



Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Metropolis of Atlanta

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

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July 2017 Bulletin



A Message from Father Dean - The Church and Me

Before I was born, the Church was here, nurtured by the blood of the martyrs and with the tears of the faithful.

After I was born, the Church was here for my baptism, confirmation and first Holy Communion.

Growing up, the Church was again here, teaching me and caring for me with the love of a mother.

Later, leaving home, for all the world like a prodigal child, I found a home in the Church.

Marrying, I found a blessing in the Church.

Becoming a parent, I found a gift in the Church and an inheritance to leave my child.

In my hour of grief at the loss of a loved one, the Church was there to comfort me.

Looking back, I found family in the Church and I have hope in looking ahead and beyond life.

Wherever I have been, the Church has always been there. Looking back, I realize that if the Church was not always present for me, **it was because I had departed the Church.**

I may not always been there for the Church.....

but the Church has always been here for me.

Now is the time for each of us to make the commitment to always be there for the Church, by worshiping each Sunday ; by committing our whole life to Christ our God; by offering our time, talent and treasure. If you have departed from Christ and His Church, now is the time to come back, worship, thank Him for your many blessings, enjoy the abundant life now that He offers to us and finally, inherit the eternal life He has prepared for us.

Schedule of Services

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am July 2 with Fr Ezekiel

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am July 9 with Fr Ezekiel

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am July 16 with Fr Ezekiel

Saturday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am July 22 with Fr Dean

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am July 30 with Fr Ezekiel

Visitors

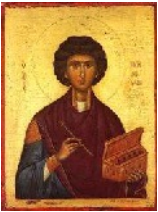
A warm welcome to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church!
We are glad to have you worship with us today.
Please join us for Fellowship Hour in our social hall after Liturgy.

Visitors & Sacraments

Everyone is welcome in the Orthodox Church & may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) at the end of the service, but only practicing Orthodox Christians may receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.



Kyriake the Great Martyr, July 7. . . Saint Kyriake was the daughter of Christian parents, Dorotheus and Eusebia. She was given her name because she was born on Sunday, the day of the Lord (in Greek, Kyriake). She contested in Nicomedia during the reign of Diocletian, in the year 300. After many bitter torments she was condemned to suffer beheading, but being granted time to pray first, she made her prayer and gave up her holy soul in peace.



The Great Martyr Panteleimon, July 27th . . . This Saint, who had Nicomedia as his homeland, was the son of Eustorgius and Eubula. His father was an idolater, but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the Faith of Christ by Saint Hermolaus (see July 26) and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful." On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. This also became the cause for the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honor among them, even as Saint George is among the Martyrs.

100th Year Birthday Celebration for Mary (Vathis) Pepps . . . Please join us as we celebrate our beloved mother, grandmother and now great grandmother, Mary Pepps, Fr. George Wilson's mother in law. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Chapel, 1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd., New Orleans, LA on Saturday July 29, 2017, 5:30 pm. Please no gifts. RSVP to Harriet at 504- 941-7681 (home) or 859-312-2795 (cell), or dedousis@juno.com (email) by July 15.

Happy Name Day in July . . .Kyraiki, July7, Marina, July 17, Elias, July 20 and Panteleimenon, July 27.

Fellowship Hour After Liturgy . . .Holy Trinity needs every parishioner to sign up and host a fellowship hour after Sunday Liturgy. Everyone should be proud to host a fellowship hour. Show your culinary creativity. Bring your favorite ethnic foods. Hosting a fellowship hour makes everyone more a part of the church community. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up to host fellowship, but we still need volunteers in the future.

July Birthdays . . . Happy Birthday! Many Years! Adriana Boloni July 4th, Marina Lucangeli July 5th, Chysanthi & Richard Beach July 6th, Korina Bodisch, Sophia Beddoe & Brandi Donohoe, July 8th, Stephen Collins July 10th, George Vaporis July 14th, Katarina Vamvakas July 18th, John Collins July 20th, Lisa Taylor July 25th, Stratos Mandas July 27th, Greg Wawryszcuk July 29th.



