Volume 33 Number 8

August 2019

Messenger



Church Picnic—Sunday August 18



Narthex—New Look

The Narthex renovation project is in the design phase. As you can see below, the look is much more refined and depicts a more Byzantine style. Attend the Town Hall presentation after the Liturgy on Sunday August 11 to learn more about the details of the Narthex renovation. See a full description of this project in the Building committee Report beginning on page 6

Inside Messenger

Coffee Hour Schedule	Page 9
Building Committee	Page 6
Stewardship	Page 11
Festival Sponsorship forms	Page 22
Philoptochos	Page 13
Bible Study	Page 16
Prayers and Holiness	Page 17
Military Ministry	Page 14

Page 27

2019 Stewardship Card



St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave Tacoma, WA 98405 Phone: 253-272-0466

Parish Website: <u>stnicholastacoma.org</u> E-Mail: mail@stnicholastacoma.org



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



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Media team: Paula Karanasos, Rebecca Primis, Fr. Seraphim, Roxanne Vallantine Saint Nicholas Messenger is published monthly on the 4th Sunday of the month. Contributors are encouraged to submit content by the 20th of each month to allow for timely compilation. Saint Nicholas Messenger is published in electronic format to the St. Nicholas web page www.stnicholastacoma.org, and in print for pickup at the parish on Sundays on or after the 4th Sunday of the month. Physical mailings are limited to shut-ins and special needs parishioners.

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

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St. Nicholas Ministries

AHEPA

George Pirotis

Akathist Group Prayer

Sandy Dutton

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 Philips

Hands of Love

Merrilee Pangis

Military Service

LTC Gus Chamales

Premarital Education

George Pirotis, Diane Pirotis

Stewardship

LTC Gus Chamales

2019 Parish Council

George Pirotis—President
David Frisk—Vice-President
Mark Robinson—Treasurer
Anna Marie Oakes-Joudy —Secretary
Matthew Bell, Gus Chamales, Genevieve Eagle,
Ronnie-Sue Johnson, Zach Karanasos,
Christina Leinneweber, Fenia Mavromichali, Bill
Samaras

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

Karen Samaras — President Olga Manos— Vice President Fenia Mavromichali— Secretary Helen McClure— Treasurer

Maids of Athena

Alexandria Samaras— President Zoe Matteson—Vice President Elena Apostle— Treasurer Isabella Mastras - Secretary Ingrid Chamalas—Advisor Helen McClure — Advisor

Philoptochos Society

Hariklia (Hoddi) Motz President Diane Pirotis- Vice-President Marian Palas- Secretary Joyce Kalivas- Griffin - 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

The August Parish Council meeting is Tuesday August 13 at 7PM in the upper hall.

			August 2019			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu 1 FAST: Wine & Oil ok	2 2 Fr S Vacation	Sat 3 FAST: wine & oil ok
The m found	The most up to date calendar is alw found at the St. Nicholas web page: www.stnicholastacoma.org	endar is always s web page: tacoma.org		oss e Practice	Gamaliel, Teacher of St Paul STRICT FAST	Salome the Myrrhbearer 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers
4 7 Sleepers of Ephesus FAST: Wine & Oil ok 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-1:00pm Festival Dance Practice	5 Prefeast of Transfiguration STRICT FAST 6:30am-7:30am Paraklesis 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: Transfiguration 7:45pm-8:45pm Evening Liturgy: Transfiguration	6 FAST: Fish, Wine & oil ok TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST 7:00pm-8:00pm Building Commit- tee	7 Dometios STRICT FAST 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	8 Gregory of Sinai STRICT FAST 7:00pm-8:00pm Festival Dance Practice	9 Apostle Matthias Fast: Wine & Oil ok 10:00am-1:00am Bible Study 12:30pm-1:30pm Paraklesis 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: St Lawrence of Rome 7:45pm-8:45pm Evening Liturgy: St Lawrence	10 Archdeacon Lawrence of Rome FAST: wine & oil ok Transfiguration Hike to Mt Rainier 7:15am-8:15am Leave for Mt Rainier ier 7:00pm-8:00pm NO VEPSERS
11 FAST: Wine & oil ok Niphon, Pat. of C'nople Project 2020 Town Hall 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-1:00pm Festival Dance Practice	12 Photios & Aniketos of Nicomedia STRICT FAST 9:30am-10:30am Festival Prep: Dolmathes	13. FAST: Wine & Oil ok Leavetaking of Transfiguration Tikhon of Zadonsk 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 9:30am-10:30am Festival Prep: Dolmathes 5:30pm-6:30pm Paraklesis 7:00pm-10:00pm Parish Council	14 Prophet Micah STRICT FAST 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers at Assumption, Seattle 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	15 DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy	16 FAST: Wine & Oil ok Holy Mandylion Stephen of Hungary 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study	17 Myron of Cyzikos 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers
18 Floros & Lauros of Illyria PARISH PICNIC: All Saints Camp, Gig Harbor 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy at All Saints Camp, GH 12:00pm-1:00pm Festival Dance Practice	19 Andrew the General & his 2593 soldier Martyrs 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking	20 Prophet Samuel 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking	21 Martyr Bassa and Her Sons STRICT FAST 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	22 Martyr Agathonikos 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm-8:00pm Festival Dance Practice	23 FAST: Wine & oil ok Irenaeus of Lyons Leavetaking of Dormition 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: St Kosmas mas Kosmas Kosmas	24 Kosmas Aetolos 7:00pm-8:00pm NO VESPERS: Fr Away
25 Ebba, Abbess of Coldingham 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-1:00pm Festival Dance Practice	26 Vladimir Icon of the Theotokos 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking	Phanourios the Great Martyr Poimen the Great 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 7:30am-8:30am Akathist to St Phanourios 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking 11:00am-12:00pm Fr at Vicariate Clergy Koinonia Group 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	28 FAST: Wine & oil ok Moses the Black of Scete 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: Behead- ing of St John 7:45pm-8:45pm Evening Liturgy: Beheading of St John 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	29 Beheading of St John the Baptist STRICT FAST 6:30am-7:30am Akathist to St John the Baptist 7:00am-8:00am Reading of Semon on Beheading of St John by St Gregory Palamas 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm-8:00pm Festival Dance Practice	30 STRICT FAST Synaxis of the Hierarchs of Serbia 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 5:00pm-6:00pm Panagiotu re- hearsal	31 Sash of the Theotokos 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers

