



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

### Inside This Issue

- 2 Father John's Message
- 3 News & Events
- 5 Mouse Tales: The Saint  
Spyridon Children's Library
- 6 Community Life Photo Journal
- 8 Gheronda's Corner
- 9 The Cultural Side  
Η Πολιτιστική Πλευρά
- 10 Our Worship - Part 8
- 15 Herald Sponsors
- 16 House Blessing Request Form

### Special Inserts

February Parish Calendar  
Saturday of Souls Names Form

Please support the  
**HOLY TRINITY GOYA**  
Basketball Tournament  
February 17-19, 2006

# THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

1923 · EIGHTY-THREE YEARS OF MINISTRY · 2006

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

February 2006

[www.HolyTrinityPgh.org](http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org)

Volume 14 – Issue 2

The Mother who has never known wedlock has brought into the temple Him Who shone forth before the ages from the Father, and Who in the latter times was born from a virgin womb. He who gave the law upon Mount Sinai, makes Himself obedient to the ordinance of the law; and she has brought Him to the priest and righteous Elder, whose appointed lot it was to see Christ the Lord. Simeon, receiving Him in his arms, greatly rejoiced, crying aloud: "This is God coeternal with the Father, and the Deliverer of our souls."

(From the Great Vespers  
of the Feast)

The Presentation of the Our  
Lord and Savior Jesus  
Christ in the Temple



Feast Day: February 2

## Father John's Message

### THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

Parish Newsletter of  
Holy Trinity  
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#### Publication Schedule

The Herald is published monthly.  
The information deadline is the 15th of each  
month. If you would like to assist with mailing  
the Herald, please contact the church secretary  
at 412-321-9282 to volunteer your help.

This issue of  
**The Herald**  
is sponsored by

**Helen Chapas**  
in loving memory of  
all the departed  
members of the  
Chapas families  
May their memory  
be eternal!



*One thing have I asked of the  
Lord, that will I seek after; that  
I may dwell in the house of the  
Lord all the days of my life, to  
behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple.*

Psalm 27.4

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of the most notable features of the Orthodox Christian Faith that impresses people on first encounter is its visual beauty. It is present in the iconography, the vestments, the liturgical instruments and decorations ... and most prominently, the churches! What a blessing and a powerful witness it is, then, that we at Holy Trinity Church has been counted worthy by the Lord to add to the beauty and faithful witness of the Pittsburgh area through the completion of the building of the Saint George Chapel at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cemetery.

For many years this project was spoken of as a desire; it is now a reality! Yes, there will still be finishing work to do, such as the flooring, liturgical lighting, the interior furnishings, liturgical instruments and iconography, but as a building, it is now complete. Many people have asked about contributing to the completion of the interior; please be patient, as the information on the master plan is forthcoming and will be published in the not-too-distant future.

In the mean time, what is the most important contribution you can make? Be there! On Saturday, February 25, 2006, the first Saturday of the Souls Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service will be held at the chapel, marking a major milestone in the life of Holy Trinity Church. It is truly an honor for me, as your priest, to offer that service in memory of so many beloved souls from this community who have gone on to, in the words of St. Paul, "meet the Lord" (1 Thess. 4.17). Please do not let that blessing pass you by, either. In the words of the Psalm above, the Orthodox Church is a place to "behold the beauty of the Lord." Regardless of the weather, it is bound to be a beautiful day.

May the memory of our loved ones be eternal. May the Lord bountifully bless those who have made this great witness possible. And, above all else, may the glory go to God in all things!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

## News & Events

### EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

#### St. Lydia's Orthodox Women's Fellowship . . . . . Feb.

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 the home of Jan Petre-dis in Wexford. New participants are always welcome! The fellowship is enjoyable and the approach is casual, but the subjects are important for today's women and families. Meeting dates this month are Feb. 9 & 23.

