

### Annual Christmas Ornament Fundraiser

The Parish Council will have the second annual Christmas Ornament series available for sale for the first week of December, with a brand new design, again for \$12 each. Reserve yours today!

### Our Saint Nicholas Parish Bookstore

Christmas items are here! Be sure to place your order for a Vasilopita coin. Check our selection of icons and great gift items for Christmas!

### Grocery Shopping Programs

Our community has begun participating in the Meijer Community Rewards project.

97 Parishioners are currently signed up, and have earned our Parish \$99 to date! If you shop Meijer, sign up for a rewards card (absolutely NO FEE involved)! Up to 4% of all the purchases made by parishioners who have signed up comes back to us! Our Meijer rewards account number is: **406440**. **You MUST show your card prior to starting your checkout!**

Kroger's and Busch's rechargeable \$5 gift cards are available outside our fellowship hall. 5% of anything you buy at Kroger's or Busch's goes back to the church. Use a credit-card or cash as you would normally and pay with your rechargeable gift-card. It takes 10 extra seconds each time you shop and you are helping our Saint Nicholas Parish!

### The Maids of ATHENA

Fellow Parishioners, the holidays are upon us and as we begin to celebrate with our families, it is also a time to remember that there are others who are not as fortunate as we. For this reason the Maids of Athena are starting a project of making simple fleece blankets and sending them to an Orthodox orphanage in Guatemala.

The orphanage is run by nuns and, therefore, in much need of donations of any kind. Please help the Maids help the orphanage with a small donation. Checks can be made out to 'Maids of Athena' and given to Niki Serras on any Sunday. Thank you for your consideration. God Bless you.

### Church School

There is no Church School on the Sunday's of December 25 and January 1.

*Saint Nicholas Parish food drive* — All families are asked to please donate a food item. There is a box in the hallway for drop off.

Our Saint Nicholas Church School is sponsoring a transplant family. Please donate anything off the wish to this family by bringing it to your classroom.

### Our Saint Nicholas Seniors

Please note there is no planning meeting in the month of December. We will resume on Tuesday January 3rd, 2006.

### GOYA

There will be a GOYA activity today, Sunday, December 11, at 6:00 pm.

GOYAns will join the YAL in singing Christmas Carols to Saint Nicholas shut-ins on Sunday, December 18th. We will meet at 5:45 pm in the Church parking lot. If you wish to participate, please go to our Parish website and get a permission slip, fill it out and return it to the church office no later than Friday, December 16th.

Please watch your mail for information regarding the Basketball tournament at Annuciation Greek Orthodox Church in Dayton. The tournament is scheduled for February 17-19, 2006. All necessary forms and information are included in this mailing. Please observe all deadlines. Thank you.

### POSTPONED-Mario Frangoulis Benefit Concert

The Mario Frangoulis Concert committee would like to announce that the Frangoulis concert scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2005 has been postponed until Saturday, May 6, 2006.

This is being done in order to increase notice for sponsor support opportunities. Ticket sales will continue and current holders and seating will be honored. If anyone wishes a refund they may do so. If anyone has any additional questions, please call either the Metropolis at 248.823.2400 or the Assumption Parish at 586/779-6111.

Again, thank you for your cooperation and support.

### Orthros:

9:00 am

### Divine Liturgy:

10:00 am

### Epistle Reading:

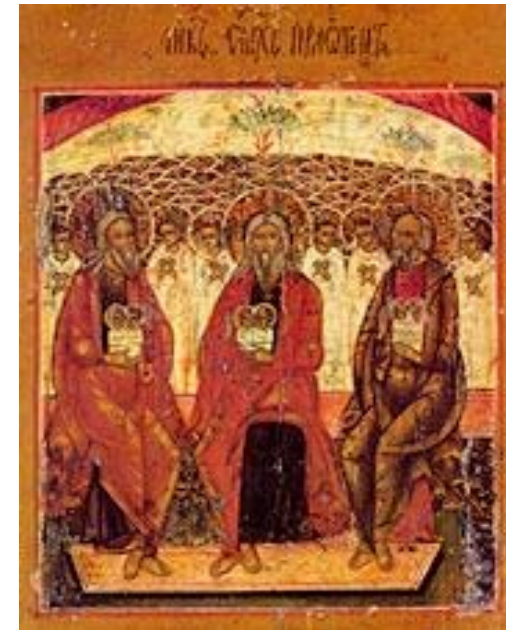
St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11

