



The 2019 Tacoma Greek Festival – Our 58th Year



2018 St. Nicholas Festival Dancers

Inside Messenger

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The “Orthodox” in “Greek Orthodox”

A Greek Festival Message From Father Seraphim

Greek pastries, Greek dancing, Greek gyros, Greek souvlaki, Greek deli...it’s the annual Tacoma Greek Festival! OPA!

Each year, however, during the church tours, I receive many questions about something else: Greek **ORTHODOX**? What is that?

One way of explaining it: if you know the story of the New Testament, you know that the Apostle Paul went around the Mediterranean world preaching the Gospel and establishing local churches. One of the largest such groups was established in Greece: Athens, Thessaloniki and Corinth, among others, are the locations of many major New Testament events and epistles.

What happened between the time St Paul was in Athens 2000 years ago, and today? The answer: the church remained and grew.

Cover story continued on page 24

St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

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

Parish Website: stnicholastacoma.org
E-Mail: mail@stnicholastacoma.org



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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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 October Parish Council meeting is Tuesday October 8 at 7PM in the upper hall.

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Protection of Theotokos Romanos the Melodist 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking 12:00pm-1:00pm Fr S at Clergy Koinonia Group 7:00pm-8:00pm Building Commit- tee	2 Andrew, the Fool for Christ STRICT FAST 9:30am-10:30am Festival Baking 9:30am-1:00pm Festival Baking 10:00am-1:00pm Festival: chicken Cedar River 8:00pm-9:00pm NO CHOIR RE- HEARSAL	3 Dionysios the Areopagite 7:00pm-8:00pm Adult Dance Group Practice 7:00pm-8:00pm Festival Dance Practice	4 Greek Festival Hierotheos of Athens STRICT FAST	5 Greek Festival Mother Methodia of Kimolos 8:00pm-9:00pm Vespers
6 Apostle Thomas Greek Festival 7:45am-8:45am Blessing of Waters 8:00am-9:00am Divine Liturgy	7 Sergius & Bacchus	8 Pelagia 10:00am-12:00pm WOCA: Assump- tion, Seattle 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm-10:00pm Parish Council	9 Ap James, Son of Alphaeus FAST: Wine & Oil ok 3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	10 Ambrose of Optina 5:30pm-6:30pm Paraklesis to St Nikiphoros (for P2020)	11 Ap Philip, One of the 7 Deacons Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking Fast: Wine & Oil ok 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	12 Symeon the New Theologian 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers
13 Carpos & Companions Fathers of 7th Ec. Council 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 11:30am-12:30pm Frisk Memorial 1:30pm-2:30pm Zoe Dionas Bap- tism	14 Nazarios	15 Lucian of Antioch 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	16 FAST: Wine & Oil ok Longinos the Centurion 3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm NO CHOIR RE- HEARSAL	17 Prophet Hosea 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: Apostle Luke 7:45pm-8:45pm Evening Liturgy: Ap Luke	18 Apostle Luke FAST: Wine & Oil ok 1:00pm-2:00pm Vespers & Orthros: St John of Kronstadt 5:00pm-12:00am Fr S in Pasco	19 12:00am-2:00pm Fr S in Pasco John of Kronstadt 10:00am-11:00am Philoptochos Mtg (no meal) 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers
20 Gerassimos of Kephallonia Philoptochos Harvest Gift Cert Drive 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 11:30am-12:30pm Vlahas Memorial & Coffee Hr	21 Hilarion the Great	22 Averkios 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers: Ap James 7:45pm-8:45pm Divine Liturgy of St James	23 Apostle James, Brother of the Lord FAST: Wine & Oil ok 3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	24 Arethas 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 5:30pm-6:30pm Paraklesis to St Nikiphoros (for P2020)	25 STRICT FAST Tabitha, raised by Peter 7:00pm-8:00pm Vespers 7:45pm-8:45pm Evening Liturgy: St Demetrios	26 Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat Great Martyr Demetrios 7:00pm-8:00pm No Vespers
27 Claudia, Wife of Pilate Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat Nestor 8:45am-9:45am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm-1:00pm OXI Day Celebra- tion	28 Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat OXI DAY	29 Anastasia of Rome Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat	30 Cleopas Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat 3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River 3:00pm-4:00pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar River Clinic 7:00pm-8:00pm Paraklesis 8:00pm-9:00pm Choir rehearsal	31 Fr S at Nat'l Clergy Retreat Stachys of the 70	Notes: The most up to date calendar is always found at the St. Nicholas web page: www.stnicholastacoma.org	

News and Announcements

Festival News

Welcome volunteers and visitors to St. Nicholas. The Festival is a magical transformation of our church into an authentic Greek Experience.

As always, volunteers are welcome . You don't have to be a parishioner to contribute to the Festival.

A few customary announcements:

Mandatory dance dress rehearsal, 7PM Thursday October 3 at the tent stage.

Booth leaders: Be prepared for booth health inspections beginning 10:15AM Friday October 4.

Liquor rules. We're serving beer and wine at the Festival. Everyone must help enforce basic rules: No underage drinking and no alcohol can leave church property.

All volunteers, please wear a Festival T-shirt if you have one from previous years. There will be a limited supply of new T-shirts this year.

The Festival is always an immense undertaking. Thank-you to all of the parishioners, volunteers, and the behind the scenes people that make this happen.

Greek Festival Core Group 2019



News and Announcements

Sunday School News

Sunday School Starts This Month!

Mark your calendars ~ Sunday, October 20, is the first day of Sunday School for the new year.

Thanks to all the families who have already registered their child(ren)! Registration forms *must* be completed before the start of the new Sunday School year. You can find, complete and return forms on the counter outside of Mrs. Auter's classroom.

