

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

August 6 2006

Epistle Reading:

BRETHREN, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Wisdom of the Fathers

When the Logos of God becomes manifest and radiant in us, and His face shines like the sun, then His clothes will also look white. That is to say, the words of the Gospel will then be clear and distinct, with nothing concealed. And Moses and Elijah - the more spiritual principles of the Law and the Prophets - will also be present with Him.

St. Maximos the Confessor, *Second Century on Theology*, 13. 7th Century

PSALM 91

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust."

Gospel Reading

At that time, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led him up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

Apolytikion for Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we be, shine Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to You.

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.

Kontakion

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.



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.

Prosforo will be needed for the Sundays of August 27 and September 17.

Fellowship Hour Sponsors needed for the following Sundays: August 13, 20, and 27 and Sept. 3.

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.

Stewardship

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor.: 12:27; 13:8) he tells the Corinthians that the greatest single virtue we possess, that does not fail and that never ends, is love.

Through means of Christian Stewardship, in being a person who shows responsibility and exercises an attitude of caring toward another person, by giving of himself we can show how much we love our Lord.

The act of giving through love is the only way a person should give and can give! If a person gives to His Lord, His Church begrudgingly, with an attitude that reflects the feeling — "I have to pay my dues to the Church or I won't be considered a member" etc. is not giving through love.

It is the Christian way that teaches us to give without limitation whenever and wherever we can. If our love for God is limitless, then our act of giving to His Church, to perpetuate His ministries

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.



Philoptochos Notes

Yassou Golf Outing

Yassou Golf Outing is going to be held on Sunday, September 17, 2006 at Stonebridge Golf Club in Saline. Thanks in advance for your support.

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:

This month the Bookstore is featuring Diana Kochilias's now classic cookbook, *The Glorious Foods of Greece: Traditional Recipes from Greece's Islands, Cities and Villages*, and Nicholas Kokonis's *Arcadia, My Arcadia*, a story fashioned from the common people of the Greek countryside, their hopes and disappointments, struggles and misfortunes. We also recommend Anthony M. Coniaris's *The Eye Cannot Say to the Hand, "I Have No Need of You,"* an exceptionally clear exploration of the them spelled out in Marshall McLuhan's famous words, "There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew." *Wounded by Love, the life and wisdom of Elder Porphyrios*, a charismatic guide for life's tough spiritual struggles. The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese's beautiful Agenda Planner 2006-07 is on order and will be arriving soon. Stop by to Reserve your copy.



You may take a vacation but our parish bills don't. Please support the parish during the summer months. Thank you !



Saturday Bread Baking

Come lend a hand on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. as we make homemade bread to help raise funds for our church. No experience necessary.

If you can help, call Ioanna Ioannou at 996-0481 or Koula Pliakas at 528-0920 or just show up on Saturdays.

You can buy the bread on Saturdays between 1 and 3 p.m. or after church on Sundays.

We'll also make special orders for your weekend events or parties.

University of Michigan: Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)/Hellenic Student Association (HSA)

Will you or someone you know be a college freshman this fall? If so, you will want to know about two great student run organizations on campus:

The Hellenic Student Association (HSA) hosts activities including weekly gatherings, concerts, films, trips and Greek dance.
Contact: hsa-board@umich.edu.

The Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) hosts activities including rec sports, discussions, retreats and community service. They also coordinate rides to church.
Contact: ocf-board@umich.edu.

If your student is already at school, be sure to inform him/her about these groups. Have them search their school's website or contact the University of Michigan chapters, listed above, who can give them any information they need!



St. Nicholas Family Night — Chili Fest — Thursday, August 24th— 6:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship, fun and games for the entire parish. Bring your best, secret recipe because you could be voted this year's "Chili Co-Off Champion." A panel of judges will taste-test and determine the winner.



Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28),

He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5).

Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery



THE SUNDAY BULLETIN AUGUST 6, 2006



HOLY TRANSFIGURATION UPCOMING EVENTS

Orthros 9 AM

Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Epistle Reading
II Peter 1:10-19

Gospel Reading
Matt. 17:1-9

Protopsaltis
Zannis Res

Choir Director
Jon Wardner

Prosforo
Ioannou Family

Fellowship Hour
Gina Pantely

Monday, August 7

Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study — after Paraklesis
Paraklesis — 7:30 pm

Tuesday, August 8

YAL "Hang Out" Night — 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 9

Paraklesis 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 10

Parish Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.

Friday, August 11

Paraklesis 10:00 a.m.

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