AN "ICON" IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Just like a picture, an icon can capture the essence of a moment with greater clarity than the written word. It can teach a story instantly. Today we turn our attention to the icon of the FEAST DAY OF THE ASCENSION. If we look at the Book of Acts 1:1-12, we see that the iconic depiction of the holy day carefully follows this scriptural account. The main focus of the icon is Christ Himself, Who was taken up into heaven as His Apostles watched. He is shown in such a way that it is impossible to determine whether He is LEAVING the earth or RETURNING to it. Angels appeared soon after He ascended, saying: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus Who was taken up from you into heaven will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

The Mother of God is also shown prominently in the Ascension icon. Church Tradition tells us that she was present for this joyous event, as well as for the Feast Day of Pentecost. While the Apostles seem to be perplexed by what they have just witnessed, the Theotokos wears an expression of peace on her face, fully comprehending the deep mysteries of her Son's Birth, Death, Resurrection and Ascension. Unlike the Apostles, she is not looking upward into the sky, but rather towards us in prayerful serenity. Note also that the Apostles are depicted without halos, a further symbol of their continued lack of understanding of the moment.

The icon of the Ascension certainly expresses the concept of Christ reigning over His Church. We, His followers, must embark on His Command to "go and teach all nations."

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

Matthew 28:19-20

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

June 1, 2025

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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
Acts
20:16-18, 28-36

Gospel
John
17:1-13

Attendance
5/25/25
166

Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine

Donated by the Koinoglou and Vellios Families
In Loving Memory of Christine Koinoglou & Vassiliki Vellios

Upcoming Memorials

June 15
Memorials & Coffee Hour - Mickey Kalaitsides (3 Yrs) and Spyro Kalaitsides (13 Yrs)

June 22
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Athena Pergins

June 29
40-Day Memorial & Coffee Hour - Dimitra Kefalas

2025 Ecclesiastical Award Recipients!

Woman of the Year
Annamarie Spondyl

Congratulations!

Man of the Year
Peter Pergins

Annamarie and Peter, along with our high school and college graduates, will be honored **next Sunday, June 8th at our Name Day Banquet.**

SOMETHING NEW

This Sunday, the first 3 rows of pews on the left side of the church will be roped off for our new Youth Sermon Dates.

TICKETS ON SALE TODAY FOLLOWING LITURGY TODAY!
ADVANCED TICKET SALES REQUESTED.
NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR. DEADLINE FOR SALES IS JUNE 3.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
4705 Fairhaven Ave NW Canton, OH 44709

108th Name Day/Ecclesiastical Awards Banquet
Sunday, June 8, 2025
Following the Divine Liturgy

$25 per person $10 Children (12 & Under)

No. 01



The Seniors Picnic Lunch will be held on **Tuesday, June 10 at 12:00 PM**. We will eat indoors! Fried Chicken from KFC is provided. *All are asked to bring a covered dish*: **A-L** bring a casserole, vegetable, rice, or baked beans and **M-Z** bring any salad choice. **All Seniors planning to attend must make your reservation by calling Karen Kotanides at 330-412-5504 by TOMORROW, Monday, June 2nd!** *Leave your name when calling!*

GRAPE LEAVES PICKING TIME

Dolmathes Grape leaves are needed! Please help in the collection of leaves for this year's festival. Leaves should be the size of your outstretched palm. Pick, wash and blanche them. Place in freezer bags and put in freezer at home or bring them to the church until the date we will make them. **We need at least 7000 leaves!** There are vines on the Church property to the right of our dumpster which may be a picking source, but watch the poison ivy. As always, thank you for all you do for our church!



The 2025 Festival Committee

Bakers and packers are needed for each of these dates. Please mark your calendars and join us to make a successful festival again this year!

Please note the REVISED SCHEDULE for this month:



Saturday, June 14 – Baklava
Thursday, June 19 – Koulourakia (Date Change)
Saturday, June 28 – Tsoureki

We will begin at 9:00 am on each of the baking dates. Please watch the bulletin and the bulletin board outside the Church Office for updates! Thank you!

