

*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*  
*November 15, 2009*

**Epistle** BRETHREN, God who is rich in Hebrews 2:4-10 mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**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 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**

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

**Wisdom from the Fathers**

The sign that thou lovest God, is this, that thou lovest thy fellow; and if thou hatest thy fellow, thy hatred is towards God. For it is blasphemy if thou prayest before God while thou art wroth. For thy heart also convicts thee, that in vain thou multipliest words: thy conscience rightly judges that in thy prayers thou profitest nought. *St. Ephraim the Syrian, On Admonition and Repentance.*

**Gospel** At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Luke 10:25-37 Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

**Prayer List**

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Faye Sekaros, Patrick Gutierrez, Toni Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr., Priscilla Pardon, Pat Ricaldi, Deryl Deveau, Fotica George, Lucia Gagalis, Kevin Kling, Euthie Stamos, Steven Garkinos, Helen Camp.

**We extend our sincere sympathy** to the family and friends of Elsie Elfant who passed away Thursday, November 12th. Her funeral will be here at St. Nicholas Monday, November 16th at 11:00 a.m.

**Found** in the Church social hall: a French poodle brooch and a blue Adidas sport watch. Please call the office if these items belong to you.

## 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 Sponsors** needed for Sunday November 29

*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.*

**GOYA**

We'll be attending "Otto's recital" on November 28th at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come to Chelsea for an enjoyable afternoon of music. If you plan to attend, please contact Laura Kokkales@umich.edu.

**On December 6th, the GOYans will once again go to the tree farm to select and cut the parish Christmas tree.** For more information, please contact Vicki Kiningham at rkinigh@umich.edu. Please note date change for this activity.

**Bell Ringing for Salvation Army**

Monday, December 7th. Shifts are one (1) hour and will begin at 12 noon and end at 9:00 p.m. Please call Helen Garris at 663-0270 to schedule your time. We need all the help we can get. Thanks.

**Congratulations to Our Newly Elected Parish Council Members**

Christopher Bekiares, Helen Garris, Christos Kitromelides, Costas Kleanthous, George Kokales, George Michos and Vasilios Pliakas.

**Orthodoxy 101**

Starting December 3rd, we'll be having a series on the Orthodox Faith open to all parishioners. Each session will begin with Vespers at 6:00 p.m. followed by a potluck supper followed by our talk. The first session will be Thursday, December 3 and the topic will be the Holy Eucharist. The presenter is Fr. Dean Hountalas and we hope to have childcare. More information to follow.

**Philoptochos**

**Baklava Baking** starts tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. If you can spare a few hours, please come and help. We need all the help we can get this week. Please be generous with your time. Pick up of the baked good is **Friday, November 20th from noon to 7:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Wreath Sale**

If you wish to purchase Christmas Wreaths, please place your order no later than Wednesday, November 18th. Orders can be picked up at the Church on Sunday, December 6th between 12 Noon and 2 p.m.

**Parish Christmas Card**

Monday, **November 16th** is the last day to turn in your Parish Christmas Card form if you wish to have your name included on the Parish Christmas Card.

**Church School Notes**

Every year around Thanksgiving, the children participate in "St. Nicholas Thanksgiving Food Drive", helping those people who are less fortunate than ourselves. Your child may bring one food item that has been assigned to his/her class for the next two Sundays (flyers were handed out last Sunday). The food collected by all the classes will then be given to a charity or a shelter that distributes meals to those families who are not able to provide for their families. Please support your child in this worthy cause so that we can make a difference in their lives during the holidays. **All food items should be in by and no later than Sunday, Nov. 22.**

**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.

**St. Nicholas Seniors**

Please come to our "Christmas Luncheon" at noon on **Tuesday, December 8th.** Cost: \$10.00. Call if you need a ride.

### St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Traditional Greek Christmas Cookies and Bread

This bake sale is sponsored by our Greek School to benefit our church. Last year the sale generated \$2,000 for our church. Please help us to do better.

All sales are pre-ordered and pre-paid. Order deadline is Friday, November 27, 2009. Pick up dates for cookies/bread, Sunday December 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Vasilopita, Wednesday, Dec. 30th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Order forms are available on the table in the hallway. Please make checks payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

### Choir Notes

Choir rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesday, November 18 and December 2 and **Thursday**, December 17.

