



# THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

SEPTEMBER 2019 VOLUME 27 • ISSUE 7

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
OUR VISION: "FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY."

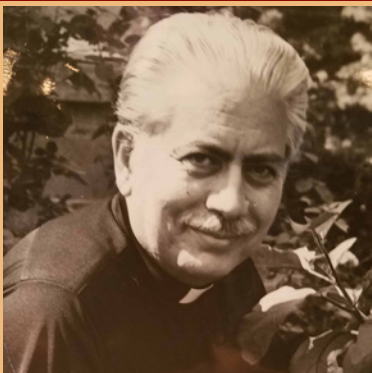
## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Father John's Message
- 3 News & Events
- 4 Gheronda's Corner: In  
Eternal Memory of Fr.  
John Androutopoulos
- 6 Stewardship Reflections
- 7 Stewardship Roster
- 8 Lenten and Paschal  
Donations
- 9 Faith and Family Week-  
days 2019 Schedule
- 10 2019 Seminarian-in-  
Residence Reflections
- 12 The Heavens Open in  
the Liturgy

### - INSERTS -

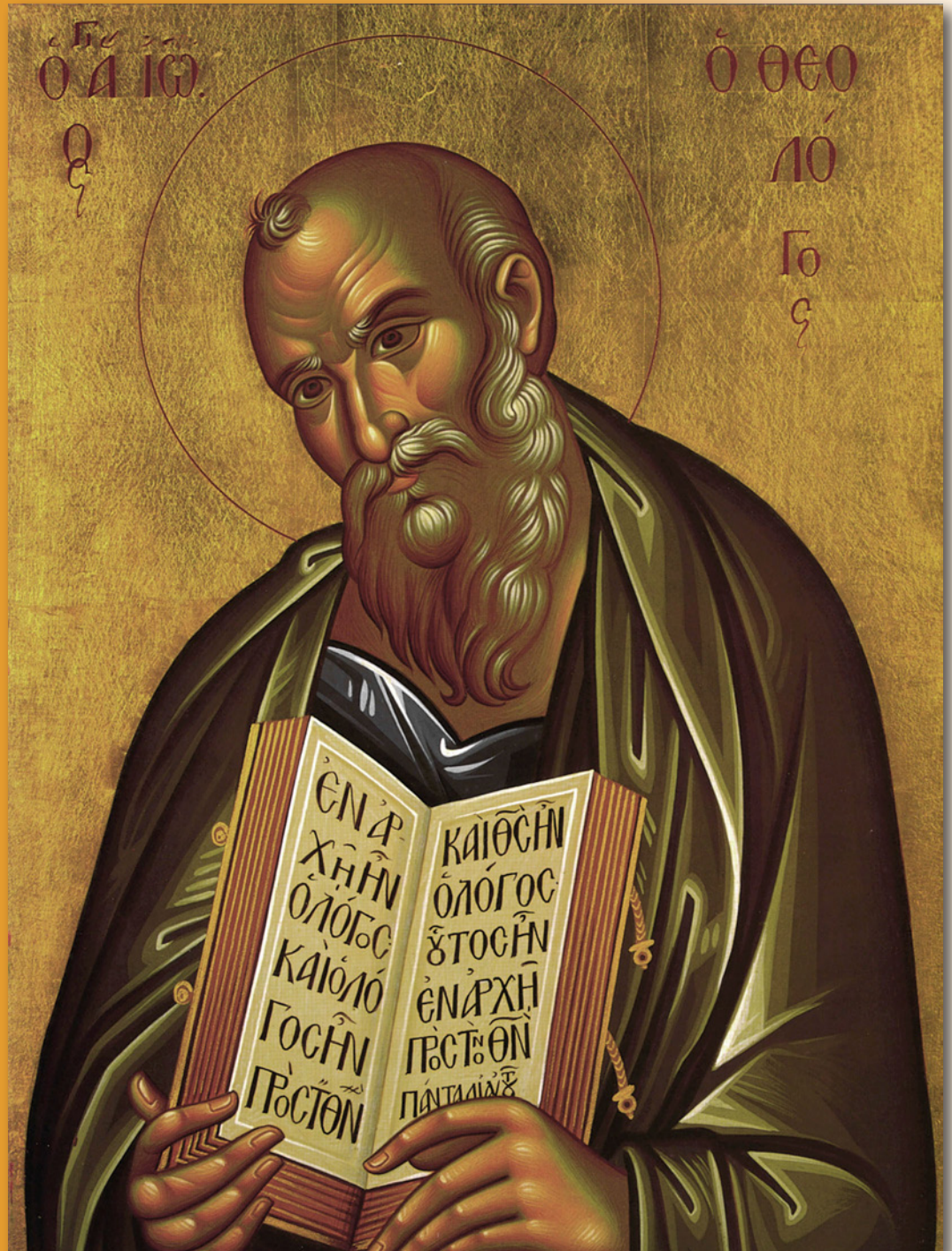
Saxonburg Monastery Events  
Philoptochos Community Tradi-  
tional Greek Dance Flyer  
Greater Pittsburgh JOYFest

## QUICK NEWS



Pages 4 and 5 pay respects to the life and memory of our beloved Holy Trinity "Gheronda," Reverend Father John Androutopoulos, who fell asleep in the Lord on July 17. May his memory be eternal!

