

THE DOVE

September, 2009
Rev. Father Paul C. Bebis



Happy New Year!

On Tuesday, September 1st, 2009, Orthodox Christians begin the New Ecclesiastical Year. Our Church computes the start of the New Year not on January 1st, but September 1st, because it was the practice common in the lands in the Biblical times, especially in the areas surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. This practice was also based on the fact that the harvest of the summer season was completed, and the crops were collected and stored as the farmers were prepared to start a new agricultural cycle once again. Our Church has designated September 1st as a day of the beginning of a new cycle of spiritual life, a new life of ecclesiastical activities, a new opportunity for spiritual growth and experience. For this reason, many of the hymns which are used by the Church on September 1st declare that the New Year belongs to God, for he is giving it to us and we ask Him to bless it and to sanctify it. We ask God Almighty to bless the new Ecclesiastical Year with His blessings saying, "Bless, O Lord the Crown of the Year with Your Goodness." We ask the Lord to bless the New Year with His love, mercy, and grace. As we begin this New Year, we ask our parishioners to join us together with the activities and work of our parish and community. We pray that our parishioners will participate in the Liturgical Life of our Church, to attend our Sunday and weekday services. Now is the time to attend our Bible Studies and Book Club meetings, and to enroll your children for Sunday School. As most of us begin the New Year on January 1st with special New

Year's Resolutions, we should begin our New Ecclesiastical Year with resolutions that involve the building of a relationship with God and His Church, for He is the sustainer of the universe and the Creator of all. Now that the summer months are coming to an end, our vacations come to an end, and now we must begin the new Fall Season renewing our Spiritual lives and commitment to God, to our Church, and to our Faith.

During this New Ecclesiastical Cycle, the Church observes the "Nativity of the Virgin Mary" on September 8th, 2009. According to our Church Tradition, which was accepted by the Fathers of the Church, the parents of the Theotokos were two pious people who were Joachim and Anna. St. Anna had no children, but she prayed for a miraculous intervention of God for she prayed for a child and her prayers were answered. She gave birth to her daughter and she named her "Maria," or Mariam, a Hebrew name which means Lady, Mistress, and Princess. Accordingly, in the birth of the Virgin Mary, our Church visualizes the beginning of the salvation of the human race, because the Theotokos, (God Bearer) became the mother of Jesus Christ Himself, the Savior of the World. Today, we hope that God will answer your prayers and that He will intervene in your lives, for in order for this to happen, you need to make an effort to pray and attend Church. The prayers of Joachim and Anna were answered because they made a solid effort. Are your efforts just as solid?

Parish Council

President

Mr. Chris Rongos

Vice-President

Mr. Dimitri Gogos

Treasurer

Ms. Maria Katsis

Asst. Treasurer

Mr. Greg Doublas

Secretary

Mrs. Deanna Gountras

Asst. Secretary

Mrs. Soultana Myers

Council Members

Mr. George Gogos

Miss Antonia Printzos

Mr. Chris Ioannou

Mrs. Trish Poursanidis

Mr. Tony Zannis

Mr. George Raptis

**Ushers
for this month**

Sunday, Sept 6th
Dimitri Gogos
Chris Rongos

Sunday, Sept 13th
Trish Poursanidis
Soulтана Myers

Sunday, Sept 20th
George Gogos
Maria Katsis

Sunday, Sept 27th
Deanna Gountras
Toni Printzos

**Join our
Book Club**

Our next meeting will be
Wednesday,
September 30th, 2009
at Holy Trinity beginning
at 11:00AM.

We read books and
discuss them!

Happy New Year! (continued)

St. Paul said to the Galatians, "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me." As we begin our Ecclesiastical New Year, we are reminded to renew our faith in God, for we should ask ourselves, "does Christ live in me?"

Father Paul C. Bebis

**St. Thekla, Protomartyr and Equal to the Apostles** (First Century)

St. Thekla is one of the most famous women of the Orthodox Christian Church. She was also one of the first martyrs of the faith. (Protomartyr). Ancient manuscripts tell of her life which she dedicated to Christ. According to ancient manuscripts dating back to the first century, (Syrian and Greek), we learn that St. Thekla lived in Iconium (Asia Minor). According to the writings of St. Epiphanius, St. Thekla was converted by St. Paul during his preaching mission in Iconium. St. Thekla was 18 years old when she left her family and pagan friends to become a follower of Jesus Christ. She journeyed to many lands preaching the Word of God. Her

missionary efforts brought her great fame. St. Thekla quickly enraged the pagan ruler who submitted her to many inhuman tortures. The ancient writings tell us that although she was thrown to the wild beasts and cast into flames, she always emerged unharmed. The many difficulties she underwent for her perseverance in the Christian Faith are accounted by the Church as the equivalent of martyrdom. She died in a small monastery on Mount Calamon at the age of 90. After her death, she was given the high honor of being proclaimed as a saint and Isapostolos, (equal to the Apostles).

