

AH.E.P.A. Scholarship

Attention High School Seniors and College Students: If you are interested in a scholarship from A.H.E.P.A., the local chapter or the district, please try to meet with Dr. Kleanthous in the board room after services on Sunday or get in touch with him at 475-2034 or email: c.kleanthousmd@sbcglobal.net.

G.O.Y.A.

January 2009 Calendar

Sun. Jan. 25 8:45 a.m. Ushering
4-5 p.m. Bible Study
5-7 p.m. Game Night

Sat. Jan. 31 9:30 a.m. Greek Folk Dance Workshop at St. Nicholas, Troy

February 2009 Calendar

Sun. Feb. 1 12:30 p.m. GOYA Meeting
Sun. Feb. 15 1:00 p.m. GOYA Parent Meeting with Rev. Father Nick



Greeters Needed

“The Welcoming Program is in need of Greeters” for this important ministry. Greeters ensure that everyone passing

through our doors and entering Christ’s Church are welcomed and made to feel comfortable as being created in the image and likeness of God. As well, to get to know others in our parish we normally might not get to know—or make the time to know.”

Please consider taking part in this program and volunteer by calling Penny Bekiaries-662-6606 or Chris Kerry-665-6273.

Annual Cretan Dinner Dance

The Pancretan Association of America, Detroit Chapter “Pseloretos” is having their Annual Cretan Dinner Dance on February 7th at the Royalty House of Warren located at 8201 E 13 Mile Road, Warren Mich. Admission is \$60.00; under 12 is \$30.00; if you come after dinner admission is \$25.00. For reservations contact Barbara Paterakis-248-926-4499, Sophia Masters-248-641-2938 or Konstantinos Katakis-248-255-7310.

The U-M Modern Greek Program presents “Mediterranean Modernisms: Towards A New Mediterranean Identity” by Prof. Marinos Pourgouris, of Brown University’s Comparative Literature Department. Event will be held Tuesday, Jan. 27th, 4 p.m. at Angell Hall. It is free and open to the public.

Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople

Gregory was born in 329 in Arianzus, in the second district of Cappadocia, not far from Nazianzus. His father, was named Gregory and his mother was named Nonna. He studied in Caesarea of Palestine, Alexandria, and Athens. At Athens St. Gregory was joined by St. Basil the Great, whom he already knew; but now their acquaintanceship grew into a lifelong brotherly love.

After their studies at Athens, Gregory became Basil's fellow ascetic, living the monastic life with him in the hermitages of Pontus.

About the Year 379, Saint Gregory came to the assistance of the Church of Constantinople, which had been troubled for forty years by the Arians; by his wise words and many labors he freed it from the corruption of heresy, and was elected Archbishop of that city by the Second Ecumenical Council.

He governed the Church until 382, and in his farewell speech - the Syntacterion, he demonstrated the Divinity of the Son. In this speech he requested, and received from all, permission to retire from the see of Constantinople. He returned to Nazianzus, where he lived to the end of his life, and reposed in the Lord in 391, having lived some sixty-two years.

His writings demonstrate his eloquence and breadth of learning. In the beauty of his writings, he is considered to have surpassed the Greek writers of antiquity. Because of his God-inspired theological thought, he received the surname "Theologian." He is called "Trinitarian Theologian," since in virtually every homily he refers to the Trinity and the one essence and nature of the Godhead. Hence, Alexius Anthorus dedicated the following verses to him:

Like an unwandering star beaming with splendour,
Thou bringest us by mystic teachings, O Father,
To the Trinity's sunlike illumination, O mouth breathing
with fire, Gregory most mighty.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery



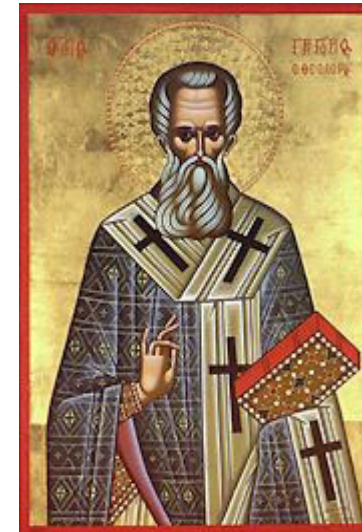
Saint Nicholas Greek School Mardi Gras

Come join us on **Saturday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m.** for our annual Mardi-Gras. Enjoy appetizers, dinner, dessert and cash bar. Dance until midnight.