## Saint John the Theologian and Evangelist - Feast Day: Sep. 26



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

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15237

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Holy Trinity Church is a parish of the  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh  
([pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org)) and Greek Ortho-  
dox Archdiocese of America ([www.goarch.org](http://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

### 2019 Parish Council

George Danis, President

Alvin Backeris Dean A. Balouris

George Dickos Tom Germanos

Karen Georgiadis Richard Paese

Michael Passodelis Stephen Stearns

Ted Stewart Alex Trilivas

Gerri Valliant Jeanne Willow

### Ministries

Please visit the Holy Trinity website at [www.HolyTrinityPgh.org](http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org) for descriptions and contact information on Holy Trinity Church's ministries, including spiritual life, education, youth, senior, family and cultural opportunities. There is something for everyone, so please get involved today!

**"FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY."**



**I will instruct you and teach you in  
the way you should go; I will coun-  
sel you with my loving eye on you.**

**Psalm 32.8**

My, beloved spiritual family,

Here we go into another fall season. School classes are starting; sports fields are back in action; and once again the seasons are changing. Along with the seasons, we change, too. It seems to be a part of God's plan for creation that new seasons bring the opportunity to reap the harvests of our previous labors and move on to explore what the Lord has in store for us next. And indeed He always has a plan, so even in the midst of new opportunities and challenges, we are not on our own. As Saint Paul assures us, "We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8.28).

One change of life here at Holy Trinity Church that is a heavy burden on my heart and the hearts of many others is the change from life in this world to life in the Heavenly Kingdom of our newly-reposed "Gheronda," Father John Androutsopoulos. His story and some memorable photographs from his years here at Holy Trinity Church can be found on pages 4 and 5. Among his contributions to the life of this community are 19 years of his "Gheronda's Corner" column, something he found great joy in preparing and sharing. Yet even in the human sadness of that change, there is joy in the very Christ Whose promise of eternal life is now the harvest being reaped by Father John. Our "Gheronda" often used his column to bring us back to the solid truths of God's divine plan for the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of His only-begotten son. So to truly honor him is to fully believe those truths and rejoice with him as celebrates the Liturgy in the Kingdom. May God grant him rest, joy, peace and a place of honor at the Heavenly Altar. Well done, good and faithful man of God and honorable priest of Christ!

Then there are some smaller changes here and there that give us a sense of dynamic life in the Spirit here at Holy Trinity Church. Some are brand new, some creative adjustments.

- As this issue is being published, we are heading in to Festival week, and our hard-working Festival Committee is perpetually looking for creative ways to increase efficiency, provide better service and extend even greater hospitality to the tens of thousands of friends and visitors who pass through our doors.
- Our Spiritual Life Ministry is once again fine-tuning our "Faith and Family Weekdays" ministry to better meet the needs of the community. This year that involves making our Orthodox Movie Night a Special Feature event, once in the fall and once in the spring; introducing a new 5-session catechism series titled "Discover Orthodoxy"; a new "Women's Book Club" ministry by women and for women; "The Relationship Project" series to help our teens develop healthy and godly perspectives toward human relationships on all levels.
- Our Greek Dance ministry has experienced a tremendous transformation with new dances, all-new costumes and the energetic leadership of its instructors.
- The Hospitality Ministry is re-inventing our post-festival outreach to the local community with its "So Much More" event on Thursday, September 19, to let our visitors know there is so much more to Holy Trinity Church and Orthodoxy than Greek food.
- Our Parish Council continues its leadership and stewardship of the community in responding to the changing needs of our ministries, building and properties, both at our main campus and at Holy Trinity Cemetery.

That is really just a brief look. But the message is clear: as the Holy Spirit continues to guide this community, we need to be ready to embrace God's dynamic plans with faith and enthusiasm. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecc 3.1).

Paternally yours in Jesus Christ,

## WORSHIP LIFE

### Weekday Services ..... September

Please take note of the following weekday Liturgies for the feast days in July and August. Orthros is at 8:30 a.m., followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30. Guide to locations for services: Holy Trinity Church = **HT**; St. George Chapel = **SG**.

**Sept. 7, 6:00pm:** Nativity of Theotokos Vespers & Vigil  
*The above service will be held at the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery in Saxonburg, PA.*

**Sept. 13, 7:00pm:** Exaltation of the Holy Cross Vespers

**Sept. 14, 8:15am Orthros/9:30 Liturgy:** Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*The above services will be held at the Holy Cross Church in Mount Lebanon.*

**Sept. 17:** St. Sophia and Her Daughters (SG)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Church School Classes Begin ..... Sept. 8

The first day of classes for Church School is Sunday, September 8 at **9:30am** with **Divine Liturgy and the children's sermon**, followed by classes after Holy Communion. This year's theme is "Grounded in Truth." If your children are not yet registered, please see Presvytera Becky in Conference Room A at the conclusion of classes (11:30am).

### Church School Dismissal Time: 11:30 ..... Every Sunday

A message from our Church School Staff to all parents: Please assist us in offering our children the time to fully participate in their lessons each Sunday by allowing them to remain in class until the end of the session. **IMPORTANT: ALL CLASSES CONCLUDE AT 11:30am.** Parents of Pre-School and Kindergarten students may pick up their children on the upper level Education Center by using the Education Center stairs in the Gallery near the Bookstore. Parents of all other students are asked to wait for their children downstairs in the Gallery or Grand Room during Coffee Hour. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

### GOYA Kick-Off ..... September 15

The GOYA teen ministry will hold its 2019-2020 Fall Kick-Off on September 15. Time and location TBA. Parents are asked to also attend a parents' meeting at the event. All teens are invited. This is a great way to get involved for both teens and parents. Questions? Email [goya@HolyTrinityPgh.org](mailto:goya@HolyTrinityPgh.org).

