

# Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

MARCH 2, 2008

**Epistle Reading** Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

## Resurrectional Apolytikion

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

## 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

O God, when You come upon the earth in glory, the whole world will tremble. A river of fire will bring all before Your Judgment Seat and the books will be opened, and everything in secret will become public. At that time, deliver me from the fire which never dies, and enable me to stand by Your right hand, O Judge most just.



## Gospel Reading

Matt. 25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## Wisdom of the Fathers

...The day will come when we shall stand before God and be judged, but as long as our pilgrimage continues, as long as we live in the process of becoming, as long as there is ahead of us this road that leads to the full measure of the stature of Christ which is our vocation, judgment must be pronounced by ourselves.

**Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh**

## Thought for the Week

"Christian love is the 'possible impossibility' to see Christ in another man, whoever he is..."

**Alexander Schmemmann, Great Lent**  
20th Century

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

## 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.

## Presentation on the history of the Iconostasios

Following the Div. Lit. on Sun. Mar. 9th, in the social hall, Michael Kapetan will present a history of the Iconostasios as we begin to think about the completion of the interior of our church. It is for all parishioners!

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sunday March, 16, 23 and 30.

## Saint Nicholas Church School

**The Church School curriculum for the children begins at 10:00 a.m. by attending the Divine Liturgy and classes immediately following Communion.**

A reminder to **ALL 7th-12th grade students** to work on their Oratorical essays that are due on Sunday, March 9, the same time the Parish Oratorical Festival will take place. We would appreciate the parents help and encouragement to support their child to participate in the St. Nicholas Parish Oratorical Festival by reading their essay. Vicki Kinningham is this year's chairperson, assisted by the 7th-12th grade teachers. We thank them for their time and dedication and to the parents for their support.

Children will be receiving the OCMC coin boxes for lent. This is part of our Lenten program and more information will follow.

**Saint Nicholas Seniors** Join us for a "Fish Pre-Lenten Lunch" at noon on Tuesday, March 4th. We will enjoy a presentation by Fr. Nick concerning "Lenten Services". Cost: \$5.00. Please reserve by Sunday March 2nd. Call Diane, Joan or Penny to reserve and/or if you need a ride.

Exercise class on Fridays at 11:00 a.m. is open to all parishioners. Come and join us for a great workout!

**St. Nicholas Library Committee** will meet on Monday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. Leaders of the various parish organizations will be invited and any one else interested is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Notes

Our March Community Care is furniture donations to Friends in Deed. To make a donation of furniture and arrange for pick up from now through March, call 734-484-7607 Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Furniture must be in good condition, no stains, rips or pet hair. Please see the flyer on the table in the hallway.

The Annual Philoptochos sponsored Lenten Dinner for College Students will take place on Wednesday, March 19th. There will be a Presanctified Liturgy at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Parishioners are reminded that the Student Dinner was initiated so that we could meet the students and welcome them to our Parish and they, in turn, could meet the parishioners. Please join us that evening with your family and bring a Lenten dish to pass, enough to serve 8. If you know any students who would like to come, please invite them. For more information, if you can help, or need a ride, please call Pres. Eva Paul — 663-0821.

## Daughters of Penelope

Our Tsoureki Sale is a St. Nicholas Easter tradition. To order your loaves, please fill out the order form located on the table in the hallway. Loaves are \$10.00 per one pound loaf. There is no egg. Orders must be submitted by April 13, 2008 for pick up on April 20th.

The Daughters are preparing a Fr. John Paul Memory Book which is a collection of favorite stories about Fr. John. We ask everyone to write a one-page narration of your favorite story or experience you would like to share with all of us. One book will be given to Pres. Eva and one will be given to the church archives. Please mail your story to the church in care of the Daughters of Penelope or e-mail your one page contribution to [chriskatsikas@yahoo.com](mailto:chriskatsikas@yahoo.com).

## Mardi Gras — Presented by the Saint Nicholas Greek School PTO

When: Saturday, March 8th, 6:00 p.m.

Where: St. Nicholas Social Hall

Cost: Adults: \$35.00; Kids over 6 \$20.00; Kids under 6 Free.

Complete Greek Dinner, Cash Bar, Dancing to Greek and American Music by DJ Jimmy Michos;

**NOTE: MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME AFTER EASTER.**

**Saint Nicholas Choir Notes**  
**Senior Choir**



Any interested parishioner, ages 12 and up, is encouraged to join the Senior Choir. Our next choir rehearsals are: March 5, 12, 19 & 26; April 2, 9 & 16. We begin at 7:00 p.m. Please join us!

