## HUMAN LIFE: DEFINED BY A SIMPLE DASH

I am sure that at one time or another, we have all walked through a cemetery and looked at the various tombstones and monuments there. They come in many shapes and sizes, and are of varying degree of cost. Yet they all have one thing in common: each stone will contain a name of someone who has departed this life and, in all likelihood, a date of birth and a date of death, often separated by a simple dash (1954-2025). Have you ever considered how important that small dash is? In essence, it represents the ENTIRETY OF A PERSON'S LIFE!

For many, life consists of living comfortably and enjoyably. It focuses solely on possessions and pleasures. We follow the terrible example of the rich fool in Christ's famous parable, who concerned himself with building bigger and better barns to store his goods, so that he could continue to "eat, drink and be merry." Yet in the end, as the saying goes: "You can't take it with you." When the Lord demands our very soul - when He passes judgment on us - what will really matter is how we've spent our "dash time."

The true challenge of life is that we never know how close we are to inserting that dash between the two most significant dates of our existence. Every day should be lived as if it were to be our last. Every day should find us taking advantage of the many opportunities placed before us to live in the manner our Lord expects us to live. When your eulogy is being read, how will your "dash" be remembered?

~:~ In Memory of Fr. Michael Rosco ~:~
Longtime writer of "The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin"

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

# James 4:14

...whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.



METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

# Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

**August 31, 2025**


*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**
**Hebrews**
**9:1-7**

**Gospel**
**Matthew**
**19:16-26**

**Attendance**
**8/24/25**
**130**

## *Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine*

Donated by the Amanatides and Forrest Families
In Loving Memory of Merle Amanatides

## *Upcoming Memorials*

September 7
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Fred Brumfield &
11 Yr. Memorial - George Simionides

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT!!

It's a Girl

Congratulations to Alison McLaughlin & Eric Allen on the birth of their daughter, Marina Elise Allen, born on August 1, 2025.
Proud grandparents, James & Yvonne McLaughlin!

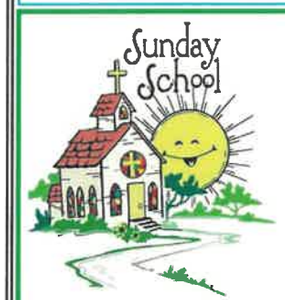
### 2025 Orthodox Build Habitat for Humanity® East Central Ohio



Join the 2025 Orthodox Build through Habitat for Humanity and build with the **Johnson Family**! The build is at **314 Tyler Ave SE, Canton, OH 44707**. There are numerous opportunities to help and assist with this build joining our Stark County Orthodox Churches! **Monetary donations are also needed for this build.** Scan the QR codes below for sign up dates and availability for volunteers on each date or visit the following for additional work dates for this build:

https://give.habitateco.org/campaigns/39786-2025-orthodox-build-open

Ready to volunteer? Scan to sign up!




**Mark Your Calendar...**
**Sunday School Starts**
**September 14th!**

We hope you are having a great break from class. But can't wait to see all the kids in September.

If you have any questions about Sunday school, please contact Kelly Antoniades at kellyantoniades@gmail.com or 330-704-4473.

***See you all in class soon!***






## ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ANNUAL RETREAT



**Saturday, November 15, 2025**

Retreat Theme: "Be Watchful – Be Sober: St. Paul's Wisdom for Spiritual Maturity"
Speaker: Fr. Barnabas Powell

## Orthodoxy 101 and 201 Classes



For anyone interested in taking our classes on Orthodoxy 101 or 201, please call the Church Office this week to be added to our rosters. **Classes begin THIS Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00 PM, following our evening service.** Classes are open to all and for anyone interested in learning more about our Orthodox Faith. ***Remember to sign up for refreshments on one week too!***

## Annual House Blessings



Father Nick begins his yearly House Blessings for all parishioners on **Tuesday, September 2**. All homes will be included on routes. Lists are on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Please contact the Church Office if the day you are scheduled has a conflict or if you are interested in riding along on a day to get your name on the ride along list!

