



St. Nicholas Tacoma Festival Dancers  
2019

## LIFE AS LITURGY

By Deborah Talbot

**D**o you ever look back on your life and see a pattern, or a series of events leading up to “now”? Probably most people who read my scribbles know that I am a recent convert to orthodoxy (baptized in 2016), and a late convert; late in that I wasn’t even consciously aware that there is such a thing as the Orthodox Church until I was in my late 50’s. But here is an incident from over 20 years ago that reaches back even further, to the 1930s, and that I see as part of my “now.”

My mother attended all-girls Catholic junior high and high school, and whenever she talked about the Catholics she called them the Roman Catholics. When I was in my mid to late 30s, after my mother had moved in with me I asked her one time why she always called them the Roman Catholics. I thought they were the only Catholics. I didn’t know the Roman designation was to distinguish them from the Church in Jerusalem, Greece, Antioch, etcetera, to which they had once belonged. Apparently mom didn’t know either. She shrugged her shoulders in answer to my question. The point of my story is that more than 20 years before I began attending the Orthodox Church, I asked a question that was leading me here – or I asked a question about what I was being drawn to, a question about my telos\*, of which consciously I had not an inkling. There were, of course, many other steps along the way to here. This is all in line with Christianity being apocalyptic, which is to say, revelatory. It is something revealed to us; in other words, it already exists and is revealed in time.

When I began attending the Orthodox Church I felt very anxious and frustrated at all the things happening all around. I was asking, what is orthodoxy? (It is right, it is straight, it is true worship) And what is it doing to my soul? (It is straightening out the kinks, which tends to be painful

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# St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

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

Parish Website: [stnicholastacoma.org](http://stnicholastacoma.org)  
E-Mail: [mail@stnicholastacoma.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

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Submit content, comments, or corrections, addressed to the Editor at [mail@stnicholastacoma.org](mailto:mail@stnicholastacoma.org)

# 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 November Parish Council meeting is Tuesday November 12 at 7PM in the upper hall.

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Akepsimas &amp; Persian Martyrs Philoctochos Tray for Patriarchate Charities 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-1:00pm GENERAL ASSEMBLY</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Ioannikios the Great</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Galakteon &amp; Wife Epistimi 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm-8:00pm Building Committee</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Fr S in MI to give lecture Paul the Confessor STRICT FAST 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>33 Martyrs of Meitine Fr S in MI to give lecture</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Fast: Wine &amp; Oil ok Fr S in MI to give lecture Synaxis of Archangel Michael &amp; Gabriel 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: St Nektarios</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Fr S in MI to give lecture Nektarios of Aegina 8:00am-9:00am Orthros 9:00am-10:00am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Erastus &amp; Companions, Apostles of the 70 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-12:15pm Veteran's Day Luncheon &amp; Program 2:30pm-3:30pm Chappelle-Bouzenekis Wedding</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Great Martyr Menas 7:40am-8:40am PreCommunion Prayers 8:00am-9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>John the Hairy 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers &amp; Orthros 7:00pm-10:00pm Parish Council</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Fast: Wine &amp; Oil ok Fr S &amp; Pres Away at Metropolis Clergy Couples Retreat John Chrysostom 7:00pm-8:00pm Readers Vespers: St Gregory Palamas &amp; Ap Philip 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Apostle Philip &amp; Gregory Palamas Fr S &amp; Pres Away at Metropolis Clergy Couples Retreat</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fr S &amp; Pres Away at Metropolis Clergy Couples Retreat Martyr: Habib STRICT FAST</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Apostle Matthew Fr S at St Anthony's Monastery Pilgrimage 10:00am-11:00am Philochochos Mitg (no meal) 7:00pm-8:00pm NO VESPERS TONIGHT</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fr S at St Anthony's Monastery Pilgrimage Gregory Thavmatourgos 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fr S at St Anthony's Monastery Pilgrimage Plato of Ankyra</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fr S at St Anthony's Monastery Pilgrimage Philochochos Giving Tree Up Prophet Obadiah</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fr S at St Anthony's Monastery Pilgrimage Prefeast of Entrance of Theotokos in Temple STRICT FAST (Entrance of Theotokos in Temple) 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN THE TEMPLE 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Fast: Wine &amp; Oil ok St Iakovos of Evia 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 7:30am-8:30am Akathist to St Iakovos 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Amphiloikos of Iconium 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Advent Fast: No Meat or Dairy Clement of Rome 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Great Martyr Katherine 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 7:30am-8:30am Akathist to St Katherine</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Alypios the Stylite 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK 11:00am-12:00pm Fr at Vicariate Clergy Kolnoma Group</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>James of Persia STRICT FAST 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>THANKSGIVING 8:40am-9:40am PreCommunion Prayers 9:00am-10:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Fast: Wine &amp; Oil ok St philomenos of Jacob's Well 4:30pm-5:30pm Vigil at St Andrew's, Arlington 6:30pm-7:30pm Feast Day Liturgy, St Andrew's, Arlington</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Apostle Andrew 7:00pm-8:00pm NO VESPERS TONIGHT</p>

The most up to date calendar is always found at the St. Nicholas web page:  
[www.stnicholastacom.org](http://www.stnicholastacom.org)

## News and Announcements

### 2019 Festival Update

After the festival, there's always reflection about what went well, what went wrong, and how will we ever do this again. Although expenses are not fully accounted, it appears 2019 will beat 2018 and become the most financially successful festival ever for St. Nicholas and the community. This, of course, is the good news. Anyone that contributed to the festival in any way, this is the time to reflect and remind yourself, it was worth the effort. You made a difference.

As with any "show", there are many last minute items that must come together before the curtain goes up. This year was no exception and especially stressful as some pieces were not fully staffed until minutes of opening. The health inspectors began their booth to booth certifications a bit early. We were scrambling to set up wash stations just minutes ahead of each inspection. The kitchen was offering a new entrée and we weren't quite sure how that was going to work. We had a new credit card system. The dining room had a new seating/serving arrangement. The coffee shop had a new pricing scheme. The fire inspectors asked us to rearrange one of the grills, And, many more examples.

But, by 11:15 AM Friday October 3rd, the festival was indeed open. The music was playing, every booth was selling, the kitchen was ready and the people were flooding in. At that moment, I knew we were OK. All that remained was simply a lot of hard work.

So, we pulled it off again. And, we need to pull it off again, not just for our parish, but for the community. It's not too early to think about stepping into the 2020 festival. St. Nicholas will need even more people to step into important roles earlier. Get involved, let's do it again.

Thank you,

Bill Samaras for the Greek Festival Core Group 2019



## News and Announcements



ST. NICHOLAS  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### Project 2020: Narthex Renovation Town Hall Update

By the grace of God and thanks to your generous support, St. Nicholas is moving forward with its Project 2020 Narthex Renovation to address structural decay, create a beautiful, welcoming entrance to the church, and preserve St. Nicholas for generations to come.

On October 2020, the Project 2020 Steering Committee hosted the last of three town halls to share an update about how the Narthex Renovation is progressing. This particular town hall offered an overview of the site upgrades that the City of Tacoma requires in order for the church property and the Narthex Renovation to be compliant with the City. The following is a summary of the information discussed.

