

G.O.Y.A. Summer Schedule

Sunday, July 27 7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Game Night

Sunday, Aug 3 7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Game Night

Sunday, Aug 10 5:00 p.m. Meeting/Bible Study/Game Night

Sunday, Aug. 17 7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Game Night

Sunday, Aug. 24 7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Game Night

Sunday, Aug. 31 7:30 p.m. Bible Study & Game Night

Sunday, Sep. 7 G.O.Y.A. Registration and Parent Orientation after Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Sep. 14 4:00 p.m. Bible Study

5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. Parent Meeting with Rev. Father Nick

Daughters of Penelope are sponsoring a Winter Clothing Drive for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Clothes Closet. They need **gently** used winter clothing for ages infant to adult, both male and female. Baby and children clothing are most needed.

Coats, jeans, sweat pants and shirts (especially for children), children's sweaters, waterproof mittens, snowsuits, underwear and socks (must be new) are needed for children, diapers (all sizes), baby blankets, shoes (only if in very good condition), large size bras.

Please do not bring turtle neck shirts/sweaters for male and female adults, women's sweaters, or dress pants, scarves, hats, dress shoes for men or women, any clothing with business, union or school names on it or any clothing that will need to be dry cleaned.

Please make sure all buttons are intact and zippers working. The families do not have resources to mend clothing.

Questions, contact Joanne Savas, 734-761-2529 or Vicki Kiningham, 734-429-8127.

Rev. Father John Paul Memory Book is being prepared by the Daughters. This will be a collection of favorite stories about Fr. John. If you have a favorite story, please write a one page narrative to share with us. Everyone is welcome to participate. The stories will be collected for the next few months and then put into a book for Presvytera Eva and one for the church archives. You can either mail your contribution to the Daughters in care of the church or e-mail it to chriskatsikas@yahoo.com. Our editorial committee is Christina Vlahopoulos—734-358-0777 and Perry Katsikas—734-995-4766. Please call if you have any questions.



July 20 Elias the Prophet

Elias of great fame was from Thisbe or Thesbe, a town of Galaad (Gilead), beyond the Jordan. He was of priestly lineage, a man of a solitary and ascetical character, clothed in a mantle of sheep skin, and girded about his loins with a leathern belt.

His name is interpreted as "Yah is my God." His zeal for the glory of God was compared to fire, and his speech for teaching and rebuke was likened unto a burning lamp. From this too he received the name Zealot. Therefore, set aflame with such zeal, he sternly reprov'd the impiety and lawlessness of Ahab and his wife Jezebel. He shut up heaven by means of prayer, and it did not rain for three years and six months. Ravens brought him food for his need when, at God's command, he was hiding by the torrent of Horraath. He multiplied the little flour and oil of the poor widow of Sarephtha of Sidon, who had given him hospitality in her home, and when her son died, he raised him up. He brought down fire from Heaven upon Mount Carmel, and it burned up the sacrifice offered to God before all the people of Israel, that they might know the truth. At the torrent of Kisson, he slew 450 false prophets and priests who worshipped idols and led the people astray. He received food wondrously at the hand of an Angel, and being strengthened by this food he walked for forty days and forty nights. He beheld God on Mount Horeb, as far as this is possible for human nature. He foretold the destruction of the house of Ahab, and the death of his son Ohozias; and as for the two captains of fifty that were sent by the king, he burned them for their punishment, bringing fire down from Heaven. He divided the flow of the Jordan, and he and his disciple Elisseus passed through as it were on dry land; and finally, while speaking with him, Elias was suddenly snatched away by a fiery chariot in the year 895 B.C., and he ascended as though into heaven, whither God most certainly translated him alive, as He did Enoch (Gen. 5:24; IV Kings 2: 11). But from thence also, after seven years, by means of an epistle he reproached Joram, the son of Josaphat, as it is written: "And there came a message in writing to him from Elias the Prophet, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the way," and so forth (II Chron. 21:12). According to the opinion of the majority of the interpreters, this came to pass either through his disciple Elisseus, or through another Prophet when Elias appeared to them, even as he appeared on Mount Tabor to the disciples of Christ (see Aug. 6).

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

July 20, 2008

Orthros

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

Epistle Reading

James 5:10-20

Gospel Reading

Matt. 8:28-34; 9:1

Creed

English



FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

UP-COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, July 22 7:30 p.m. Young Adult League (Y.A.L.) "Batting Practice"

Thursday, July 24 7:00 p.m. Physical Plant & Maintenance Meeting

Friday, July 25 6:30 p.m. Game Night

PLEASE NOTE: FR. NICK WILL BE AT THE ROSE CITY CAMP ALL WEEK. IN AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANK YOU.

