



The Trinitarian



Special Announcements

Have you checked out the church "Bookstore?" We have an array of icons and many new items for sale. This year we will again be selling unique Christmas ornaments.

Giant Eagle gift cards are available in the church office.

The Orthodox Food Pantry is an ongoing initiative for those who are in need right here in Pittsburgh. You can drop off your donations in the breezeway at church. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Take a few minutes and visit HTC's website to find out more about your parish.

www.htsoc.com

Don't forget to sign up at the tutor's desk to help guard Christ's tomb.

Colored eggs will be appreciated to distribute to parishioners on Easter Sunday.

On Lazarus Saturday, April 20th, immediately following Liturgy and the Vrbica procession, the palms and pussy willows will be assembled to be blessed and distributed the next day on Palm Sunday. Volunteers to help with this assembly are always welcome and appreciated.

Also, on Good Friday, April 26th, beginning at 10:00 a.m., volunteers are welcome to assist with preparing the grave and decorating the church for Easter.

Please come to help if you can!

Message from Father Rajko

Palm Sunday A GLAD DAY AND A SAD DAY

Palm Sunday was a glad day and at the same time a sad day in the life of Our Lord. Even today, over two thousand years since that memorable day, though we rejoice in this feast of Christ being hailed as the King, there remains in the background the thin outline of the cross against the sky.

1. In what way was the first Palm Sunday a glad day for the Lord?

There are a couple of reasons why the first Palm Sunday was a glad day for the Lord. One of these is the recent resurrection of Lazarus from the dead. This was the mightiest of the Lord's miracles of raising to life those who had died and this miracle in particular had a tremendous impact on the people, friend and foe alike. They came in throngs to see Christ, as well as Lazarus.

Another reason why this was a happy day for Jesus was the supper at Bethany which occurred the evening before Palm Sunday. His beloved friends were at this supper. Mary took precious ointment and lovingly anointed the feet of the Lord. The sweet perfume filled the room, causing Judas Iscariot to take notice and remark that the ointment should have been sold and the money used to help the poor. But the Lord told them to leave Mary alone, saying that she had anointed His body for burial. He was pleased at the outpouring of love on her part. This woman expressed her devotion to the Lord, and she expressed it while He was alive.

Palm Sunday was a glad day for Jesus when He received the tremendous welcome and homage of the crowd as they hailed Him as King. As Jesus came along the road riding on a donkey, the people, young and old alike, took branches of trees and flowers and waved them in joy. They took off their coats and put them on the ground over which He rode. And they sang with joy, "Hosanna, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel."

(Message from Father Rajko continued on page 3)

✪ Greetings from Board President



Dear Members,

Your Executive Board has been hard at work since taking office in January. We find ourselves with a busier than normal work situation, due to the amount of issues undertaken and carried forward from 2018.

The roof, parking lot, and lighting continue to be ever-changing projects; however, I'm pleased to tell you we have made significant progress. We are now ready to secure start work schedules from contractors. The LED conversion of the Cathedral lighting is 60% complete and we would like you to admire the inner altar art work as it appears to be in 3D. Our Men's Club has volunteered their time which saved us a lot of labor dollars on the lighting project. Thank them when you see them in church.

Add to all of this, the red brick house tenant not renewing after a 20 year stay and the St. George house roof issues, we have been overwhelmed. We are, however, with a talented group

(President's Greetings continued on page 2)

☞ From the Editor

Welcome back!! Once again, as Lazarus was resurrected, so has *The Trinitarian* come back to life. We realize that this newsletter is a vital part of our outreach and communications, especially with those members who can no longer come to church. It is our intent to be sure that *The Trinitarian* is published on a quarterly basis, providing all readers with parish information and news. If anyone has anything at all that they would like to see published in the next *Trinitarian*, please let me know – we need information from not just our groups and clubs but also from YOU. The contact information for editor Doreen Leech is: 724-263-2280 or doreenleech@gmail.com. *The Trinitarian* will be mailed home to you quarterly/seasonally throughout the year. It will also be posted in digital format on our website at www.htsoc.com.

The last several months haven't been easy ones for the Church Board. We are working diligently to ensure that the Capital Improvements Projects proceed as quickly as possible and in the best interests of the church. We had some setbacks with some of the projects but all is being resolved. The new Board is working together to keep things moving along.

At this time, I personally would like to thank Marty West for all the years he served as president and treasurer of the Executive Board and for all the many, many hours he gave to his church. Marty worked in an unassuming and quiet way to get things done. He was dedicated to getting the best for his church and his parish friends. It was always fun and a pleasure to work with him – we made some good memories together as we all worked together on various projects. May God bless you, Marty, with many more years in good health and much happiness ... you deserve it!

This past December was exciting as we surpassed our own expectations regarding our December Cookie Sale. It was another amazing experience, making new friends among those from our parish who donated their time but also among our neighbors who "shopped" the Cookie Sale. The crowd, as always, was lining up very early and so amazed with the beautiful baked goods we had to offer. Supposedly we have the best cookie sale around!

Becoming involved in your church, no matter how, can be a wonderful, life-altering experience. Getting to know more about those people you see in the pews on Sunday is priceless. Making new friends, sharing laughter, talking about trials and tribulations, and just being together is a beautiful thing and has come to mean a lot to me. I hope you can all find the time to experience this as well, at some point. The good Lord knows we have plenty of opportunities for "giving back" to our church!

In closing, as we take on the major renovations ahead and are asked to give generously to the Capital Campaign, remember that several times before this we came together and made "it" happen. ***Together we did it before and together we can do it again.***

Wishing you all a beautiful Easter season! And never stop counting your blessings! Christ is Risen, Indeed He is Risen!