PLEASE NOTE: All 6th - 8th graders can register this year for their very own Sunday School class!!!

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America: New Youth Safety Policy

The Archdiocese has distributed a new set of procedures and requirements intended to improve safety for the children in all our Church programs.

"Youth safety is our top priority and greatest duty in our family of Orthodox Christians. As we all inherently know, protecting our children and our future requires hard work and diligence." † ELPIDOPHOROS, Archbishop of America

We at St. Nicholas have been working closely with our Metropolis to ensure we are in compliance with the new policies.

Orthodoxy: Not Just a Religion

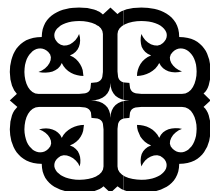
written by Gerald Largent of St. Panteleimon Orthodox Christian Outreach

"Parents, grandparents, and godparents often have a profound impact on the younger members of their families, particularly in matters of faith. Their example, or lack thereof, has the potential to shape children's attitudes toward the Church and serving others.

It is essential to make Orthodoxy a regular part of a child's life as early as possible, both on Sunday in church and throughout the week at home. In addition to praying together daily as a family, it is also wise to make charitable service a regular component of your lives.

If your son or daughter happens to ask why your family is visiting the sick, attending Orthodox prayer services at nursing homes, or volunteering to feed the hungry, you may simply respond that "Christ wants us to do this." Stated another way, genuine Christian faith influences our actions. Orthodoxy is not just a religion; it is a way of life."

Sheila Auter—



Ministry News

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee intends to study and eventually work up a detailed proposal to provide security cameras in the Renovated Narthex area. Fortunately time is presently on our side since Narthex Renovation construction won't start until after Pascha next year, and inquires on camera monitoring will begin shortly after the Greek Festival.

The structural engineer who is working on the Narthex Renovation will also be doing an assessment of the Sanctuary floor structure to determine whether reinforcement upgrades would be required to accommodate mosaic floor tile in the pew areas or not, which will help determine what type of improvements to make there.



PROJECT 2020 NARTHEX RENOVATION DESIGN PROGRESS

Currently the Demetriou Architects and BCRA the civil engineer & landscaping architect are coordinating in submitting a pre-application to the City of Tacoma as a means to clarify permitting requirement specifics and lead to a smoother building permit approval process. The third and last upcoming Town Hall on October 20th will focus on both mandatory site improvements required by the City of Tacoma for a building permit, and optional site security perimeter enhancements.

The architectural portion of the Narthex Renovation is planned to be submitted to the Metropolitan for approval within the next few weeks. A reminder that pertinent design updates and progress will be posted at the Lower Hall display as it occurs.

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 OCTOBER

10/6/2019	Festival
10/13/2019	Frisk Memorial
10/20/2019	Philoptohos Fall Harvest Breakfast
10/27/2019	Men's Team

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

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—

Ministry News



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Project 2020 Update: 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 September 15, the Project 2020 Steering Committee hosted a town hall to share the latest information about our planned Narthex Renovation. The town hall covered a project update, financial update, and answers to several comments and questions received about the Narthex Renovation design, which is currently in the planning and pre-construction stages. 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.

Narthex Renovation Design: Comments Received from the Parish

Between August 18 and September 13, 2019, the Project 2020 Steering Committee invited parishioners to submit comments and questions about the Narthex Renovation design. The information at the town hall addressed four common areas of concern:

Front Design: Marble vs. Brick

Several comments were received about the initial design, which included marble tile as the exterior front facade. Based on feedback from the parish at the August Town Hall, the exterior design has been changed to brick veneer with accent trim to more closely align with the existing structure.

Windows: Lighting & Security

In keeping with Byzantine tradition, no new windows are planned in the Narthex. Indirect natural light will come from the Sanctuary and stairwell spaces. To monitor the outside for security purposes, there will be peep holes in the main entrance doors. Electrical conduits will be included within the ceiling framing to accommodate future camera monitoring and sound systems, if desired later.

New Ramp

A new ramp would have to extend across a large portion of the exterior of the upper hall in order to not be too steep. This would intrude into the space taken up by the current ramp. Tearing out

Continued on next page

Ministry News



ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Project 2020 Update

Continued from previous page

the current ramp would be required. That would, in turn, force a partial remodel of the upper hall. Since we hope to renovate the upper hall in the future, a new ramp could be added then. Adding a new ramp now isn't feasible because the work is not in the current scope and budget of the Narthex Renovation. Furthermore, it would require the parish to pay twice for the same work—as part of the Narthex Renovation and as part of an upper hall renovation.

New Furniture and Arrangements

Several comments included suggestions about new furnishings or arrangement of existing furnishings. Specific suggestions included adding an adult baptismal font, relocating the greeter's desk, and moving the candle stands from the front of the Sanctuary into the Narthex. While changes to the arrangement of existing furniture can certainly be considered, design work at this point is focused on finalizing plans for the Narthex building structure. The Narthex Renovation does not include any "built-in" furniture, such as an adult baptismal font, nor does it include purchasing new furniture. If parishioners are interested in donating to purchase new furnishings, they are welcome to speak to any Project 2020 Steering Committee member about the possibility.

What happens next:

Site Upgrades & Permitting: The City requires us to make some site upgrades (repairing sidewalks, curbs, adding a planting strip) in order to get the necessary building permits. We are in the processing of determining the specific site upgrades needed, and we expect to begin the permitting process in late October.

Next Town Hall—October 20, 2019: The next Project 2020 Town Hall on October 20, 2019, will share the plan for site upgrades with the parish.

Next General Assembly: The next General Assembly is on October 27, 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/narthex-update-september-2019.

