

### Saint Nicholas Seniors

Join us for our Christmas luncheon on Tuesday, December 16th at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$8.00.

Please RSVP to Diane Geczzi-747-9619; Penny Bekiaries-662-6606 or Joan Raphael -483-0923 by Sunday, December 14th.. If you need a ride please call one of the ladies above.

We look forward to seeing you there

### Toys for Tots

The Saint Nicholas Young Adult League (Y.A.L.) is again collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. Please donate a new toy for a needy child this Christmas season. Just drop off your toy in the collection boxes that will be in the exo-narthex. You will definitely make a child's Christmas a merrier one. God Bless you!

The Saint Nicholas Parish Bookstore recommends *Ella's Story*, biography of St. Elizabeth the New Martyr brings to life the amazing journey of Princess Elizabeth, from privileged childhood to eventual martyrdom. *Father Arseny*, the scholar of church art who became Prisoner No. 18736 in the brutal "special sector" of the Soviet prison camp system. In the darkness of systematic degradation of body and soul he shone with the light of Christ's peace and compassion. His sights set on God and his life grounded in the Church, Father Arseny lived by the injunction to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2). This carries a universal impact certain to be felt by readers today.

**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 mdchallis@aol.com or Christopher A. Bekiaries.

**Junior Choir** will practice on Wednesday December 3 at 6:30 p.m. until 7:15. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Anna Chapekis, 429-7181.

**Senior Choir** will practice Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m.

### Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. Calendar

Parents and children, email stnickaagoya@gmail.com if you are interested in receiving periodic GOYA emails.

#### November 30

3-5 pm Tree Cutting & Decorating

**Daughters of Penelope** are sponsoring a Christmas turkey raffle. Tickets are 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 14th

The Daughters are continuing to accept clothing donations for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet. Please bring to the church clothing for infants to adults both men's and women's gently used and clean. This is an on-going project and will continue through the winter months. Your support is greatly appreciated. Co-chairs

**Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A..ns** come and prepare for the Christmas season **today November 30th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.** We'll be cutting a live Christmas Tree at Urquharts Tree Farm in Dexter and returning back to the church to decorate it. Cookies, hot chocolate and music included! **Meet at church at 2:00 p.m. as we will depart at 2:10 p.m. YOU MUST HAVE A SIGNED PERMISSION SLIP WITH YOU.**



#### November 30

##### Andrew the First- Called Apostle

This Saint was from Bethsaida of Galilee; he was the son of Jonas and the brother of Peter, the chief of the Apostles. He had first been a disciple of John the Baptist; afterwards, on hearing the Baptist's witness concerning Jesus, when he pointed Him out with his finger and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1.29,36), he straightway followed Christ, and became His first disciple; wherefore he is called the First-called of the Apostles. After the Ascension of the Saviour, he preached in various lands; and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he died in Patras of Achaia, where he was crucified on a cross in the shape of an "X," the first letter of "Christ" in Greek; this cross is also the symbol of Saint Andrew.

*Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

## THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

November 30, 2008

#### Orthros

9:00 AM

#### Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

#### Epistle Reading

I Cor. 4:9-16

#### Gospel Reading

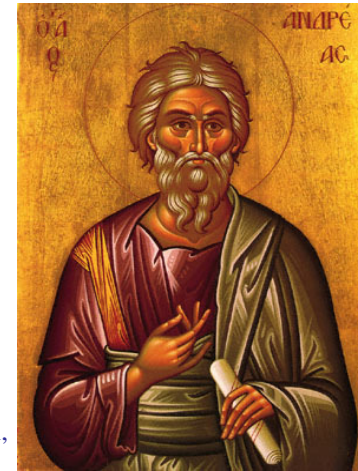
John 1:35-52

#### Creed

English

#### Greeters 12/7

Mary Price, Diane Geczzi, Tula Prokos



#### Psaltis

Zannis Res

#### Prosforo

Pliakas Family

#### Fellowship Hour

Evelyn Commings

Anastasia Sianis

Angie Sianis-Letsos

#### Memorial Service

40 Days George Commings

#### Greeters 11/30

Bill Ziegler,

Connie Ziegler,

Penny Bekiaries

### ANDREW THE FIRST CALLED APOSTLE

#### UP-COMING EVENTS

##### Sunday, Nov. 30

2:00 p.m. Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. Christmas Tree Cutting