This year's theme is a Bible Study of Saint Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians. The study guide being used is a new publication, "First and Second Corinthians: Straight From the Heart." It approaches the study with an easy-to-understand method intended for all people. For further information on this worthwhile and informative group or for directions to the meetings, call Stacy Dickos at 412-367-0925.



### YOUTH MINISTRY

#### GOYA Events . . . . . February

Thu. Feb. 2, 6:30 pm: Basketball practice  
Thu. Feb. 9, 6:30 pm: Basketball practice  
Thu. Feb. 16, 6:30 pm: Basketball practice  
Thu. Feb. 23, 6:30 pm: Basketball practice

For information contact Presvytera Becky (412-831-3574) or GOYA President Victoria Kritiotis (412-766-5001).

#### GOYA Hoagie Sale . . . . . February 5

The GOYA will be pre-selling hoagies during January for Superbowl Sunday on February 5. Please support our teens in this effort, which helps raise funds for the various events of the GOYA, outreach projects, trips and the Metropolis basketball tournaments. Thanks!

### WORSHIP LIFE

#### Weekday Liturgies . . . . . February

Please keep in mind the following festal celebrations during the month of February. Unless otherwise noted, each listing indicates Orthros at 9:00 am, followed by Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am.

**Wed. Feb. 1, 7:00pm.....Presentation of Christ Vespers**

**Thu. Feb. 2.....Presentation of Christ**

(NOTE: Both the above services will be held at the Presentation of Christ "Ypapanti" Church in East Pittsburgh, which is celebrating its feast day.)

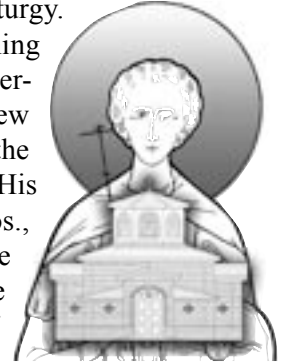
**Thu. Feb. 10.....St. Haralambos the Hieromartyr**

**Sat. Feb. 25.....Saturday of Souls (at St. George Chapel)**

#### First Saturday of Souls Service at St. George Chapel

The very first Saturday of the Souls Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service will be held at the Saint George Chapel at Holy Trinity Cemetery on Saturday, February 25, 2006. Orthros will begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. and the Memorial Service at the end of the Liturgy.

This is not the official "Opening of the Doors" (*Thyranoixia*) service which officially opens a new church; that will be held in the Spring pending the health of His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos., but it is the first service ever to be held at this beautiful new house of worship that is now part of the life of Holy Trinity Church and the first time the names of the departed will be commemorated there.



Please use the memorial names list enclosed in this issue to list your loved ones who have fallen asleep in the Lord; and don't just send them in without being there yourself ... if possible, please bring them to experience the beauty and the meaning of the Saturday of Souls in its most appropriate context - at the place where so many of the beloved members of Holy Trinity Church have been laid to rest.

Weather permitting, there will be a brief coffee hour following the service.

### COMMUNITY LIFE

#### Snow Line . . . . . 412-321-9282, Option "6"

Please keep in mind over the winter months that the Holy Trinity "Snow Line" is available to check for the cancellation of events in the case of snow or inclement weather. Call the church office after hours, then select option "6" to hear announcements of any cancellations.

#### Holy Trinity Basketball Tournament . . . . . Feb 17-19

Please don't forget about the upcoming Holy Trinity Basketball Tournament, February 17-19. May teams from throughout the Metropolis will be attending, and lots of help is needed! Need somewhere to help? Contact Father John, Presvytera Becky Tournament Chairpeople Steve Hodge (724-625-9858) or Paul Balouris (412-486-1147). Also, please submit your album sponsorships or event/item donations as soon as possible. Thanks for helping both our GOYA and our parish!