### Pittsburgh Area JOYFest. .... September 21

Holy Cross Church in Mount Lebanon will be hosting an event for youth ages 7-12 on Saturday, September 21 from 9:30am to 3:00pm. The "JOYFest" will be held at Holy Cross Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, in Mount Lebanon. The guest speaker will be Khouria Gigi Shadid, an Orthodox musician and educator. Lunch is included. Call 412-833-3355 for information.

No fee. Donations are welcome.

### Youth Sunday/GOYA Fall Fest. .... September 22

Holy Trinity Church will highlight and feature the young people of our community on Youth Sunday, September 22. In addition, the GOYA will be offering baked goods and food for their Fall Fest during Coffee Hour. Please support our youth.

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

### Philoptochos Meeting ..... September 15

Our Ladies Philoptochos "Omonia" Chapter meeting will be held on Sunday, September 15th, 2019 in the Fireside Room directly following Divine Liturgy. Please get a cup of coffee in the Grand Room and then go directly to the Fireside Room, where light refreshments will be offered. We look forward to seeing all of our returning members after the summer meetings break! New members are always welcome!

## COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

### Bereavement Ministry Meeting ..... September 9

Our new Bereavement Support Ministry Team will provide spiritual care to our parishioners and their extended family & friends in time of grief and loss. If you have questions about grief and want to learn and share conversation, then please attend our next Bereavement Support Group sessions on Monday, September 9, in the Conference Room. Light refreshments and relaxed fellowship begin at 6:30 p.m. for those who choose. Then 7:00-8:30 p.m. is group learning and sharing with our Bereavement facilitators. Feel free to bring a family member and/or friend. Contact Amy Armanious, Visitation Ministry Coordinator with any questions at email [Visitation@holyltrinitypgh.org](mailto:Visitation@holyltrinitypgh.org).

### "Faith and Family Weekdays" Ministry Resumes

Holy Trinity Church's "Faith and Family Weekdays" ministry for 2019/2020 will resume starting in September and continue through May. Building on the fruits of this ministry since 2014 and taking into account the constructive feedback of the participants, each year offers something new. This year we are adding a "Women's Book Club," a new "Discover Orthodoxy" teaching series and the Orthodox Movie Night is transforming from a monthly show to a "Special Feature" evening in the Fall and the Spring. And we are always open to new ideas. To submit ideas or feedback, please see Spiritual Life Ministry Chairperson Joyce Athanasiou (412-292-4205) or Father John. Please see the "Faith and Family Weekdays" 2019/2020 guide on page 9.

### Reminder for Church Facilities: Reservations Required!

If your ministry or committee is planning a meeting or activity to be held at the church, please note that reservations for rooms and event spaces are required. Please call the Church Office at 412-366-8700 and speak to our Office Administrator, Mary Portellos. Your cooperation helps ensure every group that needs a place has one. Thank you!

**For the latest updates and schedule of parish events, visit [www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/calendar](http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/calendar)**



Last in a series of 19 years of contributions by our resident "Gheronda" (respected elder clergy), + Father John Androutsopoulos



**Father John Androutsopoulos**

As priests, each time someone addresses us as "Father," we receive it not on our own merits, but in the spirit of Saint Paul, who in 1 Corinthians 4.15 says, "I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel." Yet we as priests are also in need of godly, faithful and loving models of fathers from whom we learn what it means to be a father in Christ to others.

I thank God for Father John Androutsopoulos being one of the most important models and teachers in my life and priesthood. I will forever treasure his rare and special combination of being an honorable, respected, wise senior priest, father and role model to a junior priest, student and son in Christ. Thank you Father John for that priceless gift. It is one I will treasure in my heart always.

Perhaps the best testimony I can offer is one of his own teachings - in fact, it is a quote from the very last "Gheronda's Corner" published last month. Father John—"Gheronda"—you taught us much by your words, but the influence of your life as a faithful priest of Jesus Christ was your best lesson of all and a light that will shine forever:

*"A candle may be small, but no darkness can put out the light of even the smallest one. Neither can the influence of our lives be put out. The spirit in our hearts can be such as to signify to Christ that we want Him to come into our hearts. Now is a good time to let Him know there is room in our hearts for Him. Let Him make our Spirit truly the candle of the Lord."*

With prayers for his joyful celebration of the eternal Liturgy at the throne of God,  
On behalf of Father Radu and the entire Holy Trinity Community — Father John Touloumes

## Father John's Obituary

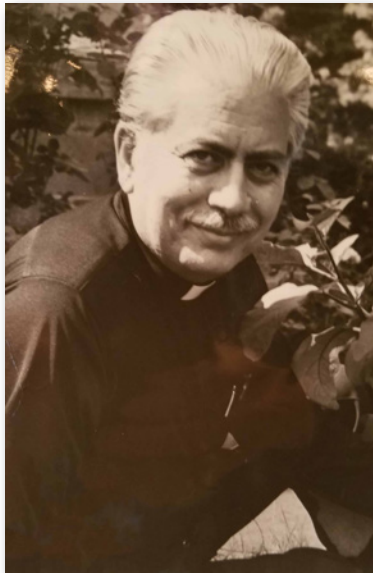
The Very Reverend Father John Androutsopoulos, Protopresbyter, of New Kensington asleep in the Lord peacefully on Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

Born on January 7, 1926 in the mountain village of Porovitsa, Peloponnesos, Greece, Fr. John completed his elementary education and graduated from high school in Akkata. In 1947, he entered the theological school of the University of Athens and obtained his Masters degree in Theology, thus fulfilling a calling he had since a young child to serve God.

