

GOYA Summer Schedule

Sunday, Sep. 7 G.O.Y.A. Registration and Parent Orientation after Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Sep. 14 4:00 p.m. Bible Study
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Meeting and Fellowship

Daughters of Penelope are sponsoring a Winter Clothing Drive for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet. They need **gently** used winter clothing for ages infant to adult, both male and female. Baby and children clothing are most needed. Please pick up a flyer from the table in the hallway.

Questions, contact Joanne Savas, 734-761-2529 or Vicki Kiningham, 734-429-8127.

Rev. Father John Paul Memory Book is being prepared by the Daughters. If you have a favorite story about Fr. John., please write a one page narrative to share with us. Everyone is welcome to participate. The stories will be collected for the next few months and then put into a book for Presvytera Eva and one for the church archives. You can either mail your contribution to the Daughters in care of the church or e-mail it to chriskatsikas@yahoo.com. Our editorial committee is Christina Vlahopoulos—734-358-0777 and Perry Katsikas—734-995-4766. Please call if you have any questions.



Detroit Tiger Concession Project—Last game of the season, tied, bottom of the ninth, two outs, bases loaded, three balls, two strikes. . . and you're at bat! It's the last chance this season to show your stuff. Come join your fellow parishioners and participate in this unique mortgage reduction project. We need four volunteers for Friday, Sept. 26th. See Dennis Cvercko or Nick Roumel in the social hall to answer questions and sign-up for a great fellowship experience. He stretches, he throws, you draw back the bat. . . and you swing. . .!

Commemorative Trees are still available to be sponsored in "memory of" or "for the health of" a loved one. If interested, please contact Michael Challis, 734-971-6186 or mdcallis@aol.com or Christopher A. Bekiares.



September 8

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was born of barren and aged parents, Joachim and Anna, about the year 16 or 17 before the birth of Christ. Joachim was descended from the royal line of David, of the tribe of Judah. Anna was of the priestly tribe of Levi, a daughter of the priest Matthan and Mary, his wife.
Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery



Choir Notes

Senior Choir will have rehearsal on September 10th and 24th from 7:00 p.m.—8:45 p.m. Please mark your calendars. Anyone ages 12 years and up is welcome. Musical experience is preferred but not required. Come and join us.

Youth Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. Thereafter, our rehearsals will be on the first and third Wednesdays of the month unless otherwise notified. If you have questions regarding the youth choir, please call Mrs. Anna Chapekis.

PSALM 114: 4-18

"The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the works of men's hands. They have a mouth, but they cannot speak; they have eyes, but they cannot see; they have ears, but they cannot hear; they have noses, but they cannot smell; they have hands, but they cannot handle; they have feet but they cannot walk: they cannot speak through their throat. Let those that make them become like to them, and all who trust in them.

The house of Israel trusts in the Lord; he is their helper and defender. The house of Aaron trusts in the Lord: he is their helper and defender. They that fear the Lord trust in the Lord: he is their helper and defender."

The Lord has remembered us, and blessed us: he has blessed the house of Israel, he has blessed the house of Aaron. He has blessed them that fear the Lord, both small and great. The Lord add blessings to you and to your children. Blessed are ye of the Lord, who made the heaven and the earth. The heaven of heavens belongs to the Lord: but he has given the earth to the sons of me. The dead shall not praise thee, O Lord, nor any that go down to Hades. But we, the living, will bless the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

September 7, 2008

Orthros
9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy
10:00 AM

Epistle Reading
Gal. 6:11-18

Gospel Reading
John 3:13-17

Creed
English

Fellowship Hour
Drs. Anthony & Joyce Kales, Dr. Helen Kales & Patrick Gibson & Family



Psaltis
Mr. George Smyrnis

Choir
Dr. Jon Wardner
Teresa Stokes

Prosforo
Panagioti Apostolou

Memorial Services
40 Days Rodica Nicolaescu
3 Years Demetra Kales
Glykeria Mitropoulos

SUNDAY BEFORE HOLY CROSS

UP-COMING EVENTS

Sunday, Sept. 7

Church School & G.O.Y.A. Registration
Greek School Orientation & 1st General Assembly
2:00 p.m. Parish Picnic
5:00 p.m. Vesper Service at Nativity of the Virgin Mary—Plymouth

Monday, Sept. 8

Nativity of the Theotokos
10:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Bible Study after Divine Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, Sept. 9

7:30 p.m. Young Adult League (Y.A.L.)