## 2005 Nativity Flowers Donor List

*Many thanks to the following parishioners and friends for sponsoring the beautiful poinsettias for the decoration of the church during the Christmas holidays. May the Lord remember them and those whom they have honored!*

### DONORS

### COMMEMORATIONS

Anonymous.....	For the health of our family
Harriet Amurgis .....	In loving memory of my loving husband, William Amugis
Harry, Joyce, George and Andrew Athanasiou .....	For the health of our family
Harry, Joyce, George and Andrew Athanasiou .....	For love and peace in our Community
Anthony & Helen Balouris .....	In memory of our departed family and present living families
Gabe & Johanna Cocheres .....	In memory of all our deceased family members
Miss Betty Dickos.....	In memory of Frank and Fannie Dickos
Frank and Katina Erdeljac .....	In memory of Mike and Theologia Alexiades
Tessie Frankos.....	In memory of James and Demitria Frankos
Connie Fries.....	For the health of the Fries family
Diana Fries.....	
Judith Fulton .....	In memory of my deceased parents: Robert & Bella (Fortes) Fulton
Gus and Penny Georgiadis and Family.....	For the health of George and Mary Kalodikis
Gus and Penny Georgiadis and Family.....	For the health of Pete and Mary Georgiadis
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Georgiadis and Children .....	For the health of our parents
Mrs. Eugenia Graser .....	In memory of Robert Graser
Mrs. Eugenia Graser .....	In memory of Michael & Mary Patsalos
Brian & Debbie Jewell.....	In memory our sister-in-law, Marsha Booras
George and Scarlet Karpakis .....	For the health of Margarita Maroudas
George and Scarlet Karpakis .....	For the health of Lillian Kay
James & Bettina Kermes.....	In memory of our family and friends who have departed
Irene Karavolos & Fanny Kostos.....	In memory of our father Steve Karavolos
Irene Karavolos & Fanny Kostos.....	In memory of our cousin, Demetria Frankos
Pete Kourakos and Mother, Mary.....	In memory of James P. Kourakos
Pete Kourakos and Mother, Mary.....	In memory of Emily Margaritakis
Pete Kourakos and Mother, Mary.....	In memory of Stella Jaffurs
Stella Kourakos.....	For the health of my family
George & Canella Lalikos .....	In memory of our beloved departed
Kelly Manning .....	In memory of George, Nellie and Catherine Learos
Steve and Helen Morris .....	For the health of the Morris Family
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Morris.....	For the health of the Morris family
Bob & Harriet Navarro .....	In memory of Michael, Catherine, James, Andrew Karras
Bob & Harriet Navarro .....	For the health of the Navarro family
Michael P. Panos .....	In memory of Papou and Yiaya Peters
Peter & Mary Panos .....	In memory of George and Mary Panos
Orestes and Arlene Paras .....	In memory of John and Maria Paras
Orestes and Arlene Paras .....	In memory of Albert, Rose and Arthur Russel
Peter and Dorothy Phaturous .....	For the health of our family
Olga Regakis .....	In loving memory of my son, Jimmy Regakis
Olga Regakis .....	In memory of all the deceased
Sophia Regas.....	In memory of John Regas
Angie Roman .....	In memory of Gus Roman
Steve and Electra Roman.....	For the health of the Amurgis Family
Steve and Electra Roman.....	For the health of the Roman Family
James Steve Statheas.....	In memory of Stavros and Demetra Statheas
Presvytera Garnette Vasilakis and Family .....	In memory of Anthony Lakes by his loving family
Marcus and Theresa Zamagias.....	In loving memory of Gusty Zamagias
Louis G., Julie A. and Alexandria Lee Zozos .....	In memory of Julie's Mom, Eileen and Alexandria's Grandmother Hoffmann

## Mouse Tales: The St. Spyridon Church School Library Update

Hello my precious children! It's I, Spero!

This is the wonderful month of February, which is the month of Love. Red is my favorite color because it represents Valentine's Day and hearts. The greatest gift that anyone can give to another person is Love. So make sure that you tell those that are special that you love them.