A Message from the President

Hello again. I hope everyone had a well rested, enjoyable summer. Fall has now fallen upon us! Holy Trinity is now in full gear and looking forward to a prosperous, productive year. Our organizations are beginning to start off the calendar year with a burst of energy! Starting with the Clergy-Laity Conference, October 7-11 in Detroit. I will have the pleasure of accompanying Father Paul this year. Anyone is welcome to attend the conference. Contact Father Paul for more details.

Sunday School, Greek School, Greek Dance

Programs and other groups will begin meeting soon. It is so great to see the large attendance at Sunday Liturgy, however, don't forget to bring your children for special events as well. I encourage everyone to participate in one of the many church groups and activities. You get to meet people and also give to God. You feel good about yourself and get the feeling of togetherness with other church members.

Lastly, our annual Greek Ball will take place on October 3rd at the Fort Wayne Marriott.

A Message from the President (continued)

If you have not purchased tickets or placed an advertisement, please see Zoe Zannis during coffee hour, or she can be reached at 260-338-1283. This is our second largest fundraiser after the festival. Please join us for this elegant affair and help support our blessed church.

Mark your calendars, October 25, 2009 has been confirmed for our community General Assembly. Lots of important information will be talked about that day. Please plan on attending.

- Chris Rongos, Parish President

Philoptochos News

"Kali archi! Our Philoptochos Meeting which took place September 1st, 2009 at our Church for it's the beginning of our New Ecclesiastical Philoptochos Year 2009, 2010. We are hoping that everyone had a wonderful and healthy summer and a return back home. May God Bless us to have a successful Philoptochos Year, to complete our duties and our philanthropic activities. On our first Philoptochos Meeting, 9/1/2009, we had the honor to be visited by Eleni Zaferes, the Philoptochos President of the Metropolis of Detroit. The meeting was very nice and successful. We had about 27 Philoptochos Ladies who attended. Mrs. Eleni Zaferes talked to us about Philoptochos matters, obligations, commitments, and philanthropic activities and duties. Her presentation was excellent, and her speech was very unique to draw our attention. All of us were happy to meet her and to express our thanks and appreciation for accepting our invitation to visit our Philoptochos Chapter of Fort Wayne, IN. We want to thank the

hostess, Fran Foster and the ladies for making sweets for this event. Also thanks to the ladies for cleaning and preparing the kitchen of our church to look neat and nice. Thanks again for the hard work. We are wishing good luck and God blessings to our new board and officer members for the Philoptochos year 2009-2011. Also, for the past Philoptochos officers, we express our thanks and appreciation for their service and dedication to the Philoptochos organization.

Our Fall Philoptochos Project is coming soon this year (Bake Sale). As you know we need lots of help to make this project possible and successful. Please volunteer your time from the heart and to do what we can to make it complete. The profit will be used for our Philanthropic activities and duties. Father Paul will announce the working dates on Sunday. Thanks again!"

- Elly Schmidt, Philoptochos President

Daughters of Penelope

The Annual Fall Bake Sale Orders are being accepted from September 3rd, 2009 through October 25th, 2009. Order Forms will be available during the Church Coffee

Hour. The next meeting of the Daughters of Penelope will be Thursday, September 10th, 2009 at 7:00PM at the Church.

Service of the Precious Cross

If anyone would like to donate the "Basil," Vasiliko," for the beautiful service of the Precious Cross on Monday, September 14th, 2009, please see Father Paul.

In addition, a "Special Collection Plate" will be passed on Sunday, September 13th, 2009 for the benefit of our Theological school, which celebrate its' name day on the day of the Precious Cross. Our seminary needs your support. Please be generous.



Orders are being accepted now until October 25, 2009 for the Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope bake sale.

Order forms can be obtained from Tony Printzos.

