

Holy Trinity - St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church



ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, undertook a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him. A lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Sep 1 - Ecclesiastical New Year
- Sep 2 - 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
- Sep 3 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- Sep 8 - 10 am Liturgy (Nativity of Theotokos)
- Sep 9 - 10 am Liturgy (Sts. Joachim and Anna), 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- Sep 10 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- Sep 14 - Elevation of the Holy Cross, Parish Council Meeting
- Sep 16 - 5:30 pm Women's Bible Study
- Sep 17 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- Sep 23 - 10 am Liturgy for Conception of John the Baptist, 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- Sep 24 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- Sep 26 - 10 am Liturgy (St. John the Theologian)
- Sep 28 - Hope and Joy
- Sep 30 - 5:30 Women's Bible Study

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	1 Ecclesiastical New Year	2 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	3 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	4	5	6
7 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	8 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Nativity of the Theotokos	9 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Sts. Joachim and Anna Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	10 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	11	12	13
14 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Elevation of the Cross Parish Council Meeting	15	16 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	17 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	18	19	20
21 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	22	23 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Conception of John the Baptist Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	24 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	25	26 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Repose of St. John the Theologian	27
28 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Hope and Joy	29	30 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	1 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis	2	3	4
Strict Fast	Fish Allowed	Dairy Allowed	Wine and Oil Allowed			

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The parish council meeting took place on August 10th. It was, again, relatively brief and rehashed topics such as a narthex, the pantocrator project, and Sunday school upgrades. Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, the iconographer continues to push back the pantokrator installation date. The latest news we have is that he returns from his Greek vacation at the end of this month.

We continue to gather information on a narthex build within. We have received a quote for the construction of a wall that would include double doors down the center aisle, an additional door on each outward aisle, soundproof glass, a floating ceiling within the narthex, and more. This would decrease capacity, but still provide seating for at least 112 (8 per pew) within the sanctuary and an additional 16 (two pews against the back wall) in the narthex. We hope to have things finalized in time for the fall general assembly. This project is seen as one of the last two "big" ones with the bathrooms being the other. We continue to gather information on how to improve the bathrooms both functionally and aesthetically in a cost effective manner. Prior quotes were unreasonable and we continue to work through options.

Lastly, Sunday School changes continue to take place. As previously mentioned, we thank Ellen Hontzas for her years of service as Sunday School Director and welcome her new role of teaching the children the hymns of the church. We also thank Heather Hontzas for stepping up and taking on the Director role and the other Sunday school teachers for their tireless work in this important ministry. There is now a new curriculum, some room swapping, and room improvements. The children's sermon has been a welcome addition and we certainly thank Fr. Mike for helping make the children a focus of our community.

**Your Servants,
The Parish Council**



A Message from Fr. Mike

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
September 1st marks the beginning of a new year in our Church. We also have the Elevation of the Cross on September 14th. The example of St. Helen reminds us that we can find Christ when we seek him with authentic desire. As we embark on the new year of our Church's calendar, I hope that we all remember the importance of calling our focus back to this central aspect of our faith. In our men's Bible study, we have been reading Way of a Pilgrim, which emphasizes the idea that we must avoid getting lost in anything superfluous, as ultimately our life in the Church is about building a relationship with God. For those who may have missed it, a schedule was also sent out which will guide us through reading the Orthodox Study Bible with short readings each day of the coming year. For anyone who is interested, this would be a great way to renew our focus on the fundamentals of our faith.

• Fr. Mike

Hope and Joy

On Sunday, September 28th after Sunday School we will have our first Hope and Joy session for this year. We will discuss the significance of memorial services, including how and why we make koliva, and have activities planned to make learning fun for the children. We will look forward to seeing them there.



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

KINDNESS BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS



Nourishment

*personal hygiene and food to nourish the body;
simple items that will cater to this basic need*



SHAMPOO



TOOTHPASTE



WATER



FOOD



CRACKERS

Warmth

*items that will provide warmth and protect
the person from extreme weather conditions*



T-SHIRTS



SOCKS



PANTS



FOOTWEAR

Food for the Soul

*things that will make giving more meaningful;
sharing beliefs and resources to help the homeless*



LETTERS OF
ENCOURAGEMENT



INSPIRATIONAL
SAYINGS



HOPE
MESSAGE



PRAYER



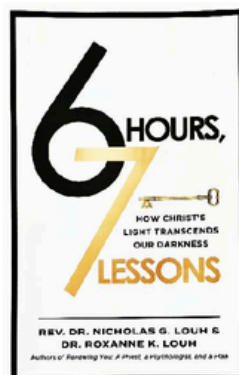
PLACE ITEMS IN THE DONATION BIN
BY SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2025

The Education, Culture and Youth Ministry of
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 1200 Allen Toussaint Blvd, New Orleans, LA
present our

Fall Spiritual Retreat

Fri. Sept. 12 & Sat. Sept. 13

6 Hours, 7 Lessons **How Christ's Light** **Transcends our Darkness**



Reverend Father Nicholas Louh — renowned speaker and author — will lead us in a retreat based on his and his wife's most recent book: *6 Hours, 7 Lessons*. Please RSVP by Friday, Sept. 5.

Note: The book will be available for purchase before and at the Retreat (\$25.00).

Friday, Sept 12

5:00pm – 6:00pm : Sign-in and Dinner

6:00pm – 9:00pm : Chapters 1 – 3

- 1) Father, Forgive Them**
- 2) With Me in Paradise**
- 3) Woman Behold Your Son**

**THE RETREAT IS
FREE TO ATTEND**

Saturday, Sept 13

8:30am – 9:00am : Sign in / Light Breakfast

9:00am – 12:00 noon : Chapters 4 – 7

- 4) My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?**
- 5) I Thirst**
- 6) It is Finished**
- 7) Into Your Hands**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm : Lunch / Final Remarks/Questions

Child Care on Both Days provided with reservation by Fri., Sept. 5

RSVP dedousis@juno.com or call 859-312-2795

YOU'RE INVITED TO A DELIGHTFUL

LUAU THEMED TEA PARTY



20 SEPTEMBER 2025
1 – 3 PM

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
50 S. Ann St.
Mobile, AL 36604

Come For The Tea, Stay For The Good Company!



HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL NEW ORLEANS, La

1200 AllanToussaintBlvd,

New Orleans, LA70122

WESTERN CONFERENCE LOCK IN

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH,
11:00am - SUNDAY OCTOBER**

**5TH, ENDING WITH DIVINE LITURGY
AND LUNCH**

SIGN UP HERE:



For questions, please contact:
dedousis@juno.com

Leadership 100