Speaking of special people, we have a best-selling DVD by Max Lucado called, "You Are Special." It is a story about self worth. Every day in the charming village of Wemmicksville the small wooden people called Wemmicks do the same thing. They either stick grey dots or gold stars on each other. Gold stars are awards to the pretty ones, those with smooth wood, and fine paint. Also the talented ones too! Others who can do little or have chipped paint or are clumsy and less gifted receive ugly grey dots. One of the characters is named Punchinello, and no matter how

hard he tries, he just cannot seem to earn one gold star. One day he meets a special friend named Lucia who has no dots or stars and discovers that things can indeed be different. So he takes the advice of his new friend and visits the wood carver Eli, the one who made him. He reminds Punchinello that it doesn't matter what others think of him and that he does not have any special talent which will earn him stars. He says to Punchinello, "You are pretty special to me because you are mine and the more you trust my love the less the stickers will stay on you. I will cherish you just as you are my child". My precious little ones and big ones remember our Heavenly Father tells us that you are special because you are one of my children and you will always be precious in my sight.



Also last Sunday I was listening to one of our church school teachers talk about the parable of the talents found in Matthew 25:14-30. Being the curious little mouse that I am, I quickly scurried back to Yiayia and asked, "Did my Heavenly Father give me any special talent?" Yiayia answered, "Spero my precious little grandchild, you were born with special abilities. Some were very easy to identify even when you were very, very young. I remember every time they started to play Greek music in the hall you would start to dance. Also at a very early age you loved to sing the hymns of the church. Every one knows that your greatest talent is the love that you have for our Heavenly Father's precious children and how you watch over them and how you help them to grow in their faith. Other talents may take you longer to discover. Just remember, they must be used not wasted." I asked, "But Yiayia why is it important no to waste my talents?" She replied, "Because when our Heavenly Father created each of us He had a special plan and that is why He gives each of us different abilities." Remember that God gives us unconditional love no matter what our talents and that we need to show Him and others how much they mean to us!

