

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
December 6, 2009

Epistle Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; glory to Your eternal rule; glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

Apolytikion for Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra

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.

Apolytikion of the Church

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Gospel At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Kontakion

On this day the Virgin cometh to a cave to give birth to God the Word ineffable, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

Wisdom from the Fathers

So great an evil is envy. For not against strangers only, but even against our own, is it ever warring.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 40 on Matthew 12
4th Century

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, Helen Camp, Bridget Smith, Steve Theodorou, Rosaleen Baldwin

Fr. Efstathios Metallinos passed away November 30th. He was the former Chancellor of the Diocese of Detroit and priest at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church in Plymouth. May his memory be eternal.

Parish News and Events (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 the Sundays, of Dec. 27th, Jan. 3, 17, 31.

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.

Sun., Dec. 6	UP-COMING EVENTS
	Christmas Wreath Pickup 12:30 p.m. HOPE GOYA Christmas Tree Cutting 1:00-5:00 p.m. Metropolitan Open House Metropolitan Nicholas' Name Day
Mon., Dec. 7	10:00 a.m. Bible Study 12:00 noon-9:00 p.m. Bell Ringing for Salvation Army 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
Tues., Dec. 8	12:00 Noon Seniors Christmas Luncheon 8:00 p.m. OCF
Wed., Dec. 9	10:30 a.m. Exercise Class 7:00 p.m. Philoptochos Christmas Party 7:30 p.m. YAL
Thur., Dec. 10	7:00 p.m. Parish Council
Fri., Dec. 11	11:00 a.m. Exercise Class 6:00 p.m. Vespers Divine Liturgy at Metropolis St. Spyridon Chapel 6:30 p.m. JOY Game Night
Sat., Dec. 12	St. Spyridon 9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy

Philoptochos

Christmas Wreath Pickup today.

Wednesday, December 9th, we'll have our annual Christmas party and meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. This year, we are supporting the Church School Icon project. We ask that you bring a check or cash to support this great project.

We are in desperate need of sheets for bed pad sewing for Arbor Hospice. Please bring them to the office.

Church School

Reminders: Please check your emails for upcoming and current information regarding the Christmas Pageant (Sun. Dec. 20) and any other Church School related events. Also, the Church school department would like the parents to help by bringing in a food item to the Christmas Pageant coffee hour. There is a sign up sheet in the hallway where you can select the food/beverage to bring. Please contact Gail Altenburg at 971-6962 if you have any questions or if you can help with coffee hour that day.

Every year during the month of December, the children are asked to help raise funds for the St. Basil's Academy for orphans. Together with Philoptochos, the children help by collecting any loose change to help the orphan children and with the operations of the Academy.

Oratorical Festival topics are on line (7-12 grade students), so please start early and get a jump start on selecting your topic for the Parish festival on Sun. March 14, 2010. More information on upcoming workshops will follow.

NO CHURCH SCHOOL SUN. DEC. 27.

GOYA

We'll be going to the tree farm to cut down the parish Christmas tree immediately after the Divine Liturgy today. Permission slips ARE REQUIRED.

Tomorrow, Monday, December 7th GOYAns ring the bell for the Salvation Army at Kroger/Westgate from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Nicholas Seniors—Remember

Christmas Luncheon this Tuesday, December 8th at 12:00 noon. Hope to see you there.



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.

Pick up dates for cookies/bread, Sunday December 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Vasiliopita, 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

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 has wonderful Christmas gifts: CD books, *Prince of Peace* and *Byzantine Christmas*. Christmas books and coloring books for children, including *The Legend of St. Nicholas* and *The Miraculous Child*. Cookbooks: *How To Roast A Lamb*, the much anticipated book by the rising star of Greek cooking in America, Michael Psilakis; Sophia Skouras's *Against the Grain: 150 Good Carb Mediterranean Recipes* and other books by Diana Kochilas. For the history lover: *Inside Hitler's Greece*; *My Detroit*; *Short History of Byzantium*; *Smyrna, 1922 Destruction*; *The Balkans* and *Lost to the West: The Forgotten Byzantine Empire That Rescued Western Civilization*. For spiritual guidance, the inspiring story of *Father Arseny, 1893-1973* and *Mountain of Silence*. Don't forget your vasilopita coins.

