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*“The light of Orthodoxy was not lit to shine only on a small number of men. The Orthodox Church is universal; it remembers the words of its Founder: ‘Go into all the world, and preach the Good News to the whole creation’, ‘go and make disciples of all nations’.” —St. Tikhon of Moscow, April 7*

Glory to God for all things! Amidst our own Lenten journey to the Life-giving Cross of our Lord and His glorious Resurrection, we are reminded of our Apostolic calling through these words of St. Tikhon of Moscow. This call to go out into the world and preach the Gospel is not limited to our missionary brothers and sisters, or even our beloved shepherd Bishops. This call is given to each and every one of us in our own reception through Baptism and Chrismation, where we are given the same quickening breath of the Holy Spirit, and armed with the power to step on the spiritual serpents and scorpions that may seek to become stumbling blocks to our own path toward true freedom in Christ.

*Continued on page 5...*

# St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-272-0466

Parish Website: [stnicholastacoma.org](http://stnicholastacoma.org)

E-Mail: [mail@stnicholastacoma.org](mailto:mail@stnicholastacoma.org)

Administrative 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. Anthony Cornett, Our Presiding Priest



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

Fr. Anthony's Cell phone: 1-661-776-5237

Office Hours at St. Nicholas

— by appointment —

Email: [anthonymcornett@gmail.com](mailto:anthonymcornett@gmail.com)

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

**Editors:** Carol MartinOki/Bill Samaras

**Media team:** Paula Karanasos, Fr. Anthony

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

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# St. Nicholas Ministries

## AHEPA

Paul Apostle, President  
 Chris Basil, Vice President  
 Tony Panagiotu, Treasurer  
 Andrew Kouklis, Secretary

## 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

Genevieve Eagle

## Military Service

LTC Gus Chamales

## Premarital Education

George Pirotis, Diane Pirotis

## Stewardship

Fenia Mavromichali

## 2023 Parish Council

Andrew Primis, President  
 Fenia Mavromichali, Vice President  
 Christina Leinneweber, Secretary  
 Mark Robinson, Treasurer  
 Yianni Charitou, Lisa Faithful, Kathy Johnson,  
 Zachary Karanasos, Maria Koumantaros, Alan Means, Tony Paniagotu, and Bill Samaras

## 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

## Greek Folk Dance

Evy Kontos – Chair & Intermediate dancers  
 Dr. Anastasia Fyntrilakis–Treasurer & Teen dancers

Krisann Firth – Costume Director  
 Julie Kotsali – Board Member

Kelly Rosati – Beginner dancers

George Pirotis – Adult Group Instructor

## Philoptochos Society

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

## Sunday School

*To be announced*

## Coffee Hour

Zach Karanasos

## IT, etc.

Bill Samaras

## Philia

Diane Pirotis

## Pro Life

Genevieve Eagle

## Flowers & Church Decorating

Kathy Rowley/Genevieve Eagle

## Greek School

George Pirotis

## Lazarus Group

Dean Hamos

## Pilgrimage

Zach Karanasos

## Prospora Baking

Deborah Talbot

## Welcome

Gus Chamales

# Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting will be Tuesday April 11, 2023



APRIL 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 ST JOHN OF THE LADDER SU Synaxis of Archangel Gabriel 6 more	27 Matrona, Martyr of Thessalon ● 3pm Veneration of Relics of ● 6pm Great Compline	28 Venerable Hilarion the New, A	29 Mark, Bishop of Arethusa and Martyrs Jonas and Barachisil ● 6pm Presanctified Liturgy	30 Thursday of the Great Canon Venerable John of Sinai, auth 3 more	31 Hieromartyr Hypatius, Bishop Innocent of Alaska, Equal-to-	Apr 1 AKATHIST SATURDAY Venerable Mary of Egypt 5 more
2 ST MARY OF EGYPT SUNDAY Venerable Titus the Wonderw 6 more	3 Venerable Nicetas the Confes ● 5:30pm Modern Greek ● 6pm Great Compline	4 Venerable George of Maleon Venerable Theonas, Archbishop ● 7pm Building Committee	5 Claudius, Diodore, and the fir ● 6pm Presanctified Liturgy	6 Eutychius, Patriarch of Consti	7 Calliopius the Martyr Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow 4 more	8 Agabus, Rufus, Asymcritus, Pl LAZARUS SATURDAY 3 more
9 Newly Revealed Martyrs Rapt Martyr Euphychius of Caesar 5 more	10 Hieromartyr Gregory the 5th, HOLY MONDAY 4 more	11 Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop ( ) HOLY TUESDAY 3 more	12 HOLY WEDNESDAY Venerable Basil the Confesso 3 more	13 HOLY THURSDAY Martin, Pope of Rome 2 more	14 Aristarchus, Pudens, and Troj HOLY FRIDAY 3 more	15 Crescens the Martyr HOLY SATURDAY 2 more
16 GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA Martyrs Agape, Irene, and Chi 3 more	17 Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop ● 5:30pm Modern Greek	18 Venerable John, Disciple of G	19 Hieromartyr Paphnutius of Je	20 Venerable Theodore the Hair-	21 Hieromartyr Bishop Januariu RENEWAL FRIDAY/LIFE-GIVIN 3 more	22 RENEWAL SATURDAY/KOLLY Venerable Theodore of Sykeo 3 more
23 Great Martyr George the Trop THOMAS SUNDAY 3 more	24 Venerable Elisabeth the Wont ● 5:30pm Modern Greek	25 Mark the Apostle and Evange	26 Hieromartyr Basil, Bishop of / ● 7pm Choir Practice	27 Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop	28 Nine Martyrs of Cyzicus	29 Apostiles Jason and Sospate ● 6pm Vespers
30 Ignatii Brianchaninov James the Apostle, brother oi 4 more	May 1 Jeremiah the Prophet ● 5:30pm Modern Greek	2 Translation of the relics of Ali Venerable Matrona of Mosco ● 7pm Building Committee	3 Martyrs Timothy and Maura Nicholas, Bishop of Ohrid and ● 7pm Choir Practice	4 Ven Beuno of Cymnog Fawr Ir Venerable Martyr Pelagia	5 Great Martyr Irene Venerable Martyr Ephraim of	6 Holy and Righteous Job, the J Venerable Seraphim of Mount 2 more