Join us for our **first GOYA meeting of the year, Sunday, September 14th** immediately following Divine Liturgy. GOYA is open to all youth who are 12 years old and in 7th grade through high school. Please make plans to attend our first meeting to elect officers and plan events for the upcoming year. We look forward to seeing you!
Diana Kuty & DeeDee Amentas




K-2

The kickoff **HOPE meeting for 2025-2026 will be on Sunday, September 14** following Divine Liturgy. Children in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade are welcome to join. I look forward to seeing all of you!
MaryAnn Anastas Rundo



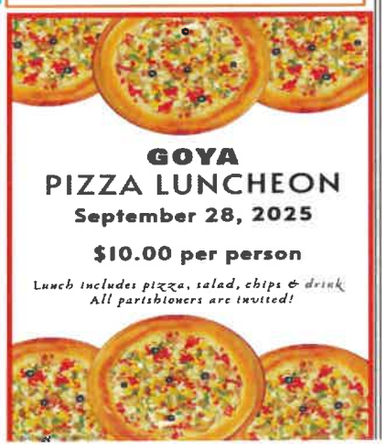
Sunday, October 12th following liturgy
Please support Sunday school's fall bake sale during coffee hour.




*Koraes Ladies Society Presents*

## A Tribute to Legends

Featuring Melanie, Michael & The MJB Orchestra with Special Guests!
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025
TICKETS $65.00
Call Betty (330) 705-5181
or
Annamarie (330) 209-8372
5:30 PM - Cocktail Hour
6:30 PM - Dinner
7:30 PM - Show followed by Silent Auction
Holy Trinity Cultural Center
4705 Fairhaven Avenue NW
Canton, OH 44709



## GOYA PIZZA LUNCHEON

**September 28, 2025**
**$10.00 per person**
*Lunch includes pizza, salad, chips & drink*
*All parishioners are invited!*

## *Calendar for the Week*

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

**Sunday, August 31**
Kitchen Closed - Rental
Parish Council Coffee Hour

**Monday, September 1**
***OFFICE CLOSED - Labor Day***
Doxology/Blessing of the Waters 9:00 AM

**Tuesday, September 2**
**House Blessings Day 1**
Ladies Exercise 6:00 PM

**Wednesday, September 3**
**House Blessings Day 2**
Paraklesis 6:00 PM
Orthodoxy 101/201 Classes 7:00 PM

**Thursday, September 4**
**House Blessings Day 3**
Koraes Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Young Adult Basketball 7:30 PM

**Friday, September 5**
**House Blessings Day 4**

**Saturday, September 6**
Nativity of the Theotokos
Pilgrimage Day In Saxonburg, PA
Liturgy 9:00 AM



With Lunch to Follow

**Sunday, September 7**
40-Day Churching 10:00 AM
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Fred Brumfield

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

**Resurrectional Apolytikion.**
**Mode 3.**

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

**For the Theotokos.**
**Mode pl. 4.**

Ever-virgin Theotokos, the shelter of mankind, you have given to your City as a protective wall the clothing and garment that you wore on your immaculate body. By your seedless childbirth, they have remained incorrupt. For in you both nature and time are made novel. Therefore we implore you, grant peace to your commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls.

**Apolytikion of the Parish 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 pl. 2. *The Theotokos is undying.***

The precious garment that you wore about your body * that hosted God, O all-blessed Theotokos, * truly is power unassailable * for your City and a treasure whose blessings are perpetual, * O only Ever-virgin who bore a child.

# St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:1-7

**Prokeimenon. Mode 3**
**Luke 1: 46-48**

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Verse: For he has regarded the humility of his servant.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:1-7

BRETHREN, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

# The Gospel According to Matthew 19:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον.**
**Ἦχος γ΄.**

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον· πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο· ἐκ κοιλίας ᾅδου ἐῤῥύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**Τῆς Θεοτόκου.**
**Ἦχος πλ. δ΄.**

Θεοτόκε ἀειπάρθενε, τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἡ σκέπη, Ἐσθῆτα καὶ Ζώνην τοῦ ἀχράντουσου σώματος, κραταιὰν τῇ πόλει σου περιβολὴν ἐδωρήσω, τῷ ἀσπόρῳ τόκῳ σου ἄφθαρτα διαμείναντα· ἐπὶ σοὶ γὰρ καὶ φύσις καινοτομεῖται καὶ χρόνος· διὸ δυσωποῦμέν σε, εἰρήνην τῇ οἰκουμένῃ δωρήσασθαι, 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.**
**Ἦχος πλ. β΄.** ***Τὴν ἐν πρεσβείαις.***

Τὴν θεοδόχον γαστέρα σου Θεοτόκε, περιλαβοῦσα ἡ Ζώνη σου ἡ τιμία, κράτος τῇ πόλει σου ἀπροσμάχητον, καὶ θησαυρὸς ὑπάρχει, τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἀνέκλειπτος, ἡ μόνη τεκοῦσα ἀειπάρθενος..

# Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 9:1-7

**Προκείμενον. Ἦχος γ'**
**Λουκάν 1:46-48**

Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχή μου τὸν Κύριον, καὶ ἠγαλλίασε τὸ πνεῦμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ Θεῷ τῷ σωτῆρί μου.
Στίχ. Ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ τὴν ταπείνωσιν τῆς δούλης αὐτοῦ.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 9:1-7 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, εἶχεν ἡ πρώτη σκηνὴ δικαιώματα λατρείας, τό τε ἅγιον κοσμικόν. Σκηνὴ γὰρ κατεσκευάσθη ἡ πρώτη, ἐν ᾗ ἥ τε λυχνία καὶ ἡ τράπεζα καὶ ἡ πρόθεσις τῶν ἄρτων, ἥτις λέγεται ἅγια. Μετὰ δὲ τὸ δεύτερον καταπέτασμα σκηνὴ ἡ λεγομένη ἅγια ἁγίων, χρυσοῦν ἔχουσα θυμιατήριον, καὶ τὴν κιβωτὸν τῆς διαθήκης περικεκαλυμμένην πάντοθεν χρυσίῳ, ἐν ᾗ στάμνος χρυσῆ ἔχουσα τὸ μάννα, καὶ ἡ ῥάβδος Ἀαρὼν ἡ βλαστήσασα, καὶ αἱ πλάκες τῆς διαθήκης· ὑπεράνω δὲ αὐτῆς Χερουβὶμ δόξης κατασκιάζοντα τὸ ἱλαστήριον· περὶ ὧν οὐκ ἔστιν νῦν λέγειν κατὰ μέρος. Τούτων δὲ οὕτως κατεσκευασμένων, εἰς μὲν τὴν πρώτην σκηνὴν διὰ παντὸς εἰσίασιν οἱ ἱερεῖς, τὰς λατρείας ἐπιτελοῦντες· εἰς δὲ τὴν δευτέραν ἅπαξ τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ μόνος ὁ ἀρχιερεύς, οὐ χωρὶς αἵματος, ὃ προσφέρει ὑπὲρ ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τῶν τοῦ λαοῦ ἀγνοημάτων·

# Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 19:16-26 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νεανίσκος τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, γονυπετῶν αὐτόν, καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε ἀγαθέ, τί ἀγαθὸν ποιήσω ἵνα ἔχω ζωὴν αἰώνιον; Ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τί με λέγεις ἀγαθόν; οὐδεὶς ἀγαθὸς εἰ μὴ εἷς ὁ Θεός. εἰ δὲ θέλεις εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ζωήν, τήρησον τὰς ἐντολάς. λέγει αὐτῷ· ποίας; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε· τὸ οὐ φονεύσεις, οὐ μοιχεύσεις, οὐ κλέψεις, οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις, τίμα τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα, καὶ ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ νεανίσκος· πάντα ταῦτα ἐφυλαξάμην ἐκ νεότητός μου· τί ἔτι ὑστερῶ; ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ θέλεις τέλειος εἶναι, ὕπαγε πώλησόν σου τὰ ὑπάρχοντα καὶ δὸς πτωχοῖς, καὶ ἕξεις θησαυρὸν ἐν οὐρανῷ, καὶ δεῦρο ἀκολούθει μοι. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ νεανίσκος τὸν λόγον ἀπῆλθε λυπούμενος· ἦν γὰρ ἔχων κτήματα πολλά. Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι δυσκόλως πλούσιος εἰσελεύσεται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν. πάλιν δὲ λέγω ὑμῖν, εὐκοπώτερόν ἐστι κάμηλον διὰ τρυπήματος ῥαφίδος διελθεῖν ἢ πλούσιον εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰσελθεῖν. ἀκούσαντες δὲ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐξεπλήσσοντο σφόδρα λέγοντες· τίς ἄρα δύναται σωθῆναι; ἐμβλέψας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· παρὰ ἀνθρώποις τοῦτο ἀδύνατόν ἐστι, παρὰ δὲ Θεῷ πάντα δυνατά ἐστι.