

The Saint Nicholas Parish Bookstore recommends:

The bookstore has many new arrivals for the season. **For children**, *Holy Week*, *J Is for Jesus: An Easter Alphabet And Activity Book*, and Demi's illustrated books on Jesus and the life of Mary, the Mother of God.

For adults we recommend several books on holy women of the Church: *Saints and Sisterhood*, *Holy Women of God*, *The Forgotten Desert Mothers*, a resource book for anyone interested in the history of spirituality. We have heard about the desert fathers, but here is a well-documented, readable, sometimes quirky look at their female counterparts.

Saint Nicholas Seniors The Seniors are attending the live performance of "Jesus Christ, Super Star" at the Croswell Theatre in Adrian, Michigan. The performance is Friday, April 10th at 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$30.00 and we only have two (2) tickets left. Transportation will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Diane, Joan or Penny.

Modern Greek Program

How did European painters support the Greek War of Independence? The University of Michigan-Modern Greek Program presents a lecture on Painting and Politics in Romantic Hellenism by Dr. Fani-Maria Tsigakou, Curator at the Benaki Museum in Athens. Join us for the 7th Annual Dimitris & Irma Pallas Modern Greek Lecture on Tuesday, March 31 at 7 p.m. in the Michigan League, Vandenberg Room, located at 911 N. University, Ann Arbor, Central Campus, U-M. This event is FREE and open to the public. Please call 734-936-6099 for further information.

You are cordially invited to a Piano Recital

On Saturday, April 4th at 8:00 p.m. our parishioner, Pantelis Polychronidis, will present his recital at Britton Hall, U of M School of Music on North Campus. This will be an all French piano recital featuring the composers Debussy and Poulenc.

The first half of the recital, Pantelis will accompany an excellent voice professor here at the UM! The second half he will accompany an outstanding violinist and a cellist who won a very prestigious international competition some months ago!

Pantelis Polychronidis was born in 1980 in Greece and was raised in Volos. He is presently pursuing his doctoral degree at the University of Michigan and is here on an Onassis Scholarship. In the past, Mr. Polychronidis was also awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for further study.



Help Wanted

The Ya'ssoo Greek Festival is fast approaching and we need all the help we can get. Please contact Pericles Chiatas by phone at 734-673-6969 or

email pericles@comcast.net or George Kokales by phone 734-216-6037 or email at gjk2159@aol.com to volunteer, or sign up on **Sunday April 5th**, during the coffee hour, when we will have **YA'SSOO WORKER SIGN UP**. Let's work together to make this year's festival even better than last year's.

The Committee is asking for your help in raising money through soliciting sponsorships for the festival. In the past, one person has done this and it is a huge undertaking for one person. Therefore, we are asking you to pitch in and help with this most crucial area. Packets are available to help you with this task. They are located in the hallway outside the social hall. **We are counting on YOU to help make this a very successful festival.**

Shroud of Turin Exhibit

Saturday, April 4 through Saturday April 11, 2009 at St. Mary Catholic Church, 14200 E. Old US-12, Chelsea, Michigan. This is a non-denominational exhibit, open to the public. There is no admittance fee.

Hours: Saturday, April 4 — 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 5 — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, April 6 through Saturday, April 11—12 noon to 8 p.m.

For centuries, the Holy Shroud of Turin has been a source of worship and controversy—many believe it to be the actual burial cloth of Jesus Christ. The exhibit features a life-size replica of the Holy Shroud and an historical interpretation of the Crucifixion of Christ. A life-size replica of the Crucifixion is also displayed.

Due to subject matter, children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult.

Ya'ssoo Greek Festival Raffle Tickets are available. We need your support to sell 7,000 tickets for our debt reduction. Unbelievable prizes: One week in Greece for 2 or a week in Paradise, a villa in the Cayman Islands that accommodates 6, plus \$600.00.

