

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
December 13, 2009

Epistle BRETHREN, when Christ who Col. 3:4-11 is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for 11th Sunday of Luke

By faith didst Thou justify the Forefathers, when through them Thou didst betroth Thyself aforetime to the Church from among the nations. The Saints boast in glory that from their seed there is a glorious fruit, even she that bare Thee seedlessly. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

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

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 glad-some 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.

Gospel Luke 14:16-24; Mt. 22:14 The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time

of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

Wisdom from the Fathers

This parable ... proclaims beforehand both the casting out of the Jews, and the calling of the Gentiles; and it indicates together with this also the strictness of the life required, and how great the punishment appointed for the careless

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 69 on Matthew 22
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, Rosaleen Baldwin, Marie Lyons, Diane Hackett

We extend our deepest sympathy to: the family of Steven Theodorou who passed away December 7th and was buried from our Church on December 11th and to Ruth Philippou on the death of her mother. May their 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.

Thank You to Joanna Kokkales and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Neonatal Unit for donating the extra large pointsettias to the church.

UP-COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sun., Dec. 13 | 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Pick up Christmas Cookies & Bread
Choir Christmas Caroling |
| Mon., Dec. 14 | 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Bible Study |
| Tues., Dec. 15 | 9:00 Orthros & Liturgy —St. Eleftherios
8:00 p.m. OCF |
| Wed., Dec. 16 | 10:30 a.m. Exercise Class
7:30 p.m. YAL |
| Thur., Dec. 17 | 6:00 p.m. Vespers
Potluck
Orthodoxy 101—Marriage
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal |
| Fri., Dec. 18 | 11:00 a.m. Exercise Class
6:30 p.m. Greek School Christmas Party |

Sun., Dec. 20 Church School Christmas Pageant after Divine Liturgy

Orthodoxy 101

Our next session will be Thursday, December 17th and our topic will be on Marriage. This series on the Orthodox Faith is 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 presenter is Fr. Peter Bistolarides. We hope to have childcare.

Philoptochos

Thank you to all who gave of their time to Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army. Your generosity is appreciated. We are in desperate need of sheets for bed pad sewing for Arbor Hospice. Please bring them to the office.

Church School Notes

After the Divine Liturgy today there is a mandatory rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant which will be next Sunday, December 20th after church service.

URGENT: Parents of children in the church School are asked to sign up to contribute a food or drink item for the coffee hour on 12/20/09 following the Christmas Pageant. The sign-up board is in the hall outside the social hall. Please contact Gail Altenburg at 971-6962 if you have any questions or if you can help with coffee hour that day.

Coins for St. Basil

Please help your children support the work of St. Basil Academy as they donate any loose change to put in their classroom bank. This money will be given to Philoptochos our partner in this endeavor. They will send a check to the Academy.

NO CHURCH SCHOOL SUN. DEC. 27.

Jerusalem Is Ours: the Capital of Palestine

Presentation by Jamal Al-Aref, Sunday, December 13, 2009. 1:30 p.m. Ypsilanti Public Library, 5577 Whittaker Road.

GOYA

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 20 | Christmas Caroling & Christmas Party |
| Dec. 27 | 4:00 p.m. Bible Study |
| Jan. 3 | 4:00 p.m. bible Study/Meeting/Fellowship |
| Jan. 10 | 12:30 p.m. GOYA Brunch |

Modern Greek Program

The U-M Modern Greek Program is proud to present the **8th Annual Dimitri and Irmgard Pallas Modern Greek Lecture on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00pm** in the **Michigan League's Vandenberg Room**, located at 911 N. University on Central Campus. A lecture entitled **"On Greek Friendship"** will be given by **Gregory Jusdanis**, Arts & Humanities Distinguished Professor of Greek and Latin, Ohio State University. For more information: berlykim@umich.edu or lsa.umich.edu/modgreek

Greek School Notes**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Traditional Greek Christmas Cookies and Bread**

Pick up dates for cookies/bread, today December 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and **Vasiliopita, Wednesday, Dec. 30th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Greek school will add a pre/kindergarten class, for 4 and 5 year olds in January. The class will meet on Fridays, from 4:30 to 6:00 and the first class will be on Friday, January 8.

Please fill out a registration form as soon as possible. Forms are available at the church office and website. An orientation meeting will take place on Sunday, January 3, after church in the Greek school classroom. For questions, please e-mail or call Joanna Ioannou, e-mail: jioannou@gmail.com, telephone 734-996-0481.

SAVE THE DATE for the annual Greek School Mardi Gras dance which will take place **Saturday, February 6th**. Further information will be forthcoming.

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.

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

The Friends of the Metropolis program is designed to help raise much-needed funds for the operation of the Metropolis of Detroit. Funds raised help pay for the operations of the Metropolis, the Metropolitan's travel expenses and the ministries of the Metropolis. Forms are available in the hallway and any amount of a donation is welcomed. Please do your best, at any giving level, to help support the ministries of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis of Detroit. God bless you!

December 13**Lucia the Virgin-martyr**

Saint Lucia was from Syracuse in Sicily, a virgin betrothed to a certain pagan. Since her mother suffered from an issue of blood, she went with her to the shrine of Saint Agatha at Catania to seek healing (see Feb. 5). There Saint Agatha appeared to Lucia in a dream, assuring her of her mother's healing, and foretelling Lucia's martyrdom. When her mother had been healed, Lucia gladly distributed her goods to the poor, preparing herself for her coming confession of Christ. Betrayed as a Christian by her betrothed to Paschasius the Governor, she was put in a brothel to be abused, but was preserved in purity by the grace of God. Saint Lucia was beheaded in the year 304, during the reign of Diocletian.

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.

Outreach and Evangelism

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.

Thank You to Katherine Phan, Nick & Eleni Michos, John and Vivi Roumanis and Tom Roumanis for decorating the church and setting up the Christmas tree. A special thank you also to the anonymous donor of all the beautiful poinsettias.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN**December 13, 2009****Orthros**

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:4-11

Gospel

Luke 14:16-24; Matt. 22:14

**ICON OF THE FOREFATHERS****11TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

Come, O faithful,
Let us enjoy the Master's hospitality,
The banquet of immortality.
In the upper chamber with uplifted minds
Let us receive the exalted words of the Word
Whom we magnify.

Last Ode of the Compline Canon

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org
Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to:
kate@stnickaa.org by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Web: www.stnickaa.org E-Mail: kate@stnickaa.orgProistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (nhkotsis@hotmail.com)

Church office: 734/332-8200 Home: 734/677-7891 Cell: 734/604-3214

Psaltis

Zannis Res

Choir

Jon Wardner

Prosforo

Panagiota Apostolou

Fellowship Hour

Nick Beltsos Family

Memorial Services

5 Years

Katherine Beltsos

40Days

Dimitri, Joanna, John
Alexandropoulos