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

**APRIL 2023 CALENDAR CON'T.**

Saturday, April 1

**AKATHIST SATURDAY**

Venerable Mary of Egypt

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

(Baby Shower) in Lower Hall

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

6:00pm

Vespers

Sunday, April 2

**ST MARY OF EGYPT SUNDAY**

Venerable Titus the Wonderworker

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

12:00pm

Coffee Hour: Team Chamales

12:30pm

Choir &amp; Congregation Practice

1:00pm

Catechism Class

5:00pm

WOCA Lenten Vespers

Monday, April 3

Venerable Nicetas the Confessor, Abbot of the Medikion Monastery

5:30pm

Modern Greek

6:00pm

Great Compline

Tuesday, April 4

Venerable George of Maleon

Venerable Theonas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki

7:00pm

Building Committee

Wednesday, April 5

Claudius, Diodore, and the five martyrs with them

6:00pm

Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, April 6

Eutychius, Patriarch of Constantinople

Friday, April 7

Calliopius the Martyr

Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow

Venerable George the Standard-bearer, Bishop of Mytilene

6:30am

**APRIL 2023 CALENDAR CON'T.**

Presanctified Liturgy

6:00pm

Small Compline w/ Lazarus Canon

7:30pm

Lenten Book Study

Saturday, April 8

Agabus, Rufus, Asyncritus, Phlegon, Herodion, and Hermes of the Seventy Apostles

**LAZARUS SATURDAY**

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

6:00pm

Vespers

Sunday, April 9

Newly Revealed Martyrs Raphael, Nicholas and Irene of Lesbos

Martyr Euppsychius of Caesarea

**PALM SUNDAY**

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

12:00pm

Coffee Hour: Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon

6:00pm

Bridegroom Orthros

Monday, April 10

Hieromartyr Gregory the 5th, Patriarch of Constantinople

**HOLY MONDAY**

Martyrs Terence, Pompeius, Maximus, Africanus, and those with them

6:30am

Presanctified Liturgy

5:30pm

Modern Greek

6:00pm

Bridegroom Orthros

Tuesday, April 11

Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamon

**HOLY TUESDAY**

6:30am

Presanctified Liturgy

6:00pm

Bridegroom Orthros

7:00pm

Parish Council

Wednesday, April 12

**HOLY WEDNESDAY**

**APRIL 2023 CALENDAR CON'T.**

Venerable Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Parium

6:30am

Presanctified Liturgy

3:00pm

Holy Unction

6:00pm

Orthros (with HE Metropolitan Gerasimos)

Thursday, April 13

**HOLY THURSDAY**

Martin, Pope of Rome

10:00am

Vesperal Liturgy (Mystical Supper)

6:00pm

Orthros (12 Gospels)

Friday, April 14

Aristarchus, Pudens, and Trophimus of the Seventy Apostles

**HOLY FRIDAY**

8:00am

Great Hours

3:00pm

Great Vespers

6:00pm

Orthros (Lamentations)

Saturday, April 15

Crescens the Martyr

**HOLY SATURDAY**

10:00am

Vesperal Liturgy

11:00pm

Pannychis (Pre-Resurrection)

Sunday, April 16

**GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA**

Martyrs Agape, Irene, and Chionia

Venerable Amphilochios of Patmos

12:00am

Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Pascha)

12:00pm

Agape Vespers

Monday, April 17

Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop of Persia

5:30pm

Modern Greek

Tuesday, April 18

Venerable John, Disciple of Gregory of Decapolis

Wednesday, April 19

Hieromartyr Paphnutius of Jerusalem

Thursday, April 20

Venerable Theodore the Hair-shirt Wearer

**APRIL 2023 CALENDAR CON'T.**

Friday, April 21

Hieromartyr Bishop Januarius, and those with him  
**RENEWAL FRIDAY/LIFE-GIVING SPRING**

