

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

NOVEMBER 19, 2006

Epistle Reading

Eph. 2:4-10
BRETHREN, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, 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

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

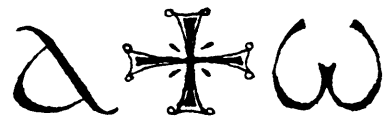
Wisdom of the Fathers

I cannot be silent about the story of Hesychius the Horebite. He passed his life in complete negligence, without paying the least attention to his soul. Then he became extremely ill, and for an hour he left his body.

And when he came to himself, he begged us all to leave him immediately. And he built up the door of his cell, and he stayed in it for twelve years without ever uttering a word to anyone, and without eating anything but bread and water.

St. John Climacus, Ladder of Divine Ascent. Step 6: On Remembrance of Death 6th Century

From the Bible Let all bitterness, and anger and wrath and tumult, and evil speaking be put away from you. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, having forgiven one another, even as also God forgave you in Christ. **Ephesians 4:31-32** .



Parish News and Events (www.stnickaa.org)



From the Pastor's Desk

Upcoming Services

We will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Nicholas with **Great Vespers at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 5th**. There will be an Artoclasia service during the Great Vespers. Anyone wishing to bring artoclasia should do so on the Dec. 5th. Please include the names of the living for whom you would like the prayers. Following the Great Vespers, the Philoptochos has again offered the fellowship hour for us and our guests from outside this community.

Christmas falls on Monday this year, so the service schedule, as per Archdiocesan and Metropolitan protocol will be as follows:

Sunday Morning, Dec. 24th: 9:00 am Orthros
10:00 am Divine Liturgy (St. John Chrysostom – as usual for a Sunday)

Sunday evening, Dec. 24th: 5:00 pm Great Vespers for the Nativity of Christ

Monday morning, Dec. 25th: 9:00 am Orthros followed immediately by the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Please remember, Holy Communion distributed to prepared Orthodox Christians during Divine Liturgies only.

Church School News

Today is the last day for children to bring in a canned food item for the Church School Food Drive. Thanks to all the children for helping to make Thanksgiving a wonderful holiday for families in need of food.

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches and travel plans are being made, we would like to remind Church School families that there will not be any classes on Sunday, November 26th. Please have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Reminder: Students should start working on their chosen topics for the Oratorical Parish Festival which will be held in March. It's never too early to start!!

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 Jan. 21 & 28.

Fellowship Hour sponsors needed for Jan. 7, 21 & 28.

Metropolis Open House for the Feast Day of St. Nicholas, Wednesday, December 6, 2006 from 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. 2560 Crooks Road, Troy, MI. Join us on the occasion of Metropolitan Nicholas' Name Day.

St. Nicholas Seniors

Seniors, please meet in the Church parking lot at 11:45 a.m. on November 30th to board the bus to Detroit for the performance of White Christmas at the Fox Theatre. We will return at approximately 5:30 p.m.



St. Nicholas Dance December 2, 2006

Join us for an evening of excellent food, fun and fellowship on December 2 at 6:30 p.m. Come prepared to bid at our Silent Auction. We have some interesting and unexpected items for this year's bidding.

Tickets are \$60.00 for adults and \$30.00 for children under 12. Tickets can be obtained by calling Katerina Roumanis at 665-3254 or the Church Office — 332-8200.

Calling All 3rd Through 6th Graders

There will be a JOY meeting on Sunday, November 19th, with Fr. Nick for all children grades 3 through 6 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m.. We'll meet in the Social Hall. Dinner and ice cream will be served. If you have any questions, call Christina Vlahopoulos — 734-944-0504.



New At The Bookstore

The bookstore is overflowing with new items. You'll find beautifully illustrated children's books: *Jesus*, a reverent tribute to the life of Christ; *Counting Christmas* for toddlers; several books on Saint Nicholas, whose generosity was so profound that legends circulated about his tradition of distributing gifts on Christmas Eve. We've tracked down just 3 copies of Vefa Alexiadou's hard-to-find *Greek Cuisine*. Look also for *Nosthimia: The Greek American Family Cookbook*; Diana Kochilas's exceptional *Glorious Foods of Greece*. Hot off the press: We have copies of Nicholas G. Lardas's *Ikaria Remembered*, the beautifully narrated story of childhood years spent in Greece. Also look for our note cards in Greek and English.



Box Tops for Education

The Greek School is now registered to receive funds from the General Mills Box Tops for Education Program. We can use the box tops from the General Mills cereal boxes, ziploc bags, snack foods etc. The only thing we have to do is collect the points and send them in. Please contact Koula Pliakas for further information.

Stewardship

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 concern.



Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army

We will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army on Wednesday, Dec. 6th. The shifts will be one (1) hour beginning at 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and there will be two (2) people per shift. This year's locations are Macy's, J.C. Penney, Krogers (Maple) and Busch's (Main Street). This is the December Community Care project for the entire parish. Please contact Helen Garri at 663-0270 to volunteer one hour of your time.



November 21

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

According to the tradition of the Church, the Theotokos to the Temple at three years of age, where she was consecrated to God and spent her days until she was fourteen or fifteen years old; and then, as a mature maiden, by the common counsel of the priests (since her parents had reposed some three years before), she was betrothed to Joseph.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

SCRIP Gift Cards

Beat the holiday shopping rush and help St. Nicholas by buying SCRIP gift cards. They start as low as \$5.00. For more information, inquire at the SCRIP booth this Sunday or call 644-1614 with questions. The first and third Sundays of each month are SCRIP Gas Sundays, so please, plan on placing your order for gas gift cards them. We have SCRIP gas cards for almost every gas company and you can use them at gas stations nationwide. Inquire how you may get Meijer's rewards for your gas if you get your gas from Meijer's.



THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

November 19, 2006



NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Nov. 19

**PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
J.O.Y. MEETING — 5:00 P.M.**

Monday, Nov. 20

**No A.M. Bible Study
Bible Study — 7:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, Nov. 22

**NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
YAL Hang Out Night — 7:30 p.m.**

Thursday, Nov. 23

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Saturday, Nov. 25

Orthros & Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Feast of St. Katherine

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

Reverend Protopresbyter John Paul

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



Psaltis

Zannis Res

Choir Director

Teresa Stokes

Prosforo

Vivi Roumanis

Artoclasia

Daughters of Penelope

Fellowship Hour

Daughters of Penelope