

The Bookstore Recommends:

The bookstore recommends for Lent: *The Festive Fast: Greek Meatless Cooking in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition*, a superb 375- page book with recipes for breads, pitas & pizzas, soups, salads, spreads, seafood, and various sweets. Numerous quotations from the fathers and a sermon of St. John Chrysostom on fasting. *A Lenten Cookbook for Orthodox Christians*, with scores of Lenten recipes. Over 23,000 copies printed. *Greek Vegetarian* by Diane Kochilas, brimming with classic dishes, regional favorites, and inspired innovations. We have many new books of Saints' Lives, including Saints Nectarios, Constantine and Helen, Anthony, Christopher, Catherine, Anthony, Gerasimos, Anastasia, and Luke. *The Festal Menaion*, translated from the Greek by Mother Mary and Bishop Kallistos Ware, is a valuable service book for the Great Feasts of the Saviour and Mother of God. We have Red Easter Egg Dye.

Church School News and Reminders:

The children have brought home an O.C.M.C. (Orthodox Christian Mission Center) Coin box that will be used to help raise funds for the Orthodox mission work around the world. Please support your children in this Lenten project and remind them to put their coins in the boxes. All coin boxes must be returned to the teachers by April 11th.

Reminders: Throughout Lent, there are services that the children can attend to help with absences. Please check the website calendar for dates and sign your name in the book provided in the Narthex.

Thought for the Week

He that prays with fasting hath his wings double, and lighter than the very winds. ... For nothing is mightier than a man who prays sincerely. ... But if thy body be too weak to fast continually, still it is not too weak for prayer, nor without vigor for contempt of the belly. For although thou canst not fast, yet canst thou avoid luxurious living.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 57 on Matthew 17,4,5. B#54, pp.355,356. 4th Century

GOYA News

We've started our Greek Dance practices again for the parade and festival. Next scheduled practice: March 13th 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the social hall. Please attend.

Luminary Candles for Good Friday are now available on Sunday, following church services. Our table is outside the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$5 per bag for 2 full names (first/last) in English or Greek. All proceeds go to benefit the GOYA. Thank you for your support!

Again, brunch proceeds allowed GOYA to donate \$100 toward the social hall renovation fundraiser.

Special Thanks to Stacy Garris, Stacy Ballios and Robert Ashley for volunteering lots of additional hours with our 75th Anniversary fellowship hour last week.

Daughters of Penelope

Annual Tsoureki Sale

Please place your order by March 21. Pick up date is Palm Sunday, March 28. Cost is \$10.00 per one pound loaf. Payment must be included with your order. Make checks payable to the Daughters of Penelope. All proceeds benefit the Daughters of Penelope Charities.

Order forms are on the table in the hallway and when completed can be placed in the hat box. If you have questions, please call 734-995-4766. Thank you for your support.

NO CELL PHONES

It has come to my attention that students are bringing cell phones and trying to text during church school (some have tried in the altar as well). There is **ABSOLUTLEY NO NEED FOR A CHILD TO HAVE A CELL PHONE IN CHURCH.** It is disruption to the class and disrespectful in church. Make sure your child does not have a cell phone in church or church school and make sure yours is turned off during the service.



It's time . . . to think about the Ya'ssoo Festival
We need YOUR HELP in reducing our church mortgage by means of selling festival raffle tickets. Our goal is to sell 5000 tickets before June 5, 2010 when the festival begins. Please see Andreas Stathopoulos or Bill Res during the social hour to sign up and become a member of this **important** fund raiser. Everyone can do something! Thank you for your support.

Festival Worker Sign Up will take place on Palm Sunday right after the Divine Liturgy. It is important that we have many workers for this year's festival in order for it to be a success. Please give of your time and talent and help with the main fund raiser for our church.

**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN**
March 14, 2010**Orthros**

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 6:13-20

Gospel

Mark 9:17-31

Creed

English

**SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS**

Congratulations
Fr. Nick and Presvytera Sandra
on the birth
of Vasiliki Alexandra

Flowers

At this time we are accepting donations for the flowers that will decorate our church and icons during Great Lent and Holy Week.

