

The LAMPLIGHTER

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of Lansing

“Yea, Thou dost light my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness...” (Psalms 18:28)

Volume XLII

January 2009

Pastoral Reflection: The Sagacity of Hope

Fr. Mark Sietsema

I miss the *Weekly World News*. It was the one tabloid I could pick up in the checkout line and pass the time without feeling guilty. Why? It was all made up from start to finish and it didn't pretend to be otherwise. I didn't have to worry about falling into the sins of gossip or idle curiosity. (I hasten to point out that poor taste is sin only among Episcopalians.) The *Weekly World News* always gave me three minutes of guilt-free entertainment while the person ahead of me got rung up.

Those other tabloids? I never look at them! And I know that none of my parishioners do either!! In fact, I've never even seen anyone buy one. Funny how there are so many of them in business when there is no market for them ...

I was thinking of the tabloids recently—during church, in fact. Every Sunday before Christmas, the Gospel reading is from the first chapter of Matthew, the genealogy of Jesus Christ. It is a curious list of “who fathered whom.” Like other ancient genealogies, it is mostly a collection of boys' names. But Saint Matthew throws in an intriguing twist. Four times he mentions not only the father, but also the mother of the ancestor of

Christ: Tamar (v. 3), Rahab, Ruth (v. 5), and Bathsheba, “the wife of Uriah” (v. 6).

Why do these four women get special mention? Ask most preachers and you will get the *National Enquirer* angle on the story. These four women all play a role in Old Testament scandals. Tamar seduced her father-in-law (Genesis 38); Rahab was an inn-keeper who supplemented her income by offering hourly rates (James 2:25, Joshua 2); Ruth went looking for her second husband in the barnyard after dark (Ruth 3); and Bathsheba had an affair with King David (2 Samuel 11). People with prurient interests can save their money in the checkout line: the family Bible has all the juicy stories one could want.

Preachers point to this genealogy and say, “Matthew was teaching us that God can use even the worst sinners to accomplish His purposes, just as He used these sinful women to bring Christ into the world.” That may be true (although I take issue with the common expression that God “uses” people).

But I think the preachers get it wrong. I don't think these women are singled out for their vices.

I think they are mentioned because of one virtue they all shared in the end—*hope*. Tamar hoped for divine justice; Rahab hoped for divine mercy; Ruth hoped for divine providence; Bathsheba hoped for divine faithfulness in bringing forth a second child for David.

Hope is a uniquely Christian virtue. Most religions emphasize Faith, and even the non-religious speak about Love. But there is something about the person of Jesus Christ that inspires Hope—even centuries before His birth! It is only in and through the Church of the Old and New Covenants that Hope has come to be considered a cardinal virtue.

The ancient Greeks were not high on Hope. Remember Pandora's Box? (Actually a *pithos*, a "jar") At the bottom, under all the other evils for humankind was Hope ... which was meant to be the last and worst evil, since it kept humans alive to keep suffering the other curses from the jar. According to psychiatrist Karl Menninger, "Most of the great Greeks held that fate was unchangeable, so hope was an illusion and therefore evil. To Aeschylus it was 'the food of exiles,' and to Euripides, 'man's curse.' And 2,500 years later Nietzsche echoed: 'Hope is the worst of evils, for it prolongs the torment of man.'"

In the Christian sense, what is Hope? It is more than naive optimism. Optimism is often simply a blind sense that everything will be just fine. Optimism can be a form of laziness—not unlike the proverbial ostrich with his head in the sand. Rather than take the pains to cope with harsh reality, people retreat into cozy delusions of wishful thinking, neglecting to employ reason in the face of problems or express grief in the face of loss. Hope, by contrast, takes a clear-eyed look at the world and oneself, and yet chooses not to give in to despair.

Indeed, Hope is first and foremost a *choice*. Hope is not a feeling. Hope is not an emotion. Hope is:

- ✿ a decision to see the positives in negative circumstances,
- ✿ a decision to do the right thing when unrighteousness would be more profitable,
- ✿ a decision to press ahead in the midst of adversity,

- ✿ a decision to forgive in the face of hatred and resentment,
- ✿ a decision to accept the will of God in all things, good and bad.

Hope is not the product of audacity or imagination. Nor is it based on one's own strengths or character. Hope is not the irrational assertion that "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul." True Hope has its foundation in the nature of God. God is good. God is just. God is love. God is king, and He reigns forever. These truths are the basis for all genuine Hope.