Love in Christ, Spero



# Community Life Photo Journal - GOYA Basketball

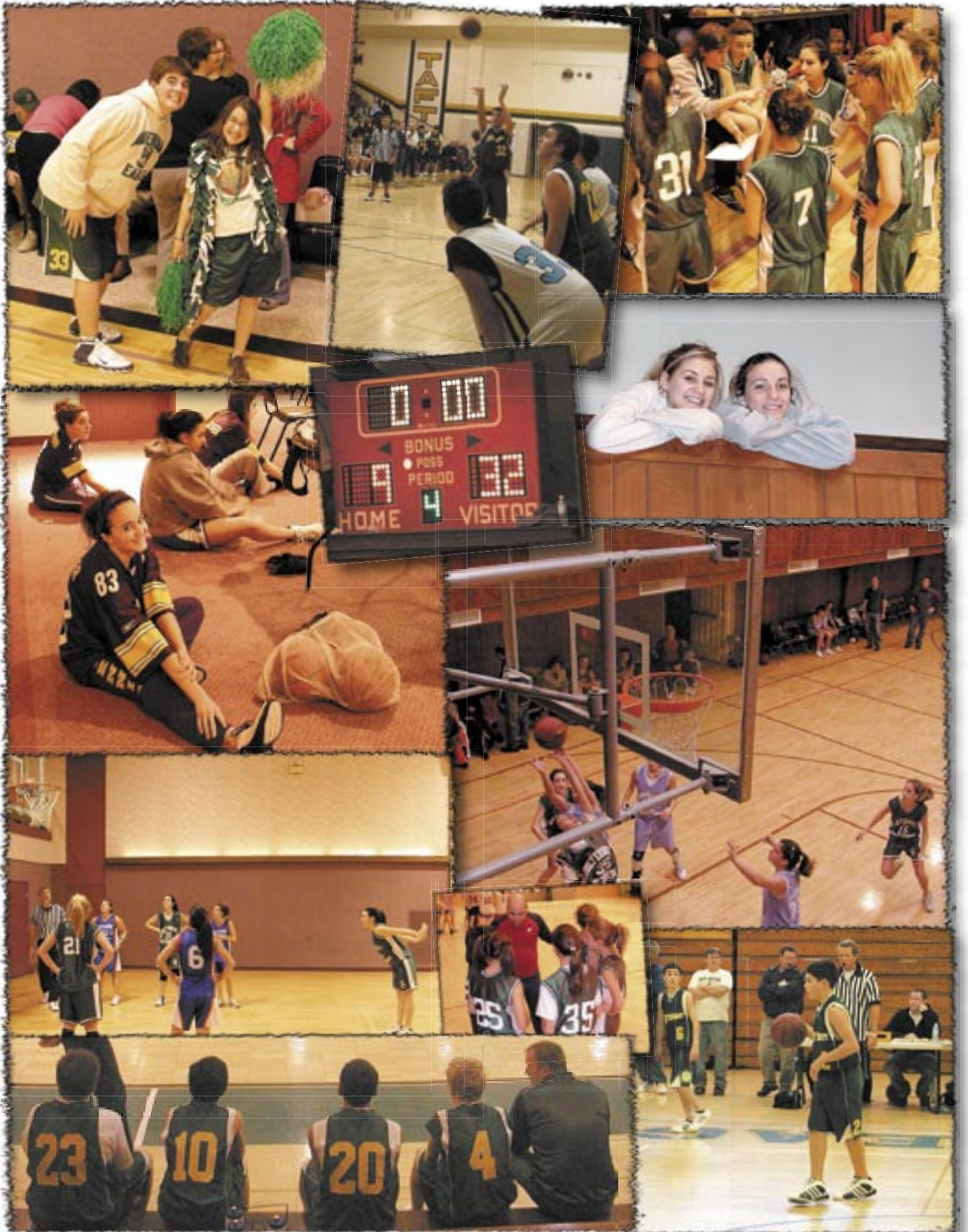
## GOYA Attends Metropolis Basketball Tournament in Canton, Ohio, Jan. 18-20

*Basketball is back in season in the Metropolis of Pittsburgh, and Holy Trinity GOYA is off to a champions' start! At the first tournament of the year, both the Boys and Girls Junior teams brought home the championship trophies in their divisions. The Girls Senior team took Fourth Place. But most importantly, great fellowship and family fun was enjoyed by all the participants. Good job, everyone!*





## Community Life Photo Journal - GOYA Basketball



## Gheronda's Corner

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



Father John  
Androutsopoulos

### FEBRUARY 2:

#### The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

Beloved brothers and sisters  
in Christ,

REJOICE! As we celebrate the  
Feast Day of the presentation  
of our Lord Jesus Christ in the  
Temple. If you wish to under-  
stand the following questions  
and answers, please read the

Gospel lesson of the Feast Day. (Luke 2:22-40)

#### Why Did Mary And Joseph Wonder At Simeon's Words?

Because of the wonderful things  
which the shepherds, Simeon and  
other pious people had said of  
the new-born Saviour, indicating  
that God had revealed to them the  
nature of the new-born Infant.

#### What Is Meant By Blessing?

On the part of God it means the  
giving, and on the part of man the  
solemn wishing of some grace for  
the soul or benefit for the body.

#### Are There Any Instances In Holy Scripture Of One Person Bless- ing Another?

Yes. The angel blessed Jacob.  
(Genesis 32.) Jacob blessed his  
children and grandchildren. (Gen-  
esis 48.) Melchisedech blessed  
Abraham. (Genesis 14)

#### Is It Well For Parents To Bless Their Children?

Yes. God often grants such blessings, as we learn of  
Isaac, who blessed his son Jacob (Genesis 27), and of  
Jacob, who blessed his sons. (Genesis 49.) "For the bless-  
ings of parents make firm the foundations of homes."  
REMEMBER O CHILDREN the fifth commandment.  
"HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER."