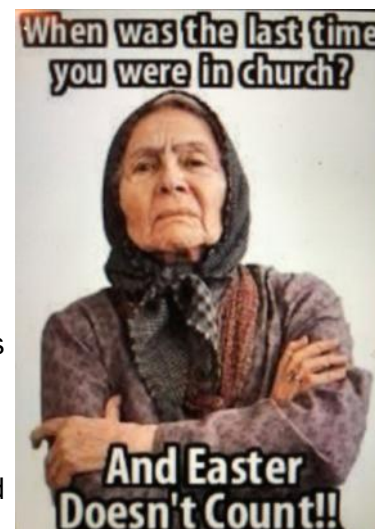
If you have questions, you are welcome to contact Andrew Primis, Steering Committee Chairman, at aprimis@gmail.com, or any other member of the Project 2020 Steering Committee.

Ministry News

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Our festival will be happening in just a few days after months of hard work and preparation! The success of this festival like all before it will hinge on your stewardship of time and talent. To date, just as we Greeks have done ever since the Battle of Marathon, many wait until the last minute to commit to working. There are still plenty of work vacancies on the sign-up sheets in the small dining room so if you haven't done so already, PLEASE sign up and relieve the booth leaders of some of the stress they all experience at this time of year.

KINGS DON'T EAT BETTER THAN THIS! Many people have been working days and weeks to prepare and bake the breads and pastries that all of our guests enjoy during our festival. One of the benefits of working during the festival preparation events are the fabulous lunches our workers enjoy, courtesy of the workers themselves! During the last few months we have enjoyed home-made pastichio, vegetable lasagna, calamari, stuffed eggplant, fried



chicken, soups of all kinds, scones, and of course Rich's "WORLD FAMOUS" hamburgers that would put Wendy's, McDonald's and Burger King out of business if he ever decided to start his own franchise! And then there are the desserts!! Cakes and cookies of all kinds made from scratch, home-made pies, chocolates, fresh fruit from people's gardens, Limencello (Sally's favorite), and of course the broken pieces of baklava and pastries that our pride would not allow to sell, and our upbringing would not allow us to throw away. Sincere thanks to all who worked so hard preparing the food on which we would dine, and then working so hard to prepare the food for our festival. St. Nicholas has truly blessed us all with so many fabulous women who cook like true Greeks – with love and passion!!!



EFCHARISTO POLI!!! EXAIRETIKA NOSTIMO!!!

There is another group of people that greatly deserves to be recognized and in many ways are the unsung heroes of festival prep. Those are the men and women who come in every evening to package the pastries that were prepared earlier that day, and clean up the powdered sugar, honey, nuts, and other food particles that fell on the floor. These are folks who work all day long to support their families, and then come into the church after a full day's work to package and clean. Andy E., Chris B., Christina, Claudia, Dana & Mark, Daphne, George P., Kathy R., Maro, Mary S., Monica, Roxanne, Russ C., Sandy C., Stacie B., and several others deserve special thanks for their outstanding efforts, and their love for our church!



Night Packaging Crew

- Andy Evancho
- George Pirotis
- Mark Robinson
- Mystery person?
- Christina Leinneweber

EFCHARISTO POLI!!!

Gus—

Ministry News

Philoptochos News

President's Message

Greetings,

We had a wonderful summer full of adventure, and enjoyment with our families and friends.

We also had a great time helping our parish family prepare delectable pastries and food for our now famous St. Nicholas Greek Festival. You will all be amazed at the amount of work that goes into creating thousands and thousands of pieces of baklava, melos, kourambietes, koulourakia, paximadia, tsourekia, ouzo cakes, ekmek kataifi, and so much more. Our Philoptochos sisters along with our Parish sisters and brothers have once again done an outstanding job. We can only do all this, working together harmoniously and by recognizing and learning from the experience of the folks who have been doing this work selflessly for years and years. The leaders steer me clear of mistakes often and I am grateful. Still learning good things every time I help. These ladies and the gentlemen who do the heavy lifting and the manual work behind the scenes are all my heroes. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. All this work that you all do and the encouragement and support of our spiritual leader makes it possible for all of us to come and worship in our beloved church. So kudos to all and Best Wishes for another Successful Festival.

Our last Philoptochos season was quite busy with church activities and our biggest fundraiser our "Ladies Spring Luncheon" We had a very successful and quite beautiful function. Every year the hostesses present more creative and imaginative table decorations and the food and array of desserts are simply unbelievable.

Our Philoptochos year will end in December so some of you who have not had an opportunity to join us there is still time. We would love to see you join our Women's Ministry. If you would like to pay your dues, please send your checks to Jane Evancho 922 S. Mountain View Ave. Tacoma, WA 98465. The cost is \$30 & \$25 for Seniors (price will change in January).

Upcoming Meetings/Events

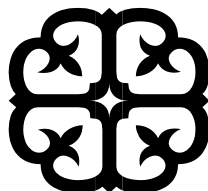
Oct 19, 2019 at 10:00 am Meeting in the upstairs hall. Important agenda items like our schedule for the year and some budget items will be discussed.

Oct 20, 2019, Harvest Gift Certificate Breakfast Kick off (Fund Raiser for gift certificates to needy families)

Our Philoptochos Calendar for 2019-2020 is published on the next page.

Have a Blessed and Successful Festival and a great Philoptochos 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 HOME-BOUND		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 HOME-BOUND		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

Hoddi (XAPH) Motz—

Ministry News

2019 Festival Preparations



Ministry News

TOOLS FOR TRANSFORMATION

Practical Praxis

If you have a smart phone, you can download a free app from GOARCH that I think is very useful. Most days I use it with my morning prayers. I have even entered some prayers on the prayer page that I read elsewhere and wanted to keep handy. Sometimes when I wake up in the middle of the night and cannot go back to sleep, I get up and pray the midnight office as presented on the prayer page.