His studies were disrupted when in 1949, he was drafted to serve in the Greek Army during the Civil War against the communists. After his discharge, Fr. John continued his studies at the University and graduated in 1954.

Faced with poverty and no opportunities in his homeland, Fr. John decided to move to America where his two brothers and an uncle had emigrated several years earlier. He settled in Lincoln, Ill., with his brother Pete and his Uncle Tony, who by this time had opened their own restaurant. He did what almost everyone from that generation did upon arrival in the States: worked in a restaurant. Fr. John studied English at the University of Illinois in Champagne, Ill.

On November 20, 1960, Fr. John was ordained a Deacon



at the Assumption Church in Chicago, Ill., and on June 18, 1961, he was ordained a priest at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Decatur, Ill. He always recalled the advice offered to him by the late Archbishop Iakovos upon his ordination as a Deacon: "Deacon John, Imitate your patron Saint - St. John the Baptist - and Preach the Truth."

He was then assigned to begin his ministry at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in New Kensington on July 1, 1961. For 36 years, from 1961 until he retired in 1996, Fr. John served as Parish Priest of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in New Kensington. This was his first and only parish. He had offers to transfer to larger parishes, but he always declined, preferring to stay where he felt he was needed the most.

Upon his retirement, he was welcomed to serve as a guest priest at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, now in McCandless, where his daughter's family attended and was able to serve in the altar with his two grandsons when they were young acolytes and two priests whom he loved and respected very much: Protopresbyter Fr. John Touloumes and Fr. Radu Bordeianu.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Presvytera Ethel Androutsopoulos, and his three children and their spouses: Kathy





(married to Dr. Chris Balouris), Bill (married to Nicole Tratras) and Dino (married to Olga Farmakis). He so loved his grandchildren who provided him with so much joy and entertainment. He was so proud of them and loved them so much: Marielena, Antonios and Yanni Balouris and Yanni and Georgios Androutsopoulos. He will be in our hearts forever.

Fr. John was an avid gardener with the brightest green thumb. His tomatoes were the talk of New Kensington and everything he planted grew to the heavens! Rows and rows of tomatoes, green beans, lettuce, onions and flowers planted in a perfectly straight line. Our belief is that he is pain free and planting his garden once again for all in Heaven to enjoy.

Fr. John served two terms as President of the Orthodox Clergymen's Brotherhood and hosted a monthly sermon on the Greek radio station and submitted the monthly "Gheronda's Corner" column for Holy Trinity's Herald.

Fr. John ministered to so many in need. He loved his parishioners and they all became family. Because of his spirituality, he taught us humility, kindness and empathy to all. And.... a love of Steeler football. Sundays in the fall were spent praying in Church, and then hurrying home to watch Steeler football. Those were precious family times that created

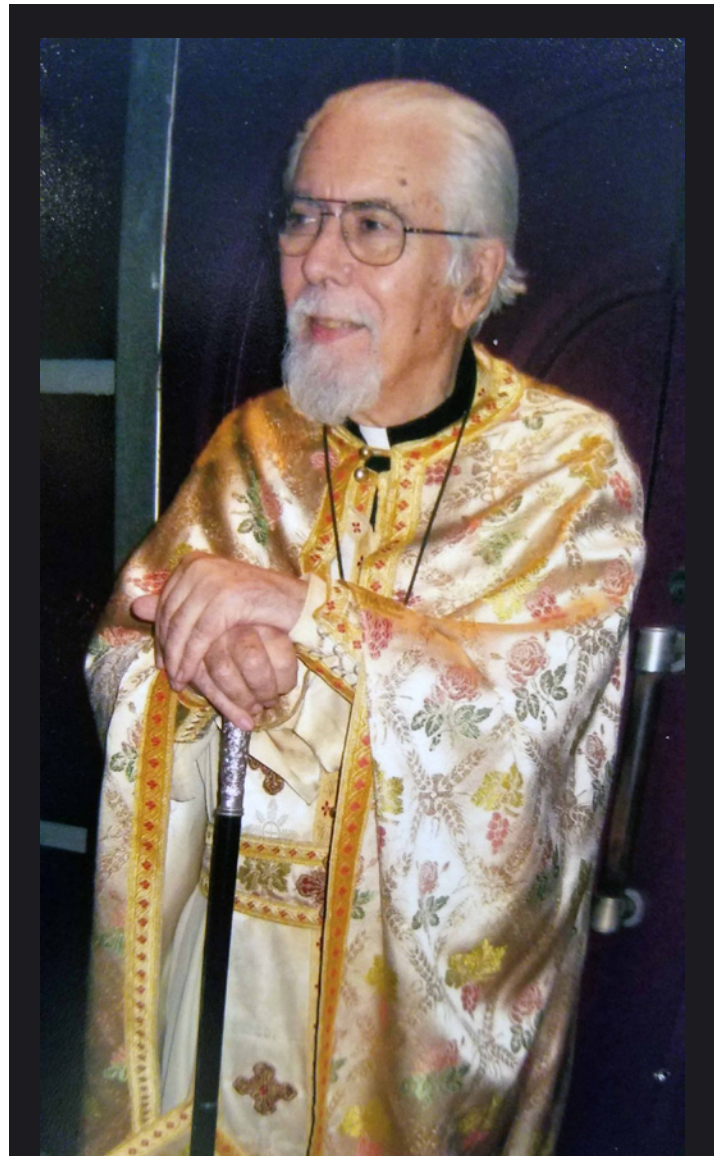
such wonderful memories and have been carried on through his children and grandchildren. His warmth, smile and big heart will never be forgotten.

