

**January – HOUSE BLESSINGS** - Please click on the link at our church website or pick up a form in the Narthex if you would like to have your house blessed for the new year. You will receive a call from Father to confirm.

**Next Sunday – OUTREACH SUNDAY** – The first Sunday of the Month is Outreach Sunday. Please give generously to our Outreach Volunteers for distribution to the needy.

**Saturday, February 8 - FDF PREVIEW** - The Holy Cross Dance Program is thrilled to invite you to our FDF Preview on **Saturday, February 8!** Cocktail hour at 6:00pm, Dinner at 6:45pm. This event promises to be a night full of food, drinks, live music, and a sneak peek of the incredible performances your kids will be showcasing at FDF. Use the link at our church website to purchase tickets. Also look for the event flyer there.

**Sunday, February 9 – KIDS N CANCER COFFEE HOUR** - Kids'n' Cancer Fundraising Begins! Coffee Hour Reception. It is that time once again to “give your heart to a child with cancer.” The Holy Cross Philoptochos invites the entire parish to a delicious hosted coffee hour reception following Liturgy in The Oaks to share Food, Fellowship and Fun! There will be an amazing drawing with fantastic prizes. Last year we exceeded our goal of \$15,000. Our hope is to reach \$20,000 this year, God willing. / Please join us! See the event flyer at our church website -- with details about how to donate. / *With our Love, Holy Cross Philoptochos*

**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](mailto:ali_virsik@yahoo.com)) with questions and to register. Topics can be found at: [www.goarch.org/oratorical](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Preschool@goholycross.org) Visit our Preschool website: [www.holycrossbelmont.com](http://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: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref\\_=wl\\_sh](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WS5GGCPZ6YBR?ref_=wl_sh) are and order on-line shipping directly to school. Philoptochos appreciates your support. Email here if you have questions: [cphopkins322@gmail.com](mailto:cphopkins322@gmail.com)

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **SERVICES** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

**Sunday, January 26** – Fifteenth Sunday of Luke – 8:45 AM,  
Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy  
Thursday, January 30 – The Three Hierarchs – 8:30 AM Orthros,  
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM  
Saturday, February 1 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM  
**Sunday, February 2** – Presentation of the Lord – 8:45 AM, Orthros,  
10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy  
Thursday, February 6 – Saint Photios – 8:30 AM Orthros, Divine  
Liturgy, 9:30 AM  
Saturday, February 8 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM  
**Sunday, February 9** – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee /  
Triodion Begins – 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

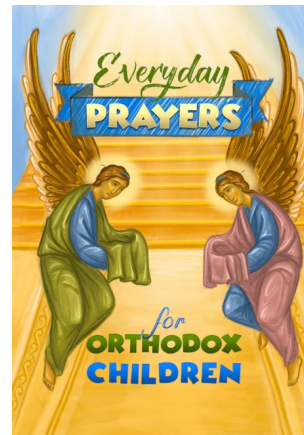
*Fifteenth Sunday of Luke*  
*January 26, 2025*

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The Reverend Father Manoli Aspiotis  
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[@GoHC\\_Belmont](https://www.facebook.com/GoHC_Belmont) /  Holy Cross Church

## **OUR HOLY CROSS THREE HIERARCHS BOOKSTORE**



... offers books, icons, prayer ropes, honey and many other Orthodox items for personal and gift-giving purposes. Our young people will find joy as they learn from 'Everyday Prayers for Orthodox Children', a colorful, very well illustrated book whose pages will guide children in their journey in their Orthodox faith.