The app tells you whether or not it is a fasting day, it lists the saints and feasts of the day, it provides the daily readings, and it provides timely prayers. On the first page of the app the prayers change according to the time of the day. Between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m., for instance, the first hour prayers are there at the bottom of the page. From 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. the Orthros prayer is there, and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon the third hour prayers appear, etcetera. But you can find all the prayers any time of day on the prayer page of the app. You carry it all with you on your phone and can read a prayer or a scripture reading for the day on your coffee break, while waiting at the doctor's office, at the airport, or wherever you find yourself waiting.

This is a great tool for becoming familiar with the saints, for reading some scripture, for remembering fast days, and for taking small segments of time to reflect on ancient prayers that are as applicable today as when they were first written. All of these things can contribute to our transformation by being helpful to us in our efforts of volitional responsiveness; that is to say, helping our movement into the Kingdom of God moment by moment, day by day. Using this tool thoughtfully, applying one thing at a time, or one thing over and over, can help you to really be, ontologically, the person you are proclaiming yourself to be when you say that you believe God, or that you are an orthodox Christian.

For instance, here are the first hour prayers:

In every moment direct me according to your word, lest all lawlessness overpowers me. Rescue me from slanderous men, and guard me with your commandments. Shine your face upon your servant and teach me your statutes. Let my mouth be filled with your praise, O Lord, so that I may sing of your glory the whole day long, as is greatly fitting to do.

Christ, the True Light who enlightens and sanctifies everyone who comes into the world, imprint the light of your countenance upon us in order that we may see your unapproachable light. Direct us at every moment to works in accordance with your commandments.

Through the prayers of your all-pure Mother and all your saints. Amen.

If you are familiar with the orthodox liturgies and with scripture, you will recognize precepts presented in those places that are voice in this prayer and brought together nicely for you to take just a few minutes out of your day to reflect on how they apply to you, to whatever you are struggling with just then, and to how you are engaging in that struggle, or not, and how you could engage in that struggle.

If you want this app, go to the internet and look for the goarch daily readings app. You can get it for IOS or for android devices. I hope you find it as useful as I do.

–Deborah Talbot

Ministry News

MILITARY/CIA/LAW ENFORCEMENT MINISTRY

The St. Nicholas Military Ministry prepares this portion of our monthly newsletter. Its purpose is to share some of the rich moments in Greek and American military history and the Eastern Orthodox religion, and where possible weave in the members of our St. Nicholas family who had a related role in that process. Hopefully you will find this interesting and worthwhile reading. If you have suggestions for improvement, please email C.G. Chamales at gleafops@gmail.com.

Major Jeff Rogers continues to serve as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. The mission of the organization to which he is assigned is to train and support Afghan Special Forces as they conduct tactical operations.



MAJ Jeff Rogers
U.S. Army National Guard
Training and supporting the Afghan Army as part of Operation Enduring Freedom

Morale is high among the soldiers with whom he serves despite the long days, hazardous missions, and arduous schedules. Jeff is thrilled to serve with soldiers from other allied armies and together they have observed remarkable strides in the professionalism and tactical abilities of the Afghan soldiers they support.

Jeff will be granted mid-tour leave in December and will travel to Germany where their daughter Ayerlee is stationed with the U.S. Air Force. Lexi and their boys will join them in Germany and together they will celebrate Christmas. Please

pray for Jeff's safety and also for Lexi and their family as they endure this period of sacrifice and separation.

May God bless and watch

over all the members of our armed forces, federal agencies, and law enforcement who are serving around the world and in harms way.

October 13, 1775 - The United States Navy was authorized by the Second Continental Congress. Following are the St. Nicholas family members who served honorably in the U.S. Navy.



Michael Abatzis
Cold War
U.S. Navy
George & Despina Abatzis' son



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



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

Continued on next page

Ministry News



Ricky Angelus
Cold War
U.S. Navy
Marlene Angelus'
Husband



Johnny Benneck
& George
Humphrey
*Both were Killed
In Action on
the USS Kula
in July 1943 in
the Pacific.*
Johnny Benneck
was Deborah
Talbot's uncle.



**MA1(R) Russell
Chappell**
U.S. Navy
Cold War
Stacie Bouzinek's
fiance



Anthony Ciarochi
Cold War
U.S. Navy
Sandra Ciarochi's
husband



Robert C. Derby
U.S. Navy
WWII & Korea
Genevieve Eagle's
father



CDR(R) Jimmy
Bragdon
U.S. Navy
Vietnam
Krisann Firth's
Brother-in-law



Glenn Griffin
U.S. Navy
WWII
Robin Griffin's
father



Michael J. Hall
U.S. Navy
Corpsman, Khe
San, Vietnam
Fran Hall's
brother



John A. Karanzas
U.S. Navy
WWII
*Recipient of
Distinguished Flying Cross
& Air Medal w/3OLCs
for valor in Pacific
Theatre during WWII*
Mary Koumantrous'
father



**Lieutenant John C.
Kouklis**
U.S. Navy
Cold War
Andrew Kouklis'
father



Walter R. Motz
U.S. Navy
World War II
Walter A. Motz's
father



Walter A. Motz
U.S. Navy
Cold War
Hoddi Motz's
husband



CDR David A. Orriss
U.S. Navy
Vietnam War
Commander, USS
Impervious
David Orriss' father



John Pangis
Viet Nam War
Merilee Pangis'
husband



CPO(R) John
Pantelis
U.S. Navy
Iwo Jima-WWII
Greg Pantelis'
father



Robert Simpson
U.S. Navy
WWII
Marlene Angelus'
father



**Stergos I.
Stergachis**
U.S. Navy
WWII
Andy Stergachis'
father



Robert Talbot
U.S. Navy
WWII
Deborah Talbot's
father

Continued on next page

Ministry News

MILITARY/CIA/LAW ENFORCEMENT MINISTRY

Continued from previous pages

15 October 1991— The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was dedicated in Washington D.C. Crime fighting has taken its toll. Since the first recorded police death in 1786, there have been over 21,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Currently there are over 21,910 names engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.



