



THE LENTEN PILLARS

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1. **Prayer:** During the Lent season, we are called to spend more time in prayer. And the more time we spend in prayer to our Heavenly Father, the more we are called to change ourselves so that we fulfil His will in our lives, as it always is in Heaven.

2. **Fasting:** We are called not only to fast from food but from all sinful habits. We must ensure that we are not enslaved to our passions but master them, so that we will be able to have more of the divine nature within us.

3. **Almsgiving:** In Isaiah 58:7, we see that the fast that pleases God is where we take care of the needs of the poor and oppressed. One of the reasons we fast during the Lent season is to save money and resources which can then be shared with the needy. Unless we share with those in need around us, our fasting will never be pleasing to God.

In addition to these three pillars, there are also several other important qualities like self-reflection, simplicity, and sincerity and honesty, which are emphasized during the Lenten season.

Return to Church Policies

See news on page 5

St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-272-0466

Parish Website: stnicholastacoma.org

E-Mail: mail@stnicholastacoma.org

Office Hours: Tuesday–Friday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm



Sunday Services

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Please join us for Social/Coffee Hour in our downstairs hall, following the Divine Liturgy



Fr. Seraphim Majmudar, Our Presiding Priest

For appointments, questions or urgent needs, Fr. Seraphim is available 24/7 on his cell phone.

Fr. Seraphim’s Cell phone: 253-365-5817

Office Hours at St Nicholas
Thursdays 9:00am - 12:00 noon
Email: frseraphimm@gmail.com

Saint Nicholas Messenger is the official monthly newsletter of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church of Tacoma Washington

Editors: Carol MartinOki/Bill Samaras

Media team: Paula Karanasos, Fr. Seraphim

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Submit content, comments, or corrections, addressed to the Editor at mail@stnicholastacoma.org

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St. Nicholas Ministries

AHEPA
Paul Apostle

Akathist Group Prayer
Kathy Rowley

Altar Servers
Dr Nick Themelis

Bible Study
Genevieve Eagle

Book Store
Dr. Nick Themelis

Building Committee
Bill Acker

Building, Grounds & Maintenance
Richard Heidal, John Pangis

Choir
Rebecca Primis

Hands of Love
Merrilee Pangis

Military Service
LTC Gus Chamales

Premarital Education
George Pirotis, Diane Pirotis

Stewardship
Maria Koumantaros
Gus Chamales

2021 Parish Council
Ronnie-Sue Johnson—President
David Frisk—Vice-President
Mark Robinson—Treasurer
Christina Leinneweber—Secretary
Maria Koumantaros, Alan (John) Means, David Orriss Jr., Kathy Johnson, Klaudia Cedeno, Zach Karanasos, Fenia Mavromichali, Tony Panagiotu

Greek Folk Dance
Evy Kontos — Chair & Intermediate dancers
Dr. Anastasia Fyntrilakis—Treasurer & Teen dancers

Krisann Firth — Costume Director
Julie Kotsali — Board Member
Presbytera Sophie Majmudar — Board Member

Kelly Rosati — Beginner dancers

George Pirotis — Adult Group Instructor

Coffee Hour
Zach Karanasos

IT, etc.
Bill Samaras

Philia
Diane Pirotis

Pro Life
Genevieve Eagle

Vitos Scholarship
Ronnie Sue Johnson

Flowers & Church Decorating
Kathy Rowley

Daughters of Penelope
Fenia Mavromichali — President
Olga Manos— Vice President
Evy Kontos - Treasurer
D. Lord/H. McClure - Secretary

Maids of Athena
Zoe Matteson-President
Alexandra Lord -Vice President
Katie McClure -Treasurer
N. Serhan/A. Matteson - Secretary
Ingrid Chamalas - Advisor
Virginia McClure - Advisor

Philoptochos Society
Jane Evancho - President
Hoddi Motz - Vice-President
Merrilee Pangis - Secretary
Ingrid Chamales - Treasurer

Sunday School
Sheila Auter, Director

Greek School
George Pirotis

Lazarus Group
Dean Hamos

Pilgrimage
Zach Karanasos

Prosphora Baking
Deborah Talbot

Welcome
Ronnie Sue Johnson

Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting will be April 12, 2022

April 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>St. John of the Ladder</p> <p>8:45am-10:00am Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>12:45pm-1:45pm Orthodoxy 101: Making Koliva with K. Haddi</p> <p>5:00pm-6:00pm WOCCA Vespers: St Demetrios, Seattle</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Joseph the Hymnographer</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>7:00pm-8:00pm Building Committee</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Theodora of Thessaloniki</p> <p>7:00pm-8:00pm Building Committee</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Euthychios, Pat of C'ople</p> <p>Fast: Wine & Oil ok</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Fast: Wine & Oil ok</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>THURSDAY OF THE GREAT CANON OF ST ANDREW</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Canon of St Andrew</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Mary of Egypt</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Presanctified Liturgy</p> <p>10:00am-12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Titus the Wonderworker</p> <p>8:00am-9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>St. Mary of Egypt</p> <p>8:45am-9:45am Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>5:00pm-6:00pm WOCCA Vespers: St Katherine, Kirkland</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Antipas of Pergamon, Disciple of Ap John</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Orthros</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Great Compline</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Anthonasa of C'ople</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Fr S at WOCCA: Shoreline</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers</p> <p>7:00pm-8:00pm Parish Council</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Martin, Pope of Rome</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Thomas of Alexandria</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>Leonidas, Bp of Athens</p> <p>10:00am-12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Amphilokios of Patmos</p> <p>LAZARUS SATURDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>8:45am-9:45am Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>12:00pm-1:00pm Palm Tying & altar cleaning</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>7:30am-8:30am Orthros</p> <p>8:30am-9:30am Baptisms & Chrismations</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>12:00pm-1:00pm Fish Luncheon</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Bridgroom Orthros</p>	<p>18</p> <p>HOLY MONDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Presanctified Liturgy</p> <p>8:00am-9:00am Reading of Gospel of Mark 1-5</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Bridgroom Orthros</p>	<p>19</p> <p>HOLY TUESDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Presanctified Liturgy</p> <p>8:00am-11:00am Reading of Gospel of Mark 6:30am-7:00pm Bridgroom Orthros</p>	<p>20</p> <p>HOLY WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Presanctified Liturgy</p> <p>8:00am-9:00am Reading of Gospel of Mark 10-13</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Holy Unction</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Fast: Wine & Oil ok</p> <p>HOLY THURSDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>8:45am-9:45am Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Vespers</p> <p>12:15pm-1:15pm Bay Leaf Picking</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Passion Gospels</p>	<p>22</p> <p>HOLY FRIDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>8:00am-9:00am Royal Hours</p> <p>3:00pm-4:00pm Descent from the Cross Vespers</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Lamentations</p>	<p>23</p> <p>HOLY SATURDAY</p> <p>Lenten Fast: No meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil on weekends</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Vespers</p> <p>11:30am-12:00am Anastasis & Divine Liturgy</p>
<p>24</p> <p>12:00am-12:30am Anastasis & Divine Liturgy</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>PASCHA</p> <p>1:00pm-2:00pm Agape Vespers</p>	<p>25</p> <p>BRIGHT MONDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>Great Martyr George</p> <p>9:00am-10:00am Paschal Orthros</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Paschal Vespers & Orthros</p>	<p>26</p> <p>BRIGHT TUESDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>Nicholas, Raphael & Irene of Lesbos</p> <p>6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Paschal Vespers & Orthros</p>	<p>27</p> <p>BRIGHT WEDNESDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Paschal Vespers & Orthros</p>	<p>28</p> <p>BRIGHT THURSDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Paschal Vespers</p> <p>6:45pm-7:45pm Evening Liturgy</p>	<p>29</p> <p>BRIGHT FRIDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>Life Giving Spring</p> <p>10:00am-12:00pm No Bible Study This Week</p>	<p>30</p> <p>BRIGHT SATURDAY</p> <p>FAST FREE WEEK!</p> <p>Ignati Brianchaninov</p> <p>10:00am-11:00am Liturgy at Holy Resurrection Parish</p> <p>6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers</p>

The most up to date calendar is always found at the St. Nicholas web

News and Announcements

Returning to Church

St. Nicholas is fully open and we look forward to seeing you all! Here is the current status:

1. No sign up is necessary. We are able to fill to full capacity.
2. Sit wherever you like. All pews are available.
3. Coffee hour has resumed!
4. We will continue live streaming.
5. The Metropolis is asking parishioners to please consider wearing a mask while attending services until the COVID disease rates decline to low levels of transmission as defined by the CDC.

Although this directive is voluntary, we are strongly encouraging our parishioners to wear masks while at Church. Also, please note, this is only an indoor directive and does not apply to outdoor places.

We will not be re-establishing social distancing and the sign-up reservation system for attending services.

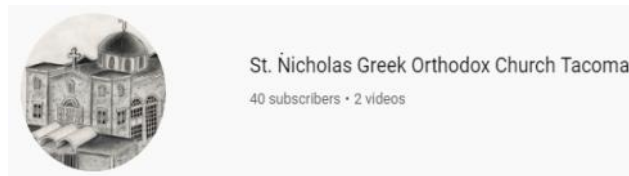
Per His Eminence's guidance, we will not ask anyone about their vaccination status.

Watch Services From Home, Live

Although you might not be able to be at St. Nicholas in person, you can watch services at home from any device capable of connecting to YouTube. This is free and is available for most services. Here's how to do it:

1. First, find the schedule when a service is being broadcast. This is called Live Streaming. Look at the calendar on the previous page, or better, look at the calendar on the St. Nicholas Web page. www.StNicholasTacoma.org. There is a Live Streaming link at the church calendar.
2. You can simply click [here](#). If there is a service underway, press the button. You will see and hear the service.
3. Watch on any device. Open **YouTube** (you may have to start a browser like Chrome). In the *YouTube search bar*, type; *St Nicholas Tacoma*

Click on this selection;



If a service is being broadcast, click the **LIVE NOW** button.




