



A Taste of the Festival

St. Nicholas isn't able to host *Tacoma's Greek Festival* in 2021. We are, however, hosting the St. Nicholas Tacoma Greek Pastry Bake Sale. We're offering some of the most popular pastries sold at previous festivals for sale to parishioners and the entire Tacoma community. As we aren't having a festival, we've created a special web site to purchase the pastries. In fact, the web site is the only way to purchase pastries. In honor of previous festivals, pastry pickup will be the first weekend of October at St. Nicholas. That is, October 1, 2, 3. This bake sale is a new venue for St. Nicholas and we'll need the help of stewards and volunteers to make this a success. Please read the article about aligning stewardship to this bake sale on page 16.

Be sure to order your pastries ahead of time as we're sure we'll run out of some items. Purchasing ahead will guarantee you'll have your favorite pastries reserved for you. The bake sale website can be found on the [St. Nicholas web page](#), at the [Tacoma Greek Festival facebook page](#), or directly at the [bake sale web site](#).



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Return to Church Policies

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St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-272-0466

Parish Website: stnicholastacoma.org

E-Mail: mail@stnicholastacoma.org

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



Sunday Services

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

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



Fr. Seraphim Majmudar, Our Presiding Priest

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

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

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

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Media team: Paula Karanasos, Fr. Seraphim

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

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St. Nicholas Ministries

AHEPA
Paul Apostle

Akathist Group Prayer
Kathy Rowley

Altar Servers
Dr Nick Themelis

Bible Study
Genevieve Eagle

Book Store
Dr. Nick Themelis

Building Committee
Bill Acker

Building, Grounds & Maintenance
Richard Heidal, John Pangis

Choir
Rebecca Primis

Hands of Love
Merrilee Pangis

Military Service
LTC Gus Chamales

Premarital Education
George Pirotis, Diane Pirotis

Stewardship
Maria Koumantaros
Gus Chamales

2021 Parish Council
Ronnie-Sue Johnson—President
David Frisk—Vice-President
Mark Robinson—Treasurer
Christina Leinneweber—Secretary
Maria Koumantaros, Alan (John) Means, David Orriss Jr., Despina Kipelidis, Kathy Johnson, Klaudia Cedeno, Sheila (Monica) Auter, Zach Karanasos

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

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

Kelly Rosati — Beginner dancers

George Pirotis — Adult Group Instructor

Coffee Hour
Zach Karanasos

IT, etc.
Bill Samaras

Philia
Diane Pirotis

Pro Life
Genevieve Eagle

Vitos Scholarship
Ronnie Sue Johnson

Flowers & Church Decorating
Kathy Rowley

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

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

Philoptochos Society
Jane Evancho - President
Hoddi Motz - Vice-President
Marian Palas - Secretary
Joyce Kalivas- Griffin - Treasurer

Sunday School
Sheila Auter, Director

Greek School
George Pirotis

Lazarus Group
Dean Hamos

Pilgrimage
Zach Karanasos

Prospora Baking
Deborah Talbot

Welcome
Ronnie Sue Johnson

Parish Council

Parish Council meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
September 14, 2021

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ecclesiastical New Year Fast: Wine & Oil ok Fr S Away: no services Joshua, Son of Nun Ss Hariklea, Kallirci, Aphroditie, Penelope, Melpomene & companions 9:30am-10:30am Festival Baking 7:00pm-8:00pm "Fire on Father" Q&A open to all	2 Repose of Fr Seraphim Rose 5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek	3 St Theoktistos, friend of St Evthimios 10:00am-12:00pm No Bible Study This Week	4 Prophet Moses 6:00pm-7:00pm No Vespers tonight
5 Zacharias, Father of St John the Baptist 8:45am-10:00am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy 11:30am-12:30pm John Karanasos 15 yr Memorial	6 Miracle of Archangel Michael at Colossae	7 Prefeast of Nativity of Theotokos 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am WOCCA: Vashon 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers: Nativity of the Theotokos 6:45pm-7:45pm Evening Liturgy: Nativity of the Theotokos	8 Fast: Fish, Wine & Oil Ok NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS 6:00pm-7:00pm Great Vespers: Ss Joachim & Anna 7:00pm-8:00pm "Fire on Father" Q&A open to all	9 Joachim & Anna 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	10 Apostle Apollous Fast: Wine & Oil ok 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 10:00am-12:00pm Bible Study	11 Euphrosynos the Cook 5:30pm-6:30pm Supplication to St Xenia for Homeless 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers
12 Leavetaking of Nativity of Theotokos 8:45am-10:00am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy	13 Consecration of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers: Exaltation of the Cross 6:45pm-7:45pm Evening Liturgy: Exaltation of the Cross	14 EXALTATION OF THE CROSS Fast: Wine & Oil ok 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm-8:00pm Parish Council	15 Mirren of Paisley, Scotland STRICT FAST 6:00pm-7:00pm Great Vespers: St Euphemia 7:00pm-8:00pm "Fire on Father" Q&A open to all	16 Euphemia the All Praised 5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers: Ss Euphemia & St Sophia 6:45pm-7:45pm Evening Liturgy: St Sophia	17 Fast: Wine & Oil ok Sophia & Her Three Daughters 10:00am-12:00pm No Bible Study This week	18 Evmenios of Gortyna 5:30pm-6:30pm Supplication to St Xenia for Homeless 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers
19 Martyr Trophimos & Companions 8:45am-10:00am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy	20 Daniel of Katounakia Evstathios & Family 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	21 Leavetaking of Exaltation of the Cross 6:30am-7:30am Orthros 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	22 Hieromartyr Phocas STRICT FAST 6:00pm-7:00pm Paraklesis	23 Conception of St John the Baptist 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	24 Fast: wine & oil ok Protomartyr Thekla Silouan of Mt Athos 6:30am-7:30am Divine Liturgy 10:00am-12:00pm Bible Study 5:30pm-6:30pm Vespers	25 Juvenaly, Protomartyr of N. America Peter the Aleut, Martyr of San Francisco Sergius of Radonezh 5:30pm-6:30pm Supplication to St Xenia for Homeless 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers
26 Apostle John the Theologian 8:45am-10:00am Orthros 10:00am-11:00am Divine Liturgy	27 Kallistratos 6:30am-7:30am Orthros	28 Martyr Chariton	29 Martyr Kyriakos 6:00pm-7:00pm Paraklesis	30 Gregory of Armenia 5:30pm-6:30pm Modern Greek 6:00pm-7:00pm Vespers: Protection of Theotokos & St Romanos 6:45pm-7:45pm Evening Liturgy: Protection of Theotokos & St Romanos	Notes:	

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

News and Announcements

The family of **Demetrios (James) Salatas** would like to thank the St. Nicholas Church Family for their love and the donations made to the Church in Jim's memory. We are grateful for your prayers and kindness.

—May His Memory Be Eternal—

Returning to Church

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

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

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

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

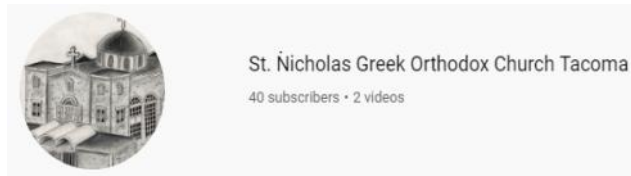
Per His Eminence's guidance, we will not ask anyone about their vaccination status.

Watch Services From Home, Live

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

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

Click on this selection;



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

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

Bill Samaras—

News and Announcements



Fire on Father!

Evening Q & A about our Faith

WHAT

“Fire on Father!” Submit your questions or observations about any aspect of our Orthodox Faith. Fr Seraphim will answer your questions in a group discussion format

WHEN

7pm on Wednesday evenings in August & September (preceded by Paraklesis to the Mother of God at 6pm) First session is Wed, Aug 4

WHERE

In the church; we will live stream as well, using the same YouTube channel as church services

WHO

All are invited; Catechumens and inquirers are especially encouraged to attend

HOW

Submit your questions to: frseraphimm@gmail.com or hand a written question to Fr Seraphim. You can also call the church office and leave your question with Carol.

SAMPLE TOPICS

Is Christ God's Son or is He God? Why do we have icons? Why is venerating the Mother of God so important in Orthodoxy? Do we believe in the Old Testament? What is the difference between Orthodoxy and Roman Catholicism? How do I deepen my prayer life? How can I get more involved at St Nicholas? What is the purpose of tithing? How does the Archdiocese work? How do I prepare for Communion? Why can't non-Orthodox receive Communion?