### Gospel Reading:

Luke 14:16-24;

Matthew 22:14

11th Sunday of Luke



11TH SUNDAY OF LUKE

### Church School:

Following Communion

### Cantor:

Zannis Res

### Choir Director:

Jon Wardner

### Prosforo:

Maria Papaefthymiou

### Fellowship Hour:

Maids of ATHENA

### COMING UP THIS WEEK — [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org)

#### • Monday, December 12

Saint Spyridon, Orthros and Divine Liturgy — 10:00 am  
Bible Study with Father Nick — Following Divine Liturgy and again at 7:30 pm

#### • Tuesday, December 13

AHEPA, Daughter's of Penelope and Maid's of Athena Christmas Celebration — 7:30 am

#### • Wednesday, December 14

Philoptochos Meeting and Christmas Party — 7:30 pm

#### • Thursday, December 15

Physical Plant and Maintenance Committee — 7:00 pm

#### • Sunday, December 18

Saint Nicholas Church School Christmas Pageant  
Saint Nicholas Young Adult and GOYA joint Christmas Caroling — 6:00 pm

## SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Web: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org) E-Mail: [office@stnickaa.org](mailto:office@stnickaa.org)

Proistamenos: Rev. Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [frnick@stnickaa.org](mailto:frnick@stnickaa.org) )

Church office: 734/332-8200 Home: 734/677-7891 Cell: 734/604-3214

## 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:

Luke 14:16-24; Matthew 22:14

11th Sunday of Luke

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.'"

Ἀδελφοί, ὅταν ὁ Χριστὸς φανερωθῆ, ἡ ζωὴ ὑμῶν, τότε καὶ ὑμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ φανερωθήσεσθε ἐν δόξῃ. Νεκρώσατε οὖν τὰ μέλη τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, πορνείαν, ἀκαθαρσίαν, πάθος, ἐπιθυμίαν κακὴν, καὶ τὴν πλεονεξίαν ἣτις ἐστὶν εἰδωλολατρία, δι' ἧς ἐρχεται ἡ ὀργὴ τοῦ Θεοῦ [ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας]· ἐν οἷς καὶ ὑμεῖς περιεπατήσατέ ποτε ὅτε ἐζήτε ἐν τούτοις. Νυνὶ δὲ ἀπόθεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὰ πάντα, ὀργὴν, θυμὸν, κακίαν, βλασφημίαν, αἰσχρολογίαν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ὑμῶν· μὴ ψεύδεσθε εἰς ἀλλήλους, ἀπεκδυσάμενοι τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον σὺν ταῖς πράξεσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν νέον τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος αὐτόν, ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι Ἕλληνας καὶ Ἰουδαῖος, περιτομὴ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρβαρος, Σκύθης, δούλος, ἐλεύθερος, ἀλλὰ [τὰ] πάντα καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν Χριστός.

