιστροφη τους στη Μητερα Ελλαδα.

Αλλα η Κορυτσα δεν ηταν μονο η νικη, ο θριαμβος. Ηταν το πρωτο ρηγμα στο απορθητο τειχος του Αξωνα. Οι ξενοι λαοι την γιορτασαν σαν δικη τους νικη, αισθανθηκαν Ελληνες, σηκωσαν κε□αλι και ενιωσαν σαν να ταπεινωσαν κι εκεινοι τον αητητο ισχυρο. Η Κορυτσα υπηρξε, μεσα στο ερεβος των στιγμων εκεινων του ολεθρου, η Νικη της Ανθρωποτητος, η πρωτη παγκοσμια συμμαχικη νικη, σταθμος στον αγωνα υπεροχης του πνευματος επι της βιας.

Ο ελευθερος κοσμος, ακομα κι οι ουδετεροι, παντου, στους δρομους, στον τυπο, στα θεαματα, υμνουν την Ελλαδα, αυτην τη μικρη και για πολλους αγνωστη γωνια της γης, οπου αστραψε η λαμψη της ελευθεριας. Η Ελλας των μυθων, του Παρθενωνα και του Αισχυλου, γινεται ζωσα, χειροπιαστη ιστορια. Τα μαρμαρα, οι ηρωες, οι Θεοι, ζωντανευουν. Και η καρδια των λαων εγεμισε φως.



Η ΚΑΤΑΛΗΨΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ

Η γενικη αντεπιθεση του ελληνικου στρατου αρχισε στις 14 Νοεμβριου σ ολο το μηκος του μετωπου της Ηπειρου. Η Ιταλικη προελαση πηρε αντιθετη κατευθυνση, εγινε οπισθοχωρηση. Ο Ελληνικος στρατος, σαν ενα σωμα, με ανεπερβλητη ψυχικη και σωματικη ορμη, σπαζει το φραγμα της μηχανοκινητης Ιταλικης στρατιωτικης δυναμης και νικαι στα φτερα μιας ιαχης: ΑΕΡΑ.

Η καταληψη της Κορυτσας, την 26η ημερα απο την αρχη του πολεμου, μια μολις εβδομαδα μετα την εναρξη της αντεπιθεσης, ηταν η απαρχη μιας θριαμβευτικης πορειας.

Καθε δυο-τρεις μερες ενα ορασημο λεβεντιας: Μοσχοπολις, Πογραδεις, Πρεμετη, Αγιοι Σαραντα, Αργυροκαστρο, Χειμαρρα...Οροσημα λεβεντιας,

ΕΓΚΩΜΙΑ

Τομοι ολοκληροι χρειαζονται για να κατανοηθει η εκθαμβωτικη απηχηση που ειχε στο εξωτερικο, το μυθικο επταμηνο 40 – 40. Ηταν τοτε που ο Τσωρτσιλ υμνουσε τον ελληνικο λαο μ αυτα τα λογια: Το θαρρος και η δυναμις ψυχης που επιδεικνυετε, σ αυτες τις οδυνηρες περιστασεις, αποτελουν για τα Ηνωμενα Εθνη πηγην εμπνευσεως.

Στον τυπο, στα θεαματα, στους δρομους, στους αμβωνες κυριαρχει η Ελλας, αφοβα, φανερα, απηφιστα, παρ ολη τη λογοκρισια. Η Ελλας των μυθων γινεται ζωσα ιστορια, οι μαρμαρωμενοι ηρωες ζωντανευουν, κατεβαινουν απο το βαθρο τους και σμιγουν και μαχονται με το στρατιωτη της Μοραβας, της Κλεισουρας, των Θερμοπυλων. Ο κορυφαιος Γαλλος ποιητης Paul Eluard αρχιζει το φλογερο του ποιημα "ATHENA" με το στιχο: Λαε ελληνικε, λαε βασιλια.

Holy Trinity Church School Ministry

2003-2004 Calendar of Classes and Events

September 03

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

September

- 7** First Day of Church School
- 14** Class session (after Procession of Holy Cross)
- 21** Class session
- 28** Class session

October 03

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

October

- 5** Class session
- 12** Class session
- 19** "Trading Places" Open House
- 26** Class session

November 03

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

November

- 2** Class session/Food Drive
- 9** Class session/Food Drive
- 16** Class session/Food Drive
- 23** Class session/Food Drive
- 30** Class session/Food Drive

December 03

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

December

- 7** Class session
- 14** Class session
- 20** 10:00 AM Christmas Pageant rehearsal

January 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

January

- 4** Class session/Vasolipta
- 11** Class session
- 18** Class session
- 25** Class session

February 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | | | | | | |

February

- 1** Class session
- 8** Class session
- 15** Class session
- 22** Class session
- 29** Class session
Sunday of Orthodoxy/Icon Procession

March

- 7** Class session
- 14** Godparent/Godchild Sunday
- 21** Class session
- 28** Class session
- 3** Saturday of Lazarus: Liturgy/Make Palm Crosses & Prep Candles
- 4** Palm Sunday/Students attend Liturgy with Families (No class session)

April

- 11** The Great and Holy Pascha (Easter) - Agape Vespers Service & Candy Hunt for Children

- 18** Class session
- 25** Class session

May

- 2** Class session
- 9** Class session
- 16** Class session
- 23** Last Day of Class/Graduation

March 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

April 04

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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

May 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

June 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

July 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

August 04

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Please check the Holy Trinity Herald, our website (www.HolyTrinityPgh.org) or ask any teacher for up-to-date information.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center Thank You Received

Each Lent our Church School students support the OCMC Mission Box appeal. This letter was received in acknowledgement of our support. Thank you to all our Church School students and families for helping the work and ministry of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center bring the light of Orthodoxy to the world!