Hope, moreover, seeks out and cherishes the promises of God: He will supply our needs, He rewards those who seek Him diligently, He shelters us in times of trouble, He never lets us be tempted beyond our power to resist. The Scriptures are chockfull of promises for God's children. These promises are the bricks with which we build a life of Hope.

The New Year 2009 will bring challenges such as few of us have ever faced before. Even the outlandish headlines of the *Weekly World News* may fall short of the reality that lies ahead. We cannot be Pollyannas about the year to come. No pair of rose-colored glasses is so tinted as to hide the economic, political, and moral problems that confront our nation and our world. But as God's people, redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, we can have Hope. We are those who embrace the counsel of the Apostle Paul (Romans 5:3-5):

"We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us."

Hope is not something we bring to times of suffering; it is something that develops in us through times of suffering. But it is always a choice that we must make.

Beloved brothers and sisters, choose Hope! And may God grant you a New Year that is Happy, Healthy, and full of Hope, for you and your loved ones all.

Parish Council

by Stella Economy

Happy New Year! Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2009!

The Parish Council strives to keep you informed on what is happening in and around the community as outlined below.

General Assembly

- ✿ The 2009 Budget was presented and approved as presented. Thank you to all who attended.
- ✿ The 2007 audit report was given by Francis Katsiris and Robert Stepanovich, and was approved as presented.
- ✿ The proposal to establish an Endowment at Holy Trinity was tabled for further discussion.
- ✿ A General Assembly was scheduled for February 1, 2009 to further discuss the Endowment Fund.

Parish Council Update

- ✿ The new year cannot begin without looking back and thanking all those who helped make 2008 a successful year at Holy Trinity. We appreciate and thank you all for the support given the Parish Council throughout the year through stewardship, attending dances and dinners and support of our fundraisers. Special thanks to Diana Voutsaras, our Lamplighter editor, who has done a beautiful job keeping us informed of parish events. Also, my thanks to the Parish Council and our officers, George Mansour, Elaine Christofilis, and Hiram Fitzgerald for all the extra time and effort they gave to the council.
- ✿ Our Labor Free Fundraiser was a success and we thank everyone who contributed. Although we were a bit short of our goal of \$10,000, we made great strides towards fulfilling our fundraising needs enabling us to meet our budget needs.
- ✿ We will be collecting food to support the Greater Lansing Food Bank thru January 11. Please bring canned food items which are complete meals that include meat such as chili, spaghetti, beef stew, etc. Canned fruit is also needed. Thank you in advance for supporting this project to provide food for the less fortunate in our Lansing community.

- ✿ The updating of the men's and women's bathrooms in the social wing has been completed. A new project to convert the present boy's bathroom in the Sunday School wing into a unisex Handicap/Family bathroom will begin soon. The bathroom will have a baby changing station and will be barrier free.
- ✿ Two informational meetings to answer questions on the Endowment Agreement document are scheduled for Wednesday, January 7 at 7 PM and Tuesday, January 27 at 7 PM. Plan on attending one of the two meetings if you have questions before the February 1st General Assembly.
- ✿ In true community spirit, the GOYA sponsored Christmas card was a community event. Due to snowy weather, Christmas caroling and the GOYA holiday party were canceled. The kids were to fold and stuff the cards at the party but instead asked parishioners during coffee hour to lend a hand. The only problem was that the envelopes were not at church. Thanks to some helpful elves: Helen and Maria Alexander, Dimitri and Emma Jane Gavrilis, Alexis Voutsaras and Angela Vlahakis the cards were stuffed and mailed in time for Christmas.

Mark Your Calendars

General Assembly-Sunday, February 1

Odyssey

by George Lafkas

Adult Odyssey Greek language classes will resume on Monday, January 12, 2009 and school age classes will begin on Friday, January 9, 2008, celebrating Vasilopita with Fr. Mark.

Upcoming Event:

Pizza and a Movie III fund raiser, Sunday, January 11, 2009, 6:00 PM.

Come and celebrate the New Year with your Holy Trinity family and support the Odyssey Program. See the enclosed flier for details. Contact George Lafkas at (517) 351-3121 to make your reservations. Remember seating is limited for the pizza part of the evening.

Philoptochos

by Mary Volakakis

Please, accept Philoptochos's gratitude and thanks for your generous support of our Christmas sponsorship of special projects. Guests at our annual Christmas party donated over a whopping \$400, half of which was donated to Haven House, the other half was divided equally between the Southside Kitchen and the Salvation Army. The party was a beautiful affair, chaired by Angela Vlahakis with Alexis Voutsaras as the chief chef. The Brown family provided a delightful musical program featuring traditional and beloved carols.