...and many more!



Coffee Hour



COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

URGENT CALL FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN

The **coffee** hours are still being no-host as the teams are still in the process of regenerating. The coffee hour teams are in imperative need of having more members on their team. You can help by volunteering to join the ministry. For the no-host coffee hours, you may bring something. Individuals or families may host a coffee hour for a special occasion. For more information please contact Zach Karanasos.

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

Keeping the Coffee Hour Ministry alive is pivotal because it represents a great opportunity to:

- *Put into practice principles of our faith (hospitality, discipline, respect, servitude, generosity, engagement) that enhance our spiritual growth and challenge us to become servant leaders
- *Foster a sense of community
- *Unify us by building within our parish a center of shared values and purposes

Coffee hour should become part of our collective identity as Orthodox Christians at St. Nicholas Church. Furthermore, it is one of the few and regular times parishioners can connect with each other.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER:

9/5/2021	Karanasos Family for John Karanasos 15 year memorial
9/12/2021	To be determined
9/19/2021	Open-No host
9/26/2021	Open-No host

Building Committee



THE BRICK WORK HAS BEGUN

Exterior brick work started the second half of August and will be continuing through the first part of September, giving the Narthex exterior its defining appearance, a small hint of which can be seen in the above photo at the area around Father Seraphim's office. Once completed, the replacement of a street sidewalk at the south side of the church, recently required by the City of Tacoma will take place. Afterwards, around September 20, landscaping work along the entire Yakima Avenue side of the church property and at both sides of 16th Street will start.

Inside the Narthex, the hanging of drywall should be starting by September, with taping and sanding, painting, and eventually the installation of mosaic floor tile to follow afterwards. The interior finish work will limit access in the space between the stairwells and the Sanctuary occasionally during the weekdays, but both areas will be fully open during the weekends and for Sunday liturgies. One should consult the Weekly Church bulletins during the month of September for further updated specifics.

As stated in the last issue of the Messenger, a previous vendor providing custom exterior doors had to be dropped in early July due to their inability to perform per what is required by the local building code.

(Continued on the next page.)

Building Committee

(Continued from the previous page.)

The switching of a specialized custom door vendor at such a late date has increased the cost of the doors, extended the project schedule, and complicated logistics. As a result, the set of exterior doors recently ordered from another fabricator will not be delivered until early October, plus interior finishes around the door opening, namely drywall, painting and mosaic tile, will have to be held off in that immediate area until the doors are installed. The late door delivery will also require temporary framing and plywood to be installed over the exterior door opening in order to secure the new Narthex interiors.

The temporary exterior door opening cover will be installed after the brick work is completed. When done, an interior temporary passage between the stairwell areas and Upper Hall will be allowed, though as stated on the previous page, its availability may be interrupted from time to time during the week days in order to accommodate interior finish work.

Overall, additional costs incurred on this project have exceeded its previous allocated contingency budget. The additional costs can be put into four categories: 1) hidden conditions that were discovered in an old and poorly constructed building that had to be taken care of as they became uncovered; 2) some design details in the bidding documents that were either left out or not adequately addressed, which again had to be taken care of; 3) the City of Tacoma in late June requiring the church to replace some sidewalk that previously hadn't been called out or addressed; and 4) being forced to change the custom exterior door vendor in July because the previous one was not able to perform.

The project overruns total to just under 5% of the overall project cost. This will be addressed at an upcoming virtual General Assembly to be held on Sunday August 29th, a notice of which has already been e-mailed out to the Parish. Further specifics will be forthcoming from the Parish Council.



This is a photo of the new insulated roofing taken from the top of the Upper Hall over the sink area, looking from north to south towards 16th Street.



This is a photo of the back side of the Narthex entry, looking from east to west towards Yakima Avenue. Note that in both photos, all new roofing have drainage slopes built into their assemblies.

Contributed by: Bill Acker

Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

We begin this months article by honoring one of our St. Nicholas veterans who passed away in August. Mr. James Salatas was a long-time member of our St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, and a true friend to all who knew him. He served as a soldier in the United States Army after World War II in the late 40's. He was stationed in Germany as a young soldier as part of the allied occupation force and while serving there he met the love of his life, Hela, who was a beautiful young German woman living with her parents. Jim and Hela dated and it wasn't long before they decided that they wanted to get married. Back then soldiers had to be granted permission from their commanding officer in order to get married, and Jim's commander was not willing to allow it. Jim was compelled to extend his tour of duty in Germany in order to prove the seriousness of his conviction. After convincing his commander of his love and devotion to Hela, he was granted permission, and they were married.



Jim and Hela moved back to America and eventually they settled in the Tacoma area, and raised a family. While raising their family they were very active members of our church, they served in many of our church's ministries, and they participated many years in the St. Nicholas festivals.

Hela preceded Jim in death and died a few years ago. Those who knew Jim knew that he was truly heartbroken and missed Hela terribly. As Jim aged and his health declined he moved from his home to an assisted living center in Tacoma, and then later to a long term care facility near Mount Vernon, WA in order to be closer to one of his daughters.

I met Jim shortly after I arrived at St. Nicholas in 2009. The aunt and uncle of my cousin's wife happened to be the Godparents to one of Jim and Hela's daughters, and they asked me to relay their regards when they learned we were parishioners at the same church. That in itself seemed like quite a coincidence but after to getting to know Jim I discovered that he grew up in Indiana as a young boy, right around the corner from three of my Uncles! From then on we spoke regularly either at church or on the telephone, and out of respect for this great man I referred to him as "Theo" (Uncle in Greek).

Jim is at peace now and rests in the hands of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He shall be greatly missed by his many friends at St. Nicholas and we shall always be grateful for friendship, his service to our church, and for his service to our country. **MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

Continued on next page....

Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

Significant dates in history for the month of September.

September 11, 2001. America is attacked by Islamic terrorists—lest we forget.

At 0845 on September 11, 2001, an American Airlines Boeing 767 flew into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The aircraft loaded with fuel created a gaping hole near the 80th floor and killed hundreds of people instantly, while trapping hundreds more on higher floors.

While evacuation efforts were ongoing, a second Boeing 767 belonging to United Airlines turned sharply off its path and crashed into the south tower near the 60th floor with a similar devastating impact. It quickly became apparent that these crashes were no accident and that America was under attack.



The hijackers of these aircraft were Islamic terrorists from several Arab nations and were financed by Osama Bin Laden of the al Qaeda terrorist organization.

As millions watched the events unfolding in New York, American Airlines Flight 77 circled over Washington, D.C., and then crashed into the Pentagon military headquarters at 0945.

Approximately 15 minutes after the Pentagon was struck the south tower of the World Trade Center collapsed. The steel skyscraper that had been built to withstand high winds and a conventional fire, could not withstand the tremendous heat generated by burning jet fuel. Approximately 30 minutes later the north building of the Twin Towers suffered the same fate, and collapsed in on itself.

A fourth airliner, United Flight 93 was hijacked about 40 minutes after departing Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey. The plane had been delayed from taking off at its schedule time so passengers on board learned of the events in New York and Washington via cell phone calls. Realizing that hijackers were planning something diabolical, several passengers and crew members hastily organized a plan to prevent their plane from crashing into another national treasure. One of the passengers, Thomas

Burnett, Jr., called his wife and told her “I know we’re all going to die. There’s three of us who are going to do something about it. I love you, honey.”

The passengers fought the four hijackers and are suspected to have attacked the cockpit with a fire extinguisher. The hijackers realizing they were losing control flipped the plane over and crashed it into a rural field near Shanksville, PA at 10:10 AM. Its

Continued on next page....



Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

intended target is not known but it is suspected it was likely the White House or the Capital Building in Washington, D.C. Thus began America’s longest war, the war in Afghanistan, that as of this writing on August 18, does not appear to have a victorious conclusion.

2,996 people were killed in the 9/11 attacks including citizens from 78 different countries. As of this writing on 18 August 2021, below are additional casualty statistics from the war in Afghanistan after nearly 20 years of U.S. occupation.

American service members killed in Afghanistan through April 2020: 2,448.

American contractors killed: 3,846.

Afghan national military and police: 66,000.

Other allied service members, including from other NATO member countries: 1,344.

Afghan civilians: 47,245 with hundreds more in just the last few days.

