



THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

JUNE 2010

VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 6

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

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Also enclosed:
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Special Feature:
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QUICK NEWS



The graduating seniors of Holy Trinity Church School Class of 2010 and their parents were honored on Sunday, May 16. For lots of photos of the seniors and all our Church School students, as well as highlights from the Spring Festival and this month's many activities, see the Community Life Photo Journal on pages 8-14.



Saint Paul the Apostle · The Monastery of Saint Paul · Mount Athos · Feast Day: June 29

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

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

About the Herald

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

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About the Parish

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

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Parish Administration

Clergy

Rev. Fr. John Touloumes, Proistamenos

Rev. Fr. Radu Bordeianu, Assistant Priest

Parish Council

Chris T. Balouris, President

Anthony Loomis

Alex Trivilas

Jason Farmakis

Yvonne Balouris

George Danis

George Dickos

Troy Geanopoulos

Joanne Germanos

Louis Kort

Andrew Athanasios

Vasilios Scoumis

Gerri Valliant

Ministries

Philoptochos Kay Balouris, Pres.

GOYA.....Pres. Becky Touloumes, Advisor

ChoirJohn Nychis, Director

Over 50 Club.....Stella Athanasiou, Pres.

St. Lydia Study.....Stacy Dickos, Coordinator

Cemetery.....Bill Fiedler, Chairman

Greek School....Effie Kilantonis, Coordinator

Social Hall.....Constance Zotis, Coordinator

BookstoreBill and Linda Areheart



“Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; he reveals deep and mysterious things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him.”

Daniel 2.20-22

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Indeed, as the prayer from the Book of Daniel states above, the Lord “changes times and seasons,” and the season of summer is upon us. Just the thought of “summer off” makes children smile. In Biblical times this was not the case. In fact, summer was quite a busy time of planting and tending so that the summer and fall harvests would be plentiful. Instead, summer in America evokes a leisure filled with vacations, summer reading, music and relaxing.

“Is there a problem here?”, you may ask. Not unless we create one. Taking a break, slowing down, changing pace and enjoying the extra time away from school or work with family and friends is both healthy and wholesome in many ways, but not if it leaves God out of the picture, and that can happen easily. Instead of church families being too busy being busy to participating in the Faith, they are now too busy relaxing to do so! It seems God just can’t win!

Summer, one would think, should be a time when the deck is cleared of school-year commitments, leaving time for nurturing our faith. Yet many of our children regularly disappear from Sunday worship (simply observe any summer Sunday to validate this fact) and get wrapped up summer “busyness.” If we are trying to give God the message that we don’t have time for Him, it is probably being received loud and clear! This is not the way to talk with God!

Please accept a few suggestions from the one charged with spiritually tending this flock and this garden. This is said with an emphasis on children, but it works for adults as well.

- 1) God still seeks to give “wisdom and knowledge” (see above), but only to the wise and understanding who are there to seek it. Please use the summer months to make special times for your family to worship together and know that the Lord has special blessings and revelations waiting for those who do.
- 2) Instead of filling your summer reading with “junk” of every kind, try adding at least one Orthodox book that will increase your spiritual life or knowledge of the Faith. They are available in our bookstore and on the web.
- 3) Include faith adventures in your travels. Visit an Orthodox Church or monastery near where you’re travelling (www.OrthodoxyInAmerica.org). Take part in a mission trip, work project or, for that matter, just help someone who could use it.
- 4) Add a visit to www.myocn.net or www.ancientfaithradio.com to include solid Orthodox Christian music and teachings to your summer “entertainment.” Many are available as podcasts for travelling.

Enjoy your summer. Don’t leave Christ out of it. See you in Church! Pastorally yours in the God Who always loves you,

Herald Personal Sponsor for this Issue:

**In loving memory of John W. Chapas
from Bill and Sophea Chapas & Family**

WORSHIP LIFE

9:30 Regular Divine Liturgy Hours Now in Effect

Don't forget, regular 9:30 Divine Liturgy hours resumed on April 1. Orthros is at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy starts at 9:30 a.m. for both Sunday and weekday services through October. Please set your clocks and your personal schedules to be there on time.



Summer Sermons Reminder - Be Here On Time!