#### Project Update: Work Completed So Far

June 2 General Assembly approved funds for pre-construction work. These funds are currently covering necessary design, permitting, and other pre-construction costs.

An architect has been selected: Demetriou Architects. They began renderings and drawings in July. Fundraising continues. As of August 31, 2019, there is a little over \$60,000 left to fundraise.

In early September, the Project 2020 Steering Committee invited parishioners to submit comments and questions about the Narthex Renovation design. The second Project 2020 Town Hall (September 15, 2019) addressed common questions and clarified both the design and budget scope of the project. This update has also been shared in the October Messenger and is published on the St. Nicholas website under Project 2020: Townhall Update for September 2019.

#### October 20 Town Hall Recap: Site Upgrades

The renderings and drawings from Demetriou Architects are nearing completion. The current focus of the design process is on structural, civil, and landscaping drawings. The electrical design is also underway.

Pre-application permit review comments are still pending with the City of Tacoma.

We are moving forward with the mandatory site upgrades required by the City. These include:

- Street curb repairs and replacement.

- Sidewalk repairs and replacement.

- Additions of planter strips along Yakima Avenue (the west side) and on 16th Street (the south side). Landscaping will be hardscaped (trees with some rock) to deter tents.

- Driveways at east end of alley.

- Site demolition and preparation necessary to undertake this work.

*Continued on next page*

## News and Announcements

*Continued from previous page*

### Project 2020: Narthex Renovation Town Hall Update

The total cost of the site upgrades will be \$110,000. As a reminder, the total cost of the project is \$650,000, and the simple budget breakdown of that amount is as follows:

Pre-Construction Costs: \$110,000  
Site Upgrades: \$110,000  
Contingency and Sales Tax: \$30,000  
Narthex Renovation Construction: \$400,000

#### What Happens Next:

**Site Upgrades & Permitting** – We will continue to work out details of the site upgrades and move forward with the permitting process.

**November 3: General Assembly to Approve Funds for Next Phase** – The next General Assembly is on November 3, 2019. At that time, the Project 2020 Steering Committee and the Parish Council will seek final authorization for the funds needed to begin construction.

**Beginning Construction:** The tentative date for beginning the bidding process is February 2020 (after permitting approval). This is typically the best time of year to receive competitive bids from the owner's standpoint. The timing also allows 2-2.5 months to get contracts in order and give the awarded general contractor time to pre-plan, procure materials, and get started when groundbreaking takes place shortly after Pascha 2020.

#### Additional Information:

To see more updates about the Project 2020 Narthex Renovation, including a detailed estimate of anticipated costs, please visit [stnicholastacoma.org](http://stnicholastacoma.org) and click on the Project 2020 section for the latest updates.

If you have questions, you are welcome to contact Andrew Primis, Steering Committee Chairman, at [aprimis@gmail.com](mailto:aprimis@gmail.com), or any other member of the Project 2020 Steering Committee.

## Save the Date: November 3, 2019

## General Assembly

# Ministry News

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

### PROJECT 2020 NARTHEX RENOVATION DESIGN PROGRESS

A pre-application submittal for permitting was previously sent to the City of Tacoma, and comments have just come back which are under review. A pre-application is typically submitted on commercial projects with the intent to facilitate a smoother and more efficient process when submitting for the permit itself, and avoid nasty surprises after the fact.

In the meantime architectural drawings are nearly complete, structural plans are in, and civil, landscaping and electrical design has started. Project specifications will be starting the first part of November, which will be reviewed and edited by yours truly and the Project 2020 Design Committee. Proposed plans have already been submitted to the Metropolitan for review. It was and still is the goal to formally submit for a building permit by Thanksgiving, and it looks optimistic it will be achieved.

#### **UPCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 3rd. THE MAIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA ITEM:**

A very important General Assembly will be held after Liturgy on November 3rd, the main purpose of which is seek approval to fund the construction of the Narthex Renovation.



\$110,000 was previously approved for project design and permitting which has been underway since July. The balance of \$540,000 to be sought for actual construction will make up the remainder of the \$650,000 overall budget.

With the Narthex Renovation design intended to formally be submitted to the City of Tacoma for a building permit by the end of November, it is now crucial to obtain construction funding approval, as there is little point in seeking a permit if its actual construction is in doubt.

To reiterate the overall project schedule, the goal is for field construction to start shortly after Pasha in late April of 2020 and be sustainably complete in early September, about a month before the 2020 Greek Festival. The schedule allows a good 3 months for building permit approval and another 2 months for bidding, mobilization and procurement before ground breaking. This is why it is important to be submitting for a building permit before December.

#### **OTHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA ITEMS:**

In addition to seeking construction funding for the Narthex, three other supplemental site security items will be presented for a vote of approval as well. This is scope that came up during design that is above and beyond the Narthex Renovation scope and budget.

The first supplemental item is to provide security enhanced landscaping around the church site perimeter, consisting of a combination of cobble stone rockeries bordered with planters that have small and sparsely spaced shrubs. The intent is to alleviate an ongoing vagrancy problem with tents that follow, along with trash, human waste and drug paraphilia that accumulates around the church property. This is an immediate issue of concern, and it would make sense to do the enhanced landscaping work in combination with and addition to mandatory site repairs being required by the City of Tacoma in the Narthex Renovation project. To hold off and do the landscaping enhancements sometime in the future would be more expensive and less efficient. The projected cost for landscaping enhancement and security work is about \$50,000, to be verified by the time of the General Assembly.

This second supplemental item is providing ornamental fencing around the south side of the church, and replace an existing chainlink rolling slider gate that leads into the parking plot with an ornamental one. The third supplemental item is to replace existing chainlink fencing around the north parking lot with ornamental fencing. Approximate projected costs are \$60,000 and \$90,000 respectively, to be verified by the time of the General Assembly.

So all concerned Parishioners are strongly urged to attend the upcoming November 3rd General Assembly, as its outcome will have a significant bearing on the continuing progress to take care of a long list of overdue and badly needed renovations and upgrades at our beloved church for the present and future generations

*Bill Acker—*



# Ministry News



## 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 SCHEDULE NOVEMBER

11/3/2019	Men's Team
11/10/2019	Veteran's Day Luncheon
11/17/2019	Team Pres Sophie
11/24/2019	Team Karanasos

#### 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, Krysanthos 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—

# Ministry News

## Hands of Love

Many, many thanks to all the contributors of donated handmade items to this year's Greek Festival booth. Our members sew, knit, and crochet items all year long. All items are made with donated yarns and materials, there is no expense to the church. The ooh's and aah's were readily expressed when we began to categorize the items. Vintage items, baby hats, baby blankets, baby accessories, so many items to see and enjoy. A special thank you to member, Kathy from Texas, and a special thank you to Robin, who recently returned from Arizona, for all your beautiful donated baby blankets.

Your continued support is very much appreciated. Please join us in November, when we will meet as a group again. On November 7, 2019 Thursday at 11:00 am in the downstairs hall. Please contact Merrilee Pangis, Genevieve Eagle, Krisann Firth, Jane Evancho, Kathleen Heidal for more information.



