

# Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

JANUARY 20, 2008

## Epistle Reading

II Cor. 4:6-15

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has

shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believed, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

## Wisdom of the Fathers

What is it that I love when I love you? Not the beauty of a body or the comeliness of time. Nor the luster of the light pleasing to the eyes, nor the sweet melodies of all manner of songs, nor the fragrance of flowers, ointments and spices, not manna and honey, nor limbs welcome to the embrace of the flesh—I do not love these when I love my God. And yet there is a kind of light, a kind of voice, a kind of fragrance, a kind of food, a kind of embrace, when I love my God, who is the light, voice, fragrance, food, embrace of the inner man, where there shines into the soul that which no place can contain, and there sounds forth that which time cannot end, where there is fragrance which no breeze disperses, taste which eating does not make less, and a clinging together which fulfillment does not terminate. It is this that I love when I love my God.

**St. Augustine**, *Confessions* 10.6 in *The Confessions of St. Augustine*, p. 244

## Gospel Reading

Luke 17:12-19

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their

voices and said: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus's feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus: "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him: "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

## 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, grant-ing 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 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

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

## 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](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.

## 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 April 13**

**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.

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.

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

## Saint Nicholas Byzantine Music Classes

This is the second "semester" for the Byzantine Music classes taught by Peter Hasiakos. Anyone interested in learning more about Byzantine Music and chanting should attend. There is only a minimal cost for the price of the coursepack. The class meets every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

## Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Notes

Thank you to all parishioners, parish organizations and Church School children for their generous donations for St. Basil's Academy. As a result, we'll be able to send them \$1800.00.

"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. 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](mailto:jogs@umich.edu) or Joan Raphael, 483-0923 or [jraphael810@comcast.net](mailto:jraphael810@comcast.net)

## Saint Nicholas Youth Programs

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

**Please Join Father Nick on Sunday, Feb. 17th at 3:00 p.m. for the second G.O.Y.A. Parent Meeting.** We'll view the PBS Frontline documentary *Merchants of Cool* and discover how materialism and commercialism may lead to diminished feelings of self esteem and self worth in children. There will be a quick discussion period following the documentary. These attitudes of materialism and consumerism cause us to lose our focus on Christ which is contrary to the Church's teaching that the purpose of life is to glorify God.

G.O.Y.A. Meeting Feb. 3rd at 5:00 p.m. Fellowship will be the Chili Cook-Off at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Super Bowl.

## Saint Nicholas Seniors

Our next trip is to the Detroit Institute of Arts on Thur, Jan 24th. We have reserved a bus to take us and we'll leave the church parking lot at 9:30am, attend the Museum, lunch at Motor City Casino and be home by 4:30pm. Please make your checks to Saint Nicholas Seniors. The \$20 covers the bus fee and driver gratuity. You are responsible for the \$6 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.

**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 next rehearsal will be Wednesday, January 30th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us!

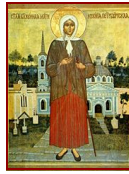
**Junior Choir** Anyone interested in joining the junior choir is welcome to come to rehearsals on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Our next rehearsal is January 23rd. We hope to see you there!

**The Saint Nicholas Bookstore Recommends:** Vefa Alexiadou's Greek Cuisine (new copies in stock) and *Sunny Mediterranean*. For your children' *Christina's True Heroes* by Maria C. Khoury, featuring colorful Byzantine icons explaining, in children's language, the lives of women saints and helps children get to know the champions who place God first in their lives. A popular gift for a godchild, grandchild, or friend is Painted Words and Spoken Memories by Greek-American children's author Aliki, the story of how she, daughter of Greek immigrants in Philadelphia, began school without knowing English.

We have icons of some of this month's saints, including Basil, Gregory, Athanasios and the Three Hierarchs. You can place an order for an icon of a favorite saint.

**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 Father Nick.



**January 24**  
**Xenia of St. Petersburg, Fool-for-Christ**

Our righteous Mother Xenia of Petersburg was born about the year 1730. She was married to a Colonel named Andrew; when she was twenty-six years old, her husband died suddenly, having been drinking with his friends. Left a childless widow, Xenia gave away all that she had, and vanished from Saint Petersburg for eight years; it is believed that she spent this time in a hermitage, learning the spiritual life. When she returned to Saint Petersburg, she wore her husband's military clothing, and would answer only to the name Andrew, that is, the name of her late husband. She took up the life of a homeless wanderer, and was abused by many as insane; she bore this with great patience, crucifying the carnal mind through the mockery she endured, and praying for her husband's soul. She was given great gifts of prayer and prophecy, and often foretold things to come; in 1796 she foretold the death of Empress Catherine II. Having lived forty-five years after her husband's death, she reposed in peace at the age of seventy-one, about the year 1800. Her grave became such a source of miracles, and so many came to take soil from it as a blessing, that it was often necessary to replace the soil; when a stone slab was placed over her grave, this too disappeared over time, piece by piece. Saint Xenia is especially invoked for help in finding employment, lodging, or a spouse.

*Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery*

*Icon Courtesy of St. Isaac Skete*

**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 20, 2008**

**Orthros** 9:00 AM

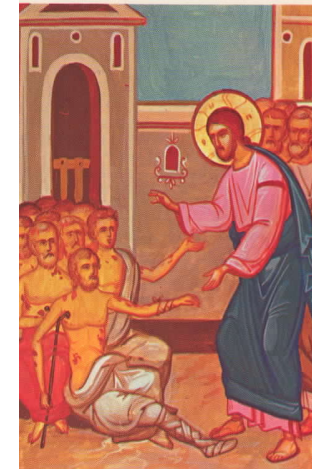
**Divine Liturgy** 10:00 AM

**Church School**  
Following Communion

**Epistle Reading**  
II Cor 4:6-15

**Gospel Reading**  
Luke 17:12-19

**Creed**  
English



**SUNDAY OF THE TEN LEPERS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Monday, Jan. 21**

Weekly Bible Study with Rev. Father Nick— 10:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 22**

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 23**

Saint Nicholas Junior Choir—6:30 p.m.  
Saint Nicholas Byzantine Music—8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, Jan. 24**

Senior Trip to Detroit Institute of Arts — 9:30 a.m.

**Friday, Jan. 25**

**Saint Gregory the Theologian**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.  
Saint Nicholas **SENIOR EXERCISE—11:00 A.M.**

**Sunday, Jan. 27**

Three Hierarchs Program — after Divine Liturgy  
G.O.Y.A. Bible Study—4:30 p.m.

**Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to:**  
**[kate@stnickaa.org](mailto: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](http://www.stnickaa.org) E-Mail: [office@stnickaa.org](mailto:office@stnickaa.org)**

**Proistamenos: Rev. Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [nhkotsis@hotmail.com](mailto:nhkotsis@hotmail.com) )**

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

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org)**

**Psaltis**  
Zannis Res

**Choir**  
Dr. Jon Wardner

**Prosforo**  
Labrini Lagos

**Fellowship Hour**  
In Memory of  
Dr. George Spilson

**Memorial Service**  
3 Years Dr. George  
Spilson  
2.5 Years Anthony  
Lagos