Saturday, April 22

**RENEWAL SATURDAY/KOLLYVADES FATHERS**

Venerable Theodore of Sykeon, Bishop of Anastasiopolis

3:30pm

NW AHEPA Educational Foundation Meeting

6:00pm

Vespers

Sunday, April 23

Great Martyr George the Trophy-bearer

**THOMAS SUNDAY**

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

12:00pm

Coffee Hour: Team Karanasos

Monday, April 24

Venerable Elisabeth the Wonderworker

5:30pm

Modern Greek

Tuesday, April 25

Mark the Apostle and Evangelist

Wednesday, April 26

Hieromartyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea

7:00pm

Choir Practice

Thursday, April 27

Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop of Jerusalem

Friday, April 28

Nine Martyrs of Cyzicus

Saturday, April 29

Apostles Jason and Sosipater

6:00pm

Vespers

Sunday, April 30

Ignatii Brianchaninov

James the Apostle, brother of John the Theologian

**MYRRHBEARERS SUNDAY**

8:45am

Orthros

10:00am

Divine Liturgy

12:00pm

Community Coffee Hour



## Cover Story Continued...

Having just received the Good News of our Lord's Resurrection from Mary Magdalene, the Disciples were visited by our Risen Lord, who offered them peace amidst the turmoil, and would send them on their own Apostolic mission:

***“Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit!’” —John 20:21-22***

In our own preparation for Baptism and Chrismation, whether personally, or through the Godparent in the case of infants, we ask God in His mercy to expunge and expel all evil and unclean spirits hiding and lurking in our hearts. These words are stated in the very exorcism prayers of *Making a Catechumen*. Before having the Spirit of God breathed into us, and being recreated as Temples of God ourselves, we must first expel and expunge any spirits of opposition. What do these spirits look like in our actualized life? Spirit of hatred; spirit of spitefulness; spirit of envy; spirit of ingratitude; spirit of self-justification.

We are reminded throughout these Great 40 Days of the Lenten Fast of this great call, particularly in the Prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian:

***O Lord and Master of my life, give me not a spirit of sloth, vain curiosity, lust for power, and idle talk.***

***But give to me, Your servant, a spirit of prudence, humility, patience, and love.***

***Yes, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own faults and not to condemn my brother: for You are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.***

For those preparing for Holy Illumination in this period, this expelling of spirits of opposition and filling with the quickening breath of the Holy Spirit happens in the process leading to Baptism and Chrismation. For those of us who have been Orthodox for some time, and even for the span of our entire fathomable existence, this call belongs to us, also! This call is actualized in heeding the first ministerial words of both the Forerunner John and our Lord Himself: ***“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”***

The call for our return to the House of the Lord. The call for our reconciliation with both God and fellow man. These most-sacred and life-giving words that lead us back into our Heavenly Father's embrace. Through this process of repentance and confession, our vessel, our living Temple of the Holy Spirit, is cleaned from the inside where the light of God may shine more brightly in our lives, and not remain hidden under a basket, where even we forget to take notice of His presence. Once the light shines brightly again, the oil of God's grace begins to refill, like those faithful Maidens who chose to take the time to prepare their lamps ahead of the Bridegroom's arrival in the midst of the night. With our grace-filled lamps prepared, we can join the Wise Virgins to greet our Bridegroom at the Gate with joy, and not trepidation. It is in the meeting of our Lord at the Gate we can be filled with Life abundantly. It is meeting our Lord at the Beautiful Gate that we receive the most sacred gifts of Holy Communion.

## Cover Story Continued...

Let us, my beloved, be like the Wise Virgin Maidens who made provisions for their journey, and were not caught off guard and unprepared at the coming of the Bridegroom. When our Lord calls us to fill His Heavenly Banquet table at Holy and Glorious Pascha, may he find the seats filled with your faithful presence.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Fr. Anthony Cornett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Anthony Cornett, Proistamenos



## News and Announcements

Χριστός Ανέστη!



Christ is Risen!

Fr. Anthony and the Parish Council

invite all to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection

at the **PASCHA AGAPE MEAL**

on **April 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p.m.** after Agape Vesper

The Church will provide the lamb, roasted potatoes and beverages. Parishioners are requested to provide the salads, side dishes and desserts.

Make plans to bring your favorite dishes or desserts to feed 15-20 people and help the organizing committee clean up after our Pascha feast.

You can RSVP via internet using this link: <https://forms.gle/s2usZeXV5dJM1NMa8> or call the church office at 253-272-0466 or email: [stnicholastacoma@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholastacoma@gmail.com).

Please respond **NO LATER than April 5<sup>th</sup>**. The Pascha Agape Meal has become a tradition at St. Nicholas. Let us all come together to make this celebratory meal an expression of our Love in Christ and each other.



## News and Announcements



# ST ANTHONY'S MONASTERY 2023 PILGRIMAGE

October 17 - 21

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

SUNDAY, May 7

UPPER CHURCH HALL



# Coffee Hour



## COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

### MISSION

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

### REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN THE MINISTRY

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

#### TEAM SCHEDULE FOR APRIL:

04/02/2023 Team Chamales  
 04/09/2023 Philoptochos Palm Sunday Luncheon  
 04/16/2023 AGAPE Dinner  
 04.22.2023 Team Karanasos  
 04/29/2023 Community Coffee Hour

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

#### TEAMS:

**Team Karanasos: Daphne Karanasos, Leader;** Anna Wilson, Christina Gretty, Zach Karanasos, Angie Wilen, Ann Koopman, John Kouklis, Pres Maria Armatas and Lisa Faithful Ishchenko

