

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

Pick up date for **Vasilopita, 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](mailto:jioannou@gmail.com), telephone 734-996-0481.

**SAVE THE DATE** for the annual Greek School Mardi Gras dance which will take place **Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. 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!

**How to Recognize A Stroke**

If a stroke is recognized and treated within 3 hours the effects may be minimized.

**S.T.R.**

**S.** Ask the individual to **SMILE**

**T.** Ask the person to **TALK A SIMPLE SENTENCE** (coherently)

**R.** Ask him/her to **RAISE BOTH HANDS**

If he/she has trouble with any one of these tasks call 911.

**NEW SIGN OF STROKE**

Stick out your tongue and if it is crooked it is a stroke.

**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](mailto:c.kleanthousmd@sbcglobal.net). To Join the Daughters, call Perry Katsikas 734-995-4766 for information.

**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 SUNDAY BULLETIN

### December 20, 2009

**Orthros**

9:00 AM

**Divine Liturgy**

10:00 AM

**Church School**

After Holy Communion

**Epistle Reading**

Col. 1:12-18

**Gospel**

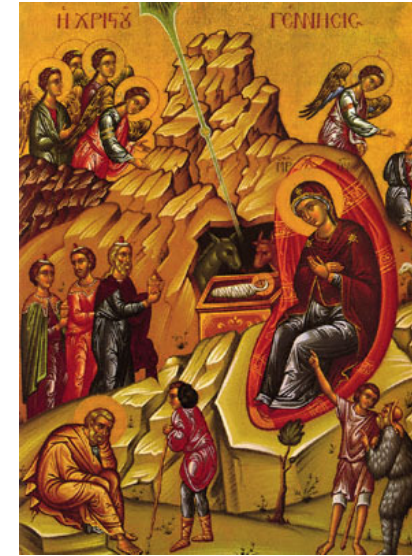
Matt. 1:1-25

**Creed**

Greek

**Greeter Dec. 27**

Penny Bekiares

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**

Lift up your voice, O Zion, holy city of God,  
Proclaim the divine memory of the Fathers.

With Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

Honor one whose memory is eternal:

For behold, with Judah and Levi we magnify Moses the Great,  
And with him the wonder-working Aaron.

With David we celebrate the memory of Joshua and Samuel,

Calling all with divine songs and praise

To the prefeast of Christ's Nativity,

Praying that we may receive His goodness,  
For it is He who grants the world great mercy.



*MERRY CHRISTMAS*  
*KAAA XPISTOYTENNA*



**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**

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

**Epistle** BRETHREN, we give thanks to the Father who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

**Gospel** The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.  
Matt. 1:1-25

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and

Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

**Apolytikion for Ignatius the God-Bearer, Bishop of Antioch**

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Ignatius. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.



*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6*

## 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 Jan. 24 and all the Sundays of February

**Fellowship Hour Sponsors** needed for Sunday, Jan. 3, 17.

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

**Sun., Dec. 20** Church School Christmas Pageant after Divine Liturgy  
**GOYA** Christmas Caroling and Christmas Party

**Mon., Dec. 21** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

**Thur., Dec. 24** 6:00 p.m. Vespers & Divine Liturgy

**Fri. Dec. 25** Christmas Day  
9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy

**Sun., Dec. 27** NO CHURCH SCHOOL  
4:00 p.m. GOYA Bible Study

**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 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.

**We offer our condolences** to Angie and Fred Veigel on the death of Angie's sister, Heidi Saitis, who resided in Saginaw. May her memory be eternal.

**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, John Underhill

**Philoptochos**

All the baklava has been sold but we still have spanakopita for sale. Thank you for your love and support of St. Nicholas Philoptochos. We could not have given funds to so many worthy charities this year without your help.

**Church School Notes**

**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.

**GOYA**

**Dates to Remember**

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](mailto:berlykim@umich.edu) or [lsa.umich.edu/modgreek](http://lsa.umich.edu/modgreek)

**AHEPA NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE**

Thursday, December 31, 9:00 p.m.  
\$25.00/Adults; Children 13 and under free  
Appetizers, cash bar  
music with DJ George Smyrnis