## Ministry News

### PROSPHORA BAKING SCHEDULE

Despina Ampatzis:	The first Sunday of every month
Deborah Talbot:	The second Sunday of every month
Mark Robinson	The third Sunday of every month
Anne Dykstra:	The fourth Sunday of every month
Freezer Stock:	The fifth Sunday of every month

Anyone wanting to bring this offering on a particular day should make the arrangements with Father Seraphim. Every Orthodox Christian in good standing (talk to your priest about what that means) is welcome to make the offering.

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.

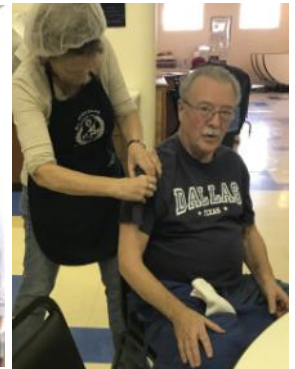
A recipe and tutorial for making moist, dense prospora is available to anyone interested. Once you have practiced making prospora a time or two, you may find you have the courage to bring this Thanksgiving Offering to the Liturgy for your name day or any day and more fully experience your Orthodox faith. I would also be happy to bake one time with anyone interested in learning about making prospora. For more information leave a message for Deborah Talbot at 360-593-2831.



*Deborah Talbot—*

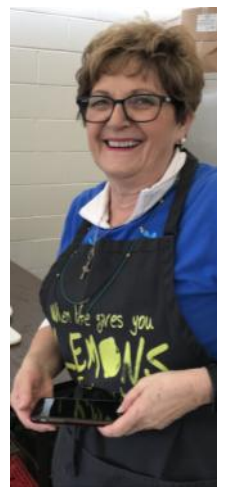
# Stewardship Ministry News

HALLELEUJAH BROTHERS AND SISTERS! The festival for 2019 is finished with the exception of rearranging some things in storage and paying some of the bills. Thanks be to God, it was another record year! There are many people who devoted their time and talent to make this festival a success and words alone cannot express how thankful so many of us are for your efforts. As the old saying goes, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Suffice it to say, **WE THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOU DO FOR ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH!**



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# Stewardship Ministry News



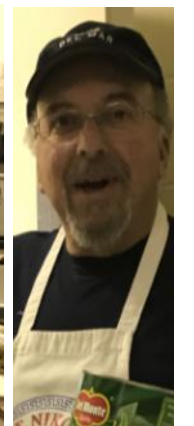
Thank God for the Greek Festival!

I'll second that!!!!



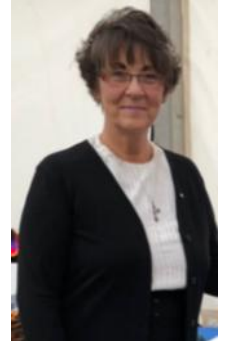
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# Stewardship Ministry News



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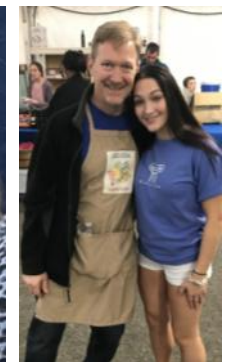
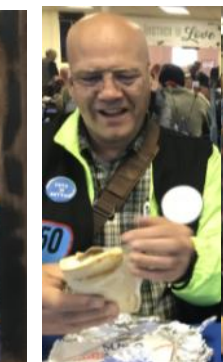


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# Stewardship Ministry News



Relay my greetings to all at the festival! Wish I could be there!





## Stewardship Ministry News



Words cannot express how grateful we are to our St. Nicholas family for working so hard and making the St. Nicholas Greek Festival a tremendous success!

Fr.Seraphim, Pres.

Sophie & boys



Thank you for making 2019 a record festival year and for all your hard work, dedication, and stewardship!!!!!!!

Bill Samaras

George Pirotis

## Stewardship Ministry News

**PLEDGING YOUR TIME AND TALENT.** CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AND OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THOSE WHO GRACIOUSLY GAVE OF THEIR TIME AND TALENT TO MAKE 2019 ANOTHER RECORD FESTIVAL YEAR! We all know that putting on the festival is a lot of time and hard work. Once again Bill, Sally, Kathleen, Merilee, Chrissann, Rich and John were among the first to begin planning and working months ago, and as usual, Rich and John were the last to leave on Sunday evening. We say it every year but it is becoming evermore essential that we have “new people” pitch in and assist during the baking/preparation phase. This year we had four key people that suffered injuries as a result of long hours and strenuous work. Our ability to do this again next year with the same workers is simply not sustainable.

The baking started earlier this year because it was recognized that the number of people that participate has been dwindling and preparation is taking longer. None of us are getting any younger and we need more help! If those who are still working at their jobs during the week and raising a family would contribute one Saturday of baking support in June, one Saturday of baking support in July, and two evenings in September to support of the nightly packaging crew, we could lower the average age of the baking/preparation group by about twenty years! That would help IMMENSELY!

Please acknowledge that your presence is needed during the baking/preparation phase and begin planning for it now! In the next few months we will try to identify the exact Saturday dates in June and July so that you can put them on your calendar well in advance. The two evenings in September to assist with the packaging will be up to you to determine, and schedule accordingly. The sooner we get these dates on your calendar the less likely they will be bumped by other things happening in your life, and the easier it is to plan around them. Please help the baking men and women by giving just two Saturdays and two evenings of your time and talent in support of the baking/preparation that is so critical to our festival. This is a team effort! WE NEED YOU TO DO YOUR PART!!!!

**PLEDGING YOUR TREASURE.** SPEAKING OF DOING YOUR PART, we have been asking those who wish to support our church to either submit their year 2020 pledge cards, or go to the website and sign up for automatic bank withdrawal contributions. YOUR parish council will be preparing a budget soon that will be briefed to the general assembly in December of 2019, or early in January 2020. So far we have accrued pledges or regular bank deposits amounting to approximately half of what is needed to sustain our operations without dipping into festival funds. Please do your part and submit your information by the end of November so we can move forward with this important task!

Thank you to all the following parishioners who have completed their pledge cards or auto deductions for the 2020 stewardship year.

Bill & Mary Acker  
Tony & Lori Apostle  
Chris & Sheri Basil  
Klaudia Cedeno  
Anne Dykstra  
Courney Cole Fasco

Patra Alatsis  
Andrew & Monica Auter  
Morgan Blackmore  
Anthony & Sandy Ciarochi  
Gretchen Eagle  
Chrisann & Pete Firth

Sonny & Irene Angelos  
George Ballasiotes  
Yvonne Brandvold  
Dr. George Delyanis  
Dr. Fred & Anastasia Ehret  
David & Savina Frisk

**NEXT PAGE.....**

## Stewardship Ministry News

Christina Gretty	Sally Hallis	Daniel & Ekaterini Hanson
MSG(R) Thomas & Helga Jackson	MSG(R ) Joeseeph & Ronnie-Sue Johnson	
Hariklia & Pod Kapes	Zachary & Daphne Karanasos	Anna Karanasos
Paula Karanasos	Sharon Kennedy	Evan & Despinal Kipelidas
Mary Leonard	Mary Ann Matherne	Michael & Rodica Murphy
Marian Palas	Alex Pangis	George & Diane Pirotis
Steve & Kathleen Politakis	Andrew & Rebecca Premis	Mark & Dana Robinson
Katherine Rowley	Bill & Karen Samaras	Alexandra Schutt
SGT Richard & Denise Stahl	Nathan & Kristine Stevens	Dr. Olympia Tachopoulou'
Deborah Talbot	Dr. Nicholas & Becky Themelis	Dee Varca
Kalitsa & John Xitco	Tasso & Sarah Zambaras	
Dr. Ingrid & LTC(R) C.G. Chamales	Fr. Seraphim & Presbiterra Sophie Majmudar	

**THANK YOU FOR YOU CONTRIBUTION OF TIME AND TALENT, AND FOR YOUR PLEDGE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR NEXT YEAR!!!**

**THROUGH GOD'S GRACE 2020 WILL BE ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR FOR OUR ST. NICHOLAS PARISH!!**

### Daughters of Penelope

#### ICARIA 175

Daughters of Penelope Meeting

Sunday- November 3rd ( after Liturgy- upper hall)

Please make every effort to attend- we will go over:

Meeting dates for the year.