**Team Charitou: Yanni & Sophia Charitou, Leaders;** Fenia Mavromichali, Barbara Phillips, Sandra Ciarochi, Yvonne Brandvold, Marie Bell, Kathy Hermick and Mary Kouklis and Lisa Lauderback

**Team Chamales: Dr Ingrid Chamales, Leader;** Karen Samaras; Marion Palas, Sally Hallis, Chrysanthe Barnes, Rikki Kapes. Kathy Johnson and Sharon Kennedy

**Team Cedeno: Klauda Cedeno, Leader;** Evy Kontos, Irene Misiewicz, Gloria Brown, Deborah Talbot, and Scott & Rachael Parnell and Angela Montoya

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



## Modern Greek Language School



### 2023 Modern Greek Language School / Classes:

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 in the class in learning the **great influence of the "Greek Language and Hellenism"** to the "Western Civilization" and to the whole world!

**Yearly possible events and student involvement:**

**Αγίασμαὸς** (Blessing) of the class at the beginning of the School year.

Sunday, October 29st, 2023 - **OXI Day Celebration.**

Thursday, March 26th, 2023 **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-

## Philoptochos News

### President's Message

Greetings everyone and happy Pascha! It is such a blessing that the Philoptochos mission is truly a valued part of St. Nicholas parish! Each of the events that Philoptochos has sponsored over the past year have been GENEROUSLY supported by not only parishioners, but even by visitors to our parish. Each event has seen an increase in giving over the previous year, and Philoptochos is humbled by the financial expression of your faith in our ability to help those who are needy in our local area and the wider orthodox community.

#### Significant planned activities include:

**Palm Sunday Dinner** - Traditionally Philoptochos has hosted the Palm Sunday dinner. The parish council has requested we again host this event on April 9, 2023. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the lower hall. Please help us plan for this event by indicating if you and your family members will attend. There will be a free-will offering with this event, with proceeds dedicated to Hellenic College/Holy Cross Lenten Event fund, which goes to the operating expenses of the school.

**Ladies Spring Lunch and Raffle** - We are planning for our famous luncheon and raffle to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023. This gala event will include a Greek meal of pastichio, meatballs, dolmades, green salad and dessert buffet. There will be an incredible selection of raffle items too! Please contact Hoddi Motz or Merrilee Pangis for further information.

#### Recent activities to further our mission of helping those less fortunate and to promote participation in the Philoptochos Society:

**Donations to Community** - The St. Nicholas Chapter again received a large donation specifically designated for local charities. The board discussed how to allocate this generous donation to community charities and individuals in need. Funds will be provided to Family Renewal Shelter, St. Leo's Food Connection, Hope Sparks, Care Net, and Fisher House. Funds will also be held for a future senior event.

**Membership** - Our year starts in January and runs through December. We currently have 40 members, both new and renewals, for the 2023 year. Please ask any member about Philoptochos-it is the Orthodox Church's Women's Ministry. Please contact Jane Evancho for membership payment. The membership is \$30 for the year.

We encourage our Greek Orthodox friends to join us. They can be involved as much or as little as they wish. We welcome you all to our group. There is a lot of satisfaction in doing things for the common good and helping our church and the less fortunate among us...

Thank you so much for your support!

Jane--

# Philoptochos News



*St. Nicholas  
Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society  
Cordially invites you to the*

*Annual Women's Tea and Luncheon  
Saturday at 11:30 am, May 6, 2023*

*For more information, please contact  
Heddi Metz (253-205-9018) or Merrilee Pangis (253- 376-4382)*

*Tickets will be \$30.00 per person.  
A Luncheon and Dessert Buffet will be served.*

*Our Famous Raffle, still \$1.00 per ticket*





# Daughters of Penelope



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE  
ICARIA CHAPTER #175



It is our birthday!



We are Celebrating!

It is with pride, joy, and great pleasure I announce our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon at the Tacoma Country & Golf Club. I invite you to join our chapter and sisterhood in celebrating 75 years of dedicated and exemplary service to each other, to our communities, and to humanity. Members of the Daughters of Penelope Grand and District Lodges will also be in attendance.

Governor Inslee's commendation letter and Victoria Woodard's, Mayor of the City of Tacoma proclamation of April 24<sup>th</sup> (our actual anniversary) as DOP, Icaria #175 Day, stand as monuments to our chapter's unfailing commitment to the betterment of human lives globally, and the dissemination of Hellenic culture and ideals.

I extend my gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, Yvonne Brandvold, Maria Koumantaros, and Helen McClure for devoting countless hours to review historical data and archives and to organize all aspects of the celebratory luncheon. Thank you!

I look forward to celebrating with you on April 22<sup>nd</sup>!

Iphigenia (Fenia) Mavromichali  
President, Icaria #175

# Daughters of Penelope



*Save the Date!*

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

ICARIA 175

75TH

ANNIVERSARY

LUNCHEON

TACOMA COUNTRY & GOLF CLUB

13204 COUNTRY CLUB DR SW

LAKWOOD, WA 98498

APRIL | SAT | 2023  
22

12:00 PM

*Tickets are \$40.00 per person.*

*Call Mary Koumantaros at 253-574-6072*

*for more information.*





# Daughters of Penelope



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

March 23, 2023

Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 Chapter of Tacoma, Washington  
11840 Southeast 4th Place, Apartment 303  
Bellevue, WA 98005-3593

Dear Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175:

I am pleased to congratulate the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 Chapter of Tacoma, Washington, on your 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. What an incredible milestone!