We will also be singing at the Saturday, December 5th St. Nicholas Vespers.

### Outreach and Evangelism

*“...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.*

The Mission of the Outreach & Evangelism Ministry is to renew and share the Orthodox Christian Faith by nurturing a deeper commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ within His Church. Please consider joining this important ministry by contacting Chris Kerry or the Church office.

**The Bookstore recommends:** New inventory—*Lost to the West: the Forgotten Byzantine Empire that Rescued Western Civilization*, a captivating portrait by acclaimed writer Lars Brownworth. We also have beautiful photo cards of Greece by artist Alice E. Nuttall—very high quality cards for all occasions, each an original signed by the artist. See also Mark Mazower’s book on *Salonica*.

### H.O.P.E.

**Sunday, Nov. 15th 12:30-2:00.**

**We will be discussing God’s covenant with Abraham. For more information contact:**

**Sophia [Grias-Radwanski-sgrias@mhsi.us](mailto:Grias-Radwanski-sgrias@mhsi.us)**

**Or**

**Vasilias Tsilimingras-[vtsilimingras@yahoo.com](mailto:vtsilimingras@yahoo.com)**

### AHEPA SCHOLARSHIPS

High School Seniors and College Students, if you are planning to apply for an AHEPA Scholarship for 2010, please let Dr. Kleanthous know by phone: 734-475-2034 or email: c.kleanthousmd@sbcglobal.net or by mail 19345 Bush Road, Chelsea MI 48118. College students must belong in the ahepa Family and High School Seniors must be children of an Ahepan. Your parents don’t have to be Greek to join the AHEPA. I will provide you an application if you request one.

### Be A Part of The Welcoming Program

This ministry is important and 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. We are in need of people to sign up for this ministry so please consider taking part in it. Sign up sheets are in the exo-narthex. Thank you for participating.

*Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7*

### November 15

#### Gurias, Samonas, & Avivos, Martyrs & Confessors of Edessa

Of these most illustrious Martyrs of the city of Edessa in Syria, Guria and Shamuna contested during the reign of Diocletian, in 288; after many tortures, they were cast into prison, then beheaded. Saint Habib, a deacon, contested in the days of Licinius, in the year 316, and was burned alive; he was buried with Saints Guria and Shamuna. The three have one common feast, and it is always together that they are portrayed in icons and invoked by the faithful.

On account of a renowned miracle they worked, they are invoked for help in marital difficulties. A certain Goth had come with the Roman army to Edessa and was quartered in the house of a pious widow named Sophia. The Goth asked Sophia for the hand of her daughter, Euphemia; after resisting for a long time, Sophia at last agreed. When it was time for the army to return home, Sophia made the Goth vow by the power in the holy Martyrs Shamuna, Guria, and Habib, to keep Euphemia as the apple of his eye. As he was nearing his home, however, the treacherous man revealed to Euphemia that he already had a wife. Euphemia was compelled to serve the Goths wife, who dealt with her mercilessly. After extreme sufferings, which included being sealed alive in a tomb and left there to die, Euphemia was miraculously conveyed to Edessa, to the very shrine of the holy Martyrs whose surety they had taken, and was reunited with her mother through their holy prayers.

*Reading courtesy Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

## THE SUNDAY BULLETIN November 15, 2009

### Orthros

9:00 AM

### Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

### Church School

After Holy Communion

### Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:4-10

### Gospel

Luke 10: 25-37

### Creed

English

### Greeters Nov. 22



### EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

#### UP-COMING EVENTS

#### Sunday, November 15

12:30 p.m. HOPE

5:00 p.m. JOY

#### Monday, November 16

9:00 a.m. Baklava Baking

7:30 p.m. Bible Study

#### Tuesday, November 17

9:00 a.m. Baklava Baking

#### Wednesday, November 18

9:00 a.m. Baklava Baking

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. YAL

#### Thursday, November 19

9:00 a.m. Baklava Baking

#### Friday, November 20

12 Noon—7:00 p.m. Bake Sale pick up

7:30 p.m. Paraklesis

#### Saturday, November 21

**9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy**

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

**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) )**

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