4. Some TV's allow direct connection to YouTube. You can connect as above.

Bill Samaras—

News and Announcements

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2022

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 13th	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week FEBRUARY 20th	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, 'Today I will be humble.' Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 27th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 6th FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 13th	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 20th	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent MARCH 27th	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8: 34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bowl!
4th Sunday of Lent APRIL 3rd	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 10th	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9: 11-14 Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 17th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 22nd	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 24th NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: Jan 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

News and Announcements



PASCHA AGAPE MEAL

The Parish Council, with sponsorship from the Order of AHEPA, would like to have a lamb dinner potluck meal on Pascha, April 24, after Vesper Service. The Church will provide the lamb, roasted potatoes and beverages. (Ticket holders can bring their own wine to share at their table). Our parishioners will provide the side dishes and desert. Let us lovingly rejoice in **PASCHA** with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

For this to be successful, your **help** is needed. Bring your: **HARD WORK** and/or **FAVORITE DISH** to feed 10-15 people. Please sign your name and list your Area of Help or Food Dish on the sign-up sheets in the lower hall. Let us all work together to make this an Agape expression of our Love in Christ for each other.

Tickets will be \$10 for adults & \$5 for children. Tickets will be available from March 27 to April 10. Please contact Fenia Mavromichali at fenia@msn.com for tickets and reservations; family and friends are welcome.

We MUST know if we have enough interest (120 tickets sold, or help), to make this possible by the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt - **April 10th**. Let us all work together to make this an Agape expression of our Love in Christ for each other.

THANK YOU!

Notice:

The Northwest AHEPA Family Educational Foundation Scholarship:

The qualification criteria and the application are on the District22.com website at

<https://www.ahepa22.com/Scholarships.asp>

Daughters of Penelope ICARIA #175

News and Announcements



THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION CENTER
is hosting a

Celebration Gala

HONORING
CLIFF & THEO ARGUE

SATURDAY, THE 4TH OF JUNE 2022
SIX IN THE EVENING
ST. DEMETRIOS ECHURCH
WWW.OCMC.ORG/ARGUEGALA2022

Daughters of Penelope and Maids of Athena



Icaria #175



Sparta #1

DOP/MOA Food Drive for Nourish Pierce County

The Daughters of Penelope and Maids of Athena Tacoma chapters will be holding a food drive for Nourish Pierce County at the church from **March 6 through April 17th.**

All non-perishable donations are welcome, but for the month of March, Nourish is specifically focusing on breakfast items and stocking pantries. Some examples of the items they are looking for are:

Breakfast

- Cereal (cold)
- Breakfast Bars
- Protein bars
- Protein drinks
- Fruit cups
- Shelve stable milk

Stock the Pantry

- Jams, Syrup
- Condiments
- Flour, Sugar
- Spices, Salt and Pepper
- Pancake, Cake mixes
- Cooking oil

Canned Goods

- Canned Tuna Fish / Chicken
- Canned Beans
- Canned Stew, Chili, Ravioli
- Canned ready to eat soups
- Canned fruit
- *consider pop top cans and/or can openers*



Donation barrels will be placed in the church's Lower Hall for food drop-offs.

Nourish Pierce County is also accepting monetary donations.

Please make checks payable to: NOURISH Pierce County.

A DOP officer will be collecting them on Sundays at Coffee Hour.

For more information please contact: icariatacomawa@gmail.com or Moasparta1@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Fenia Mavromichali and Zoe Matteson

Sunday School

Sunday School News

Journey to Pascha ~ Celebrating the Sundays of Great Lent

During Sunday School this month, the children are learning more about the disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as they explore the Sundays of Great Lent.

Just as a three-legged stool needs all of its legs to remain upright, our spiritual lives require us to practice all three of these Lenten priorities to be complete and balanced. What a fun and useful visual for kids (and adults) to think about!

As we journey through the weeks, the children are creating lapbooks filled with interactive activities to help them learn more about the special icons, Saints, prayers and traditions of Great Lent that lead us to a joyous celebration of Pascha.

Just a reminder: During this Lenten series, all children gather together as one group in the Upper Hall for the lesson. It's been wonderful to watch the older children (6th grade and up) help the younger ones participate and complete the activities. It's been even more fun to experience the joy and love that our children have for the Church and each other! Come and See!



~ Sheila Auter

Online Directory

Our Church Directory has it's own app!

All parishioners of our parish
who have a current Stewardship/Pledge card on file
are invited to participate in our digital online directory.

Questions?
**Please call the office for more
information.**

*Parishioners are those who have been baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church. Catechumens, friends and visitors of our parish who lovingly choose to tithe or offer a financial gift may still do so by completing a pledge card.

Our Church Directory is powered by *Instant Church Directory*.

Philoptochos News

PHILOPTOCHOS

President's Message

The Philoptochos planned activities to give back to our community are described below. Members continue to review our planned activities in light of the Covid restrictions and will try to schedule accordingly.

Palm Sunday Dinner -Traditionally Philoptochos has hosted the Palm Sunday dinner. The parish council has requested we again host this event on April 17, 2022. A fish dinner will be served with a good-will donation. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the lower hall. Please help us plan for this event by indicating if you and your family members will attend.

Ladies Spring Luncheon - We are planning for our famous luncheon and raffle this May(May 14, 2022). We are planning this event carefully and thoughtfully. This gala event will include a Greek meal of pastichio, meatballs, dolmades and green salad. Please contact the church office secretary, Carol, at 253-272-0466, for further information. **See flyer on page 42.**

Greek Movie Night at the Grand Cinema - One of our members has generously offered to host several Greek movies at the Grand Cinema. We are planning this event for June. Look for more information soon!

Donations to Community - The St. Nicholas Chapter again received a large donation specifically designated for local charities. The board discussed how to allocate this generous donation to community charities and individuals in need. Funds will be provided to St. Leo's Food Connection, Hope Sparks, Tacoma Boys and Girls Club, Fisher House and the Family Renewal Shelter.

Philoptochos Membership - Our year starts in January and runs through December. Annual membership renewal requests have been mailed to all current members. Please consider renewing your membership. We welcome new members as well. There is a lot of satisfaction in doing things for the common good and helping our church and the less fortunate among us.

Annual dues are \$30/year. Please contact the church office secretary, Carol, at 253-272-0466 if you would like the membership form.

Philoptochos Member Meetings -The first in-house chapter member meeting was held on March 17 (photo attached). The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 14 at 4:00 P.M. -5:30 P.M. If you would like more specific information about how to participate, please call the church secretary and she will ask a Philoptochos board member to contact you. Topics will include outreach for potential community and parishioner needs. We invite members and interested parishioners to join these meetings and share their thoughts. The calendar of events will be posted in the Messenger as we determine we can resume our activities safely.

Philoptochos News

Outreach to others - Please take a few minutes to call and support the older members of our community during the pandemic. Human contact and interaction is so important during these trying COVID-19 times.

Thanks for your Continuous Support!

Jane Evancho



Coffee Hour



COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

MISSION

- ◆ To extend the Holy Eucharist to social/coffee hour
- ◆ To express and manifest our faith by extending the hospitality we proclaim and by acknowledging the grace we have received during the Divine Liturgy
- ◆ To promote fellowship
- ◆ To connect with fellow parishioners, to welcome guests and to invite new faith seekers to our Church

REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN THE MINISTRY

A servant's heart and a sense of love and care that is penetrating, engaging and inspiring.

TEAM SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY:

04/03/2022	Community Coffee Hour*
04/10/2022	Community Coffee Hour*
04/17/2022	Palm Sunday
04/24/2022	Pascha

***Community Coffee Hour:** Parishioners are encouraged to bring cookies, pastries, chips, etc. Just be aware that during fasting periods (Great Lent, Apostles, Panagia & Nativity) the items need to be vegan.

TEAMS:

- **Team Karanasos:** Daphne Karanasos, Leader, Anna Wilson, Christina Gretty, Zach Karanasos, Angie Wilen, Ann Koopman, John Kouklis, Pres Maria Armatas and Lisa Ishchenko
- **Team Johnson:** Joseph Johnson, Leader, Ronnie-Sue Johnson, Fenia Mavromichali, Barbara Phillips, Sandra Ciarochi, Yvonne Brandvoldd, Maro Kouklis and Yanni and Sophia Charitou
- **Team Pres Sophie:** Pres Sophie Majmudar, Leader, Evy Kontos, Irene Misiewicz, Gloria Brown, Deborah Talbot, Savina Frisk, Claudia Cedenno and Scott and Rachael Parrell
- **Men's Team:** Ed Winskill, Leader, Dr. Fred Ehret, Bill Samaras, John Cook Hugh Winskill, Andrew Phillips, Alex Misiewicz, and Dale Sokratis Frisk

Building Committee



DOORS AND KEYES FOR PASCHA

Besides adjusting a stop sign at the corner of Yakima and 16th (shown in the above photo), so that it is plumb, we are still waiting for custom door casing trim to arrive and be installed at the new exterior and interior sets of Narthex double doors. This should be occurring in early April. Also, due to some scheduling conflicts with a high-in-demand door specialist, the fixing of some flaws at the interior set of doors, with some possible last-minute enhancements added, will now take place the week after Pascha rather than beforehand.

Locks at both the new main entry door and security gate have recently been machined to accept the same regular key used by Parish members for entering through the Upper and Lower Hall exterior doors.

Also, the Lower Hall door that was recently replaced is going to receive a new panic bar and other hardware, as the existing was outdated and partially broken. A special thanks to John Pangis for setting up the keying and Lower Hall hardware.