Throughout the years, the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to their community. In your efforts to promote civic responsibility, volunteerism, and Hellenic culture in American society, you have contributed to the vibrant and diverse society that makes Washington special.

Your organization's involvement with numerous civic groups such as the Alzheimer's Foundation, Nourish Pierce County, the LAM Foundation, Limbitless Solution, the Domestic Violence Center, NW AHEPA Family Educational Foundation, and the Tacoma Greek Festival, to name only a few, is truly admirable. I have no doubt that your positive contributions to the Tacoma community, and indeed the entire state of Washington, will be felt for decades to come.

Again, congratulations on 75 years of inspiring service to the people of Washington. Please accept my best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Inslee".

Jay Inslee  
Governor

# Daughters of Penelope

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, for 75 years, the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 chapter of Tacoma, Washington has, devoted its efforts to the betterment of society and humanity in Wash ngton and it is appropriate at this time to highlight its many achievements and underscore the positive impact it has made in the local community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 chapter of Tacoma is a philanthropic women's organization dedicated to improving the status and well-being of women and families; and

**WHEREAS**, the objectives of the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 chapter of Tacoma are to promote the social, ethical, educational, and intellectual interests of its members; to promote family and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism; to cultivate civic responsibility, good citizenship, and patriotism for the United States of America; and to promote the dissemination of Hellenic culture and ideals; and

**WHEREAS**, the betterment of humanity is a unifying theme of the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 chapter of Tacoma, and members are encouraged to participate in impactful community involvement projects such as Alzheimer's Foundation, Nourish Pierce County, LAM Foundation, Limbitless Solutions, Domestic Violence Center (FCR-ma.org), NW AHEPA Family Educational Foundation, Tacoma Greek Festival, and many others; and

**WHEREAS**, the Daughters of Penelope Icaria #175 chapter of Tacoma, Washington was chartered on April 24, 1948, and its contributions are invaluable, and reflect an organization devoted to the highest ideals of community service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, VICTORIA R. WOODARDS**, Mayor of the City of Tacoma, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim Monday, April 24, 2023, as

### DAUGHTERS OF PENLOPE, ICARIA #175 DAY

in the City of Tacoma, and extend our deepest appreciation to Icaria #175 President, Iphigenia Mavromichal, and her sisters for their 75 years of service and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.



**WITNESS, THEREFORE, MY HAND AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON**  
This 24th day of April 2023.

*Victoria R. Woodards*  
**VICTORIA R. WOODARDS, Mayor**



## Building Committee

### APRIL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Furnace replacement in the Dining Hall is now planned for the second half of April, shortly after Pascha, with field work expected to about 4 to 5 weekdays to complete. This should make for a warmer Dining and Lower Hall during the Spring, and a more much comfortable space in the upcoming Fall and Winter.

A roof leak was discovered in the Upper Hall roof last month. Fortunately, drips into the interior space below started just a few days before a six month roofing inspection of the new Narthex roof had already been scheduled to take place. Upon inspection and armed with an infrared scanner, the source of the leak was quick and easy to find, and patched that day, along with taking care of some staples found at another part of Upper Hall roof.

A small portion of drywall ceiling that was damaged from the Upper Hall roof leak is planned to be repaired sometime after Pascha, allowing for a few more weeks time and rainstorms to pass and help verify the roof patch above it has indeed taken care of the problem. Also, the new Narthex roofing area checked out OK.

A preliminary proposal to address long-term fixes to the deteriorated Upper Hall and Dining Hall area roofs, along with possibly presenting some other big-picture improvements beyond the roofs is still being discussed and vetted by the Parish Council and Building Committee. Its viability to make a formal presentation with some other alternatives is to be determined.



*Above is the area of an Upper Hall roof leak that was discovered just beyond the new Narthex area roofing. Below is a close up of the patched area a few days later after some rainfall.*



*Above is where some staples were discovered at the Upper Hall roof edge facing Yakima Ave. The staples have since been pulled and their penetrations patched. Below is some standing water at the Dining Hall area roof.*



## MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS

### Our latest addition to the St. Nicholas Band of Brothers and Sisters is **Ralph Klene**.

Ralph joined St. Nicholas in Tacoma in 2021, but in his younger days he was in the United States Navy. He joined the Navy when he was 19 years old and went through Basic Training at the San Diego Recruitment Training Center. In 1966, he was called up for active duty. The Navy wanted him to report to his ship halfway around the world, so he made his way via Long Beach, CA to Travis Air Force Base (AFB) in Sacramento. From there, he flew to Yakota AFB in Japan, and then to Clark AFB in Manilla, Philippines. At Manilla he went to Subic Bay and caught a supply ship heading to the Tonkin Gulf off the coast of Vietnam. In heavy winds and high seas, he crossed in a cage suspended by a cable from his supply ship onto the ship to which he was assigned, the USS Ticonderoga. The Navy had not provided him with technical training, so they assigned him to the engine room where he served as a boiler technician and machinist mate (BTMM).



