

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

MAY 25, 2008

Epistle Reading Brethren, it is the God who said, II Cor. 4:6-15 "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 foods, 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 5th century



Resurrection Apolytikion

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and had rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for 4th Wednesday after Pascha - Mid-Pentecost

Mid-way in the feast, refresh my thirsty soul with the flowing waters of piety. For You cried out to all, O Savior, "Let him who thirsts come to me and drink. " You, O Christ our God, are the Fountain of Life, glory to You.

Apolytikion for Third Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the Baptist

Christ God hath revealed to us thy truly ven'erable head as a divine treasure that had been concealed in the earth, O Prophet and Forerunner. Wherefore, as we gather on the feast of its finding, with our hymns inspired of God, we praise Christ the Saviour, Who by thy mighty prayers saveth us from every kind of harm.

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

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

Psalm 6:2, 6

Alone in God my soul waits silent.

My help is from Him.

Alone in God rest, my soul, in silence.

My hope is from Him.

He alone is my rock,

My safety; I shall not be shaken.

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

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 sponsor needed for Sunday June 8 and 22.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP:

Everyone's Responsibility! If you have not made your pledge for 2008, please do so as soon as possible. If you need a pledge card, please call the office.

Church School

The V.B.S. summer program, "Genesis", is scheduled for June 16-20th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is open to all students from Preschool to 7th grade. This year we would like to offer afternoon care (12:30 to 5 p.m.) for those interested. Let us know as soon as possible if you would consider this option so that arrangements can be made. Please pick up a registration form and return it to the office by June 1st. If you have any questions please call Maria Papaefthymiou -747-6854 or Susan Pagalos -944-0142.

Reminder: The Church school is still collecting O.C.M.C. Lenten Coin Boxes. Please send them in as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Upcoming Events

Sat., May 31 Mandatory Class led by Fr. Nick for Church School students grades 4 through 7 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. This class is right before GOYA Dance practice.

Sun., June 15 Church School Graduation

Mon., June 16-Fri., June 20 Vacation Bible School

Memorial Day

On Monday, May 26, Rev. Father Nick will be visiting the cemeteries for prayers. The schedule is as follows:

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Bethlehem

11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Washtenong

May their memory be eternal.



Philoptochos Notes

Our May Community Care will be "Dress for Success. Items accepted are purses, scarves and jewelry; pantyhose new/in package, plus sizes especially needed; new or gently used clothing; **ready to wear (washed and pressed and on hangers)**. No winter apparel, please. Financial donations are also needed. At the Dress Barn purchases can be targeted for Dress for Success. Please bring your gently used items to the church and hang it on the s in the hallway.

Needed Sheets and Pillowcases. We are in need of sheets for our Hospice Bed Pad Sewing and pillowcases to make dresses for little girls in Africa. Please bring your clean sheets and pillowcases to the church.

Altar Boy Baseball Outing

Our yearly baseball outing will be July 8th Tigers v Cleveland Indians. There are 20 tickets at \$19.50 each. We'll leave from the church at 5:30 p.m. Please call

Senior Movie Day — Tuesday, May 27th.

Meet at the Showcase Cinema on Carpenter Road and choose the movie you would like to see. We'll have dinner immediately following at "Charlie's La Shish" also on Carpenter Road. Questions? Call Dian, Joan or Penny.

The Bookstore Recommends

The Orthodox Study Bible, Old and New Testament. The Old Testament is a new translation from the Greek Septuagint and includes the Deuterocanon. Commentary is drawn from the early Church writers and speaks to Christians who seek a deeper experience of the roots of their faith. The Inner Kingdom, collected works by Kallistos Ware. Ware recounts his own journey to Orthodoxy and reflects on themes such as resurrection, repentance, salvation, worship, martyrdom and prayer.

 **At the olld balll gammme. . .** 

Tiger Baseball Concessions Project —Please sign up with your fellow parishioners to participate in this project, help the church earn extra funds to reduce our mortgage balance, get to know your fellow church members on a whole new level and take pride in your St. Nicholas community. We need volunteers for games on Wed., June 11th and Wed., June 25th. See Dennis Cvercko or Nick Roumel in the social hall to answer questions and sign up for a great fellowship experience.

A.H.E.P.A. Golf Outing

On Sunday, June 1, 2008, the Ann Arbor A.H.E.P.A. Chapter #195 is having their 11th Educational Scholarship Golf Outing at the Stonebridge Golf Course. Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event will be used towards the A.H.E.P.A. scholarships to high school graduates from our community. Our Ann Arbor A.H.E.P.A. chapter has awarded more than \$50,000.00 in scholarships over the last ten years. Prices: \$100.00 to play and dinner; \$100.00 to sponsor a hole. \$35.00 dinner only. Dinner is expected to start at 5:30-6:00 p.m. Please contact Costas Boutsikakis 604-8738 or Christos Philippou 309-3032 for details. Thank you for your support.

