OUR GREATEST "ENEMY"

Have you ever heard the saying "Think before you speak?" Unfortunately, most of us have great difficulty in following this wise advice. How often do we find ourselves regretting the harmful and, sometimes, hateful things we say to one another. If only we could control our tongue!

If we read the Letter of St. James in the New Testament, we see that the tongue has long been mankind's greatest "enemy." Listen to the words of this saintly Apostle concerning this: *"THE TONGUE IS A SMALL PART OF THE BODY, BUT IT MAKES GREAT BOASTS. CONSIDER HOW A GREAT FOREST IS SET ON FIRE BY A SMALL SPARK. THE TONGUE IS ALSO A FIRE -- A WORLD OF EVIL AMONG THE PARTS OF THE BODY. WITH THE TONGUE WE PRAISE OUR LORD AND FATHER, AND WITH IT WE CURSE MEN, WHO HAVE BEEN MADE IN GOD'S LIKENESS. OUT OF THE SAME MOUTH COMES PRAISE AND CURSING. MY BROTHERS, THIS SHOULD NOT BE!"* (James 3:5-10)

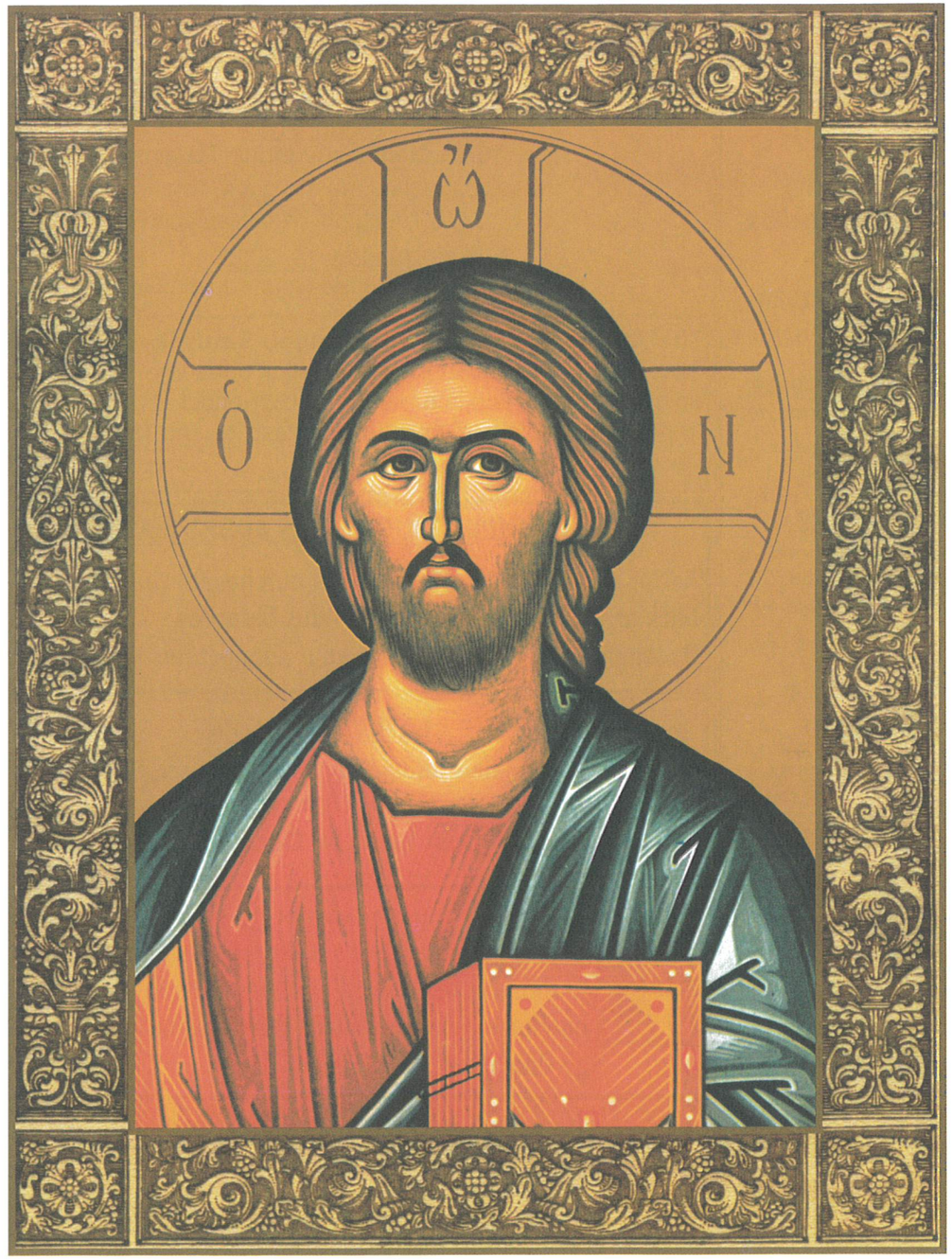
It should be frightening for us to realize that one day we will be asked to account for every unkind word we have ever uttered. Rest assured, many of us will undoubtedly be rendered speechless on the day of judgment.