Taliban and other opposition fighters: 51,191.

A few of our parishioners and their family members have served in Afghanistan and thankfully, they are now safe in our country

Please pray for our American and allied service men and women still serving there, and for the Americans who are currently trapped outside of the defensive perimeter at the airfield, and surrounded by Taliban fighters.

Please pray for the Afghan people and their families who aided American and NATO forces during the last 20 years, and who are hoping to be evacuated with the NATO forces they have aided.

Please pray for the women and girls of Afghanistan whose future now looks very bleak as the Taliban imposes Sharia law throughout the country.

And please pray for our country and our leaders during these dark and troubling times.

Sources: *History.com and AP News.*

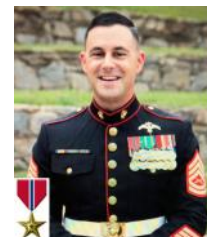
A few St. Nicholas parishioners and their family members have served in Afghanistan during America’s longest war. We thank them for their service and we thank God for keeping them safe.



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



John W. Cook
U.S. Army
Operation Iraqi Freedom & Enduring Freedom
Maria & John Cook’s son



G/SGT James E. Glendening
U.S. Marine Corps
Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom
Recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and Marine Commendation Medal for Valor in Combat
Kathy Hermick’s son

Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News



LTC(R) Sean Hermick
U.S. Army
*Operations Iraqi and
Enduring Freedom*
**Recipient of the Bronze
Star Medal**
Kathy Hermick's
husband



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



MAJ(R) Bill Koukourikos
U.S. Air Force
*Opns Desert Shield/
Storm, Iraqi Freedom &
Enduring Freedom*
**Recipient of Air Medal for
Valor as a B-52 Pilot in
Desert Storm**
Godfather to
Stavros Frisk



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



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

September 18, 1947: The United States Air Force is established as a co-equal service.

President Truman approved the National Security Act of 1947 on September 18th of that year. That act established the Office of the Secretary of National Defense and co-equal services—including the United States Air Force.

Many people influenced President Truman's decision to separate the Army and the Air Force into different branches, but among the most influential was General Hap Arnold who was Chief of the Army Air Forces in June of 1941. When the War Department General Staff was organized in march 1942, Arnold became commanding general of the Army Air Forces. Prior to and all during WWII, he directed air activities for the nation's global war against Germany and Japan. Under him, the air arm grew from 22,000 officers and men with 3,900 planes, to nearly 2,500,000 men and 75,000 aircraft. General Arnold retired from active service in June of 1946, but on May 7, 1949, he was appointed the first general of the Air Force, a five-star rank, by the U.S. Congress.



It is also important to highlight that it is General, William L. (Billy) Mitchell who is regarded as the father of the United States Air Force. Mitchell served in France during World War I and, by the conflict's end, commanded all American air combat units in that country. *(Source: Air Force Magazine, Wikipedia, U.S. Air Force website)*

Many St. Nicholas parishioners and their family members served in the either the Unites States Army Air Corps, the United States Army Air Force, or the current day United States Air Force. They have



Continued on next page....

Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

fought in wars ranging from World War II, to Korea, and Vietnam, and in Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. We are extremely grateful for their service and it is important that their service is honored and remembered by all of us through this ministry.



Paul Armatas
Korean War
 U.S. Air Force
 Roxanne &
 Fr. Daniel's
 father



Edward E. Beecher
 U.S. Army Air Corps
WWII
 Chrisann Firth's
 uncle



Angela Brown
 Women's Airforce
 Service Pilots
 (WASPs)
WWII
 Peter Brown's
 mother



Peter Brown
Cold War
 U.S. Air Force
 Gloria Brown's
 husband



**SGT George L.
 Chamales**
 U.S. Army Air Corps
WWII
 Gus Chamales' father



PVT Tom Cheruhas
 U.S. Army Air Corps
WWII
 Serma Cheruhas'
 husband



**Stamatie
 Christodoulou**
 U.S. Air force



CPT Frank Ciarochi
 U.S. Army Air Corps
WWII
 Anthony Ciarochi's
 father



**MSG(R) Richard
 Clark**
 U.S. Air Force
 Chrisann Firth's
 son-in-law



James L. Cook
 U.S. Air Force
Korean War
 John Cook's
 father



SGT Arthur Ehrett
 U.S. Army Air Corps
WWII
 Dr. Fred Ehret's
 father



**MSG(R) Jim
 Fotinopoulos**
 U.S. Air Force
Cold War
 Dina Fotinopoulos'
 husband



**TSGT(R) Tom
 Jackson**
 U.S. Air Force
*Korean, Vietnam,
 & Cold War*
 Helga Jackson's
 husband



SGT Ansel Jameson
 U.S. Army Air Corps,
WWII
Recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross w/OLC for valor during combat with the Flying Tigers in the China/Burma/India Theatre.
 Diane Pirotis' Father



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



**MSG(R)
 Joseph Johnson**
 U.S. Air Force
*Operation Iraqi
 Freedom*
 Ronnie-Sue's
 husband



**MG(R) Kostandinos
 Kiosses**
 Royal Hellenic Air
 Force
 Chrysanthe Barnes'
 brother

Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News



MAJ(R) Bill Koukourikos
U.S. Air Force
*Opns Desert Shield/
Storm, Iraqi Freedom &
Enduring Freedom*
**Recipient of Air Medal for
Valor as a B-52 Pilot in
Desert Storm**
Godfather to
Stavros Frisk



Bob Leonard
Cold War
U.S. Air Force
Mary Leonard's
husband



Steve Maritakis
U.S. Air Force
Korean War
Mary Mather's
brother



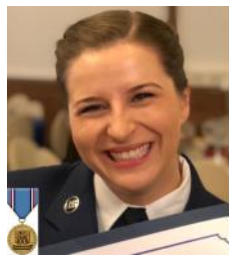
**MSG(R) Walter A.
Motz**
Cold War
U.S. Air Force
Hoddi Motz's
husband



Charles Plunkett
U.S. Air Force
Viet Nam War
Lena Plunkett's
husband



LTC Tony Rocco
U.S. Air Force
Operation Desert Storm
**Recipient of Defense
Meritorious Svc. Medal
and Air Medal w/Solc's**
Mary Leonard's
Son-In-Law



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



"Miss Mike"
Michael Jane White
U.S. Air Force
Cold War



William F. White
U.S. Air Force
Cold War
Michael Jane
White's husband

Our sincere thanks goes out to all the St. Nicholas parishioners and their family members who served in the defense of our nation in the military, the CIA, and law enforcement. May God bless you always!



Stewardship Ministry News

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 2021 BAKE SALE!

If you don't read this article until it is officially published in the Messenger, there will be approximately one month left before our bake sale, which is 1, 2, & 3 October. Bill Samaras has already opened the bake sale website (go to our church website for link) and, happily, orders have been steadily streaming in. In four days we have over \$6000.00 in sales with the best sellers being spanakopita, tiropita, kourambithes, koulourakia, and small pans of baklava. Thank you to all who have purchased items, and if you haven't already, please share the information with your friends and family!



Words cannot express how much I miss Miss Elly and many other members of Philoptochos that traditionally fulfilled their stewardship of time and talent by participating with this food preparation. These women and men were instrumental in preparing pastries and other items that were sold at our festival, and they contributed greatly to our past success.

We are blessed that some of them are continuing the tradition! Despina and George Ampatsis, Jane Evancho, Krisann Firth, Sally Hallis, Kathy Johnson, Marian Pallas, John & Merrilee Pangis, Tina Pantellis, George Pirotis, Kalitsa Xitco, and Ingrid Chamales have been working almost every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for the last month.

Unfortunately, many people have been unable to participate for a variety of reasons. Sadly, some have passed away. They include Mrs. Serma

Charuhas, Mrs. Ann Havens, Miss Elly Pangis, and Mrs. Kay Turlis. **MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL.** Others have been unable to attend because of COVID/health concerns, family needs, and work requirements. They include people such as Marlene & Ricky Angelus, Chrysanthe Barnes, Vonnie Brandvold, Maria Cook, Dina Fotinopoulos, Kathleen & Richard Heidal, Anna Karanasos, Maria Koumantaros, Robert & Anne Latz, Mary Leonard, George Panagiotu, and several others.



Their presence is GREATLY MISSED! All of the above listed people were truly the backbone of our past baking operations. Without them the stress and strain of this year's event has been tremendous on the small number who are doing their best to carry on the tradition.