News and Announcements

Festival Dancers

Dance practices for Festival are after Liturgy and continue every Sunday until the Festival.

We also have practices for the Middle and Teen groups scheduled for the following dates: Thursdays at 7 pm: 8/1, 8/8, 8/22, 8/29.

Thanks,

Evy-

Festival News—Sponsorships

The 2019 Tacoma Greek Festival will be October 4, 5, 6.

Want your family or company listed in the Festival Brochure? See the forms on page 22. Be sure to note the deadlines.

Here's the baking schedule (begins daily at about 9:30 am):

Monday August 12

Dolmathes. Lunch provided

Tuesday August 13

Dolmathes . Calamari provided

Monday August 19 Baklava
Tuesday August 20 Baklava
Wednesday August 21 Spanakopita



Annual St. Nicholas Picnic, Sunday August 18

As always, the picnic is at Raft Island in Gig Harbor. The Divine Liturgy will be performed at the picnic. There are no services at St. Nicholas Parish on Sunday August 18.

This is a pot luck event. See the flyer on page 20.



Thanks

Thank you with all my heart to The Parish Council and to an anonymous donor who have generously contributed to cover expenses for my upcoming Jamaica Mission trip through Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). The trip will be August 8-17. Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers for myself and the Jamaica Team and all the OCMC missionaries!

With love in Christ, Anastasia Bouzinekis (Stacy)

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Roof repairs and preventative maintenance over the Dining Hall and Kitchen area roof are now scheduled to take place during the second week of August, at which time the Upper Hall roof will be inspected and repaired as well where a couple of leaks occurred last June. The intent is to have this taken care of during the dryer summer months of the year for maximum exposure and well before the Greek Festival.

New Plexiglas covers were installed over the Sanctuary dome stained glass windows in July, replacing existing covers that were deteriorated, and at least in one case partially missing. The window openings should now be weather tight against future nasty rain storms. Thanks once again to Andrew Phillips for offering his professional carpentry skills to field measure, order pre-cut materials, and do the installation. A proposal was brought up at the last Building Committee to install new laminate flooring over existing and dated square vinyl tiles in the Sanctuary pew areas. The concept ended up being temporarily shelved in the interest of avoiding possible conflict with long term iconography, seating arrangements, and conceivable floor structure upgrades in the Sanctuary. The proposal will likely come up again with further consideration being put into how the flooring will fit in with other long term visions.





Here are some photos of the Sanctuary dome with new Plexiglas panels installed over its stained glass windows. Though there is not much change in appearance with the new panels now fully in place, they are properly attached and caulked, minimizing the possibility of leaks in the future.

Currently, the big focus and energy is on the Narthex Renovation which is now under design, and is further explained on the following pages.





These are photos from the Yakima Avenue street front side of Saint Nicholas Church when it was first built in the early 1920's, and what it currently looks like today.

Continued on next page

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Continued from previous page

THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE NOT-SO-FAR-OFF FUTURE

The initial project design phase of the Narthex Renovation started in July. Basic concepts and renderings are being developed by Demetriou Architects, which will act as a general template for the other design consultants as they come on board, and the next and final design phase which starts in mid-August. Between now and then, on August 11th after Liturgy, a **Town Hall** meeting will be held to go over what has thus far been developed, what to expect in the immediate future, and of course to field questions, concerns and receive input. All interested Parish members are highly encouraged to attend.