Military Ministry News

It has become standard operating procedure that we begin this article by recognizing the newest addition to the Military, CIA, Law Enforcement photographic lineup. United States Army Major (Retired) Alexander Misiewicz served over twenty years in both the United States Navy and the United States Army. His final years of military service were spent at Madigan Army Medical Center on Joint Base Lewis McChord where he served as a nurse on the medical staff. We are proud to add Alexander to our “photo library” and would happily welcome any others that have yet to be submitted. Remember, these photos will be used to recognize their service and honor the sacrifices of our St. Nicholas family members during our Memorial Day and Veterans Day presentations. Please help us honor your family members’ contributions to the security and defense of our great country by simply **taking a photo of a family picture of them in uniform, and emailing it to gleafops@gmail.com**. May God always bless those who serve in the defense of freedom and security in the armed forces of the United States, the armed forces of their native country, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the many branches of law enforcement.



MAJ(R) Alexander Misiewicz
United States Army
Operations Iraqi & Enduring Freedom
Irene Misiewicz’s husband



MARK YOUR CALENDARS. Sunday, May 29th, St. Nicholas will celebrate Memorial Day with a luncheon and presentation. Philoptochos and the Military Ministry will be hosting the event that is primarily intended to recognize and honor all who died while serving in the different military branches of the United States. During past Memorial Day events we have recognized **Denny Langounaris (St. Nicholas parishioner)**, who was killed in 1944 during WWII during the battle of the bulge, while fighting the Germans, **CPL George Velias (St. Nicholas parishioner)**, who was killed in 1951 while fighting during the Korean War, **CPT Earl Rogers (Jeff Rogers’ father)** who was killed in 1978 while flying a reconnaissance mission along the North/South Korean border, and **PFC Michael Mihalakis (Daphne’s nephew)** who was killed in 2003 while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom, in Baghdad, Iraq.

This year’s presentation will recognize the sacrifice of Johnny Bennak, Deborah Talbot’s uncle, who served on the USS Helena and was killed in 1943 while fighting the Japanese in the Pacific. Please plan to attend the Liturgy service and the Memorial Day luncheon in order to honor the sacrifice of these St. Nicholas parishioners and family members who died while serving our country.

Continued on next page....



Johnny Bennak & George Humphrey
U.S. Navy, WWII
Both Killed In Action on the USS Helena in July 1943 in the Pacific.
Recipients of the Purple Heart
Bennak is Deborah Talbot’s uncle

Military Ministry News

April 23, 2022. Feast day of St. George.

St. George is the patron saint of the soldiers in the United States Army who serve in the branches of armor and cavalry, and the patron saint of infantry and all other branches and services of the Hellenic Land Forces, except for the artillery. The patron saint of artillery in the Hellenic Army, the U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps is St. Barbara.

The following is short history from the [GOARCH website](#) regarding St. George the Great Martyr and Triumphant.

St. George, this truly great and glorious Martyr of Christ, was born of a father from Capadocia and a mother from Palestine. Being a military tribune, or chiliarch (that is, a commander of a thousand troops), he was illustrious in battle and highly honored for his courage. When he learned that the Emperor Diocletian was preparing a persecution of the Christians, Saint George presented himself publicly before the Emperor and denounced him. When threats and promises could not move him from his steadfast confession, he was put to unheard-of tortures, which he endured with great bravery, overcoming them by his faith and love towards Christ. By the wondrous signs that took place in his contest, he guided many to the knowledge of the truth, including Queen Alexandra, wife of Diocletian, and was finally beheaded in 296 in Nicomedia.



His sacred remains were taken by his servant from Nicomedia to Palestine, to a town called Lydda, the homeland of his mother, and then were finally transferred to the church which was raised up in his name. (The translation of the Saint's holy relics to the church in Lydda is commemorated on November 3; Saint Alexandra the Queen, on April 21.)

If April 23 falls on or before Great and Holy Pascha, the Feast of St. George is translated to Bright Monday.

Apolytikion of Great Martyr George: Liberator of captives, defender of the poor, physician of the sick, and champion

of kings, O trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Kontakion of Great Martyr George: Cultivated by God, you became manifest as an honorable tiller gathering for yourself the sheaves of virtue. For you sowed with tears but reaped with gladness; in the contest you competed with your blood and came away with Christ. By your intercessions, O Holy One, all are granted forgiveness of sins.

Continued on next page....

Military Ministry News

The month of April has us recognizing the anniversary of the passing of four St. Nicholas veterans. I obtained this information off of gravestones at the old Tacoma Cemetery, by looking up names on ancestry websites, or by talking with fellow parishioners. Of the four who are remembered this month I only really knew one of them personally, but through this ministry I have learned some about the other three. I know that all four were loyal stewards of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, they gave generously of their time, talent and treasure, and helped to make ours the great church that it is today, Some vignettes about them include the following:

Larry Crenshaw, April 26, 2021, was a logistics specialist in the Army but in the evening he would entertain his unit as a stand up comedian, and was nicknamed “Richard Pryor” (a famous comedian from 1975 until his death in 2005) by his fellow soldiers.

Ernest L. Evans, April 2, 1991, and two of his brothers served in the military during WWII. After the war they worked in their family owned Evans Bakery in Tacoma, one of the most popular bakeries in the city for many years, and donated one of their rotisserie baking ovens to our church. That oven is still in operation and is the mainstay of our kitchen during festivals and other major dining events.

David A. Orriss, April 7, 2018, was a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and commanded the USS Impervious during the Vietnam War. The ship was tasked with clearing mines from Hanoi Harbor as part of the Paris Peace Agreement.

Lazarus Politakis, April 16, 2017, the Marine from St. Nicholas who served during the cold war. People often say he should have been a model on Marine recruiting posters, whenever they see the photo below.

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL.



PVT Larry Crenshaw
United States Army
Cold War



Ernest Louis Evans
United States Navy
Korean War
Ethel Barbas' Brother,
Katie Mason's uncle



CDR(R) David A. Orriss
United States Navy
Vietnam War
Commander, USS Impervious
David Orriss' father



PVT Lazarus Politakis
U.S. Marine Corp
Cold War
Steve and Chris Politakis' father



Stewardship Ministry News

Last month's article began with a discussion about the possibility of hosting the St. Nicholas Greek Festival in October 2022. The festival committee continues to meet in pursuit of that goal but there are still many issues yet to be addressed.

Last month five members of the committee were each tasked with contacting ten parishioners and conducting a short survey. If you were not contacted PLEASE DO NOT BE OFFENDED BECAUSE NO SLIGHT WAS INTENDED! We tried to contact a cross section of our parishioners and unfortunately some of the phone numbers that I had on file were incorrect. Of the approximately 50 people surveyed, 80% were people that have participated in past St. Nicholas festivals, and 20% were people who are new to our church. Below are the survey questions that were asked. If you were not contacted and would like to respond to the questions please email your thoughts to gleafops@gmail.com.



Below are the survey questions that were asked. If you were not contacted and would like to respond to the questions please email your thoughts to gleafops@gmail.com.

1. Do you want St. Nicholas to conduct a festival in October 2022?
2. Are you willing to help with baking on at least three Saturdays (from 0900–1400) during the months of July, August and September?
3. Are you willing to participate on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during the festival and if so, is there a particular booth where you would like to help?
4. Would you like to serve on the festival committee?

Regarding survey question #1, most (65%+) said they wanted us to host a festival in October 2022, Several expressed concern about COVID and the homeless situation around the church; both very valid concerns. As of the writing of this article (March 15) the mask mandate has been lifted and the homeless situation is much improved. We will continue to monitor both issues going forward and any negative changes will certainly impact our decision making process.

Regarding survey question #2, most (70%+) of those surveyed said they would be willing to work at least three Saturdays. Sadly, many of the key people who were instrumental in coordinating the baking sessions in the past are no longer able to serve in either leadership or logistical coordination roles. Additionally, many of the people who contributed greatly to past baking sessions did not think they could participate at the same level as before, and that is totally understandable. None of us have gotten any younger, health issues are a concern, and several including Miss Elly, Mrs. Mary G., Mrs. Cherbus, Mrs. Kay T., Mrs. Mary M., and a few other beloved parishioners are no longer with us.

Regarding survey question #3, most (65%+) said they would be willing to work the full weekend of the festival. New parishioners indicated a willingness to serve wherever necessary. **Cont'd next page....**

Stewardship Ministry News

Regarding question #4, only a couple people expressed interest in serving on the festival committee and their names have been passed to Bill S., festival committee chairman, to contact.

The committee has met three times and each time there have been several reoccurring questions that dominate the discussion.

1. Who can fill the roles that Sally, Merrilee, Krisann, and Miss Elly performed in the past? The essential procurement of baking ingredients, the planning and coordinating of what needs to be done when, and the supervision/quality control of prepared items are key roles that must be filled! These tasks require the early arrival at baking sessions and people in these roles are usually the last to leave the church about an hour or two after everyone else has departed.
2. Who can replace John Pangis and Rich Heidal? John and Rich were always present at baking sessions to do most of the heavy lifting, keep up with the dishwashing, supervising the oven baking, and storing items in the freezer and refrigerator. Additionally, in their spare time between midnight and 4 AM (a little humor there), they oversaw the retrieval and cleaning of essential items from the "Kota House," the retrieval and hook-up of gas pipes and other equipment from the "stairwell to nowhere," the retrieval of equipment from the trailer, the set up and electrical wiring of the tent, and the assembly of several of the wood framed booths. Theirs are truly **GIANT** shoes to fill and without people to assume these tasks, our ability to execute the mission is in jeopardy.
3. What booths/stations/events should we have and can we staff? Decisions have not yet been made but every person's support and input are essential! I plan to email this to every member of the church and your response is respectfully requested. Please email me at gleafops@gmail.com and let me know if you will work during the festival and which booth/event do you wish to augment. I will pass your name to the booth/section leader and they will contact you to coordinate details. Booth discussion to date has centered around following:

A. The dance groups. The dance groups are the heart and soul of our entertainment and the event that keeps people coming back year after year. Our hope is that Dr. Anastasia, Kelly R., and Evy K. will provide the instruction and teach our kids the skills that are necessary. Additionally Lexi S. and



Rachel P., one of our new parishioners who is a dance instructor, has expressed an interest in helping.