July Anniversaries . . . Happy Anniversary to George & Sheila Yurchak July 12, and Cristian & Meri Ionescu July 19. May God grant you many more years together.

Religious Education

Fr Dean and Fr Ezekiel will continue their weekly religious education classes after Sunday Coffee Hour. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

Religious Needs

Clergy are available for talk, confession, pastoral counseling, spiritual care, individual prayer, etc. Tours of our church can be arranged. If you want to set up an appointment, please contact George Yurchak – 228-831-5820 or georgeyurchak@yahoo.com.

Many thanks to all who helped and volunteered their time and effort at Holy Trinity. It is hard work but spiritually rewarding. It shows us how we can all come together as an Orthodox Family and grow spiritually by giving of ourselves.

Get Well . . . Prayers and blessings to Fr Jim Karagas, Karen Bridges, Elizabeth Vamvakas, Irene Stevens, Alan Koskan, Photine and Angelo Hagicostas, George Vaporis, Lela Roberts, Nikki Arnold, and Dorothy Porter. Fr Dean or Fr Ezekiel will conduct home visitations and give communion to those parishioners who are ill and can't be with us for Liturgy. Please contact a parish council member or the priest to make arrangements. If we missed someone please contact Nancy Malek at 228-265-1411. We want to pray as a community for those that may be too ill to be with us during church services.



Prayer Box. . . We have a prayer box in the Narthex. If there is anyone you wish a prayer said, place their name in the box, or contact Nancy Malek at 228-265-1411.

Ethnic Marketplace & Gift Corner

Please remember the Ethnic Marketplace and Gift Corner for your shopping needs. We have many ethnic items for sale. Included in the Marketplace are olive oil, halva, olives, jellies, pickled tomatoes, seaweed salad, candies, Greek cheeses and coffee, etc. In the Gift Corner we have Greek tablecloths and aprons, icons, bracelets, Greek coffeepot & coffee, jewelry, Greek CDs, incense and charcoal, Russian dolls, nesting dolls, lacquered Russian products, Russian kitchen supplies, Greek T-shirts, etc.

Prioritize Sunday as the Anchor of Your Family's Week

The Divine Liturgy is the primary worship service in the life of the Orthodox Church. It is where the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior is offered for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Simply put, attending the Divine Liturgy as a family should be a priority. The Lord's Day isn't merely the day we go to church – it is the primary day we become the Church – the people of God. (By George Tsongranis)

Prayer for the Military

Chaplain W. Basil Stroyen, USAF, wrote to Metropolitan Leonty during the Korean War, asking him for a prayer which would be appropriate for use the servicemen under his care. This prayer was sent to him. He had copies made for distribution and for pasting in the Divine Liturgy book, which was used at Services. It was recited by the congregation following the Services and used by many of the servicemen in their daily lives. Just two years ago a copy was sent to him a serviceman, who had kept it in his wallet since 1955.

(Source: The Orthodox Herald, May 2003)

Prayer for the Military

We thank Thee, O Lord our God for all the blessings which Thou givest us. Thou has kept us by Thy power in good health during the night and Thou has called us up from sleep, that we may enjoy the light of day and to marvel at

Thy Majesty. We entreat Thee, O Lord, grant that we may live this day without danger or sin, but full of Thy mercies and Thy divine care. Protect my family and the families of my fellow-servicemen from all evil. Enlighten the peoples who conquer and torture other nations; make them repent and seek peace, leaving other lands and their dwellers free. Open Thou the eyes of our mind to see Thy divine law and incline our hearts ever to do Thy commandments, to the glory of Thine all-holy Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

O Thou Loving Father of us all, Who are here and everywhere, let Thy blessing be upon my loved ones at home. Keep them in Thy gracious care, protect them by Thy power and make their hearts glad in the thought of Thy nearness. Help them and help me to feel that however separated we are by distance, in Thee we are close to each other.

Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE FOR 2017

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is grateful for every donation received throughout the year. Your generous support enables Holy Trinity to spread the teaching of Our Lord Jesus Christ, serve regular Divine Liturgies and Sacraments and provide spiritual nourishment to our faithful, their families and those in need. Your pledge of support is a sign of your heartfelt participation in the life of our parish family and it plays a vital role enabling us to meet our financial responsibilities.