Please don't forget that during the summer months, when there is no Church School, the sermon is offered at its proper liturgical place following the Gospel. Much as we are all reminded how important it is to arrive for the start of Divine Liturgy, perhaps there are times of genuine, urgent need that prohibit our personal on-time arrival. If you arrive during the sermon, please remember to quietly enter through the Narthex to the BACK of the Nave (either along the glass wall or in the back row of pews) and wait there until the sermon is over. If there is room in the back row to sit, you may do so, but please do NOT distract others by walking forward to your pew during the sermon. Also, please do make your late arrival a double-penalty by missing the entire sermon waiting in the Narthex. The Narthex doors are to remain open during the sermon so that all may benefit from the lessons about our Faith.

Summer Attire Reminder

Please remember that even during the summer months when many people like to keep things "casual," entering the Holy Church is still a sacred experience which our preparation and attire should reflect. Everyone should refrain from wearing shorts and t-shirts and women are asked, as usual in accordance with Orthodox tradition, to wear dresses or skirts instead of pants. While we will not impress the Lord with clothing, we will honor Him with our modesty and piety. As the scriptures say, "Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for evermore" (Psalm 93.5).

Note for Summer Travel - Don't Forget Church!

Where we travel, whenever we go, we take our faith with us, for as it says in the Psalms, "God is with us!" Keeping that in mind, please remember to plan ahead and check for the location of the nearest Orthodox Christian Church if you will be staying over a Sunday. There are two great web sites to check: our own Archdiocese (www.goarch.org) and Orthodoxy in America (www.OrthodoxyInAmerica.org), a multi-jurisdictional listing of all Orthodox parishes. Also, for major trips such as overseas travels, please feel free to stay following antidoron and ask Father John to offer a special blessing to your family for your travels. Remember, "God is with us" always. Let's not forget to invite Him!

FESTIVAL NEWS

SUMMER Festival Dates September 2-5

Holy Trinity Church will hold its annual four-day "Summer

Festival" this year from Thursday-Sunday, September 2-5. Remember, no matter how many days the festival lasts, it still takes a lot of work, so please be ready to offer your help. Please keep Thursday-Sunday, September 2-5, free to work at, eat at, bring your friends to and enjoy the Holy Trinity Greek Summer Festival. Thanks!

FUNERALS

Lou Manesiotis

The servant of God, Lou Manesiotis, fell asleep in the Lord on May 16, 2010. The Funeral service was held on May 20 at Saint George Chapel. Interment followed at Holy Trinity Cemetery. May his memory be eternal!

Upcoming Memorials

June 6: John Touloumes (Father John's father - 10 yrs);
June 13: Julia Welsh (4 yrs); June 20 - Stefanos Bounos (1 yr).

COMMUNITY NEWS

Summer Camp Dates June 20-26/July 11-17

Attention all Holy Trinity campers and families: Online registration is now available on the Metropolis Web Site, pittsburgh.goarch.org. Please note that the deadline for registering without a late fee and for receiving the Holy Trinity grant for the 2010 Metropolis Summer Camp season has been extended. All applications submitted online by that published date will have a total fee of only \$310 (Regular registration fee of \$460 - \$150 Holy Trinity grant). It just doesn't make sense to waste the money: Going to camp? ... get your application in on time! Don't forget, to receive the Holy Trinity grant you must register online and use the Holy Trinity discount code "SKDMQC". This must be used at the time of registration and cannot be applied afterward. Don't wait - act this week! Please note the designated Holy Trinity weeks for our Metropolis Summer Camp dates in 2010: JOY is Week 1 (June 20-26) and GOYA is Week 4 (July 11-17).

To the Glory of God
Father John and Presvytera Becky Touloumes
invite the entire

Holy Trinity Parish Family
to celebrate the graduation of their son

GEORGE JOHN TOULOUMES

Sunday, July 18, 2010
3:00pm-8:00pm

Holy Trinity Community Center
302 W. North Ave., Pittsburgh

RSVP name & number of guests by July 10
to fjt@HolyTrinityPgh.org

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



Father John Androutsopoulos

THE TEN COMMANDEMENTS

The children of Israel were on their way to the Promised Land. God was going to make of them a great nation. He was going to settle them in a land flowing with milk and honey. Now a country cannot be run without rules and laws, so God had Moses gather all Israel before Mt. Sinai and there Moses went up on the Mount and there he prayed and fasted for

40 days. God gave him the law. He gave him what we call the Ten Commandments.

