

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

JANUARY 13, 2008

Epistle Reading Ephesians 4:7-13

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of

Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the pas-sions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the pas-sions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion of the Church

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.

Kontakion

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Gospel Reading Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Wisdom of the Fathers

Take heed, then, often to come together to give thanks to God, and show forth His praise. For when ye assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith.

St. Ignatius of Antioch, Epistle to the Ephesians Ch. 13
2nd century

PSALM 143

O LORD, hear my prayer;
give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;
answer me in your righteousness.

Do not enter into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.

For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the
ground,
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

Therefore my spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is appalled.

I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds,
I meditate on the works of your hands.

I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

House Blessings

Fr. Nick will be blessing homes starting January, 2008. If you would like your home blessed, please call the office to schedule a time.

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.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP:

Everyone's Responsibility!

If you have not completed your pledge for 2007, please try and do so as soon as possible.

Pledge cards have been mailed for 2008. If you did not receive one, please see a member of the parish council or call Kate at the office for the form to make your pledge. Without stewardship. We cannot finance our operations. Everyone's best effort is required. Thank you!

Prosforo is needed for Feb. 24, March 9 and 30.

Fellowship Hour sponsor needed for Sunday February 17, 24, March 2, 16, 23 and 30.

Saint Nicholas Church School

Thank you to all the children for donating their loose change for St. Basil Academy and to their families for their support.

Today each class will be given a Vasilopita with the traditional St. Basil's coin hidden inside. "Blessings and good fortune for the new year" to the recipient.

All 7-12 grade students have been given their Oratorical topics. Please encourage your child to participate in this important parish festival which takes place on Sunday, March 9th. More information to follow.

Vicki Kiningham will be setting up workshops to help the students with their topics both the writing and the speaking.

Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Notes

Today we will be passing a special tray for St. Basil's Academy.

"Cell Phones for Soldiers" will be the Philoptochos Community Care project between NOW and July 2008. We will be collecting old cell phones and accessories which will be redeemable toward calling cards for our troops abroad.

The phones are sent to ReCellular, which donates an hour of talk time to soldiers for each donated cell phone.

Please drop off your cell phones in the box located outside the social hall. For further information, contact Jarnis Gutierrez, 677-2581 or email jogs@umich.edu or Joan Raphael, 483-0923 or jraphael810@comcast.net

Saint Nicholas Youth Programs

Winter Lock-In: The 2008 G.O.Y.A. Winter Lock-In will be January 18th and 19th. Registration will be January 18th at 6:00 p.m. and Departure will be January 19th at 10:00 a.m.

G.O.Y.A. Parent Meeting has been rescheduled for Sunday, Feb. 17th. 3:00 p.m.

G.O.Y.A. Bible Study: Jan. 27th at 4:00 p.m.

J.O.Y. will meet today from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Seniors

Our next trip is to the Detroit Institute of Arts on Thursday, January 24th. We have reserved a bus to take us there and we will leave the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m., attend the Museum, lunch at Motor City Casino and be home by 4:30 p.m. Please make your checks to St. Nicholas Seniors. The \$20.00 covers the bus fee and driver gratuity. You are responsible for the \$6.00 ticket to the museum and lunch at one of the four Motor City restaurants. Please let Diane, Joan or Penny know if you will be attending.

Anyone wishing to attend the Moiseyev Dancers on Sunday, Jan. 27th should contact Diane, Joan or Penny.



Saint Nicholas Choir Notes
Senior Choir



Any interested parishioner, ages 12 and up, is encouraged to join the Senior Choir. We do not have auditions — simply come to rehearsal. Some musical experience is preferred, but not required. Knowledge of the Greek language is NOT necessary — all our music has English phonetics, and we sing parts of the Divine Liturgy in English. Our January rehearsals are Wednesday, January 16 and Wednesday, January 30th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us!

Junior Choir Anyone interested in joining the junior choir is welcome to come to rehearsals on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Our next rehearsal is January 23rd. We hope to see you there!

The Saint Nicholas Bookstore Recommends: A very beautiful book for a godchild, grandchild, or friend is *Painted Words and Spoken Memories*, written and illustrated by Aliko, telling how she, daughter of Greek immigrants in Philadelphia, began school without knowing English. *Greek Sapouni*, a novel about tradition by Ann Arbor native Maro Kentros, based on historical fact, explores the psychological and philosophical influences of Greek immigrant parents on their children, who adapted to living in two cultures simultaneously.

Two Black Coats mistakenly taken

If you mistakenly took a black, double-breasted overcoat with a label written in Chinese; or a large black, double-breasted overcoat, please return it to the office or call Rev. Father Nick. *Thank you.*

Lost

The Saint Nicholas Dance Committee is looking for one of the tall, silver vases used as a centerpiece at the Saint Nicholas Dance. If you mistakenly thought the centerpieces were for the taking, they were not and we would appreciate the vase being returned as soon as possible to the church office or to Rev. Father Nick.

January 16

Veneration of Apostle Peter's Precious Chains

Herod Agrippa, the grandson of Herod the Great and king of the Jews, grew wroth against the Church of Christ, and slew James, the brother of John the Evangelist. Seeing that this pleased the Jews, he took Peter also into custody and locked him up in prison, intending to keep him there until after the feast of the Passover, so that he could win the favour of the people by presenting him to them as a victim. But the Apostle was saved when he was miraculously set free by an Angel (Acts 12:1-19). The chains wherewith the Apostle was bound received from his most sacred body the grace of sanctification and healing, which is bestowed upon the faithful who draw nigh with faith.

That such sacred treasures work wonders and many healings is witnessed by the divine Scripture, where it speaks concerning Paul, saying that the Christians in Ephesus had such reverence for him, that his handkerchiefs and aprons, taken up with much reverence, healed the sick of their maladies: "So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them" (Acts 19:12). But not only the Apostles' clothing (which certainly touched the bodies of the sick), but even their shadow alone performed healings. On beholding this, people put their sick on stretchers and beds and brought them out into the streets that, when Peter passed by, his shadow "might overshadow some of them" (Acts 5:15). From this the Orthodox Catholic Church has learned to show reverence and piety not only to the relics of their bodies, but also in the clothing of God's Saints.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

A.H.E.P.A. News

Attention College/University Students — anyone interested in applying for a scholarship, please contact Costas Boutsikakis at 604-8737 for an application.

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN
JANUARY 13, 2008

Orthros 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Church School
Following Communion

Epistle Reading
Ephesians 4:7-13

Gospel Reading
Matthew 4:12-17

Creed
English



SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Jan. 13

Vasilopita
J.O.Y. Event

Monday, Jan. 14

Weekly Bible Study— 10:00 a.m.
Weekly Bible Study — 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

Saint Nicholas Young Adult League (Y.A.L.) 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

Byzantine Music—8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 17

St. Anthony
Orthros & Divine Liturgy — 10:00 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 18

Ss Athanasios & Cyril
Orthros & Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.
Saint Nicholas Senior Exercise—11:00 a.m.
Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. Winter Lock-In — 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 19

Saint Nicholas G.O.Y.A. Winter Lock-In ends

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

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Proistamenos: Rev. Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (frnick@stnickaa.org)
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MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org

Psaltis
Zannis Res

Choir
Dr. Jon Wardner

Prosforo
Theanne Ballios

Fellowship Hour
GOYA Brunch

Memorial Service
3 Years Katherine Beltsos
40 Days Peter Cooley