

**Daughters of Penelope** are sponsoring a Winter Clothing Drive for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet and the SOS Crisis Center.

**Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet** needs **gently** used winter clothing for ages infant to adult, both male and female. Baby and children clothing are most needed.

Coats, jeans, sweat pants and shirts (especially for children), children's sweaters, waterproof mittens, snowsuits, underwear and socks (must be new and needed for children), diapers (all sizes), baby blankets, shoes (only if in really good condition,

**SOS Crisis Center** needs winter clothing for adult women of all sizes and children's clothing both girls and boys. Household items such as towels, sheets, blankets (gently used or new) are also requested.

Bring your items, in good condition to the church and we will sort them and take them to the appropriate charity.

Please pick up a flyer from the table in the hallway. Questions, contact Joanne Savas, 734-761-2529 or Vicki Kiningham, 734-429-8127.



**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 three 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. . .!



**Saint Nicholas Choir Notes**

**Senior Choir** will have rehearsal on September 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 at 734-429-7181.

**September 14**

**The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross** Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha, to defile and cover with oblivion the place where the saving Passion had been suffered. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the venerable Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Cross to their own country (see Jan. 22, Saint Anastasius the Persian). Late, in the year 628, Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Cross, and after bringing it to Constantinople, himself escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he restored it to its place

Rest from labour. A Fast is observed today, whatever day of the week it may be.

*Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

*Icon Courtesy of Athanasios Clark*



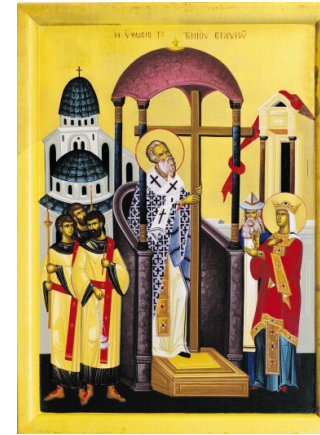
**Commemorative Trees** are still available to be sponsored in "memory of" or "for the health of" a loved one. If interested, please contact Michael Challis, 734-971-6186 or mdcallis@aol.com or Christopher A. Bekiaries.

**Greek School Notes**

Classes begin for the Greek School, tomorrow, Monday, September 15th at 4:30 p.m.

Adult classes are on Tuesday and Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday is for Advanced Beginners—Intermediate Level and Wednesday is for Beginners.

**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN**  
**September 7, 2008**



**EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**

**Orthros**  
9:00 AM

**Divine Liturgy**  
10:00 AM

**Epistle Reading**  
1Cor. 1:18-24

**Gospel Reading**  
John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30

**Creed**  
English

**Psaltis**  
Mr. George Smyrnis

**Choir**  
Dr. Jon Wardner

**Prosforo**  
Ioannou Family

**Fellowship Hour**  
Parish Council

**Trisagion**  
Frances Fry—7 Years

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, Sept. 14**

1:00 p.m. H.O.P.E.  
4:00 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Bible Study  
5:00 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Meeting

**Monday, Sept. 15**

9:30 a.m. Spanakopita  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**

9:30 a.m. Spanakopita  
7:00 p.m. Festival Meeting #1  
7:30 p.m. Saint Nicholas Young Adults (Y.A.L.)

**Wednesday, Sept. 17**

9:30 a.m. Spanakopita  
6:30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice  
7:00 p.m. A.H.E.P.A.

**Thursday, Sept. 18**

9:30 a.m. Spanakopita

**Friday, Sept. 19**

9:30 a.m. Spanakopita  
11:00 a.m. Exercise Class — Open to all  
7:30 p.m. Paraklesis

**Saturday, Sept. 20**

A.H.E.P.A. Picnic

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org)**

**Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to: [kate@stnickaa.org](mailto:kate@stnickaa.org) by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication.**

**SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103**

**Web: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org) E-Mail: [kate@stnickaa.org](mailto:kate@stnickaa.org)**

**Proistamenos: Rev. Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [nhkotsis@hotmail.com](mailto:nhkotsis@hotmail.com) )**

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



*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*  
*September 7, 2008*

**Epistle Reading** BRETHREN, the word of the cross 1 Cor. 6:11-18 is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**Apolytikion for The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross**

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

**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**

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

**Wisdom of the Fathers**

For He was everywhere desirous to show, that this Death was of a new kind, if indeed the whole lay in the power of the Person dying, and death came not on the Body before He willed it; and He willed it after He had fulfilled all things ...

**St. John Chrysostom, Homily 84 on John 18 and Homily 85 on John 19** 4th Century

**Gospel Reading** At that time, when the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God."

When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King!" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. Then when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.



**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

**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 Oct. 5, 12 and all the Sundays of November.

**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

**Student Dinner** The St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos invitews all college students to a home cooked Greek style dinner on Sunday, October 12th at 5:30 p.m. Please join us in the fellowship hall to meet new friends and enjoy a terrific dinner. Information: Athena Papageorgiou 663-2318.

**Need Gifts for Special Occasions or Birthdays?**

Support "Shopping for Saint 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 Saint Nicholas" desk during the fellowship hour after the Divine Liturgy.


**H.O.P.E. (Hellenic Orthodox Primary Education)**

Through H.O.P.E., the younger members of our parish will experience different aspects of our Holy Orthodox Faith. Rev. Father Nick will start the lesson which will be followed by lunch, then an activity together in fellowship. The activity may be messy or outside, so please bring appropriate play clothes. We are asking for a volunteer, once a month, to bring the lunch. We generally meet the second Sunday of the month from 1:00 to 2:30.

Please feel free to contact Sophia Grias-Radwanski at [sgrias@mhsi.us](mailto:sgrias@mhsi.us) or Vasilia Tsilimingras at [vtsilimingras@yahoo.com](mailto:vtsilimingras@yahoo.com). if you have questions.

**Philoptochos Notes**

**We will begin making spanakopita** tomorrow, September 15th and into the following week if necessary. We'll begin at 9:30 a.m. and work until 8:30 p.m. 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.

**Saint Nicholas Church School Notes.**

The Church School Department would like to welcome back all of our students, and those children who are new to our Church and Church School program. Thank you to all the families who registered last Sunday. For those families who have not registered, it is not too late. Please do so as soon as possible. If you need a registration form, you may download a copy from the website, or pick one up from the main office or Church School Office. Scholarships are available, if needed. Please see Rev. Father Nick or Susan Pagalos.

**Reminders:** Please refer to the "St. Nicholas Church School guide booklet" you received at registration for details and information regarding your child's grade requirements, general rules, the schedule of events for the year and a letter from Rev. Father Nick. It is important that you read through the booklet so that together (home and Church) we can provide the best religious education for your child. If you did not receive a copy of this booklet at registration, please see your child's teacher or Susan Pagalos.

Also, as part of the Church school curriculum, it is required that all children be present for the Divine Liturgy (10:00 a.m.) and attend class instruction after communion. It is difficult for our children to follow the traditions of our faith if they do not participate and engage in all aspects of our church life.

The Saint Nicholas Church School teachers are looking forward to teaching our youth and enriching them with the Orthodox traditions.

**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.