

Epistle Reading

St Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11



BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of Luke 14:16-24



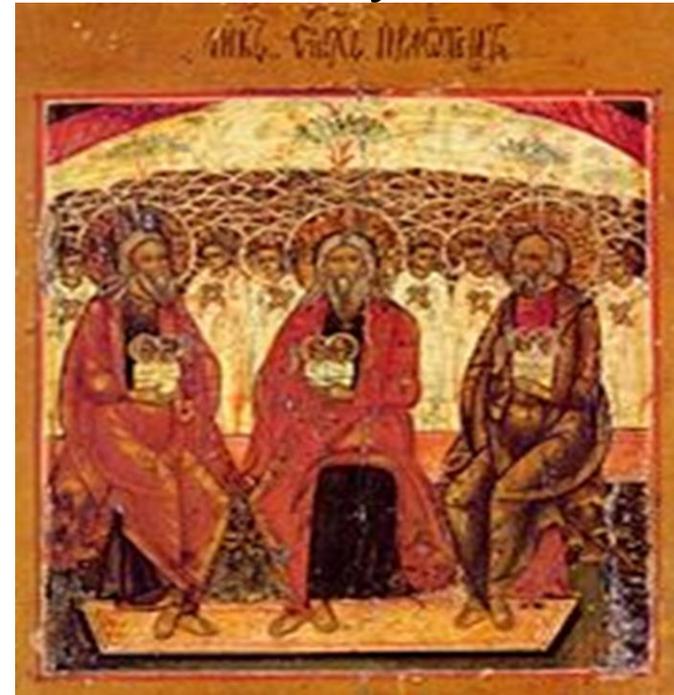
The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his

master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"



Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake
www.gocslc.org; Orthodoxy3@gmail.com

Sunday, December 13th, 2015
11th Sunday of Luke



To contact our clergy, please call the numbers listed below:

Reverend Father Matthew Gilbert: 801-556-1139
Reverend Father Elias Koucos: 801-556-4640
Reverend Father George Politis (retired)

Holy Trinity Cathedral: 279 S. 300 W. SLC, UT 84101, (801) 328-9681
Prophet Elias Church: 5335 Highland Dr. Holladay, UT 84117, (801) 277-2693

Sunday Services

December 13th, 2015

11th Sunday of Luke

Holy Trinity:

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias

Prophet Elias

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Matthew

December 20th, 2015

Sunday before Nativity

Holy Trinity:

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Matthew

Prophet Elias

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias

Weekday Services

December 15th, 2015

Feast of Saint Eleftherios

Holy Trinity:

Orthros 9:00am followed by Divine Liturgy Fr. Matthew/Fr Elias

December 16th, 2015

Advent Paraclesis with Anointing

Prophet Elias: 10:00am

Fr. Matthew/Fr Elias

Memorials

December 13th, 2015

Christos Tsoutsounakis

40 Years

Holy Trinity

George Tsoutsounakis

Holy Trinity

Ourania Tsoutsounakis

Holy Trinity

December 20th, 2015

Tony Kalivas

18 Years

Prophet Elias

Helen Kalivas

6 Years

Prophet Elias

Prayer List

Joan, Jim, Toula, Peter, Sara, Christine, Agnes, Irene, Alexia, Isaac, Mike, Sammy, Tami, Stephanie, Stella, Karri, Steve, Holly, Christian, Jamie, Cindy, Terry

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list you can do so by calling the main office at Holy Trinity at 801-328-9681.

Parish Council Election Results

Congratulations to the newly-elected Parish Council members:

Yannis Armaou

Nick Bapis

Steve Gamvroulas

Lee Kapos

Tom McGrath

Jim Sakellariou

Ted Sargetakis

Cindy Skedros

Who will join the remaining Parish Council members:

Lei Ann Bathemess

Deno Kambouris

Dr. Philip Kithas

Maria Shilaos Nelson

Thomas Peters

Deno Priskos

Dr. Tykie Skedros

The 2016 Parish Council will take the affirmation of office upon ratification of the election by His Eminence Metropolitan Isaiah.