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org

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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Psaltis

Zannis Res

Choir Director

Prosforo

Pliakas Family

Fellowship Hour

Parish Council

Memorial Service

40 Days Nick Valvanis

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

July 20, 2008

Epistle Reading BRETHREN, take as an example of James 5:10-20 suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, that you may not fall under condemnation. Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elijah was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and some one brings 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

Wisdom of the Fathers

But the head of every good endeavor and the guiding force of right actions is perseverance in prayer. By means of it we can daily obtain the rest of the virtues by asking God for them. By this means are engendered in those deemed worthy the fellowship of God's holiness and of spiritual energy and the attachment of the mind disposed toward the Lord in ineffable love. For the person who daily forces himself to persevere in prayer is enflamed with divine passion and fiery desire from a spiritual love toward God, and he receives the grace of the sanctifying perfection of the Spirit.

St. Makarios the Great, *Homilies 40.2*, in *Spiritual Homilies* 4th century



Gospel Reading At that time, when Jesus came to Matt. 8:28-34; 9:1 the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met

him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

Resurrectional 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 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

Kontakion

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Thought for the Week

Through the toil of prayer and the anguish of your heart commune with those who are grieved at heart, and the Source of mercy will be opened up to your petitions.

St. Isaac of Syria, *Unknown* 7th century

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.

Fellowship Hour sponsor needed for Sunday July 20th

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.

Did You Know that you can receive email messages from Rev. Father Nick? These messages are sent approximately every 10 days and include a variety of things such as: upcoming events and dates, special announcements and projects, spiritual messages and much more.

If you wish to be included in this list, please do the following:

1. go to the website www.stnickaa.org and go to the drop down menu
2. from the drop down menu buttons select 'Contact Us'
3. select the 'E-Mail Subscribe' option
4. enter your e-mail address

There is no cost or obligation in doing this. If you wish to unsubscribe, you may do so. It is our hope to keep you better informed, and perhaps, to save some expense for our Saint Nicholas Parish.

Saint Nicholas Church School Notes

The Church School has a lost & found table in the social hall. Any items such as clothing, books, certificates etc. left by the children during the school year can be picked up by August 16th. Unclaimed items will be donated or discarded.

For Sale—There are a number of fresh, frozen cheese pies left over from the Ya'ssoo Greek Festival. Anyone wishing to buy one, or more, should call the office. Pies are \$20.00 per tray.

Philoptochos Notes

We will begin making spanakopita Monday, September 15th. Many volunteers are needed this year as we plan to make the spanakopita through September 26th. Please call Margaret Yates or Pres. Eva Paul to volunteer.

IOCC-June, July & August Community Care

The mission of IOCC is to respond to the call of our Lord Jesus Christ to minister to people in need throughout the world, sharing with them God's gifts of food, shelter, economic self-sufficiency and hope.

We have helped to make a significant difference in the lives of others. Through IOCC our donations reach those in need around the world. Once again we ask for your generous support in bringing hope to others. **Please make checks payable to Philoptochos, memo—IOCC and mail your donation to our church attention: Philoptochos.**

"Cell Phones for Soldiers" is an ongoing Philoptochos Community Care project. We are still collecting old cell phones and accessories which are redeemable toward calling cards for our troops abroad. Please drop off your cell phones in the box located outside the social hall. Thank you for your support.



The Saint Nicholas Parish Bookstore recommends for summer reading books by Bishop Kallistos Ware: *The Orthodox Way*, an account of the doctrine, worship and life of Orthodox Christians; *The Illuminated Heart* makes the wealth of the Orthodox tradition accessible to today's Christians. A teacher at the University of Oxford who lectures around the world, Bishop Kallistos speaks equally to laypeople and specialists, on both timeless mysteries and urgent contemporary concerns.



Tiger Baseball Project—Throw your khakis in the washer, grab your Tiger baseball cap and sign up with your fellow parishioners to participate in this unique mortgage reduction project. We need six volunteers for Friday, August 8th and six volunteers for Wednesday, August 13th. Call some friends and volunteer together! Check the sign-up board for other available dates. See Dennis Cvercko or Nick Roumel in the social hall to answer questions and sign-up for a great fellowship experience.