Respectfully, Doreen Leech, Editor of *The Trinitarian*

Greetings from Board President –

continued from Page 1

of Board Members, getting through it.

Our unified goal is to get members involved to help us, to reach out to potential new members, and to encourage our organizations to continue their fund-raising efforts. Contributions have already been made and we want to thank them.

The Sunday School is high on my list to get my attention. With a progressive superintendent in Mark Winowich and a commitment from Fr. Rajko, there will be more focus on getting the students involved in understanding the church services, as they are happening. I feel they are tucked away out of sight, when they should be front and center during the services, at least once a month. All of you please encourage family and friends to bring their children to church. They are the future of HTC.

This caught my attention from a recent bulletin. "This is a time to restore our lives to proper perspective, to devote time, to family, to nourish our souls to have the correct balance in what we do."

Wishing all of you the most blessed Pasha holiday.

Very truly yours,

Eli Bratich

HTC Executive Board President



• HTC Executive Board for 2019 •

President: Eli Bratich (ebratich50@comcast.net)

1st Vice President: Rudley Mrvos (rudleymrvos@gmail.com)

2nd Vice President: Michael Winowich (mike.winowich@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Vladimir Brajovic (vbrajovic@intriguete.com)

Recording Secretary: Doreen Leech (doreenleech@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary: Aleksandra Slavkovic (aslavkovic06@gmail.com)

Member at Large: Srdjan Budeša (europea2@yahoo.com)

Member at Large: Lisa Tomasovich (lisa.tomasovich@gmail.com)

Member at Large: Mark Zivkovich (puttputtz@comcast.net)

From the Church Office ...

All articles for the Cathedral's Weekly Bulletin are due in the office by 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. You can submit by email to htpcgh@gmail.com or call the office at (412) 882-3900.

Don't forget ... we are still selling Giant Eagle Gift Cards. Please stop by the office if you wish to purchase any. Five percent of the sales go back to our church and it is a tax-deductible donation.



Easter Flowers – Anyone wishing to make a donation towards Easter flowers for Holy Week and Easter Day, please leave your donation at the tutor's desk or mail it in to the church office with a note. Thank you!

**Message from Father Rajko –
continued from Page 1**

Of course, there was a world of difference between their concept of Jesus as King, and the Lord's own concept of His kingship. They thought He would declare Himself the King of Israel and set up the old throne of David and politically rule the land. He thought of Himself as King over the hearts of His subjects, ruling spiritually over His people. Despite this, the spontaneous and genuine expression of love by the people made this a glad day for Christ.

2. But Palm Sunday was a sad day, too.

Christ wept over the city of Jerusalem. As the glorious procession of Palm Sunday moved on, Jesus came to a height where He could see the expanse of the city below. And as He gazed at it He wept tears of sorrow. He cried because of the unbelief of the people there. He had come to them but they had refused Him. Then He wept as He foresaw the terrible destruction that would come upon the city by the Romans. It happened in the year 70. The suffering and death was too horrible to describe.

Christ was sad, too, when He realized how quickly the people would change their attitude towards Him. They shouted now that He was King, but soon they would cry, "We have no king but Ceasar." They shouted now, "Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord," but soon they would cry, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!"

And surely Christ was saddened as He envisioned the suffering and death that awaited Him there. It was Sunday... in just five days the cross would be ready and the world's darkest day would dawn. The physical and the spiritual agony of the crucifixion still makes people shudder at the thought.

Beloved, it remains for us on this feast-day, however, to give serious consideration to Christ's role as King. If He is our spiritual King, then we are His subjects, and there are certain things we owe Him in this relationship.

First, we owe Christ loyalty, if He is our King. We are to remain by Him no matter what the cost or the situation. One day a number of followers of Christ left Him after listening to a particularly difficult teaching. Seeing them go, Jesus turned to His apostles and asked, "Will you also go away?" Peter answered with firm loyalty: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

We are to love our King. This means we will think of Him often, speak of Him, speak to Him in prayer, care for Him, love to spend time with Him and in His House, the church. We will be happy to work for Him, to offer our time and our talents for His service. We will always be ready to do whatever He asks, because we love Him. Love must be expressed, it must grow. We have to ask ourselves, Do we love our King like that?

We are to obey our King. Christ has given us laws and commandments to obey. Certainly if we are to be loyal and loving subjects of His, we will want to obey Him. Christ said, "Not everyone that says unto Me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, be he that does the will of My Father... therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, shall be like unto a wise man who built his house upon a rock..." It is not enough to know Christian teachings, we must do them, we must live them.

We will not want to hurt our King. Christ does not like sin, for this is the great enemy of God. If we love some sin and live in it: hatred, lying, stealing, selfishness, uncleanness, drunkenness, laziness, over-indulgence, gossip, jealousy, and the like, then we hurt and deny our King.

May we crown Christ our King today, as we raise our voices in singing that old hymn sung at every Divine Liturgy: "Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest." Amen.



"Communication is the Key!"

The new automated calling/email system has been a great success at HTC and something that was much needed to promote better communications among our parishioners and the church. If you are not receiving any type of notifications and would like to do so, please contact Lisa Winowich in the church office at 412-882-3900 and let her know. You can provide her with your phone number(s) and/or your email address.

Parish Work Day



Our **Annual Spring Parish Work Day** will be held on Saturday, April 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Our goal is to clean the interior and exterior of the cathedral prior to Holy Week.

A Sign-up Sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church breezeway. Please sign up for the task for which you are able to assist.

Cleaning products will be provided, however, for interior tasks, please bring a bucket and rugs – a limited number of irons are also needed.

For exterior tasks, please bring yard tools (rakes, clippers, gloves, etc.).

