

*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*  
*August 30, 2009*

**Epistle**

I Cor. 15:1-11

BRETHREN, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast - unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

**Apolytikion of the Church**

The truth of your manner of life manifested you to our 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**

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."



**Gospel**

Matt. 19:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Wisdom from the Fathers**

'But I say to you,' the Lord says, 'love your enemies; do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you.' Why did he command these things? So that he might free you from hatred, sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except by the one you loves all equally in imitation of God.

*St. Maximos the Confessor, Unknown 7th century*

**Prayer List**

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Faye Sekaros, Patrick Gutierrez, Mike Kapetan, Annette Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr.

**Thought for the Week**

Spiritual delight is not enjoyment found in things that exist outside the soul.

*St. Isaac of Syria, Unknown 7th 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.

**Prosforo** needed for Sunday, October 18.

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sunday September 6, and 27.

**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, please call the office.

**An Afternoon of Greek Songs, with Mezzo-soprano Penelope Bitzas and Pianist Pantelis Polychronidis**

Songs by 19th and 20th century Greek composers including Greek Art Songs, modern arrangements of folk songs, "Aria Greca" and selections from Greek operetta and familiar favorites. This special recital will take place at the Stamps Auditorium, North Campus on **Sunday, October 4 at 2:00 p.m.** This event is free and open to the public. Details to come in early September. For more information on either of these presentations contact: berlykim@umich.edu.

**Modern Greek Studies**

**8th Annual Platsis Symposium on the Greek Legacy**

This year's Symposium, on "Honor and Shame," will take place at the U of M Rackham Auditorium, **Sunday, Sept. 13, at 2 p.m.** Guest Lecturers are Dr. Jill Dubisch, Regents' Professor of Anthropology of Northern Arizona University and Douglas Cairns, Professor of Classics and Archaeology in the School of History, University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Guest Respondents will be Despina Margomenou Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Georgia State University and Dr. Jake MacPhail, Lecturer of Classical Studies at the University of Michigan. The event is FREE and open to the Public. A light reception will follow. For more information call, 734.936.6099 or visit our web site, [lsa.umich.edu/classics](http://lsa.umich.edu/classics). Supported by the Arthur and Mary Platsis Fund and organized by the U of M Department of Classical Studies.

**Philoptochos Notes**

All ladies of the parish are invited to attend our "Glad Hatters Tea Party" on Wednesday evening, Sept. 9th at 7:00 p.m. We'll meet in the Social Hall. Wear your best hat and come and enjoy some fun and fellowship!

**Please remember, Sunday, September 20th** will be the annual Ya'ssoo Golf Outing. Save the date! Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM at Stonebridge Golf Club.

Golf Package \$100 Dinner Only: \$32

Children's Menu: \$12 Hole Sponsors: \$100

5:30 PM Cash bar—6:00 (approx.) Dinner

Make golf or dinner reservations by Sept. 15th.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

FOOD GATHERERS

For info please call Margaret Yates: 663-0131

Also, Food Gatherers needs food. They serve, on average, 8000 meals a day in Washtenaw County. That means 6-7 tons of food is received and distributed on a daily basis. The need has been great this year and they can surely use the help.

**The Bookstore** has ordered 20 copies of the 2009-10 Greek Orthodox Planner. Use the Planner to keep track of all your schedules. Keep a daily focus on Christ with Scriptural readings, fast days, prayers, saints of the day and inspiration from the Fathers. The Planner follows the Ecclesiastical (church) year beginning in September and ending in August. Spiral bound. Also recommended for readers of all ages, *Keeper of the Light: Saint Macrina the Elder, Grandmother of Saints* by Bev Cooke, the story of the grandmother of St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Macrina the Younger. She is truly a great confessor of the Orthodox Faith.

**Church School—IMPORTANT REMINDER**

Registration for the 2009-10 St. Nicholas Church School year will take place on Sunday, September 13, 2009. More information will follow.

**St. Nicholas Fellowship Picnic and Family Outreach Sunday 13th** immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Please check the flyers in the Social Hall for more information.