The ladies thank everyone for their help last year and hope to see many of you again this year.

We will be making Baklava on Oct. 5th & 6th, 2009 and Oct. 13th & 14th, 2009.

Liturgical Calendar**Tuesday, September 1st**

"The New Ecclesiastical New Year,"

Orthros, 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Sunday, September 6th

"The Remembrance of the Miracle of Archangel Michael,"

Orthros, 9:00AM

Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

Tuesday, September 8th

"The Nativity of the Theotokos,"

Orthros, 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Sunday, September 13th

"The Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross,"

Orthros, 9:00AM

Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

Monday, September 14th

"The Exaltation of the Precious Cross,"

Orthros, 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Wednesday, Sept 16th

"The Feast of St. Euphemia, the Great Martyr,"

Orthros, 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Sunday, September 20th

"The Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross,"

Orthros, 9:00AM

Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

Saturday, September 26th

"The Falling Asleep of St. John the Apostle and Theologian,"

Orthros, 8:30AM

Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM.

Sunday, September 27th

"The First Sunday of St. Luke,"

Orthros, 9:00AM and

Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

Why do we say "God Bless You"?

If someone sneezes or does something very good, we often hear someone say, "God Bless You!" This is a phrase that asks the Lord to protect you, keep you in good health, make you holy, and fill your life with good and happiness. It is the very best thing we can want for someone. Centuries ago, the causes of the diseases were not well known, but people knew that sneezing often came before illnesses that could be life threatening. So the immediate response was, "God Bless You!" (meaning "God protect you from sickness and death!"). Even as we become better at treating disease, isn't it still the best thing to ask God to keep us well? So we say

"God Bless You" to this very day. If someone does something nice for us, we ask God to reward him or her. We say to them, "God Bless You!" (meaning, "God reward you with His blessing in return for the good you have done!"). Whenever we use the phrase, "God Bless You," we are actually saying a very short prayer. The English Language used to be full of all sorts of prayers and blessings. Only a few have survived in our modern, post-Christian society- "God help you!" or "God help us!", "Please God," "God forbid!" and "God speed!" The last phrase is used to ask God to watch over someone who is traveling.

Άγιοι Βαρθολομαίος και Βαρνάβας

Ο Βαρθολομαίος ήταν από τους δώδεκα Απόστολους του Κυρίου και κήρυξε το Ευαγγέλιο στους Ινδούς στους οποίους και παρέδωσε το κατά Ματθαίο Ευαγγέλιο. Αλλά στην Ουρβανούπολη οι ειδωλολάτρες τον σταύρωσαν, και έτσι ένδοξα τελείωσε τη ζωή του με το μαρτύριο.

Ο Βαρνάβας ήταν Ιουδαίος Λευίτης, από την Κύπρο. Άλλα στα χρόνια των Αποστόλων κατοικούσε στην Ιερουσαλήμ. Βασικός συνεργάτης του Αποστόλου Παύλου ο Βαρνάβας, κήρυξε το Ευαγγέλιο του Χριστού στην Ιερουσαλήμ, στη Ρώμη, στην Αλεξάνδρεια και στη γενέτειρά του Κύπρο. Εκεί λιθοβολήθηκε από τους Ιουδαίους και τους ειδωλολάτρες, και στη συνέχεια τον έκαψαν. Ο Βαρνάβας υπήρξε μεγάλη και ένδοξη εκκλησιαστική φυσιογνωμία, που διακρίθηκε για τη φλογερή του πίστη και για την ικανότητα του στο κήρυγμα του θείου λόγου. Παλαιά παράδοση αναφέρει ότι ο Βαρνάβας ενταφιάσθηκε με το κατά Ματθαίον Ευαγγέλιον, το οποίο και είχε αντιγράψει με τα χέρια του και το οποίο προσπάθησε να κάνει γνωστό «πάσει τη κτίσει».

Και οι δυο Απόστολοι συνέβαλαν κατά τον καλύτερο τρόπο στην εκπλήρωση της

προφητείας του Κυρίου, ότι «εις πάντα τα έθνη δει πρώτον κηρυχθήναι το ευαγγέλιον». Δηλαδή, πρέπει σε όλα τα έθνη, σύμφωνα με το θείο σχέδιο να κηρυχθεί προηγουμένως το Ευαγγέλιο, για να είναι το κήρυγμα αυτό έλεγχος για εκείνους που δε θα πιστέψουν.