As always, **thank you** for your continuing support of our parish community.

❖ ❖ ❖ Diocese News

The 800th Anniversary of the Serbian Orthodox Church will be held Saturday, July 13th, at St. Sava Monastery, Libertyville, Illinois.



Choir Notes

In 2018, the Choir was very busy. We traveled to Phoenix in April as the honored guest of the Stevan Hristich choir. The St. Sava Church of Phoenix is adorned with beautiful frescos from top to bottom and their church complex includes a Cultural Center, a hall and a picnic pavilion. If you have the opportunity to visit Phoenix, it is a must see. Additionally, we participated in the St. Nicholas Choir concert in Monroeville in September; and we hosted the annual Serbian Singing Federation Choral Workshop in October, the Turkey Trot in November, and our annual Christmas Carol Sing in December. At the Carol Sing, we collected and donated \$300 toward the Orthodox Food Bank in South Side.

Last year, we sang for the weddings of Athena Batis to George Panagos and Dustin Defebo to Megan Rindfuss. This year, we are looking forward to singing for the weddings of Vincent Defebo to Leigh Anne Dwyer and choir member, Maria Tassari to Aleksa Ostojich.

Recently, we have been joined in the loft by some of the older church school children. It is so very nice to have them sing with us. And we welcomed two new choir members, Denise Brajovic and Sara Topich. In addition to singing on Sundays, the choir rehearses every week – preparing for performances and perfecting Liturgical songs. We welcome others to join in the fun!

In May, the choir will be traveling to Milwaukee WI to participate in the annual Serbian Singing Federation Festival. Should be a fun trip! They are always great hosts!

We would like to thank Anne Rost, Millie Vignovic, and Paul Belosh for their assistance with our annual calendar fundraiser... and our superstar member, Paula Winovich, for always going above and beyond. Thank you to all who have purchased the calendars and/or supported our Sarris Candy sales each Easter and Christmas.

We are extremely happy to see Dolores Belich back in church on a regular basis after her extended recovery and are eagerly awaiting her climb back to the loft! We miss our staunch supporter, Elsa Karamarkovich, and look forward to seeing her again soon.
~ Val Tassari

Greetings from the HTC Kolo!



Warm greetings to Kolo members and HTC friends! Our Kolo gives many thanks to our outgoing Kolo Board Members: Millie Radovick (President), Dolores Belich (Secretary), and Barbara Topich (Treasurer) for their many years of service. And a warm welcome to our newly elected Kolo officers: Cherry Bobik (President), Mitza Trbovich (Vice President), Marsha Susnjar (Secretary), Marija Stanojevic (Treasurer), and Millie Vignovich, who is remaining as Financial Secretary. Also remaining in her position as “Sunshine Person” is Grace Winovich, sending out

greetings and get well cards.

In the past few months, the Kolo was happy to welcome several new members. We extend a cordial invitation for any who wish to join our Kolo. The yearly dues are only \$6.00. Originally founded for nursing and support help in Belgrade in 1903, the Kolo is a group of women dedicated to offering their services and support to the church, Sunday School, and cultural life, including monetary support for children attending St. Sava’s annual Serbian Summer Camp, as well as financial support for maintenance and development at the camp. Our Kolo also donates to Monastery Marcha, which houses nuns living austere in Richfield, Ohio; supports Lifeline, a non-profit organization aiding orphaned and special-needs youth and adults in Serbia, Republika Srpska and Kosovo; supports the Best Buddies organization of Pittsburgh; and, contributes to the IOCC charities to help in their humanitarian efforts.

The Kolo will be sponsoring a Posno Luncheon to celebrate National Women’s History Month on Sunday, March 31st, welcoming guest speaker Dr. Rose Karlo Gantner, EdD. An accomplished speaker, cited with countless accolades in the World’s Who’s Who of Women, Rose has taught clinical psychology and health education at three universities and has over thirty years experience in wellness and counseling psychology. She will share her experiences as a Red Cross “Donut Dollie” while serving two tours in Vietnam. We are all looking forward to hearing what she has to share with us.

Upcoming Kolo events:

- Sunday, March 31 – Speaker Dr. Rose Karlo Gantner EdD with Posno luncheon
- Saturday, April 6 – KSS meeting at St. Nicholas Church in Monroeville
- Sunday, April 21 – Lenten vespers and Lenten meal

Wishing you all a very blessed Easter season!

JEDINSTVO



The Jedinstvo Folklore Ensemble has been busy this season learning new songs and dances. In September, we welcomed three new members: Mila Dzelalija, Ana Naskovic, and Mila O’Shea. Since then, we participated in the annual St. Sava program, will be welcoming visitors to the SNF Film Festival on March 30th, and have plans underway for an “end of the year” presentation with a meal. The date of this event will be announced shortly.

Jedinstvo is open to children 5-years of age and up who wish to learn more their Serbian culture. Music is taught by Nick Jovonovich, who attends St. Elijah in Aliquippa and is a former member of The Tamburitans. Dance is taught by Val Tassari. Rehearsals are held every other Sunday at the American Serbian Club in South Side beginning at 1:30 p.m.

If you have a child or grandchild who would like to participate, please contact Rada O’Shea, the Jedinstvo President, for more information (rada.oshea@gmail.com).

HTC Men's Club



Hello from the HTC Men's Club! We would like to share some news and upcoming/past projects with our parishioners.

The Men's Club is doing an Easter Lamb fundraiser this year. Please place your orders by Sunday, April 21st. Pick up is Saturday, April 27th, the day before Easter. For information or to place an order please call: Sinisa Budesa at 412-983-5158 or Milan Stanojevic at 412-721-9515 or Zarko Mirkovic at 412-251-9532.