**The Bookstore Recommends:** *Treasured Traditions and Customs of the Orthodox Churches* by Mary Paloumpis Hallick, Ed. D., presents the meaningful customs of various Orthodox jurisdictions relating to Feast Days, Sacraments, Liturgy, Architecture, Icons, Vestments, Name Days, Cultural Observances. This book will fascinate you with the richness of living Orthodoxy through the ages. For our young people *Holy Week and Pascha*, a children's book presenting the services of Holy Week with gorgeous illustrations by the author, who has studied Iconography in Greece. Your children will treasure this book.

**Shopping for St. Nicholas**

Support "Shopping for St. Nicholas" by buying Scrip Gift cards. We have a variety of cards on hand including Borders, Kohls, Macys, Star Bucks, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Olive Garden and more. These make great gifts. If we don't have the cards you want, we'll place an order for you. Visit the "Shopping for St. Nicholas" desk during the fellowship hour after the Divine Liturgy.

**Parish Chocorama** sponsored by Y.E.R.A.C. on Thursday, March 6—7:00 p.m. Join us for our second annual Chocorama and bring your favorite chocolate pie, cake, cookies, brownies, candy to be taste-tested by all participants.

**Saint Nicholas Youth Programs**

H.O.P.E. will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday March 9th. We will be discussing Lent. Lunch will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Sophia Grias-Radwanski-sgrias@mhsi.us or Vasilisa Tsilimingras-vtsilimingras@yahoo.com

J.O.Y. will also meet on March 9th from 3p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

G.O.Y.A. will meet March 9th from 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

**A.H.E.P.A. News**

Attention College/University Students — anyone interested in applying for a scholarship, please contact Costas Boutsikakis at 604-8737 for an application.

**U of M Modern Greek Studies Presents:**

**The Journey: The Greek American Dream"**

**Filmmaker Maria Illiou Film Screening**Sunday, March 9 at 3pm, Auditorium B, Angell 435 South State Street, Ann Arbor

**"An Almost Pure Empty Walking"**

**Author Tryfon Tolides Poetry Reading**

Tuesday, March 18 at 7pm, Shaman Drum Bookstore 311-315 South State Street

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP:**

Everyone's Responsibility! If you have not completed your pledge for 2007, please try and do so as soon as possible.

**Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)**

The foregoing two parables -- especially that of the Prodigal Son -- have presented to us God's extreme goodness and love for man. But lest certain persons, putting their confidence in this alone, live carelessly, squandering upon sin the time given them to work out their salvation, and death suddenly snatch them away, the most divine Fathers have appointed this day's feast commemorating Christ's impartial Second Coming, through which we bring to mind that God is not only the Friend of man, but also the most righteous Judge, Who recompenses to each according to his deeds.

It is the aim of the holy Fathers, through bringing to mind that fearful day, to rouse us from the slumber of carelessness unto the work of virtue, and to move us to love and compassion for our brethren. Besides this, even as on the coming Sunday of Cheese-fare we commemorate Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight -- which exile is the beginning of life as we know it now -- it is clear that today's is reckoned the last of all feasts, because on the last day of judgment, truly, everything of this world will come to an end.

Meat and meat products, are not allowed during the week that follows this Sunday.

*Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN**

**March 2, 2008**



**Orthros** 9:00 AM

**Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM

**Church School**

Following Communion

**Epistle Reading**

I Cor. 8:8-13; 9:1-2

**Gospel Reading**

Matt. 25:31-46

**Creed**

Greek

**Psaltis**

Zannis Res

**Choir**

Dr. Jon Wardner

**Prosforo**

Panagiotti Apostolou

**Fellowship Hour**

Beltsos Family

**Memorial Services**

3 Years Katherine

Beltsos

3 Years Theresa Chronis

**JUDGMENT SUNDAY**

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

**Monday, March 3**

Library Committee Meeting (Town Hall) —7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 4**

Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Bed Pad Sewing—9:30 a.m.

Saint Nicholas Seniors Lenten Lunch—12 Noon

Saint Nicholas Y'assoo 2008 Greek Festival—7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Y.A.L. — 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 5**

Saint Nicholas Senior Choir—7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Byzantine Music—8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 6**

Chocorama—7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Y.E.R.A.C.—7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Iconography Meeting — 8:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 7**

Paraklesis—7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 8**

**Second Saturday of Souls**

Orthros & Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

Saint Nicholas Greek School Mardi Gras Dance—6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, March 9**

**Oratorical Festival**

Presentation on the Iconostasios—Michael Kapetan

1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.— HOPE

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.— JOY

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.— GOYA

**SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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