National Projects

Holiday Get-Together & Gift Bags

Joint Activities with Maids of Athena

Hosting the Scholarship Workshop ( Northwest Ahepa Family Educational Foundation)

Karen Samaras - President

Helen Z. McClure- Treasurer

## Ministry News

### Philoptochos News

#### President's Message

Greetings,

What an awesome St. Nicholas festival!!!. Many thanks to all who helped make it successful.

Our October meeting went well and many good, thoughtful decisions were made.

Thank you to all who contributed to our fund raiser, **Harvest Breakfast**, to help with our major charity. With the proceeds of this fund raiser we provide a good Thanksgiving and Christmas to 12 needy families who have children in the local area schools. We set the goal at \$3,000.00. This year we were short of the goal by approx..\$1,500.00. I know that many folks who normally contribute were not at church last Sunday. Please remind your friends that we are still collecting for this event, For the folks who wish to contribute, please make your checks out to Philoptochos and in the memo line please write: Harvest Breakfast. You can give your check or cash to any of our officers: Marian Palas, Joyce Kalivas Griffin,,Jane Evancho, Diane Pirotis.

Our membership year starts in January. Please try to submit your dues for 2020 on time. The dues are now \$30 for all members regardless of age. Our membership chairperson is Jane Evancho, 922 Mountainview Ave. Tacoma, WA 98465. Make your check out to Philoptochos and write DUES in the memo line.

During our last meeting it was decided to once again hold our "**After Christmas Christmas Party**" at the Fircrest Country Club on Jan 11 if the Club room is available. Please save the date and let Sally Hallis or Marian Palas know, if you plan to attend.

#### Upcoming Meetings/Events

**Nov 3, 2019 St Kosmas and Damian Tray for Patriarchal Charities.** Sally, Kathleen, Marian, Joyce

**Nov 10, 2019 after Liturgy. Veterans Program and Luncheon.** Once again Col Konstantine (Gus) Chamales will present a wonderful program and our Philoptochos will prepare a lovely "down home" meal honoring our vets and their families as well as all our parishioners. **Please give us a hand with meal prep, serving and cleanup.**

**Nov 16, 2019 at 10:00 Philoptochos Meeting** in the upstairs hall. Important agenda items like our schedule for the holiday season the Philoptochos year and some budget items will be discussed.

**Nov 19, 2019 Giving Tree and Tags Go up**

Wishing you all a **Blessed Thanksgiving** and a **Healthy and Happy Fall Season.**

*Hoddi (XAPH) Motz*

# Ministry News

## Philoptochos Calendar 2019/2020

2019

Date	Event	Notes	Chair
SEPT 15	Tray for HOLY CROSS	Tray for seminary	Diane, Sandy, Joyce, Yvonne
SEPT 21	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
OCT 19	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
OCT 20	HARVEST GIFT CERT	Breakfast kick off	Joyce and Katy
NOV 3	ST KOSMAS AND DAMIAN	Tray for Patriarchate Charities	Hoddi, Diane, Sally, Kathleen
NOV 10	VETERANS LUNCHEON	Program by Gus Chamales	Merrilee and Diane
NOV 16	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
NOV 19	GIVING TREE & TAGS GO UP		Marian
DEC 5	ST NICHOLAS VESPERS	Light Lenten Meal	Becky, Diane,
DEC 6	ST NICHOLAS FEAST	Light Lenten Meal	
DEC 8	ALL GIVING TREE GIFTS MUST BE DELIVERED		
DEC 14	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
DEC 21	PHILIA CHRISTMAS PARTY	@ 11:00	Diane, and?

2020

Date	Event	Notes	Chair
JAN 11	"AFTER CHRISTMAS PARTY"	At the Country Club???	Committee/Marian?
JAN 12	VASILOPETA	VASILOPETA CUTTING	Elly?
JAN 18	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00	
JAN 19	POTLUCK SOUP COFFEE HOUR	BENEFITING SOCIAL SERVICES/CANCER FUND	Hoddi
FEB 8	PIE SALE	BENEFITS AUTISM	Sally
FEB 14	VALENTINE BAGS FOR HOMEBOUND		All
FEB 15	MEETING	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
		Place holder for membership meeting	Jane
MAR	LENTEN MEALS	?	Presbytera Sophie
MAR 7	LADIES LUNCHEON MTG	@ 12:00(BJ'S Restaurant) Planning Committee(Hostesses, chairs etc)	
MAR 21	MEETING -	NO MEAL @ 10:00 am	
APR 11	PALM TYING/LUNCH		Presbytera Sophie
APR 12	PALM SUNDAY DINNER		Hoddi
APR 12	PASCHA BAGS FOR HOMEBOUND		All
APR 19	PASCHA		
MAY 9	MOTHERS DAY FLOWERS		Sally
MAY 16	LADIES SPRING LUNCHEON		Committee
MAY 23	MEETING	Celebration Dinner - Need committee	
MAY 24	VETERANS LUNCHEON	VETERANS PROGRAM by Gus Chamales	Merrilee, Diane, Hoddi
JUNE 13	GRADUATES COFFEE		Marian
JUNE 20	FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST	Notify Zach to take over this coffee hour	
JULY 18	CAMP AGAPE	Training for camp July 18-25	
JULY 21	CANW Kafeneion	Provide Appetizers from St. Nicholas Philoptochos	Hoddi, Jane, Marian and Yvonne

## Cover Story

*.Continued from page 1*

I'm sure some of you have experienced pain when circulation is restored to a limb that had fallen asleep. Apply that to an awakening soul now receiving the lifeblood that had been cut off.) I needed a picture, a map, a view, something to organize the many parts of liturgy\*\*. And I made one, or I was granted one. I don't know exactly how I arrived at it. It is a simple drawing, but it contains much. It is a picture of the church calendar, of the wisdom of the Church in the way she has given us to move toward our telos\*. Even still, whenever I take the time to contemplate this picture it calms me. A version of it is included with this article and is offered to you as a visual aid. In the four years previous to this one I made great big ones for myself that I put on my wall and used like a journal, making almost daily cryptic entries on it. I came to think of it as writing things into eternity, as an attempt to redeem the time (past time and present time) for myself and for others. I don't know if that exercise stands up theologically, but it was for me a healing act, a way to stay on track, a way to participate in a liturgy as a work of salvation.