The 2025 Festival Baking Committee

48th Annual Grecian Festival

July 16, 17, 18, & 19th, 2025

Please remember to send in your donation card and indicate when you are able to help with our festival!

Sign up for help with the Indoor Taverna will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office in a few weeks.

Patron Ads are now available for sponsorship of our festival. For questions, please contact Steve Lazarides at 330-806-6823 or slazarides0671@gmail.com.

Calendar for the Week

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

Sunday, June 1
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Betty Yaghooti
Food Pantry Coffee Hour
Dance Troupe 6:30 PM

Monday, June 2
Koraes Board Meeting 7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 3
Senior Board Meeting 11:00 AM
Ladies Exercise 6:00 PM

Wednesday, June 4
Bible Study 11:00 AM
Paraklesis 6:00 PM

Thursday, June 5
Byzantine Chant Class 6:00 PM
Young Adult Basketball 7:30 PM

Friday, June 6
No Scheduled Events

Saturday, June 7
Saturday of Souls
Orthros 8:30 AM
Liturgy 9:30 AM
Baptism - Ioannis Koufos 12:00 PM
Wedding 2:00 PM
Name Day Vespers 6:00 PM

Sunday, June 8
Pentecost Sunday
Ecclesiastical Awards
Name Day Banquet 11:30 AM
Dance Troupe 6:30 PM

Monday, June 9
Day of the Holy Spirit
Orthros 8:30 AM
Liturgy 9:30 AM

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 the Feast.
Mode 4.

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

For the Fathers.
Mode pl. 4.

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be 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 of the Feast.
Mode pl. 2. *Automelon.*

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, * and united things on earth with the things in heaven, * You were taken up thither in glory, O Christ our God, * going not away from any place, * but continuing inseparable, * and to them that love You crying out: * “I am with you, and there is, therefore, none against you.”

Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36

Prokeimenon. Mode 4

Daniel 3.26,27

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

The Gospel According to John 17:1-13

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made.

"I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

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.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς.
Ἦχος δ΄.

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος, βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ Λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Τῶν Πατέρων.
Ἦχος πλ. δ΄.

Ὑπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστῆρας ἐπὶ γῆς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι᾽ αὐτῶν πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν πίστιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὁδηγήσας· πολυεύσπλαγχνε, 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 τῆς Ἑορτῆς.
Ἦχος πλ. β΄. *Αὐτόμελον.*

Τὴν ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πληρώσας οἰκονομίαν, καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς ἑνώσας τοῖς οὐρανίοις, ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, οὐδαμόθεν χωριζόμενος, ἀλλὰ μένων ἀδιάστατος, καὶ βοῶν τοῖς ἀγαπῶσί σε· Ἐγώ εἰμι μεθ᾽ ὑμῶν, καὶ οὐδεὶς καθ᾽ ὑμῶν.

Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 20:16-18, 28-36

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ'

Δανιήλ 3.26-27

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς τῶν Πατέρων ἡμῶν.

Στίχ. Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἷς ἐποίησας ἡμῖν.

Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 20:16-18, 28-36 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκείναις, ἔκρινεν ὁ Παῦλος παραπλεῦσαι τὴν Ἔφεσον, ὅπως μὴ γένηται αὐτῷ χρονοτριβῆσαι ἐν τῇ Ἀσίᾳ· ἔσπευδεν γάρ, εἰ δυνατὸν ἦν αὐτῷ, τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς γενέσθαι εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. Ἀπὸ δὲ τῆς Μιλήτου πέμψας εἰς Ἔφεσον μετεκαλέσατο τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς ἐκκλησίας. Ὡς δὲ παρεγένοντο πρὸς αὐτόν, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, προσέχετε οὖν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ παντὶ τῷ ποιμνίῳ, ἐν ᾧ ὑμᾶς τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἔθετο ἐπισκόπους, ποιμαίνειν τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ κυρίου καὶ θεοῦ, ἣν περιεποιήσατο διὰ τοῦ ἰδίου αἵματος. Ἐγὼ γὰρ οἶδα τοῦτο, ὅτι εἰσελεύσονται μετὰ τὴν ἄφιξίν μου λύκοι βαρεῖς εἰς ὑμᾶς, μὴ φειδόμενοι τοῦ ποιμνίου· καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα, τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς ὀπίσω αὐτῶν. Διὸ γρηγορεῖτε, μνημονεύοντες ὅτι τριετίαν νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν οὐκ ἐπαυσάμην μετὰ δακρύων νουθετῶν ἕνα ἕκαστον. Καὶ τὰ νῦν παρατίθεμαι ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, τῷ θεῷ καὶ τῷ λόγῳ τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ, τῷ δυναμένῳ ἐποικοδομῆσαι, καὶ δοῦναι ὑμῖν κληρονομίαν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πᾶσιν. Ἀργυρίου ἢ χρυσίου ἢ ἱματισμοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐπεθύμησα. Αὐτοὶ γινώσκετε ὅτι ταῖς χρείαις μου καὶ τοῖς οὖσιν μετ᾽ ἐμοῦ ὑπηρέτησαν αἱ χεῖρες αὗται. Πάντα ὑπέδειξα ὑμῖν, ὅτι οὕτως κοπιῶντας δεῖ ἀντιλαμβάνεσθαι τῶν ἀσθενούντων, μνημονεύειν τε τῶν λόγων τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ, ὅτι αὐτὸς εἶπεν, Μακάριόν ἐστιν μᾶλλον διδόναι ἢ λαμβάνειν. Καὶ ταῦτα εἰπών, θεὶς τὰ γόνατα αὐτοῦ, σὺν πᾶσιν αὐτοῖς προσηύξατο.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 17:1-13 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ὁ Ἰησοῦς, καὶ ἐπῆρε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ εἶπε· πάτερ, ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα· δόξασόν σου τὸν υἱόν, ἵνα καὶ ὁ υἱός σου δοξάσῃ σε, καθὼς ἔδωκας αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πάσης σαρκός, ἵνα πᾶν ὃ δέδωκας αὐτῷ δώσῃ αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωή, ἵνα γινώσκωσί σε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ ὃν ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. ἐγώ σε ἐδόξασα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὸ ἔργον ἐτελείωσα ὃ δέδωκάς μοι ἵνα ποιήσω· καὶ νῦν δόξασόν με σύ, πάτερ, παρὰ σεαυτῷ τῇ δόξῃ ᾗ εἶχον πρὸ τοῦ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι παρὰ σοί. Ἐφανέρωσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου. σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασι. νῦν ἔγνωκαν ὅτι πάντα ὅσα δέδωκάς μοι παρὰ σοῦ ἐστιν· ὅτι τὰ ῥήματα ἃ δέδωκάς μοι δέδωκα αὐτοῖς, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλαβον, καὶ ἔγνωσαν ἀληθῶς ὅτι παρὰ σοῦ ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν ὅτι σύ με ἀπέστειλας. Ἐγὼ περὶ αὐτῶν ἐρωτῶ· οὐ περὶ τοῦ κόσμου ἐρωτῶ, ἀλλὰ περὶ ὧν δέδωκάς μοι, ὅτι σοί εἰσι, καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα σά ἐστι καὶ τὰ σὰ ἐμά, καὶ δεδόξασμαι ἐν αὐτοῖς. καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ οὗτοι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰσί, καὶ ἐγὼ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι. πάτερ ἅγιε, τήρησον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου ᾧ δέδωκάς μοι, ἵνα ὦσιν ἓν καθὼς ἡμεῖς. ὅτε ἤμην μετ᾽ αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐγὼ ἐτήρουν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου· οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐφύλαξα, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπώλετο εἰ μὴ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῇ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι, καὶ ταῦτα λαλῶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἵνα ἔχωσι τὴν χαρὰν τὴν ἐμὴν πεπληρωμένην ἐν αὐτοῖς.