The commandments of the first tablet — the first four commandments — have to do with our relationship with God. The first commandment on the second tablet (the fifth commandment) has to do with the relationship of children with their parents. The remaining five commandments of the second tablet regulate our relationships with our fellow men.

What Is The Destination Of Our Life?

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And, a second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22: 37-39)

Three Questions

- Do we love God absolutely and above all else?
- Do we love our fellow man as ourselves?
- Are we imitating the human nature of Jesus Christ and approaching the perfect, that is God?

If the answers to the three questions are yes, then we can say this is the destination of our lives.

Are we Obeying God's Commandments?

And, behold, one came and said unto him, "Good master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" Any he said to him, "Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself The young man saith unto him. All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus

said unto him. If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou halt, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. (Matt. 19: 16 – 22).

We often think that God will surely be satisfied if we keep his commandments in a general way, if we at least make some effort to live according to His will.

BUT GOD SAYS IN HIS WORD: "Cursed be every one who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." (Gal. 3:10)

God expects from us an absolute, unconditional obedience. Therefore, the commandments are like two great mirrors before our life, like search lights that illuminate the most hidden recesses of our being.

What really happens when we honestly try to obey the commandments of God?

"The Lord look down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any that act wisely, that seek after God. They have all gone astray, they have all gone astray, they are all alike corrupt; there is none that does good, no, not one." (Rom. 3: 10-12).



Food for Thought

From the Fifth Commandment: A young couple had to take care of their aged parents. The old folks had palsy and when they ate their meals they often dropped food on the tablecloth. So the son made a wooden trough from which they were forced to eat. One day the little boy in the home was seen to be building something. His mother asked him what he was building, and he replied, "I am building a wooden trough for you and daddy to eat out of when you get old and when I have to keep you." As Christians we must take care of our parents.

From the Tenth Commandment: To covet means to desire that which belongs to someone else. If I look at your house or your car and say, "I wish I had a house or car like that," there is no covetousness involved. But, if I say, "I wish I had your house or your car," thus depriving you of these things, I have broken the law. For the Commandment plainly says, "Thou shalt not covet...anything that is thy neighbors."

Have a good summer!

*With the love of Christ,
Rev. Fr. John K. Androutsopoulos, Protopresbyter*

A regular report on the Stewardship ministry of Holy Trinity Church, which provides every member a vital opportunity to become involved in supporting the life and ministries of the Church through their God-given time, talents and treasures.



James Statheas

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
For many years the traditional method to raise funds for the maintenance of our church was thorough a dues system. In the 1990's Holy Trinity along with many other Greek Orthodox Parishes transitioned to a Stewardship program. One may ask "What is the difference between a dues based program and Stewardship. The following article from the Archdiocese website answers that

question.

Jim Statheas
2010 Stewardship Chairperson

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE

by Fr James W Kordaris

How Much Do I Owe?

It was Sunday and the parish council members were counting the Sunday offering in the church office as the offering trays were being brought in from Divine Liturgy. One faithful parishioner found his way back to the church office and politely inquired, "How much do I owe?"

This well-intentioned parishioner was asking if he was up-to-date on his pledge, but his question reveals something about our thought process in offering our gifts to the Church.

No matter how generously we support the Church, can we ever feel that we have given in proportion to the blessings we have received?

Many Greek Orthodox parishes have embraced the process of stewardship, by which we offer our gifts to the church according to our blessings. Many continue to operate in a dues system. And some operate under a hybrid Stewardship-with-a-minimum system.

Initially, when many of our parishes were established throughout the 20th Century, dues seemed to make sense. Everyone would pay a designated amount to maintain their membership in the Church.

Many of our people were members in a number of ethnic and fraternal organizations and the dues model seemed to make sense as a fair method of allocating responsibility for the support of the church. Everyone paid the same amount and in return received certain rights as a "member in good standing" of the local parish. This made practical sense at the time as we were beginning to establish local parishes. But when you think about it, the idea of dues is just bad theology.

Implications Of A Dues System

The idea that as a parish we are able to set an amount that is fair for all the faithful, the payment of which makes

them members in good standing with rights and privileges, is flawed for a number of reasons.

Is it fair to think that the elderly widow living on Social Security, the successful real estate developer, the banker, the young tradesman with a growing family, the teacher and the lawyer each have received the same material blessings and have the same ability to give?