Important things about the picture:

1. It is not a picture of static things; it is a picture of things in motion. This analogy I'm going to give you is actually theologically incorrect, but to keep the motion in mind you might think of it as a picture of living things, not of dead things. (Theologically, dead things are still in motion. They are just moving away from God rather than toward Him, death being an absence of life and life being in God.)
2. At the center of absolutely everything is Christ on His throne surrounded by the angels. He is the beginning and the end. That is, He gives life, and He desires us to find and embrace the life He has given us (our telos\*) in Him. God never, ever forces Himself on us against our will. He might try to convince us, but the final decision is ours. That is, we have responsibility, and whether or not we accept our responsibility, or to what degree we accept our responsibility, has consequences to us and to the rest of creation. (No man is an island.)
3. It pictures, from the center out, the hours of every day, the days of every week, and the months of every year. It pictures time and what the Church intends us to do with this time. But it also pictures time-out-of-time, or the breaking-in of God into time (kairos). It pictures relationship and interconnectedness, perichoresis\*\*\*. And it pictures periods of feasting and of fasting.
4. The hours that mark the day: Certain hours are designated for certain prayers that portray for us God and his plan of salvation, time transfigured, renewed and sanctified. In this way time is experienced as sacred and redeeming (kairos), in contrast to lost or meaningless repetition. In biblical time, in Jewish time, and in Church time, each new day begins at sundown.
  - A) The Church's prayer at sundown is Vespers in which we welcome Christ the true light. Then there are,
    - B) Compline prayers.
    - C) Midnight prayers.
    - D) Orthros prayers remembering the resurrection, and first hour prayers remembering the time Christ was led before Pilate in the Praetorium.
    - E) Third hour prayers, the time of the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Acts 2:15.
    - F) Sixth hour prayers, the time of the crucifixion, and also the time of St. Peter's prayer on the roof, Acts 10:9.
    - G) Ninth hour prayers, the time of His death and the time He promised His Kingdom to the repentant thief, and also the time of the healing of the lame man in Acts 3:1.

*Continued on page 29*

# Military/CIA/Law Enforcement Ministry News

**MAJ Jeff Rogers - "Hobnobbing with the rich and famous!"** Jeff took a well earned break to let his hair down a little bit and had the opportunity to visit with none other than the Speaker of the House - Nancy Pelosi! As part of their duties and obligations Congressmen and women tour the "Front Lines of Freedom" wherever our military men and women are serving and Jeff happened to be in the right place, at the right time, to have this picture taken! Great job Jeff!!! It was rumored that after this photo Speaker Pelosi was heard to say "Thank the good Lord! There's no one handsomer than a man in uniform!" Okay, maybe she didn't say it, but she darn sure should have!



Jeff is going to be taking his mid-tour leave around Christmas time and will fly to Germany to visit his daughter who is stationed at Ramstein, Germany with the United States Air Force. Lexi and the boys will be joining them so the entire Rogers family will be together again and celebrating the birth of Christ in beautiful Deutschland! May God and St. Nicholas watch over Jeff as he conducts his daily missions in Afghanistan, and the entire Rogers family throughout this deployment.

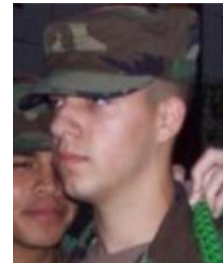
**NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY MONTH!!** St. Nicholas is blessed to have several parishioners or family members who are presently serving on active duty. Please take a moment to pray for their safety and thank them for their service to our nation.



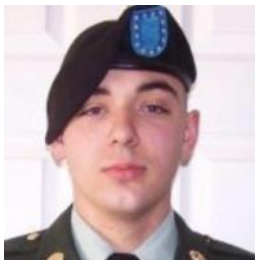
**Cassandra & Tim Allen**  
U.S. Navy  
MSGT(R) Joseph & Ronnie-Sue Johnson's niece and her husband



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



**TSGT Brandon Johnson**  
U.S. Air Force  
Operation Iraqi Freedom  
Ronnie-Sue & MSGT(R) Joseph's middle son



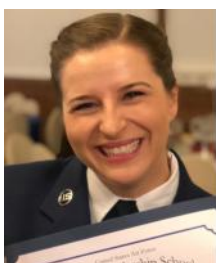
**Nathaniel Johnson**  
U.S. Army  
Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan  
Ronnie-Sue & MSGT(R) Joseph Johnson's youngest son



**John Kafka**  
U.S. Navy  
Submariner  
Melissa Kafka's husband



**MAJ Jeff Rogers**  
Operation Iraqi Freedom & Operation Enduring Freedom  
U.S. Army N.G.  
Lexi Rogers' husband



**SSG Ayrlee Rogers**  
U.S. Air Force  
MAJ Jeff & Lexi Rogers' daughter



**SGT Richard Schutt**  
Army National Guard  
Operation Enduring Freedom  
Anthony & Sandy Ciarochi's son-in-law

*Continued on next page.....*

# Military/CIA/Law Enforcement Ministry News



**SGT Rick Stahl**  
U.S. Army  
**Operation Iraqi Freedom**  
**SGT(R) Denise Stahl**  
U.S. Army  
**Cold War**



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

**10 November: 243rd MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY!** St. Nicholas military family members who served in the U.S. Marine Corps include the following:



**MAJ Steve Chamales**  
USMC  
**Operation Iraqi Freedom & Operation Enduring Freedom**  
Dr. Ingrid & Gus' son



Elias Habeeb  
U.S. Marine Corps  
**WWII**  
Delores Apostle's father



L/CPL Richard Hiedal  
**Cold War**  
USMC  
Kathleen Hiedal's husband



Sharon Denise Johnson  
USMC  
MSG(R) Joseph Johnson's younger sister



Peter Kelly  
United States Marine Corps  
**Cold War**  
Gus Chamales' cousin's husband



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



**Capt. Earl Rogers**  
USMC  
*Died in the line of duty while conducting aerial reconnaissance of the North/South Korean border. July 1978*  
Jeff Rogers' father



**Angelo Sarantinos**  
USMC  
**Korean War**  
Fr. Daniel & Roxanne's uncle



**Bill Zorzakis**  
U.S. Marine Corps  
**WWII**  
Helen McClure's father

**11 November: VETERANS DAY!** We will be celebrating Veterans Day on Sunday, 11 November, with a "military style" dinner sponsored by Philoptohos, and a presentation that will begin after all are served. The presentation will begin with the Pledge of Allegiance before moving into the recognition of several St. Nicholas Veterans who are members of AHEPA. It will conclude with a medley of the songs of all the different military branches and recognition of their respective veterans.

If you haven't already done so, please email photos of your family members in their military or law enforcement uniforms to [gleafops@gmail.com](mailto:gleafops@gmail.com). Include your name, the person's name, his/her branch of service, service dates if known, and their relationship to you. If time permits I will add their name to our roster of St. Nicholas military veterans, and their photo to our library of pictures which we plan to display on the TV screens during the luncheon.



## Military/CIA/Law Enforcement Ministry News

**3 November 1959:** President Eisenhower presides at laying of cornerstone of CIA Headquarters Building in Langley, Virginia.