Απολυτίκιο

Ήχος γ'. Θείας πίστεως
Θεία όργανα, του Παρακλήτου, και εκφάντορες, του Θεού Λόγου, ανεδείχθητε
θεόπαι Απόστολοι, Βαρθολομαίε των
Δώδεκα σύσκηνε, και Βαρνάβα ως υιός
παρακλήσεως. Αλλά αιτήσασθε, Χριστόν
τον Θεόν πανεύφημοι, δωρήσασθαι ημίν το
μέγα έλεος.

Έτερο Απολυτίκιο

Ήχος γ'
Απόστολοι Άγιοι, πρεσβεύσατε τω ελεήμονι
Θεώ, ίνα πταισμάτων άφεσιν, παράσχη
ταις ψυχαίς ημών.

Κοντάκιο

Ήχος δ'. Επεφάνης σήμεραν
Ώφθης μέγας ήλιος τη Εκκλησία,
διδαγμάτων λάμψεις, και θαυμασιών
φοβερών, φωταγωγών τους τιμώντας σε,
Βαρθολομαίε Κυρίου Απόστολε.

GOYA Gossip

Greetings from GOYA! GOYA Soccer is finished for the older group. Unfortunately, we lost the rest of our games and our playoff game, but we had a lot of fun playing. We were very competitive and scored plenty of goals in each game. The younger group will start playing 6 Verses 6, outdoor cadet fever soccer at the Plex tentatively beginning Saturday, September 12th. The games will be played between 12:00Noon and 3:00PM. I will let everyone know the exact start times and dates. Remember, if you have any questions, the GOYA Email Account is fortwaynegoya@gmail.com. If you want to keep track of events, fundraisers, get information, see pictures and updates, visit the GOYA Face Book profile simply called FORT WAYNE GOYA. All GOYANS should add this page to their face book friends. If you would like to email GOYA about anything, please use the email address above or leave a message on Face Book.

The GOYA recently held a car wash fundraiser and raised \$239.00. We want to thank everyone who participated to make it a success.

The GOYA also has the following fundraisers on or scheduled: First, the GOYA will continue selling Coupon Books worth at least \$30.00 in savings on food purchased from McDonalds for only \$5.00 on Sundays after Church, look for our display table at the Church.

Over the next few weeks, we will be holding registrations for the 2009 GOYA Year. Look for signup sheets for all kids 6th grade to 12th grade, ages 12-18. If you have a child who will be turning 12 during the school year, they are welcome to join GOYA. GOYA Meetings will resume in September. Again, if anyone who has a youth who would like to join GOYA or if anyone would like to donate to the GOYA Fund, please contact me at 260-341-4458. Thank you.

- Frank Makridakis, Goya Advisor

Alter Boys for this month

Sunday, September 6th

"The Thessalonians," Co-Captains-Greg Kaplanis, and Pantelis Kaplanis, Triandaphillos Kaplanis, and Frank Makridakis.

Sunday, September 13th

"The Colossians," Co-Captains-William Fliotics, and Michael Fliotics, Alex Bond, and Nick Bond.

Sunday, September 20th

"The Ephesians," Captain-Jimmy Cox, Panagiotis Pliastos, Nick Gogos, and George Rongos.

Sunday, September 27th

"The Galatians," Captain-Yanni Boutaris, and Jimmy Cox, Bayden Lee, and Demetrios Lee.

Greek School 2009-2010

As you plan your children's activities for the school year, we encourage you to consider Greek School. Children who are multi lingual do well in other school subjects also.

Greek School Meets:

- Tuesdays from 6:00 -7:30 p.m. and **will start Tuesday September 29, 2009.**

Greek School Registration will take place on the following dates:

- Sunday, September 20 after liturgy
- Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the church hall.
- Sunday, September 27 after liturgy

Fees Due at time of Registration*:

- **\$60 per child** (not to exceed \$180) if parent(s) have completed a Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Stewardship Card and are in good standing.
- **\$70 per child** if parents are not stewards of the church.

*Please have full payment at time of registration. No exceptions.

We are also in need of another Greek School teacher this year. If anyone would like to volunteer their time to help pass on the language to our children, please see Maria Katsis.



St. Paul tells the Ephesians

"walk as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness, righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."



Sunday School Happenings

Christina McArdle is directing our Sunday School Program this year. We want to thank her for taking this responsibility. In addition, we would like to thank Stacy Raptis for doing a great job the last five years as Sunday School Director. May God Bless you!