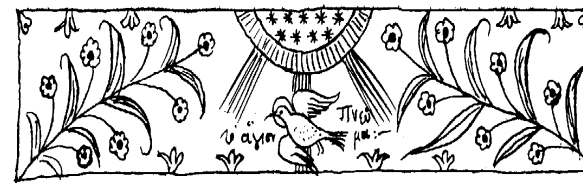
Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν. Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωπός τις ἐποίησε δεῖπνον μέγα, καὶ ἐκάλεσεν πολλούς, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν τὸν δούλον αὐτοῦ τῇ ὥρᾳ τοῦ δεῖπνου εἰπεῖν τοῖς κεκλημένοις, Ἔρχεσθε, ὅτι ἤδη ἔτοιμά ἐστιν. Καὶ ἤρξαντο ἀπὸ μιᾶς πάντες παραιτεῖσθαι. ὁ πρῶτος εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ἄγρον ἠγόρασα καὶ ἔχω ἀνάγκην ἐξελθῶν ἰδεῖν αὐτόν· ἐρωτῶ σε, ἔχε με παρητημένον. Καὶ ἕτερος εἶπεν, Ζεύγη βοῶν ἠγόρασα πέντε καὶ πορεύομαι δοκιμάσαι αὐτά· ἐρωτῶ σε, ἔχε με παρητημένον. Καὶ ἕτερος εἶπεν, Γυναῖκα ἔγημα καὶ διὰ τοῦτο οὐ δύναμαι ἐλθεῖν. Καὶ παραγενόμενος ὁ δούλος ἀπήγγειλεν τῷ κυρίῳ αὐτοῦ ταῦτα. τότε ὀργισθεὶς ὁ οἰκοδεσπότης εἶπεν τῷ δούλῳ αὐτοῦ, Ἔξελθε ταχέως εἰς τὰς πλατείας καὶ ῥύμας τῆς πόλεως, καὶ τοὺς πτωχοὺς καὶ ἀναπίστους καὶ τυφλοὺς καὶ χωλοὺς εἰσάγαγε ὧδε. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ δούλος, Κύριε, γέγονεν ὁ ἐπέταξας, καὶ ἔτι τόπος ἐστίν. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ κύριος πρὸς τὸν δούλον, Ἔξελθε εἰς τὰς ὁδοὺς καὶ φραγμοὺς καὶ ἀνάγκασον εἰσελθεῖν, ἵνα γεμισθῇ μου ὁ οἶκος· λέγω γὰρ ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς τῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐκείνων τῶν κεκλημένων γεύσεται μου τοῦ δεῖπνου. Πολλοὶ γὰρ εἰσι κλητοί, ὀλίγοι δὲ ἐκλεκτοί.

## Kontakion

On this day the Virgin cometh to a cave to give birth to God the Word ineffable, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God. - Translation by Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA

## Ἐπολυτικίον τοῦ Ναοῦ

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποίμνῃ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια, διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτίσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.



## Parish News and Events ([www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org))

### Prosforo Offering

is needed for the Sunday of February 5th, 2006. Please contact the Church Office if you would like to offer the Prosforo. Thank you.

### Saint Nicholas Fellowship Hour Sponsor

is needed for the Sunday of February 12th, 2006. If you would like to offer the fellowship hour, please contact the Church Office. Thank you.

### Welcome Visitors!

Please fill out the form on the notepads in the pews and put it in the collection tray so we may welcome you to our Parish. Thank you!

### Visitors Please Note

Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians. Visitors are welcome to receive the Antidoro (Blessed Bread), which is distributed at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

## Apolytikion of the Church

The truth of your manner of life manifested you to your flock as a rule of faith and an icon of gentleness and a teacher of self-control. By humility, therefore, you acquired the things on high, and riches through poverty. Father Holy Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God, entreating that our souls be saved.

## Resurrectional Apolytikion

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the pas-sions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You. - Translation by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

## Apolytikion for 11th Sunday of Luke

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

- Translation by Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA

## Stewardship — The Year of the Family

Your commitment to the Stewardship Program of this parish is critical to our continued operation and ministries! For those who have not filled out a stewardship card, please do so as soon as possible.

## Parishioners Who Have a Balance

on their Building Fund Pledge are asked to please do their best to fulfill it as soon as possible. Let us quickly reduce the amount of our mortgage principle. Thank you.

## AHEPA

will hold its annual AHEPA, Daughter's of Penelope, & Maids of Athena Family Christmas Celebration on Tuesday, December 13th, at 7:00pm at The Quarter Bistro. For reservations, contact Christos Philippou at, 734/309-3032 or Christopher A. Bekiaries at, 761-9255.