This is an initial design rendering of the Narthex from Demetriou Architects which features a more Byzantine look than what has previously been presented. More scope specifics and refinement will be coming out as the design progresses.

DATES TO NOTE AS THE NARTHEX DESIGN PROGRESSES

Two of the three most important milestone dates in the Narthex Renovation design are first, to receive Parish approval by the end of October 2019 in order to facilitate a timely submittal to the Metropolitan, and second, after Metropolitan approval, to submit to the City of Tacoma for permitting by or around Thanksgiving, The third and final design target date is receive permit approval by the time of contractor bid solicitation in March of 2020. So with that in mind, below are some important and essential Parish participation dates, each taking place after Sunday's Liturgy in the Dining Hall, for those who are interested and/or desiring input with the Narthex Renovation design:

August 11, 2019, a Kick-Off Town Hall on the Narthex Design: The initial design of the Narthex building area renovation will be gone over, and what to expect in terms of future specifics. Also, repairs and improvements around the church site perimeter required by the City of Tacoma will be brushed upon, along with some possible supplemental security & safety enhancements which are just starting to be addressed.

Continued on next page

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Continued from previous page

September 29, 2019, a Pre-Final Town Hall before the Final Town Hall: To be held 2 weeks before the Greek Festival, and 4 weeks before the Final Hall Town Hall, the design by then should be close to being completed, both inside and outside the Narthex, and along the church site perimeter. The intent at the Pre-Final Town Hall is to present what should be a fairly detailed scope, and address as many lingering issues as feasible before the Final Town Hall occurs.

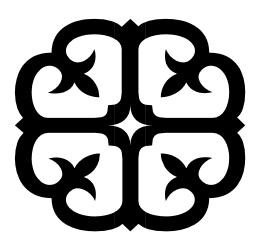
October 20, 2019, the Final Town Hall: To be held 2 weeks after the Greek Festival, the purpose of Final Town Hall is to prep for a Generally Assembly coming up the next week. In the Final Town Hall, the project scope will once again be presented, and any lingering concerns and issues should be addressed, most or all of which, at least major ones, ideally will have already been resolved or close to being resolved as a result of the previous Pre-Final Town Hall.

October 27, 2019, a General Assembly for approval of design and construction funding: It is the intent to have the Parish informed of the Narthex Renovation specifics to the greatest extent feasible by this time. The Parish will be asked for an approval of the final design so that it may then be submitted to the Metropolitan. Also, approval to fund a \$540,000 balance of the \$650,000 budget will be brought forth so as to assure the contractor bidding and construction process in the upcoming year will not be hindered.

A HEADS-UP TO ALL:

A display board will be starting to be developed in the Lower Hall just after the time of this writing, with the intent to help keep the Parish informed of design progress, scope specifics and logistics. The information displayed will continually be updated and added to as the design progresses, and may end up acting as the most convenient and comprehensible source for keeping abreast of what is occurring.

Bill Acker-





Coffee Hour Ministry SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN TEAMS

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 SCHUDULE FOR AUGUST

8/4/2019	Team Johnson
8/11/2019	Team Samaras
8/18/2019	Church Picnic
8/25/2019	Team Kipelidis

TEAMS:

Team Karanasos: Daphne Karanasos, Leader; Anna Karanasos, Zach Karanasos, Angie Wilen, Ann Koopman, John Kouklis, Mary Matherine and Pres Maria Armatas

Team Johnson: Joseph Johnson, Leader; Ronie-Sue Johnson, Fenia Mavromichali, Katrina Orriss, David Orriss, Marie Bell, Barbara Phillips and Kathy Hermick.

Team Kipelidis: Despina Kipelidis, Leader; Dana Robinson, Sandra Ciarochi, Anastasia Bouzinekis, Yvonne Brandvold, Maro Kouklis and Fenia Mavromichali.

Team Samaras: Karen Samaras, Leader; Marion Palas, Sally Hallis, Jane Evancho, Kathy Heiser, Anastasia Scopelitis, Krysanthes Barnes, Rikky Kapes and Fenia Mavromichali.

Team Pres Sophie: Pres Sophie Majmudar, Leader; Evy Kontos, Irene Misiewicz, Gloria Brown, Deborah Talbot, Anna Marie Oakes Joudy, Ingrid Chamales and Claudia Cedeno.

Men's Team: Dr Fred Ehret, Leader; Bill Samaras, John Cook, Ed Winskill, Hugh Winskill, Jason Heiser, Andrew Phillips and Alex Misiewicz.

If the Holy Spirit plants you the desire to join the Coffee Hour Ministry, please contact Zach Karanasos.