Parishioners donated \$140 at Philoptochos coffee on St. Spyridon's Day.

The next general meeting is scheduled for January 5th, and the topics under discussion are the Big B's – Budget and Bake Sale! We will be analyzing the '08 bake sale and thinking about the '09 which will be our 60th.

The cutting of the Vasilopita will be on January 11th

Looking ahead to some of the February events: Yvonne Evanoff Joseph will be our guest speaker at our February 2nd meeting; and Elan Stavros Nichols is chairing the Zorba Dance scheduled for Feb. 28th.

Lunch tickets for Interfaith Day are \$10 and can be obtained from Dee Vosovic. Tickets are limited due to space, so you may want to get your ticket early. The date is Tuesday, February 24, 2009, and the place is Shaarey Zedek Congregation. The theme is "Repairing the World". The Orthodox speaker will be our own Mary Brown.

Please keep an eye on the weekly Church Bulletin and the bulletin boards for late breaking news about Philoptochos's activities.

2009 dues are now \$25 and are payable January 1st.

Sponsorship of the Lamplighter

The January 2009 issue of The Lamplighter is sponsored by the Philoptochos Society (Friend to the Needy) in honor of its past and present members for their 65 years of dedicated service to the Church and to the community. Philoptochos acknowledges the generous support of its endeavors by the parish.

Each generation has carried on the work of the beautiful ladies who established this organization here at Holy Trinity in Lansing. At that time the world was at war, so the founding mothers had many challenges. In order to accomplish their charitable work they started baking Greek pastries to sell to fund their projects. Originally the bake sale covered two days. The ladies made their pastries at home, most of them rolling out the filo dough from scratch. Later the recipes were standardized and made in the church kitchen. The sale became a popular citywide event. The 2009 Bake Sale will be our 60th!

The cutting of the vasilopita was yet another tradition organized by Philoptochos. When Koula Pascalenos was president she sent the coin via mail to the Patriarch in Constantinople who sent a beautiful letter in reply.

Philoptochos is blessed to have a history rich with bountiful works, lovely traditions, good fellowship, and warm support from the parish.

Many Thanks...

Our community thanks the ladies of Philoptochos for the beautiful poinsettias which adorned the sanctuary this Christmas season. Chronia Polla!

“Our Father...”

by Nick Gavrilides

During the holiday season it is customary to give gifts to friends and family and offer support to the needy. The first article after the Nativity celebration and of the New Year will focus on a gift we (the extremely needy) have received from God: The Lord’s Prayer. Our God is a Living and personal God, who is at the same time unknowable yet approachable through prayer. Christ gives us these intimate words to help us cultivate a relationship where the unfamiliar God becomes familiar.

“Our Father...”

The prayer begins by addressing God the Father. With this invocation the prayer gives the Christian a dual perspective; “Father” as in creator of all things, and “Father” because we have gained adoption through baptism in Jesus Christ. It is also important to touch on the word “Our.” Christ is taking away the opportunity to stumble into selfishness by showing it is God and “us,” the collective Body, not God and “I” individually.

“Who art in Heaven...”

This phrase does not confine the All Holy Trinity to Heaven. God is everywhere present and fills all things, earth included. By saying “in Heaven” the prayer is actually telling us where our hearts and minds ought to be. It reminds us there is a destination beyond what we see. Through these words Christ drives home that the Christian can expect to be united with the Father and this is what our minds should be pondering.

“Hallowed be thy Name...”

Here we have the first *doxology*, defined in last month’s article as praise. Hallowed means “glorified.” God does not need our praise; rather we need to praise God. Christ knew this and by showing us that giving glory to God above everything else, the Christian will begin to realize his or her potential for participation in divinity.

Giving glory to God protects the individual from glorifying themselves and their personal achievements. No matter how great a deed in the

eyes of men, no human accomplishment can compare to God and His work. Self-glory can only lead to pride and most, if not all, sin stems from this life-killing passion.

“Thy Kingdom come...”

This is both an affirmation and a petition. Where is the Kingdom of God on earth? It is in the hearts of men. When God is the focus of person’s heart and mind, the Holy Spirit is present within them and they are protected from the tyranny of the fallen world and its God-hating master. With these words Christ has shown us that the Kingdom of God is available right now. We need to constantly ask God to help us realize the transfiguration that began when the Holy Spirit entered into our heart. Through our personal transfiguration the world will be raised up with us, the evil in the hearts of mankind will cease to exist, and God will reign once and for all.

“Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven...”

It was because of precisely the opposite of this phrase that mankind was separated from the Father. Christ tells us to pray God’s will be done. Why? Surely nothing can happen unless it is through God’s will. However, on earth we have choices in everything we do. We can choose to follow what we think is the right path, but Christ tells us to desire that God will show us the best path. Part of a Christian’s personal transfiguration is discerning and aligning his or her will to God’s.

“give us this day our daily bread ...”

What is this bread Christ tells us to ask for? Is it material or spiritual “bread?” Could it be both? In the same chapter of Matthew where Jesus gives the world the Lord’s Prayer, He also gives this instruction: “*Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:31-33)*”

By shifting our focus from “material” bread to “spiritual” bread, which is the communion of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ, we continue to move our life towards the Father. Material security is temporal and does not matter in the “life of the age to come.” Christ shows us it is

secondary, at best, to things pertaining to the Kingdom of Heaven.

“and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...”

Why did Christ tell us to acknowledge a condition for God’s forgiveness? Fuelled by ego and pride, it can become very difficult to forgive at times. When a person cannot forgive and let go, resentment builds up in their heart and it destroys them. Surely God can freely forgive without preconditions, but Christ tells us that true personal healing begins when we forgive.

“and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

No one is safe from temptation. The fallen world is teeming with ways to take our focus away from the Kingdom of Heaven. When we choose to focus on things other than the Kingdom, we risk strengthening passions like pride and ego. Christ tells us to always be on guard for these situations and try to avoid them.

Alas, it is inevitable we will fall at times, so Christ leaves us with this comfort “deliver us from evil.” Through this phrase we understand the blame for our fall lies not with our fellow man but squarely on the shoulders of the “evil one.” Through all the disciplines above we have been given the means to conquer the “evil one” and manifest the Kingdom of God in our hearts!

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

General Assembly

Sunday, February 1
12 noon-1 PM

Agenda action items to include:
Parish Council recommendation to establish an Endowment Fund and elect Endowment Trustees

Congratulations

to Jim Heos who was recently honored by Governor Granholm and the Ninety-Fourth State Legislature in Lansing upon the celebration of his thirty years with the law firm of ChurchWyble and for his contributions of time and talent to benefit the legal system in Michigan as a passionate and ethical advocate for individual rights under the US and Michigan Constitutions.

Prayers for the Sick

Marina Lahanas	Shannon Southerland
Georgana Popoff	Martha Cloumas
Ljubica Suzic	Dorothy Sietsema

Thank you Hiram

After multiple terms of dedicated service and leadership, Hiram Fitzgerald ended his tenure on the Parish Council in December. He chose not to seek reelection to the Council for another three-year stint. Hiram served nine years as Council President during which time many significant parish events were held – Fr. John’s silver anniversary, the Golden (1989) and 60th (1999) anniversaries of the founding of our parish. In reflecting on his service he said “the most rewarding of all was to see the marvelous outcome of George Sinas’s iconography committee and the renovation of the Baryames Social Hall.” Hiram has set the bar high as to how stewardship relates to giving specifically in terms of Time, Talents, and Treasures, always willing to help and give of himself. Although he may not be seen assisting at the candle stand and doing other Council chores, he has promised to continue to help on parish projects and in parish activities. Thank you and God bless you, Hiram.

Endowment Fund: Special Meetings. Save these dates

At the December 14 General Assembly there was considerable interest in the proposed Endowment Fund for Holy Trinity. Many interesting questions and concerns emerged in the discussion. Owing principally to time constraints, the matter was tabled until the next General Assembly.

To continue the discussion and address questions and concerns that parishioners may have, two special meetings have been set:

Wednesday, January 7, 7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 27, 7:00 pm

Both meetings will take place at the church.

These are open meetings, town-hall style, for the purpose of comment and review of the proposed Endowment Fund. They are opportunities to hear and respond to parishioners' questions and concerns in an informal setting prior to the next General Assembly. These are not substitute meetings for the General Assembly; they intend to be informational and serve as preparatory discussions to the next General Assembly at which action will be taken on the proposal.

Endowment Fund: Selection of Trustees

According to the proposed Endowment Fund Agreement, four Trustees are to be selected for the purpose of administering, monitoring and managing an Endowment Fund. Your help is needed in preparing a slate of qualified and willing candidates to serve as Trustees.