Tickets: Adults: \$35.00; Child/Student (6-12): \$20.00; Under 6: Free.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

January 25, 2009



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE
ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN

Orthros
9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy
10:00 AM

Church School
After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading
Heb. 7:26-28; 8:1-2

Gospel Reading
Luke 19:1-10

Creed
English

Psaltis
Zannis Res

Prosforo
Greek Schoo

Choir
Dr. Jon Wardnerl

Fellowship Hour
Greek School PTO

Greeters Jan. 25
Diane Geczi,
Pres.Eva Paul

Greeters Feb. 1
Betty Lardas
Mary Price

UP-COMING EVENTS

Monday, Jan. 26 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, Jan. 27 7:30 p.m. Saint Nicholas Young Adult League (Y.A.L.)

Wednesday, Jan. 28 7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, Jan. 29 7:00 p.m. Physical Plant & Maintenance

Friday, Jan. 30 10:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy-Three Hierarchs
11:00 a.m. Exercise Class
6:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Game Night

Sunday, Feb. 1 12:30 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Meeting:
5:00 p.m. Chili Cook-off & Super Bowl Game!

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

3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Web: www.stnickaa.org E-Mail: kate@stnickaa.org

Proistamenos: Rev. Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (nhkotsis@hotmail.com)

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

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
January 25, 2009

Epistle Reading Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

Gospel Reading At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

Wisdom from the Fathers

Little Zacchaeus had climbed up into a tree, to see the Lord Jesus with his own eyes. He had sought Him, desired Him. And we must seek Him in order to find Him, and desire that He draw near to us, and climb up high in spirit to meet His glance. Then He will visit our house as He visited the house of Zacchaeus, and bring salvation with Him.

Bishop Nikolai Velimirovic, Prolog, 4 February

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 Your great mercy.

Apolytikion for Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople

The shepherd's pipe of thy theology conquered the trumpets of the philosophers; for since thou didst search out the depths of the Spirit, beauty of speech was added to thee. But intercede with Christ God, O Father Gregory, that our souls be saved.

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

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

PSALM 114: 4-16

"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,

Thought for the Week

"The nearer a man draws to God, the more he sees himself a sinner."



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 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.

Fellowship Hour sponsor needed for Sunday Feb. 15, March 1, 8, 29.

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 for 2009, please call the office.

"Let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ Our God". **If not YOU...WHO? If not NOW...WHEN?**

Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. News

Our Lock-in was a great success! Thank you to the parents and volunteers who gave of their time, despite the weather, to help with this important event. We could not have done it without you.

Thanks to the St. Nicholas community for your continued support of G.O.Y.A. by attending our annual fundraiser, the G.O.Y.A. brunch. A record number of people attended even though we had another snow storm that Sunday.

On **January 31st**, we plan to attend the 5th annual Greek Folk Dance Workshop at St. Nicholas, Troy from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.. We will rent a van so it is important you RSVP to G.O.Y.A. President, Maria Pliakas at maria.pliakas@gmail.com by Monday, January 26th. Cost is \$10.00 per person.

Our next G.O.Y.A. meeting, **February 1st, will be immediately after the Divine Liturgy** in the conference room. At 5:00 p.m., plan to attend the Super Bowl/Chili Cook-off.

Rev. Father Nick will host a parent meeting on February 15th at 12:30 p.m. He will discuss the results of the recent G.O.Y.A. parent survey. Please plan on attending this very important meeting. This is a great opportunity for parents to come together, address our concerns and learn how to better guide our children towards our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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.

Oratorical Festival It is time to start preparing for the Parish Oratorical Festival. Vicki Kiningham will distribute the 2009 topics to students in grades 7-12. Children in preschool-6th grade will do something in their class with topics chosen by their teacher.

Philoptochos Notes

On Sunday, February 8, we will celebrate Go Red for Women Sunday. It is suggested that all women wear some red on that day to bring awareness to women's heart disease, an increasing problem in this country. Philoptochos will also sponsor the fellowship hour that day.

H.O.P.E. —Hellenic Orthodox Primary Education

Welcoming children 4 years of age to those in second grade for fun and fellowship while learning about our Orthodox Faith. Our next meeting day is

Sunday, Feb. 8th
12:30-2:00

We will be discussing God's love for us.
Lunch will be provided.

JOY Game Nights will be the following Fridays in February: 2/6, 2/13 and 2/27.

Super Bowl Sunday and Chili Cook-off

Join us on Sunday, February 1st at 5:00 p.m. for our Chili Cook-off and watch the Super Bowl. Bring your favorite chili recipe to share. If your last name begins with A-H, bring chips; I-Q, bring salad stuff; R-Z, any dessert. Come for fun, fellowship and enjoy the game.



Saint Nicholas Seniors

Join us for a Valentine "Remembrance" Luncheon on Thursday, February 12 at 1:00 p.m. here at the church. Cost is \$6.00. Please sign up in the social hall no later than Sunday, February 8th. See the sign up poster in the social hall for an explanation.