The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

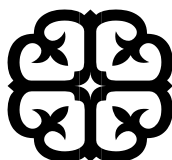
28 October 1940—OXI DAY! This day commemorates the anniversary when former military general and later Prime Minister of Greece, Ioannis Metaxas replied “OXI!” (NO!) to an ultimatum made by Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini, demanding that the Greeks allow Italian military forces to occupy strategic locations in Greece, or face war. Pictured at right is Mary Leonard’s grandfather who served as an officer in the Greek Army and was Killed in Action in the early days of the war.



George Markakis
Royal Hellenic Army
Killed in Action
during the Italian
Invasion of Greece at
the beginning of WWII.
Mary Leonard’s
grandfather

“In the first 13 months of WWII, the European nations fell to the German invasion at the rate of one nation every two weeks. Everyone expected Greece to capitulate within two weeks at the most. Unlike France, which fell in about four weeks, Greece did not have a sizeable army. But instead, Greece kept the Axis—both Italy and Germany—in the battlefield for seven months and four days. At that time the British Commonwealth had no other ally fighting on its side. The Greek victories in Epirus and Albania were the first Allied victories in WWII.”

LTC Gus Chamales—



Ministry News

ST. NICHOLAS BIBLE STUDY MINISTRY

BOOK OF HEBREW

Hebrews 6:4-6 *“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”*

enlightened - φωτίζω – photizo: to give light, to shine, to become clear to all

fall away - παραπίπτω - parapito: to slip aside or deviate, to descend from a higher place to a lower, (metaphor – fall under judgment)

renew - ἀνακαινίζω – anakainizo: renovate, make new again

St. Ambrose of Milan – On Repentance

Though the Church was free from external persecution in the era of Constantine, inner troubles soon arose to disturb its peace. First, there was the Donatist Schism that erupted in western North Africa. This was a schism between those who supported a certain Majorinus – soon afterwards succeeded by Donatus – to be the bishop of Carthage, and those who supported the regularly elected bishop, Caecilian. The Donatists opposed Bishop Caecilian because he was willing to grant the possibility of repentance to those who had lapsed during the Diocletian Persecution, and because one of the bishops who consecrated him allegedly had surrendered holy books to the authorities.

In an attempt to help the Church resolve this conflict, Constantine summoned the parties to Rome to appear before a commission led by Pope Miltiades. When this commission decided in favor of Bishop Caecilian, the Donatists refused to accept the judgment. They complained to Constantine that the matter had been judged too hastily and by too few other bishops. Yielding to their request to reopen the case, the emperor summoned a much larger council to address the problem. This Council of Arles (in Gaul-modern day France) in 314 also decided against the Donatists.

Inasmuch, then, as the Apostle spoke of remitting penance, he could not be silent as to those who thought that baptism was to be repeated. And it was right first of all to remove our anxiety, and to let us know that even after baptism, if any sinned their sins could be forgiven them, lest a false belief in a reiterated baptism should lead astray those who were destitute of all hope of forgiveness. And secondly, it was right to set forth in a well-reasoned argument that baptism is not to be repeated.”

Excerpt from the Nicene Creed: *“I believe in one baptism for the remission of sins.”* The act of immersion or where it took place is not the key to purification. Many pagan religions have baptism as a sacred rite. It is through the grace of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit that makes Christian baptism enlightening. There is a second baptism, which is called the “Baptism of Tears” – confession.

St. Ambrose continues:

“A passage quoted by the heretics against repentance is explained in two ways, the first being that Hebrews 6:4 refers to the impossibility of being baptized again; the second, that what is impossible with man is possible with God.

Being then refuted by the clear example of the Apostle and by his writings, the heretics yet endeavor to resist further, and say that their opinion is supported by apostolic authority, bringing forward the passage in the Epistle to the Hebrews: “For it is impossible that those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, should if they fall away be again renewed unto repentance, crucifying again the Son of God, and put Him to open shame.”

Continued on page 25

Ministry News



AHEPA FAMILY FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 12, 2019

The conference will be held at the Assumption Church located at 1804 13th Ave in Seattle.

We will have registration at 9:30 am and meetings will start at 10:00. Lunch will be served at 12:00 and Meetings will resume at 1:00 The cost is \$30 per person.

Please send in your payment to Holly Poulias at 2856 NW 65th Street, Seattle, WA 98107

If you are attending the Ahepa Family Wine Tasting Event starting at 4:00 pm at the church, you may include your payment for that also.

See the flyer on page 29

Ministry News

Philia

Once again our Philia group enjoyed a special annual trip on Sept. 5th courtesy of John and Kalitsa Zitco. This time we went to Port Townsend for shopping and lunch. Before went in to Town, we stopped at Saint Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church. Fr. Nicholas Kime, their Priest of many years, just retired. We were fortunate to meet their new Priest, Fr. Danniell Lattier. He gave us a most welcoming talk as well as informative one, such as, the background of St. Herman of Alaska. We really enjoyed our time there. Here are some photos of our time at Saint Herman Church.

George Pirotis—



Ministry News

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Pro-Life Ministry



The Washington State Fair has come and gone but the time spent volunteering at the WAFL (Washington Alliance For Life) booth was well worth it! This was my fifth time helping out with this wonderful organization and it was the most positive and enlightening experience I've had so far. It was also wonderful to have Kathy Johnson join me this year.