**Ralph Klene**  
**United States Navy**  
**Vietnam War**  
**Served on CVA-14**  
**USS Ticonderoga**



In December 1967, Ralph and the USS Ticonderoga sailed on what was the ship's fourth combat deployment to the waters off the Indochinese coast and arrived at "Yankee Station" (the area from which the United States Navy conducted naval operations off the coast of Vietnam) in January 1968. They were there for the Tet Offensive and the siege at Khe Sanh, and they supported those battles with many air sorties.

When the North Koreans seized the USS Pueblo, an American spy ship, in January 1968, the USS Ticonderoga deployed to the coast of North Korea as part of Operation Formation Star. The USS Enterprise joined the USS Ticonderoga, and they planned air strikes against seven MIG airfields from which approximately 200 MIG aircraft operated. The President never gave the authorization for the carriers to execute the strikes, so the Ticonderoga returned to Yankee Station to resume her role in the Tet Offensive.

Between January and July 1968, Ralph and the Ticonderoga were off the coast of Vietnam for five separate periods, totaling 120 days of combat duty. During that time, the Ticonderoga's air wing flew just over 13,000 combat sorties against North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces. Most of those missions were continuing attempts to interdict the enemy lines of supply.

In August 1968, the Ticonderoga moved to the Long Beach Naval Shipyard for repairs and conversions to handle the A-7 Corsair attack jet. From there, Ralph returned to civilian life.



*Continued next page...*



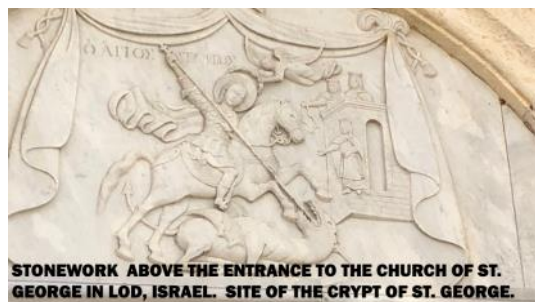
# MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS

Ralph joins the distinguished ranks of Michael Ampatzis, Ricky Angelus, Anthony Ciarochi, Christina Carter, Robin Griffin, John Kouklis, MSG (R) Walter Motz, George Panagiotu, John Pangis, and John Stafford, all past or present members of the United States Navy which has as its Patron Saint, our beloved St. Nicholas. These men and women sailed the seven seas in defense of the United States of America, and all are current parishioners at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.

May God bless them always, and may we always be grateful for their service to our country.

## APRIL 23rd, The Feast Day of Saint George.

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



His sacred remains were taken by his servant from Nicomedia to Palestine, to a town called Lydda, the homeland of his mother, and then were finally transferred to the church which was raised up in his name. (The translation of the Saint's holy relics to the church in Lydda is commemorated on November 3; Saint Alexandra the Queen, on April 21.) **PHOTO:** The tomb of St. George. Photo taken during 2018 St. Nicholas Holy Land Pilgrimage.

If April 23 falls on or before Great and Holy Pascha, the Feast of St. George is translated to Bright Monday. (Source: GOARCH website).

**REMEMBER OUR HEROES.** St. Nicholas veterans who passed away in the month of April.



**PVT Larry  
Crenshaw  
United States  
Army  
Cold War**



**PVT Steven Dionas  
United States Army  
World War I  
Battery C, 63<sup>rd</sup>  
Artillery CAC  
Memory Eternal  
April 20, 1954**



# MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS



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



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

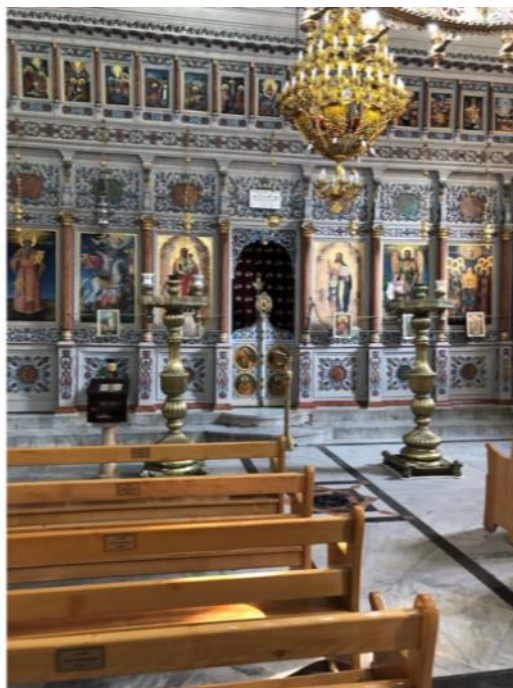


**CDR(R) David A. Orriss**  
**United States Navy**  
*Vietnam War*  
**Commander, USS**  
**Impervious**  
**David Orriss' father**



## **MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL**

**MEMORIAL DAY LUNCHEON MAY 28, 2023** Following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 28th, Philoptochos and the Military Ministry will be hosting the annual Memorial Day salmon dinner and presentation. Please plan to attend and honor those who gave all in service to our great nation.