We should all be thankful for the work these women and men have done in the past, and the work that the small number are doing now. When people say Philoptochos is the philanthropic backbone of every Orthodox parish, this is a prime example of what they mean! But the fact of the matter is, **WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE!**

Continued on next page....

Stewardship Ministry

This first-time bake sale in lieu of a full blown festival began with three Saturday baklava work parties in July. Evy Kontos oversaw the preparation of the baklava and we had tremendous support from many people who worked those Saturdays in July! We had over 30 people “present for duty” on each of those 3 days and thanks to a few “professional” baklava makers like Mrs. Despina Ampatzis and others who could make three or four pans in the time it takes an average person to make one, several hundred pans were made! **Doxa to Theo!**



We recognize that many people work during the week or take care of grandchildren, but for those who are not decisively engaged with critical requirements, this is a prime time to offer some of your time and talent to our church and fulfill a portion of our Orthodox stewardship requirement. We are in the process of reaching out to many by calling, emailing, and asking for your support, but **PLEASE, DON'T WAIT TO BE CALLED!** No parishioner of our church should ever expect a special invitation to contribute their time, talent, or treasure. We are Orthodox Christians and it is incumbent upon all of us to do the best we can! That is what made St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church a thriving community, and it is that ethos that enables our church to remain a great place to worship Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

BE A STEWARD OF ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH AND HELP MAKE OUR BAKE SALE A SUCCESS. COME ON MONDAYS, TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS TO ASSIST WITH FOOD PREPARATION, AND COME ON SATURDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, AND OTHER DATES YET TO BE SCHEDULED FOR PACKAGING!

On a different note, if you haven't been to church in a while you might be in for a little surprise! Our parish continues to grow and we have been blessed with many new young adults (I define them as between the ages of 17 and 30). Recently a BBQ was hosted by Monica and Andrew Auter, and Ingrid and Gus Chamales. The intent was to get many of them together at one time and afford them an opportunity to meet, and get to know each other. Some of these young adults you may have seen if you watch the live streaming services, and others you may have seen when you attended either a week day or a week end service. Below are some photos from that event along with the names of the attendees. The next time you are in church please take a moment to introduce yourself to any you do not recognize from previous services that you may have attended, and welcome them in a manner commensurate with you would

Continued on next page....

Stewardship Ministry

like to be treated. And if you see someone you already recognize, go over and greet them anyway! These young folks are the future of our church and it is important that they always view St. Nicholas as a home full of love and friendship!



Left to Right, Front Row: Thor and Athena (The dogs)

Left to Right, First Step/Row: John Majmudar, Nicholas Majmudar, John Edgren, Gabriel Majmudar, Tommy Majmudar, Steven Edgren, Marcie Rice.

Left to Right, Second Step/Row: Homer Reiter (Martin & Lori's son) and Audrey Sikora, Sunny and Tim Edgren, Aaron, Renae, and Anthony Rice, Ingrid Chamales.

Left to Right, Third Step/Row: Chris Ellis on the far left. Tim Edgren, Rachel and Scott Parnell on far right.

Left to Right, Fourth Row: Jacob Swam, Aidan Phelps, Socrates Frisk, Timothy Armatas, Keyvyn Rogers, Quinlan Rogers.

Back Row standing from Left to Right: Steve Chamales, Monica/Sheila Auter and Andrew Auter.

Continued on next page....

Stewardship Ministry

And finally, we wish to say a fond farewell to a young family that we have all grown to love and cherish. Aaron, Renae, Marcie and Anthony will be leaving St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox soon and heading to Boston, Massachusetts. Aaron is enrolled in the Greek Orthodox seminary and God willing, he will graduate in three years and become a Greek Orthodox Priest.

We have been so blessed to have the Rice family as part of our St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church for the last few years. They are a wonderful family full of life and vitality, and wish them all the best on their future endeavors. **Doxa to Theo!**



Contributed by:

Gus

Stewardship Ministry News Cont.

Stewardship

Offering Our Time, Talent and Treasure To God

Stewardship Message

For the past several months, the Messenger has published a list of contributors who have made monetary donations to St. Nicholas for 2021. In addition, we have also indicated those contributors who have a signed 2021 stewardship card on file in the church's office by showing an (•) after your last name. Each month, the contributors and those who have a signed stewardship card on file is growing. On behalf of the Parish Council, we THANK each and every one of you for your contributions. Below is an updated list of contributors as of August 15, 2021. If you do not see your name below, or an (•) after your name, please contact the church office to update your status.

William & Mary Acker •	Barry & Deborah Middleton	Stephan & Claire Gorham •
Nicholas Afeiche	Cassidy	John Gregory
Leonidas & Despina Alatsis •	Klaudia Cedeno •	Christina Gretty •
Patra Alatsis •	C.G. and Ingrid Chamales •	Robin & Joyce Kalivas-
Kacoulou Andreas	Steven Chamales	Griffin •
Anna Andrey	Yianni Charitou	Sally Hallis •
Sonny & Irene Angelos	Reagan & Reanne Charuhas	Dean & Carol Hamos •
Rick & Marlene Angelus •	Elena Chen	Michael & Kristine Hanberg •
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Tony and Lori Apostle •	Anthony & Sandra Ciarochi	Natalya Harpe
Andrew & Sheila Auter •	Courtney Cole-Faso •	Brent & Evangelia Hassel
Tina Ayers	Sharmarie & Troy Dares •	Magdaline Hatzikazakis •
George Ballasiotes	Dina Deliyianides •	Richard & Kathleen Heidal
Tyler & Lexi Balsler •	Gretchen Eagle •	Christopher & Cheryl Hunt
E. Anthe Barbas	Timothy & Sunny Edgren •	Thomas & Helga Jackson •
Chrysanth & SFC® Wiley	Frederick & Anastasia Ehret	Joseph & Ronnie-Sue John-
Barnes	Amber Lynn Eramo •	son •
Harry & Sheri Basil •	Mary Erickson	Kathy Johnson •
Sophia Elizabeth Berg •	Andrew & Jane Evancho •	"Rikki" Hariklia Kapes •
T.L. Berg	James & Deena Fotinopoulos	Anna Karanasos •
Theodora Bessinas •	David & Savina Frisk •	Paula Karanasos •
Tatiana Bilibin	Dayle Sokratis Frisk •	Zachary & Daphne Karana-
Dean & Anna Bolaris	Father and Alexanorie	sos •
Andrew & Kathy Bouzinekis	Gavrill	Sharon Kennedy •
Yvonne Brandvold •	Mary Georgopolos •	Naser & Catalina Khalaj •
Dora Brown	Christina Ginosatis	Nelya Khamilonova
Cheryl Burack •	Alla Glagoleva	Claudia Sargent Kieszling •
Scott & Marcia Cairns •	John & Judy Godulas •	Evangelos & Despina
William and Bonnie Caress •	Eliza Gooler	Kipelidis •
Cash Donations - Anonymous Donors		

Stewardship Ministry News

Stewardship

Offering Our Time, Talent and Treasure To God

Anna Kiraki	Niko & Sonia Pamboukas •	Deborah Talbot •
Anna Koopman	Anthony Panagiotu	The Matherne Family
Steve Koukles •	George Panagiotu	Nicholas and Becky The-
John C. Kouklis	Alexis Pangis •	melis •
Mary Kouklis •	John & Merrilee Pangis •	Roxanne Vallantine •
Ourania Koukousoula & Ronald Ayume	Stathis & JoAnna Papanicolaou	Dee Varca •
Maria Koumantaros •	Scott and Rachael Parnell	Georgia & Peter Vlahas •
Peter and Margaret Laketa	Audrey Pasion	John Volkert •
Elia and Micheline Lakkis	Kesha Patel	Michael Jane White •
Deanne Langevin	Andrew Phillips •	Jeffrey and Janice Williams
Vernon Larson	George and Diane Pirotis •	Edward Winskill •
Robert & Anne Latz •	Stavros Pirotis •	Hugh Winskill
Christina Leinneweber •	Lena & Charles Plunkett	Marcela Wirth
Mary Leonard •	Joaquin & Shanna Poirot	Kalitsa & John Xitco •
L. Likos	Martha Politakis	Tasso & Sarah Zambaras
Svetlana Lukianova	Steve & Kathleen Politakis •	John Zaoutsos
Andrew Lurker	Andrew and Rebecca Primis •	Luai Zureikat
George and Bess Lurker •	Emmanuel Psilovikos	
Jeff & Laura Macaluso	Sammy Ramzi	
John Basil Majmudar •	Homer-Christian Reiter and	
Fr. Seraphim & Pres. Sophie Majmudar •	Audrey Sikara •	
Sara & Costas Makariou •	Martin J. Reiter III & Lorissa	
Olga Lynn Manos •	Catherine Reiter •	
Chris & Susan Manthou •	Aaron T. & Renae C. Rice	
Mathew John Manthou •	Mark & Dana Robinson •	
Natalia Marberg	Katherine Rowley •	
Katherine Mason •	Lilia Rusu	
Dean & Julie Mastras •	Katherine Salatas	
Iphigenia Mavromichali •	Bill and Karen Samaras •	
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Cassie & Paul Moeller •	Society	
Tom Mollas	Alexandru Stefan • *	
Nina & John Morrison •	Denise and Richard Stahl •	
Hariklia & Dick Motz •	Jacob Swan	
Michael & Rodica Murphy •	Andy & Joanne Stergachis •	
Order of AHEPA - Olympic Chapter	James & Jenise Sweeney	
David & Katrina Orriss •	Olympia and John Stafford •	
Evangelos Pamboukas		