When Scheduling Memorials... Memorials must be scheduled through Fr. Matthew. For inquiries regarding memorials or to schedule one, please contact Fr. Matthew at 801-556-1139 or matthewthepriest@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM FATHER MATTHEW

WORDS FOR OUR SALVATION

The Lord Himself has said that He came to call not the righteous but the lost to salvation. His coming at Christmas is especially significant for the afflicted, destitute and hopeless in spirit, health or circumstance. Let us turn to the God of all in time of suffering and distress. In whatever circumstance we may find ourselves, let us fix our eyes on God, praise Him as Lord, confess our sins to Him and commit our lives to Him in complete obedience. He is near to uphold us with His mighty grace in the most trying moments.

HOW CAN WE EXPERIENCE A MORE MEANINGFUL CHRISTMAS? Think about these things: 1) The examples of our Holy Church Forefathers, whose memories we commemorate today, remind us of the priority of seeking, believing in and serving God – always looking to Him for the fulfillment of our deepest hopes and desires. 2) The purpose of fasting is to live free from the bondage of excessive food and drink. 3) The singing of Christmas hymns inspires us to anticipate Christmas as a spiritual banquet. 4) The preparation to receive Holy Communion awakens us spiritually and leads us to see how truly Christ is born in us. 5) Giving ourselves to others in need – our attention, our love, our time and our resources – puts flesh and blood on the meaning of Christmas.

PRE-CHRISTMAS CONFESSION SCHEDULE

For those wishing to come to the Sacrament of HOLY CONFESSION before the celebration of the Holy Nativity of our Lord, I will be available immediately following services TODAY, **December 13th**, at **Prophet Elias** and immediately after services NEXT SUNDAY, **December 20th** at **Holy Trinity**. To schedule Confession on another day, please call me on my cell phone at 801-556-1139 to arrange it. What better way to be spiritually renewed as we prepare for the celebration of the Birth of our Lord!

A MOTHER'S PRAYER IS VERY POWERFUL

All MOTHERS AND MOTHERS-TO-BE are once again invited to gather TODAY at Prophet Elias to *read aloud together* the AKATHIST TO THE MOTHER OF GOD, NURTURER OF CHILDREN, in church while I am giving Antidoron at the end of services. It is my hope that, as this wonderful group enlarges, we will be able to have *two groups* that pray this Akathist at least once a month at both churches simultaneously at the conclusion of a Sunday Liturgy during the distribution of Antidoron. I will provide copies of this awesome service, so if you don't have this Akathist, don't worry; I will give it to you.

HOUSE BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR

Yes, a new year is nearly upon us and it is my hope and desire to BLESS YOUR HOMES AND BUSINESSES during the month of **JANUARY!** Following the Greater Blessing of the Waters which takes place on **January 6th** for the Feast of Theophany, the waters from this blessing are brought into the dwelling of the parishioners and are sprinkled in all rooms by the priest. The blessing of homes by these holy waters maintains the spiritual association

between the family church and the parish. I ask that you please contact me at your earliest convenience to let me know if you would like your home and/or business blessed in the New Year! You can reach me on my cell phone at 801-556-1139.

TUESDAY MORNINGS WITH THE LORD

Our TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY-- during which we continue to study the awesome Book of Revelation -- will be held this Tuesday, **December 15th** at 10:30am at the Little America Coffee Shop. We will also meet on Tuesday, **December 22nd**. Even if you have not yet attended one of our weekly gatherings, we most warmly welcome and encourage you to join us! It is never too late to attend!

SPECIAL UPCOMING SERVICES TO NOTE

The final two ADVENT PARACLESIS SERVICES will be offered for the healing of our souls and bodies on Wednesday, **December 16th** at **10:00am** at **Prophet Elias** and on Wednesday, **December 23rd** at **10:00am** at **Holy Trinity**. If you would like your loved ones remembered at these supplication services, I invite you to please submit to me the names of your loved ones prior to these services. ****In the event of WINTER WEATHER conditions, please verify in advance whether or not some of the designated weekday services (paraclesis, etc.) will still be held. You may call me at 801- 556-1139****
Please refer to the listing of services section in this bulletin for all other liturgical services.