Continued on next page....

Stewardship Ministry News

B. The music/entertainment/loudspeaker system. Traditionally George Pirotis has supervised this part of the festival operation and in my humble opinion it wouldn't be a Greek festival if he wasn't announcing and dancing. I am optimistic he will help and hope that he will continue to serve in this capacity for many years to come.

C. The Gyro booth. Pres. Sophie has volunteered to lead it! This booth is one of the most popular and requires a large staff. It requires people to set up and clean the grills and refrigerators, people to slice the tomatoes, people to prepare the ingredients and the tzatziki sauce the day prior to the festival, and of course workers to grill and assemble the gyro during the festival. This booth often has long lines so lots of gyro workers are required.



D. The Calamari and Greek fries booth. Jim and Dina F. have offered to lead this booth. Traditionally, this booth is another of our busiest and Jim is also our garlic sauce expert.. John and Jacob C. led the fries operation last festival and we hope they will be available to do it again this year.

E. The Souvlaki booth. In the past George Panagiotu, Rod Aasen, and Chris Basil have led this booth. It is very well attended and almost always sells out. George, Chris and Rod's availability is unconfirmed as of this writing. The booth requires people to constantly grill the souvlaki and loukaniko, and staff to prepare the plates.

F. The salad booth. In the past this booth was led by Ronnie-Sue and Sheila/Monica. If staffing and tent size become issues during the decision making process this booth may be eliminated.

G. The Oleamides booth. At our last festival this booth was led by Evynea Rocco. As of this writing her availability is not confirmed. We have a new parishioner who has led loukamades booths at other festivals but his availability in October is doubtful at this time. This is another very popular booth and requires a constant staff of approximately five people.



H. The Bars. In the past John Kouklis has managed the outside bar operation and the Angelus family has managed the bar in the dining room. As of this writing if we do two bars like we have in the past we expect that John and the Angelus family will continue to lead them both.

Continued on next page....

Stewardship Ministry News



I. The Monastery booth. The Pamboukas family has run this booth in the past and we expect they will continue to do so in the future.

J. The Import Shop. The Kalivas-Griffin family and Katie Mason have run this booth in the past. As of this writing their availability has not been confirmed.

K. The Coffee Shop. The Heidal family, Sally, Chrysanthe, Ingrid and a few others have staffed this booth in the past. This booth is another of our most popular but the Heidal family availability has not been confirmed for 2022. Much of the product sold at this booth will either be prepared in advance during our Saturday baking sessions or purchased commercially. Also being addressed is what product if any, can or should we eliminate in the interest of workload, staffing and cost effectiveness. This booth has traditionally required a constant tent staff of approximately 6-9 people, and a support staff of 2



-3 people working in the kitchen slicing, cupping, and resupplying the pastries. Dr. Fred and Alex have traditionally done the Greek coffee at this booth and it is presumed but not confirmed that they will be available do it again. Staffing is a critical issue for this booth to function.



L. Hands of Love. Genevieve is the leader at this booth. The work involved in preparing the items for this booth is done by a group of very dedicated and extremely talented women who love to stitch, crochet, and knit. If anyone is interested in joining their ranks please email me at gleafops@gmail.com, and I will pass your information to Genevieve and Ingrid. This booth does not require many people to set-up and operate, and it is expected that Genevieve will continue to keep it operational.

M. The Deli booth. The Frisk and Premis families have staffed this booth in the past. The Frisks have moved to Arizona and the Premis family availability has not yet been confirmed.



As of this writing I do not know who does the ordering and procurement for this booth.



N. The Token Booth. The Token Booth is very staff intensive and in the past I think that it was supervised by Merrilee, Krisann, and Christina. If a less staff intensive, simpler, and more cost effective system can be identified the committee would recommend switching to it. Bill S. is researching to see if such an option is available.

Continued next page...

Stewardship Ministry News

O. The Dining Hall Dinner Operation. In the past we have served chicken, fish and lamb dinners in the dining hall. Ed Tuhey, Chris Manthou, Zak Karanasos, and others would lead the oven operations while Olga, Evy, and Mark would supervise the dining hall. I am not certain who oversaw the serving line but I suspect that was Olga or Evy. Because this operation requires so much staff the committee recommends we eliminate it.



P. The Ala Carte window. I am not certain but I think Tina Basil supervised this operation in the past. As of this writing I do not know if she will be available to do it in the future. What we do know is that spanakopita and tiropita were our best selling items at last year's bake sale, and the committee believes we should make every effort to include these items in our next festival. We have received some constructive critiques of our bake sale operation and a few people have graciously offered to assist with overseeing the preparation of these items if we do them for the festival.

Q. Dining Hall Bar. Please see item G. on previous page.

Q. Upper Hall Bakery. The upper hall bakery has traditionally been one of our most popular operations. Whether or not we would be able to bake and prepare all of the items that we have sold in the past is yet to be determined. Since we do not expect to be serving dinner meals we have discussed moving the bakery downstairs to the small dining hall, the place that I have been told it was located in earlier times. Thank you Roxanne!



R. The Book Store. No change to the book store operation that see right now. If the bakery moves downstairs Dr. Nick and Deborah may wish to expand into the upper hall.



S. Father Seraphim's Orthodoxy talks. God willing, Fr. Seraphim, Dr. Nick, and Zak will continue with these talks for many years to come.

This concludes our festival update. The festival is a very important time for everyone to contribute their time and talent to our church. I hope this helps you decide where you are able to contribute and will email me with your preference.



Very respectfully,

Gus

Stewardship Ministry News

Donations and or Stewardship Commitments as of March 23, 2022

William and Mary Acker •
 Leonidas and Despina Alatsis •
 Sonny and Irene Angelos •
 Tony and Lori Apostle •
 Tina Ayers •
 George Ballasiotes
 E. Anthe Barbas
 Harry and Sheri Basil •
 Theodora Bessinas •
 Yvonne Brandvold •
 Gloria and Peter Brown •
 William and Bonnie Caress •
 Klaudia Cedeno •
 Steven Chamales
 Anthony and Sandra Ciarochi •
 Dina Deliyianides •
 Genevieve Eagle •
 Frederick Ehret and Anastasia Fyntrilakis •
 Krisann and Peter Firth •
 Dayle Sokratis Frisk
 John and Judy Godulas •
 Sally Hallis •
 Daniel and Ekaterini Hanson •
 Timothy and Kathleen Harvey •
 Magdaline Hatzikazakis and Reginald Williams •
 William Frederick Lincoln Horton •
 Joseph and Ronnie-Sue Johnson •
 Hariklia (Rikki) Kapes •
 Paula Karanasos •
 Sharon Kennedy •
 Claudia Kieszling •
 Ann Kiraki and Jessee Macharia •
 John Kouklis •
 Peter and Margaret Laketa
 Robert and Anne Latz •
 Mary Leonard •
 George and Bess Lurker •
 Olga Manos •
 Mathew John Manthou •
 Katherine and Gregory Mason •
 Maria and Kosta Aggelidakis •
 Patra Alatsis •
 Richard and Marlene Angelus •
 Andrew and Sheila Auter •
 Ourania Ayume •
 Tyler and Lexi Balser •
 Chrysanthe and SFC(R) Wiley Barnes
 T. L. Berg
 Ricardo Aaron Bottino •
 Dora Brown
 Anne and Don Calcote •
 Barry and Debora Middleton Cassidy
 C.G. and Ingrid Chamales •
 Yianni and Sophie Charitou •
 Nick and Cheryl Cosmakos •
 John Diaconou
 Timothy and Sunny Edgren
 Callie Elliott
 David and Savina Frisk •
 Gregory Joseph Garcia •
 Christina Gretty •
 Michael and Kristine Hanberg
 Natalya Harpe
 Bret and Evangelia Hassel
 Richard and Kathleen Heidal •
 Thomas and Helga Jackson •
 Kathy Johnson •
 Anna Karanasos •
 Zachary and Daphne Karanasos •
 Naser and Catalina Khalaj •
 Evan and Despina Kipiledis •
 Ann Ruth Koopman •
 Maria Koumantaros •
 Elia and Micheline Lakkis •
 Christina Leinneuber •
 Hugh and Mariella Lewis
 Fr. Seraphim and Sophie Majmudar •
 Chris and Susan Manthou •
 Dean and Julie Mastras •
 Iphigenia Mavromichali •

Stewardship Ministry News

Continued from previous page...

Helen McClure •	Virginia McClure •
Alan and Sheilagh Means •	Tatyana Mikeladze
Tom Mollas	Michael and Rodica Murphy •
Derek Olsen	Order of AHEPA, Olympia Chapter
David and Katrina Orriss •	Niko and Sonia Pamboukas •
George Panagiotu	Tony and Debbie Panagiotu •
Alex Pangis •	John and Merrilee Pangis •
Scott and Rachael Parnell	Kesha Patel
John Payne •	George and Diane Pirotis •
Charles and Lena Plunkett •	Steve and Kathleen Politakis •
Andrew and Rebecca Primis •	Sammy Ramzi
Martin J. and Lorissa C. Reiter III	Mark and Dana Robinson •
Katherine and Mike Rowley •	Bill and Karen Samaras •
Neal (Barnabas) Schaefer •	Richard and Alexandra Schutt •
St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society	Olympia and John Stafford •
Richard and Denice Stahl •	Andy and JoAnn Stergachis •
Rob and Lea Sullivan •	Jacob Swain •
James & Jenise Sweeney •	Deborah Talbot •
Nick and Becky Themelis •	Charles Tomaras
Samuel Torvend	Roxanne Vallantine •
John Voklert	Michael Jane White
Ed Winskill •	Hugh Winskill
Kalitsa Xitco •	

• Indicates stewardship card on file

Welcome Ministry News

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church is blessed with many wonderful and remarkable parishioners from all walks of life, and for that we are all truly grateful!!! Because of COVID, many of our parishioners have loyally watched Divine Liturgy Services via YouTube livestreaming over the last two years, and therefore were not present to meet and welcome the many new people who have joined our church.

