SAINTHOOD IS WITHIN OUR GRASP!

Would you like to be a saint? "I would love to," we would say, "but it's impossible." All of us tend to view saints as being people with god-like characteristics and super-human spiritual qualities. In reality, EVERY ONE of God's saints was EXACTLY like us! They were "mere mortals" dealing with the same doubts, fears and temptations that we all must face as we travel down life's rugged road.

Throughout the centuries, countless individuals have distinguished themselves spiritually to such a degree that they will be forever remembered and eternally commemorated by the Church as "SAINTS." The Church, however, wisely realizes that there are scores of others, whose names are known but to God, who are equally deserving of recognition and praise. For this reason, our Church annually sets aside the Sunday after Pentecost and designates it as the SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS.

The liturgical readings prescribed for this Sunday are a written testimony of what some of the prerequisites for sainthood are. St. Paul speaks to the Hebrews about the inner strength and resolve that the saints possessed, which enabled them to endure ". . . trials of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment." Truly the sufferings of Christians continue to be the foundation of the Church to this present day! In today's Gospel lesson, our Lord reminds us that ". . . everyone who has left houses or brother's or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for My Name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life."

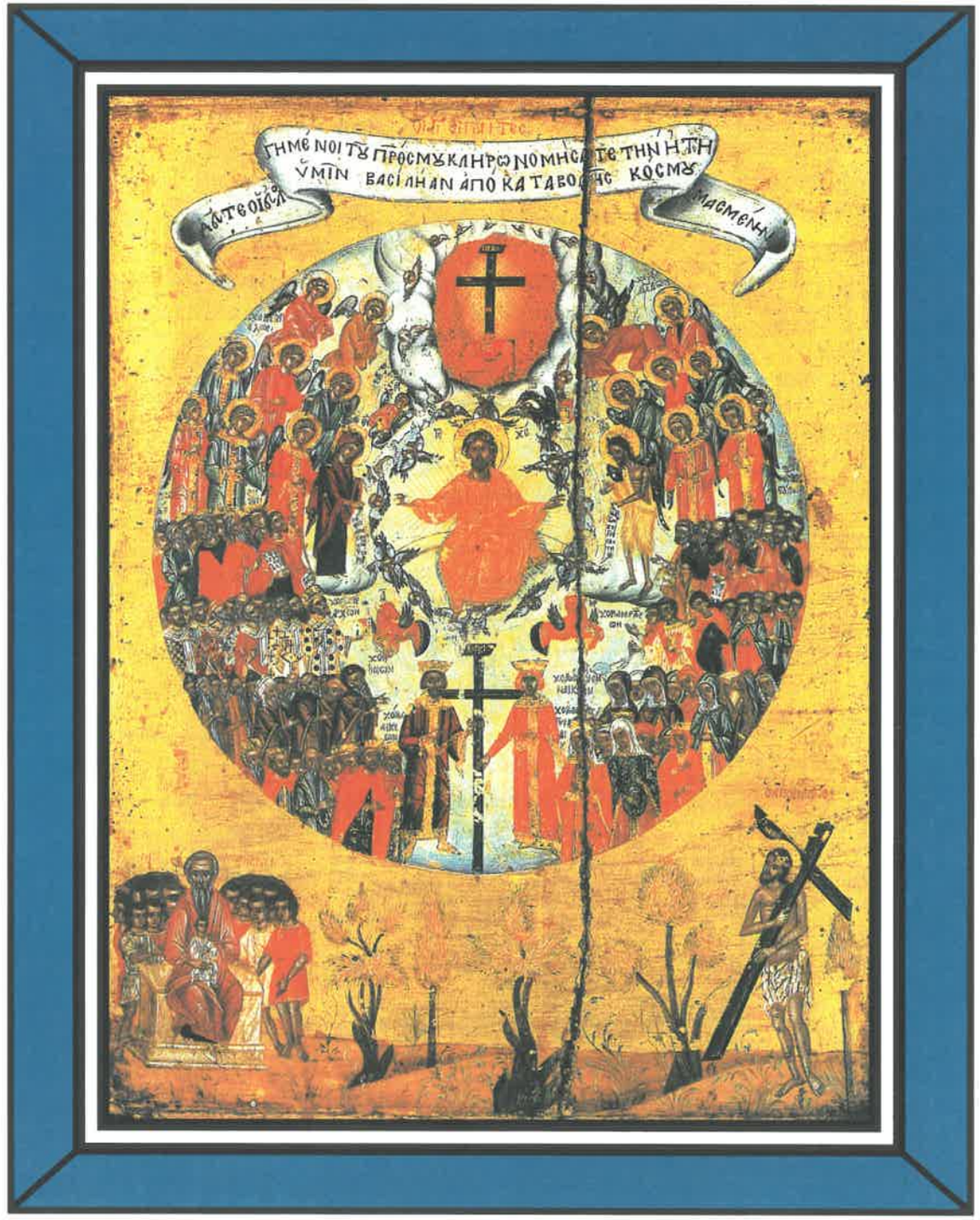
There, then, are our guidelines for achieving sainthood! All we have to do is be willing to sacrifice ALL for the sake of Christ, and be willing to remain faithful and loyal to Him AT ALL COST! Certainly, this is no simple matter, but it is far from being impossible.

