

TODAY – KIDS N CANCER COFFEE HOUR BUFFET - in The Oaks. Final



preparations are underway! Please join us for a delicious coffee hour buffet. We have so many delicious foods to enjoy including spanakopita, tiropita, keftedes, loukaniko.....and more. We have an amazing drawing for gifts including a \$500 gift card to Vivace, \$150 to Kokkari, a Night on the Town with Hillbarn Theater Tickets, an Evvia gift card and a mani-pedi certificate, two \$100 Visa cards and much more. Don't miss the chance to give your heart to a child and share the warm fellowship with your parish family. And we promise to be done way before your Super Bowl Party begins! If you can't join us, ladies in the Narthex will be collecting your donation as you leave.

Saturday, March 1 - PHILOPTOCHOS WELLNESS & MEMBERSHIP

EVENT - Lovely ladies, join us at 10:30 AM for a delicious light brunch, fabulous friends, and incredible presentation by renowned wellness coach Vas Priebe, who will teach us how to make wellness a fun and sustainable part of our lives! Wear something comfortable because we'll do some simple and enjoyable exercises. Philoptochos members will have a chance to win prizes. RSVP today for this free event: akoros@comcast.net or 650-787-5081. Join Philoptochos: goholycross.org/philoptochos/join.aspx

Weekend, March 14-16 - BAY AREA LENTEN RETREAT - *Trust*

in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight. Join us at the NatureBridge Retreat Center in the Marin Headlands for our annual retreat. Open to Bay Area Orthodox Youth, grades 6-12. Registration is \$150 by **Friday, March 7**. Visit tinyurl.com/LentenRetreat2025 for the registration website. Or visit our church website for a PDF of the application and/or the event flyer.



Sunday, March 30 – HOLY CROSS PARISH ORATORICAL FESTIVAL - The

Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival will be held on **Sunday, March 30**. This Archdiocese-wide, faith-based speech festival provides our young people with an opportunity to write and deliver an oral presentation about a topic in Orthodoxy. The Festival is open to grades 3-12. Children in grades 3-6 can write a speech on the topic of their choice and those in grades 7-12 must write on a topic in their age category. Public speaking is important throughout life and this festival offers a way for our youth to learn these important skills while exploring their faith. Please encourage the young people in your life to participate. Contact Allison Virsik

(ali_virsik@yahoo.com) with questions and to register. Topics can be found at: www.goarch.org/oratorical

- **CALL FOR ORATORICAL FESTIVAL JUDGES** - We are

in need of judges for the Parish Festival on **Sunday, March 30** and for the District Festival which will be hosted by Holy Cross on April 6. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact Allison Virsik (ali_virsik@yahoo.com). There are no longer restrictions on serving multiple years in a row, so you can serve as a judge even if you have served in this capacity last year!



❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **NEWS** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

STEWARDSHIP 2025 – Look for your 2025 Stewardship packet in the mail and make your pledge **Today!** Becoming a pledging steward of Holy Cross gives the necessary financial support to our church. Your monthly monetary gift, which is part of your stewardship, helps our parish meet her financial responsibilities ...in simple terms, pay the bills. Please make every effort to make your pledge in the next few weeks. Members of our Parish Council, Stewardship Committee and Sunday Ushers will be happy to help you with additional information and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your support and joining our Parish Community. Please visit our church website.

CLASSES CONTINUE! - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – A new

series of Studies in the Faith and Bible Studies. Join us in great informed discussions as we discover the enlightened wisdom and understanding of the Holy Fathers of our Orthodox Tradition. All are welcome to join and learn. Contact k.konstantine@gmail.com for info

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN We are currently

enrolling for the 25-26 school year -- please email Director Chris Shreve to schedule a visit for you and your child today! Preschool@goholycross.org Visit our Preschool website: www.holycrossbelmont.com Follow us on Instagram: @holycrosspreschool [<https://www.instagram.com/holycrosspreschool/>]. Like and follow us on Facebook: [<https://www.facebook.com/holycrossbelmont/>].