Visitation



will be on Friday, July 19, from 3:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 985 Providence Boulevard, McCandless Twp. A Friday evening Priest's Trisagion service will begin at 6:00 pm. On Saturday, July 20, Orthros will be held at Holy Trinity Church at 8:00 am., followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am and the Funeral Service at 10:00 am. Internment will take place at Holy Trinity Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be

made to the Holy Trinity Church Building Fund.



**In Eternal Memory  
of our beloved "Gheronda"  
Father John Androutsopoulos, Protopresbyter  
1926-2019**





## Time, Talents, and Treasures: From Cooking for Six to Cooking for Thousands

My mother is an excellent cook. Whether she is trying an adventurous recipe or remaking a family favorite, every dish tastes amazing. Each of my three sisters cooks like a chef. Every week, a new recipe is sent amongst us sisters, along with a picture of the final meal. My father owns a diner, which was started by my Papou over fifty years ago. I benefitted from waitressing for a few summers and eating unlimited breakfast. If I could cycle through each kitchen for every meal, I would eat like a queen.

Unfortunately for me – and for my fiancé – I have not yet developed that culinary skill that the rest of my family all seems to have. I am open to trying new recipes, especially when recommended by my parents or sisters. However, whether it is a new recipe or a recipe that I am making for the twentieth time, it never tastes quite like it would if my mom made it.

Now, while I struggle to eat my messy meals, I do not believe that my cooking career is not a lost cause. There are still cooking-related skills in which I excel. I am an excellent measurer. Give me some flour, give me some sugar, and you will have perfectly measured ingredients. You want moussaka béchamel mixed without any burning? Put me in front of a tilt skillet, and I will stir it like my life depends on it. If pans need to get wrapped before you move them into the freezer, I can cut, measure, and tape very efficiently.

So how exactly can these cooking skills (if you can call them “skills”) benefit our church? That is an easy answer: festival preparation. Whether you are an Ina Garten-level cook, an excellent sous chef, or simply a person that likes to eat, there are plenty of opportunities for you to do something

that you like while giving back to your church in the process.

Just as our festival can only run when we have the volunteers willing to use time and help by serving our community, our church needs its stewards in order to thrive. The easiest way to kick off your stewardship is by volunteering for the festival. Even if it is your first time, know that your volunteerism will be welcomed with open arms and that there are a variety of needs that you could fulfill.

Again, even for “skills” that you may not think you have,

God finds a way to take them and make them fit the needs of our church. What a shame it would be to ignore this opportunity that He has laid out for us instead of trusting Him and His plan. As for me, I will continue to answer his call to give my time and talents to our church through cooking. In the meantime, of course, I will continue trying to perfect my spanakopita recipe... although maybe all of the time I spent making spanakopita for the festival is a sign that I should have used our church's recipe all along!

I encourage you to think about your talents and how you can

use them for our church. If you ever have questions about how you can use your time, talents, and treasures for the church, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Holy Trinity Stewardship Committee.

*Alexandra Valliant and Your Co-Workers in Christ  
The Holy Trinity Stewardship Ministry Committee*



### ALL WE HAVE IS A GIFT FROM GOD. WHAT WE DO WITH IT IS OUR GIFT TO GOD.

- ❖ Our time and talents build a better community.
- ❖ Our treasures provide for the present and the future.
- ❖ We all have “it”... whatever “it” is, whatever your gift... put it to good use.
- ❖ It starts with your pledge. It shows by your actions!

Thank you to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their pledge cards for the 2019 pledge year. Please join them in their support for the ministries of Holy Trinity and complete your "One Holy Trinity" 2019 pledge commitment today! If we hadn't received your pledge as of August 15, for your convenience a copy of the pledge card was mailed to your home. Please return it promptly.

Rev. Fr & Pres John N. Touloumes	Mr. & Mrs. George Dickos	Mr. Lazarus Kirifides	Mr. Eleftherios Parikakis
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Ms. Cynthia Morris Criss	Mr. & Mrs. Evangelo Kaparakos	Mr & Mrs George Pantelakis	Mrs. Dorothea K. Zikos
Chelsea and Charles Cross	Mrs. Irene Karavolos	Mrs. Angela Pantelas	Mr & Mrs Anthony Zissis
Mrs. Dorothy A. Cucuras	Mr. Nicholas J. Karellas	Mrs. Marian G. Pantelas	Ms Anna Zissis
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Mr. & Mrs. Evan Danis	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kennedy	Ms. Loukia Papatheodorou	
Mrs Angeline Romanias Davis	Mr & Mrs James Kermes	Mr & Mrs Andrew Pappas	
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dedousis	Dr Imad Alizray and Ms Zelfa Khalil	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Pappis	
Mrs. Helen DeMoss	Mr & Mrs Gus Kilantonis	Mr & Mrs Orestes Paras	

**To God be the Glory!**



Thank you to the many parishioners and friends who offered donations for Lent and Holy Week through the envelope system. Thank you also to the following donors of special flowers and items used during this holy season.