**9 NOVEMBER 2000:** President William Jefferson Clinton signs into law Public Law 106-492, authorizing the NLEOMF to build the National Law Enforcement Museum. The bill was sponsored by U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO) and U.S. Representative Joel Hefley (R-CO).

**22 NOVEMBER 1963:** Dallas Police Officer J.D. Tippit is shot and killed by Lee Harvey Oswald after Oswald assassinates President John F. Kennedy.

**26 November 1789** - The first American holiday occurred, proclaimed by President George Washington to be Thanksgiving Day, a day of prayer and public thanksgiving in gratitude for the successful establishment of the new American republic.



**30 November 1782:** A provisional peace treaty was signed between Great Britain and the United States heralding the end of America's War of Independence. The final treaty was signed in Paris on September 3, 1783. It declared the U.S. "...to be free, sovereign and independent states..." and that the British Crown "...relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof."

*LTC Gus Chamales—*

# Ministry News

## ST. NICHOLAS BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY

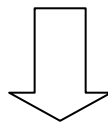
### Debtors' Prisons & transfer of obligation from deceased debtor to his child.



A **debtors' prison** is a prison for people who are unable to pay debt. Through the mid-19th century, debtors' prisons (usually similar in form to locked workhouses) were a common way to deal with unpaid debt in places like Western Europe.<sup>[1]</sup> Destitute persons who were unable to pay a court-ordered judgment would be incarcerated in these prisons until they had worked off their debt via labor or secured outside funds to pay the balance. The product of their labor went towards both the costs of their incarceration and their accrued debt. Increasing access and lenience throughout the history of bankruptcy law have made prison terms for un-aggravated indigence illegal over most of the world.

The concept that there is a relationship between heredity and monetary exchange or expectations of inheritance is expressed in the Book of Hebrews. For example, an alcoholic can look at his or her ancestors who had been afflicted with the same disease and trace it back down to his/her battle with alcoholism. Once you have set aside the issues of how this came to be, one has to make the decision to overcome the addiction or to ignore the problem and continue to feed it. With this kind of addiction there is almost always the need to make amends for the damage one has done to those closest to him or her. To the repentant alcoholic, even the most sincere apologies aren't enough; there is a debt to be paid because memories can't be erased. To the unrepentant alcoholic in denial, he or she can come up with excuses to justify the mistreatment to loved ones, because the heart is hardened. Another concern for the repentant individual is the care and support of loved ones, young and old. In both cases, there is the intangible sense of heredity and obligation. Theologically, the key to this sense of obligation which is unique to mankind is because God made man in His Image.

The Father begets the Son in the Holy Spirit



= Communion is TRANSFERRED  
by way of the Image

Man in His Image

Can this communion be broken? It is impossible for the communion of the members of the Holy Trinity to be broken. For those who are made "in the image" of the Trinity this communion can't be broken. For those made by the Holy Trinity, but not in the image are not in communion with God. The animal kingdom is not in communion with each other and that is why there is no obligation within an animal family to see that aging parents are cared for. Those humans who deny their obligation to loved ones and their fellow man have hardened their hearts.

**Hebrews 7: 11** *"Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?"*

*Continued on next page*

# Ministry News

Continued from previous page

“if <u>perfection</u> were...”	“ <u>order</u> of Melchizedek”
τελείωσις	τάξις
teleiosis	taxis
completion	arrangement
fulfillment	order
event verifying a promise	fixed succession
consummation	post or rank derived from personal merit/ talents...: character, fashion, style
(To use in Scripture – Blue Letter Bible)	(To use in Scripture – Blue Letter Bible)

The root word “τέλο” in Greek means the end or the “end for which we were always intended”. God used the law to prepare us for something unimaginably far greater and unspeakably beautiful. Fasting is the most effective way to rid ourselves of the passions that get in the way of having a perfect communion with God.

The Jews would deny the need for another priestly order. But St. Paul is not making it up. He knows this because of Genesis 14:18-20, where Melchizedek makes an appearance and Psalm 110 (109):4 where the eternal priest is referenced according to the order of Melchizedek. In **Mark 2:27** “*And He said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath’*”, indicating that the law should conform to man – not on a whim, but when something better comes along and the law is upgraded. Christ is our High Priest and has accepted the pain of our sinful actions and thoughts. A repentant sinner who confesses his or her sins has turned their sinful burden over to God and is now free. One who can’t forgive him or herself after confession lessens Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross and gives that sin a second life, hobbling a relationship with God. Repentance gives added value to a relationship. We cannot fully experience the implications of our sins because we don’t have the capacity and it would leave us in eternal abyss. Christ experienced the repercussions on our behalf. The Levitical priesthood was a necessity before Christ’s Incarnation. But the Incarnation reinstated the Priesthood according to the order of Melchizedek. Because Christ offered Himself up as a sacrifice, it is no longer necessary for us to make sacrifices under the old law, which is basically self-imprisonment. So the NEED for another priestly order was to replace the Levitical priesthood which operated under perpetual indebtedness.

The word τάξις originates from political or military ranking order according to character or style. In the Levitical priesthood of Aaron, τάξις is based on birth. When talking of the Priesthood according to Melchizedek, τάξις is based on character.

Psalm 110 (109) is a Messianic psalm – God is addressing the Messiah. It demonstrates how God, Himself, presents the Messiah in the Old Testament. The key point is that He is identifying the Messiah as a priest. After reviewing the first part of our Hebrews study, we can see how the Jews got way off course with their expectations of the Messiah being a political leader. God seeded the Old Testament with all the things that would be fulfilled when the seed was full grown. He seeded the Old Testament with the concept that there would be someone greater than Abraham and the Messiah would be a priest and they are related through the Order of Melchizedek.

Before His Incarnation, Christ was not a priest, “but He is a Priest on account of the Flesh which He assumed, on account of the victim which He was to offer for us received from us.” He remains a Priest because He was resurrected bodily.

Submitted by: Genevieve

## Ministry News

### St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Pro-Life Ministry

#### The Orthodox Christians for Life Pro-Life Handbook: The Basics

##### Introduction

The Orthodox Church and Abortion: In its moral teachings, the Orthodox Church has had a long history of outspoken condemnation of abortion which dates back to Apostolic times. In fact the humanity of the unborn child and its possession of a soul from the moment of conception has been almost universally understood in the Eastern Church from the earliest times and is firmly grounded in Scripture. The oldest Christian document of authority that condemns abortion is the "Didache" or "The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles", a document of the primitive Church dating back to at least the late First Century. Other similar condemnations of the practice are found in Canon 63 of the Council of Elvira (306AD); Cannon 21 of the Council of Ankara (314AD); but it is in Cannon 91 of the Quinsext Ecumenical Council (Trullo, 692AD) that the Church's teaching on abortion took its final expression and was formally codified in the document The Photian Collection in 883AD, which remains unaltered to this day. As clearly delineated in the canons, the Orthodox Church considers abortion as premeditated murder, and considers the abortionist, the one who procures the abortion, and the woman who terminates her pregnancy as murderers. Penances of excommunication for the penitent of up to ten years are prescribed, which is the same as that for a repentant common murderer. In practice, such penances are virtually non-existent today, with the emphasis placed on repentance, reconciliation, and the reintegration of the individual into the Church community. The only time that termination of a pregnancy has been tacitly condoned is where the life of the mother is at stake as in an ectopic pregnancy or a hysterectomy for a cancerous uterus. These are cases where the surgical procedure to save the life of the mother tragically results in the death of the unborn child; there is really no choice as both mother and the child will die unless medical intervention takes place. The position of the Orthodox Church on abortion has not changed one iota since its foundation with Christ and the Apostles. For example at the Twenty Third Clergy-Lay Congress of the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America held in Philadelphia in 1976, the following statements on abortion were issued: "The Orthodox Church has a definite, formal, and intended attitude toward abortion. It condemns all procedures purporting to abort the embryo or fetus, whether by surgical or medical means. The Orthodox Church brand abortion as murder, that is the premeditated termination of life of the human being...Decisions of the Supreme Court and State Legislatures by which abortion, with or without restrictions, is allowed should be viewed by practicing Christians as an affront to their beliefs in the sanctity of life".