The Men's Club has been busy throughout the 2018 and 2019 years with various projects. We moved all of the tables inside the pavilion for the winter. We have a Friday Morning Crew that does the cleanup of the picnic grounds and assists us with preparing it for the long Pittsburgh winter. In addition, the Men's Club took trees down at the picnic grounds this past fall and also repaired the fence around the property. Just recently we had the surveillance company install another camera to upgrade our security efforts. We assisted with the lighting project at the church by replacing the old light bulbs with brand new LEDs. We have a few more projects coming up that will need to be approved by the board.

If you want to have some fun and support your church at the same time, please come and join the Men's Club!

Please welcome our new Holy Trinity members to our church ... we look forward to seeing them every Sunday!

New Members (since 2018)

- William & Sandra Doerr
- Keith Hall
- Ljubica Knezevich
- Zoran Milojkovic
- Dalia Naskovic
- Danijela Djukic-Ostrowski
- Goran Stojanovic
- Maria Tassari



Conversions (since 2018)

- Lynn Marie Bowser
- Megan Rindfuss

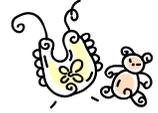
Best wishes for a happy marriage ...



Weddings (since 2018)
George Panagos & Athena Batis
Dustin Defebo & Megan Rindfuss
Clay Vuich & Hannah Carlson

May God grant you many years!

Welcome to the World Little Ones!



Baptisms (since 2018)

- Arabella – daughter of Anthony & Bethany Armaly
- Ella – daughter of Jordan & Carli Belosh
- Marko – son of Matthew & Halle Benusa
- Zoe – daughter of Joseph & Ashley Bratek
- Medeline – daughter of Michael & Tijana Dunn
- Alen – son of Vanja & Nada Guša
- Luka – son of Aleksandar & Lauren Ivetic
- Jovan – son of Eva Jovanovic
- Isabella – daughter of Thomas & Bojana McKibbin
- Luka – son of Thomas & Bojana McKibbin
- Sofia – daughter of Mladen & Maja Sarac
- Mateo – son of Teddy & Diana Winovich
- Katarina – daughter of Gregory & Karen Wuchenich

Friday Crew News



The past year has not been the best for our crew, with health issues for Marty West, Nick Davic, and Dushie Mamula. All are now recovering from heart issues and hope to be up and about this summer. A few weeks ago we lost our dear brother + Peppy Kosanovich who has been a long time worker with the Friday crew and will be greatly missed. He will be joining some of our recent losses of our brothers +Rade Vignovic, +Milan Vukas, +Mike Radovick, +Milan Radulovich, and +Jules Bobik. All were volunteer members who worked for our Church for what became known as the Friday Picnic Crew. They are in our thoughts and prayers and may their memories be eternal.

With the cancellation of the Fish Fry this year, the crew will have some extra time off! We provided approximately ten workers every Friday and, God willing, we will be back to help again next year.

We will be starting our regular Friday work sessions at the picnic grounds by mid April. There is a need for some younger, retired men to join us, so feel free to get some details from George Topich, Marty West or Ned Karlovich. A special project this year, in addition to maintaining the picnic grounds, will be at the St. George Cemetery to do some map work and other miscellaneous things. Please consider joining us if you have the time.

~ Dushie and the Crew

Presanctified Gifts & Lenten Lecture/Open Discussion



Each Wednesday, during Holy Lent, beginning at 6:30 p.m., is the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. Immediately following each service, there will be a lecture/open discussion with Father Rajko in the coffee room. Hope you can attend!

Tales from Treasurer's Office



The buck stops here, both figuratively and literally. I love receiving and processing your donations, not only because they are the principal lifeblood of our parish, but because they tell amazing stories. I have no words to express how humbled I am with these stories. They are tales about your total dedication to your parish, to your families, and to your convictions. I love when on a particular Sunday, you write separate checks and put them in separate envelopes to make up for the week, or weeks, you couldn't make it to church. Or perhaps you were out of a town for a while, and all of a sudden you send me eight envelopes, each containing a twenty dollar bill, each nicely sealed, for all of the weeks that you missed. Yes, I could record these contributions as one \$160 donation in your name, but I am not. I am precisely recording every single \$20 donation in your name. When you send me a check, I record the check number too. These are only a few of things that are new in our accounting system since I started as a treasurer eight weeks ago. You will receive periodic reports detailing where your contributions went, what went to Christmas offering, what went to memorials, and what were your Tasa offerings. Sometimes I can tell if you purchased candles or Giant Eagle certificates (we still make 5% on them). I know you may not care about this detailed bookkeeping, it all ends in the same pot anyway, but I care. How can I not? Your stories are getting to me.

A few of you walked into the office recently with a bundle of funeral home envelopes in your hand. You were clearly crushed with grief after losing a loved one, but you also stood strong and at peace. I think you knew it. You were reminded, and your presence reminded me too, that although we stood in the office together at the moment, we are of another world. Without you even knowing, you were teaching me how to derive strength from this realization too. Yes, our parish has recently lost several long-standing members. Some I knew, loved, and respected, but some I never met before; that is, until your green envelopes started pouring in. Your green envelopes told me about the life, dedication, and contributions of these beloved individuals. Your green envelopes said: "My dear, I love you. Your lifework here now continues through me."