Kathy read the following on Twitter that says a lot about society, in general, today:

"I read a post on Twitter where someone said, 'I have a dog and she was expecting a litter, but about two weeks before she was due to give birth I decided that I was too busy, didn't have the time or the money to care for a bunch of puppies, so I took the dog to the vet to have the puppies aborted.' The reaction on Twitter was astonishing. People were outraged and furious at the poster of the Tweet. A few hours later he came back and posted a reply, 'You are outraged at something that never happened. I made the story up. But where is your outrage for all the millions of unborn children who have been aborted for the same reasons.' "

We would like to share some of the comments made to us during our watch:

One lady spoke of her son born 27 years ago at 24 weeks, who was in an incubator for the first 17 weeks of his life outside the womb. He never experienced any health problems. She said they were experimenting with Surfactant to help with proper lung development at the time. She says he is tall, healthy and a blessing from God.

One gentleman told us his daughter was encouraged to abort her baby because the baby's diaphragm was too high and

the organs couldn't drop down in place. She chose life. The baby is on a respirator, but she is developing just fine and should be off the respirator soon.

40 Days for Life has started their fall campaign and St. Nicholas' Pro-Life Ministry will be out at the corner of S. 14th St. and Martin Luther King Jr. Way (1401 Martin Luther King Jr. Way) each Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. through October 30, with Father Seraphim leading us in an Orthodox Christian service of Supplication for the Victims of Abortion. All are welcome to join us during these vigils. Every life is precious to God and the unborn are the most vulnerable. Please give your support, prayers and presence to this wonderful and important ministry. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Genevieve at: 253-359-0455 or goobahoo@gmail.com.

Submitted by: Genevieve—

Cover Story

The “Orthodox” in “Greek Orthodox”

Continued from page 1

The churches that St Paul established in Greece never disappeared. On the contrary, they have thrived, with an unbroken line of continuity stretching across two millennia. That’s over twenty centuries of continuous existence!

That’s why we are called the Greek Orthodox Church. Greek, because our particular parish was started a hundred years ago by Orthodox Christian migrants from Greece, and Orthodox because we are those who have remained in that unbroken communion with the One Church that Christ established and the Apostles planted. Orthodox means “correct worship”, and is the term to describe the many regional churches whose founding dates back to the Apostles themselves (or who are “daughter” churches of the apostolic churches) and who have not fallen into any heresy and kept the authentic faith in Christ pure and undefiled. Here’s a list of the global family of Orthodox Churches:



- Orthodox Church of Constantinople (Istanbul)
- Orthodox Church of Jerusalem & Palestine
- Orthodox Church of Alexandria & All Africa
- Orthodox Church of Antioch (Syria & Lebanon)
- Orthodox Church of Russia
- Orthodox Church of Romania
- Orthodox Church of Bulgaria
- Orthodox Church of Serbia

Orthodox Churches in North America, Asia, South America, Europe, Australia & the entire globe.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son & Holy Spirit), incarnate of the Virgin Mary, possessing two natures (human and divine) in one divine Person. He was crucified, died on the Cross of His own will, and rose in both soul and body, ascended to heaven, and will come again to judge the world and inaugurate His eternal Kingdom.

Hence, the **Orthodox** in “Greek Orthodox”: correct worship in the ancient church.

COME AND JOIN US! The Orthodox Church is for **every** precious human soul, regardless of ethnic origin.

*Fr Seraphim Majmudar,
Pastor, St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*

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

Bible Study

Continued from page 20

Could Paul teach in opposition to his own act? He had at Corinth forgiven sin through penance, how could he himself speak against his own decision? Since, then, he could not destroy what he had built, we must assume that what he says was different from, but not contrary to, what had gone before. For what is contrary is opposed to itself, what is different has ordinarily another meaning. Things which are contrary are not such that one can support the other. Inasmuch, then, as the Apostle spoke of remitting penance, he could not be silent as to those who thought that baptism was to be repeated. And it was right first of all to remove our anxiety, and to let us know that even after baptism, if any sinned their sins could be forgiven them, lest a false belief in a reiterated baptism should lead astray those who were destitute of all hope of forgiveness. And secondly, it was right to set forth in a well-reasoned argument, that baptism is not to be repeated.

And that the writer was speaking of baptism is evident from the very words in which it is stated that it is impossible to renew unto repentance those who were fallen, inasmuch as we are renewed by means of the laver of baptism, whereby we are born again, as Paul says himself: "For we are buried with Him through baptism into death, that, like as Christ rose from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we, too, should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4 And in another place: "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new man which is created after God." Ephesians 4:23 And elsewhere again: "Your youth shall be renewed like the eagle," because the eagle after death is born again from its ashes, as we being dead in sin are through the Sacrament of Baptism born again to God, and created anew. So, then, here as elsewhere, he teaches one baptism. "One faith", he says, "one baptism". Ephesians 4:5.

This, too, is plain, that in him who is baptized the Son of God is crucified, for our flesh could not do away sin unless it were crucified in Jesus Christ. And then it is written that: "All we who were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death." Romans 6:3. And farther on: "If we have been planted in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing that our old man was fastened with Him to His cross". Romans 6:5-6. And to the Colossians he says: "Buried with Him by baptism, wherein you also rose again with Him". Colossians 2:12. "Which was written to the intent that we should believe that He is crucified in us, that our sins may be purged through Him, that He, Who alone can forgive sins, may nail to His cross the handwriting which was against us". Colossians 2:14. In us He triumphs over principalities and powers, as it is written of Him: "He made a show of principalities and powers, triumphing over them in Himself". Colossians 2:15.