#### What Power Has The Blessing Given By Priests?

-Given in the name of Christ and His Church, whose

ministers the priests are, it has great power. All that they  
bless is blessed in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

#### Why Is Christ Set For The Fall Of Many?

Many have heard of Him and His teachings, but have  
rejected Him. Others have accepted His faith and lis-  
tened to His teachings, but do not live accordingly. For  
both these classes Christ has been "set for their fall",  
that is, for their greater damnation. They would not be  
so guilty, if Christ had not come and taught them His  
great truths. (John 15.)

#### For Whose "Rising" Or Salvation Is Christ Set?

For the rising of those who have accepted His faith, lis-  
tened to His teachings, and lived according to them.

#### Why Is Christ Set For A Sign That Shall Be Contradicted?

1) The heathens and infidels  
contradict and reject Him. 2)  
Proud Christians contradict  
His humility, greedy ones His  
poverty, sensual ones His self-  
denial, idle ones His labor and  
toiling in prayer. Such con-  
tradictions make known the  
hearts of many, showing that  
many so-called Christians are  
Christians in name only and  
not in reality.

#### In What Manner Did A Sword Pierce The Soul Of The Blessed Virgin Mary?

This was done in a spiritual  
manner by the sight of the  
rejection of Christ's mission,  
and particularly by her anguish  
at the foot of the cross of her  
dying Son.

#### What Lesson For Widows Is Contained In This Gospel?

That they should serve God with great fervor by fasting  
and prayer. (Luke 2: 36,37,38.)

*Beloved, enjoy this Feast Day!*

*With His love,*

*Rev. Fr. John K. Androutsopoulos*

#### THE TROPARION OF THE FEAST

*Rejoice, O virgin Theotokos,  
full of grace; for from thee  
arose the Sun of justice, Christ  
our God, lighting those who  
are in darkness. Rejoice and  
be glad, O righteous old man,  
carrying in thine arms the  
Deliverer of our souls, who  
grants us resurrection.*

#### KONTAKION OF THE FEAST

*Thou, O Christ God, Who by the  
Birth, did sanctify the Virgin's  
womb, and, as is meet, did  
bless Simeon arms, and did  
also come to save us; preserve  
thy fold in wars, and confirm  
them whom thou did love; for  
thou alone art the Lover of  
mankind.*



## The Cultural Side • Η Πολιτιστική Πλευρά



Voula Hareras

### ‘Ο Χρόνος Καί Τά Μυστικά Του!

Ένας νέος χρόνος πρόβαλε. 2006 μ.Χ. τό όνομά του. Μπήκε άθόρυβα στη ζωή μας. Κι είναι όλόλαμπρος, όλοκαίνουργος, άθικτος. Γεμάτος ύποσχέσεις. Γέμισε κι ή δική μας καρδιά χαρά και αισιοδοξία. Χρυσές έλπίδες

στό στερέωμα τής ψυχής μας. Καλώς μάς ήρθε. Εύτυχισμένος νά ‘ναι. Καί καλός!

‘Ηρθε...

Καί..φεύγει!

Κάθε ήμέρα φεύγει. Κάθε ώρα. Κάθε λεπτό. Ένα ποτάμι είναι κι ό χρόνος, πού τά νερά του κυλούν γοργά. Φεύγει. Καί μέσα στη ροή του στήνεται ή ιστορία τού κόσμου. Καί ή δική σου...