To set a specific required dues amount places an undue burden on some, but most often it underestimates the ability of our parishioners to support the church.

(...continued next issue)

2010 HOLY TRINITY STEWARDS

Thank you to the following Holy Trinity Stewards who submitted their cards since the last publication.

Still not on the list? Why not send yours today!

Anthony Balouris
Mr. George N. Beckas
Mrs. Penny Fakles-Bossick
Mrs Mary Charis
Mrs. Joanna Conti
Mrs Fedra Dedousis
Ms Fotini Dedousis
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Fitzpatrick

Miss Diana Fries
Mr. John Fries
Mr & Mrs James Johnson
Mrs Penelope Komninos
Mrs. Angela Pantelas
Ms. Christina A. Pantelas
Mr. & Mrs. Evan Rigas
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Steiner

2009/2010 STEWARDSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

2009 Offerings Received from Stewards Submitting Pledge Card	\$163,070 (229 pledges)
2009 Offerings Received from Donors Without Pledge Card	\$35,204 (38 donors)
2009 Total Stewardship Income	\$198,274 (267 donors)
2009 Average Stewardship Pledge	\$680
2010 Offerings Received from Stewards Submitting Pledge Card	\$56,754 (183 donors)
2010 Offerings Received from Donors Without Pledge Card	\$17,769 (44 donors)
2010 Total Stewardship Income	\$74,523 (229 donors)
2010 Average Stewardship Pledge	\$713
2010 Stewardship Pledges Total	\$131,343 (183 pledges)



An update on the news and activities of our local Holy Trinity chapter of the Philoptochos Ladies Society, a national philanthropic ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. and the Parish Council." Want more information? Visit their web site at www.philoptochos.org or contact a local member.

Philoptochos Report: June 2010

New Community Directory

Philoptochos will be assisting the church office in compiling a new Holy Trinity Community Directory. We will list names and contact information for all Holy Trinity members. Cell phone numbers, e-mails and fax numbers will be optional and permission forms will be part of the process. We will also have pictures taken in the Community Center after Liturgy on a published schedule. There will not be a charge for this service. If you have a recent picture that you would like to put into the book, we will be happy if you would give it to us to scan. We will return it to you. If you are interested in helping with this project, please see or call Esther Ladakos. More information will follow.

Tea Thank You

We thank everyone who attended the May Tea. We are sorry that many of you were unable to attend because of the Marathon Race. Our Thanks to Joanne Germanos, Yvonne Balouris and their committee for a beautiful affair and their hard work. Our thanks also to Brandon from Arthur Murray Dance Studios who came and showed us how to dance.

Undie Sunday

We are collecting undies and socke for young girls and boys. Many of the people who go to various homes just do not have a change of clothes. Some or fortunate to have one pair of socks or undies. A box will be in the Narthex to put in your donation. Thank you.

Members Needed

We are still recruiting members to the Philoptochos. If you are not a member, won't you please join?

Next Meeting: June 20

The next meeting will be on Sunday, June 20, 2010 after Liturgy. It will be the last meeting until September.



Nursing Home Visit

Thank you Sondra Balouris for fulfilling the ministry of the Philoptochos by visiting Tula Selevos at Manor House. She took Katerina and Themis C. Balouris with her. They made Mothers Day special for Tula (see photo above).

Have a blessed, happy summer. See you in September.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther Ladakos, Secretary

Some of the many hard-working, dedicated volunteers of the Holy Trinity Philoptochos during the recent Spring Greek Festival.



Tributes to Father's Day (celebrated June 20 this year) and reflections on the month of June. Original compositions by Voula Hareras.



Voula Hareras

ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΠΑΤΕΡΑ

Στῆς 20 Ἰουνίου καθιερώθηκε καί ἡ ἡμέρα νά τιμοῦμε τόν Πατέρα, Αὐτόν τόν ἥρωα, ἀγωνιστή, καί στυλοβάτη τῆς οἰκογενείας.

Ποιηταί, Συγγραφεῖς, Ζωγράφοι, ὅλοι ἀνεξερέτως ἔχουν ὑμνήσῃ τήν Μητέρα, καί κατὰ κάποιον τρόπο ὁ Πατέρας ἐρχεται κάπως σέ δεύτερη μοῖρα.

Ὅμως ΟΧΙ, ὅταν μελετήσεις τό πράγμα αὐτός ἐρχεται πρῶτος στήν

σειρά. Παράδειγμα..