Zach-

Praxis—The Practice of Faith

"Know how to live the Orthodox life with precision"



Praxis is a new feature that you'll see the weekly bulletin at the church. These are articles submitted by Fr. Seraphim suggesting weekly Orthodox practices of faith. The entire monthly set of articles appears here in Messenger

PROSPHORA BAKING SCHEDULE

Despina Ampatzis: The first Sunday of every month The second Sunday of every month Deborah Talbot: Mark Robinson: The third Sunday of every month

Freezer stock: The fourth and fifth Sundays of every month

Anyone wanting to bring this offering on a particular day should make the arrangements with Fa-

ther Seraphim.

The purpose of the Divine Liturgy is to make this Thanksgiving Offering to God and receive it back from

Him, transformed by Him, for our own transformation. From St.

Symeon the New Theologian, the seventh precommunion prayer: ... all who eat and drink Thee with a heart sincere and guileless are both deified and quickened...for whoever does partake...is alone in truth no longer but is with Thee, Christ, Thou True Light of the Hallowed Triple Daystar...

A recipe and tutorial for making moist, dense prosphora is available to anyone interested. Once you have practiced making prosphora a time or two, you may find you have the courage to bring this Thanksgiving Offering to the Liturgy for your name day or any day and more fully experience your Orthodox faith. I would also be happy to bake

one time with anyone interested in learning about making prosphora. For more information leave a message for Deborah Talbot at 360-593-2831.



Deborah Talbot—

Stewardship

The annual St. Nicholas Greek Festival provides us with a great opportunity to reach out to our community and welcome all to God's home. Everyone in our St. Nicholas family should know the dates of the festival and just like a close knit family, we should all plan to participate. To use a couple of old military sayings, there should be no doubt in anyone's mind that the Festival is a "COMMAND PERFORMANCE" and requires "ALL HANDS ON DECK!" If you haven't blocked October 4,5, & 6 on your calendar to prevent other conflicts or distractions, please do so now! Your stewardship support of your time and talent are needed every day of the festival in order to make it a success! Please contribute your fair share of time and talent so that others do not have to work harder to pick up the slack. Everyone's help is necessary to make this a successful event!

I am a relative newcomer to St. Nicholas, but I am impressed how every year our festival leaders tweak different booths and organize things a little differently in order to improve our operation. This year, 2019, will see more of the same. Soon a chart will be displayed in the dining room so that people may sign up to devote their time and talent. DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACING YOUR NAME ON THAT CHART PROMPTLY AND COMMITTING TO ASSIST! Doing so allows the booth/station leader(s) to coordinate directly with their volunteers instead of them wasting time and walking about in an attempt to recruit. It also allows the festival leaders who are spending an inordinate amount of time planning and preparing to focus their efforts on other pressing issues.

PLEASE DON'T WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO APPROACH YOU AND ASK FOR YOUR HELP! If you aren't sure about what to do or who to see, ask George Pirotis or any of the booth leaders who will be identified on the chart. The sooner this stewardship opportunity is fulfilled the better we are able to plan! We need everyone to sign up for a position before the end of August so that meetings can be held by the booth/station leaders to coordinate schedules in September.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE WONDERFUL LADIES OF PHILOPTOCHOS, THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE, AND MANY OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND TALENT BY HELPING WITH THE FESTIVAL PREP for the last several weeks! Some of what has been accomplished includes much of the baklava baking, the bagging of thousands of tokens (there are still over thirty thousand more to go), and thanks to Mr. Ampatzis hundreds of pastry boxes have been constructed! THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED!

If you haven't attended any of these festival prep events to date, there will be more opportunities in about two weeks. See the attached image for the days in August that we plan to do more baklava, along with dolmades and spanakopita.

Just in case you think festival prep is all about work and serious activity, allow me to respectfully inform you that you are sadly mistaken! It is an opportunity to meet new people, cultivate new friendships and yes, at times, it is even an opportunity to participate in very intellectual conversation! Last week a conversation developed after I shared with a couple people a recent internet news story. The story was about a man vacationing on an island inhabited by wild horses, and was kicked by one of them during his foolish attempt to pet it. The photo taken at the exact moment of that excruciating event would cause any man to instinctively groan, tense up, and bend over, which was exactly the reaction of the men with whom I shared it. We all nodded in agreement as we stated that clearly, there could be no worse pain!

Upon hearing this story several women within earshot very unsympathetically laughed at the poor fellow's agony, and expressed their thought that "such pain was nothing when compared to childbirth!" Upon hearing that statement the battle-lines were drawn and words were exchanged back and forth.

One woman told the men in the crowd "If you want to have an idea of what childbirth is like imagine taking your bottom lip and stretching it over the top of your head and all the way to the back to your

Continued on next page

Stewardship

Continued from previous page

neck!" YIKES! I had to admit that thought was cringeworthy but in my humble opinon it was still not enough to compare to the kick by the horse.

The debate raged back and forth mostly with the women unmercifully bombarding the men with stories about the pain of childbirth when suddenly, John Pangis spoke.