SCHEDULE OF HOLIDAY SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24th:

9:00am - Royal Hours and Vespereal Liturgy of Saint Basil at Holy Trinity Only (Since this service includes a Vespereal Liturgy, there is Holy Communion during this morning service.)

CHRISTMAS EVE EVENING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24th:

6:00pm (Orthros) / 7:00pm (Divine Liturgy) – THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST at Prophet Elias Only

CHRISTMAS MORNING, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25th:

9:00am (Orthros) /10:00am (Divine Liturgy) – THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST at Holy Trinity Only

NEW YEAR'S MORNING, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1st:

9:00am (Orthros) /10:00am (Divine Liturgy) – THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD and SAINT BASIL THE GREAT at Prophet Elias Only

Humbly in Christ,
Father Matthew

Youth Weekly Devotional

Standing Before God's Open Door – Let Us Enter

1 Corinthians 16:5-9

“Now I will come unto you, when I shall pass through Macedonia: for I do pass through Macedonia. And it may be that I will abide, yea, and winter with you, that ye may bring me on my journey whithersoever I go. For I will not see you now by the way; but I trust to tarry a while with you, if the Lord permit. But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries”.

My Dear Beloved Children as we continue our journey toward our Lord's Holy Incarnation may we open the door to our hearts that our Lord may enter and live within us always and that as He comes to us let us enter into the door of salvation He opens for us. Let us be mindful of the real reason for the season and not be totally engulfed with the secular concerns and business of shopping and the like. God's uppermost thoughts is our salvation. He expects us as Orthodox Christians to have the same mindset. We have the responsibility of advancing His kingdom by sharing the Gospel and being His Disciples to others. As His servants, we're to focus on His agenda, not preoccupy ourselves with earthly concerns (2 Tim. 2:4). To achieve His plan, God will open doors of service for each of us—in our Church, neighborhoods, schools, our nation and foreign lands. Our part is to watch for opportunities and be ready to take an active role. Spiritual preparation includes prayer and a daily quiet time, plus accountability with other Christians. Whether God assigns us major tasks or smaller ones, we must be in position and all set to say yes. When we answer His call, we will discover He has equipped us with everything that we need to fulfill our mission (2 Pet. 1:3). The most important work in our world is to help with our Father's redemptive plan: He is rescuing people from the power of sin, adopting them into His family, and transforming them from rebellious, self-centered beings into reflections of His obedient and loving Son Jesus. Those of us who have been the beneficiaries of God's saving work have an obligation to assist in His plan to rescue others. We have a responsibility to prepare ourselves—by surrendering our desires for His, committing to know Him better, and obeying His directions. The Lord has prepared work for each of us to do (Eph. 2:10). How is He asking you to use your spiritual gifts and abilities to fulfill His plan? This Holy Nativity season open the door to your heart and let Christ be born there.

+fr. elias

GOYA BASKETBALL SCHEDULE SATURDAY, DEC. 19TH

6th Grade Boys 10:00am at Prophet Elias
7th Grade Boys 12:00pm at St. Olaf's in Bountiful
7th Grade Girls 11:00am at Prophet Elias
8th Grade Boys 3:00pm at St. John the Baptist
9th – 10th Grade Boys 12:00pm at Prophet Elias
11th – 12th Grade Boys 11:00am at St. Vincent's
Come out cheer and support our youth.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To the 7th Grade Girls and 6th the Grade Boys GOYA Basketball teams who won their first game!
Keep up that great team spirit!

Please see the schedule above for the next games.

YOUTH SPEAKERS AND READERS

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13TH, 2015

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

EPISTLE READER: Michael Kalodimas

SPEAKER: Vicky Louras

PROPHET ELIAS

EPISTLE READER: Andoni Telondis

SPEAKER: Toby Robertson

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Holy Trinity and Prophet Elias Sunday school Christmas Program will be **December 13th**, 2015 at **5:00p.m** at Holy Trinity. Dinner to immediately follow and special "surprise guest!" Details to follow. Questions, call Paul Karahalios at 801-870-1514, Elenie Sefandonakis at 801-718-7515 or Denise Nikols, 801-604-6782.