Many of you are in Church every Sunday and diligently make your weekly offerings. But a few of you write multiple checks on the same Sunday. One is for Tasa, one is for our ongoing Capital Campaign, one is for Fish Fry as if it was happening this year, and another one is for Giant Eagle certificates. In fact, you can't write these checks fast enough. You are writing them while bobbing down the hallway. You are finishing licking the envelopes as you are entering the office. Then you extend your hand and with a big smile on your face you say: "Here, these are for you! Oh, wait ... here is another one in my pocket." I love this. Again, not because this is a valuable contribution for the prosperity of our parish, but because of your story. You are one of those who don't need a calendar or a reminder letter (which cost us money to mail) or an announcement in a weekly bulletin or a reminder phone call. You simply know your duty, you are organized and diligent, and, judging by your joy, you are clearly liberated by fulfilling this duty. And yes, you are teaching me something. I want that liberation too.

I have a confession to make – I don't know where my weekly offerings envelopes are nor do I know where my membership book is. For people like me, and better than me, our church has created E-Tasa/E-Dues, an automatic periodic electronic withdrawal taken directly from our bank account. It is safe, and it is regular. It continues contributing steadily throughout the year. It is so steady that we may start calling it "sustaining contributions." My wife is

way more organized than I am, but I think she doesn't know where her membership book is either. Her dues are also electronic. "But wait, you don't see envelopes; where is the story with E-Tasa?" True, I don't see the envelopes, but I see the names. These names pop up for me weekly, some monthly, and some quarterly. Depending how your electronic funds flow, the e-contributions tell me your stories. Some of you like to stay on a weekly schedule perhaps to keep it aligned with church Sundays, and some of you like to take withdrawals monthly. Some prefer that that e-contribution be taken on a third week of the month. You see, the stories abound there too.

And, yes, the names, all the names. There are so many Eli's in our church as if it was the only available name in Serbian heritage. There are so many Vinovics, some with one "w," some with two "w," and some with an "h" at the end. And so many Maravichs (with "h"). Some of our best Serbs are Italians, Slovaks, and Germans. You know what I am talking about. After all, being a Serb is a state of mind really. I often imagine stories behind these names, I imagine Ellis Island, I imagine the early 1900s, I imagine steel mills, I imagine coal-smudged faces, I imagine a lot of Serbian spoken, and I imagine strict, yet loving, Serbian parents. A few weeks ago, a \$500 out-of-state donation came in the mail from a woman who noted, "For the maintenance of St. George Cemetery. Thank you!" It is not hard to imagine the story behind that envelope, and then that "thank you" hits you like a ton of bricks!

When the Sunday service is over, when the church goes quiet, these are the stories your envelopes and your names are telling me as I continue going through them, one by one, in the office. Sometimes I come on Saturdays, to catch up on work, and the church continues to be a lonely place, except for an occasional visit from David, our "candle caretaker." Sometimes I come to church during the week after work, still the lonely place. I wish that we could fill the rooms of the church on weekdays too. I want these stories to become alive.

People told me, "Being a treasurer is lot of work!" I also heard, "Being on the Church Executive Board is a thankless job." Yes, it is lot of work, but it is an amazing job. It is an amazing job because of you. We are all here, and those before us are here, and those before them are here too. Thank you for your stories, continue telling them!

I could end with a quote from one of our spiritual leaders, I love quotes, but I'll end instead with a quote from a simple tale. "Promise me you'll always remember: you're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." ~ Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh

Vladimir Brajovic, HTC Treasurer
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LENTEN VESPER SCHEDULE

As Father Rajko indicated last Sunday, various parishes host a Lenten vesper service weekly during Lent. Following is the schedule and location of services. All start at 5:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, April 7, 5:00 p.m. - Holy Resurrection, Steubenville;
St. Nicholas, Monroeville

Sunday, April 14, 5:00 p.m. - St. George, Carmichaels;
St. Nicholas, Johnstown

Palm Sunday, April 21, 5:00 p.m. - Holy Trinity, Pittsburgh
Wednesday, Holy Uction, April 24, 7:00 p.m. –
Holy Trinity, Pittsburgh

HTC Church School



The Church School sets goals in the beginning of the school year. Our five high level goals this year were:

- A. Build Excitement around Sunday School Program**
- B. Improve Learning**
- C. Get involved in HTC**
- D. Develop ways to enhance Sunday School for older children**
- E. Hold activities and events**

Once set, we drill down into specific activities or actions led by parents with the Church School Director providing direction and assistance. Parents sign up to chair the activities through an online website called "Sign Up Genius." Unfortunately, we will not accomplish every goal we set (you can see them all posted on the HTC website), but we did achieve many and more are planned through end of the year. Here are a few examples:

- New and Improved Sveti Sava Program – We made many adjustments, tweaks, and changes to the Sveti Sava Program and will likely continue efforts to improve it and try new things each year. We were especially happy the high school class participated. Congratulations to this year's Kuma for the event, Nina Topich, daughter of Marija and Dane Topich.
- Recruit two more teachers – We were lucky to get two new teachers this year, Jennifer Wechter and Grace Dean. It was especially exciting to have Grace join us, as she is a University of Pittsburgh Sophomore that the younger children look up to.
- Appoint a parent to assist with children participating in the Epistle and Choir – Three "new" children, at time of this writing, have started reading the epistle, and we expect a few more. Several in the 10-13 year old group have started singing in choir before class begins. Although we haven't actually assisted much with them getting to choir, we are glad to see it and will do what we can to ensure it continues.
- Community Service Events – the younger children raised money outside of our cathedral for IOCC Hurricane Relief and their photo made it into the IOCC newsletter. Our children also helped IOCC fill over 650 health kits in February for people in need. In April, we will fill blessing bags for the St Mary's Orthodox Church Pantry and, for the second year in a row, participate in the Best Buddies Friendship Walk. We are also working on a Food Drive
- Get involved in HTC – We mailed care packages to our college students for the second year in a row in November and are hoping to put a fresh coat of paint on the classrooms after the school year ends. At time of this writing, we are planning a Scavenger Hunt Family Event to pull our families together for some fun and social time.

