

Epistle BRETHREN, the God and Father of 2Cor. 11:31-33, the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You. -Translation by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

Apolytikion for Dionysios the Areopagite

Vessel ineffable mysteries; and having kept the Faith, thou didst finish a like course, O Hieromartyr Dionysios. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved. - Translation by Holy Transfiguration Monastery

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.

For the Memorial

“O Lord, rest the souls of your servants. Forgive whatever wrong they have committed in life. There is no one sinless, except you. Give rest to those who have fallen asleep.”

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. - Translation by Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella & Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Toni Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr., Deryl Deveau, Helen Camp, Bridget Smith, Rosaleen Baldwin, John Underhill, Cristinel Dima, Jackson Bafile, Brian Melzian, Constantine Vintzel, Ryan Roberts, Charles Hall, Leo Ortino, Nicholas Vourlitis, Paul Contos, Larry Gregg, Sophia Kappas, Janet Christ, Alice Litinas, Thelma Steers, Susanne Vithoulkas, Evan Arhangelos

Prosforo needed for October 31.

Liturgy of St. Iakovos (James)

The feastday of St. Iakovos (James) is celebrated on October 23rd. St. James wrote a liturgy (one of the earliest in the history of our Church), and it is still celebrated on his feastday. All Church School students and their families are strongly encouraged to attend, and we hope you are all able to attend this rare liturgical celebration.

Parish News & Events

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.

Stewardship

The financial and stewardship status of our parish has not changed much since April. If you recall, the report we inserted in the bulletin in April showed that only three months into the year, we are once again faced with a shortfall of \$6,829.00. Now we are five months into the year and we are still facing a shortfall. Last year we ended up with a shortfall of a little over **\$80,000.00**.

The church cannot operate when **23% of its stewards are contributing less than \$250.00** per year; **20% are contributing between \$251-\$500.00** per year; **12% are contributing between \$501-\$700.00** per year and **11% are contributing between \$751-\$1,000.00**. **The church, in order to continue to operate, needs an average stewardship commitment of \$1,100.00 from the approximately 360 stewardship units which make up our parish community.**

This is a serious situation which the Parish Council has been monitoring over the last few years and it has been considering alternatives to address it.

Many parishioners have suggested that we should consider and implement a recognition program as many other parishes have done. Others have suggested that we all reconsider our stewardship commitment. We seek everyone's help. Please reconsider and do the best you are able to do. We seek and need everyone's help.

St. Nicholas Parish Council

Seniors

The Seniors will be going to the U-M Kelsey Museum of Archeology on Tuesday, Oct. 12 for a docent led tour of the magnificent “Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium” exhibit. Seniors will go to lunch afterwards. Please sign-up in the social hall no later than Sunday, Oct. 10 or call Diane, Joan or Penny.

Greeters:

We need greeters to welcome people. Please sign up in the exonarthex today!

Philoptochos

We need clean sheets and/or clean material for making bed pads. Please leave in the parish office.

Stacy Garris and Demetra Mit.-Rundus will be chairing the **Orthodox Student Dinner on Oct. 10th**. Please let them know what foods you will bring to share with our college students. We always have fun getting to know them.

It is not too early to begin thinking about **spanakopita and baklava**. Please mark your calendars for the weeks of Oct. 18-22 and Nov. 15-18. Order forms will begin arriving in your mailboxes soon.

Events this Week

Sun. Oct. 3	Parish Assembly—after Div. Lit. 2:00 p.m.—GOYA apple picking 8:00 p.m.—OCF, U of M Union
Mon. Oct. 4	10:00 a.m.—Bible Study
Tue. Oct. 5	9:30 a.m.—bed pad sewing 12:30 p.m.—Seniors planning meet. 7:30 p.m.—Bible Study
Wed. Oct. 6	10:30 a.m.—Senior exercise class 7:30 p.m.—YAL
Thur. Oct. 7	7:00 p.m.—YERAC
Fri. Oct. 8	11:00 a.m.—Senior exercise class 7:30 p.m.—Paraklesis
Sun. Oct. 10	9:00 a.m. Orthros & Div. Liturgy 6:00 p.m.—Orthodox Student Dinner—sponsored by Philoptochos

Wisdom of the Fathers:

Why do we judge our neighbors? Because we shun knowing ourselves. Someone busy trying to understand himself has no time to notice the shortcomings of others. Judge yourself — and you will stop judging others. Judge a poor deed, but do not judge the doer. It is necessary to consider yourself the most sinful of all, and to forgive your neighbor every poor deed. *St. Seraphim of Sarov, 19th century*

Greek School PTO

Due to the General Assembly meeting scheduled for this Sunday, 10/3, we have rescheduled the Greek School PTA meeting to the following Sunday, 10/10 at 12:30pm in the Greek School Classroom. All parents are invited to take part in the meeting. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you.

75th Anniversary GALA Dinner Dance News

Please remember to save the date for Saturday, November 13th. The event will be held at Kensington Court beginning at 6:00 p.m. Cost for this event is \$75.00 with no children discounts. This promises to be an elegant evening with a harpist, our own KEFI band and a memorable program. Invitations will be in the mail soon with a reply card asking for payment to confirm your reservation. Tables of 10 can be reserved; don't hesitate to make your reservation as we intend to sell out. Contact Laura Kokkales.