PAN ARCADIAN FEDERATION CHRISTMAS PARTY

(Theodoros Kolokotronis Chapter #90)

The annual Christmas party will be on Thursday, **December 17th, 2015** at 7:00 pm at Aristo's Restaurant. Family style menu will be served. Make your reservation with Karen, karenanast@gmail.com or 801-913-2414. Hope you can come. Save the date.

ARCADIANS

ARCADIAN LADIES CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON is scheduled for Saturday, **December 19TH** at Noon at **Anna's Restaurant**, 4700 South 900 East. It will be an open menu in a private room. Please **RSVP** by **December 12TH** to Karen Anastasopoulos, [801-913-2414](tel:801-913-2414) or karenanast@gmail.com.

Our Christmas project this year is to donate needed items to the Hope Lodge (a residence facility for out-of-town cancer patients receiving treatment). Their activity room is in need of both adult and children items such as **USED BOOKS, NEW OR USED DVD'S, PUZZLES, PLAYING CARDS, BINGO SET, and BOARD GAMES**. Please donate an item and bring to the luncheon. Thanks so much.



Today is the Last Day! Community Christmas Card!

Get ready for the Holidays and wish your fellow parishioners a Merry Christmas by signing the Community Christmas Card for **\$10.00**.

You can do this at the Narthex on Sunday or simply mail a check, pay online, or call the office at 801-328-9681 for more information. We appreciate your support, and wish you a blessed Holiday Season to come.



It's That Time Again!

Please help grant the wishes of a few less fortunate families this Christmas Season by picking up an Angel Tree Tag. They are available in the narthex of both churches. Donations can also be made at the Holy Trinity Office. God Bless you and your Families as we celebrate the Birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Please feel free to contact Bonnie Georgelas at 801-699-2171 Or Pari Katsanevas at 801-652-6249 with any questions

LET PHILOPTOCHOS DO YOUR HOLIDAY BAKING

Philoptochos will be selling Baklava and Koulouria
30 Pieces of Baklava \$30
Dozen Koulouria \$6

Baklava & Koulouria will be available for pick-up
December 13th at Holy Trinity.

For pre orders please contact Shelly Anderson at 801-277-6651
or
Nia Reganis at 801-582-1454.
All proceeds benefit Philoptochos Charities



Nick Bapis from the Bapis Group at High Tower Advisors has been honored in this year's annual Research Magazine's Advisor Hall of Fame feature.

Candidates who pass the rigorous screens for this award have served a minimum of 20 years in the industry, have acquired substantial assets under management, have demonstrated superior client service and have earned recognition from their peers and the broader community for the honor they reflect on their profession.

Congratulations to Nick on the well-deserved and prestigious honor!

GOYA Christmas Parties

Sr GOYA (9-12th grades)

Sunday, **December 20th**

At the Home of:

Bill, Joanne, & Mihali Sergakis

Address:

2963 East Anne Marie Drive
(6575 South)

Call or Text:

RSVP: to Joanne 801-518-4802

Party will begin at **6:30pm**

Dinner will be provided. Please bring:

- ❖ A dessert or candy/snack to share with everyone
- ❖ A \$10 white elephant gift to exchange
- ❖ New Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Mittens Socks or Underwear (sizes for teenagers welcome) for the ROAD HOME Shelter (GOYA'S service Project)



Thank You 

The evening of Sunday December 6th. was a very special day for the Prophet Elias choir. Our full house and enthusiastic audience, at our concert, was over whelming

We want to thank our council president Alicia Mares and the church staff for their help and support throughout our preparing for the concert as well as the custodians at Prophet Elias for setting up and taking down of the mats, chairs and tables and doing much more.

Thanks to the two hundred people who attended and cheered us on.

God bless you all and see you next year. 😊

The Prophet Elias Choir.

Prophet Elias Renovations

We would like to give you a brief update on the current renovations at Prophet Elias. At this time, the interior cleaning of the brick is complete with sealing in progress. The exterior of the dome has been repaired. The interior of the dome is in the sheetrock stage at this time, with scaffolding onsite. The outside wood doors are being restored at this time. The work that will commence after the completion of the dome is; the painting of the ceiling, installation of the new carpeting, re-installing the pews.