##### Monday, Dec. 1

10:00 a.m. Weekly Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Landscape Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m. Weekly Bible Study

##### Tuesday, Dec. 2

9:30 a.m. Bed pad Sewing for Hospice

12:30 p.m. Senior Planning Meeting

7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting

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

##### Wednesday, Dec. 3

6:30 p.m. Saint Nicholas Junior Choir

12:00—9:00 p.m. Bell Ringing

##### Thursday, Dec. 4

#### Feast of St. Barbara

#### 10:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. Dance Practice

7:30 p.m. Y.E.R.A.C.

##### Friday, Dec. 5

11:00 a.m. Exercise Class

7:00 p.m. St. Nicholas Vespers

##### Saturday, Dec. 6

#### Feast of St. Nicholas

9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy

### 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*  
*November 30, 2008*

**Epistle Reading** BRETHREN, God has exhibited us I Cor. 4:9-16 apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

**Apolytikion for Andrew the First- Called Apostle**

As first of the Apostles to be called, O Andrew, brother of him (Peter) who was foremost, beseech the Master of all to grant the world peace and our souls 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**

On this day the Virgin cometh to a cave to give birth to God the Word ineffable, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.



**Gospel Reading** At that time, John was standing with two of his disciples; and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "Where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him, and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. \* To the robber You opened Paradise. \* The lamentation of the myrrhbearing 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

**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.

**Prosforo** needed for Sunday, December 28.

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sunday, December 14, 21 & 28.

**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

**Did You Know** that you can receive email messages from Rev. Fatherr Nick? These messages are sent approximately every 10 days and include a variety of things such as: upcoming events and dates, special announcements and projects, spiritual messages and much more.

If you wish to be included in this list, please do the following:

1. go to the website [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org) and go to the drop down menu
2. from the drop down menu buttons select 'Contact Us'
3. select the 'E-Mail Subscribe' option
4. enter your e-mail address

There is no cost or obligation in doing this. If you wish to unsubscribe, you may do so. It is our hope to keep you better informed, and perhaps, to save some expense for our Saint Nicholas Parish.

**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.

**Philoptochos Notes**

**Wreath Order**—Christmas wreaths can be picked up Sunday, 12/7 between noon and 2 p.m.

We are ringing the bells for the Salvation Army on this Wednesday, December 3rd from 12 Noon to 9:00 p.m. Please see the schedule posted on the bulletin board.

**Christmas Cookie Bake Sale — December 14th**

Orders are now being taken for the Christmas Cookie bake sale to be held on December 14th. All proceeds will go to the church. Please pick up an order form in the social hall after the Divine Liturgy or call Koula Pliakas at 528-0920 or Ioanna Ioannou at 996-0481 to

**Saint Nicholas Church School Notes**

**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.**

**Christmas Pageant** is scheduled for Sunday, December 14th. Information will be available via e-mail and the teacher. Please volunteer to help

**During the month of December**, the children will be involved with Philoptochos to help raise funds for St. Basil's Academy. More information to follow.

**Oratorical Festival** It is time to start preparing for the Parish Oratorical Festival. Vicki Kiningham will distribute the 2008-09 topics to students in grades 7-12. Children in preschool-6th grade will do something in their class with topics chosen by their teacher.

**Stewardship Sunday will take place on Sunday December 14th in the Social Hall.**

*"Each one should give, then as he has decided, not with regret or out of sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly."* Cor. 9:7

**Friends of the Metropolis**—Please consider helping the Metropolis of Detroit and Metropolitan Nicholas with the ministries of the Church by donating to the Friends of the Metropolis program. Brochures are in the hallway.