Bookstore Notes

The Bookstore Recommends: **LOST TO THE WEST: THE FORGOTTEN BYZANTINE EMPIRE THAT RESCUED WESTERN CIVILIZATION** by Lars Brownworth, a portrait of the history of the eastern half of the Roman empire from its founding by Constantine the Great to its demise under his namesake Constantine Palaiologos; **CHRISTIANITY, THE FIRST 3000 YEARS**, a scholarly history of the background, birth and growth of Christianity that is compulsively readable and full of insight yet assumes no prior knowledge by the reader. **SMYRNA 1922** A moving account of the Greek-Turkish war of 1919-22 that ended with the expulsion of the Greek and Armenian populations of Asia Minor.

AHEPA NEWS

The AHEPA Chapter #195 is having a raffle to raise funds for Senior Scholarships for the year 2010-2011. Some parishioners already received tickets. The GOY-Ans will have tickets available in the church hall for those of you who did not receive any in the mail. The prize will be a week in Cancun, Mexico in a luxury villa that accommodates 6 plus \$600.00 for expenses for the first week of 2011. The draw will take place during the AHEPA Lamb Luncheon on October 17. The donation is \$20 for 1 ticket and \$50 for 3 tickets. Today, Jeni Tzavaras will receive an AHEPA Scholarship.

Choir Notes:

The Choir is always interested in having new members. Please see Dr. Jon Wardner if you are interested in praising God by assisting in the music ministry of our parish. Choir Practice Schedule: October 6 & 21, November 3 & 18, & December 1 & 16 (all practices begin at 7:00 p.m.).

Lost and Found

We have clothes, glasses, shoes, etc., in the church office. Please take the time to see if anything belong to you. Everything will be given to charity if not claimed by the end of October. Thank You!

Help Wanted

Penelope Barlow, one of our parishioners, has an apartment available for rent at a negotiable price. She also needs between 8-20 hours of paid assistance per week. For more information, please contact Penny at 995-2733.

GOYA News

Today, the GOYA will go apple picking. We will leave the church 2:00 p.m. sharp! Please make sure you turn in a permission slip to Laura Kokkales or Demetra Mitropoulos-Rundus and you an emergency health form on file.

The U-M Class. Studies Dept., Mod. Greek Program

Present, "Archaeology and National Identity in the Greek Museum," a lecture by Professor Dimitris Damaskos, Univ. of Ioannina/Western Greece, on Monday, Oct. 4 at 4:00 p.m. in the Kelsey Museum (434 S. State Street). Co-sponsored by the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. This event is free and open to the public. For more info, berlykim@umich.edu or lsa.umich.edu/modgreek.

Also, "Alas, we went bankrupt...again: The Greek Economy in Turmoil," a lecture by Stefanos Delikouras, U-M Ross School of Business, on Thursday, Oct. 7 at 7:00 p.m., in the Michigan room of the Michigan League (911 N. University). Co-sponsored by the Hellenic Student Association. This event is free and open to the public. For more info, berlykim@umich.edu or lsa.umich.edu/modgreek.

Greek School Notes

Greek School Registration materials are available at the Church office and [website](#). Parishioners are urged to register as soon as possible. Contact information: Joanna Ioannou, 996-0481, jioannou@gmail.com. Greek School website: www.greekschool.schools.officelive.com

Daughters of Penelope Annual Clothing Drive for the Ypsilanti public schools will take place in September and October. Please keep this in mind as you clean closets in preparation for the fall season. Thanks.

Church School, GOYA, JOY, and HOPE

Registration continues this week. **Please make sure to fill out one emergency form for each child and return it as soon as possible!**

Hellenic Student Association (HSA) of U of M

HSA will present "Plato's Academy" on Oct. 24 at 5:00 p.m. and the comic Basile as a fundraiser on Dec. 5th Contact Dimitra Boutsikakis dbouts@umich.edu for more info.

Orthros

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Epistle Reading

1John 4:12-19

Gospel

John 19:25-27; 21:24-25

Creed

Greek

Psaltis

Zannis Res

George Smyrnis

Choir

Jon Wardner

Prosforo

Anna Bairactaris

Fellowship Hour

In memory of: Bessie Preketes, George & Matina Lafkas, & Priscilla Pardon—by their families

Memorial

40 days—Priscilla Pardon

40 days—Matina Lafkas

41 years—George Lafkas

1 year—Bessie Preketes

PARISH ASSEMBLY TODAY IN THE SOCIAL HALL FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY

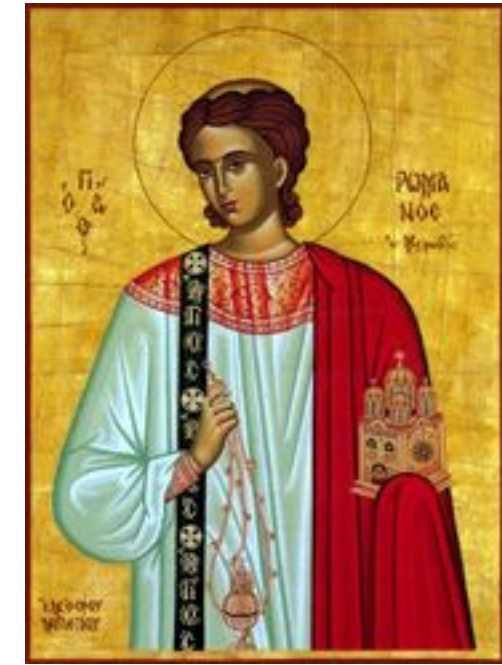
MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stnickaa.org
Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to: frnick@stnickaa.org by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication.

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**ST. ROMANOS THE MELODIST—(OCT.1)**

**2nd Sunday of Luke
 COMMEMORATED OCT. 3rd:
 DIONYSIOS THE AREOPAGITE
 JOHN THE CHOZEBITE**