Beginning this Sunday the interior of the Church will be open for 15 minutes after services and during coffee hour. Please come and look at the progress and ask any questions you may have. We only ask that you stay in the space directly inside the church for safety reasons. We appreciate your continued support and patience as we restore the interior of our church.

Office Administrator Position Available

There is a full time position available for an Office Administrator at the Holy Trinity Cathedral .Qualified candidates must demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills, be well organized and able to handle multiple tasks. Duties include; weekly/monthly bulletins, assisting Clergy, website maintenance, excellent computer skills, self-starter, with minimal supervision. Candidate must be familiar with Microsoft Word, Publisher and Excel programs. Please send a cover letter and resume to conniegoc@gmail.com or contact Connie Yengich at 801-328-9681.



Lambs, Hope and Joy

We will be having our Christmas activity on: Wednesday, **December 16th**, 2015 6:00pm at Prophet Elias.

We have a great evening planned, you won't want to miss!

We will be doing a fun activity as we talk about the birth of Jesus! If you were not able to attend the "Cross Salt Art" activity in September, please have your child bring a wallet size picture of themselves.

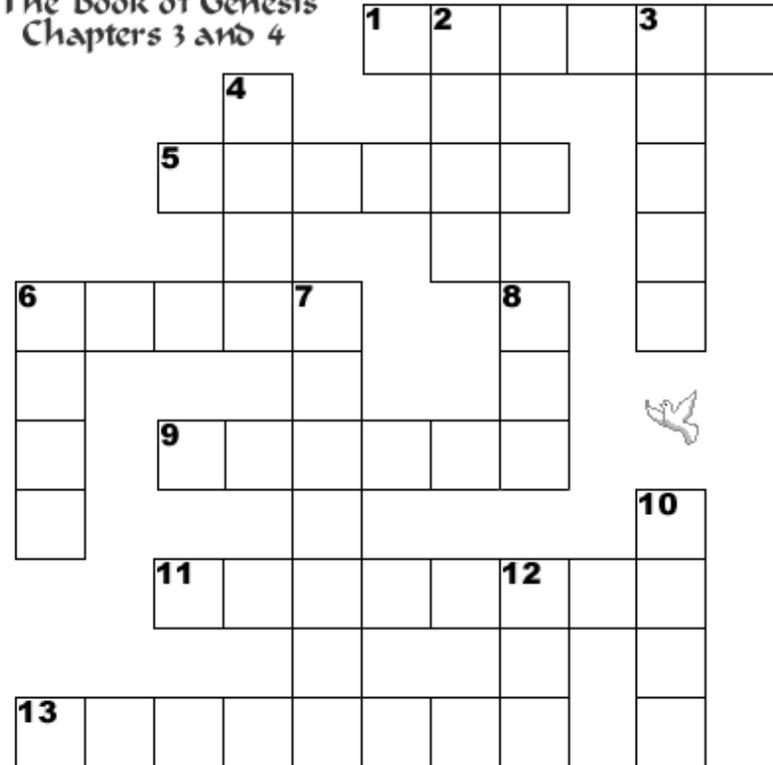
We will have some fun treats and will be doing a white elephant gift exchange, so please bring a \$5 gift. If you are able to attend, please let **Arge Feotis** know by Monday, **December 14th**: Phone or text at 801-750-3240 or Email: argefeotis@gmail.com.

Wishing you all the best for a Blessed and Holy Nativity!
See You All There!!

KIDS CORNER

Bible crossword for kids

The Book of Genesis
Chapters 3 and 4



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more puzzles at <http://biblewordgames.com>

Down

- (2) Adam's second son
- (3) Cain's first son (Gen.4:17)
- (4) Adam's first son
- (6) Adam's third son
- (7) What creature tempted Eve
- (8) Cain lived in this land
- (10) First man
- (12) First woman

Across

- (1) Cain's occupation (Gen.4:2)
- (5) The _____ of Eden
- (6) Adam and Eve's first clothes(Gen.3:21)
- (9) Because of sin the ground was _____ (Gen.3:17)
- (11) Abel's occupation (Gen.4:2)
- (13) Cain became a _____ and a vagabond (Gen.4:12)