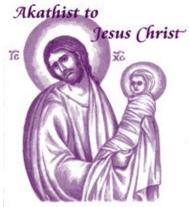
Now for those who don't know John it's important to know that <u>"Every mornin" at the church you can see him arrive, he stands six foot six and weighs two-forty-five. Kinda broad at the shoulders and narrow at the hips, and everybody knew you didn't give no lip to big John."</u> Sorry, I just thought I'd throw in those lyrics from the old Jimmy Dean song "Big Bad John" for theatrical affect.

Yes, it was John Pangis and as he spoke his deep voice instantly commanded respect, and everyone was attentive. He said, "Ohhh Grasshoppers" (Remember David Carridine in Kung Fu?), "one can easily prove that a man's pain is worse than childbirth." Some women gasped and others rolled their eyes, but the wise old sage commanded such respect that none dared say a word. Then John said, "About a year after my daughter had her first child she said, You know, I think I want to have another baby." As he took another breath to continue his sentence everyone was so quiet that you could have heard a pin drop from the far corners of the dining hall. Then John said, "Never in the history of all mankind has any man ever said, You know, I think I want to have another kick where it hurts!"

So that, ladies and gentlemen is a sample of the stimulating conversations that you're missing when you don't come to festival prep! SO COME JOIN US! We'd love to share with you more words of wisdom from the dining halls of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, "Where all the men are strong, the women are beautiful, and all the children are above average."

Gus-

Akathist Group Prayer



For a Loved One who has Fallen Asleep

Our **St. Nicholas Akathist Ministry** has been busy since the beginning of the year.

Thank you for your devotion to the souls of our Orthodox family. I pray you have been blessed and felt the love that surrounds this ministry.

In Christ Love, Sandy.

Sandy Dutton-



Philoptochos

President's Message

Greetings,

We have been enjoying the baking sessions for the festival. Some of us had the opportunity to get away for a break and recharge our batteries. It is good to have a break but even better to return with enthusiasm for the work that lies ahead.

The long time members of our Philoptochos are so inspiring, so much talent and knowledge wrapped up in such a small community...

On Tuesday, July23rd our Philoptochos provided some lovely appetizers (Kafeneon) for Camp Agape parents. As always the event was a huge success and the appetizers were greatly appreciated and enthusiastically consumed. Many thanks to our sisters Marian, Jane, Yvonne for the beautiful effort.





Festival Baking will continue after the Feast of the Assumption (15th of August)!

So, you all look at the Sunday bulletin or on the board in the large hall downstairs for the baking schedule, and come and give us a hand. Come when you can for as long as you can. We appreciate all the help given and no experience is necessary.

Meetings

No meetings scheduled for August.

Have a blessed summer!

Hoddi-



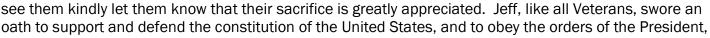
MILITARY/CIA/LAW ENFORCEMENT MINISTRY

Sometimes we don't realize how pleasant our lives are while living here in the United States of America. How often do you think about the men and women serving in the military, the CIA, or in federal, state, and

local law enforcement who routinely train under hazardous conditions to serve in far off lands, or patrol our dark streets at night? Unless it is someone very close to you, the answer is probably not very often,

One of our parishioners, Major Jeff Rogers, is presently serving in Afghanistan. His wife, Lexi, and two of their four children are living in Gig Harbor. When time permits they help with the festival prep and attend liturgy at St. Nicholas.

Please take a few moments out of your busy day to include Jeff, Lexi, and their family in your prayers, and next time you



and the officers appointed over him. May God protect him always.

aiways.

August 2: This year will be the 229th birthday of the United States Coast Guard. Thomas Angelos, Ricky Angelus' uncle served in the U.S. Coast Guard and died in the line of duty while at sea participating in training maneuvers. May his memory be eternal.



Thomas Angelos
WWII
U.S. Coast Guard
Died in line of
duty at sea during
training maneuvers
Ricky Angelus'
uncle

MAJ Jeff

Rogers

Operation Iraqi

Freedom

U.S. Army

National

Guard Lexi Rogers'

husband

August 7: Purple Heart Day! A day to honor the men and women who were wounded or killed in combat. There are five former members or family members of St. Nicholas parishioners who were awarded this medal. Two were killed in combat action, one was wounded during WWII, and two were wounded during Vietnam. All are now deceased, but they will never be forgotten. May their memory be eternal.



Elia J. Pangis
WWII, U.S. Army
Recipient of
The Purple Heart
For wounds sustained
during the Italian
Campaign.
Elly Pangis' husband



WWII, U.S. Army Killed in Action Battle of the Bulge 1944. Recipient of the Purple Heart.