CARE CLOSET NEEDS YOU! – Donate basic hygiene and daily care items to

children of San Mateo Park Elementary School. Deposit items in collection box in our Fellowship Hall or go to: www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref=wl_share and

order on-line shipping directly to school. Philoptochos appreciates your support.
Email here if you have questions: cphopkins322@gmail.com

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **SERVICES** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Sunday, February 9 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee / Triodion Begins –

8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, Feb. 10 – Saint Haralambos – 8:30 AM Orthros, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, February 15 – *no Great Vespers today*

Sunday, February 16 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00

AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 22 – First Saturday of Souls – 8:30 AM Orthros, Divine Liturgy,

9:30 AM

Saturday, February 22 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, February 23 – Judgment Sunday / Meatfare Sunday – 8:45 AM, Orthros,

10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, March 1 – Second Saturday of Souls – 8:30 AM Orthros, Divine Liturgy,

9:30 AM

Saturday, March 1 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, March 2 – Forgiveness Sunday / Cheesefare – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00

AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, March 3 – Lent Begins / Great Compline, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, March 4 – Great Compline, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 5 – Presanctified Liturgy, 5:30 PM

Thursday, March 6 – Great Compline, 7:00 PM

Friday, March 7 – Presanctified Liturgy, 8:30 AM

Friday, March 7 – Salutations to the Theotokos, 7 PM

Saturday, March 8 – Third Saturday of Souls – 8:30 AM Orthros, Divine Liturgy,

9:30 AM

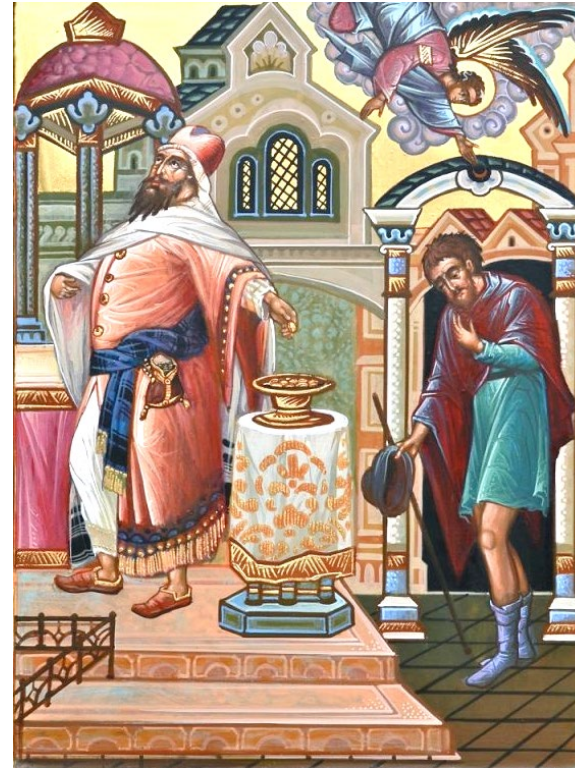
Saturday, March 8 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, March 9 – Sunday of Orthodoxy – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine

Liturgy

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

If you are visiting us for the first time, send us an email and share your thoughts and suggestions. May God bless and keep you well.



**GREEK ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE
HOLY CROSS**

***Sunday of the Publican
and Pharisee
February 9, 2025***

The Reverend Father Peter G. Salmas

- e-mail: frpeter@goholycross.org

The Reverend Father Manoli Aspiotis

- e-mail: frmanoli@goholycross.org

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OUR HOLY CROSS THREE HIERARCHS BOOKSTORE

... offers books, icons, prayer ropes, honey and many other Orthodox items for personal and gift-giving purposes. This week's recommended book, *The Journal of Joy* by Nicolae Steinhardt. recommends to Christians that we are to be as 'that of an aristocrat minus the stiff upper lip and aloofness, a style molded by kindness, calm, good manners, respect for the dignity of others, and thus for one's own dignity... beyond totalitarianism, which is the fascination with power and death, and beyond market society, which holds up profit as its only god..'