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and Canada
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of the U.S.A.
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of Canada

September 2, 2003

Dear 2003 Coin Box Participants,

My name is Jim Marth. I am the new Annual Gifts Officer for the Mission Center. I want to thank you for your participation in the 2003 Coin Box Program. Almost all of the money that was collected has been turned in to the Mission Center, and I am happy to report that thanks to God's blessing, and your efforts, this was a very good year. As of this writing, \$53,861 has been collected.

I have enclosed a certificate of thanks that you may use to share the good news of what you and your parish have accomplished together. Perhaps your priest might present it to the congregation after a liturgy. It could also be hung on a bulletin board, or in some other appropriate place. Please make sure your parish knows how much their contributions are appreciated.

Thank you again for your participation in the very successful 2003 coin box program.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Marth
Jim Marth
Annual Gifts Officer

Rev. Protopresbyter Martin Rini
Executive Director

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Project Mexico Thank You Received



Project Mexico
P.O. Box 120028 - Chula Vista - CA - 91912-3128
Employer I.D. #33-0521448

August 31, 2003

Fr. John Touloumes
Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral
Agape Fund
302 West North Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Dear Fr. John,

Christ is in our midst! Thank you so much for your recent generous donation in the amount of \$1,522.00 to the work of Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage. You are to be commended for following our Lord's command to "do unto the least of these." Your investment will help us to continue providing a bright future for our special boys, involving our young people in the relief of suffering and in spreading the light of Christ among the needy. *You have helped us immensely!*

Project Mexico has two goals. First, we desire to share Christ's love for us by reaching out to those in need -- feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, caring for the orphans, etc. Secondly, we endeavor to provide opportunities for our young people and adults to do the work of Christ. We have been blessed to see Orthodox Christian people from all over the United States come to do God's work and find fulfillment in the process. And, of course, many poor Mexican families receive homes in place of dirt-floor shacks.

We have established the first orphanage for teenaged boys in Tijuana. When young boys reach the age of ten or eleven, they are often put out of other orphanages. Many are forced into criminal behavior to survive alone on the streets. St. Innocent Orphanage takes these boys in before they are put out. They are cared for until they finish high school or higher education. Along the way, they are provided with an education, vocational training, and, of course, spiritual training and lots of love.

Again, thank you for your generosity. May God richly bless you for reaching out to these in need.

In Christ,

G.P.Y.
Gregory P. Yova
Founder / Executive Director

Note: No goods or services were given in exchange for this donation.

*Thanks so much for your
generosity toward our
boys' educational needs.
It was a blessing to
meet you & your group!*

stay and to contribute to the building materials. Thanks to the generosity and Christian love of those who supported our team, they raised not only minimum required contribution, but over \$1,500 above and beyond that. This was also the experience of the other three parishes which were represented on the team. On Sunday following Divine Liturgy, a check for the additional amount was presented to Margaret Yova as a contribution to the education fund for the boys, since education in Mexico is not provided by the government, but must be paid for by families wishing to educate their children. Thanks to all who made this gift possible!

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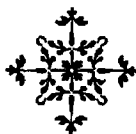
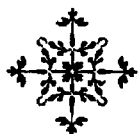
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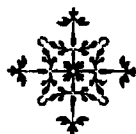
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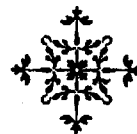


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of my brother,



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THE DANGERS OF THE MATERIALISTIC LIFE

In seeking happiness, man often follows false objectives. He must refrain from such vain pursuits. We are made for another target, beyond corruptible goods, since in the deepest of our being there exists an immortal and everlasting hunger waiting to be satisfied.

The whole of our civilization is based on a poor spiritual effort, the emphasis being placed on ... anti-ascetic conditions. Such an approach, ignoring the spiritual nature of man, is devastating, leaves man without spiritual resources and, therefore, unable to face adversities, illness, death and so many of the tragic conditions which are inevitable in life.

Such materialism does not lead to fulfillment of life, but to its failure. Such a way of life takes from us too much and offers very little in return. It takes everything, above all that which we have as our most precious possession, our soul, and in return gives us back futile satisfactions and a terrible, sad vacuum. It makes us a slave to ourselves, since it fuels all our passions, unsatisfied desires and endless worries.

[The basis for the Christian response to this affliction is "askesis", or self-limitation. The Fathers see in the true restrictive life of Christians not only a distinctive model, but also the very incarnation of Christ's self-emptying teaching. Such a life is many-sided and profitable not only while on earth, but also because it is the pre-requisite for the life after death.

Thanks to such lives, humanity has achieved much and men of brilliance have taken amazing initiatives for socio-economic improvement. True artists, authors and thinkers are experiences in difference degrees of askesis. It is in this prospective that the analyst must see a Christian's orientation against tide, time, even history. He wants to write a new history where the spirit is master over both flesh, earth, selfishness and ugly passions.

From "The Relevance of the Fathers" by Emilianos Timiadis (Holy Cross Press)