PFC Denny

Langounaris



CPT Rogers
U.S. Army
Viet Nam War
Purple Heart
recipient
Jeff Rogers' uncle

Continued on next page

MILITARY/CIA/LAW ENFORCEMENT MINISTRY

Continued from previous page



COL(R) Leon Spirito
U.S. Army
WWII, Korea & Vietnam
Recipient of the Bronze
Star for Valor w/3olc's
& Purple Heart w/2olc's!
Anthony Ciarochi's uncle



CPL George Velias
U.S. Army, Korea
Killed in Action
November 19, 1951.
Recipient of the
Purple Heart.
Less than 10 days before his unit
was pulled out of the front.
Of the 64 men killed in his unit,
K CO, 3-7 Cavalry,
he was the last man to die.

August 16: In 2002 President George W. Bush honored the United States Army Airborne Rangers with a proclamation stating that August 16th be known as National Airborne Day. Seven years later the United States Senate recognized August 16th as National Airborne Day with Resolution 235. St. Nicholas family members who are graduates of the United States Army Airborne School include the following:



Dr. James Auter Paratrooper, 101st Airborne Division U.S. Army Cold War Andrew Auter's father



MAJ Kristoffer C.
Chamales
U.S. Army
Operation Iraqi
Freedom
Ingrid & Gus'
son



MAJ Steve Chamales, USMC & Dr. Ingrid Chamales Marine Corps Ball 2016



Remember our Heroes!

CPT Jeremy Clark

U.S. Army

Died in OH-58

helicopter accident.

Recipient of the Air Medal

14 December 2010

LTC Jennifer Clark's

husband



COL(R) George McClure
U.S. Army
Operation Desert Storm
Recipient of the
Legion of Merit w/OLC
Helen McClure's
Husband



LTC Theo Voudoiris
And
LTC Jennifer Clark
U.S. Army
Presently serving in
the Republic of Korea

ANNOUNCEMENT: The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is preparing to process Agent Orange exposure claims for "Blue Water Navy" Veterans who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975. These Veterans may be eligible for presumption of herbicide exposure (Agent Orange) through Public Law 116-23, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, signed into law June 25, 2019, and goes into effect January 1, 2020. If you know of any Veteran who served in the Navy off the coast of Vietnam during this time please ask them to seek additional information about this potential benefit from their nearest Veterans Affairs Office.

ST. NICHOLAS' BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY

BOOK OF HEBREWS

Regarding "rising from the dead" were they expecting or wanting that from a messiah or otherwise? Even the Apostles were taken by surprise. How could they have missed the pre-figurations that God planted throughout the Old Testament that pointed to the coming of Christ?

Was the fact that the Messiah would defeat death and the faithful would live forever even on their radar? It wasn't and isn't on their radar. The point is to get them to even wonder if God's plan is bigger than they expected. Reading Hebrews it's clear to see that God's intent is for us to live forever.

The issue is the expectation of the Messiah. The following source is from: chabad.org

What does the word "Moshiach" mean?

Moshiach is the Hebrew word for "messiah." The word messiah in English means a savior or a "hoped-for deliverer." The word Moshiach in Hebrew actually means "anointed." In Biblical Hebrew, the title Moshiach was bestowed on somebody who had attained a position of nobility and greatness. For example, the high priest is referred to as the kohen ha-moshiach. In Talmudic literature the title Moshiach, or Melech HaMoshiach (the King Messiah), is reserved for the Jewish leader who will redeem Israel in the End of Days.

What is the belief in Moshiach?

One of the principles of Jewish faith enumerated by Maimonides is that one day there will arise a dynamic Jewish leader, a direct descendant of the Davidic dynasty, who will rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem, and gather Jews from all over the world and bring them back to the Land of Israel.

All the nations of the world will recognize Moshiach to be a world leader, and will accept his dominion. In the messianic era there will be world peace, no more wars nor famine, and, in general, a high standard of living.

All mankind will worship one G-d, and live a more spiritual and moral way of life. The Jewish nation will be preoccupied with learning Torah and fathoming its secrets.

The coming of Moshiach will complete G-d's purpose in creation: for man to make an abode for G-d in the lower worlds – that is, to reveal the inherent spirituality in the material world.

Father's Comments and Class Discussion:

This is what the Talmud says about the Messiah. This explains a little of why the Jewish leaders are perplexed. They had a pre-conception of the mission of the Messiah which didn't match Jesus' ministry or teachings. Because of their disobedience of The Law, God left to live in the Heavens. They believe that Moshiach will initiate conditions on earth that will bring God back down. The last sentence "to reveal the inherent spirituality in the material world" is dangerously close to describing Antichrist.

What sort of leader will Moshiach be?

Moshiach will be a man who possesses extraordinary qualities. He will be proficient in both the written and oral Torah traditions. He will incessantly campaign for Torah observance among Jews, and observance of the seven universal Noahide laws by non-Jews. He will be scrupulously observant, and encourage the highest standards from others. He will defend religious principles and repair breaches in their observance. Above all, Moshiach will be heralded as a true Jewish king, a person who leads the way in the service of G-d, totally humble yet enormously inspiring.