Πατέρας ὅλων μας ἀνεξερέτως χρώματος καί φυλῆς, καί ὁ ποιήσας τά πάντα, - ὁρατά καί ἀόρατα - εἶναι ὁ Παντοδύναμος Θεός.

Αὐτηνοῦ τήν πνοή φέρουμε, καί αὐτός ὀρίζει τήν Ζωήν μας, ἡ Μητέρα μας ἐρχεται δεύτερη, καί μαζί μέ τήν βοήθειά του ἀναλαμβάνει τήν φροντίδα καί τήν ἀγάπη μας.

Ακόμα καί στῆς 10 ἐντολές, πρῶτα ἐρχεται ὁ Πατέρας [Τίμα τόν Πατέρα σου καί τήν Μητέρα σου] ἔχει τό νόημά του αὐτό δέν ἐγράφηκε τυχαία.

Ας πάρουμε τόν βίο τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας στήν σύντομη Ζωή του ὡς Θεάνθρωπος ἄφησε τήν Μητέρα του, καί μαζί μέ τούς Μαθητάς του, γύριζε ἀδιάκοπα διδάσκοντας τά Θεικά του διδάγματα, ὅμως καθημερινά βρισκόταν σέ ἐπικοινωνία διά τῆς προσευχῆς του μέ τόν Πατέρα Θεό.

Ας πάρουμε καί κάτι ἄλο, ἀπό τίς παραβολές τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας, καί ἐκεῖ στήν παραβολή τοῦ Ἀσώτου, θά δούμε τό μέγεθος τῆς μεγαλωσύνης στήν καρδιά τοῦ Πατέρα.

Δέν θά παραθέσω ἐδῶ ὁλόκληρη τήν παραβολή, γιατί ἀσφαλῶς τήν γνωρίζεται ὅλοι.

Θά σταθῶ ὅμως στήν ταπεινωτική του ἐπιστροφή, ὅταν δηλαδή κατασπατάλησε τήν περιουσία του στήν κραιπάλη καί τήν ἀσωτία, καί ὅταν εἶδε τήν ἔλθεινέ του κατάντια, κατάλαβε τό φοβερό λάθος του, καί τότε σκέφτηκε τόν Πατέρα του, καί μέ ντροπή μεγάλη μετανόησε, καί γύρισε καί φοβισμένος λέει.

Στά πόδια σου Πατέρα μου περίλυπος γυρίζω, καί τρέμω καί δακρύζω, συχώρεση ζητώ

Σέ ἀδίκυσα, σέ πίκρανα, σού σκόρπισα τό βίός σου. Αχ νά καλούμε γιός σου δέν πρέπει δέν τολμῶ. Καί περίμενε γονατιστός καί μέ τά μάτια στήν γῆ τήν ἀπόφαση τοῦ Πατέρα.

Ὁ Πατέρας ὅμως μάς λέγει ἡ παραβολή, ἀπό πολύ μακριά εἶδε τό παιδί του νά ἐρχεται, καί ἡ καρδιά του γνώρισε πρῶτη αὐτόν τόν κουρελή, τόν ἀσθενή τόν ντροπιασμένον, καί τρέχει πρῶτος νά τόν συναντήσῃ, τόν ἀγκαλιάζει καί τοῦ λέει.

Σήκω παιδί μου ὅλο χαρά σέ δέχεται ἡ καρδιά μου, ἐδῶ στήν ἀγκαλιά μου θά βρῆς γαλήνη καί χαρά [δέν τόν μάλωσε νά τοῦ πεί, μπά τώρα στήν ἀνάγκη σου μέ θυμήθηκες, ἡ τί ἔκανες τήν περιουσία πού σου δῶσα] ὄχι καθόλου ἀντί αὐτά διατάζει νά τόν πλύνουν νά τοῦβάλουν τά καλῆτερα ρούχα, νά σφάξουν τό καλῆτερο μοσχάρι καί νά γιορτάσουν ὅλοι τόν γυρισμό τοῦ παιδιοῦ του.

Βέβαια θά πούν πολλοί, ὅτι μέ τήν παραβολή του αὐτή ὁ

Χριστός ἠθελε νά τονίσῃ ὅτι ὅταν πραγματικά μετανοοῦμε γιά τῆς ἀμαρτίες μας, τότε ἀνοίγῃ ὁ οὐράνιος Πατέρας τήν ἀγκαλιά του καί μάς δέχεται γεμάτος χαρά.

