

**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**  
**September 27, 2009**

**Epistle** BRETHREN, working together with II Cor. 6:1-10 him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**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 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**

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

**Gospel** At that time, Jesus was standing by the Luke 5:1-11 lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

**Wisdom from the Fathers**

There is an old saying: 'Excesses meet.' Too much fasting and too much eating come to the same end. Keeping too long a vigil brings the same disastrous cost as ... sluggishness... Too much self-denial brings weakness and induces the same condition as carelessness. Often I have seen men who would not be snared by gluttony fall, nevertheless, through immoderate fasting and tumble in weakness into the very urge which they had overcome. Unmeasured vigils and foolish denial of rest overcame those whom sleep could not overcome. Therefore, 'fortified to right and to left in the armor of justice,' as the apostle says (2 Cor. 6:7), life must be lived with due measure and, with discernment for a guide, the road must be traveled between the two kinds of excess so that in the end we may not allow ourselves to be diverted from the pathway of restraint which has been laid down for us nor fall through dangerous carelessness into the urgings of gluttony and self-indulgence.

**St. John Cassian, Conferences, Conference Two: On Discernment no. 16; Paulist Press pg. 76** 5th 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.

**Fellowship Hour** sponsor needed for Sundays of 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.

**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. Please make sure that the clothing is gently used as many families do not have access to sewing materials to fix buttons, zippers, small tears etc. Following is a list of accepted items in infant to adult sizes both male and female.



Winter coats (no wool or "Dry Clean Only"); Boots—all sizes; Gloves/hats/mittens/scarves; Long sleeve T-shirts; Pants; PJ's; Sweatshirts/pants; Socks and underwear.

Last year we were able to provide clothing for 160 children of school age in Washtenaw County because of the kindness and generosity of so many. We were also able to give warm clothing to non school age children and adults.

This year, in particular, we can use your help as many county programs are cutting back on funding.

Thank you, in advance, for your kindness and generosity.

**Prayer List**

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Faye Sekaros, Patrick Gutierrez, Annette Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr., Priscilla Pardon, Pat Ricaldi, Bessie Preketes, Ethan Geczi, Liberty Gekas, Deryl Deveau, Fotica George

**Philoptochos Notes**

Thank you golfers and workers for making the 2009 Yassou Golf Outing such a success.

Bed pad sewing will take place on Tuesday, October 6th.

**College Students:** The ladies Philoptochos invite you to come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and good food on Sunday, October 11th at 6:30 p.m. in our St. Nicholas Social Hall. We welcome everyone and there is no cost for the dinner. If you are in need of transportation or want more information, please contact chairperson Athena Papageorgiou at 734-368-4668.

Look for **bake sale order forms** in the office hallway. Get your orders in early to ensure that you will have baklava and spanakopita for the holidays.

**AHEPA Lamb Luncheon**

On Sunday, October 18, 2009, Ann Arbor AHEPA Chapter #195 is sponsoring their Fall Lamb Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall after the Divine Liturgy. Proceeds from this event will be used towards the reduction of the Church mortgage and the AHEPA scholarships. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8.00 for children. Please contact Costas Boutsikakis 604-8737 or Christos Philippou 309-3032 for details and tickets.

**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 at the Four Points by Sheraton Ballroom.

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

**Past Parish Council Presidents and Members** are being honored today for their service to St. Nicholas Parish. They are: Chris Bekiars (President 2008); Photios Ioannou (2007); Paul Moniodis (2007); Christos Philippou (2008); Nicholas Roumel (President 2007) and Andreas Stathopoulos (2007). Thank you gentlemen, for your time, talent and service to St. Nicholas Parish.

*"What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? . . . So faith by itself, if it has no works is dead."* James 2:14,17

**Church School****Classes are 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.

**Teachers Meeting on Wednesday, September 30th at 7:00 p.m.** Please make every effort to attend this very important meeting.

**The Bookstore** has several more copies of the 2009-10 Greek Orthodox Planner which runs from September 2009 to August 2010. Also recommended: *A Brush with God: An Icon Workbook; Icons and Saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church*, a wonderful guide to icons in the Guide to Imagery Series. You may also find *Culture and Customs of Greece* a new reference book on Greece covering many aspects of Greek culture by Artemis Leontis, sold at a discount only at the bookstore.

**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.

**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.

*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 27****Kallistratos the Martyr & his 49 Companions**

These Martyrs contested for the Faith during the reign of Diocletian, in the year 288. Saint Callistratus was arrested as a Christian, and after being tormented, was enclosed in a sack and cast into the sea. The sack burst, and the Saint came to dry land safe and sound. Forty-nine soldiers, seeing this, also confessed Christ, and with him were cast into prison, then beheaded.

**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.*"

**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.

**GOYA** meets today at 4:00 p.m. We'll welcome the 7th graders at this meeting. Please make every effort to attend.

**Dance Practice** on October 9, 24 and 31 is now scheduled for **9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Please note the time change.

**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.

**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN****September 27, 2009****Orthros**

9:00 AM

**Divine Liturgy**

10:00 AM

**Church School**

After Holy Communion

**Epistle Reading**

II Cor. 6:1-10

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 5:1-11

**Creed**

Greek

**Greeters, October 4**

Betty Lardas

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE****UP-COMING EVENTS****Monday, September 28**

10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. Greek School Level 1  
6:15 p.m. Greek School Level 2  
6:45 p.m. Greek School PTA Orientation  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

**Tuesday, September 29**

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

**Wednesday, September 30**

4:30 p.m. Greek School Level 4  
6:15 p.m. Greek School Adult Beginner  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Church School Teachers Meeting

**Thursday, October 1**

7:00 p.m. Parish Council (Note date change)  
7:00 p.m. YERAC

**Friday, October 2**

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

**SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH****3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103****Web: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org) E-Mail: [kate@stnickaa.org](mailto:kate@stnickaa.org)****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**