We still have a long way to go. Financially we are sound. We were very appreciative to receive a nice donation from the St. Sava Church of Clairton. However, our church school attendance continues to be sparse and our curriculum is outdated. We'll be getting a new church school coordinator in the coming year. Any little bit you can do to assist that person to continue building our church school will only make our cathedral stronger.

HTC Church School events coming up ...

Sunday April 14 - Best Buddies Walk – Riverhounds Stadium, Station Square

Rada O'Shea and Julie Winovich are organizing us this year. The plan is for us to attend Vespers on Saturday, April 13th as a group and do the walk Sunday Morning. In between, hopefully, we'll sign up some walkers, and meet a \$1,500 goal so we can have a tent on the field!! (See next page for sign up to donate and/or to walk!)

Saturday April 20 – Lazarus Saturday & Blessing Bags

Dana Winovich is organizing us to fill "Blessing Bags" to be distributed to the St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry at St Mary's Orthodox Church in the South Side. Please plan to attend that day and join in. We'll also help prep palms for Palm Sunday.

TBA – Food Drive

Melissa Volitich and Dawn Weiss have initiated planning a food drive for the St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry. Determining a reasonable date we can fit it in is our first task. Please stay tuned for details.

~ Mark Winovich, Church School Superintendent



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Saturday, April 20th – Lazarus Saturday – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 21st – Palm Sunday – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.; Lenten Vespers at Holy Trinity Cathedral at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24th – Holy Unction Service at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 25th – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 26th – Good Friday – Vespers and Burial Service at 4:00 p.m.; Matins and Procession at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 27th – Holy Saturday – Vespers and Liturgy of St. Basil at 10:00 a.m.; Nocturn and Paschal Matins at 11:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 28th – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Monday, April 29th – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. (subject to change)



Pittsburgh Area Serbian Orthodox Church Schools



Best Buddies Friendship Walk - Registration

1. Go to the Church School Team page: <https://tinyurl.com/bestbuddies-htsoc>
2. Click "Join Team"



3. Click "Agree" for the Entry waiver that comes up

agree" option below, I agree to tl

AGREE

4. Fill out personal information (name, address, etc)
 - a. Anything with a red asterisk is required
5. Click button for Pittsburgh Walker Registration
6. Ensure the team name is Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church School
7. Make a donation if desired
8. Show on Honor Roll - If you want your name to show on honor roll page, click
9. Enter your payment information
 - a. If you do not want to give online, you can bring check to the event
 - b. Anything with a red asterisk is required
10. Enter username and password
11. Click Submit

Best Buddies Friendship Walk– Make a donation to our Team

1. Go to Best Buddies website Go to the Church School Team page: <https://tinyurl.com/bestbuddies-htsoc>
2. Click "Donate Now", you should see our team name on the donation page

3. Fill out amount, if you want name to show on honor roll, personal information and credit card information
4. Click Submit

(You can donate online or collect money separately and bring to event.)

A Key to Faithful Stewardship – Charitable Giving



I'm sure you have all heard about the monetary gifts left to Churches, Monasteries and other non-profits. Have you ever thought about how wonderful it would be to leave a legacy of your own to Holy Trinity? **A potential tax deduction today and a legacy gift for tomorrow.**

Do you have a Serb National Federation (or other insurance company) paid-up insurance policy that you own and that has outlived its original purpose? Have you ever considered purchasing a Serb National Federation life insurance policy and leaving a legacy gift to Holy Trinity Cathedral while creating tax advantages* for yourself today? There are a number of ways to make a Gift of Life Insurance to HTC:

1. Transfer current policy by transferring ownership rights to Holy Trinity Cathedral, especially when:
 - The policy is no longer needed for its original purpose.
 - The policy no longer critical.
 - Donating a fully paid-up policy can entitle the donor to a charitable deduction equal to the lessor of premiums paid over the life of the policy or the cost of a comparable replacement policy purchased today.*
 - HTC would be able to access any cash value in the policy upon ownership transfer.
2. Purchase a new policy:
 - In order to create tax advantages, the owner and beneficiary of the policy must be HTC. As a result, the annual premiums paid are a charitable tax deduction. *

If the donor decides to simply name Holy Trinity Cathedral as the beneficiary of the policy, upon the donor's death the death benefit passes to HTC and qualifies for a charitable estate tax deduction. Policies can be purchased by Choir members, Kolo members, Men's Club members, etc., naming these Cathedral Organizations as owner and beneficiary.

The Serb National Federation offers many types of policies including Whole Life, Single Premium Life, 20-Payment Life, and 10-Year Renewable and Convertible Term Life Insurance.

As an example, a 50-year-old non-smoking male can offer HTC a gift of \$5000 by naming the church as owner and beneficiary of a 20-pay whole life policy that will cost him only \$190.00 a year; only \$15.85/month (\$162.50/year for a female). The premium can qualify as a charitable tax deduction depending on your circumstances.*

The Serb National Federation also offers annuities earning great tax deferred interest rates. A Saver 2 is currently earning 2.25%, Saver 6 has an effective rate of 3.65% and our NEWEST Saver 8 with an effective rate of 4.04% can't be beat!

If you are interested in purchasing an insurance policy or annuity from the Serb National Federation or discussing Charitable Gift Giving of Life Insurance or Annuities, please contact Aleksandra Slavkovic, Licensed Insurance Agent and HTC's Financial Secretary, via e-mail at aslavkovic@snflife.org.