## Salutations to the Theotokos Services

Chris & Kathy Balouris ..... for the health of Rev. Fr. John & Presvytera Ethel Androustopoulos  
 Reggie & Marianne Bonfield ..... in memory of John & Mary Bonfield  
 Pennie Hareras ..... in memory of Gus Hareras, Angelo Hareras and Eleftheria Koutsouflakis  
 Brian & Debbie Jewell ..... in memory of Sam & Georgia Booras  
 Jon & Judy Stipanovich ..... in memory of their parents George & Stella Stipanovich and brother Greg

## Lent, Holy Week & Resurrection Services

Annunciation Icon Flowers ..... Chris & Kathy Balouris, for the health of Anthony & Helen Balouris  
 Processional Flowers for the Veneration of the Cross ..... Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
 Saturday of Lazarus Icon Flowers ..... Reggie & Marianne Bonfield, in memory of Frank & Anne Chapas  
 Making of Palm Crosses and Preparation of Holy Friday & Anastasi Candles ..... Holy Trinity Church School students, staff & families  
 Palm Sunday Icon Flowers ..... Dorothea K. Zikos, in memory of Peter J. Zikos  
 Christ the Bridegroom (Nymphios) Icon Flowers ..... Antonios & Susan Zikos, for the health of their family  
 Crucifix Wreath of Flowers ..... Irene Karavolos, in memory of Charles Siebott, Steve and Kelly Karavolos  
 Burial Shroud Sheet for Epitaphion ..... Arlene Metropulos, in memory of her husband Dean Metropulos  
 Holy Friday Rosewater ..... Chris T. Balouris & Family in memory of his father Themistocles C. Balouris  
 Holy Friday Icon Flowers ..... John & Georgia Franciscus and family, in memory of Demetra, Peter and Angie  
 Decoration of the Epitaphion ..... Joyce Athanasiou, Holy Trinity Philoptochos, Women and Youth of the parish  
 Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday ..... Pamela Bolkovac, in memory of her mother Mary Bolkovac  
 Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday ..... Pamela Bolkovac, in memory of her father Nick Bolkovac  
 Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday ..... Connie Fries, for the health of family & friends  
 Rose Petals for Holy Saturday ..... Brian & Debbie Jewell, in memory of Samuel and Georgia Booras  
 Resurrection Icon Flowers ..... Fanny Kostos, in memory of Steve & Kelly Karavolos  
 Resurrection Banner Ribbons ..... The family of Chrissie Georgiadis in her memory  
 Dying and Preparation of Red Resurrection Eggs ..... Holy Trinity Philoptochos  
 Priest's Resurrection Candle ..... Anonymous, for the health of her family, children & grandchildren  
 Priest's Resurrection Candle ..... Gus & Penny Georgiadis, in memory of Mary & George Kalodikis and Mary & Pete Georgiadis  
 Candy/Paschal Treats for children following Agape Vespers service ..... Mike & Julie Kritiotis, for the health of family and friends  
 Prosforon (Offering Bread) ..... Katherine M. Balouris, Stacy Dickos, Mary-Magdalene Welsh & others  
 Myrrh Bearing Women Icon Flowers ..... Athena S. Bober, in memory of her husband Mike Bober  
 Pentecost Icon Flowers ..... Mary-Magdalene Welsh, in memory of her mother Julia Welsh

## Flowers for the Epitaphion

Holy Trinity Offering Trays and Envelopes, plus the following donors:

- Emanuel Araviakis, in memory of his wife Carol and his son Mark
- Chris & Kathy Balouris, for the health of Rev. Fr. John & Presvytera Ethel Androustopoulos
- Chris & Kathy Balouris, for the health of Anthony & Helen Balouris
- Reggie & Marianne Bonfield, in memory of John & Mary Bonfield
- The Bonfield & Chapas Families, in memory of Frank & Anne Chapas
- Sherry Clayton, in memory of beloved Holy Trinity parishioners
- The Duroske Family, in memory of James & Elli Stephanou
- Frank & Katina Erdeljac, in memory of Mike, Theologia and Mary Alexiades
- Penny & Dennis Fakles-Bossick, in memory of John & Sophia Regas
- Theodora Fakles, in memory of John & Sophia Regas and John Fakles
- Connie Fries, for the health of family and friends
- The Gross Family, in memory of John DeMoss and Steve & Anthoula Pefanis
- Pennie Hareras, in memory of Gus Hareras, Angelo Hareras and Eleftheria Koutsouflakis
- Eugenia Hoehn, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Phaturos
- James & Bettina Kermes, in memory of family & friends
- Mike & Julie Kritiotis, for the health of family and friends
- Matt & Nancy Palamara, for the health of the Anh & Palamara Families
- George & Rhea Pantelakis, in memory of their parents John & Maria Pantelakis and John & Stavroula Scopelitis
- Loukia Papatheodorou, for the health of family and friends
- James Sicalias, in memory of his mother Bessie Cocheres Sicalias
- James Statheas, in memory of Steve & Demetra Statheas
- Eric & Kathleen White, in memory of her parents, Michael & Margie Smyrnes

