



Church Bulletin

Holy Trinity Cathedral

Sunday, February 11th, 2018 - Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)

This Morning's Readings

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

The Gospel according to Matthew 25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

This Morning's Hymns

Let all things above in heaven rejoice and let all things below on earth be glad with all the might and strength of His arm an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet he has tramples down death by death, and first born of the dead has he become. From the depths of Hades has He delivered us and to all the world has granted his great redeeming mercy.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Most blessed are You, O Christ our God, Who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon them, made the fishermen wise and through them, illumined the world and to You the Universe was ever drawn. O Lord, glory to you.

Εὐλογητός εἶ Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

O God, when You come upon the earth in glory, the whole world will tremble. A river of fire will bring all before Your Judgment Seat and the books will be opened, and everything in secret will become public. At that time, deliver me from the fire which never dies, and enable me to stand by Your right hand, O Judge most just.

Ὅταν ἔλθῃς ὁ Θεός, ἐπὶ γῆς μετὰ δόξης, καὶ τρέμωσι τὰ σύμπαντα, ποταμὸς δὲ τοῦ πυρὸς πρὸ τοῦ Βήματος ἔλκη, καὶ βιβλοὶ ἀνοίγωνται, καὶ τὰ κρυπτὰ δημοσιεύωνται, τότε ῥῦσαί με, ἐκ τοῦ πυρὸς τοῦ ἀσβέστου, καὶ ἀξίωσον, ἐκ δεξιῶν σου μὲ στήναι, Κριτὰ δικαιοσύνη.

WELCOME!

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church is reserved for those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Gifts by having arrived at a respectful time in the service, and having recently confessed and kept the appointed fasts. If you are not prepared to receive the Holy Gifts we invite you to instead receive the blessed bread from Fr. Apostolos at the conclusion of the liturgy.

Announcements

EPISTLE READER TODAY

Dan Valenzuela

MEATFARE SUNDAY LUNCHEON TODAY

After Divine Liturgy, come to the James. A Speros Community Center and enjoy a delicious lunch sponsored by the Parish Council. The menu includes pork loin dinner, rice, salad, and dessert provided by Philoptochos. The cost will be \$10 per plate. See you there!

PEORIA GREEKFEST

Support St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church *this* weekend during their 2018 Food & Dance Festival. Enjoy fresh authentic Greek food and pastries. Flyers including a 2-for-1 admission ticket will be available in the Narthex.

HTA OPEN HOUSE

Join us every Sunday in February from 11:30am to 12:30pm. HTA is the only Orthodox school in Arizona, licensed through the Arizona Department of Health Services and has exceptional teachers that specialize in early education. Small class sizes allow our educators to engage with each child individually allowing them to develop a love of learning and excel at their own pace. Meet the teachers and speak with the director. Registration is available! For more information visit us at HTAPHX.org or call 602-248-3881.

DESERT DIAMONDS FEBRUARY ACTIVITY

SAVE THE DATE! On Thursday, February 15th, The Holy Trinity Desert Diamonds senior parishioners and their guests are welcome to join us at 11:00am at Pita Jungle Uptown located at 5505 N. 7th Street in Phoenix, 85014. Please R.S.V.P. by Friday February 9th, by contacting Julie Karoutas, our new Social Director, at 623-313-8720 or by email at juliekaroutas@gmail.com. Last-minute deciders may be accommodated, so keep Julie's number handy!

BYZANTINE CHANT BEGINNERS' CLASSES

On March 3, 2018, beginners' classes in Byzantine Chant will begin its second year. Class begins at 11:00am and will go to 1:00pm *every other* Saturday morning. Students will learn Byzantine Musical Notation, the Eight Modes, and the most common hymns of Matins and Divine Liturgy. Students will also be expected to do "field work," entailing observation and participation at Sunday Matins. The goal of the classes will be to provide the area with a new generation of Cantors and to enhance our own fledgling Byzantine choir; therefore, membership should be limited to those who will actually be using their knowledge in a practical way.