The Welcome Ministry is planning to conduct a series of workshops in an effort to provide an opportunity for bringing people together and spreading the spirit of Philoptimo inherited from the founders of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. The mission of these workshops is to introduce our new members to some of the unique customs of Greek Orthodoxy, while simultaneously providing our longtime legacy parishioners an opportunity to meet our new brothers and sisters in Christ.

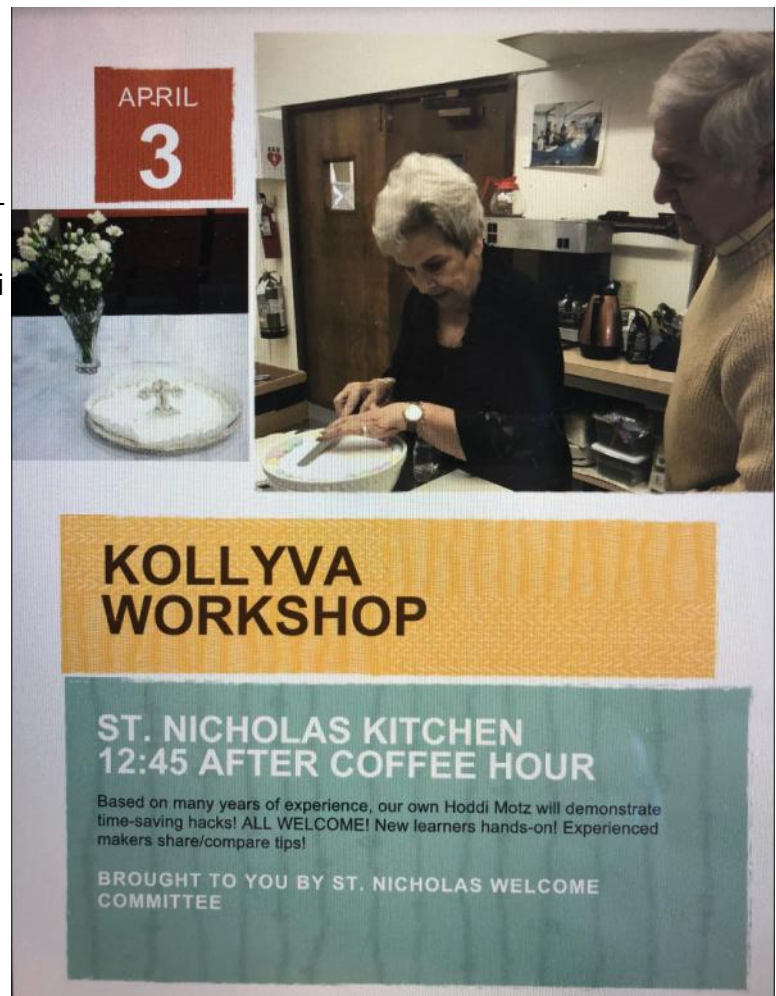
Our first workshop will be on April 3rd after Divine Liturgy and will begin at 1245. Our own Hoddi Motz will be teaching all who are interested in learning, how to make kollyva.

Koliva (also spelled kollyva, coliva, kolyva, and perhaps a few other ways) is a dish made from boiled wheat berries mixed with nuts and other ingredients and sweetened with raisins and powder sugar. It is made to commemorate the dead and pray for eternal salvation of their souls during funeral and memorial services. Koliva is also presented during Divine Liturgy on Saturdays of the Souls.

Though making Koliva is a time-consuming process and appears intimidating, it has a very low degree of difficulty! Based on many years of experience, Hoddi will demonstrate many time saving hacks. Join us to learn how to make koliva, save precious time, and learn the symbolism and prayers for this very respectful process!

New members of our church are enthusiastically encouraged to participate and learn about this very important custom! Legacy parishioners are respectfully encouraged to attend to foster a spirit of friendship and "Philoptimo," and to share and compare tips on the kollyva process

ALL ARE WELCOME!!! Please join us!



KOLLYVA WORKSHOP

**ST. NICHOLAS KITCHEN
12:45 AFTER COFFEE HOUR**

Based on many years of experience, our own Hoddi Motz will demonstrate time-saving hacks! ALL WELCOME! New learners hands-on! Experienced makers share/compare tips!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY ST. NICHOLAS WELCOME COMMITTEE

Bible Study

ST. NICHOLAS BIBLE STUDY – THE REVELATION

THE INEVITABLE CONFLICT

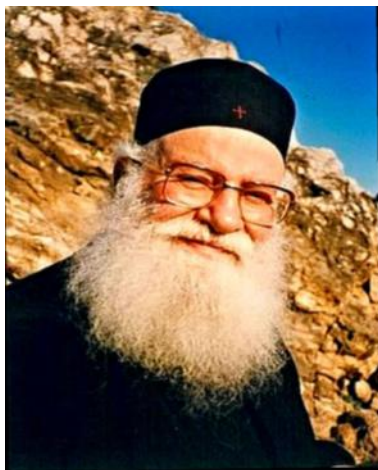
James 4:4 *“Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever, therefore, wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”*

Father Seraphim: In the past, those of us who bear the Spirit of Christ and those who reject the Spirit of Christ (therefore bear the spirit of the world) have gotten along well enough and haven't experienced the intense friction that lies underneath. But all the “lubricants” that keep that friction down are now dried up and have started to heat up. It's upsetting, but we shouldn't be surprised. We will, inevitably, have a conflict with the world. For myself, I've been in friendship with the world and that's why I'm stressed and anxious; because I can see my friendship disintegrating, just like you would with any friendship. The more I try and love Christ, the more my friendship with the world suffers.

George Pirotis (our Greek teacher): The word “world” in Greek is κόσμος – kosmos. It comes from the verb, κοσμήσο – kosmiso, which is a creation of God and means the “jewel” of God.

Dimitri A: We are migrating from the “777” world of the jewel to Christ as our Jewel.

Father Seraphim: To migrate from the world as our jewel to Christ as our Jewel, as St. Sophrony said, we need to, *“Stand on the edge of the abyss and when you feel that it is beyond your strength, break off and have a cup of tea.”* This is where the Lord is merciful to us. We can't just become all His immediately. It is difficult to divest ourselves of this bad friend. We haven't come to terms with the fact that “he” is totally bad for us. Sometimes, in the absence of concrete experiences with the Kingdom, that sort of diminishes, the friendship with the world rises in importance because it is more concrete. This is where the ascetic and liturgical life of the Church begins to turn that around: the joy that your heart feels when you receive Communion, praying in a splendid Church, rejoicing when you hear the mention of the Mother of God, or singing “*αξιον εστιν ως αληθώς*”, the comfort you feel when you hear the Gospel passage, or when you are with your brothers and sisters in Christ who love you unconditionally. These are the things that make the Kingdom concrete. The more we do this, the less the world wins in terms of what's more concrete to you. Cumulatively, looking back on a day spent “in Christ” versus a day spent seeking worldly pleasures (smoking pot, drinking to excess, indulging in carnal activities) the difference is substance. Earthly pleasures lack substance.



Father Athanasio Mitilinaos – Volume III, pgs 243-253

Summary (by Father Seraphim):

Daniel 7: 1st beast is Babylonian Empire; 2nd is Middle Persian Dynasty, 3rd is Greek Macedonian empire of Alexander; 4th has no name, but represents the Roman Empire.

The small horn (out of ten) will wear out the saints; attempt to pervert nature, all the laws of God. Caesar worship (the 4th horn) is the ultimate typology of Antichrist, which is a direct parallel between **Daniel 7** and **Revelation 13**. The mystery of lawlessness is a mockery & counterfeit of the mystery of divine energy, which has been operational since the beginning of creation. The mystery of divine energy is known as the mystery of godliness or piety.

Mystery of piety: Moses signs the Red Sea with the Cross; defeats Amalek by the Cross; Elijah stops and starts the rain; Joshua defeats Jericho, etc.

Mystery of lawlessness: The temptation of Adam & Eve; Cain kills Abel; the tower of Babel; etc.


Bible Study

The seventh chapter of Daniel, which is marvelous, corresponds precisely to the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, up until the Ancient of Days came... Do you see? This is the Second Coming of Christ...and He gave the justification, the result of the judgment to the saints of the Most High. And the time came and the Kingdom was given over to the saints (cf. Daniel 7:9-22). So, time ran out; it finished; judgment took place, and the saints took the Kingdom. It is all over. The Antichrist, the devil, and the False Prophet are thrown into the fire of Gehenna. This is the journey of Christ and the Antichrist within history, before and after Christ. This information will help you to always keep a diagram in your mind.



DISCERNMENT

διάκρισις

Transliteration	Pronunciation	
<i>diakrisis</i> (Key)	dee-ak'-ree-sis 	
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)	
feminine noun	From διακρίνω (G1252)	
Greek Inflections of διάκρισις [?]		
mGNT 3x in 2 unique form(s)	TR 3x in 2 unique form(s)	LXX 1x in 1 unique form(s)
διακρίσεις — 2x	διάκρισιν — 1x	
Dictionary Aids		
Vine's Expository Dictionary: View Entry		
TDNT Reference: 3:949,469		
KJV Translation Count — Total: 3x		
The KJV translates Strong's G1253 in the following manner: discerning (1x),		

The KJV translates Strong's G1253 in the following manner: discerning (1x), discern (1x), disputation (1x).