Yes, "taming our tongue" should be a priority for all of us. If we can control what we say, we will, likewise, be able to control what we do. When the Apostle Peter was emphatically denying Christ, he was told: "YOUR SPEECH BETRAYS YOU." Remember that the words we say reveal to the world exactly who we are.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

Matthew 12:36-37

But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.



METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

December 1, 2024

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Halkias
Parish Priest
Home: 330-956-9039
Email: frnick@htgoc.net

Deacon Michael El-Bardawil
Cell: 330-209-7235

Dan Speece
Parish Council President
Cell: 240-483-6930
Email:djspeece@aol.com

Office: 330-494-8770
office@htgoc.net
www.htgoc.net

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
(Closed noon-1pm for lunch)

Sunday Services
Orthros 8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Orthros Liturgy

Epistle
Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel
Luke 18:35-43

Attendance
11/24/24
172

Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine

Given by Peter Christ
In Loving Memory of Gust & Sadie Christ

Upcoming Memorials

December 15
10-Yr. Memorial - Sophie Pergins

January 12, 2025
3-Yr. Trisagion - Aris Kaplanis

January 19, 2025
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Justin Gesquiere

The AGAPE Bookstore will be open Saturday, December 7th from 9AM-12 Noon. Stop by and check out some unique gifts and join in breakfast with friends! Remember to pick up your Holiday Pastries and Tsoureki Bread on December 7th too!

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS ADOPT A FAMILY

Adopt-A-Family new gifts must be purchased, wrapped and back at the church no later than this Saturday, December 7th! Thank you for your support this year!



LAYERS OF HOPE

We are collecting new and gently used coats for all ages for the holidays. The collection box is in the hallway under the coat racks. **Coats must be in by December 15, 2024.**





The mitten tree is ready for **new** hats, scarves, and gloves to be handed out through Community Christmas to those in need this Christmas Season! Please purchase items and place the items on our Mitten Tree by **December 15, 2024.**

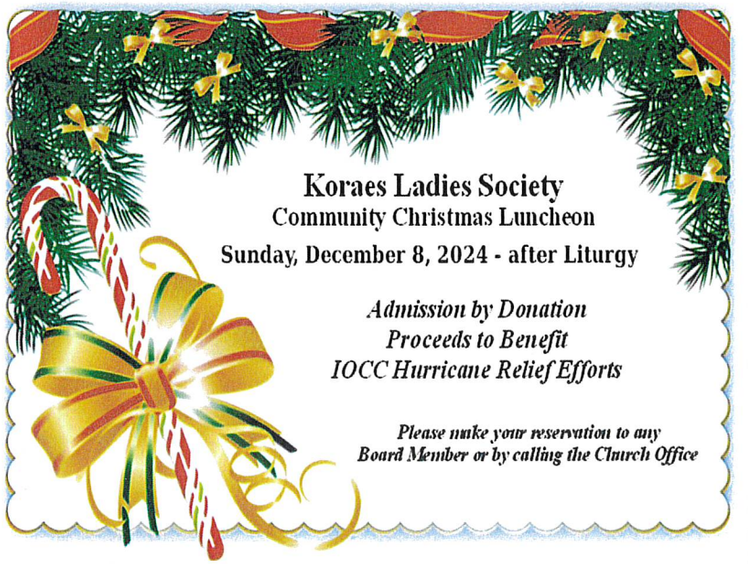
FOOD PANTRY HOLIDAY HELP!

During this holiday season, please consider a donation (monetary or non-perishable goods) to the Food Pantry to help those less fortunate during the holiday season.



Tickets for Breakfast with Santa are on sale following liturgy and during this week in the Church Office. Adults $12.00; Children $10.00. Limited tickets will be available at the door. Doors open at 9:00 AM on Saturday!







Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to make a donation toward Christmas Poinsettias in someone's memory or honor, please complete the form below and return to the Church Office along with your donation. The Poinsettias will decorate our church throughout the Christmas Season. Please make check payable to.....

