



Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Metropolis of Atlanta
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
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June Bulletin 2019
Christ is Risen!



From Fr. Dean

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire resting upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...”. (Acts 2:1-4)

The Holy Spirit that Christ promised to his disciples came on the day of Pentecost in the form of tongues of fire and enabled these simple and uneducated fishermen to speak in all the languages known to mankind and to preach the Good News of the Risen Christ. This was possible by what we call “grace”.

Grace is given to us through the sacraments of the Church.

Grace is how bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

Grace is a quality of the Holy Spirit which completes what is lacking in each one of us.

Grace of the Holy Spirit enables sinful people to be cleansed of sin in confession and enables a man and a woman to be consecrated as a family when they get married.

Because we have been blessed with this grace, we, the ordinary people are empowered and expected to do extraordinary things. We are “Temples of the Holy Spirit.” God’s Spirit dwells in us (Romans 8, Galatians 5, Ephesians 2-3). We received “the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit” in the sacrament of Holy Chrismation.

Every Divine Liturgy is like a little Pentecost, because we receive the Holy Spirit at the time of the consecration when the priest asks God to “send down Your Holy Spirit up US and upon the gifts here presented.”

On Pentecost Sunday which is celebrated on June 16th this year, we will participate in a special service, the Great Vespers of Pentecost during which we will offer three prayers as we kneel.

1st Prayer Repentance...the first condition for entering the Kingdom of God

2nd Prayer Ask the Holy Spirit to help us, to teach us to pray and to follow the true path during our earthly existence.

3rd Prayer We remember all those who have completed their earthly journey, but are united with us in God’s eternal love.

Pentecost is the Feastday/Nameday of our parish.

Let us all honor our parish with our attendance and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Schedule of Services for June

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am June 2 with Fr Dean
Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am June 9 with Fr Dean
Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am June 16 with Fr Dean
Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am June 23 with Fr Dean
Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 pm June 30 with Fr Ernesto

Visitors

*A warm welcome to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.
We are glad to have you worship with us today.
While Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians,
we invite those who are not Orthodox Christians to
remain until the end of the worship service,
and receive a blessing from our Lord Jesus Christ,
through the offering of the Blessed Bread.*

Please remember to allow our handicapped parishioners, then children to receive Communion first.

Please join us for Fellowship Hour in our Social Hall after Liturgy.

Church Yard Sale June 7 & 8 . . . Ladies of the Agape will host our annual yard sale on Saturday June 9 from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. Friday, June 7, 9:00 am til... will be used to set up and price all items. It is important that volunteers come on Friday to help with the set up and pricing of the items, and for volunteers to help on Saturday also. Point of contact is Nancy Malek 228-265-1411 or Meri Ionescu 228-547-0686.

Father's Day – June 16 . . . To all dads a Happy Fathers Day. There is no one like a father to care so completely, give so quietly, teach so gently, and love so much. Look at the adoration in your sons and daughters eyes when they look at you. Look at the shine in their eyes when they see you on the sidelines at their sporting events, knowing you're there, you care about them to give your time, cheering them on. You're that special dad, so keep up the loving, gentleness, kindness and guidance that your children so need and want. There will be a special luncheon to honor all fathers in our church and the most senior and youngest fathers will be recognized.

Happy Name Day in June . . . Peter and Paul - June 29th, we will celebrate those of you who have this name day.

June Birthdays . . . Happy June Birthdays to: Maria Vamvakas – June 3, Joe Lawson – June 4, Karen Komenko & Julia Foskey - June 8, Pat Portaritis - June 14, Marc Beddoe - June 16, John David Burkart - June 21, Paul Ionescu - June 29.

June Anniversaries . . . Happy Anniversary to Marina and Antonio Lucangeli, and Natalie Petrovska Kirby and Joe Kirkby, all on June 8.

Parish General Assembly Meeting, June 23 . . . There will be a Parish General Assembly Meeting scheduled for Sunday June 17 following Divine Liturgy. Financial reports will be provided. Stewardship will be discussed. We will discuss our 2019 goals, where we plan to go in 2019 and other new business. Please plan to be there for this very enlightening meeting. You will need to have filled out your stewardship pledge and be current through the end of May to vote.

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 – 228-860-3376 or georgeyurchak@yahoo.com.