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

1. a distinguishing, discerning, judging

Strong's Definitions [?]

(Strong's Definitions Legend)

διάκρισις *diákrisis*, dee-ak'-ree-sis; from G1252; judicial estimation:—discern(-ing), disputation.

Thayer's Greek Lexicon [?]

(Jump to Scripture Index)


STRONGS NT 1253: **διάκρισις**

διάκρισις, -εως, ἡ, (διακρίνω), a distinguishing, discerning, judging: πνευμάτων, 1 Corinthians 12:10; καλοῦ τε καὶ κακοῦ, Hebrews 5:14; μὴ εἰς διακρίσεις διαλογισμῶν, not for the purpose of passing judgment on opinions, as to which one is to be preferred as the more correct, Romans 14:1 [see διαλογισμός, 1]. (Xenophon, Plato, others.)

διακρίνω

Transliteration	Pronunciation
<i>diakrinō</i> (Key)	dee-ak-ree'-no
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	From διά (G1223) and κρίνω (G2919)

Bible Study

διά	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
<i>dia</i> (Key)	dee-ah' 
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
preposition	A primary preposition denoting the channel of an act
Greek Inflections of διά [?]	

κρίνω	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
<i>krino</i> (Key)	kree'-no
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	Perhaps a primitive word

Dia – through or between

Krino – to separate

The broad concept is judgment, but it's rooted in the specific concept of "to separate". To put asunder, to choose, to pick out. Etymologically, as we approach St. John of the Ladder's text on "Διάκρισις", to understand what we are talking about, at its root we are cutting away or weeding out the waste. We have something here that is sort of enigmatic and we have to have precision of perception and a really sharp scalpel to excise the good from the bad, the truth from the lie. The devil is a liar, a copycat, and a deceiver and discernment is key in not getting caught in his web of deceit.

Romans 14:1 "...doubtful discernments." **1Corinthians 12:10** "...to another discerning of spirits"...
Hebrews 5:14 "...who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

These are the three instances where discern and its tenses (in Greek **διάκρισις**) are used in the New Testament. In each case it has to do with spiritual discernment. For example, to understand the related concept that St. John the Apostle uses when he speaks about testing the "spirits". This is a key issue in transitioning from **Revelation 13** to **Revelation 14**. **Revelation 13**: Antichrist, his forerunner, the first beast, the mark of the beast. **Revelation 14**: the 144,000 and who they are and why can only they sing this "new song"? Without using the word "discern", Christ speaks to His Apostles in **Matthew 24** about using discernment in the end times.



ST. JOHN CLIMACUS "THE LADDER"

Step 26:

"On Discernment"

On discernment of thoughts, passions
 and virtues

Bible Study

Discernment in ¹beginners is true knowledge of themselves; in ²intermediate souls, it is a spiritual sense that faultlessly distinguishes what is truly good from what is of nature and opposed to it; and in ³the perfect, it is the knowledge which they have within by divine illumination, and which can enlighten with its lamp what is dark in others. Or perhaps, generally speaking, discernment is, and is recognized as, the certain understanding of the divine will on all occasions, in every place, and in all matters; and it is only found in those who are pure in heart, and in body, and in mouth.

111. Those who wish to learn the will of the Lord must first mortify their own will. Then, having prayed to God with faith and guileless simplicity, and having asked the fathers or even the brothers with humility of heart and no thought of doubt, they should accept their advice as from the mouth of God, even if their advice be contrary to their own view, and even if those consulted are not very spiritual. For God is not unjust, and will not lead astray souls, who with faith and innocence, humbly submit to the advice and judgment of their neighbor. Even if those who were asked were brute beasts, yet He who speaks is the Immaterial and Invisible One. Those who allow themselves to be guided by this rule without having any doubts are filled with great humility. For if someone unfolded his problem on a psaltery, how much better, do you think, can a rational mind and reasonable soul teach than an inanimate object?

112. On account of self-will, many have not accepted the perfect and easy blessing mentioned above and, having tried to discover what was pleasing to the Lord of themselves and in themselves, have handed on to us many and various judgments concerning this matter.

113. Some of those who were seeking the will of God laid aside all attachments; they submitted to the Lord their own thought about this or that inclination of the soul, I mean whether to perform an action or to resist it; they submitted their mind, stripped of its own will, to the Lord, offering fervent prayer for a set number of days. In this way they attained to a knowledge of His will, either through the noetic Mind noetically communicating with their mind, or through the complete disappearance from their soul of their cherished intention.

Father Seraphim:

¹**Beginners:** true knowledge of themselves. ²**Intermediate:** a spiritual sense that faultlessly distinguishes what is truly good from what is of a nature and opposed to it. ³**Perfect:** knowledge within by divine illumination and which can enlighten with its lamp what is dark in others.

All throughout history, we can see a “string of antichrists” which leads up, inexorably, to the forerunner of Antichrist and Antichrist, himself. On a very practical level, every single one of us in this Bible Study is going to be in a situation where we are going to have to discern the truth from the lies that are encrusting the truth, not just for ourselves individually but for the entire Body of Christ. We are involved in a bigger thing than just the “drama” of our own salvation unfolding. The Body must work together as one to discern what is happening around us and in our midst. Each Christian must be practicing discernment. If we fail to discern individually, our spirits get dulled and we become less and less full of the joy of the Holy Spirit. Corporately, as a Body, we become more and more of the world and less and less of the Kingdom and therefore, do not provide the spiritual safe haven for those who are called to salvation. As a Body, our goal is to collect those who are appointed to salvation. What happens when someone with an open heart, enters a House of God and meets calloused and dulled souls who have no discernment and, therefore, preach, teach and manifest a confused spirit because we can’t tell the difference and we don’t live the difference. That curious soul leaves confused and his journey becomes more difficult and faces a steeper climb. By contrast, if we are Christians who practice discernment, this curious soul will have clarity because he will be in the presence of people who are constantly on the journey of sharpening their spiritual discernment that will instantly drive the clouds away and let in the Light.

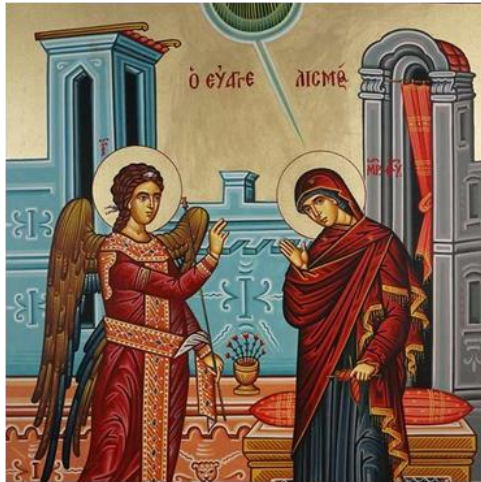
Bible Study

The cautionary words that the Lord uses in **Matthew 24**, warning His Apostles, hinges on discernment.

Submitted by: Genevieve



ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY



A Statement on the Sanctity of Life

Four presiding hierarchs currently participating in the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, including His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph of the Antiochian Archdiocese, are responding to controversial remarks made at January's "March for Life" in Washington, D.C. that received attention in traditional and social media.

Friday, March 25, 2022

Orthodox Pro-Life Statement

The Orthodox Church has consistently and unequivocally recognized the full humanity of every person beginning at the moment of conception. This position is informed by Scripture and Holy Tradition and is validated by modern science, which confirms that a new, distinct human organism comes into existence at conception. The Orthodox Church is, and always has been, unabashedly pro-life, regarding abortion as the killing of another human being.

In recent weeks, this position has been called into question, and, consequently, we, Orthodox Presiding Hierarchs representing several canonical jurisdictions in the United States of America, are compelled to proclaim the only true and correct teaching of the Church on this matter. We reiterate the words of the Lord's Teaching through the Twelve Apostles to the Nations (the "Didache"), which dates to the earliest generations of the Church: "Do not murder a child by abortion or kill a newborn infant" (οὐ φονεύσεις τέκνον ἐν φθορᾷ οὐδὲ γεννηθέντα ἀποκτενεῖς).

The Orthodox Church strives to stand above politics; yet, the Church also stands for order, against the forces of chaos and lawlessness. All civilized societies prohibit the intentional taking of the life of one human being by another human being, except under extreme and unusual circumstances. The United States of America is certainly no exception: in every state, intentional homicide is outlawed. Yet our laws are inconsistent, banning the killing of some humans but not others. There is no basis in either law or science, and certainly not in morality or religion, to draw a distinction between a human who is in the womb and a human who is outside of it. Thus, the Orthodox Church calls upon the civil authorities, not only in the United States but globally, and especially in traditionally Orthodox lands, to treat all humans equally under the law, and thus to forbid the evil practice of abortion.

It is true that the Most Holy Theotokos gave her consent to the Incarnation of the Uncreated Word of God. The Lord did not impose Himself on humanity, but took on our nature with the permission of us humans, represented by the greatest of us, the Virgin Mary. Once this consent was given, the Incarnation took place: the Word became flesh at that moment. The Orthodox Church embraces this paradox of the Incarnation, of the Uncreated becoming one of His creatures. Yet while paradoxes of this kind are essential to our faith, so too is clarity: the clarity that the newly conceived human – including the Lord Himself at the moment of His conception – is a full human. Here, then, the consent of the Theotokos ends, and her duties as a mother begin: once she conceived the Lord, she had the sacred responsibility of nurturing and caring for Him, which she fulfilled perfectly.

This same Lord Who became incarnate of the Virgin Mary on the Feast of the Annunciation loves every human being He creates, from the moment of their conception. He loves their mothers, along with the fathers, who suffer and sacrifice for their children.

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

The Church, and, indeed, all of humanity, has a duty to care for and support these children and their mothers.