**St. Nicholas Seniors:** Sign up today at the social hour to attend Thursday, Sept 3rd "Kick-off" meeting at 1 p.m. All information is on the sign-up poster.

## Outreach and Evangelism

We are in the first stage of forming a new ministry for our church, the Outreach and Evangelism Ministry. This ministry will first focus on two activities: 1) reaching out to all Orthodox Christians in the Ann Arbor area who are not attending church or participating in activities sponsored by the church, and 2) increasing our Community Service activities.

Our first Community Service project is called Faith and Food, a project sponsored by Food Gatherers and Growing Hope. This project grows fresh food for the hungry in Washtenaw County. The food is distributed by Food Gatherers to a variety of agencies and churches who feed the hungry throughout the year.

If you are interested in learning more about the project, please call or see Chris Kerry (734) 678-4138, Nick Chapekis, Jr. (734) 368-2671, Rob Ashley, (734) 904-4197 or George Michos, (734) 216-6840.

**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.

## Food Drive

St. Nicholas Parish is sponsoring an on-going 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.

*It is not our own wealth that we distribute, but Christ’s; therefore let us dispense it as He wishes.  
St. John the Almsgiver 7th century.*



## August 30

### Alexander, John & Paul, New Patriarchs of Constantinople

Saint Alexander was sent to the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea as the delegate of Saint Metrophanes, Bishop of Constantinople (see June 4), to whose throne he succeeded in the year 325. When Arius had deceitfully professed allegiance to the Council of Nicaea, Saint Alexander, knowing his guile, refused to receive him into communion; Arius' powerful partisans threatened that they would use force to bring Arius into the communion of the Church the following day. Saint Alexander prayed fervently that God might spare the Church; and as Arius was in a privy place relieving nature, his bowels gushed forth with an effusion of blood, and the arch-heresiarch died the death of Judas. Saint Alexander was Bishop from 325 until 337, when he was succeeded by Saint Paul the Confessor, who died a martyr's death at the hands of the Arians (see Nov. 6). The Saint John commemorated here appears to be the one who was Patriarch during the years 562-577, surnamed Scholasticus, who is also commemorated on February 21. He was from Antioch, where he had been a lawyer (scholasticus); he was made presbyter, then was sent to Constantinople as representative (apocrisiarius) of the Patriarch of Antioch, and was appointed Patriarch of Constantinople by the Emperor Justinian. Saint Paul was Bishop of Constantinople during the years 687 - 693, in the reign of Emperor Justinian II, and presided over the Quinisext Council in 692.

*Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

## Greek School

Information for the Greek School can be found in the church website [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org). Go to the “Ministries” tab and scroll down to “Greek School”, then click on “Orientation”. Tuition rate, class times, and registration forms are available there.

**Greek School Orientation will be Sunday, Sept. 13,** after church. Parents are urged to attend. Classes begin Monday, Sept. 14. **PLEASE register all students for 2009-2010, new and returning, as soon as possible.** Forms can be downloaded and printed from the website and either mailed to or dropped off at the church office.

# THE SUNDAY BULLETIN August 30, 2009

## Orthros

9:00 AM

## Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

## Epistle Reading

I Cor. 15:1-11

## Gospel Reading

Matt. 19:16-26

## Creed

Greek



## Psaltis

Zannis Res

## Choir

Dr. Jon Wardner

## Prosforo

Diane Geczi

## Fellowship Hour

Parish Council

## Greeters, August 30

Vasilios Pliakas

## 12TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

## UP-COMING EVENTS

### Tuesday, September 1

9:30 a.m. Bed Pad Sewing  
12:30 p.m. Seniors Planning Meeting  
7:30 p.m. YAL

### Thursday, September 3

1:00 p.m. Seniors Kick Off Meeting  
7:00 p.m. 75th Anniversary Chairperson Meeting  
7:00 p.m. YERAC

### Friday, September 4

6:30 p.m. JOY Game Night

**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: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [nhkotsis@hotmail.com](mailto:nhkotsis@hotmail.com) )  
Church office: 734/332-8200 Home: 734/677-7891 Cell: 734/604-3214**