Metropolis Chapel Feast Day—St. Spyridon

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, the Metropolis Council and the Metropolis Philoptochos are sponsoring a Vesperal Divine Liturgy at the St. Spyridon Chapel at the Metropolis on **Friday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m.** A reception will follow the Liturgy. All are invited and welcome to attend. 2560 Crooks Road—Troy, MI 48084

Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra

This Saint lived during the reign of St. Constantine the Great, and reposed in 330. As a young man, he desired to espouse the solitary life. He made a pilgrimage to the holy city Jerusalem, where he found a place to withdraw to devote himself to prayer. It was made known to him, however, that this was not the will of God for him; he should return to his homeland to be a cause of salvation for many. He returned to Myra, and was ordained bishop. He was known for his abundant mercy, providing for the poor and needy, and delivering those who had been unjustly accused. He was also known for his zeal for the truth. He was present at the First Ecumenical Council of the 318 Fathers at Nicaea in 325; upon hearing the blasphemies that Arius brazenly uttered against the Son of God, St. Nicholas struck him on the face. Since the canons of the Church forbid the clergy to strike any man at all, his fellow bishops were in perplexity what disciplinary action was to be taken against this hierarch whom all revered. In the night our Lord Jesus Christ and our Lady Theotokos appeared to certain of the bishops, informing them that no action was to be taken against him, since he had acted not out of passion, but extreme love and piety. The Dismissal Hymn for holy hierarchs, The truth of things hath revealed thee to thy flock ... was written originally for St. Nicholas. He is the patron of all travelers, and of sea-farers in particular; he is one of the best known and best loved Saints of all time.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Be A Part of The Welcoming Program

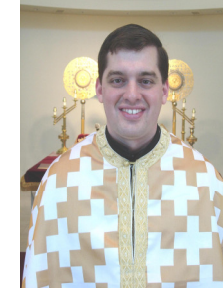
This ministry is important and ensures that everyone passing through our doors and entering Christ's Church are welcomed and made to feel comfortable as being created in the image and likeness of God. As well, we get to know others in our parish we normally might not get to know—or make the time to know. 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.

AHEPA SCHOLARSHIPS

To qualify for the AHEPA District College Scholarship **you have to be a member of the AHEPA family** (sons of Pericles, Maids of Athena, AHEPA or Daughters). If your college does not have chapters of the Sons or Maids, I encourage you to join the AHEPA or Daughters. For an application, please contact Dr. Kleanthous at c.kleanthousmd@sbcglobal.net. To Join the Daughters, call Perry Katsikas 734-995-4766 for information.

Choir rehearsal **Thursday**, December 17.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN December 6, 2009



Happy Fifth Anniversary!

This is the day which the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118:24)

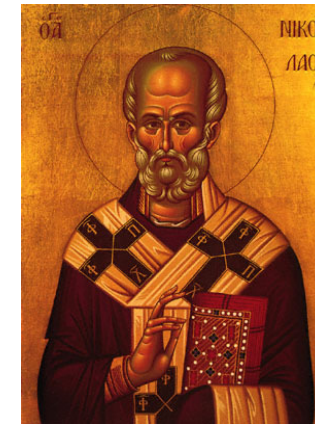
Orthros
9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy
10:00 AM

Church School
After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading
Hebrews 13:17-21

Gospel
Luke 13:10-17



**FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS
TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

Psaltis
Zannis Res

Choir
Jon Wardner

Prosforo
Ioanna Ioannou

Fellowship Hour
The Michos Family

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Web: www.stnickaa.org E-Mail: kate@stnickaa.org
Proistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (nhkotsis@hotmail.com)
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