Other statements are in the same vein: "The fact that this interruption (abortion) takes place at an initial stage in the human life process, makes of course, a psychological difference, but does not change the nature of the act of abortion being killing, and as such a very grave sin, because killing is evil...The hundreds of thousands of legal abortion in New York hospitals are a case of mass killing." - [(1973)Fr John Meyendorff, Dean St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary and Professor of Patristics and Church History], "...human life begins at the moment of conception and all who hold life sacred and worthy of preservation whenever possible are obliged at all costs to defend the lives of the unborn children regardless of the stage of their embryonic development" [May 1973, seminar at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary on Orthodox Approach to Contemporary Medical Ethics]. Metropolitan Ireny at the All American council of the Orthodox Church in America stated in 1973: "The very moral foundations of our society are being subjected to doubt, and there is no open objection...the whole meaning and context of life is being reduced to the seeking of material goals, external successes, and the gratification of the senses...As a horrible symbol of this moral decay I cite the legalization of abortion, this frightening transgression of the most sacred of all Divine commandments."

Submitted by: *Genevieve*—

## Cover Story

*Continued from page 22*

And so we arrive back at Vespers where we welcome Christ the true light...

5. The days that mark the week: Each day of the week celebrates a specific thing in the Kingdom of God.

A) The first day, Sunday, is called The Lord's Day because it is the day of His resurrection. In this way each Sunday is a mini-Pascha.

B) Monday celebrates the angelic powers.

C) Tuesday celebrates St. John the Forerunner and all the prophets.

D) Wednesday remembers the Lord's betrayal. That's why Wednesday is designated a fasting day.

E) Thursday celebrates St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, the Holy Apostles, and their successors.

F) Friday remembers the Lord's crucifixion. That's why Friday is designated a fasting day.

G) Saturday celebrates the martyrs, the ascetics, all the saints, and the creation.

H) Which brings us back to Sunday as the eighth day, the day without end, where "there is no need for sun or moon, for the Glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the lamb." Revelations 21:23.

6. The weeks that make up the months: Just as each Sunday is a mini-Pascha, so each week is a mini-Holy Week in which we mark the betrayal, the crucifixion, and the resurrection.

7. The months that make up the year are defined in days. And each day certain things are appointed to be celebrated, be it certain saints that point us to the Kingdom of God, or certain events in the Kingdom of God, such as Pascha (the feast of feasts) and the 12 great feasts that come under Pascha and point to it. In order of importance, the feasts would be listed as first Pascha, then Pentecost, then Theophany, probably Ascension next, and then the rest. But in order of the church calendar, which begins with New Year's Day on September 1, the 13 most major feasts would be listed this way:

A) Nativity of the Theotokos, September 8

B) Exaltation of the Cross, September 14

C) Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple, November 21

D) Nativity of our Lord, December 25

E) Theophany (or Epiphany), January 6

F) The Meeting (or Presentation) of our Lord in the Temple, February 2

G) The Annunciation, March 25

H) Palm Sunday, a moveable feast according to Pascha, falling on or between April 3 and May 8

I) Pascha, a moveable feast falling on or between April 10 and May 15

J) Ascension of our Lord 40 days after Pascha (May 20 to June 17)

K) Pentecost, 50 days after Pascha (May 30 to June 27)

L) Transfiguration of our Lord, August 6

M) Dormition of the Theotokos, August 15

*[Note, the calendar begins with the birth of the Theotokos and ends with her Dormition. Our salvation is within the context of her life, she whose womb was made more spacious than the heavens, Πλατυτέρα των Ουρανών. As Thomas Hopko phrased it, "The Theotokos is not the great exception of mankind but the great example to mankind."]*

8. On feasting and fasting: At the beginning of the Triodion before Great Lent, and following the fasting periods of Great Lent and Advent, and following Pentecost, there are periods of feasting; that is, no fasting even on Wednesdays and Fridays. As noted, usually Wednesday and Friday are fasting days. The Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Forerunner in August and the Exaltation of the Cross in September are also strict fast days. In addition, there are four major fasting periods in the year, listed below. On the map, the red lines mark fasting periods, and the green lines mark feasting, though most likely the printed version will not be in color.

*Continued on next page*

## Cover Story

*Continued from previous page*

- A) November 15 to December 24, a fast of 40 days but mostly less strict, in preparation for celebrating the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.  
 B) Great Lent, 40 days of strict fasting in preparation for Pascha (begins on a Monday; on March 2 in 2020).  
 C) The Apostles' fast in June, less strict, begins on the second Monday following Pentecost and ends on June 29, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, so its length varies depending on where Pascha fell that year (begins June 15 in 2020).  
 D) August 1-14, strict fast in preparation for celebrating the Feast of the Dormition.

So what's the point of all this? According to Father Theodore Stylianopoulos, formerly of Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology, it is a way of discipline, a pattern of worship, an anchor of support in our response to the call of God. "Far from being simply a calendar, the liturgical year is the life of the Church—the life of Christians living in community as brothers and sisters—in awareness of God's kingdom, remembering the entire communion of Prophets, Apostles, Saints and all of God's people on earth and in heaven, being renewed by God's saving love, helping one another, witnessing to Christ's good news, and waiting for the fullness of the coming kingdom according to God's timing." According to the goarch website, the liturgical cycle "incorporates us into the mystery of Christ, in order to transform the time (chronos) in which we live and act into the decisive time (kairos) of our salvation. Each day becomes an image of our whole existence. The ways by which we organize and utilize each day, and the priorities around which it is oriented..." affect the true quality of our lives.

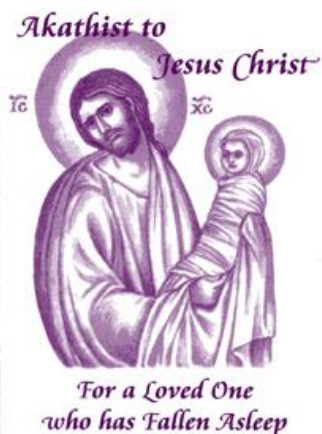
\*Telos: From the Greek. Refers to the end that was always intended, perfection, fulfillment, the consummation of the promise.