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

Apolytikion of All Saints

Fourth Tone

Your Church, O Christ our God, clothed itself in the blood of Your martyrs from throughout the world, as though it were a robe of linen and purple; through them, she cries out to You, "Send down upon Your people compassion, grant peace to Your commonwealth, and to our souls, great mercy."



METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

June 15, 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
Hebrews
11:33-40; 12:1-2

Gospel
Matthew
10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

Attendance
6/8/25
220

Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine

Donated by Patricia Vargo
In Loving Memory of John Vargo (10 Yrs.)

Upcoming Memorials

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

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

July 6
10-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Katherine Zantopulos
10-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Lester Macris & Family

SPECIAL PROGRAM TODAY



New Members

Our Parish Council President, Dan Speece, is doing a program during the coffee hour this Sunday, recognizing our newest members via Chrismation and those who have transferred to Holy Trinity since Fr. Nick has arrived – 26 by our count! We'll also celebrate Father's Day. The plan is to briefly introduce the new member and their families, and there will be a "Fun Fact" for Dan to share with the audience, as a way to stimulate a conversation and to provide a little-known aspect of our newest members. The group includes our President Dan as Fr. Nick's first convert! Please join in the coffee hour to meet our newest members!

Have a wedding or bridal shower approaching?

We have the perfect gifts! Come check out our stunning icons, crosses, beautiful wedding crowns and cases.

And Father's Day is Sunday, June 15. Let's celebrate all the incredible fathers, grandfathers, uncles and Godfathers who fill our lives with love.



AGAPE BOOKSTORE & GIFTS





NOTICE: Bible Study will resume on July 30, 2025.



We are looking for volunteers to assist with the decorating of the indoor taverna and outdoor patio for our festival. This is your chance to get involved in the decorating of the tables for our festival and hopefully join this very important committee. Please contact Ellen Romeo at 330-495-3164. Please consider helping with this important aspect of our festival. Thank you!

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 for Tuesday, July 8** and need lots and lots of leaves to make this successful! Thank you! *The 2025 Festival Committee*

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

Please note the REVISED SCHEDULE for this month:



Thursday, June 19 – Koulourakia (Date Change)
Tuesday, June 24 - Pastitsio
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

YARD SIGNS are available for pick up following Liturgy TODAY! 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 **is now posted on the bulletin board** outside the Church Office. Please help and sign up for a spot! Call Sally Rath with any questions at 330-705-2663.

Patron Ads and Sponsorships are still available for 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 15
Happy Father's Day
Summer Camp Week 1
Churching - Jon Phillips
Memorials & Coffee Hour - Mickey Kalaitsides (3 Yrs) and Spyro Kalaitsides (13 Yrs)
Father's Day Special Program
Dance Troupe 6:30 PM

Monday, June 16
No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, June 17
Parish Council 6:00 PM
Ladies Exercise 6:00 PM

Wednesday, June 18
Food Pantry 1PM - 3PM

Thursday, June 19
Baking - Koulourakia 9:00 AM
Young Adult Basketball 7:30 PM

Friday, June 20
No Scheduled Events

Saturday, June 21
Wedding - Marisa Macrides 4:00 PM

Sunday, June 22
Summer Camp Week #2
Koraes General Assembly 11:30 AM
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Athena Pergins 11:30 AM
Dance Troupe 6:30 PM



Pastitsio Making - TUESDAY, June 24 - ALL ARE WELCOMED TO JOIN!