Ναί, ὅμως ὅλες οἱ ὁμιλίες καί οἱ παραβολές τοῦ Κυρίου μας, ἔχουν πάρα πολλές ἐρμηνείες, καί εἶναι πάντοτε ἐπίκαιρες καί χρήσιμες εἰς τόν αἰῶνα τῶν αἰώνων.

Εἴτι καί τούτῃ μάς δείχνει τήν καρδιά τοῦ κάθε Πατέρα, εἴτε μέγας Ἐπιστήμων εἶναι ἡ ἐπιτυχημένος σέ ὅλα τά στάδια, ἡ ἀπλός ἄνθρωπος πού ἐργάζεται σκληρά, σέ θάλασσες, σέ ἀνθρακορυχία, πολλές φορές μέ κίνδυνο τῆς ζωῆς του, γιά νά φέρεי μέ τόν κόπο του τά ἀπαραίτητα, γιά νά μήν λείψῃ τίποτε στήν οἰκογένειά του. Ὅλοι αὐτοί ἔχουν στό Νού καί στήν καρδιά τους νά κάμουν ὅτι καλύτερο γιά τά παιδιά τους.

Καί παρακολουθοῦν ξάγρυπνοι τήν προοδὸ τους στήν ζωῇ, καί χαίροντε, καί καμαρώνουν γιά τίς ἐπιτυχίες τους, ἡ ὅταν βλέπουν τήν ἀγαπημένη τους κορούλα νά γίνεται πλέον γυναίκα, μέ τί συγκίνηση τήν κατεβάζουν στήν ἑκκλησία νά τήν παραδώσουν στόν γαμπρό, μέ τά μάτια βουρκωμένα, καί τήν καρδιά γεμάτη ἐγνοια γιά τήν ζωῇ της, καί δέν σταματοῦν ποτέ νά βοηθάνε, καί ὅταν συνταξιούχοι πλέον, ἀποκτήσουν ἐγγονάκια. Ε, τότε πάλι ξαναγίνονται νέοι καί παίζουν μαζί τους, τά πηγαίνουν παντού, τά ἀγαποῦν διπλά τά χαίρονται γιατί ὅταν εἶχαν τά παιδιά τους μικρά δέν εἶχαν τήν ὥρα νά τά χαροῦν.

Εὐλογημένε Ἁγίε Πατέρα μας, καί τί δέν κάνεις γιά μάς. Ἄραγε τί θά πρέπει νά κάνουμε ἐμεῖς γιά Σένα. Ε λοιπόν ἀγαπητοί μου μήν σκοτίζεσθε, γιατί ὁ γέρο Πατέρας δέν θέλει τίποτε περισσότερο, ἀπό τήν στοργή, τόν Σεβασμό, καί τήν ἀγάπη σας.

Μόνον νά σάς βλέπει αὐτό ἐπιθυμῇ πρὶν κλείσῃ τά μάτια του.

Ας ἔχετε τήν εὐχή του, ὅσοι τόν ἀγαπάτε καί τόν προσέχετε, αὐτός πάντως σάς τήν στέλνει ἀδιάκοπα...καί μήν ξεχνάτε..[Εὐχές γονέων πύργους θεμελιώνουν]

Χρόνια πολλά Πατέρες, Νέοι καί Γέροι, ὅλου τοῦ κόσμου.

ἸΟΥΝΙΟΣ

Πραγματικά ἐπεῖτα ἀπό τόσων μηνῶν ἐργασία στά μαθήματα καί στά γυμναστήρια, χρειάζεστε νά ἡρεμήσουν μικροί καί μεγάλοι, ἄς κοιμηθῇτε λίγο πῶς πολύ τά πρωινά, ἄς χαρήτε τήν Θάλασσα ὅσοι πήγατε στά νησιά, ἡ τήν ὁμορφιά τοῦ βουνοῦ ὅσοι παραθερίζετε σέ αὐτά, ἀλλά μήν τό παρακάnete αὐτούς τοὺς δύο μήνες τοῦ καλοκαιριοῦ.