**The**  
**Church of**  
**St. George**  
**in Lod,**  
**Israel**

# ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

## Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed

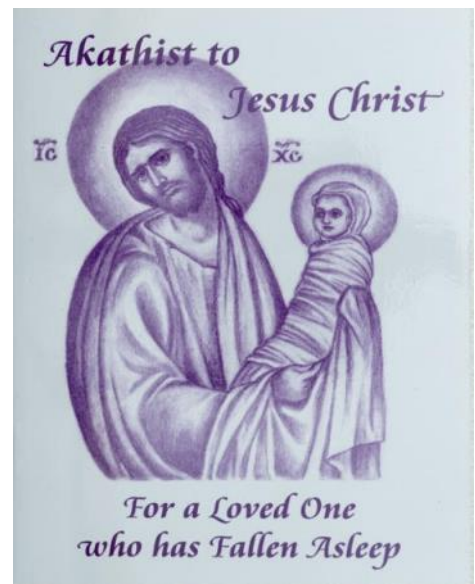


Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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 Bible Study

## The Book of Acts



Excerpt from a Sermon by St. John Chrysostom: Apostles Peter and John heal the lame man (Acts 3)  
 Everywhere we find these two Apostles <sup>1</sup>*in great harmony together*. “To him Simon Peter beckoned.” John 13:24. These two also came together to the Sepulchre. John 20:3 et seq. And concerning John, Peter said to Christ, “And what shall this man do?” John 21:21. Now as for the other miracles, the writer of this book omits them; but he mentions the miracle by which they were all put in commotion. Observe again that they do not come to them purposely; so clear were they of ambition, so closely did they imitate their Master. Why now did they go up to the temple? Did they still live as Jews? No, but for expediency (*χρησίμως*). A miraculous sign again takes place, which both confirms the converts, and draws over the rest; and such, as they were a sign for having wrought. The disease was in the nature of the man, and baffled the art of medicine. He had been forty years lame Acts 4:20, as the writer says afterwards, and <sup>2</sup>*no one during all that time had cured him*. And the most obstinate diseases are those which are born with men. It was a great calamity, insomuch that even to provide for himself his necessary sustenance was impossible for him. The man was conspicuous both from the place, and from his malady. Hear how the matter is related. “And a certain man, lame from his mother’s womb, was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them who entered into the tem-

## St. Nicholas Bible Study

ple.” **Acts 3:2.** He sought to receive alms, and he did not know who the men were. “Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him, with John, said ‘Look on us’.” (V. 3,4) Yet, not even so were the man’s thoughts elevated, but he persisted in his importunity. For such is poverty; upon a refusal, it compels people still to persist. Let this put us to shame who fall back in our prayers. <sup>3</sup>But observe, I pray you, Peter’s gentleness: for he said, “Look on us”. So, truly did their very bearing, of itself, betoken their character. “And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. Then Peter said, ‘Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I give you.’ ” (V. 5-6). He did not say, I give you something much better than silver or gold: but what? <sup>4</sup>“In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up.” **Acts 3:7.** Such was also the way of Christ. Often He healed by word, often by an act, often also He stretched forth the hand, where men were somewhat weak in faith, that the cure might not appear to be spontaneous. “And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up.” This act made manifest the Resurrection, for it was an image of the Resurrection. “And immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked.” **Acts 3:8.** Perhaps it was by way of trying himself that he put it thus to further proof, whether perchance the thing done might not be to no purpose. His feet were weak; it was not that he had lost them. Some say that he did not even know how to walk. “And entered with them into the temple.” Of a truth it was marvelous. The Apostles do not urge him; but of his own accord he follows, by the act of following pointing out his benefactors. “And leaping and praising God”; not admiring them, but God Who wrought by them. The man was grateful.

<sup>1</sup>Harmony

<sup>2</sup>Christ DIDN’T heal him

<sup>3</sup>Gentleness

<sup>4</sup>“..Nazareth”

**Father Seraphim:** What’s the organizing principle of how the Holy Spirit operates through the Apostles? Is it, basically, Pentecost happens – now the Apostles have all this spiritual power? Is it a free-for-all? This guy does this over here, that one does that over there, etc.? Or is it more like a body that’s collecting members to itself – with one life-blood? Notice in the text how the lame man clings to Peter and John. To what is he clinging though? He’s clinging to what St. John Chrysostom is saying, he’s clinging to the love and trust that St. Peter has with St. John. There’s something already there with these two Apostles. That is the means by which the Holy Spirit heals the man and to whom he attaches himself. He attaches himself to the love that Sts. Peter and John have for each other, that preceded the healing which comes from the love that they have for their Lord. The power of the Holy Spirit is evident, but the result of the action of the Holy Spirit is the uniting into one. The body just keeps growing. There’s often an unexamined assumption that, as things are progressing, whether in the **Book of Acts** or in the Christian world, there are individuals opening their eyes to the Gospel and that’s the work completed. Hence, the Sinner’s Prayer, “I believe in Jesus as my personal Savior” and it’s a done deal.

**Genevieve E:** I wanted to point out in St. John’s sermon, **Acts 3:2** “And a certain man, lame from his mother’s womb, was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful...” I think this is important because this man had people who cared enough about him to see that he was taken care of on a daily basis. This shows love and that they had faith.