If you would like to learn the art of chanting, and would like to serve the Church in this capacity, please contact Father Apostolos, Cantors George Duvall or Sam Herron, or call the cathedral office.

This Week at Holy Trinity Cathedral

Today Sunday 2/11 JUDGEMENT SUNDAY (MEATFARE)	8:00am -- Matins 9:30am -- Liturgy Meatfare Luncheon	1:00pm - Scopelianos Baptism Youth Choir Rehearsal after Sunday School
Wednesday 2/14	10:00am - Bible Study (CC Lounge)	5:00pm-7:00pm - Greek School 7:00pm - 8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm - OCF at ASU
Thursday 2/15		2:00pm - AHEPA Kitchen Use 6:00pm - AHEPA Awards Night (SH)
Friday 2/16		5:00pm - Mastorakos Wedding Set Up (CC) 6:00pm - Youth & Young Adult Paraklesis (Chapel)
Saturday 2/17 ST HARALAMBOS 2nd SATURDAY OF THE SOULS	8:00am -- Matins 9:00am -- Liturgy	4:30pm - Mastorakos Wedding & Reception (Cathedral/CC)
Sunday 2/18 FORGIVENESS SUNDAY (CHEESEFARE)	8:00am -- Matins 9:30am -- Liturgy	Youth Choir Rehearsal after Sunday School 7:00pm - Forgiveness Vespers

MEMORIALS TODAY

Ruth A. Hotis - 40 Days - Prosforo, wine & oil donated by Karla Delord and Family.

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Dina Anagnopoulos - Treasurer, Jim Manelis - Assistant Treasurer,
Andi Fourlis - Secretary, Charles DeMoss, Tony Nicoluzakis,
Socrates Papadopoulos, Angela Raup, Adam Venetis



Ορεκτικό *An appetizer before the main course*

Priorities

February 11th, 2018

The old adage about "not seeing the forest for the trees" refers, of course, to those who magnify a minor aspect of an issue over the whole and this saying first appeared in print in a 16th century collection of proverbs. As applicable in religious as in secular life, St. Paul refers to this tendency in the Epistle readings of this week and last when he writes; *"But food will not commend us to God, we are neither the worse if we do not eat nor better if we do eat."*

The context of this passage concerns whether or not one should or shouldn't eat the food sold in the markets of Corinth by the pagan cults. For St. Paul, the issue had everything to do with charity toward the "weaker brother" for whom such eating comprised a grave sin and virtually nothing to do with the food itself; *"Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble I will never eat meat again."*

Likewise, in last Sunday's Epistle reading he wrote; *"Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food but God will do away with both of them,"* turning on its head a well-known Gnostic recruiting slogan popular in Corinth at the time and reminding the faithful not to overlook the forest for the trees. As we near the beginning of Great Lent our hope for progress depends upon our embracing this vital lesson of keeping our eyes focused on the goal.

Our Lenten journey consists of prayer, alms-giving, and fasting... *in that order*. Yet for many today the fasting element predominates our Lenten experience to the virtual exclusion of the other two. Fasting is an *essential* tool in the spiritual life in helping us tame the beast within, the old man, who fights against the New Man being constantly born anew within us by the Holy Spirit. And inasmuch as the Orthodox view of salvation is psycho-somatic, the entire human person, body and soul, must be brought to a place of healing.

United with prayer, the discipline of fasting weakens the demands of our flesh sufficient to allow the spirit room to breath. But recall how again and again in the Gospels the phrase *"prayer and fasting"* appears. This connection is maintained throughout the year as Orthodox Christians fast on Wednesdays and Fridays *specifically to prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Christ*.

But make no mistake, the purpose of fasting as with every facet of our spiritual life is to know God! And the goal of Great Lent is to pass through "the Gates of Repentance" and walk "the Path of Salvation" and to cry out to a merciful God for healing and forgiveness. What a beautiful opportunity offered to us! May we keep our eyes fixed on the *"prize of our high calling in Jesus Christ"* and never miss the forest for the trees.

Fr. Apostolos