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Name: _____

In memory of: _____

_____

In honor of: _____

_____

Calendar for the Week

All Services are streaming online @ *www.htgoc.net/live*

Sunday, December 1
Chrismation - Andrew Welling
40-Day Memorial - Gust Neztek
40-Day Memorial - Sophie Londos
AHEPA Coffee Hour
Youth Decorating Trees
Sunday School Meeting 11:45 AM
Boys Basketball 6:00 PM

Monday, December 2
Girls Basketball 6:00 PM

Tuesday, December 3
Ladies Exercise Class 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 4
Bible Study 11:00 AM
Paraklesis 6:00 PM
Boys Basketball 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 5
St. Savas the Sanctified
Orthros & Liturgy 9:00 AM
At the Metropolis in Pittsburgh
Koraes Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Young Adult Basketball 7:30 PM

Friday, December 6
St. Nicholas
Orthros 8:30 AM
Liturgy 9:30 AM
Set Up for Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 7
Breakfast with Santa 9AM - noon
Bookstore Open 9AM - noon
Holiday Pastry Pick Up 9:00 AM
Tsoureki Bread Pick Up 9:00 AM

Sunday, December 8
Koraes Community Christmas Luncheon 11:30 AM
Boys Basketball 6:00 PM

NO CASH?
NO PROBLEM!
Scan code with smart phone to make a payment!
SCAN ME

Resurrectional Apolytikion.
Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

Apolytikion of Our Church
Mode pl. 4.

Blessed are You, O Christ our God; Who did show forth the fishermen to be all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. And through them You drew the world into Your net, O Friend of man, glory to You!

Kontakion.
Mode 3. *Automelon.*

On this day the Virgin * goes to the cave to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. * Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God.

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2
Psalm 27.9,1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.
Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

The Gospel According to Luke 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον.
Ἦχος πλ. β΄.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνῆμα σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἵστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν ᾅδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ᾽ αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωήν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ.
Ἦχος πλ. δ΄.

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

Κοντάκιον.
Ἦχος γ΄. *Αὐτόμελον.*

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 2:4-10

Προκείμενον. Ήχος πλ. β'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 27.9,1
Σῶσον, Κύριε τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.
Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράξομαι ὁ Θεός μου.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 2:4-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ θεός, πλούσιος ὢν ἐν ἐλέει, διὰ τὴν πολλὴν ἀγάπην αὐτοῦ ἣν ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς, καὶ ὄντας ἡμᾶς νεκροὺς τοῖς παραπτώμασιν συνεζωοποίησεν τῷ Χριστῷ - χάριτί ἐστε σεσωσμένοι - καὶ συνήγειρεν, καὶ συνεκάθισεν ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ· ἵνα ἐνδείξηται ἐν τοῖς αἰῶσιν τοῖς ἐπερχομένοις τὸν ὑπερβάλλοντα πλοῦτον τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ἐν χρηστότητι ἐφ᾽ ἡμᾶς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ· τῇ γὰρ χάριτί ἐστε σεσῳσμένοι διὰ τῆς πίστεως, καὶ τοῦτο οὐκ ἐξ ὑμῶν· θεοῦ τὸ δῶρον· οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων, ἵνα μή τις καυχήσηται. Αὐτοῦ γάρ ἐσμεν ποίημα, κτισθέντες ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ ἐπὶ ἔργοις ἀγαθοῖς, οἷς προητοίμασεν ὁ θεός, ἵνα ἐν αὐτοῖς περιπατήσωμεν.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 18:35-43 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, Ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ ἐγγίζειν αὐτὸν εἰς Ἰεριχὼ τυφλός τις ἐκάθητο παρὰ τὴν ὁδὸν προσαιτῶν· ἀκούσας δὲ ὄχλου διαπορευομένου ἐπυνθάνετο τί εἴη ταῦτα. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτῷ ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος παρέρχεται. καὶ ἐβόησε λέγων· Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ Δαυῒδ, ἐλέησόν με· καὶ οἱ προάγοντες ἐπετίμων αὐτῷ ἵνα σιωπήσῃ· αὐτὸς δὲ πολλῷ μᾶλλον ἔκραζεν· υἱὲ Δαυῒδ, ἐλέησόν με. σταθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ἀχθῆναι πρὸς αὐτόν. ἐγγίσαντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν λέγων· τί σοι θέλεις ποιήσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· Κύριε, ἵνα ἀναβλέψω. καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἀνάβλεψον· ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέ σε. καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνέβλεψε, καὶ ἠκολούθει αὐτῷ δοξάζων τὸν Θεόν· καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἰδὼν ἔδωκεν αἶνον τῷ Θεῷ.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Presents

"Away in a Manger"

Christmas Pageant - Performed by the Sunday School Students

Directed by Presbytera, AC Halkias

Tuesday, December 24th following 5:00 PM Vespers

Join us for the Christmas story and songs!



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His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh
cordially invites you to the
Celebration of the Feast of



Saint Savas
the Sanctified

Thursday December 5th

9:00-11:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
followed by a Reception to 2:00 p.m.
Metropolis of Pittsburgh
5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Refreshments served.
R.S.V.P. by Dec 1st to Louise Henry at
lhenry@pittsburgh.goarch.org / 412 621 5529

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