No less equally, the Lord also loves the mothers who, victims of deceitful pressures from this world, make the tragic choice to have their children killed. For these mothers, the Church offers forgiveness, compassion, and healing through repentance and reconciliation both to God and to their lost children. The Lord loves those fathers and other men who, failing in their duty to provide and protect, instead pressure and even force mothers to have their children killed.

The Lord loves those physicians and other practitioners who, themselves victims of deceit, have allowed themselves to become instruments of evil in the murder of innocent children.

Finally, let us all implore the same Lord, Who desires that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, that His all-encompassing love and mercy will enfold all who are affected by the tragedy of abortion and bring healing to our land.

Metropolitan Joseph
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Bishop Longin
Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America

Metropolitan Nicolae
Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas

Metropolitan Joseph
Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Diocese of the USA, Canada, and Australia

PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF UNBORN LIFE

O our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who in the beginning fashioned man out of the dust of the earth and breathed into him the breath of life so that he became a living soul, Who knowest the time of life and name of each even from his mother's womb, Who numberest even the hairs of our heads, and Who keepest a watchful eye over every living thing in Thy creation, do Thou now look upon Thy creation which Thou hast fashioned according to Thine own image, and grant to those who are in their mother's wombs and to their mothers the protection that Thou gavest Thine own Virgin Mother when she carried Thee, and fill them with the Holy Spirit even as Thou once filled Elizabeth such that John the Forerunner leaped in her womb at encountering Thee.

As Thou becamest incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became true man, hidden within the veil of Thy Mother's flesh, joining Thy divinity with our humanity, join Thyself now with us and all Thy human creation through Thy grace. As Thou didst enter into the womb of Thy Mother, be present also in the wombs of all mothers, with them and with their children. Protect them from all assaults of the evil one and his foul spirits, that in due time all may come unto Thee, as Thou didst say, "Suffer the little children, and forbid them not to come unto Me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

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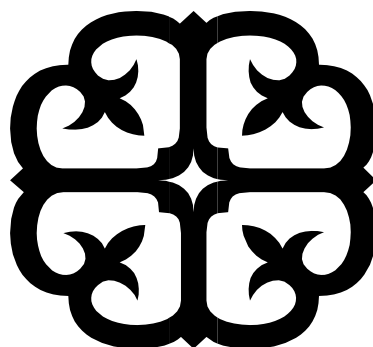
O Thou Who at Thy birth heard the weeping of Rachel in lamentation, who would not be comforted for her children were no more, crying out at the slaughter of the innocents by the wicked Herod for Thy sake, hear also the weeping of all those who lament the deaths of Thy little children, who cry out for Thy love and peace in the midst of terror and inhumanity.

As Thou once granted true contrition of heart to David and to Manasseh and to Peter, who sinned against Thee, grant true repentance to all who in malice or greed or desperation or hopelessness or ignorance sin against Thee and Thy creatures in the untimely taking of their lives. Receive their tears as the tears of the Publican, which flow from the depths of their hearts, as Thou didst receive David, who had taken life unjustly, and Manasseh, who had permitted the worship of idols, and Peter, who thrice denied Thee. Receive them as the Prodigal, with eagerness and rejoicing, clothing them with the robe of holiness and glory and celebrating with them the feast of faith.

Speak words of justice into the hearts of our rulers, that they may be guided by divine wisdom in protecting and nurturing life in every good way. Give strength and love to those who minister to all who suffer in desperation and need, granting through them every spiritual and earthly blessing. Protect the widows and orphans and the abandoned, be Father to the fatherless and hope to the hopeless, raise the young, protect the bond of marriage in peace and concord. Remember the forgotten and bring them to mind in all of us who pray unto Thee. Grant eternal rest to the fallen, and raise them up at the last day.

O Christ our God, Who knowest us all in our depths and receivest the supplications of Thy servants who call out to Thee in our own transgressions and imperfection, hear this our humble prayer and give us all Thy divine blessing from on high, for Thou are ever glorified with Thy Father Who is from everlasting and Thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Submitted by Genevieve



ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed

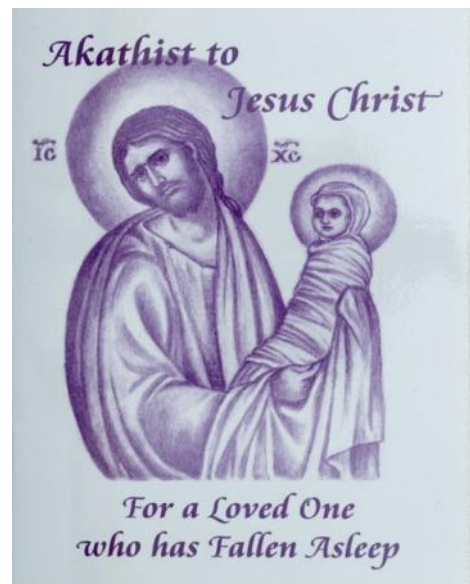


Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

When we offer these prayers for the newly departed, it also helps us in many ways. **May God bless your gift of prayer.**

If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry, or would like to be involved, please contact the church office.

Thank you again,
Kathy Rowley



ST. NICHOLAS FLOWER MINISTRY



GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA 2015



GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA 2021

**THE FLOWER MINISTRY WANTS YOU**

The Flower Ministry is looking for volunteers to help in the time leading up to and during Holy Week and Pascha. If you love flowers (who doesn't?), and the camaraderie that comes with being around fun and creative people, this is the ministry for you. Kathy Rowley is the Flower Ministry leader and she is very patient and is willing to educate and train those who want to awaken their "inner creativity". We are also looking for those who just want to be "worker bees". Many times Kathy creates and I haul, gather, sort and clean. Even the most mundane chores are fun when you're with people you love. Please contact Kathy Rowley or Genevieve Eagle if you would like to join this ministry or if you would just like more information please email us at stnicholaszoom@gmail.com or come and talk to us during coffee hour.

Submitted by: Genevieve

PROSPHORA

PROVIDING PROSFORO

Your own of your own we offer unto You, on behalf of all and for all.

Despina Ampatzis brings the offering the first Sunday of every month.

James Horton brings the offering the second Sunday of every month.

Stephen Gorham brings the offering the third Sunday of every month.

We welcome you orthodox who are not on the baking rotation to bring the prospophora and/or artoklasia for an occasion you want to commemorate. The procedure would be to contact Father Seraphim and discuss it with him before the actual day, and to have the offering there in time. For a Sunday morning prospophora, in time would be 0830. For a vespers artoklasia, in time would be by the start of vespers.

Pictured at right is an offering at St. Nicholas Church as prepared before the Divine Liturgy, and pictured below is a prospophora seal from the monks of St. Anne's on Athos.



I am that Bread of Life (John 6:48).

Contemplate the Lord Jesus as the Bread of Life:

- As the Bread by which the soul is nourished and lives;
- As the Bread by which the mind is nourished and enlightened;
- As the Bread by which the heart is nourished and ennobled.

Our good and sweet Lord, stir up our souls that they may continually nourish themselves with Thee and remain alive. Thou art our Bread of Life.

—From *The Prologue of Ohrid* (February 28 entry)

PROSPHORA

LECHEM-ARTOS-BREAD

Following the Word Through Scripture

Judges 13:16: And the Angel of the Lord said to Manoah, “Though you delay me, I will not eat your bread/lechem/artos. But if you offer a burnt offering, you must offer it to the Lord”; for Manoah did not know he was the Angel of the Lord.

Manoah is the father of Sampson (of Samson and Delilah), the nazirite of great strength and one of the judges of Israel who battled the Philistines. Manoah’s wife was barren. One day when she was out in the field the Angel of the Lord appeared to her and told her she was pregnant and would bear a son. He instructed her to drink no wine or strong drink, and to eat no grapes or anything unclean. When she told her husband these things, he prayed that he would also receive instruction from the Angel as to how to raise the child. When the Angel came again, Manoah desired to show hospitality to the Angel, who instructed him he must make his offering to the Lord, *I will not eat your bread...*



The next two verses are from Judges 19 and are part of a recounting I have previously always found too disturbing to contemplate. It brings to mind Lot offering his virgin daughters to the men of Sodom, only in this case there were no angels to blind the evil men and thwart them from fulfilling their desires, perhaps because in this case there was no Abraham interceding with the Lord. Recently, however, I was reading a little book that reflects on the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete*. In the chapter titled *More than all men have I sinned*, the author connects both these biblical incidents (Judges 19 and Genesis 19) to a refusal of hospitality—bread—in favor of sexual pervers-

sion, and he makes a link between sexual activity and murder. That led me to reflect that in this story from Judges the man, the son-in-law in verse 19, is a Levite, that is a man from the tribe of Levi who was set aside to serve the Lord. The woman in the story was his concubine, and she was from Bethlehem in Judah. She left the Levite and returned to her father’s house in Bethlehem, and after a while the Levite went there to woo her back. He lived in Ephraim. On their return journey to his house they stopped in Gibeah for a night, and that is where this horrible story takes place, perpetrated by sons of Benjamin, who were also Israelites. The point of my reflection is that a man set aside to serve the Lord takes a concubine from Bethlehem of Judah, a city and tribe so closely associated with the incarnation

Continued next page...

PROSPHORA

of the Lord. Adultery is being committed, which is the context of sin; when we as the bride of God sin against God, we are acting as harlots, as the scriptures tell us numerous times. This is something we can understand in sexual context, but it is so much more than that, and it leads to death/murder that travels out to encompass multitudes. To begin to see the gist (the essence) of this, you will have to read the whole heartbreaking story found in Judges chapters 19-21. Below are the two verses from the story that mention bread.

*Judges 19:5: Then on the fourth day, they arose early in the morning to depart; but the young woman's father said to his son-in-law, "Strengthen your heart with a morsel of **bread/lechem/artos**, and afterward go your way."*

*Judges 19:19: "...yet we have straw and food for our donkeys, and **bread/lechem/artos** and wine for me and my handmaid, and for the young man with your servant. There is no lack of anything."*

The next book we look at will be Ruth.

