

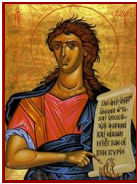
**Sun. Feb. 15** 1:00 p.m. GOYA Parent Meeting with Rev. Father Nick



**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.



**Zechariah the Prophet**

The Prophet Zachariah was the son of Barachias, and a contemporary of the Prophet Aggeus (Dec. 16). In the days of the Babylonian captivity, he prophesied, as it says, in the book of Ezra, "to the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem" (Ezra 5: 1); he aided Zerubbabel in the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. In the book of Ezra he is called "Zachariah the son of Addo (or Iddo)" but in his own prophetic book he is called more fully "Zachariah, the son of Barachias, the son of Addo the Prophet" (Zach. 1:1). When the captives returned from Babylon, he came to dwell in Jerusalem in his old age. His book of prophecy is divided into fourteen chapters and has the eleventh place among the books of the minor Prophets; his name means "Yah is renowned." Sozomen reports that under the Emperor Honorius, Zachariah's holy relics were found in Eleutheropolis of Palestine. The Prophet appeared in a dream to a certain Calemerus, telling him where he would find his tomb. His body was found to be incorrupt (Eccl. Hist., Book IX, 17).

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery  
Icon Courtesy of St. Isaac Skete

**Psalm 50 (51)** Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your great mercy; and according to the multitude of your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight. . .

**The Bookstore Recommends**

*The Art of Prayer*, an Orthodox Anthology, edited by Timothy Ware. According to one reader, “this book helps one get a ‘feel’ for the ethos of Orthodoxy, for the process of becoming truly human, as we are intended.

*Orthodoxy and Catholicism* examines the important similarities and differences in a thorough and non-polemical style.

*A Child’s Paradise of Saints* retells stories of fifteen beloved saints presented in a warm, informal style, suitable for reading aloud.

The bookstore carries Lenten cookbooks and Greek olive oil soap.



**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.**

**Benevolent Fund for St. Nicholas Greek School**

Please support the Benevolent Fund for the St. Nicholas Greek School and win a week in a luxury villa at Florida’s Vacation Village at Weston, near Ft. Lauderdale (12/16/09-1/02), plus \$400 for expenses. Raffle tickets are now on sale for \$20.00 in the social hall after church and through Costas Boutsikakis, Vasilios Pliakas and Nick Stamatopoulos. Drawing will be held at the Mardi Gras dance the evening of February 12, 2009 at the church and you need not be present to win.

The U-M Modern Greek Program presents “**The First Time Godfather**” film screening on February 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Modern Languages Building, Lecture Room #1 (Free and open to the public.) Call the Modern Greek Program office you have any questions, 734-936-6099.

We apologize for the error in last Sunday’s bulletin. The correct title is “The First Time Godfather.”

**A.H.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.

**Orthros**  
9:00 AM

**Divine Liturgy**  
10:00 AM  
**Church School**  
After Holy Communion

**Epistle Reading**  
II Tim. 3:10-15

**Gospel Reading**  
Luke 18:1-14

**Creed**  
Greek  
**Trisagion**  
Leah Tsarbopoulos— 4 Years



SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

**Psaltis**  
Zannis Res

**Choir**  
Dr. Jon Wardner  
**Prosforo**  
Pliakas Family

**Fellowship Hour**  
Philoptochos

**Greeters Feb. 8**  
Penny Bekiaries  
Vasilios Pliakas

**Greeters Feb. 15**  
Andreas Stathopoulos  
Young Adults Day

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

- Sunday, Feb. 8** 12:30 p.m. HO.P.E.
- Monday, Feb. 9** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study
- Tuesday, Feb. 10** 10:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy St. Haralambos  
7:00 p.m. YASSOU Greek Festival Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Young Adult League (Y.A.L.)
- Wednesday, Feb. 11** 7:00 p.m. Choir  
7:00 p.m. Philoptochos
- Thursday, Feb. 12** 1:00 p.m. Seniors Luncheon  
7:00 p.m. Parish Council
- Friday, Feb. 13** 6:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Game Night
- Sunday, Feb. 15** 12:30 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Parent Meeting  
5:00 p.m. J.O.Y.

**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**

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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*  
*February 8, 2009*

**Epistle Reading** TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading** The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; glory to Your eternal rule; glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

**Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple**

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.

**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.

**Wisdom from the Fathers**

When lately we made mention of the Pharisee and the publican, and hypothetically yoked two chariots out of virtue and vice; we pointed out each truth, how great is the gain of humbleness of mind, and how great the damage of pride.

For this [pride], even when conjoined with righteousness and fastings and tithes, fell behind; while that [humility], even when yoked with sin, outstripped the Pharisee's pair, even although the charioteer it had was a poor one. For what was worse than the publican?

But all the same since he made his soul contrite, and called himself a sinner; which indeed he was; he surpassed the Pharisee, who had both fastings to tell of and tithes; and was removed from any vice. ... Because even if he was removed from greed of gain and robbery, he had rooted over his soul the mother of all evils -- vain-glory and pride.

**St. John Chrysostom, CONCERNING LOWLINESS OF MIND.** 4th Century

The Publican fasted not; and yet he was accepted in preference to him who had fasted; in order that thou mayest learn that fasting is unprofitable, except all other duties follow with it.

**St. John Chrysostom, Homily III** 4th 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.

**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**

**Rev. Father Nick will host a parent meeting on February 15th at 1:00 p.m.** He will discuss the results of the recent GOYA 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 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. Today is the last day to sign up for the luncheon. See the sign up poster in the social hall for an explanation.

**Saint Nicholas J.O.Y. Game Nights** will be the following Fridays in February: 2/13 and 2/27.

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sunday March 1 and 29.

**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.

**Saint Nicholas Church School Notes**

**As part of the Church school curriculum, it is important and required that all children be present for the Divine Liturgy (10:00 a.m.) and attend class instruction after Communion.**

**Oratorical Festival Reminders: Preschool to 5th grade** will work on their papers for in-class assignments only which will be due on Sun. Feb. 22nd. Please see their teachers with any questions or for information. **7th to 12th grade** students will be participating in the Parish Oratorical festival which is scheduled for **Sun. March 15, 2009**. Fr. Nick is looking forward to reading each and every paper. The children in the 6th grade will sit in and observe the actual event and will practice writing a paper with the 7th graders so that they will understand and become familiar with the process.

**Reminders: 1) Attendance Pin** (Must have 3 or less absences and make up dates are available to help erase missed classes.) **2) Honor Pin** (Must learn material from their grade level for the test). All this information can be found in the packet you received at registration, a copy can also be obtained from the teachers or visit the Church website.

**Upcoming dates:**

Sat. Feb. 21—\*Makeup day (First Saturday of Souls)  
Sun. Feb. 22—Preschool to 5th grade Oratorical papers are due.  
Sat. Feb. 28 —\*Make up day (Second Saturday of Souls)

**Philoptochos Notes**

Today we are celebrating 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.

Our next meeting is February 11 at 7:00 p.m. Please note new time.

**Saint Nicholas H.O.P.E. — Hellenic Orthodox Primary Education**

will meet today **Sunday, Feb. 8th, 12:30-2:00**. We will be discussing God's love for us.