Kristina Byzyka, Alexia Demitsas, Angela Ison, Maria Rios, Fran Gould, and Nikos Nakos. Our substitutes are Presvytera Terry Bebis, Jodi Gogos, Kristina Laughlin, and Stacy Raptis.

A registration form is included in the Dove. Please complete the form. There will be no registration fees this year, however, donations for books and supplies will be accepted. Registration will be on Sunday, September 6th, 2009, and September 13th, 2009 at the Church Hall during Coffee Hour. Our target date for the beginning of Sunday School will be Sunday, September 20th, 2009.

Greek Ball

For the first time ever, this year's event includes a silent auction. We would like your assistance in acquiring auction items as well as continuing to solicit additional ads for this year's

Advertisement Book. If you are interested in assisting in any way, please contact Zoe Zannis, Rea Fourgas or Chris Rongos. Don't forget to purchase your tickets and place your own Ads!

Silent Auction

Donating to the Silent Auction is an easy and great way to support the fundraising efforts for Holy Trinity. Contributions from our members and from local companies and organizations are both welcome and tax deductible. We need your donations to help make the Silent Auction a success!

Items should have a minimum value of US \$25.

What is a Silent Auction?

A silent auction is often used in charity events such as ours. Items are donated by companies and/or individuals. The items, or a reproduction, as well as a bidding sheet, are displayed for viewing. Bids are written on the bidding sheet, starting with the first (and lowest dollar value) bid at the top. Subsequent

bidders write bids for increasing dollar values. When the silent auction is closed, the individual with the highest bid "wins" the auction item for that price.

Recognition

For your donation, you will receive; a listing in the Silent Auction Catalog, distributed to every attendee acknowledgement on the auction bid sheets & a listing of your donation and name on the Holy Trinity website.

Popular Items to Donate

Vacation Getaways
 Books
 Electronics
 Themed Gift Baskets
 College Themed Baskets
 Autographed Sports Items
 Spa Treatments
 Jewelry
 Tickets to Social, Cultural or Athletic Events
 Hotel and Time-Share Stays
 Original Artwork
 Gift Certificates to Restaurants or Stores
 Exclusive, unique and personalized items are always favorites!
 Unique Services (Dancing Instruction, Music lessons, Cooking, Baking, Estate planning, Landscaping, Alterations, Computer repair, etc...)



Meeting Calendar

Tuesday, September 1st, 2009
"The Philoptochos Ladies Society,"
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Tuesday, September 8th, 2009
"The Fundraising Committee,"
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Tuesday, September 8th, 2009
"The Greek Ball,"
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Thursday, September 10th, 2009
"The Daughters of Penelope,"
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Tuesday, September 15th, 2009
"The Parish Council,"
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Sunday, September 27th, 2009
"GOYA"
following Divine Liturgy.

Wednesday, September 30th, 2009
"The Book Club,"
at Holy Trinity, 11:00AM.

Coffee Hour Scheduling

Please schedule your
Coffee Hour with Elly
Schmidt. If you would like
to speak to Elly, please
call her at 493-0719. We
have openings available.



FORBINGS FISH FRY FISH, TENDERLOIN, SIDES, & DESSERTS

HOLY TRINITY GREEK CHURCH

110 EAST WALLEN ROAD

489-0774

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH

4:30 - 8:00 PM

ADULTS \$8.00

CHILDREN 6-8 \$6.50

CHILDREN UNDER 5 - FREE



**Saturday, October 3, 2009
6:30 p.m.–Midnight
Fort Wayne Marriott Marquis Ballroom**

6:30 p.m. Cocktails and Silent Auction
7:30 p.m. Greek Dinner and Dancing

\$55 per person

Musical Entertainment by “Enigma” of Detroit
and a Special Performance by E MERAKLIDES Traditional Greek Dancers.

Ticket include Greek Hors D’oeuvres, Dinner & Dessert

The *adult only* evening will offer complimentary beer and wine.

A cash bar will be available for other alcoholic beverages.

Cocktail dress is the requested attire.

Don’t miss the opportunity to bid at the silent auction. Credit cards will be accepted.

Greek Dance lessons at \$10 per person offered September 21, from 7–8 p.m.

For tickets or advertising information, e-mail: FortWayneGreekBall@gmail.com
All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church