Apr. 4 Flowers for Icons on Iconostasis

Donations are being accepted for flowers for the Epitaphion and Easter. Please place your donations in the box marked "Epitaphion" which is in the Narthex. **If you wish to help decorate the Epitaphion, please come to the church after 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 2nd.**

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org
Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to:

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Web: www.stnickaa.org E-Mail: kate@stnickaa.org

Proistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (nhkotsis@hotmail.com)

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

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

March 14, 2010

Epistle

Hebrews 6:13-20

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel

Mark 9:17-31

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast

it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

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 the Sunday of St. John Climacus

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrhbearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

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

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Toni Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr., Priscilla Pardon, Deryl Deveau, Kevin Kling, Helen Camp, Bridget Smith, Rosaleen Baldwin, John Underhill, Cristinel Dima, Jackson Bafile, Brian Melzian, Constantine Vintzel, Ryan Roberts, Tatiana Efthyvoulou

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.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Sun. Mar. 14	Parish Oratorical Festival 12:30 p.m. HOPE (classroom area) 6:30 p.m. "An Evening to Remember"
Mon., Mar. 15	6:30 p.m. Great Compline Bible Study
Tues., Mar. 16	7:00 p.m. Ya'ssoo Meeting
Wed., Mar. 17	10:30 a.m. Exercise 6:30 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy Church History-1453-1750 7:00 p.m. Choir
Fri., Mar. 19	11:00 a.m. Exercise Class 7:30 p.m. Akathist Hymn Canon Law—on Clerical Life
Sat., Mar. 20	9:00 a.m. SPRING CLEAN UP

Stewardship Commitment for 2010

"Come and See"... We ask that you prayerfully decide the portion of God's gifts to you that you will offer to His Church through the Christian Stewardship Program of our Parish.

If you have not completed a Stewardship Commitment Card for 2010, please take the time to make your offering today and enable our Church to continue to enhance the spiritual growth of the Orthodox Christians entrusted to our care.

If you have submitted a 2010 Stewardship Commitment Card, we thank you for the support to the Ministries of St. Nicholas. Your Stewardship provides the foundation for our service in the Lord.

More information and forms are available on the displays by the social hall and on the web at www.stnickaa.org

Philoptochos has trays of spanikopita for sale. If you are interested in buying one, please contact Diane Geczi or a Philoptochos member. Trays are \$16.00 each.

Book Lover's Rejoice! Used books are being collected during the month of March to benefit Ann Arbor AAUW. Books collected will be offered for sale before and after our April 14 meeting. We will use AAUW prices and monies collected will be donated along with the books. This will be fun for all who love to read.

Palm Sunday Luncheon Please plan to enjoy our annual Palm Sunday Luncheon following the Liturgy on March 28. Tickets are on sale now.

"Festival of Flowers" Spring Luncheon on Saturday, April 10 is taking reservations. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

75th Anniversary Fellowship Hour Calendar

April 18	Church School/Greek School
May 9	Walkathon
May 16	Philoptochos
June 13	Altar Boys
June 20	AHEPA/Daughters
September 2	JOY/HOPE
October 10	Founders
October 24	Choir/Psaltes
November 7	Past Presidents/Council
December 19	Fr. Nicolaos Kotsis 5th Anniversary

An Evening to Remember

How and when was St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church founded? Join us this evening and you will visually be taken through the years from 1935, when an original church was built on Main Street, until the present where we now enjoy our new church on Scio Church Road which was completed in 2004. This will be a nostalgic evening for our older and long time parishioners and enlightening for the younger and newer members. Open House from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served (no charge). This is the 75th Anniversary celebration event under the chairmanship of Presvytera Eva Paul and Tula Prokos. Please give us your support.

Spring Clean up for the Church

Saturday, March 20th at 9:00 a.m. we need your help to vacuum, dust, clean windows and other duties to ready our church for Holy Pascha.

