

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

July 16, 2006

Epistle Reading: TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on Titus 3:8-15

these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and had rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

Kontakion

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Gospel Reading . The Lord said to his disciples, Matt. 5:14-19 "You are the light of the world. A

city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

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.

Wisdom From the Fathers

The Lord says to His disciples, 'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven' (Matt. 5:16). He does not say this to urge them to show off, but to urge them to organize their lives as is pleasing to God. Just as light effortlessly attracts people's gaze, so a way of life pleasing to God draws their minds along with their eyes. We do not praise the air which shares in the brilliance of the sunlight, but the sun which is the source of this brilliance and bestows it on us. Even if we do praise the air for its brightness, we praise the sun much more. So it is when someone makes the brilliance of the Sun of righteousness (Mal. 4:2) visible through his virtuous deeds. As soon as anyone looks at him, they are immediately led towards the glory of the Father in heaven of Christ, the Sun of righteousness. **St. Gregory Palamas, Homilies Vol. 1, Homily Ten para. 14; Saint Tikhon's Seminary Press pgs. 110-111 14th century**

Parish News and Events (www.stnickaa.org)

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.

Visitor's 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.

Prosforo will be needed for the Sundays of August 20 and 27.

Fellowship Hour Sponsors needed for the following Sundays: August 13, 20, & 27.

Stewardship

We who strive for betterment of self through being Christians are coming to the realization that love is the key, is the real answer to our hopes in making a better life for ourselves and family. When we love others, our families and can really love ourselves, then we are in closer touch to the importance of discovering why we are living in this world of ours. In order for you to become a more faithful and Christian Steward; in order for you to give to your Church without questioning why or how much, you must first come to the reason why you give at all. The reason is simple and clear. You give out of love, because you get so much in return

Rev. Fr. James Gordon, All Saints Church, IL

Therefore, 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 for 2006, or who need to complete a 2005 pledge, please do so as soon as possible. We appreciate your care and concern.



You may take a vacation but our parish bills don't. Please continue to support the parish during the summer months.

Thank you!

Philoptochos Notes

No bed pad sewing in July. We'll resume on August 1st at 9:30 a.m.

We need clean sheets for our cancer pad project. Please bring your sheets to the church. Please note: NO PILLOWCASES they are not large enough to use for the blue pads. Please put sheets in plastic bags

Community Care for June, July and August is IOCC. The IOCC is the internationally respected Pan-Orthodox Humanitarian Organization of SCOPA that responds to needs anywhere in the world including the United States. Please be generous

St. Nicholas Seniors

A trip is planned for **Wednesday, August 16th** for the "Bavarian Belle—River Cruise" in Frankenmuth, MI. This is a 1 hour trip on the Cass River. **We will leave church at 9:30 a.m. and return by 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$27.50. This includes the bus ride, boat ride, and driver tip.** Shopping and lunch will be an individual responsibility. Reserve by Sunday August 13th, by calling Penny Bekiars (662-6606), Diane Geczi (747-9619) or Joan Raphael (483-0923). Hope you can come!

The St. Nicholas Church Bookstore recommends:

Arcadia, My Arcadia by Nicholas D. Kokonis, the story of a bright son of poor farmers in Arcadia who dreams of coming to the United States, and *The Glorious Foods of Greece*, a book that serves up feast after feast of food, history and culture. We also have a wide, new selection of icons.

Lord, I Have Cried To You

LORD, I Have Cried Out Unto You: hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I Have Cried Out Unto You: hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer! When I call upon You, hear me, O Lord! Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense, And let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.





ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE PROPHET

Feast Day July 20th

Elias of great fame was from Thisbe or Thesbe, a town of Galaad (Gilead), beyond the Jordan. He was of priestly lineage, a man of a solitary and ascetical character, clothed in a mantle of sheep skin, and girded about his loins with a leathern belt. His name is interpreted as "Yah is my God." His zeal for the glory of God was compared to fire, and his speech for teaching and rebuke was likened unto a burning lamp. From this too he received the name Zealot. Therefore, set aflame with such zeal, he sternly reprov'd the impiety and lawlessness of Ahab and his wife Jezebel. He shut up heaven by means of prayer, and it did not rain for three years and six months. Ravens brought him food for his need when, at God's command, he

was hiding by the torrent of Horrath. He multiplied the little flour and oil of the poor widow of Sarephtha of Sidon, who had given him hospitality in her home, and when her son died, he raised him up. He brought down fire from Heaven upon Mount Carmel, and it burned up the sacrifice offered to God before all the people of Israel, that they might know the truth. At the torrent of Kisson, he slew 450 false prophets and priests who worshipped idols and led the people astray. He received food wondrously at the hand of an Angel, and being strengthened by this food he walked for forty days and forty nights. He beheld God on Mount Horeb, as far as this is possible for human nature. He foretold the destruction of the house of Ahab, and the death of his son Ohozias; and as for the two captains of fifty that were sent by the king, he burned them for their punishment, bringing fire down from Heaven. He divided the flow of the Jordan, and he and his disciple Elisseus passed through as it were on dry land; and finally, while speaking with him, Elias was suddenly snatched away by a fiery chariot in the year 895 B.C., and he ascended as though into heaven, whither God most certainly translated him alive, as He did Enoch (Gen. 5:24; IV Kings 2: 11). But from thence also, after seven years, by means of an epistle he reproached Joram, the son of Josaphat, as it is written: "And there came a message in writing to him from Elias the Prophet, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the way," and so forth (II Chron. 21:12). According to the opinion of the majority of the interpreters, this came to pass either through his disciple Elisseus, or through another Prophet when Elias appeared to them, even as he appeared on Mount Tabor to the disciples of Christ

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

St. Panteleimon Greek Festival

Sunday, July 23, 2006 at
St. Panteleimon Church,
7143 Cedar Road,
Lexington, Michigan.



Orthros 9:00 A.M.—Divine Liturgy 10:00 A.M.

Lambs cooked on the Souvla; Barbecue Chicken, Salads and Souvlakia, Pastries and Beverages. No food will be allowed to be brought into the pavilion. You can buy food and drink there.

Greek Music by "HELLAS" - Dancing

Please join us on

Wednesday, July 26 for our Vesper Service at 7:30 p.m. and

Thursday, July 27th for Orthros at 10:00 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

JULY 16, 2006

Orthros 9 AM

Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Epistle Reading
Titus 3:8-15

Gospel Reading
Matt.5:14-19



Protopsaltis
Zannis Res

Choir Director
Jon Wardner

Prosforo
Labrini Lagos

Fellowship Hour
Labrini Lagos

Memorial Service
Anthony Lagos—1 Year

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS

UPCOMING EVENTS

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK

CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS IN NASHVILLE.

In case of **EMERGENCY ONLY**

Call Fr. Philemon Karamanos

Church: 734-283-8820

Home: 734-283-8785

Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to:
office@stnickaa.org by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication.

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org