Μπορεῖτε νά διαβάσετε ἓνα καλὸ βιβλίο πού δέν εἶχατε τόν καρό νά τό χαρήτε μέ τόν φόρτο τῶν σχολικῶν μαθημάτων, ἡ βοηθήστε σέ κάποιο ἔργο γιά τά κοινά ὅπως φύτεμα δένδρων σέ καμένες περιοχές ἡ καθάρισμα στίς παραλίες καί τόσα ἀλα κοινοφελῆ ἔργα.

Καί μήν ξεχνάτε τήν Κυριακή τήν ἐκκλησία, αὐτὴ ποτέ δέν ἔχει διακοπές, καί πάντα κάτι καλὸ θά ἀποκομίσης φευγόντας.

Θερμὰ σγχαρητήρια σέ ὅσους ἀπεφοίτησαν καί ἔχουν τό δίπλωμα τους.

Βούλα Χαρερά



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CLASS OF 2010

Please join us in celebrating the talents and God-given gifts of the students from Holy Trinity Church who are graduating from high school and college this year. We also thank God for the families, relatives and community which have nurtured them in the rich soil of the Holy Orthodox Faith. May God be with them!

Elaina Balouris Hampton High School



Elaina Balouris graduated as a Senior Scholar from Hampton High School. A member of the National Honor Society, she was active on the Student Council and many school activities. Elaina has also dedicated herself to Cross Country and Track & Field, earning numerous titles, including WPIAL 2-mile champion. She has been a life-long participant in Holy Trinity Church, including Choir, Church School and Greek Dance. She was GOYA Treasurer and a member of the Basketball team and mission teams to Project Mexico and Montana. She will attend William and Mary College and major in mathematics.

Kara Jewell North Allegheny H.S.



Kara graduated from North Allegheny High School, where she was active on the Student Council as Publicity Director and was cheer-leading captain for two years. She was co-founder and executive producer of a charity fashion show, raising over \$3,000 to benefit North Side charities. She was also active in athletics and participated in Track & Field and played on the GOYA Basketball team. She will attend Pennsylvania State University and double-major in Business Management and Public Relations, after which she hopes to start a career in Event Planning.

James graduated on the Highest Honor Roll from Seneca Valley High School. He participated there in Track & Field, Football and Volleyball, as well as many student activities. He was also involved extensively in theatre, including four all-school musicals. He sang in the Seneca Valley Concert Choir, Madrigal Choir and Holy Trinity Choir. He has been an active in Church School and GOYA, including the Basketball team. He will be attending Case Western Reserve University and majoring in Computer Science.

James Fitzpatrick Seneca Valley High School



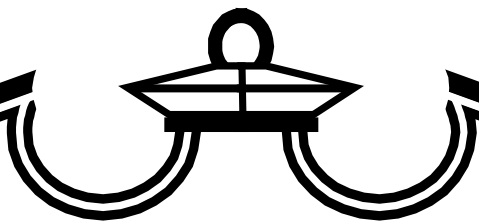
Nicholas Phillips Seneca Valley High School



Nicholas graduated in the top ten of his class from Seneca Valley High School, where he was a three year Varsity Wrestling letterman and a WPIAL State Qualifier. Nicholas earned his third degree Black Belt in Tae Kwan Do and played five years of High school soccer and Classic Cup soccer. He was a four-year Student Council representative and a member of the National Honor Society, Ski Club and Speech Club. He will attend Pennsylvania State University and major in Nuclear Engineering.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. (Proverbs 9:10)

Keep my words and treasure up my commandments with you; keep my commandments and live. (Proverbs 7:1-2)



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

"The family should strive to be that image of godliness that will preserve the holiness that is intended to be its identity. Surrounding the child with the Holy Sacraments and sacred images, a regular life in the Church, and strengthening the good in the child are what instill this life of grace. This grace acts as a powerful hedge of protection around the family." (M. Hock, "Blessed Are the Pure In Heart For They Shall See God.")

Jessica Thomas North Hills High School



Jessica graduated on the Honor Roll from North Hills Senior High School. She was an active member of the Yearbook Staff. She was also an active member and President of Pottery Club, so the pottery studio was a place where

she dedicated herself in the development of both leadership and creativity. Jessica attained a place on the school's Honor Roll throughout her entire high school career. She will attend the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and major in Nutrition.