We pray that everybody who attends Holy Trinity and cares for its financial security will make a pledge for 2017. If you haven't received a pledge form you can download it from www/holytrinitybiloxi.org website, under Stewardship or pick up a hard copy either at the candle counter or from any Parish Council member. You need to make a pledge as soon as possible. Pledge forms will be available at church. Please take a few minutes to fill out the pledge form and submit it to Craig Henderson (Stewardship Chairman), George Yurchak (President, Parish Council) or Rodney Bridges (Treasurer, Parish Council).

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH STEWARDS FOR 2017

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the 2017 Stewardship Program as of June 30. Holy Trinity has received pledges totaling \$23,620 from the following parishioners:

Chrisanthi Beach	Craig & Karen Henderson	Tom & Pat Portaritis
Mike Bodisch	Cristian & Meri Ionescu	Nancy & Carl Malek
Rodney & Karen Bridges	Mihail Kastrinos	Melissa Schwartz
Steve & CoCo Collins	Karen Komenko	Angelos & Elizabeth Vamvakas
George Contas	Chrisie Soula Kiessling	Akaterina Vamvakas
John Demetrakopoulos	Karen Kohl	George Vaporis
Hugh & Brandi Donohoe	John & Cornelia Koniditsiotis	Eleni Vganges
Julia Foskey	Irene & Alan Koskan	Spiro Vganges
Norman Foskey	Al & Kathy Lawson	Demitrios Virvilis
Virginia Freeman	Eva Magiros	George & Sheila Yurchak
Stamatina Giallourakis	Shelby McCloud	
Angelo & Photine Hagicostas	Nataliya Petrovska	

Church Directory

Liturgical Services

Sundays – Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Church Clergy

Rev. Fr. Dean Gigicos

Rev. Fr. Ezekiel Vieages

Chanters – Angelos Vamvakas, Rodney Bridges,
Hugh Donohoe, Luke Pappas, Ryan
Waldrop, Haylie Waldrop

2017 Parish Council

President – George Yurchak

Vice President – Craig Henderson

Treasurer – Rodney Bridges

Secretary – Jerry Strickland

Member – Cristian Ionescu

Librarian

Hugh Donohoe, Brandi Donohoe

Historian

Brandi Donohoe, Akaterina Vamvakas

Maintenance and Repair

Chair – Craig Henderson

50th Anniversary Celebration

Commemorative Album - Brandi Donohoe

Youth Education & Culture Committee

Chair – George Yurchak

Greek Culture

Chair – George Yurchak

Ukrainian Culture

Chair – Nataliya Petrovska

Romanian Culture

Chair – Meri Ionescu

Georgian Culture

Chair – Medea Ghurtskaia

Moldovan Culture

Chair – Alexandru Tulburi

Russian Culture

Chair – Anna Slepova

Kazakhstan Culture

Chair - Natalya Gray

Belarousian Culture

Chair – Darya Borst

Parish Ministries

Youth Ministries – George Yurchak

Youth Group Chair – Joseph Lawson,
Korina Bodisch

Feed the Hungry Chair – Jerry Strickland,
Virginia Freeman

Sunday School – Akaterina Vamvakas

Ladies of the Agape Chair – Nancy Malek

Stewardship Chair – Craig Henderson

Reader – Rodney Bridges, John Collins

Adult Education – George Yurchak

Prayer/Study Group – Nancy Malek

Parish Ministries cont'd

Outreach – Karen Weinberg,

Akaterina Vamvakas

Technology – Karen Kohl, Spiro Vganges

Web Master – Steve Collins

Pastoral Assistant – Craig Henderson,

Caleb Bridges

Altar Boys – Joseph Lawson

Parish Ministries

Society of Wisdom – George Vaporis
Strategic Planning – Chair, CoCo Collins

Staff

Kiosk – George Yurchak
Office Administrator – Sheila Yurchak,
Karen Henderson
Publications Editor – Sheila Yurchak
Cleaning – Chrisanthi Beach, Fanoula
Christidis, Virginia Freeman, Akaterina
Vamvakas,