Νά τόν σταματήσεις – τόν χρόνο – δέν γίνεται. Μόνο μπορείς μαζί του νά συνεργασθείς. Σκέψου σύ πώς γίνεται αυτό. Νά προσθέσω κι έγώ από τά μυστικά πού έμαθα τρέχοντας μαζί του. Λοιπόν, ό χρόνος θέλει –

- Νά τόν δείς μέ σεβασμό στην άξία του. Είναι πολύτιμος ό χρόνος. Χρήμα είναι, είπαν. Κι αγοράζεις μ’αυτόν – πραγματοποιείς δηλαδή – όλα τά ώραία σου όνειρα.
- Νά μή τόν σπαταλάς. Γιατί – όπως λέει ό αρχαίος σοφός – όταν τόν σπαταλάμε σ’αυτά πού δέν πρέπει, δέν φθάνει για κείνα πού πρέπει.
- Νά τόν δεσμεύσεις. Μέ τό πρόγραμμά σου. Λάστιχο είναι, είπαν κάποιοι άπλοϊκά αλλά αληθινά. Άνοιγει και χωράει.. Πόσα χωράει! Ένα νά προσέξεις – τίς επιλογές σου. Δέν είναι τά πολλά, αλλά τά καλά, πού πρέπει νά μπούν στό πρόγραμμά σου. Αυτά πού άξίζουν – ή πρόοδός σου ή διανοητική, ή εξέλιξη και σταδιοδρομία σου, ή προκοπή σου στό αγαθό και τήν άρετή.
- Είναι κι άλλα πού θέλει ό χρόνος, για νά συνεργασθεί μέ έπιτυχία μαζί σου. Θέλει εργατικότητα, αποφασιστικότητα, θάρρος... Νά μή πισωγυρίζεις, νά μήν αναβάλλεις, νά μή γκρινιάζεις. Αλλά νά προχωρείς μέ αισιοδοξία προς τά έμπρός.
- Καί τό κυριότερο – Νά τόν δείς – τόν χρόνο

– μέ εύγνωμοσύνη στόν Θεό πού σου τόν χάρισε. Δώρο Του είναι. Αυτός όρίζει ήμέρας και καιρούς για τόν καθένα. Καί μόνον έν τώ Θεώ ό χρόνος παίρνει νόημα.

Καλή συνεργασία μέ τόν νέο χρόνο – 2006 μ.Χ. – σου εύχομαι. Νά προχωρείς καθημερινά όπως τό θέλει ό Θεός, μέ τήν βοήθεια τού Θεού.

Βούλα Χαρερά

### ‘Επρόβαλ ή Πρωτοχρονιά

‘Επρόβαλ ή Πρωτοχρονιά μέ τή χρυσή θωριά της. Κι όλούθε λάμψη και χαρά στό γλυκοχάραμά της

Παιχνίδια γύρω, φορεσιές, και μάλαμα κι άσήμι... Καλά τά δώρα πού σκορπά και στόν καθένα δίνει.

Μά έγώ γυρεύω νά σταθώ στόν άργαλειό τού χρόνου. Κι έλα, Χριστέ μου, από ψηλά κάθησε στό πλευρό μου.

Τό έργο δύσκολο πολύ κι έγώ νά μή λυγίσω. Μιά-μιά τίς μέρες πού θάρθουν μέ τέχνη νά πλουμίσω.

Κρίνο ή άγνότης. Κι ή χαρά, τριαντάφυλλο πάνθίζει. Κι άγάπη μου, νάναι πηγή τόν κόσμο νά ποτίζη...

Δός μου, Χριστέ μου, προκοπή, τής άρετής οι κλώνοι νά μου προβάλλουν άνθηροί στό κάτασπρο στημόνι.

Και σάν περάσουν οι καιροί κι οι μέρες πιά τελειώσουν... Τό έργο μου τό φωτεινό, Χριστέ, θάναι δικό σου!

Χλόη Αχαϊκού

## Our Worship - Part 8 (Orthros)

*Part of a special series of educational features designed to provide "continuing education" to our parishioners. Taken from the publication, "Our Worship," which examines and explains the main elements of worship in the Orthodox Christian Church.*

### MATINS (ORTHROS)

Having begun the observance of the Lord's Day at Vespers, we enter into the first light of the resurrection.