To buy tickets or to pick up some to sell, please see Dr. K., Andreas Stathopoulos, any Parish Council Member or Kate.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

March 29, 2009

Orthros

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 6:13-20

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:17-31

Creed

English



SUNDAY OF JOHN CLIMACUS

Psaltis

Zannis Res

Choir

Dr. Jon Wardner

Prosforo

Elaine Rumman

Fellowship Hour

Ballios, Engelke & Price Families

Greeters March 29

Bill & Connie Ziegler

Greeters April 5

Diane Geczi

Jack Fry

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 29

Greek Independence Day Parade—Detroit

Walk in the Light — G.O.Y.A. Lenten Discussion immediately following the Divine Liturgy

Monday, March 30

7:30 p.m. Great Compline
Lenten Discussion

Tuesday, March 31

7:00 p.m. Parish Council
7:30 p.m. Y.A.L.

Wednesday, April 1

6:30 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy
Lenten Discussion

Thursday, April 2

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Y.E.R.A.C.

Friday, April 3

11:00 a.m. Exercise Class
7:30 p.m. Akathist Hymn
Lenten Discussion

Sunday, April 5

YA'SSOO WORKER SIGN UP



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

Epistle Reading BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and descended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for Sunday of St. John Climacus

With the rivers of your tears, you have made the barren desert fertile. Through sighs of sorrow from deep within you, your labors have borne fruit a hundred-fold. By your miracles you have become a light, shining upon the world. O John, our Holy Father, pray to Christ our God, to save our souls.

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

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

Gospel Reading At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Betty Jane Munson.

Thought for the Week

A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life: but perverseness therein *is* a breach in the spirit. *Proverbs 15:4*



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 April 26

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 Bekiares—662-6606 or Chris Kerry-665-6273.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP: Everyone's Responsibility! If you have not made your pledge for 2009, please do so as soon as possible. If you need a pledge card for 2009, please call the office, or download from our website at:

www.stnickaa.org

"Let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ Our God."

Luminaries for Good Friday

Our GOYAns will be selling Luminaries for the Good Friday Service at the entrance to the Social Hall every Sunday until Palm Sunday, April 12th. The cost is \$5.00 per bag; two loved ones' names per bag. Please place your orders soon. April 12th is the last day to order. Our GOYAns thank you very much for your kind support.

G.O.Y.A. News

On Sunday April 5th the G.O.Y.A. meeting will occur after Liturgy and *Walk in the Light*. We will be visiting shut-ins and lunch will be provided ahead of time. Permission slips are required.

Festival Dance Practices

Saturdays May 2, 9 and 23 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 28 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Church School Notes

Children should attend the Lenten Services in order to make up for any absences they may have. We strongly encourage the families to attend these services with their children. These are the makeup dates for the students: **March 30, April 1 and 3**. Please make sure students sign the attendance book in the Narthex.

OCCM Boxes

The Church School students have received their OCCM boxes. We ask that the students help raise money by thinking of others during this Lenten season and placing their spare coins in these boxes. Through this effort, the students will help the mission program in countries around the world to further the growth of Christ's Church. We ask that the coin boxes be returned no later than Sunday, April 26th.

Philoptochos News

Palm Sunday Luncheon is **April 12th** following the Divine Liturgy. Tickets are available from Philoptochos members and are \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 10 and under. Proceeds to benefit Philoptochos charities.

Philoptochos Hits the Streets May 16th. Join our 5K walkathon benefitting the HIV/AIDS care and prevention services of the International Orthodox Christian Charities and the National AIDS Fund. Further information will be available. If interested please call Christina Vlahopoulos at 734-944-0504 or Katherine Yates at 734-424-0653.

Annual Tsourekis Sale

The Daughters of Penelope are having their annual Tsourekis sale. Order forms are on the table in the hallway. Cost is \$10.00 for a one pound loaf. Orders must be submitted by April 5th and can be picked up on April 12th after the Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy.

Annual Food Drive

Saint Nicholas Parish is beginning its Annual Food Drive to help those who are struggling in these hard economic times. Let us reach out to those who need our help. We ask that you bring only **non-perishable** food items and place them on the cart in the exo-narthex.

*"For I was hungry, and ye gave me food:
I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink:
I was a stranger, and ye took me in. . ."*