

*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*  
*September 20, 2009*

**Epistle** BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we

have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

**Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross**

Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting our rulers to prevail over adversaries, and protecting Your commonwealth by Your Cross.

**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**

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

**Gospel** The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

**Wisdom from the Fathers**

A Christian's . . . duty is to "take up his cross." The word cross means sufferings, sorrows and adversities. To take up one's cross means to bear without grumblings everything unpleasant, painful, sad, difficult and oppressive that may happen to us in life. . .without expecting any earthly reward in return, but bear it all with love, with joy and with courageous strength.

**St. Innocent of Alaska, *The Lenten Spring, SVS Press, p. 147*** 19th Century

**Prayer for Peace**

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

*From Transfiguration Orthodox Prayer Book  
Compiled from various sources by Fr. Peter Gregory*

**Prayer List**

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

# 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, November 8 and 15.

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sundays of September 27, October 4, 11, and 18 and all the Sundays of November.

**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.

**Modern Greek Studies**

**An Afternoon of Greek Songs, With Mezzo-soprano Penelope Bitzas And Pianist Pantelis Polychronidis, organized by the Modern Greek Program.**

Songs by 19th and 20th Century Greek Composers including Art Songs, modern arrangements of folk songs, "Aria Greca" Greek Operetta and popular favorites. This special recital will take place at the **Stamps Auditorium**, North Campus on **Sunday, October 4, starting at 2pm**. This event is FREE & Open to the Public. Recommended parking options: Walgreen Arts Center, Art & Architecture Building and the School of Music. For more information email [berlykim@umich.edu](mailto:berlykim@umich.edu) or call 734.936.6099.

**St. Nicholas Seniors**

Sign up in the social hall for the wonderful Greek Concert on Sunday October 4th. There is no charge and we will carpool to the Stamps Auditorium on U of M North Campus.

**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.

**Philoptochos Notes**

**Annual Ya'ssoo Golf Outing today.** Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM at Stonebridge Golf Club.

**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

**Church School**

**Classes will begin today, September 20th after Holy Communion.**

Registration forms are available on the website: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org). You can download the form by clicking on the ministries tab, then church school tab then the registration form or you may pick up a form from the table in the hallway. **Registrations will be accepted through October.** Scholarships are also available. Please check with Fr. Nick.

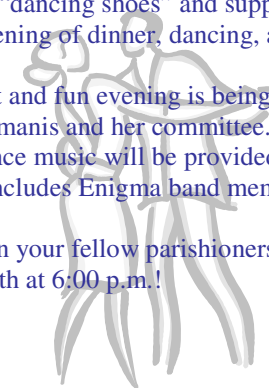
If you have any other questions or concerns regarding Church School or registration, please contact either Fr. Nick or Sue Pagalos.

**1935 - 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - 2010  
ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Pull out your "dancing shoes" and support your church with a fun evening of dinner, dancing, and entertainment.

An elegant and fun evening is being planned by Katerina Roumanis and her committee. Greek and American dance music will be provided by the "KAFI" band which includes Enigma band members and Jimmy Michos.

Plan to join your fellow parishioners on Saturday, November 14th at 6:00 p.m.!



### Outreach and Evangelism

The Mission of the Outreach & Evangelism Ministry is to renew and share the Orthodox Christian Faith in America by nurturing a deeper commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ within His Church, by reaching out to inactive Orthodox Christians by making them aware of the need for Christ in their everyday life and their importance as individual members of the body of Christ. As St. James says in his Epistle: “. . .if any one among you wanders from the truth and some one bring him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20.

We also reach out and try to meet the needs of those inquiring about the Orthodox faith. Archbishop Demetrios has said, “It is the Parish, it is the local community which has been, is, and will forever be the central, indispensable agent for offering our Orthodox faith to contemporary America.”

### Be A Part of The Welcoming Program

This fall we are starting our 2nd year of our Welcoming Program. This important ministry ensures 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, we 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 important ministry. Sign up sheets are in the exo-narthex. Thank you for participating .

### GOYA Update

Next meeting for GOYA will be September 27th at 4:00 p.m. We’ll welcome the 7th graders at this meeting. Please make every effort to attend.

**Daughters of Penelope** are sponsoring a Winter Clothing Drive for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet. They need **gently** used winter clothing for ages infant to adult, both male and female. Baby and children clothing are most needed. Please watch the bulletin for further updates.

*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.*

### September 20

#### Eustathios the Great Martyr, his wife and two children

The holy Martyr Eustathius before his baptism was an illustrious Roman general named Placidus in the days of the Emperor Trajan. While hunting in the country one day, he was converted to the Faith of Christ through the apparition of an uncommonly majestic stag, between whose antlers he saw the Cross of Christ, and through which the Lord spoke to him with a human voice. Upon returning home, he learned that his wife Tatiana had also had a vision in which she was instructed to become a Christian. They sought out the Bishop of the Christians and were baptized, Placidus receiving the name Eustathius, and Tatiana the name Theopiste; their two sons were baptized Agapius and Theopistus. The family was then subjected to such trials as Job endured. Their servants died, all their goods were stolen, and on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem they were scattered abroad, each not even knowing if the others were still alive. By the providence of God, they were united again after many years, and returned to Rome in glory. Nevertheless, when they refused to sacrifice to the idols—a public sacrifice from which no Roman general could be absent—the Emperor Hadrian, who had succeeded Trajan, had them put into a large bronze device in the shape of a bull, which was heated with fire until they died. When their holy bodies were removed, they were found to be without harm. They suffered martyrdom about the year 126.

*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.

#### Classes will meet as follows:

Monday:	4:30-6:00—Level 1 6:15-7:45—Level 2
Tuesday:	4:30-6:00—Level 3 6:15-7:45—Adult Intermediate
Wednesday:	4:30-6:00—Level 4 6:15-7:45—Adult Beginner
Thursday:	4:30-6:00—Level 5 6:15-7:45—Level 6

## THE SUNDAY BULLETIN September 20, 2009

### Orthros

9:00 AM

### Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

### Church School

After Holy Communion

### Epistle Reading

Gal. 2:16-20

### Gospel Reading

Mark 8:34-38; 9-1

### Creed

English

### Greeters

Sylvia Kleanthous  
Fofie Pappas



### Psaltis

Zannis Res

### Choir

Dr. Jon Wardner

### Prosforo

Pliakas Family

### Fellowship Hour

Parish Council

### Greeter

Jack Fry

### Memorial Service

40 Days Anastasia

Valavanis

4 years—Leah Tsarbopoulos

### SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

#### UP-COMING EVENTS

#### Sunday, September 20

**1:00 p.m. Ya’ssou Golf Outing—Stonebridge**

#### Monday, September 21

10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. Greek School Level 1  
6:15 p.m. Greek School Level 2  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

#### Tuesday, September 22

4:30 p.m. Greek School Level 3  
6:15 p.m. Greek School Adult Intermediate  
7:30 p.m. YAL

#### Wednesday, September 23

4:30 p.m. Greek School Level 4  
6:15 p.m. Greek School Adult Beginner  
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Physical Plant & Maintenance Meeting

#### Thursday, September 24

#### Friday, September 25

11:00 a.m. Exercise Class  
6:30 p.m. JOY Game Night  
7:30 p.m. Paraklesis

**NOTE: ALL WEEKDAY LITURGIES, INCLUDING SATURDAY, WILL START AT 9:00 A.M.**

### SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Proistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [nhkotsis@hotmail.com](mailto:nhkotsis@hotmail.com) )

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