\*\*Liturgy used here broadly in the sense of the work of salvation that we do as the Church, with the Divine Liturgy/Eucharistic offering being the ultimate part of that broader liturgy.

\*\*\*Perichoresis: Specifically the interpenetration of the three distinct Persons of the Trinity. Also used to refer to our unity with God (telos), as we remain distinct persons in this unity. Related to divine eros, communion.

*Deborah Talbot—*

## Akathist Group Prayer



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—*

# Ministry News

## 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.

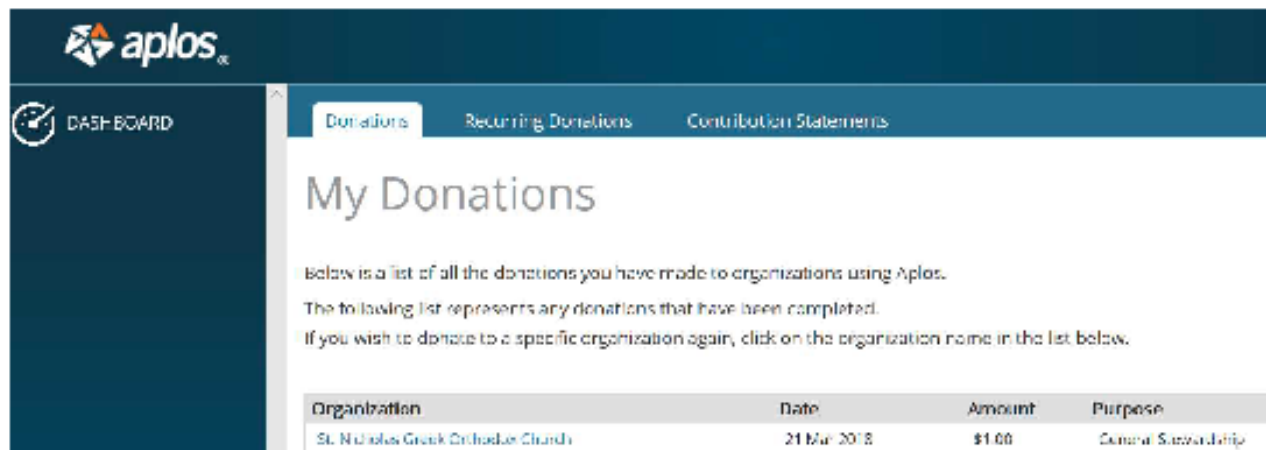
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality. 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.stnicholastacom.org](http://www.stnicholastacom.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.



**aplos**

DASHBOARD

Donations | Recurring Donations | Contribution Statements

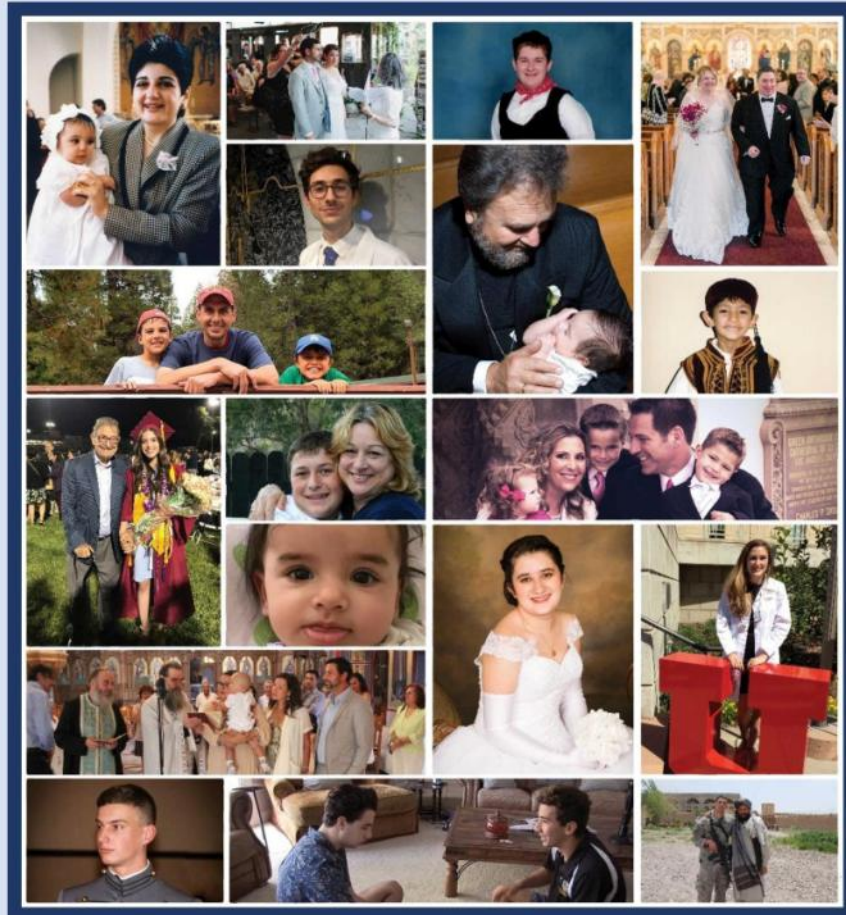
### My Donations

Below is a list of all the donations you have made to organizations using Aplos.  
 The following list represents any donations that have been completed.  
 If you wish to donate to a specific organization again, click on the organization name in the list below.

Organization	Date	Amount	Purpose
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church	21 Mar 2018	\$1.00	General Stewardship

# Ministry News

Greek-American Historical Museum of Washington State  
and  
Greek Heritage Society of Southern California  
invite you to a screening of the acclaimed documentary  
**The New Greek Americans 1960-2018**



**Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.**

**St. Demetrios Cultural Center**

2100 Boyer Avenue East

Seattle, WA 98112

Suggested donation \$10

RESERVATIONS: (206) 325-8554 (Greeks in Washington)

Donations to benefit Greek-American Historical Museum of Washington State.





# ORTHODOX WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

*Save the Date!*  
*January 18-20, 2020*

*This retreat is coordinated by the Orthodox Christian Youth Ministry (OCYM) Team from the Antiochian Archdiocese under the arch-pastoral oversight of Metropolitan JOSEPH*

## **Cedar Springs Camp Lake Stevens, WA**

Open to all Orthodox Junior High and High School Youth and their friends!

An opportunity for youth to grow in spirit through worship, prayer, good food and games!

Registration begins October 1, 2019  
**\$160 early bird pricing!**  
[www.tinyurl.com/orthodoxretreat](http://www.tinyurl.com/orthodoxretreat)

# 2020 STEWARDSHIP CARD

## ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH TACOMA, WASHINGTON

**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](http://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](http://stnicholastacoma.org/donate). For more information, please visit:

[stnicholastacoma.org/stewardship](http://stnicholastacoma.org/stewardship).



*"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 Majumdar*

Please PRINT your information clearly

*“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.**

**2020 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 2020 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.....

Name (F/M/L): .....  
 DOB (M/D/Y): .....  
 Email: .....  
 Telephone: .....  
 Spouse: .....  
 DOB (M/D/Y): .....  
 Email: .....  
 Telephone: .....  
 Address .....  
 City/St/Zip .....

**Household Information**

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

Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

*Address Service Requested*