## Paschal Lillies

- Anonymous, in honor of our new Holy Trinity family (10 plants)
- Pamela Bolkovac, in memory of her parents Nick and Mary Bolkovac (3 plants)
- Reggie & Marianne Bonfield, in memory of John & Mary Bonfield
- Reggie & Marianne Bonfield, for the health of family & friends
- The Bonfield & Chapas Families, in memory of Frank & Anne Chapas
- Cindy Morris Criss, in memory of Tom & Dora Morris (5 plants)
- George & Sophia Danis, in memory of Demetrios & Evdokia Danis
- George & Sophia Danis, in memory of George V. Gatsiopoulos and Vasiliki G. Gatsiopoulos
- Christine Dickos, in memory of her husband Dinos Dickos
- The Duroske Family, in memory of James & Elli Stephanou
- Frank & Katina Erdeljac, in memory of Mike & Theologia Alexiades
- Frank & Katina Erdeljac, in memory of Mary Alexiades
- John & Georgia Franciscus, in memory of George & Betty Beckas (2 plants)
- Tessie Frankos, in memory of her husband James and her daughter Demitria Frankos
- Connie Fries, for the health of family & friends
- Elaine Georgiades, in memory of Bill and Koula Roomeliotis (2 plants)
- Eugenia Graser, in memory of her husband Robert Graser
- Eugenia Graser, in memory of her parents Michael & Mary Patsalos
- The Gross Family, in memory of John DeMoss and Steve & Anthoula Pefanis
- The Gross Family, for the health of the Gross, DeMoss and Stum families
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, in memory of Samuel and Georgia Booras
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, in memory of Marsha Booras
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, in memory of Jody Menni
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, for the health of Diane Morse
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, for the health of Marie man
- Brian & Debbie Jewell, for the health of Jan Hartman
- Stella Johnson & Kristina Johnson, in memory of Homer James Johnson
- Stella Johnson & Kristina Johnson, in memory of Augustina Makris
- Irene Karavolos, for the health of her family
- James & Bettina Kermes, in memory of family & friends
- Mike & Julie Kritiotis, for the health of family and friends (2 plants)
- Angela Leist, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Phaturos
- George & Veronica Mellis, in memory of Anna & James Mellis (2 plants)
- Milila Mellis, in memory of Constantine Metropulos
- Bill Pagonis, in memory of James and Mary Pagonis (2 plants)
- Matt & Nancy Palamara, for the health of the Anh & Palamara Families
- George & Rhea Pantelakis, in memory of their parents John & Maria Pantelakis and John & Stavroula Scopelitis
- Orestes & Arlene Paras, in memory of John & Maria Paras
- Orestes & Arlene Paras, in memory of Albert, Rose & Arthur Russell
- James Sicalias, in memory of his mother Bessie Cocheres Sicalias
- Joanna & Emmanuel Sideris, for the health of our family
- James Statheas, in memory of Steve & Demetra Statheas
- Bob & Marianne Stearns and Stephen, in memory of Eric Michael Stearns
- Jon & Judy Stipanovich, in memory of their mother Stella Stipanovich
- Katana Tanner, in memory of Nicholas Tanner
- Lou & Julie Zozos, in memory of Eileen Hoffmann
- Lou & Julie Zozos, in memory of Helen Sfakainos
- Lou & Julie Zozos, in memory of George Zozos
- Lou & Julie Zozos, in memory of Persephone Zozos



**ENGAGE YOUR SPIRIT BETWEEN SUNDAYS! SEE YOU THIS WEEK!**

# FAITH AND Family WEEKDAYS

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Sometimes once a week is just not enough to satisfy your yearning for what really matters in life, answers on how to face daily challenges and simply a deeper experience of your faith. “Faith and Family Weekdays” is your opportunity to live your life in the Church between Sundays! From worship to fellowship to learning to sharing to serving, these faith and growth experiences provide rewarding points of encounter with your Church and Church family. Check it out this week and every week! There is something for you!

“Every day in the temple and at home they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.” (Acts 5:42)