**The information provided here is not meant to be a substitute for professional legal or tax advice.*

Footprints in the Sand

One night I had a dream.
I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.
Across the sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand;
One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord.
When the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that many times along the path of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life.
This bothered me and I questioned the Lord about it.
"Lord, You said that once I decided to follow You,
You'd walk with me all the way;
But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,
there is only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why,
in times when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child,
I love you and I would never leave you.
During your times of trial and suffering
when you see only one set of footprints,
it was then that I carried you."



~ Author Unknown

SNF Job Opening for Part-Time Administrative Assistant

The SNF is looking for a multi-tasker with excellent communication skills and a great attitude. Candidates should be able to complete general office duties, including but not limited to skilled operation of office equipment, adhering to standard office procedures and telephone etiquette. To be successful, candidates should be professional, polite and attentive to the needs of our members. The Administrative Assistant must be comfortable with computers, general office tasks, and excel at both verbal and written communication. They must have the ability to communicate effectively via phone, mail and e-mail, transfer calls and take messages, scan, photocopy and assemble materials, and maintain files.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite, especially Word and Excel. The ability to operate office equipment, i.e. computer, copier and scanner is essential. Screening phone calls and routing callers to appropriate party. Maintain polite and professional communication via phone, email and mail.

REQUIREMENTS: High School Graduate with administrative experience. Excellent computer skills. Attention to detail. Other combinations of applicable education, training, and experience which provide the knowledge, abilities, and skills necessary to perform effectively in the position will be considered. Knowledge of the Serbian language is not required, but definitely a plus!



If interested, please email your résumé to John Martich at jmartich@snflife.org. No phone calls please.



Cookie Sale Wrap-Up

The HTC Christmas Cookie Sale was a HUGE success due to the efforts and support from the HTC community. The dedication of our nut roll bakers, our cookie bakers, our set-up and sale-day volunteers, and our financial backers was very evident and much appreciated. As a result of your tremendous efforts, our profit exceeded even our expectations with a final profit of nearly **\$10,200!** Please save the date for this year's event – Saturday, December 11. Hope we can count on you all in some way!

“The Nut Rollers” – Many thanks to the following for their time to help at the Picnic Grounds to bake almost 700 nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls and also nut horns!
Ann Marie Belich, Cherry Bobik, Denise Brajovic, Kathy Bratich, Mira Budesa, Anne Edwards, Chris & Ned Karlovich, Rajka Kronic, Darene Marculaitis, Melanie McCabe, Dijana Mirkovic, Danielle Opacic, JoAnn Paisley, Helene Prince, Melanie Stanish, Maria Stanojevic, Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, Lisa Tomasovich, Mitza Trbovich, Joanne Vash, Mary Vukelich, Vicki Vukelich, and Joyce Wuchenich.

“The Cookie Bakers” – Thanks to all of the following for the delicious and beautiful baked goods that so impressed our shoppers!

Ann Marie Belich, Marica Block, Denise Brajovic, Andrea Bratich, Kathy Bratich, Danijela & Petar Budesa, Mira Budesa, Anka Clark, Darlene Defebo, Anne Edwards, Emily Geisler, Nancy Generalovich, Carol Horan, Chris & Ned Karlovich, Vida Komer, Jennifer Kosanovich, Kara Kosanovich, Father Rajko Kosic, Kelly Lambert, Dana & Debbie Maravich, Darene Marculaitis, Dijana Mirkovic, Dessa Mrvos, Marie Mrvo, Danielle Opaci, JoAnn Paisley, Shirley Popovich, Helene Prince, Mary Ann Raynovich, Caitlin Rubinstein, Ana Stakic, Maria Stanojevic, Maria Stepanovich, Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, Marsha Susnjar, Lisa Tomasovich, Lara Trbovich, Mitza Trbovich, Joanne Vash, Amy Vignovic, Celia Vuich, Mary Vukelich, Vicki Vukelich, Andrea Weber, Dawn Weiss, Danella Winovich, Lisa Winovich, Joyce Wuchenich, Ana Yandrich, and Mary Zetz.

“The Cookie Backers” – A sincere thank you for the generous monetary donations to help offset our expenses. Nada & Phil Catanzaro, Mark & Janice Davic, Divna & Miroslav Djokic, Dianne Franiewski (*in memory of mother Mary Musulin Vignovich*), Elsa Karamarkovich, Vida Kernich, Nadine Kosanovich, Mary Lou & Richard Kossum, Dushie & Ruth Mamula, Dawna Martich, Melanie & Bill McCabe, George & Dorothy Milanovich, Debbie Miller-O’Neill, Donald & Sahli Mrvos, Rada & Patrick O’Shea, Amelia Opacic, Ray & Shirley Popovich, Millie Radovick, Paul Rollin, Millie Susnjar, Millie Vignovic, Fran & Marty West, Grace Winovich, Eileen & Mark Zivkovich, and Anonymous.

“Santa’s Helpers” – Much gratitude to all those who helped out in setting up and/or working the day of the Cookie Sale!

Ann Marie Belich, Dolores Belich, Cherry Bobik, Kathy & Eli Bratich, Snezana Djoridjevic, Emily Geissler, Vida Kernich, Jennifer Kosanovich, Kara Kosanovich, David Manko, Eli Maravich, Darene Marculaitis, Dessa Mrvos, Sara Mrvos, Danielle Opacic, JoAnn Paisley, Helene Prince, George & Maria Stepanovich, Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, Lisa Tomasovich, Mitza Trbovich, Jennifer Trklja, Vicki Vukelich, Dawn Weiss, Danella Winovich, and Mark Winowich

Hopefully we didn’t omit anyone’s name from the lists above. We couldn’t have accomplished this without everyone’s help!

With sincere appreciation from Doreen Leech and Rudley Mrvos, co-chairpersons

Nut Rolls or Apple Strudels for Easter Anyone??