So, then, that which he says in this Epistle to the Hebrews, that it is impossible for those who have fallen to be "renewed unto repentance, crucifying again the Son of God, and putting Him to open shame", must be considered as having reference to baptism, wherein we crucify the Son of God in ourselves, that the world may be by Him crucified for us, who triumph, as it were, when we take to ourselves the likeness of His death, who put to open shame upon His cross principalities and powers, and triumphed over them, that in the likeness of His death we, too, might triumph over the principalities whose yoke we throw off. But Christ was crucified once, and died to sin once, and so there is but one, not several baptisms.

But what of the passage wherein the doctrine of baptisms is spoken of? Because under the Law there were many baptisms or washings, he rightly rebukes those who forsake what is perfect and seek again the first principles of the word. He teaches us that the whole of the washings under the Law are done away with, and that there is one baptism in the sacraments of the Church. But he exhorts us that leaving the first principles of the word we should go on to perfection. "And this", he says, "we will do, if God permits", Hebrews 6:3, for no one can be perfect without the grace of God. Continued on next page

Ministry News

Bible Study

Continued from previous page

And indeed I might also say to anyone who thought that this passage spoke of repentance, that things which are impossible with men are possible with God; and God is able whenever He wills to forgive us our sins, even those which we think cannot be forgiven. And so it is possible for God to give us that which it seems to us impossible to obtain. For it seemed impossible that water should wash away sin, and Naaman the Syrian thought that his leprosy could not be cleansed by water. But that which was impossible God made to be possible, Who gave us so great grace. In like manner it seemed impossible that sins should be forgiven through repentance, but Christ gave this power to His apostles, which has been transmitted to the priestly office. That, then, has become possible which was impossible. But, by a true reasoning, he convinces us that the reiteration by any one of the Sacrament of Baptism is not permitted."

So how do we know what St. Paul meant in his letter to the Hebrews 6:4-6. How do we know that he was saying that baptism is not to be repeated vs. if you fall away from the Church you cannot be forgiven? Because of the Saints of the Church, like St. Ambrose and St. John Chrysostom. They were more than "nice guys"! They were so pure of heart that they were in direct communion with God.

The [Diocletianic Persecution](#) (303–312), the empire's last, largest, and bloodiest official [persecution of Christianity](#), failed to eliminate Christianity in the empire; indeed, after 324, Christianity became the empire's preferred religion under [Constantine](#). There was an issue that had to be dealt with after the persecutions stopped. Some Christians, to save their lives and the lives of loved ones, denied Christ and worshipped pagan gods to appease their persecutors. The Donatists took Scripture verses, including Hebrews 6:4-6, and twisted them to support their beliefs. Some embittered Christians supported the Donatists because they lost loved ones who refused to renounce Christ and gave up their lives for Him. Bishop Caecilian and his supporters didn't make it easy on those who had fallen away. There were rules of repentance, confession, prayer, penance and abstaining from communion for a long period of spiritual rehabilitation.

Donatists argued that [Christian](#) clergy must be faultless for their ministry to be effective and their prayers and [sacraments](#) to be valid. This is such a ridiculous argument because there has been no human born, except for Jesus Christ, who is free of sin. Someone who is bold enough to consider himself sinless has fallen into his own trap because one of the greatest sins is pride. This doesn't mean we should adopt a defeatist attitude and not even strive for perfection; on the contrary, we should work more vigilantly to repent. An Orthodox priest, when he is vested and serving the Liturgy, is the icon of Christ. The grace of Christ is present through this icon, no matter how holy or not the priest might be.

It's all about baptism. Without the insight of the original Greek text and the Holy Fathers guidance it is easy to misinterpret Scripture. I.e. "once enlightened" and "renew them again to repentance" – refers to baptism. Without these insights one can look at these verses (Hebrew 6:4-6) and walk away with a totally different meaning which could (and has) cause a great schism in the Church. βάπτισμο – vaptismo – baptism : generally speaking in the usage of the Church, when speaking of what happens in baptism is φώτισμο, fotismo, or enlighten.

Baptism is the enlightenment and opening of the eye of the soul. Through the opening of the eye of the soul, the Uncreated light of God is now perceptible and projectable. Baptism is more than a symbol of one's repentance.

There is an ontological change in a person's very being. Some sins can be so toxic (such as the occult or witchcraft) that it can even effect one's neurological makeup. Baptism immediately corrects these twists and distortions that sin has caused. Sin, no matter how dark and deep, doesn't close the eye of the soul, it darkens and clouds it. The eye of the soul needs to be cleansed through repentance, prayer and worship. Canonically, for those who leave the Orthodox Church for another Christian denomination and are baptized and commune outside of the Orthodox Church and want to return to the Orthodox Church, then the canons of the Church state that they have to be brought back through the sacrament of Crismation again.

Submitted by: Genevieve

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.