These four trustees, with the Priest and the Parish Council President and Treasurer as *ex officio* members, will have as their first responsibility the preparation of procedures and policies for the Fund. The procedures and policy documents will address such issues as: the number of officers, their responsibilities and terms of office, the operational procedures of the Trustees, investment policies, management of the

Fund, possible types of investments, investment risk, and other information required to carry out their duties and responsibilities.

If you wish to propose a parishioner as Trustee of the Endowment Fund, please submit the name with a statement of support about the individual's qualifications or experience. Names and statements must be received in the Parish Office by Thursday, January 23.

SAVE THE DATE!

2009 Zorba
Dinner Dance
(Mardi Gras!)

Saturday,
February 28, 2009
at
Holy Trinity

stay tuned for
more details ...

*Sponsored by the Ladies of the
Philoptochos Society*

Odyssey Program Fund Raiser:
PIZZA AND A MOVIE III
(The Threequel)

Save the date:
SUNDAY, January 11, 2009, 6:00-9:30 PM
Holy Trinity Baryames Social Room

On Sunday, January, 11, 2009, the Odyssey Program will be hosting a fund raiser to give you a chance to enjoy a wonderful pizza and the excellent movie, **“A SEA APART.”**

The last two years, Holy Trinity members were invited to come together to enjoy a very special pizza and movie night. Those that attended enjoyed themselves and asked that we do it again. Well, here we go again: same pizza; new movie.

The pizzas will be made by Odyssey board president, George Lafkas and his team of helpers. If you want to know if the pizza is worth it, ask someone who attended the affair last year. Most agreed it is a great tasting pizza that you will enjoy. Only 60 reservations are available for the dinner part of the evening. For \$25 dollars you will be able to enjoy a salad, home made pizza, desert, a beverage, and the movie. Reservations can be made at the church coffee hours in December and January or by calling George Lafkas at (517) 351-3121.

The movie, **“A SEA APART”**, is an achingly lovely romantic drama by Greek writer/director Ersi Daou in her feature-film debut. The audio content is in Greek/English.

Eleni (Tamilla Kulieva) left the island of Karpathos, Greece when she was 17 years old and now is a Greek immigrant whose picture-perfect life as a wife and mother in the fashionable Los Angeles suburbs masks her deeply felt unhappiness. Eleni's dissatisfaction reaches an apex with the unexpected arrival of her childhood sweetheart, Aris (Akis Sakellariou) twenty years later, who sparks both a longing to return to her Aegean hometown and a mournful meditation on the limits of the American Dream.

If you want to pass on the dinner, everyone is invited to join the group for the movie, which will begin at 7:15 P.M.

For reservations call George Lafkas at: (517) 351-3121. Remember, only 60 dinner reservations are available, so call soon.

HOUSE BLESSINGS

House blessings may be scheduled after January 6th by filling out a “House Blessing Request Form.” Mail it in or leave it at the Church Office. A time should be chosen at which all the members of the family can be present, insofar as this is possible. Also, if you are able to have the blessing during the daytime hours, please try to arrange one then, since the evening and weekend times will be in highest demand. The service takes about half an hour. Your hospitality is always appreciated, but please do not feed the priest—a cup of herbal tea is enough! You will need to provide a crystal bowl with spring water, two taper candles, an icon of Christ, and a white hand towel.

HOUSE BLESSING REQUEST FORM

“Today salvation has come to this house . . .” Luke 19:9

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phones _____

Times available when all family members can be present:

Sundays _____

Mondays _____

Tuesdays _____

Wednesdays _____

Thursdays _____

Fridays _____

Saturdays _____

**Please mail this completed form
or drop it in the box on the door of the Church office.**

Archdiocese "Greek Fire Relief Fund"

Allocates \$1.3 million in ongoing assistance

NEW YORK – Archbishop Demetrios announced on December 23, 2008 that the Special Committee overseeing the **Greek Fire Relief Fund** of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America allocated \$1,294,934 to assist those impacted by the 2007 wildfires in Greece.

This amount will fund two important projects to be coordinated by International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). The first project will help build a **Soil Laboratory** in the affected region. The second will continue the **Livelihood Recovery Project III**, a program for farmers in the Prefecture of *Ileia*, the region that suffered the greatest destruction.

"We are grateful to the Almighty for the devoted faithful of our Archdiocese of America whose magnanimous generosity enabled us to respond in such a substantial way from the onset of this catastrophe," wrote Archbishop Demetrios in a letter to IOCC, announcing the Committee's decision to approve these two proposals.