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

Resurrectional Apolytikion.
Mode pl. 4.

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You!

For the Saints.
Mode 4.

Your Church is arrayed in the holy blood of Your Martyrs who witnessed throughout the world, as though in purple and fine linen. Through them she cries to You, Christ our God, “Send down to Your people Your tender love, grant peace from above to Your commonwealth, and to our souls Your great mercy.”

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. 4. *Automelon.*

O Planter of creation, Lord, to You does the entire world bring as an offering the God-bearing martyr Saints, as being nature’s first fruits. At their earnest entreaties, keep Your Church in a state of profoundest peace, through the Theotokos, O Lord abundantly merciful.

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Prokeimenon. Mode 4
Psalm 67.35,26
God is wonderful among his saints.
Verse: Bless God in the congregations.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

The Gospel According to Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον.
Ἦχος πλ. δ΄.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατῆλθες ὁ Εὔσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Τῶν Ἁγίων.
Ἦχος δ΄.

Τῶν ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ Μαρτύρων σου, ὡς πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον τὰ αἵματα, ἡ Ἐκκλησία σου στολισαμένη, δι' αὐτῶν βοᾷ σοι· Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, τῷ λαῷ σου τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου κατάπεμψον, εἰρήνην τῇ πολιτείᾳ σου δώρησαι, καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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. δ΄. *Αὐτόμελον.*

Ὡς ἀπαρχὰς τῆς φύσεως, τῷ φυτουργῷ τῆς κτίσεως, ἡ οἰκουμένη προσφέρει σοι Κύριε, τοὺς θεοφόρους Μάρτυρας· ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις, ἐν εἰρήνῃ βαθείᾳ, τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν σου, διὰ τῆς Θεοτόκου συντήρησον, πολυέλεε

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 11:33-40, 12:1-2

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 67.35,26

Θαυμαστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἐν τοῖς Ἁγίοις αὐτοῦ.
Στίχ. Ἐν Ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεὸν.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 11:33-40, 12:1-2 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, οἱ Ἅγιοι πάντες διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων. Ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἕτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πεῖραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι - ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος - ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὀπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρεῖττόν τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν. Τοιγαροῦν καὶ ἡμεῖς, τοσοῦτον ἔχοντες περικείμενον ἡμῖν νέφος μαρτύρων, ὄγκον ἀποθέμενοι πάντα καὶ τὴν εὐπερίστατον ἁμαρτίαν, δι' ὑπομονῆς τρέχωμεν τὸν προκείμενον ἡμῖν ἀγῶνα, ἀφορῶντες εἰς τὸν τῆς πίστεως ἀρχηγὸν καὶ τελειωτὴν Ἰησοῦν.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Πᾶς οὖν ὅστις ὁμολογήσει ἐν ἐμοὶ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὁμολογήσω κἀγὼ ἐν αὐτῷ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρός μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς. ὅστις δ' ἂν ἀρνήσηταί με ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἀρνήσομαι αὐτὸν κἀγὼ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρός μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς. Ὁ φιλῶν πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ὁ φιλῶν υἱὸν ἢ θυγατέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ὃς οὐ λαμβάνει τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖ ὀπίσω μου, οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος. Τότε ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἰδοὺ ἡμεῖς ἀφήκαμεν πάντα καὶ ἠκολουθήσαμέν σοι· τί ἄρα ἔσται ἡμῖν; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὑμεῖς οἱ ἀκολουθήσαντές μοι, ἐν τῇ παλιγγενεσίᾳ, ὅταν καθίσῃ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ, καθίσεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐπὶ δώδεκα θρόνους κρίνοντες τὰς δώδεκα φυλὰς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ. καὶ πᾶς ὃς ἀφῆκεν οἰκίας ἢ ἀδελφοὺς ἢ ἀδελφὰς ἢ πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ἢ γυναῖκα ἢ τέκνα ἢ ἀγροὺς ἕνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός μου, ἑκατονταπλασίονα λήψεται καὶ ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσει. Πολλοὶ δὲ ἔσονται πρῶτοι ἔσχατοι καὶ ἔσχατοι πρῶτοι.