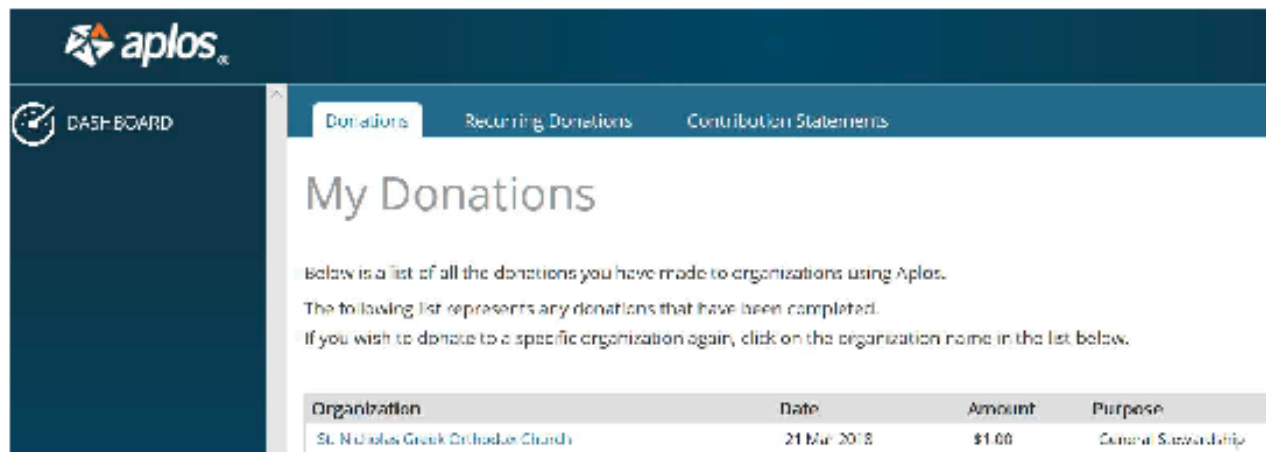
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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



The screenshot shows the Aplos software interface. At the top left is the Aplos logo. Below it is a navigation menu with 'DASH-BOARD' and three tabs: 'Donations', 'Recurring Donations', and 'Contribution Statements'. The main heading is 'My Donations'. Below the heading, there is explanatory text: '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.' Below this text is a table with the following data:

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


FREE ADMISSION  AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

The 58th
**TACOMA
 GREEK
 FESTIVAL**

 October 4, 5, 6
 2019
 HOSTED BY



ST. NICHOLAS
 GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

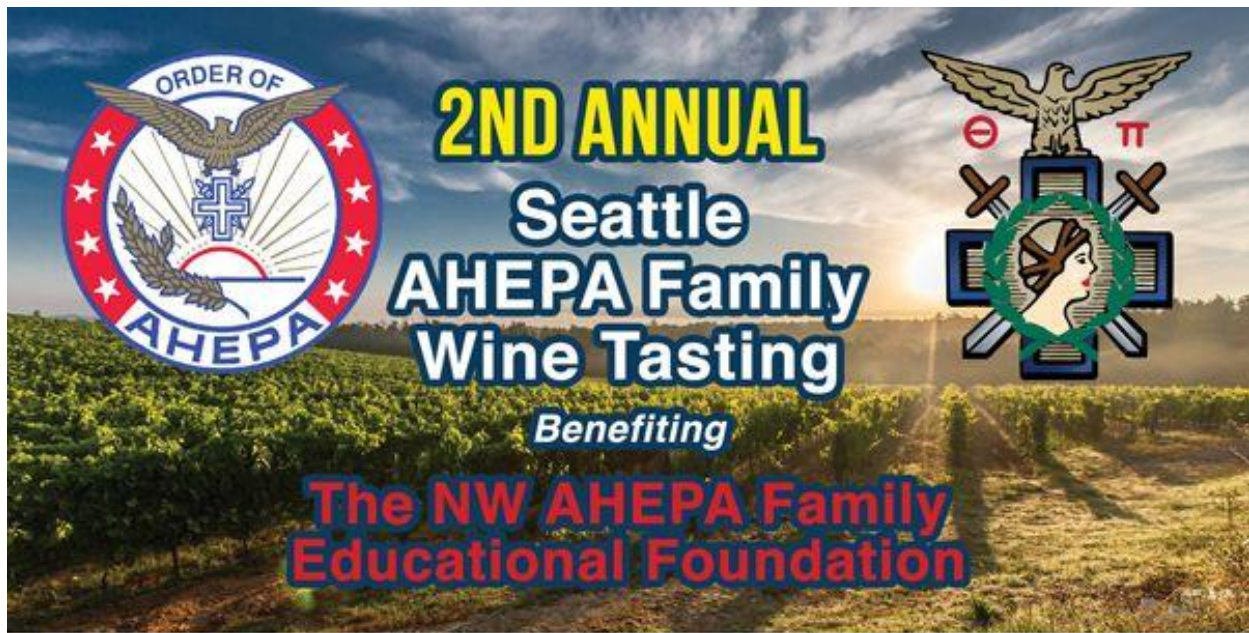
1523 S. YAKIMA AVE, TACOMA, WA
 STNICHOLASTACOMA.ORG/GREEKFESTIVAL  (253) 272-0466

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

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

facebook.com/GreekFestivalTacoma
 instagram.com/TacomaGreekFestival





Saturday October 12th 4pm -7pm
Church of Assumption Hall
1804 13th Ave E, Seattle WA 98122

Presale: \$25 per person/\$40 per couple.

Includes souvenir wine glass,
tastings and appetizers.

\$30 per person/\$50 per couple at the door.

Featuring wines from:



FALL HARVEST BREAKFAST

FREE WILL OFFERING

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS
GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR 15 TACOMA
SCHOOL FAMILIES

**EGG STRATA, FRUIT, MUFFIN,
JUICE, COFFEE AND TEA**

Where: COFFEE HOUR

When: OCTOBER 20th

Time: RIGHT AFTER SERVICE





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

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.

HOW TO RETURN THIS CARD

BY MAIL:

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

AT CHURCH:

Drop your completed card into the secured [dropbox](#) on the stewardship table in the downstairs hall.

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

For more information, please visit:

stnicholastacoma.org/stewardship.

"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:

Household Information

Address
City/St/Zip

Dependent Children
Name (F/MI/L) DOB (m/d/y) Orthodox

..... (Y/N)

..... (Y/N)

..... (Y/N)

..... (Y/N)

Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Address Service Requested