• 2021 Stewardship card
on file

* Deceased

Organization: Order of
AHEPA, St. Nicholas
Philoptochos Society

Bible Study

ST. NICHOLAS BIBLE STUDY THE REVELATION

ENVY (But...WHY?)



How did sin come about? The answer is envy. It all started with the deceit of the “serpent”, Lucifer, the fallen angel was envious and desired everything that God, the Creator, had and was. Why was there an angel who was deceitful at all? This answer is important if we are to understand all the stages that are unfolding now (Enoch, Elijah, Antichrist, etc.). Lucifer’s fall began the moment he took his gaze off of God and looked at the myriad of angels around him, and saw that God had made him the most sublime, the most beautiful, the swiftest, the most intelligent and intuitive out of all the angels, the crown jewel. He became consumed with himself and turned his back on God. We can talk about our sin and all the wrong choices we make, but there wouldn’t have been human sin had there not been temptation brought about by Lucifer, Satan, the Devil, the evil one, who had initiated the war in Heaven (Revelation 11 & 12). He commandeered a third of the angels (presumably high-ranking angels who had the same arrogant thoughts and desires) and the result was war in Heaven. By the time God created man, Satan was so far down stream in his hatred of God that he had become obsessed in conquering his Ultimate Opponent. Only God, Himself, is more sublime and beautiful than Lucifer. When Satan saw the special and unique favor that God bestowed upon man, who had a body and didn’t participate as clearly as he did in the most radiant and sublime circles of the heavenly spheres and saw that God had made Adam and Eve the priests of all creation, he became enraged and indignant and obsessed with the destruction of man because of envy. He envied God’s Uncreated and eternal beauty that he could never possess and the role in which God had placed man. All the sublime glory and beauty that Lucifer inhabited actually flowed through the hearts of Adam and Eve on its way to God and

Bible Study

flowed from God to Adam and Eve onto himself. He must have felt great indignation when he thought of how he could be the recipient of light and glory that passed through a fleshly priest. His capacity was like no other and when it became darkened it became an unending abyss of hatred. Envy drives the soul to its lowest depths filled with hatred. The only thing left for him to do (in his mind) was to drag these priests, Adam and Eve, into the abyss with him. Angels can't repent because they already see the full glory of God according to their capacity. Man was hindered in his clear perception of the glory of God. Man hadn't attained to the full glorious perception of God that Lucifer possessed the moment he was created. One word that can express the devil's feelings can be found in Satan's conversation with God in **Job 1:10-11** *"Have you not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ²But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"* That word is "envy".

Comments from Bible Study members on envy:

Dimitri: Envy for me is forgetting our Oneness and uniqueness and then we start comparing to another versus going within to get filled by the Light of our Creator.

Kathy R.: When we focus on what we don't have, we miss being grateful, and appreciative of what we do have. We ignore our gifts and miss the blessings of what we have already been given. There will always be someone who is more spiritual, richer, has a better something/everything... It's a lie from the enemy to derail our happiness, and sidetrack [hijack] our lives. Envy is a waste of the present, and is a huge lie to deceive.

Deborah T.: There are degrees of ill will and spitefulness. It's not just wanting something that someone else has, it is mean and nasty.

Father Seraphim: It implies not just jealousy but harmful intent.

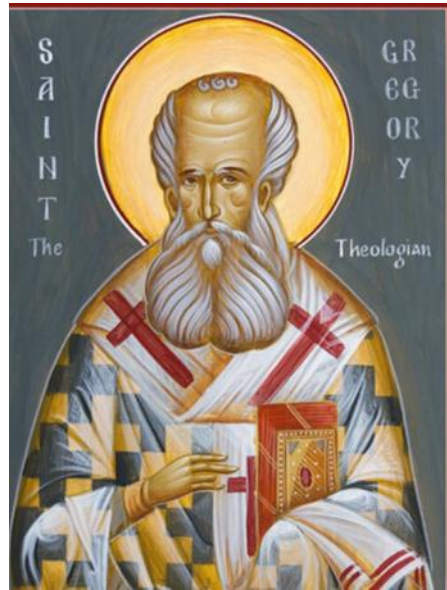
Denise: "Keeping up with the Joneses" has become the norm in today's society.

Sheila A.: Envy passes through all generations and that's where the healing needs to start.

Father Seraphim: Envy leads to an "arms race" that never ends versus what the alternative can be. The more one divests themselves of material concerns that are driven by the passions, the less they become the object of envy. That's the power of the Cross. Being desirous of what others have is constricting – to be around beauty, wealth and power – because others have it and you don't. The tragedy is, as years go by, to meet those people who lost it. The popular, beautiful and powerful in high school (for example) aren't assured these attributes will follow them through the rest of their lives. Some are faced with the fact that they are no longer "gods". Those who are saved by God's grace in His calling are blessed. Don't envy the "demi-gods" – pursue God and accept the Cross and find joy. We can be grounded in our approach to the End Times and to say "let's make ourselves small and humble" and have no concern for the things that others are madly pursuing because they are driven by envy. All those who are going to follow Antichrist and believe him, are riddled with envy and the pursuit of power, beauty and wealth.

We go to the Holy Fathers, St. Gregory the Theologian, St. John of Damascus and St. Irenaeus of Lyons on envy and the evil one.