Since its inception, the Fund has collected over \$4.1 million. With these two latest allocations, the Archdiocese has distributed over \$3,315,000 in assistance to farmers and firefighters in the Prefectures of *Ileia and Arcadia*. Immediately after the fires, in the Fall of 2007 the Archdiocese gave over \$250,000 to provide 442 metric tons of feed to almost two thousand farmers and in January of this year, gave another \$1,652,998 to continue this critical program which has greatly assisted hard-hit farmers with 2,685 metric tons of animal feed and forage seed. Last September the Fund donated \$117,322 to supply the firefighters in Pyrgos with 215 fire shelters, which will improve their safety and enhance their ability to effectively combat wildfires. There are several proposals that the Committee will review in the New Year.

These latest endeavors will greatly assist the Prefecture of *Ileia* to recover its agricultural production following the devastation of 2007. The new Soil Laboratory will enable farmers to determine how best to revive production and rehabilitate the soil which has been impacted

not only by the fires and the chemicals used to extinguish them, but also by years of haphazard use. Until now, farmers in the area have had to send soil samples to Athens and wait an average of three weeks for results. A local laboratory will facilitate those farmers as well as encourage many others to take advantage of this innovative program. The Livelihood Recovery Project III will assist those farmers whose lands have not recovered from the devastation and do not yet produce sufficient quantities of forage to sustain their animals especially during the winter months.

Archbishop Demetrios serves as Chairman of the committee overseeing the Greek Fire Relief Fund. Committee members are Michael Jaharis, vice-chair of the Archdiocesan Council; Aphrodite Skeadas, president of the National Philoptochos; Steven Yeonas, chairman of Leadership 100; Peter Kikis, president of the Faith Endowment; Anthony Limberakis, national commander of the Order of St. Andrew and Andrew Natsios, past administrator of USAID who has extensive experience in effectively coordinating international philanthropic assistance.

Thank you...

On behalf of myself and the whole Limber family, I would like to thank our fellow parishioners for the outpouring of love and condolences with the departing of our late beloved pioneer mother, Mrs. Chrisoula Limber. I also want to thank our Holy Trinity family for the sincere concerns they expressed to me in regard to my recent illness. The hospital visits, phone calls, get-well cards, etc. achieved more than medicine.

—Nick Limber

Condolences

to the family of Pat Willard on the passing of her mother Pauline Moutsatson in Mount Pleasant on December 29. May her memory be eternal!"

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
 1701 East Saginaw Street
 Lansing Michigan 48912
 Office: 482-7341 Fax: 482-8524

8:45 am ORTHROS SERVICE
 10:00 am DIVINE LITURGY
 Fellowship Coffee following Liturgy

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NO Sunday School Classes Choir hosts coffee	Philoptochos General Meeting, 7pm	Epiphany, Divine Liturgy & Great Bless- ing of the Water, 10am		St. Basil the Great New Year's Day	NO Odyssey Classes	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Philoptochos hosts coffee & cutting of the Vasilopita Sunday School Classes Pizza & Movie Fundraiser, 6-9pm	Parish Council Meeting, 7pm				Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6:30pm—Vasilopita	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
GOYA hosts coffee	Lamplighter Deadline	OPA Gathering, 1-3pm			Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6:30pm	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
AHEPA VILLAGE FEAST, 6pm			Mid-year Calendar Meeting, 10am		Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6:30pm with Fr. Mark Three Hierarchs: St. Basil, St. Gregory, St. John Chrysostom	

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8:45 am ORTHROS SERVICE
 10:00 am DIVINE LITURGY
 Fellowship Coffee following Liturgy

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
OCF hosts coffee Special GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING	Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple, Divine Liturgy, 10am Philoptochos General Meeting, 7pm				Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6:30pm St. Pholios	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Philoptochos hosts cof- fee—Missions Focus Triodion Begins	Parish Council Meeting, 7pm	St. Haralambos		Sunday School Teachers Meeting & Dinner, 6pm	NO Odyssey Classes	St. Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
"Open" coffee NO Sunday School	Lampighter Deadline Presidents Day	OPA Gathering, 1-3pm St. Theodore		MARSP Luncheon, 11-2pm	Odyssey Classes, 4:30-6:30pm	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
OCF hosts coffee and light luncheon Meat Fare		Interfaith Day meets Shaarey Zedek Congrega- tion			Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6:30pm	GOYA Bowling Event ZORBA DANCE Saturday of Souls, Liturgy 10am