Father's Comments and Class Discussion:

One of the reasons they dismissed the notion of Jesus being the Messiah is His non-observance of Sabbath laws (some "regulations" they came up with on their own – not necessarily directives from God). An example of this is when His disciples were pulling the heads of grain from the field and healing the paralytic on the Sabbath. Christ deliberately brought attention to Himself and His followers to correct those who had distorted God's Laws and commandments. Another reason they dismissed Jesus is because He grants salvation to the Gentiles.

Genevieve—

Prayer and Holiness

The Holy Gifts for the Holy People of God



Just past the middle of July, as I was wondering what I could contribute to the August Messenger, I received in my inbox the summer 2019 edition of The Burning Bush Monastic Journal. It contains two written sermons by their priest, Father John Konkle, one titled Sunday of All Saints, and one titled Our Father In The Heavens. Both are quite wonderful and worth reading for yourselves. You can find the The Burning Bush Monastic Journal here: https://dormitionmonastery.org/burningbush.html. Scroll down the page a little bit and you will find links on the left side to the journals. You can also subscribe and have future editions sent to your email address.

Both sermons contain things I have been trying to communicate, and much more besides. The first sermon titled Sunday of All Saints ends with this paragraph: Do you want to be holy? We ask a lot of questions in life. Do I want to be a doctor, or an engineer? Do I want to be married or to be

a monastic? Do I want to live in this or that type of house, make a certain amount of money, have an influence on society? The only question that matters is, 'Do I want to be holy?' May God through the prayers of all His saints, known and unknown, grant us the simple desire for Him to make us holy.

And it begins like this: Every human that has ever lived, or will ever live. from the time of Adam and Eve until the time of the return of our Lord, has only one calling. It is very simple. There is only one thing that God asks of us. To be holy.... When I say that we are called to be holy, I do not mean that we are to make ourselves holy. It is easy for us to fall into the trap of getting things exactly backwards: that we need to become holy so that we will be acceptable to God and only then He will come be with us, live in us. This attitude, however passive it is, creates a burden too heavy to bear. We are not able to make ourselves worthy of God's healing presence. And if we try, we are likely to suffer from feelings of guilt and discouragement, even despondency, in our spiritual life that gradually infect our entire being. God's approach is exactly the opposite. On the first and great Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in order to transform them. Even after the resurrection they were fearful and confused, uncertain and unreliable.... still looking for an external deliverance from political oppression instead of an internal salvation from passions and death. With the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of fiery Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane tongues (Acts 2:1-4), they experience the Kingdom of God that is within (Lk



17-21) and then go out to preach what they have experienced. And then Father John delivers this wonderful sentence: Like the Apostles, all the known and unknown saints, having believed through their word, are made holy by their volitional responsiveness to the work of the Holy Spirit in them.

There is no question that the Holy Spirit is in all who have been baptized and chrismated. And because the Holy Spirit is in you, you can be made holy by your own volitional responsiveness to the work of that Holy Spirit in you. What is volitional responsiveness? Volition refers to exercising one's power to determine or choose a course of action.

Continued on next page

Prayer and Holiness

The Holy Gifts for the Holy People of God

It involves your will. Responsiveness, of course, refers to your response to the Spirit of God within you, to



the tiny little theophanies, revelations, **experiences** of God that you have and learn to recognize through prayer. Again from Father John: *We do not clean up our own lives; God cleans them up for us—if we let Him. This is apparent in the prayers we say in the life of the church...* which was a major point I tried to make last month, that prayer is properly the process of yielding our imperfect will, which is so influenced by the fallen passions, to God's perfect will, in order that holiness be accomplished in us. As we pray the prayers given to us by the Church, God responds, and our role then is to cooperate with His response, often manifested in how we view our circumstances. The storm of the passions in our own souls is more fierce than the external storm—the circumstances we are always trying to manipulate, change, control, or blame—and it is that storm of the passions within us that needs to be calmed. Then the external storm has no power. The only thing that matters is

whether or not we want to be holy. In this sermon on All Saints, Father John shows us how prayer and the saints are our navigational guides in this battle.

His next sermon, *Our Father In The Heavens*, is an exposition on the word *Father*, on the word *our*, and on the phrase *in the heavens*.

On Father: When we call God 'Father,' then, we are making a claim about ourselves—that we are His children, that we are not merely human but also divine.... This participation in the divine life has its origins in a spiritual birth... Being born spiritually means that we are God's children, we are "of God," i.e., of His nature—by participation. "We become by grace," St. Athanasius teaches, "what God is by nature" (On the Incarnation). The boldness of these claims is expressed in the introduction to the Lord's Prayer in the Divine Liturgy, "And make us worthy, O Master, that with confidence and without fear of condemnation, we may dare to call you, the God of heaven, Father and say, ..." It is daring to call God 'Father' precisely because of the claim that we are making about ourselves. We do well if we can say these words with humility and sobriety, not inattentively or carelessly. The question arises, then, do we look like our Father? In other words, are we holy? When people encounter us, do they encounter God? A family resemblance should be beginning to emerge in us...