Plans are afoot to offer nut rolls and apple strudels for sale to our church parishioners and families and friends for the Easter holiday!

- **Nut rolls** will be made at HTC on Saturday, April 6, and Saturday, April 13. You can purchase nut rolls on those days, nice and warm, from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. or on Sundays (the 7th, 14th, or 21st) after liturgy and while supplies last.
- **Apple or cheese strudels** will be available on Saturday, April 13, from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. or after liturgy on the 14th and 21st while supplies last.

★★ HELP WANTED!!

In the hopes of better communications amongst our parishioners and with the “outside world,” the Board is working on organizing a committee to seek out better ways to strengthen communications. Specifically, we are looking for the following:

Webmaster – someone willing to maintain our existing site and work to keep it current, compelling, and interesting; experience with web apps and html is necessary as well as a strong sense of design and writing; perhaps one of our young adults would take this on?

Social Media – someone who would start from the ground up and get HTC into the 21st century on Facebook and/or Twitter and other social media; again perhaps one of our young adults would be interested in taking this on?

The Board’s Communications Committee will oversee these “positions” – the committee would also provide the content, as it is received, to be posted to all sites and apps. If anyone or any “team” is interested in working on either position, please contact Doreen Leech at doreenleech@gmail.com. We need to maintain and organize a more active media presence to “get the word out” about HTC!

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ...

We sincerely regret the passing of several of our church members and friends this past year or so. The sympathy from our congregation is extended to the families and friends of:

Joe Bartos
 Peter Bielich
 Sava Djukic
 Ann Kosanovich
 George Kosanovich
 Peter "Peppy" Kosanovich
 Ziva Kurtesevic
 Nancy Radnor
 Luba Stoicovy
 Mildred Trbovich
 Mary Alice Vukas
 Milan Vukas
 John "Bratso" Wuchenich



May their memory be eternal!



FYI ... Contact Information for HTC Organizations

HTC Choir:

Valarie Tassari (valtassari@yahoo.com)

HTC Kolo:

Cheryl Bobik (babisangel@comcast.net)

HTC Men's Club:

Siniša Budeša (sbudes15@gmail.com)

Jedinstvo Folklore Ensemble:

Rada O'Shea (rada.oshea@gmail.com)

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign has a monetary goal to pay off the \$400,000 bank loan needed to maintain, preserve, improve, and sustain our Cathedral. This effort began in the fall of 2018 and has raised or pledged funds, to date, of approximately \$250,000 through the end of 2019. This amount is \$150,000 short of reaching the goal of \$400,000 to pay off the loan.

Members, parishioners, and friends of HTC ... *we need your financial support* through your donations to raise funds for the full loan payment. All donations are tax deductible.

For your convenience and ease of contributing, there are a variety of methods by which parishioners and friends may donate – please call the Cathedral office at (412) 882-3900 for assistance and further information.

We graciously thank you, in advance, for your interest and commitment to participate.



Membership "Memo"

We currently have **232 individual/family members!**

- For **individuals and families**, membership dues are \$16/per month, \$50/quarter or \$200/year.

We currently have **60 spousal/widow/widower members.**

- The **Spousal or Widows/Widowers Memberships** are \$10/month, \$30/quarter or \$120/year.

Our membership fees are less than the cost of a cup of coffee a day! Get your application today!

So often we hear, "What benefits do I have by becoming a member of the Church?" The privileges and benefits are countless. Let's start with certainty and security in faith. The primary function of our Church is to help us discover the will of God, to understand His teachings as contained in the Holy Scripture and Sacred Tradition. In this time of confusion on what we as Orthodox Christians should believe and how we are to live in order to please God and earn eternal salvation, the voice of our Church is present to lead us to eternal life. Through membership in the Church, we become members of Christ's Mystical Body and through the Sacraments we receive the abundance of God's graces. God's presence is always with us.

Membership applications are available on our website: <https://htsoc.com>. You can also stop by the Church office or request one via email ... membership@htsoc.com.

Thanks for being a member!

Aleksandra Slavkovic

HTC Board Financial Secretary

This Is a Time



There is a compelling nature to Great Lent, a magnetism that works upon our inner beings. We are called to examine our lives, our relationship with ourselves, with others, and with God. This is the time to restore our lives to a proper perspective, to devote time to God, to family, to work ... to nourish our souls, to have correct balance in what we do. This is a time to worship more, to pray more, and to give more.



**Christ Is Risen!
Indeed He Is Risen!**

**Hristos Voskrese,
Voistinu Voskrese!**

**Holy Trinity Serbian
Orthodox Cathedral**

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412-882-6391

Email
htcpggh@gmail.com

Priest
Very Rev. Father Rajko Kosic

Church Board President
Eli Bratich

Church Secretary
Lisa Winowich

The Trinitarian Editor
Doreen Leech

American Serbian Club of Pittsburgh



Our membership dues deadline is March 31st. If you haven't already done so, please make sure your dues are paid. Contact Michelle via email at ASCDues@yahoo.com.

ASC Scholarship information is up on the club website. The deadline to submit applications is **May 1, 2019**. Scholarships will be awarded at the Club Picnic on **Saturday, July 6**, and all recipients must be in attendance.

Planning is already underway for the upcoming Club events – please mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details!

- Friday, May 17 - Comedy Night
- Sunday, June 9 - Chicken Roast
- Saturday, July 6 - Picnic - ASC Foundation Scholarships awarded
- July 19-21 - Three Day!

Looking forward to a good year and lots of fun and friendship at the Club.

If you haven't already done so, check out the "renovated" ASC web site at:
americanserbianclub.us

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