Church Thanks . . . Many thanks to all who helped and volunteered their time and effort throughout the month of May. It was 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 & Jesse Bridges, Lela & Mitch Roberts, Photine Hagicostas, Angelo Hagicostas, Virginia Freeman, Nancy Malek, Tom Portaritis, George Vaporis, Elizabeth and Katerina Vamvakas. Fr Dean 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.

Fellowship Hour After Liturgy . . . Holy Trinity invites every parishioner to host a fellowship hour after Sunday Liturgy. Show your culinary creativity or bring your favorite ethnic foods. Hosting a fellowship hour makes everyone more a part of the church community.

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)

STEWARDSHIP

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE FOR 2019

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 2019. 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 (Vice-President and Stewardship Chairman), George Yurchak (President, Parish Council), or Rodney Bridges (Treasurer, Parish Council).

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH STEWARDS FOR 2019

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the 2019 Stewardship Program as of May 31, totaling \$37,380. Holy Trinity has received fifty-seven pledges from the following:

Chrisanthi Beach
Stavroula Beach
Mike Bodisch
Caleb Bridges
Rodney & Karen Bridges
Robert Brouillette III
John & Donna Collins
Steve & CoCo Collins
Nicoletta Conner
George Contas
John Demetrakopoulos
Hugh & Brandi Donohoe
Virginia Freeman
Natalya Gray
Angelo & Photine Hagicostas
Craig & Karen Henderson

Cristian & Meri Ionescu
Mihaile Kastrinos
Chrisie Soula Kiessling
John & Cornelia Koniditsiotis
Irene Koskan
Al & Kathy Lawson
George & Christina Loukatos
Maria & Peter Loukatos
Rena Lohrbach
Stratos Mandas
Eva Magiros
Karl & Nancy Malek
Sam Markopulos
Charikleia Mavros
Louis & Linda Peters
Nataliya Petrovska Kirby

Tom & Pat Portaritis
Melissa Schwartz
Jerry Strickland
Malama Thrasivoulou
Angelos & Elizabeth Vamvakas
Katerina Vamvakas
George Vaporis
Eleni Vganges
Spiro Vganges
Kosta Vlahos
Demetri Vlahos
George & Sheila Yurchak

Church Directory

Liturgical Services

Sundays – Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Church Clergy

Rev. Fr. Dean Gigicos

Chanters – Lead, Angelos Vamvakas,
Rodney Bridges, Hugh Donohoe, Luke Pappas,
Haylie & Ryan Waldrop, CoCo Collins,
Akaterina Vamvakas

Facilities Chair – Craig Henderson, Cristian Ionescu

Youth Education & Culture Committee

Chair – George Yurchak

Greek Culture Chair – Maria Loukatos

Ukrainian Culture Chair – Nataliya Petrovska Kirby

Romanian Culture Chair – Meri Ionescu

Moldovan Culture Chair – Alexandru Tulburi

Russian Culture Chair – George Yurchak

Kazakhstan Culture Chair - Natalya Gray

Czech Republic Culture Chair – Helena Docherty

Staff

Kiosk – George Yurchak

Publications Editor – Sheila Yurchak

Artist in Residence – Sheila Hemenway

Cleaning – Chrisanthi Beach, Fanoula Christidis,
Virginia Freeman, Akaterina Vamvakas,

2019 Parish Council

President – George Yurchak

Vice President – Craig Henderson

Treasurer – Rodney Bridges

Alternate Treasurer – Donna Collins

Secretary – Brandi Donohoe

Librarian Hugh Donohoe, Brandi Donohoe

Historian Brandi Donohoe, Akaterina Vamvakas

Parish Ministries

Youth Ministries – George Yurchak

Youth Group Chair – Joseph Lawson, Korina Bodisch

Feed the Hungry – Jerry Strickland, Virginia Freeman, Nancy Malek

Sunday School – Akaterina Vamvakas

Ladies of the Agape Chair – Meri Ionescu

Stewardship Chair – Craig Henderson

Reader – Rodney Bridges, John Collins, CoCo Collins

Adult Education – George Yurchak

Prayer/Study Group – Nancy Malek

Outreach – Karen Komenko, Akaterina Vamvakas

Web Master – Steve Collins

Pastoral Assistant – Craig Henderson, Caleb Bridges

Altar Boys – Joseph Lawson

Society of Wisdom – George Vaporis

Strategic Planning – Chair, CoCo Collins

Greek Dance Instruction – Steve & CoCo Collins

Art Coordinator – Helena Docherty