Bible Study



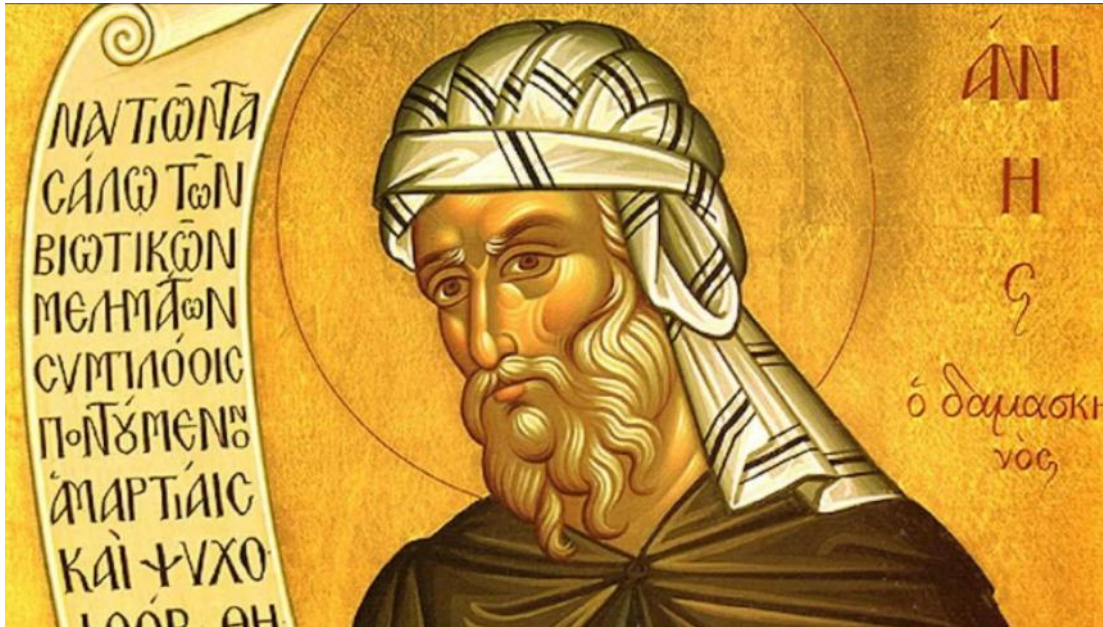
SAINT GREGORY

THE THEOLOGIAN

ORATION 39

XIII. Since then these things are so, or rather since This is so; and His Adoration ought not to be rendered only by Beings above, but there ought to be also worshippers on earth, that all things may be filled with the glory of God (forasmuch as they are filled with God Himself); therefore, man was created and honored with the hand and Image of God. 1But to despise man, when by the envy of the Devil and the bitter taste of sin, he was pitiably severed from God his Maker – this was not in the Nature of God. What then was done, and what is the great Mystery that concerns us? An innovation is made upon nature, and God is made Man. “He who rides upon the Heaven of Heavens in the East” of His own glory and Majesty, is glorified in the West of our meanness and lowliness. And the Son of God deigns to become and be called Son of Man; not changing what He was (for It is unchangeable); but assuming what He was not (for He is full of love to man), that the Incomprehensible might be comprehended, conversing with us through the mediation of the Flesh as through a veil; since it was not possible for that nature which is subject to birth and decay to endure His unveiled Godhead. Therefore, the Unmingled is mingled; and not only is God mingled with birth and Spirit with flesh, and the Eternal with time, and the Uncircumscribed with measure; but also Generation with Virginity, and dishonor with Him Who is higher than all honor. He Who is impassible with Suffering and the Immortal with the corruptible. 2For since that Deceiver thought that he was unconquerable in his malice, after he had cheated us with the hope of becoming gods, he was himself cheated by God’s assumption of our nature; so that in attacking Adam as he thought he should really meet with God, and thus, the new Adam should save the old, and the condemnation of the flesh should be abolished, death being slain by flesh.

Bible Study



ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS: Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith – Book 2, Chapter 30

It was necessary, therefore, that man should first be put to the test (for man untried and unproved would be worth nothing), and being made perfect by the trial through the observance of the command should thus receive incorruption as the prize of his virtue. For being intermediate between God and matter he was destined, if he kept the command, to be delivered from his natural relation to existing things and to be made one with God's estate, and to be immovably established in goodness, but, if he transgressed and inclined the rather to what was material, and tore his mind from the Author of his being, I mean God, his fate was to be corruption, and he was to become subject to passion instead of passionless, and mortal instead of immortal, and dependent on connection and unsettled generation. And in his desire for life, he would cling to pleasures as though they were necessary to maintain it, and would fearlessly abhor those who sought to deprive him of these, and transfer his desire from God to matter, and his anger from the real enemy of his salvation to his own brethren. The envy of the devil then was the reason of man's fall. For that same demon, so full of envy and with such a hatred of good, would not suffer us to enjoy the pleasures of heaven, when he himself was kept below on account of his arrogance, and hence the false one tempts miserable man with the hope of Godhead, and leading him up to as great a height of arrogance as himself, he hurls him down into a pit of destruction just as deep.

Bible Study



ST. IRENÆUS OF LYONS

"Against Heresies"

Book 5, Chapter 24

The devil, however, as he is the apostate angel, can only go to this length, as he did at the beginning, [namely] to deceive and lead astray the mind of man into disobeying the commandments of God, and gradually to darken the heart of those who would endeavor to serve him, to the forgetting of the true God, but to the adoration himself as God.

4. Just as if any one, being an apostate, and seizing in a hostile manner another man's territory, should harass the inhabitants of it, in order that he might claim for himself the glory of a king among those ignorant of his apostasy and robbery; so likewise, also, the devil, being one among those angels who are placed over the spirit of the air, as the Apostle Paul has declared in his Epistle to the Ephesians, **Ephesians 2:2** becoming envious of man, was rendered an apostate from the divine law: for envy is a thing foreign to God. And as his apostasy was exposed by man, and man became the [means of] searching out his thoughts (et examination sententiae ejus, homo factus est), he has set himself to this with greater and greater determination, in opposition to man, envying his life, and wishing to involve him in his own apostate power. The Word of God, however, the Maker of all things, conquering him by means of human nature, and showing him to be an apostate, has, on the contrary, put him under the power of man. For He says, "Behold, I confer upon you the power of treading upon serpents and scorpions, and upon all the power of the enemy," **Luke 10:19** in order that, as he obtained dominion over man by apostasy, so again his apostasy might be deprived of power by means of man turning back again to God.

Αποστασία – apostasia – stand away from (from the Greek word for divorce)

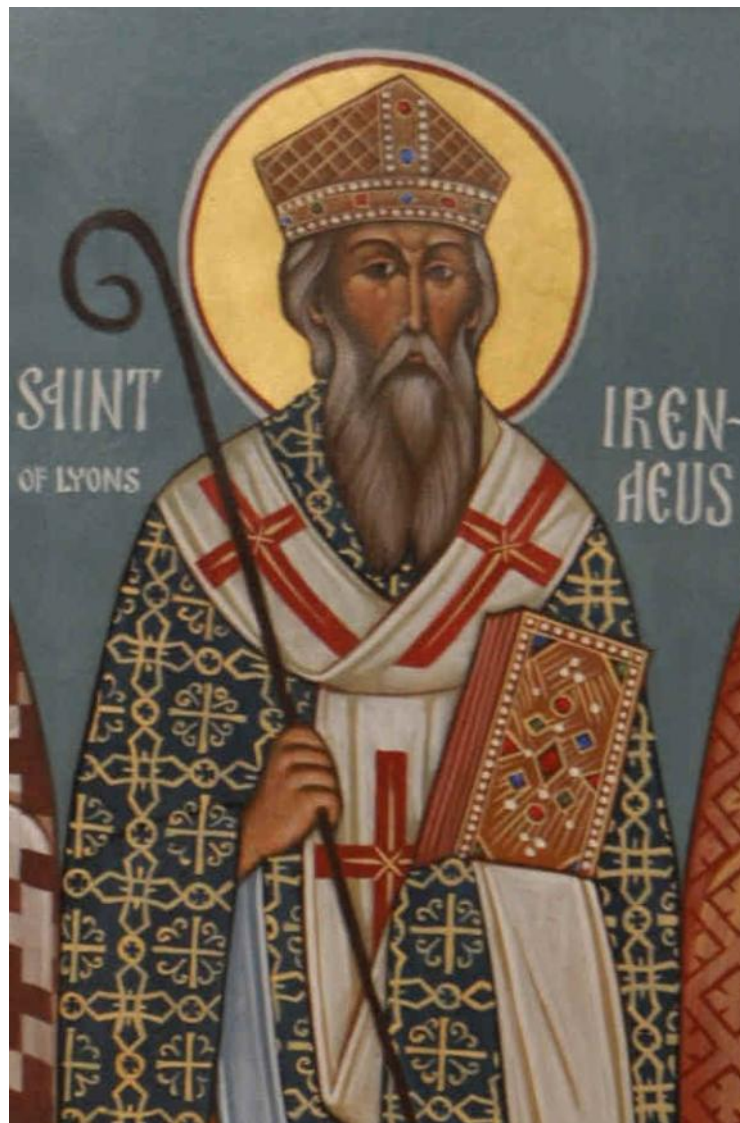
George Pirotis (Greek teacher): the root verb is: στέκομαι – stékomai – stand, stay; αποστέκομαι – apostékomai – depart, leaving. The devil was part of the Kingdom and then he left (not in a friendly way).

As St. Irenaeus explains, when he describes the devil as an "apostate angel" (apostasia), he summarizes the teachings of the Holy Fathers and sets a frame for our issue of how we understand everything that is unfolding that is recorded in Scripture. Next, we will be lead, with the help of St. Hippolytus of Rome, into an examination of the Prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel and Daniel and the role of the "Great Civilizations" as being instruments of the devil's will throughout history. God did not create a "powerful evil force" in the world to counter balance "His powerful good force" – it's not a "Yin/Yang" thing. The only power that the devil has comes from the fact that he stands away from power and goodness. He doesn't have anything that is inherent; he can only deceive people into thinking he has power. God in His inscrutable wisdom, has allowed the devil to exercise his deceitfulness throughout the earth. The evil one gets his power by capitalizing on the fact that we give in to our passions.

