

TODAY **CELEBRATION OF GREEK LETTERS TODAY!** Students from our Holy Cross Greek and Religious Education programs will offer presentations of the lives of the Three Hierarchs, Saint Basil the Great, Saint Gregory the Theologian and Saint John Chrysostom at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. All are invited to join the Coffee Hour following Divine Services in The Oaks for the Cutting of the Vasilopita for our Greek School Staff and Teachers and students.

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

OYAA BASKETBALL SEASON – SIGN UP NOW! - Get ready for another exciting OYAA Basketball season (**March 1** through early **May**)! We're looking to gauge interest and form teams from our parish youth. The registration deadline is **THIS Friday, February 6**. Teams will have one practice a week. Games are played Sundays throughout the Bay Area. A registration fee of \$50 is payable online. / If your son or daughter (or both!) would like to play boys (grades 4-13); girls (grades 4-8), please contact Greg Charonis at Greg.charonis@gmail.com as soon as possible to express interest and get registration details.

Sat Feb 7 **FDF PREVIEW!** The excitement for FDF 2026 is building, and we're starting the celebration with an exclusive *Apokries*-themed preview night! / Join us for a festive evening featuring special musical guests from Greece performing live with our dancers. Enjoy a night of delicious food, drinks, music, dancing, and a first look at the incredible performances our groups have been preparing. This is your chance to experience the energy, skill, and tradition of FDF before the main event. / Visit our church website to reserve your tickets **today!** **All dancers and children 13 and under are only \$40

Tue Feb 10 **REVMA DANCE GROUP COSTUME FUNDRAISER** Last Chance to help Revma's dancers purchase authentic costumes before FDF. On **Tuesday, February 10**, order **online** from any **Panda Express nationwide** and put **9010296** in the Fundraiser Code box during online checkout at www.pandaexpress.com or via App. 28% of Sales will come back directly to our group. Please share this on your social media page and let family and friends know they can help at **any location** in the country.

Sat Feb 21 **CRAB FEED!** Luscious crab along with salad, Greek-style pasta, olive-oil garlic bread and dessert. A complimentary bottle of wine will be provided with the meal for each table of 10 guests. There will be a no-host full bar with wine, water,



coffee and soft drinks along with Greek music and a raffle. 6 PM - Hors d'oeuvres will be served. 7:30 PM - Dinner starts. \$90 for adults, \$35 for children ages 4-11, and children 3 and under are free. Bring your family, neighbors, and co-workers. Seating is limited! See our church website for the RSVP link, and the flyer.



Sun Feb 22 **PHILOPTOCHOS KIDS'n'CANCER COFFEE HOUR RECEPTION** -



Please join us in the Oaks after Liturgy and help us to reach our goal of \$20,000 to help children with terminal cancer. This ministry of the Philoptochos funds four camps in the West, welcoming children and their families to a few days in the sun, away from hospitals and infusions.

/ We are preparing some delicious food and have planned an amazing drawing where you can choose which prize you would like to win. Please use the donations link at our church website. We look forward to seeing you there! / With our love, *the Holy Cross Philoptochos*



March 6-8

THE BAY AREA LENTEN YOUTH RETREAT - "Yet even now, return to me with all your heart . . ." Joel 2:12. Join us at NatureBridge Golden Gate Campus in the Marin Headlands - Open to all Bay Area Orthodox Youth Grades 6-12. Registration of \$150 includes transportation to and from NatureBridge, limited seating. See the event flyer and/or register (by **February 28**) with this QR code or visit our church website. If you have any questions, please email Father Manoli.



Sun Mar 15

HOLY CROSS PARISH ORATORICAL FESTIVAL - This faith-based



speech festival provides our young people with an opportunity to write and deliver a speech about a topic in Orthodoxy. Our Parish's Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical 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

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **NEWS** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

WE NEED YOU! We are in need of additional Church Ushers. At present we are down to a bare minimum. If you are new to our Church, please volunteer. It's a great way to meet all our Parishioners. This also is a way of contributing to our spiritual stewardship. Please join!

CALL FOR ORATORICAL FESTIVAL JUDGES - We are in need of judges for the Parish Festival on **March 15** and for the District Festival which will be hosted by Holy Cross on **April 19**. 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 in recent years!

YOUTH SINGERS WANTED! Talented young people who love to sing are invited to perform in a beautiful concert of Greek Orthodox hymns, joining with singers from several local churches, on **Sat., May 23**, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in San Francisco. Students in 2nd grade through high school will sing the youth choir parts along with other youth and adult singers. A wonderful opportunity to learn and perform the beautiful music of our church! Three Sunday rehearsals. Contact Eva Canellos, 650-400-1610 or cecanellos@aol.com.

STEWARDSHIP 2026 – The NEW 2026 Stewardship packets are in your homes! Let's make this the “Year of Stewardship”! We thank you for your support and for joining our Parish Community. If you haven't already donated, please visit our church website and make your monthly donation for our minimal ask of \$175 today!

STUDIES AND BIBLE CLASSES! – Classes will meet this week. Please see the church website for NEW Zoom info.

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN We are currently enrolling for the 26-27 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

OUR HOLY CROSS THREE HIERARCHS BOOKSTORE

Our bookstore is grateful to make available all that is Orthodox for personal use or gift-giving, including books for the youngest and older among us, games, icons, and prayer ropes. A new addition to our shelves is *Saint Evmenios, the Disciple of Saint Nikiforos the Leper*. Having lived from 1931-1999, he confronted his diagnosis of leprosy with joy, ‘in anticipation of this great cross that would ultimately unite him to Christ’s glorious Resurrection.”



**GREEK ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE
HOLY CROSS**

***Sunday of the
Publican and Pharisee
February 1, 2026***

The Reverend Father Peter G. Salmas
- e-mail: frpeter@goholycross.org
The Reverend Father Manoli Aspiotis
- e-mail: frmanoli@goholycross.org

900 Alameda de las Pulgas /
Belmont, CA / 94002-1604

650-591-4447 / www.goholycross.org / office@goholycross.org

☒ @GoHC_Belmont /  Holy Cross Church

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **SERVICES** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Sunday, February 1 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee – *Triodion begins* – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord – 8:30 AM Orthros; 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 7 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

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

Tuesday, February 10 – Saint Haralambos – 8:30 AM Orthros; 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 14 – *no services today*

Sunday, February 15 – Sunday of Meatfare (Judgment Sunday) – 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.