George Touloumes Bethel Park High School



George graduated as a National AP Scholar from Bethel

Park High School, where he was a member of the National Honor Society and participated in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Math League. He lettered for two years in soccer, four years in track. He has been active throughout his life at Holy Trinity Church, including

Church School and Acolyte service. He served as GOYA President, was a GOYA basketball player and served on mission trips to Project Mexico and to Montana with YOCAMA. He will attend Princeton University and major in Electrical Engineering.

Dean Dickos University of Pennsylvania

Dean graduated Summa cum Laude from the University of Pennsylvania with a Master of Science degree in Education.

CELEBRATING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Alexandra graduated on the High Honor roll from Hampton High

School and was a member of both the National Honor Society and the National Latin Honor Society. She has been a lifetime participant in activities at Holy Trinity Church, including Church School, Greek dance, festival, basketball, volleyball and summer camp and retreats. She has been GOYA

Recording Secretary and Vice-President and has served as a missionary to Project Mexico and the YOCAMA Blackfoot mission in Montana. She will attend Penn State and major in Business.

Alexandra Valliant Hampton High School



Alexandria Zozos Vincintian Academy

Alexandra graduated on the High Honor Roll from Vincintian Academy,

where she participated in basketball, soccer, cross-country and softball as part of a WPIAL state championship team. She has been involved in many areas of Holy Trinity Church life, including Church School, Greek Dance, Choir and the festival. She was a member of the GOYA basketball and volleyball teams and was a Project Mexico missionary. She will be attending the University of Dayton where she will major in Pre-Physical Therapy.



Stavroula Pantelakis Slippery Rock University

Stavroula graduated on the Dean's List from Slippery Rock University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary & Early childhood Education.

“The primary lesson for life must be implanted in the soul from the earliest age. It is for children to know the eternal God, the One Who gives everlasting life.” *(Saint Clement)*



Pre-School Class



Kindergarten Class



First-Second Grade Class



Third-Fourth Grade Class



Fifth-Sixth Grade Class



Seventh-Eighth-Ninth Grade Class



Tenth-Eleventh Grade Class



St. Spyridon Children's Lending Library Award

“My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare will they give you.” (*Proverbs 22.6*)



Elaina Balouris with his parents, Dean and Diane



James Fitzpatrick with his parents, Angie and Brian



Kara Jewell with her parents, Brian and Debbie



Jessica Thomas with her parents, Jim and Lori



George Touloumes with his parents, Fr. John & Presvytera Becky



Alexandra Valliant with her mother, Paula Valliant



Alexandria Zozos with her parents, Lou and Julie



The Holy Trinity Church School 2010 Graduates & Families

Congratulations and May God's Blessings Be With All Our Graduates and Their Families!



The GOYA honored its graduating seniors at the annual GOYA Senior Recognition Dinner on May 24 at the Siba Market Caffè in Mars. Each senior was presented with a collection of fun and practical gifts to get them started in college life. Dozens of parents and siblings attended the celebration.





The 4th Annual Holy Trinity Spring Greek Festival was held from May 20-23, 2010. As always, it was made possible through the dedicated labors of love offered by the members and friends of the community. Many thanks to all who helped and supported this event!





The annual Holy Trinity Feast Day Picnic was held on Sunday, May 30, 2010, at McCandless Park. Those who attended enjoyed a casual afternoon with a good, old-fashioned, family-style picnic including grilled burgers and dogs, baseball, volleyball, basketball and great "parea!" Thanks to the social committee for organizing it and to everyone who attended.



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The Problem of “Unanswered Prayer”

It is neither a matter of God not hearing our prayers nor of His being indifferent to our suffering. God does not want us to be troubled and tormented, but to be in constant communion with him with our fervent prayers, which should increase if not immediately answered. We should thank God whether He gives us what we ask for or not, since in either case He is acting for our own good. We should not be discouraged and disillusioned when we do not receive what we ask for in prayer. God may be testing our persistence. Let us not tire easily.

If we do not receive what we seek we should thank God, nonetheless, as if our prayer has indeed been answered, since He knows our true needs of the present hour better than we do. It may be that our hope does not materialize because what we desire is not essential, even though it may seem indispensable to us at the time. If something is truly indispensable God will provide it instantly. Therefore, even in the case of apparent rejection, St. John Chrysostom reassures that in essence we have succeeded. Any failure that brings a benefit to our life is in fact not a failure but success.

From “Athonite Flowers” by Monk Moses of Mount Athos



Scripture of the Month: “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” (1 Cor. 4.2)