Bible Study

From the viewpoint of this apostate world, Christians are viewed as powerless. The saints and martyrs seemed to lack leverage against the Roman and Babylonian empires. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the "power of darkness" because it seems to be everywhere. Evil seems to be multiplying leaving us to feel powerless, creating anxiety and speculation. There has been a 70% increase in home prices in "out-of-the-way" places like northern Idaho in the last nine months. Thousands of people are leaving the coast and moving to Idaho and Montana because there is this sense that things are coming apart. Many are looking for a traditionally "American" way of life. Society is disintegrating and evil is multiplying. We can't look at this through the lens of fear as if it has power. Fear is also a passion.

Submitted by: Genevieve Eagle



ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY



Teri Conover, President and Genevieve Eagle, Treasurer

Washington Alliance for Life is a volunteer driven non-profit organization that seeks to bring life affirming resources to Pierce County. One of the ways we do this is by setting up booths at the local fairs and events such as Meeker Days, Pierce County Fair, Western Washington State Fair and Chief Leschi Pow Wow. I want to share some photos and testimonials from two of these events: Pierce County Fair (Graham, WA) and Meeker Days (Puyallup, WA).

Pierce County (Graham) Fair Testimonials:

A young mom: "The doctors told me to medically discontinue my pregnancy because the ultrasound showed that only half of my baby's brain had developed. I chose not to listen to the doctors. I gave to birth to a loving and delightful baby boy." After looking at the literature and the baby "models" on display she was amazed to see that a fetus' development at three months showed the baby had a face. Her doctor never showed her an image of her baby.

Some teenagers came by the booth and asked questions about the baby "models". They wanted to know what age the fetus starts to move and look like a baby. After studying the display they said they had no idea – they expected to just leap a lump.

A mother with her ten year old son told us that her doctor advised her to abort her baby because he had a heart murmur. She refused and gave birth to her baby boy. He had a successful heart surgery and is perfectly healthy.

A lady came by and said she has three children. With her fourth pregnancy she became extremely ill and was in the hospital for over a month. She was given many doses of heavy medication which made the

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

baby ill as well. Eventually the doctors told her that she would die if she did not abort the baby. She thought about her girls left motherless and so agreed to the abortion. Her condition began to improve, and she fully recovered. After she was released from the hospital, her doctor told her that the baby would have resulted in a miscarriage had she survived without the abortion. She told us that she thinks about that baby, mourns the loss, and ponders the dilemma still to this day.



Nora Schindler, Genevieve Eagle, Kathy Johnson



Nora Schindler, Wes Pryne, Kathy Johnson

Meeker Days Testimonials:

A woman came by and donated \$20.00 saying she loves what we are doing! She was part of "Operation Rescue" and was arrested four times for blocking the entrance to Planned Parenthood with an anti-abortion sign.

A sweet young mother came by with her husband and children. When the girls were out of earshot, the mom told us that her mother was raped and she was the baby who resulted from that crime. She is ever grateful that her mother did not treat her as the criminal and abort her.

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

A Vietnam veteran stopped by to ask if we helped young mothers and mothers-to-be find employment, provide ultrasounds, parenting classes, financial support, etc. I told him that we provide resource referrals and recommended Care Net Pregnancy Center of Puget Sound. He was very pleased that there was an organization that did all that and more. He shared with us that there is a restaurant in Sumner, Washington by the name of Farm 12 and that they not only support, but employ and find employment for young moms and moms-to-be. They also help them financially and help them to find affordable housing. They have a website: www.farm12.org.



Save the dates: Fall 2021 Vigils: September 22 through October 31

Where: (Public right-of-way outside) Cedar River Clinic, 1401-A Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma, Washington

Father Seraphim and St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church will be participating in the Tacoma Fall Campaign vigils by holding Orthodox Christian Services of Supplication for the Victims of Abortion on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 – 4:00 pm during the period of September 22 through October 29. Please consider joining us to help save those precious babies who have no voice. For more information, please contact Genevieve, stnicholaszoom@gmail.com.

Submitted by: Genevieve

ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed

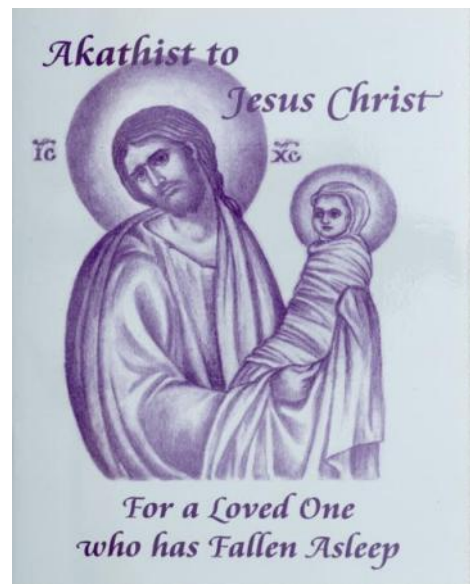


Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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

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

Thank you again,
Kathy Rowley



ST. NICHOLAS PHILOPTOCHOS MINISTRY

PHILOPTOCHOS

Presidents Message

Philoptochos 2021 Members-St. Nicholas chapter members information and dues were sent into the National Philoptochos and Metropolis offices. The 38 members are: Marlene Angelus, Dolores Apostle, Yvonne Brandvold, Ingrid Chamales, Georgia Vlahas-Dapping, Jane Evancho, Krisann Firth, Mary Georgopolos, Joyce Kalivas-Griffin, Sally Hallis, Kathleen Heidal, Kathy Johnson, Hariklia Kapes, Anna Karanasos, Daphne Karanasos, Zach Karanasos, Sharon Kennedy, Claudia Kieszling, Maria Koumantaros, Olga Manos, Mary Leonard, Pres. Sophie Majmudar, Susan Manthou, Katy Mason, Deborah Middleton, Angelina Minion, Helen McClure, Hoddi Motz, Marian Palas, Merrilee Pangis, Diane Pirotis, Jeannie Ranglas, Lexi Rogers, Karen Samaras, Lilly Serhan, Mary Sudar, Michael Jane White, and Kalitsa Xitco

Board election & meetings: 11 board members have been submitted to the National office for ratification. The following were elected:

President-Jane Evancho

Vice-President-Hariklia (Hoddi) Motz

Secretary-Merrilee Panglis

Treasurer-Ingrid Chamales

Advisor-Sally Hallis

Board members-Joyce Kalivas-Griffin, Kathy Johnson, Maria Koumantaros, Olga Manos, Diane Pirotis, and Kalitsa Xitco.

Regular monthly meetings will resume in September. Please contact Merrilee Pangis for the Zoom information. Topics will include Philoptochos programs and ministry commitments. We invite all interested members and parishioners to join these meetings and share their thoughts. The calendar of events will be posted in the Messenger when we can resume our activities.

Raffle Tickets for Biennial National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund-The National Philoptochos organization holds a luncheon every two years with proceeds going to the National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund. This is an important fund raising event and our chapter will contribute funds as a sponsor. In addition, a grand raffle is held at the luncheon, on Nov. 6, 2021. Our community has the opportunity to purchase tickets. The prizes are quite impressive! They include: gift cards in value of \$1,000 to \$300, as well as designer jewelry and handbags. Tickets are \$10/each or 3 for \$25. Please contact Kalitsa Xitco for ticket purchase.

Contributed by Jane Evancho

Greek Language School

Modern Greek Language School/Classes

“Advanced Class” - Student Picture of 04-15-2021



“Pictures of previous years”



Greek Language School

Pictures of previous years continued...

Modern Greek Language School / Classes:



The 2020 - 2021 Modern Greek Language School "Advanced Class - Εκτη Τάξη "resumed on Thursday, October 8, 2020 and will continue to September 30, 2021" every Thursday, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM.

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

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

Teacher - George Pirotis

Contact Church Office - 253-272-0466

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

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

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

Yearly events and possible student involvement:

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

Sunday, October 31st - **OXI Day Celebration.**

Thursday, March 28th, 2021 Celebration, commemorating the March 25th, 1821 Revolution for the **Greek Independence from the Ottoman Empire!**

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

George Pirotis-

PROSPHORA

PROVIDING PROSFORO

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

Despina Ampatzis brings the offering for the first Sunday of every month. Just a reminder that people are welcome to bring the prospora (and artoklasia) for special days, name days, etcetera. The procedure would be to contact Father Seraphim and discuss it with him before the actual day, and to have the offering there in time. We also have a need for people desiring to participate in the Liturgy in this way to commit to providing the offering on one Sunday every month. The second, third, and fourth, Sundays of every month are available. You can bring in your bread for Sunday at Saturday evening Vespers, or you can bring it in at 8:30 Sunday morning. Any extra loaves will be frozen and used during the weekday liturgies.