Choir Notes

Senior Choir Any interested parishioner, ages 12 and up, is encouraged to join the Senior Choir. Our next rehearsal is June 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Junior Choir There will be no Junior Choir practice until the Fall. In September we'll practice on the FIRST and THIRD Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. Come and join us in the fall.

Men's Choir will practice on Tuesday, June 17 at 6 p.m., Thursday, June 26, at 6 p.m. They'll be singing at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 29th. If interested, please call Alex Kales.

Need Gifts for Graduation, Father's Day, Weddings? Support "Shopping for St. Nicholas" by buying Scrip Gift cards. We have a variety of cards on hand including Borders, Kohls, Macys, Star Bucks, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Olive Garden and more. These make great gifts. If we don't have the cards you want, we'll place an order for you. Visit the "Shopping for St. Nicholas" desk during the fellowship hour after the Divine Liturgy.

Y.E.R.A.C. News

We are holding classes for Greek Dance Saturday, May 31st from 1 p.m.—3 p.m.

Medical Staff needed for Metropolis Summer Camp

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit Summer Camp, in Rose City, MI, is in **immediate need of medical staff** for the upcoming camp season, specifically the weeks of June 22nd, July 6th, July 13th and July 27th. If you are or know anyone who is a doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner or EMT, and can offer your time to the camp for one of these weeks, please contact Dean Niforos at gomdsc@gmail.com or (313) 418-6085. It is important that these positions are filled before the camp season.



YA'SSOO FESTIVAL GREEK SCHOOL YA'SSOO FESTIVAL DANCE PRACTICE

Friday, May 30—4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 4—4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 5—4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

YA'SSOO FESTIVAL BAKERS NEEDED

The schedule for Festival Baking is listed below. All parishioners are welcome to come and help. Please call one of the chairpersons to offer your help or drop in when you have some time. We start at 9:30 a.m. each day. We need lots of help!

Thurs. & Fri. May 29 & 30

Kourabiethes—Katerina Roumanis & Yianna Boutsikakis

Mon. & Tues., June 2 & 3

Baklava—Tula Prokos

Wed. & Thurs., June 4 & 5

Karithopita—Eleni Banos

YA'SSOO FESTIVAL RAFFLE

All parishioners have received a ticket for the festival raffle. Please let us know if you would like to receive two more for a total of \$20.00 (3 tickets for \$20.00). Please support our effort for reduction of our debt. YA'SSOO FESTIVAL FLYERS AND POSTERS are now available. Please help distribute them to friends, neighbors and local businesses. See Helen Garris or pick up at the church office.

Kafenio Volunteer Meeting on Sunday, June 1st after the Divine Liturgy.

Youth Notes

G.O.Y.A.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for G.O.Y.A.. Maria Pliakas, President; Aphrodite Roumanis, Vice-President; Andrew Wardner, Secretary and Nina Pagalos, Treasurer.

MANDATORY DANCE PRACTICES

Tuesday, May 27—6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Saturday May 31 from 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 4 from 6 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Schedule of Events:

June 6 & 7 Dancing at Ya'ssoo Festival

Friday, June 13, Tiger's Game Outing only 9 tickets left. Tickets are \$20.00 per ticket **and a permission slip is needed. Transportation will be provided.**

Tuesday, June 17, Seniors Taverna dancing at 7:00 p.m. Church

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

May 25, 2008

Orthros

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

After Communion

Epistle Reading

II Cor. 4:61-5

Gospel Reading

John 4:5-42

Creed

English



Psaltis

Zannis Res

Choir

Dr. Jon Wardner

Prosforo

Pliakas Family

Fellowship Hour

Bessie Preketes &

Family

Memorial Service

Anthony N. Preketes

20 years

Virginia Trakas 1 year

John Trakas 1 year

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

UP-COMING EVENTS

Monday, May 26

Cemetery Visits

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Bethlehem

11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Washtenong

Tuesday, May 27

3:00 p.m. Senior Movie Day @ Showcase Cinema

Dinner following @ "Charlie's La Shish"

6:30 p.m. G.O.Y.A. Dance Practice

7:00 p.m. Ya'ssoo Greek Festival Meeting

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

Thursday, May 29

9:30 a.m. Kourabiethes Baking

Friday, May 30

9:30 a.m. Kourabiethes Baking

11:00 a.m. Exercise Class

4:30-6:30 Greek School Dance

6:30 p.m. Greek School Party

Saturday, May 31

11:00 a.m. G.O.Y.A. Dance

1:00 p.m. Y.E.R.A.C. Greek Dance

3:00 p.m. Greek School Dance

Greek School Graduation

Kafenio Volunteers Meeting - After Divine Liturgy

1:00 p.m. A.H.E..P.A. Golf Outing

Stonebridge Golf Course

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

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