## “FAITH AND FAMILY WEEKDAYS” MINISTRIES GUIDE: FALL 2019

DAYS	MINISTRY	SCHEDULE	ABOUT
DAILY	“Prayer Partners” Prayer Support Ministry	<b>Every Day:</b> In your personal prayers	EVERYONE can participate in this vital ministry. On the first Sunday of Jan., Apr., July and Oct., prayer cards are distributed after Liturgy to ask parishioners to exchange names and become Prayer Partners. Pray and be prayed for daily!
MONDAYS 7:00pm	“Discover Orthodoxy” Introduction and Refresher Series on the Orthodox Faith	<b>Mondays:</b> Fall Series Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 18, 25 (Will repeat in the Spring)	An all-new teaching series for anyone who wants to learn more about the “fullness of the faith” found in Orthodox Christianity, whether as inquirers, catechumens or life-long members. Interested in becoming an Orthodox Christian? This is for you. Just want to refresh your knowledge of the Faith? This is for you, too! Informative, interesting and interactive.
SECOND TUESDAY 7:00pm	“Journey of Marriage” Marriage Prep Ministry	<b>2nd Tuesday</b> Sep.-May Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 10, May 12	Marriage preparation for couples using the excellent and interactive “Journey of Marriage” materials developed by Dr. Philip Mamalakis. From “Hello!” to honeymoon, this series educates and equips couples for fruitful Orthodox Christian married life. It’s fun, interactive and a great way to prepare.
FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY 9:30am	“Women’s Book Club” Reading and Discussion	<b>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesday</b> Oct.-May Oct. 1, 15, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 3, 17	This new “Women’s Books Club” ministry takes a “for women, by women” approach for providing time for prayer, fellowship and discussion that is geared toward the lives and hearts of women. The group will be studying “Redeeming Love” by Francine Rivers. All women are welcome.
WEDNESDAYS 6:30pm Worship 7:00pm Study	“Explore the Word” Worship and Bible Study Ministry	<b>Wednesdays</b> Oct.-May Sep. 18, 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23; Nov. 6, 13, 20; Dec. 4, 11	Prayerfully read the Bible! In Deuteronomy 11, it says, “Lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.” Each Wednesday, come and open your heart in prayer in the Church and then meet in the Conference Room for the study of the Gospel of St. Matthew led by Father Radu Bordeianu.
THIRD THURSDAY 7:00am	“Prayer and Panera” Men’s Ministry	<b>3rd Thursday</b> Sep.-Apr. Sep. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 19, Apr. 30	The Saint Nikodemos Men’s Fellowship hosts this morning session of prayers and Christian fellowship (with coffee and bagels, too!). The group meets at church promptly at 7:00 a.m. for a 15-20 minute morning prayer and scripture, then moves up the hill to Panera for 30-45 minutes of coffee, breakfast and Christian men’s conversation.
THIRD THURSDAY 6:30pm St. George Chapel	“Monthly Paraclesis Service” Worship	<b>3rd Thursday</b> Oct.-May Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Apr. 30; May 21	The Paraclesis, also known as the Service of Supplication, is offered monthly at St. George Chapel. It contains hymns and prayers asking the Lord for guidance, personal strength, and healing. The most popular form invokes the prayers of the Holy Theotokos. We will alternate that service with two others, one for St. Nektarios and the other for St. Paisios.
THURSDAY 7:00pm	“Orthodox Movie Night” Special Feature Edition Entertainment/Fellowship	Watch for announcements for dates and titles in the Fall and the Spring	This ministry is transitioning from a monthly show to a “Special Feature” format, with limited screenings in the fall and the spring. Watch for dates and titles. As before, it’s free to all, a relaxing and uplifting alternative to the “same old stuff” and a great night of Holy Trinity fellowship.

Watch for weekly updates, special events, guest speakers and youth activities in the Bulletin. Find more info at [www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/ffw](http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org/ffw)

## Coming "Home"

### Holy Trinity and Me

Dear Holy Trinity Church: Whether or not you have known me, we have had a connection my whole life. Being the nephew of Holy Trinity parishioners Dr. Peter and Theanne Gagianas, and growing up only an hour away from your current location, I have been told repeatedly throughout my life that Holy Trinity is my home. I have memories of going to the Agape Vespers service back at the North Side church so that we could be together with family on Pascha, and participating in the famous Holy Trinity Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn outside.

### The Invitation

I saw Fr. John on campus at the end of my spring semester of 2018, and he asked me if I would be the "Holy Trinity Seminarian-in-Residence" for Holy Week the next year: helping with the chanting and joining him for pastoral visits. I told him I would think about it, but to be honest, it was not a difficult decision.

### Coming Home

So, April 19, 2019 arrived and I flew to Pittsburgh for my first Holy Week in my home city since high school. My mother, Eleni, picked me up at the airport, and I got to head across town and see some relatives on my first night. I tell you all this to paint you the full picture of what happened the next morning.

I arrived at Holy Trinity for my first day as an employee of any parish in any capacity. I was pretty exhausted from the schedule of classes the entire week before, and the day after a non-stop journey from my school in Boston, travelling across the city of Pittsburgh to see family and eventually settling in at the Father John and Presvytera Becky's house. I felt prepared from my past experience and my history with the parish, but still there was so much that was new, and I was nervous.

### The Holy Trinity Family

I was greeted by smiles and warmth. Every time I would

introduce myself to someone, they would immediately smile

with recognition, whether because of family connection or familiarity with the position I was hired for. Nobody hesitated to welcome me into the parish family, and that experience did not stop at any point during Holy Week. In addition, my mother made the hour-long drive both ways, twice a day, to come to as many services as she could, and my father often joined her. I am not officially a child of Holy Trinity, but in a sense I am a nephew, and I very much felt at home

being there.

### A Preview of the Priesthood

Between the services, Fr. John brought me along to shadow him for his pastoral visits, giving me experience that cannot be matched by anything I do in a classroom at Holy Cross. I got a chance to gain more comfort with home and hospital visits, while asking any questions I could think of during our car rides. The experience gave me something invaluable that will inform the rest of my time in seminary: the closest thing I have ever experienced to a real sense of what the life of a priest looks like.

I left to come back to Boston with an offer and an assignment from Fr. John. He gave me the opportunity to come back next year, and told me I had one month to accept the position or find another good candidate. Again, I told him I would think about it, but it was not

a difficult decision. I look forward to spending Holy Week and Pascha with you again in 2020!

Paul Murray

2019 Holy Trinity "Seminarian-in-Residence"







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## The Heavens Open in the Liturgy

We have seen the heavens open in the Liturgy. We have seen the good things of the kingdom of heaven. We have received our dowry, the Holy Spirit. We have learnt that he whom we seek can be ours to embrace, that our sinful souls can take hold of him in church. Each time we come, let it be in order to take hold of Christ, and pull him mystically and invisibly within ourselves. And when we leave, let it be with souls rejoicing, and let us “entrust our souls, and deliver our life to him.” Let us entrust our souls to Christ, whom we have seen, and let us dedicate our life to him, and “let us set our hearts ablaze with the fire of his love.” Let us set our heart on fire with the flame of his love, with a fire which burns up within us everything that is rotten, and which will cleanse us in preparation for eternal life.

Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra  
“The Church at Prayer”

Scripture of the Month: “Holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.” (Ps. 93.5)