Wednesday, Sept. 10

7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Practice
7:30 p.m. Philoptochos

Thursday, Sept. 11

7:00 p.m. Parish Council

Friday, Sept. 12

11:00 a.m. Exercise Class — Open to all

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org
Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to: kate@stnickaa.org by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication.

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
September 7, 2008

Epistle Reading BRETHREN, see with what large Gal. 6:11-18 letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and not only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Wisdom from the Fathers

"He gave His Only-begotten Son," not a servant, not an Angel, not an Archangel. And yet no one would show such anxiety for his own child, as God did for His ungrateful servants ... He who giveth life to others, much more to Himself doth He well forth life ... For He calls the Cross the fountain of life; which reason cannot easily allow, as the heathens now by their mocking testify. But faith which goes beyond the weakness of reasoning, may easily receive and retain it.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 27 on John 3
4th Century

THE PROPER WAY TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Prepare yourselves through righteous living, confession and fasting (speak to your spiritual father or priest about this)
- Wait for the ushers to release your section
- Approach with dignity (do not put your hands in your pockets)
- Use a napkin or handkerchief to wipe any lipstick from your lips
- Take the communion cloth in your hand and place it under your chin (don't make the altar boys do all the work for you!)
- Say your baptismal name
- Take all of the communion off of the spoon
- Return graciously to your seat

Gospel Reading The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His 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

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

We offer our deepest sympathy to Angela Tangalakis Johnson and her family on the unexpected death of Angela's husband, John Mercer Johnson, III. May his memory be eternal.



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

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.

Prosforo needed for Sunday, October 19th.

Fellowship Hour sponsor needed for Sundays of September 14, Oct. 5, 12 and 26.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP: Everyone's Responsibility!

If you have not made your pledge for 2008, please do so as soon as possible. If you need a pledge card, please call the office.

"From those to whom much is given, much will be required." Luke 12:48

Greek School Notes

On Sunday, Sept. 7th, the 1st General Assembly/Orientation for the Greek School will be held after the Divine Liturgy. Classes will begin on Monday, September 15th at 4:30 p.m.

Vesper Visitors

Great Vesper services Saturday, September 13th at Holy Cross—Farmington Hills. Please sign up in the social hall if you are interested! (Times to be announced)



Need Gifts for Special Occasions or Birthdays?

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.



Philoptochos Notes

Our First meeting will be on Wednesday, September 10th at 7:30 p.m. at the church We will meet in the social hall. Please join us as we discuss the events for the coming year.

We will begin making spanakopita the week of, September 15th and into the following week if necessary. Many volunteers will be needed. Please give as much time as you can. For further information or to volunteer, call Margaret Yates — 663-0131 or Pres. Eva Paul — 663-082.

15th Annual Yassou Golf Outing will be held on Sunday, September 21st to benefit Zoe for Life and other Philoptochos charities. Please call Margaret Yates at (734)-663-0131 for details.



The Bookstore recommends the Planner 2008-2009, with devotional readings, saints for each day, the fasting calendar and more. Each edition begins on September 1st, the first day of the ecclesiastical calendar year. We have a limited number! *When Jesus Came to My House*, the story of a little boy who imagines what it would be like if Jesus came to spend the afternoon with him — the little boy Jesus, of course, "about the age that I am and about the size of me."

Saint Nicholas Church School Notes

The Church School Department welcomes back all our students for the 2008-2009 school year. Registration will take place right after Communion and the registration fee is \$20.00 per student. Scholarships are available, if needed. Please call Fr. Nick or Susan Pagalos.

Please make sure that you pick up a St. Nicholas Church School Guide book for each child you register as it contains important information regarding the guidelines, requirements and schedule for the years.

We look forward to teaching our youth and enriching them with the Orthodox traditions.

Bible Study

Bible study will resume on Monday, September 8th. The morning class will begin after the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Evening class will start at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Saint Nicholas Ushers Meeting

On **Tuesday, September 23rd**, there will be a **mandatory ushers meeting at 7:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars now for this important meeting.