To be continued...

Deborah Talbot-

**The Song of Tears, p. 42, Olivier Clement, translated by Michael Donley, St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2021.*

Picture of Manoah's sacrifice from Pitts Theology Library, Emory University

Picture of the Levite of Ephraim by A.F. Caminafe, 1837, Lyon, found on Wikipedia

MODERN GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Modern Greek Language School / Class of 2022



Picture was taken on 2-17-2022

Modern Greek Language School / Classes:

The 2021 - 2022 Modern Greek Language Classes will continue to Jun. 30, 2022, every Thursday, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions on "Gathering" all classes are virtual via "Zoom Teleconferencing", for more information please contact Genevieve Eagle or George Pirotis.

General Information: **The classes are open to everyone** that is interested to learn the Greek Language, History and Culture!

Teacher - George Pirotis

Contact Church Office - 253-272-0466

Purpose: The purpose of the Greek School is to promote the Greek letters, language, culture, and Hellenic Civilization. **The classes are open to all parishioners.**

Students will learn Grammar, Modern Conversational Greek and some of the Biblical - Ancient Greek Terminology.

MODERN GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL

To the satisfaction of the teacher, there is lots of energy, interest, and curiosity in the class in learning the **great influence of the "Greek Language and Hellenism"** to the "Western Civilization" and to the whole world!

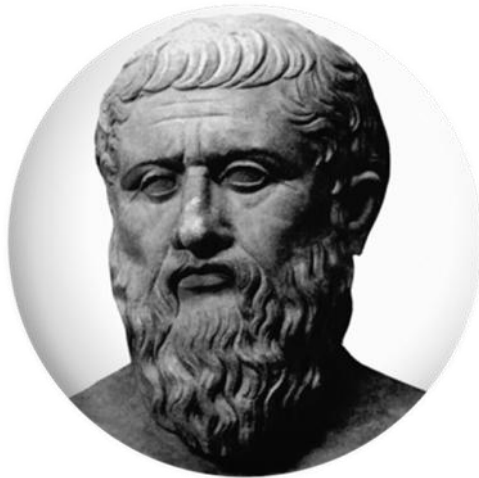
Yearly possible events and student involvement:

Αγιασμὸς (Blessing) of the class at the beginning of the School year.

Sunday, March 26th, 2022 **Celebration, commemorating the March 25th, 1821 Revolution for the Greek Independence from the Ottoman Empire!** Sunday, October 29th - **OXI Day Celebration.**

Cost: **The classes are provided free of charge!**

George Pirotis-





St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society
Cordially invites you to the
Annual Women's Tea and Luncheon
May 14, 2022
Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

*Please contact **Heddi Metz** or **Merrilee Pangis** for more information.*

Tickets will be \$30.00 per person.

A Luncheon and Dessert Buffet will be served

Donations and Pledges

On line Donations now possible

ON-LINE DONATIONS

The donation section of the Church’s website has been revamped to include a link to a new on-line donation form. The form allows one-time donations, setup for automatic recurring donations, and selection of donation purpose. There is also a note section to inform Church accounting of special handling needs, such as memorial donations or address changes. Church on-line donations are directed to the Church through WePay (a Chase Bank Affiliate) and Aplos Software, LLC. Donors contributing on-line receive an email thanking them for their donation. In addition, through a link in the donation notification, each donor can setup their own Aplos account to view a list of on-line donations, manage recurring donations, and to view and print a contributions statement.



Please be aware that in converting to this software I noticed multiple duplicative account names. In some instances, I will need to merge duplicate accounts so the contribution statement accurately combines into one statement both the on-line donations and check and cash donations. The unique identifier for this purpose is a valid email address.

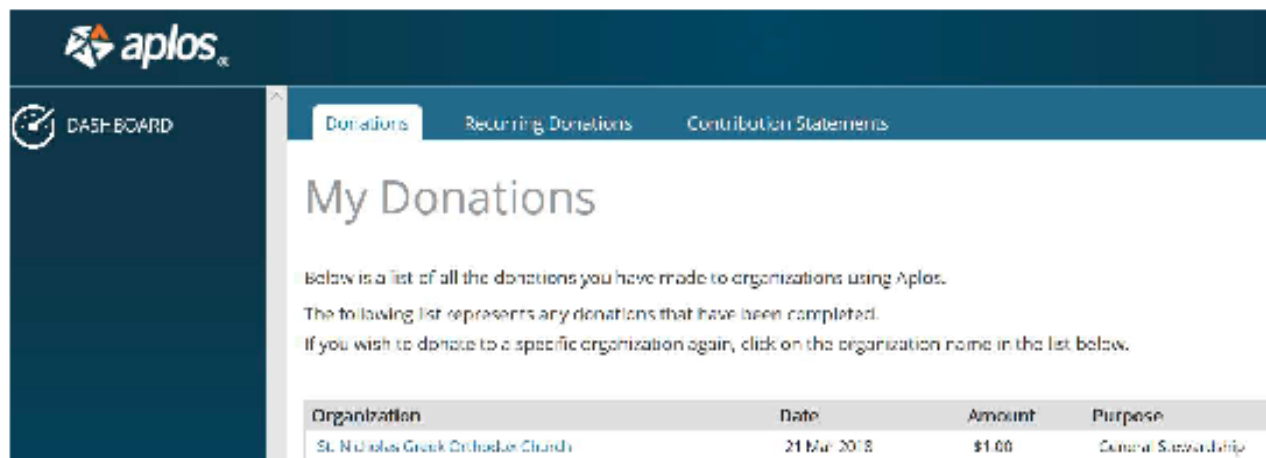
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality. If you have any problems or questions with this new service, please let me know. As your treasurer, I am here to serve you!

In Christ,

Mark Robinson

On-Line Contribution Instructions:

- 1) On a computer or mobile device, go to the Church’s website – www.stnicholastacoma.org
- 2) Select the  button. This takes you to the Church’s donate page!
- 3) Select the gold colored donate  button at the bottom of the page.
- 4) You will now be taken to the page to make your donation. Simply complete the form.
- 5) From the contributions email you receive, select the link to setup your own Aplos account. An account history page will be available. The first tab will show only on-line donations, the second tab allows accounting for recurring donations, and the third is for contribution statements listing on-line, check, and cash donations.



OUR MISSION

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church proclaims and teaches the Gospel in accordance with the Orthodox Faith; sanctifies the faithful through God's grace in worship, the Divine Liturgy, and other sacraments; enhances parishioners' spiritual life; and adds to the faithful by receiving individuals into the Church through instruction, baptism, and/or chrismation.

COMMIT YOUR TIME AND TALENT TO ASSIST WITH GOD'S WORK

St. Nicholas has several ministries that exist to fulfill our parish mission and serve our community. Giving of our time and talent through these ministries is just as much an act of stewardship as giving financially. If you would like to contribute your time and talent through one of our ministries, please visit our website to see a list of active ministries: stnicholastacoma.org/ministry-center.

HOW TO RETURN THIS CARD

BY MAIL:

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
 Attn: Church Treasurer
 1523 S. Yakima Ave.
 Tacoma, WA 98405

AT CHURCH:

Drop your completed card into the secured dropbox on the stewardship table in the downstairs hall.

Stewardship contributions can be fulfilled with cash, check, credit card, or through online donations at stnicholastacoma.org/donate. For more information, please visit: stnicholastacoma.org/stewardship.

Please PRINT your information clearly

Name (F/M/L):

DOB (M/D/Y):

Email:

Telephone:

Spouse:

DOB (M/D/Y):

Email:

Telephone:

Household Information

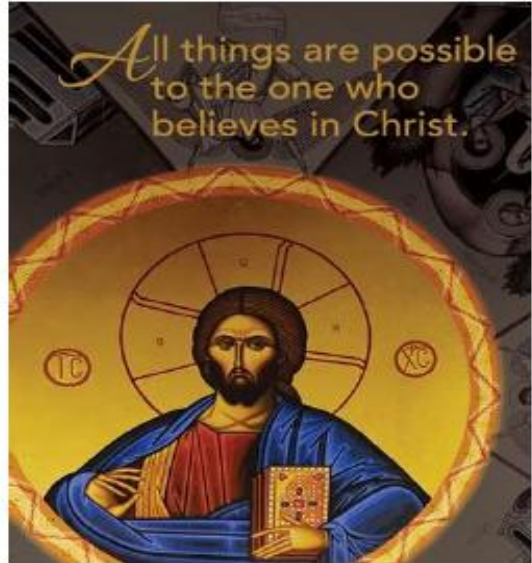
Address

City/St/Zip

Dependent Children

Name (F/MI/L)	DOB (m/d/y)	Orthodox
.....(Y/N)
.....(Y/N)
.....(Y/N)
.....(Y/N)

2022 STEWARDSHIP CARD
ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
TACOMA, WASHINGTON



"Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves, and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Giving is not a substitute for commitment - it is an expression of our commitment."
Fr. Seraphim Majmudar

"Those who seek the Lord shall never want for any good thing." (Psalm 34:10)

OUR DONATIONS ARE IN THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED BLESSINGS GIVEN TO US. OUR DONATION REFLECTS HOW MUCH WE ARE BLESSED AND HOW THANKFUL WE ARE; HOWEVER, WE ARE AWARE THAT GOD EXPECTS US TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY TO HIS WORK.

2022 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

Stewardship contributions cover all of our parish operating expenses. An average contribution of approximately \$2000/year from each family would enable our parish to meet its operational expenses without depending on Festival revenue.

I/We offer a minimum stewardship pledge of \$...../year or \$...../month in 2022 to support God's work.

I/We understand that by participating in supporting our parish financially and by committing my/our Time and Talents, I/we shall be a member(s) in good standing at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.

SIGNATURE.....

Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Address Service Requested