On *our:* In this section Father John talks about **encountering** God when we pray in our inner chamber in secret, that is, in our hearts, and how this practice cultivates our spiritual communion with God. It is all about **experience** of God and when practiced vigilantly brings the ability to **experience** inner stillness no matter what external storm rages around us.

On in the heavens: In this section Father John talks about God as provider and God as protector: Jesus is aware that we are so often disappointed in our earthly relationships, and He is here telling us that this is because we look to them for what only God can provide us. If we learn to look to our heavenly Father for all our needs, we are free to love unconditionally those God puts in our life without expectations of what they can do for us.... And he advises us to make the prayers of the Church our friends and invite God into our every

activity. For our Father in the heavens longs to shield us in the hollow of his hand.

Submitted by Deborah Talbot, all quotes in italics from Fr. John Konkle at the link above. Emphases in bold are my emphases—

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
- Select the (BOLLOW) button. This takes you to the Church's donate page!
- Select the gold colored donate DONATE button at the bottom of the page.
- 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.



News and Announcements



FREE ADMISSION III AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE





1523 S. YAKIMA AVE, TACOMA, WA STNICHOLASTACOMA.ORG/GREEKFESTIVAL № (253) 272-0466

FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 11AM-9PM, SUNDAY: 11AM-6PM

We are proud to donate a portion of our festival proceeds to "Shared Housing Services"



TACOMA GREEK FESTIVAL - SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Return this form by September 14, 2019 to guarantee your ad space in the 2019 Festival Program Brochure Artwork deadline for banners displayed in tent is September 8. 2019.

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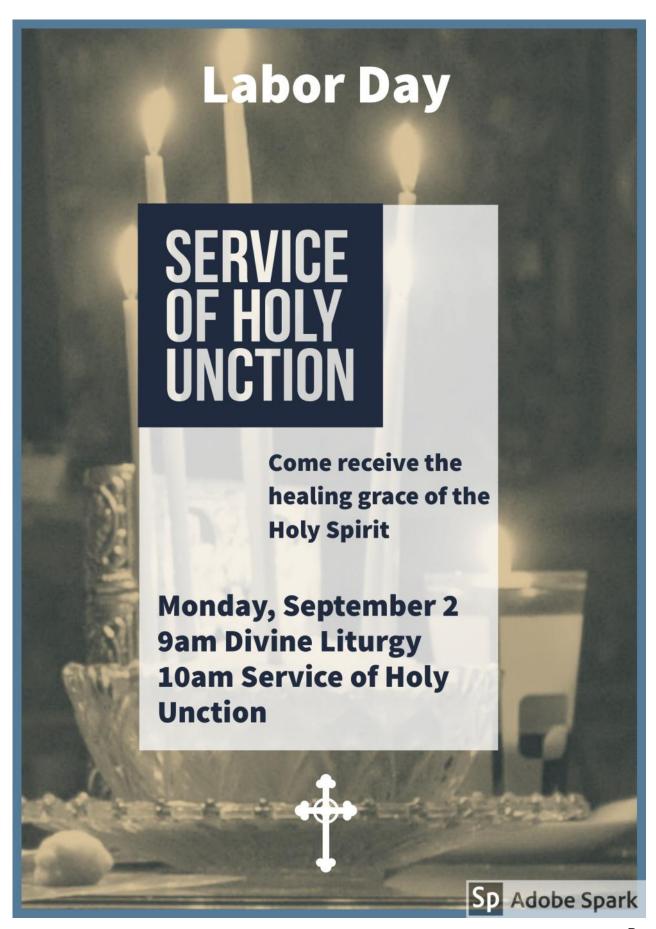
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http://www.assumptionseattle.org Wednesday, August 14th Thursday, August 15th 10:00 am Divine Liturgy (followed by a Reception) (followed by a Luncheon) 7:00 pm Vespers 8:45 am Matins The Assumption would like to invite you to join them in celebrating their 2019 Greek Orthodox Church Patronal Feast Day



The Purpose of Stewardship

Our donations are in thanksgiving to God for His continued blessings. The amount of our donations 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. What we pledge is between God and us. Completing a card and indicating your financial support enables St. Nicholas to arrive at a realistic estimate for managing the resources that God mercifully and lovingly grants to our community.

Offering Time & Talent to Assist with God's Work

In addition to treasure, time and talent are areas where we can give of the gifts God has bestowed upon us. St. Nicholas has several ministries through which parishioners can commit time and talent to fulfill our parish mission and serve our community.

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 drop box on the stewardship table in the downstairs hall.

Stewardship contributions can be fulfilled by cash, check, credit card, or online at stnicholastacoma.org/donate.

Visit stnicholastacoma.org/stewardship for more information.

2019 Stewardship Card

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Tacoma, WA



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.



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Saint Nicholas Messenger

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