At Matins, the Church's prayer at dawn, we are like the women bearing spices, who came early to the tomb and were overjoyed to hear for the first time the Gospel of the resurrection. Like them, we see in the rising sun the sign of the New Day of endless rejoicing. Christ is risen and we, like those to whom He appeared, worship Him.

#### Matins (Morning Prayer) ...

... is served just before the Divine Liturgy in some churches. Matins is sometimes tied to Vespers to make a **Vigil**. In the past, during night-long Vigils, psalms would be chanted through the night. Five loaves of bread along with wheat, wine and oil would be blessed at the end of Vespers to sustain the faithful during the long night of prayer. These gifts may be used later at Matins or after the Divine Liturgy to refresh us in our prayers and praises.

During the reading of the six opening psalms the temple is darkened, a reflection of the spiritual darkness in which human persons dwell. Wearing an epitrichion, the priest stands praying before the closed Royal Doors.

After the Psalms, we sing the announcement of the mystery of Christ:

*"God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!  
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!"*

The first light of day reminds us of Christ's first manifestation, at the Jordan. It looks forward to His coming in power in the Kingdom of God.

Then the troparia of the day are sung. On Sundays we use a resurrection hymn in one of the eight tones (melodies) of the Church.

#### We celebrate the resurrection...

The priest, now vested in epitrichion and phelonion (outer vestment), comes through the Royal Doors with a lighted taper and censer. We sing the Polyeleon (Verses in celebration of God's Great Mercy). All the lights of the temple now shine brightly while the faithful joyfully sing the Resurrection Verses and the priest censens the entire temple.

*Everything works together in this section to bring us into the reality of the joy of the resurrection:*

- *The incense reminds us of the sweet smelling spices the women brought to honor Christ.*
- *Lighted tapers signify the Light of the resurrection.*
- *The procession around the temple recalls the mission of the women to "go quickly and tell the disciples that He has been raised from the dead" (Matthew 28:7).*

After the "Prokimenon" (Responsorial Psalm) comes the dramatic climax to our glorification of Christ. With awe, we read the **Gospel of the Resurrection!**

We read the Holy Gospel not as ancient history nor as fable. As we hear the Word of the Gospel, the Risen Christ is indeed in our midst and the Spirit of God testifies to His divine and saving power over sin and death. Faith in the Gospel enables us to "see" that Jesus has "destroyed death by death."





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## ON ENTERING THE HOUSE OF GOD (A FEW POINTS OF CHURCH ETIQUETTE)

*A few helpful reminders to help keep our worship life at Holy Trinity Church respectful and prayerful.*

- Always enter the church respectfully and quietly, especially during services.
- If entering during a homily/sermon, please wait quietly behind the back row of pews for the sermon to finish before taking your place in the church. Please do not congregate in the Narthex and miss the sermon.
- Always face the Holy Altar during worship unless processions or special events are taking place elsewhere.
- Please do not walk around or enter/exit when the priest is offering prayers or Scripture readings, during processions, censuring and blessings (i.e. "Peace be with you all").
- It is a sign of respect and prayer to bow our head and make the sign of the Cross while being censed.
- Unless illness or age prevent it, please stand at the appropriate times during the holy services.
- Our voices are to be used in church for prayer and singing; conversations and whisperings which can remove us from the "flow" of prayer are to be avoided. This is the reason for the often-repeated phrase in the Liturgy "Let us be attentive." No matter where we are in the church, we should save our conversations for later.
- During the distribution of Holy Communion, the congregation should remain standing; those in line should refrain from talking and should attentively and prayerfully prepare to receive the holy gifts.
- Children are a natural and God-created part of life and worship. They should be raised with proper respect for the house of the Lord and we should try to help them grow into good liturgical practice. Teach them to make the sign of the Cross, encourage them to sing along; help them learn to pray; when necessary, they may be taken to the side room in the Narthex if they become distracting or unsettled. Above all, remember that the Lord said, "Let the little children come to me."