Contributed by: Deborah Talbot



PROSPHORA

LECHEM-ARTOS-BREAD

Following the Word Through Scripture

We last left the Israelites camped at Kadesh. The spies had returned from spying out the Promised Land, and the people rebelled in fear. They decided to choose a new leader and return to Egypt. The Lord's response to this was that all the murmurers would die in the desert. The Lord pronounced this judgment and then began instructing Moses and the people in the way of life, as noted in last month's article. Certain men, however, refused to listen. See Numbers 16 and 17. The rebellion grew, with some claiming that Moses and Aaron had exalted themselves. Some of the rebels were Levites who wanted to claim the priesthood that had been given to Aaron and his sons only (Moses and Aaron were of the tribe of Levi). These Levites influenced other leaders among the people who were not Levites. The Levites who were claiming priestly rights for themselves offered incense to the Lord and were consumed by fire that came from the Lord. As for the other men and those who stood with them, the ground opened up and swallowed them. Yet the very next day the people *still* murmured against Moses and Aaron, for which the Lord sent a plague among the people. Aaron went out with incense to stop the plague, standing between the dead and the living (14,700 died). Then the Lord instructed them to place one rod from each tribe before the ark of testimony, and Aaron's rod yielded ripe almonds in only one day; by this everyone knew God had called Aaron to his role. At this time the Lord again outlined the duties of the priests and the other Levites and set up the support system of the Levites through tithing (chapter 18). Then He gave instruction on purification through the ashes of the red heifer mixed with running water (chapter 19), a type of the sacrament of baptism (and no doubt a statement that people need to be purified).

Circumstances continue to be difficult. In chapter 20, Miriam dies, there is no water, and the people scoff at their leaders. In response, Moses and Aaron fall on their faces before the door of the tabernacle. The Lord tells them to take that budded rod of Aaron's and speak to the rock, and it will give its waters. But Moses struck the rock, twice. The Lord said that this striking was an act of unbelief and a failure to sanctify the Lord before the children of Israel, for which Moses and Aaron would not be the ones to lead the children into the promised land. Then the Lord calls Moses, Aaron, and Eleazar to Mount Hor where he gives Aaron's priestly robe to Eleazar, and Aaron dies.

Around this time a Canaanite king attacks the Israelites and carries off captives as booty. Israel vows to the Lord that if he will deliver these Canaanites into his hand, he will anathematize them and their cities. The Lord listened and delivered up the Canaanites, and Israel anathematized them. After this account of God's mercy and strength towards them, the very next thing we are told is that they departed Mt. Hor down towards the Red Sea and around the land of Edom, but they became discouraged on the way and grumbled among themselves against God and Moses, complaining about the "worthless manna." *Numbers 21:5: So the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to kill us in the desert? For there is no **bread** nor water, and our soul is weary of this worthless **bread**."* The Lord heard them and sent poisonous serpents to bite the people, and those bitten died. Because of this, some of the people came to Moses and confessed their sin, asking Moses to intercede for them. The Lord told Moses to make a serpent and put it on a signal pole. Anyone bitten should look at this copper serpent and he would live.

Page 189 of the Orthodox Study Bible has notes about this copper serpent. I will point out that this "worthless manna" they grumbled about is a type of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. In their descent

PROSPHORA

from Mt. Hor, they descended also into discouragement and even further into noxious grumbling. These seem to me points worth pondering; especially that grumbling can lead to death.

Chapter 21 continues after the serpent incident with a list of camps that includes a stop at a well, Numbers 21:16-18. The Lord gives them water to drink from this well, which was dug and established by other people, and the Israelites sang this song about that: *As for the well, rulers dug it; Kings of nations hewed it in stone, In their kingly rule, when they were the lords.*

After the well they move on, coming eventually to the land of the Amorites and asking King Sihon permission to pass his border. King Sihon's response was to come out and engage them in battle. Israel prevailed, taking all the cities of the Amorites and dwelling in them, in Heshbon and Bashan, and they inherited all that land.

Comment: I see in these chapters a continuing pattern; the people sin, the Lord disciplines, and then He directs them toward true life, which is a loving response to the people. I also see some beginning communion. The people turned to the Lord to help them with the Canaanite king who attacked them, and when the serpents came they went to Moses to confess and ask intercession, rather than blaming him as they had done before. I think these positive actions indicate the people began to see how their own attitudes and negative reactions influenced their sufferings, which they were beginning to understand the pattern of their lives and God's love for them.

To be continued...



Deborah Talbot--

Here is a closeup map of Heshbon and Bashan east of the Jordan River from region of the Dead Sea to the region of the Sea of Galilee. And on the other map, we've moved from Kadesh-Barnea around the Wilderness of Zin, down towards the Red Sea, then up to the Jordan River.

Donations and Pledges

On line Donations now possible

ON-LINE DONATIONS

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



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

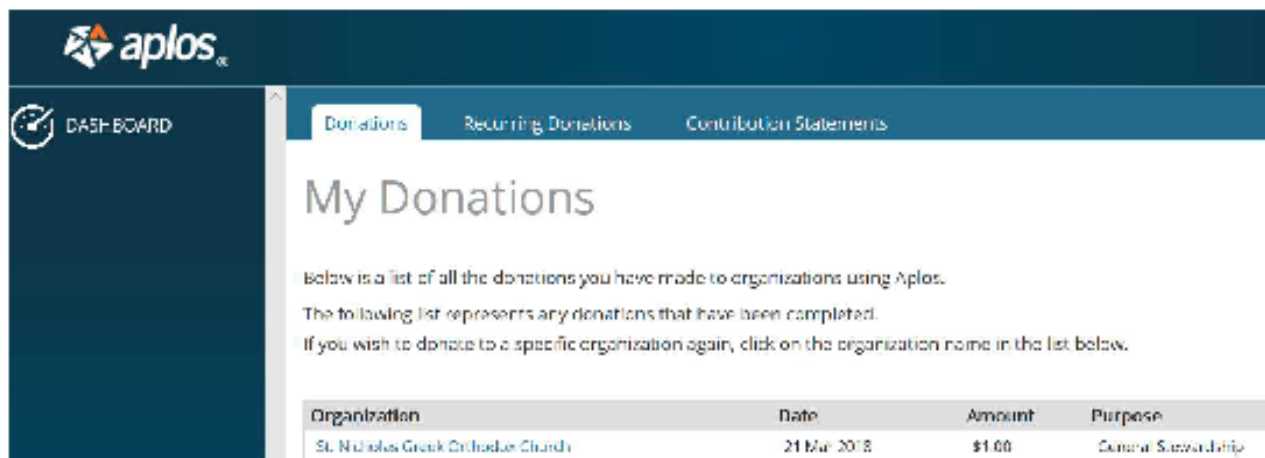
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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

In Christ,

Mark Robinson

On-Line Contribution Instructions:

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



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 'DONATIONS' (highlighted). The main content area is titled 'My Donations' and contains the following 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

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.

**2021 STEWARDSHIP CARD
 ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
 TACOMA, WASHINGTON**



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

Please PRINT your information clearly

Name (F/M/L):
 DOB (M/D/Y):
 Email:
 Telephone:
 Spouse:
 DOB (M/D/Y):
 Email:
 Telephone:

Household Information

Address
 City/St/Zip

Dependent Children

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

Are we living our calling and preparing: "... a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ?"
 Is our stewardship the healthiest and the most effective it can be?

Christ's Possible Question to You:

"What did you do with MY Church under Your watch given all of the gifts I gave you?"

..... 2021 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT.....

Tithing a minimum of 10% of the blessings God has bestowed upon us is what we as Orthodox Christians are asked to do. If you are unable to tithe 10% of God's blessings at this time, please consider tithing a percentage amount equal to what you gave last year, but rounded up to the next whole number.

I/We offer a minimum stewardship pledge of \$...../year or \$...../month in 2021 to support God's work.

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

SIGNATURE.....

Click Here to Email Completed Form To Treasurer

Note: To email - the PDF must be open in Adobe Acrobat or a Comparable PDF Reader

Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Address Service Requested