**Father Seraphim:** Yes, like the man who was let down from the roof by his friends. **Luke 5:19-20** “And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus. <sup>20</sup>When He saw their faith, He said to him, “Man your sins are forgiven you.” The point is, the Lord was there and didn’t give him a healing because he wasn’t ready for the healing, which I think is probably the case because St. John Chrysostom indicates the man’s hopelessness, and also the words of St. Peter to preface the miracle, “silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I give you.” In other words, I can see that you want silver and gold because you’ve given up on everything else, I’m here to tell you there’s something else. That to me, indicates that the man was on a journey and this moment coincided with the desperation in



# St. Nicholas Bible Study

his heart that gave birth to the beginning of faith. The second issue, of course, is the part about what the Lord says, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”* **John 14:12** The Lord didn’t just come to earth and fix everything and then tell the Apostles that their job was to go tell everyone what He did. He’s giving them the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill in their own ministries, as a rather shocking statement that St. Paul makes, what was lacking in Christ. He didn’t mean that Christ was lacking in anything, it means the Lord was saying, I’ve given you all things, I’ve conquered death, I’ve sent the Holy Spirit, now you are going to be “Little christs” and every one of you in his own spheres is going to fulfill what I did for the whole world. That’s the issue of scale. Notice that St. John Chrysostom (point 1 & 3) that their healing is grounded in humility. Elder Ephraim of Arizona (of blessed memory) was one of the most sweet and gentle human beings and very humble. St. Peter was like that - sweet and kind, humble and innocent and those are the words that characterize him. One last point – did you notice the nomenclature here – Jesus Christ of Nazareth? What’s up with that language?

**Anonymous:** *“...Can anything good come out of Nazareth?...”* **John 1:46**

**Fran H:** I think everybody would have heard of Him by then. Like “Oh you mean “that” Elvis!?”

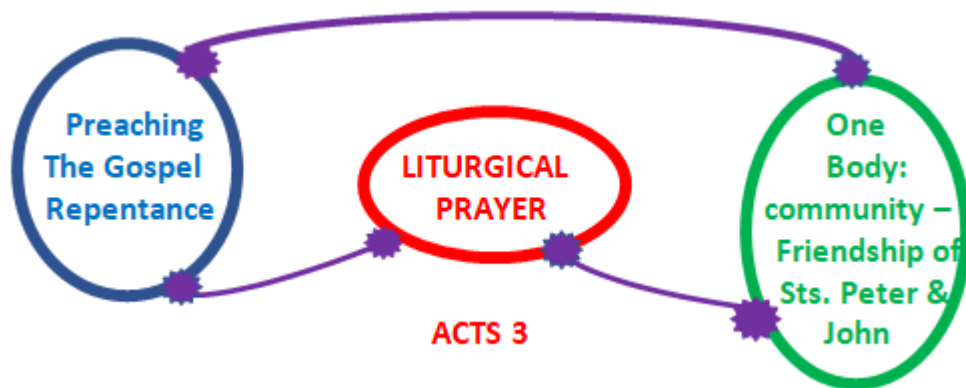
**Father Seraphim:** That’s right. He had to use the lowest common denominator term. The three thousand people who “believed” at Pentecost just prior to this, is one thing. But he’s at the Temple. Who’s going to the Temple?

**Various:** The Jews.

**Father Seraphim:** Right – the people who don’t believe in the Gospel. St. John Chrysostom addresses this, *“why now did they go to the temple? Did they still live as Jews?”* St. John answers, *“No, but for expediency.”* St. John is confirming that the Apostles, Peter and John, believe in the Messiah, but don’t give up going to the Temple. They are not beholding to anything. They go there to preach the Gospel and to raise up the little shrunken souls they find everywhere and to, perhaps, give them the grace of the Holy Spirit and to raise them into “Giants”.

**Dr. Ingrid C:** When he said, *“In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”*, St. John Chrysostom, a few lines later, says, *“This act made manifest the Resurrection, for it was an image of the Resurrection.”*, because the Jews did not believe.

**Father Seraphim:** Exactly. That’s why a little detail like that is important. I think of it as skill development when it comes to the reading of the Gospels. We may not know what is up with a given phrase or text, but it should cause our “antennae” to wiggle a little bit. This is one of them, *“Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth”*, because it is a rather archaic term for our Lord and Savior. Fast forward to the post-Resurrection, post-Ascension and post-Pentecost period and the Church doesn’t call Him “Jesus of Nazareth”.



**Analysis of our Parish Community:** Is the “body” strong enough and loving enough to be bringing people to something? If we are going to go out there and preach the Gospel and people believe, to what are they going to be joined or is it just about getting them to believe? Sometimes that analysis leads you to go



## St. Nicholas Bible Study

back down into the “body” and just start working on healing and growing and getting the life-blood flowing within the core of the believers. Something my spiritual father told me when I first came to St. Nicholas was, “Son, you’re trying to light everything up by pouring gas on everything – that’s not how you light a fire! How do you light a fire?” I said, “You get kindling?” He said, “Exactly, you get a core and then you start adding more and more to it. Build a core, son, don’t just go around lighting everything up.” Liturgical prayer is what keeps the core hot. Sunday Liturgy is the core of the matter and the weekday services are what makes that core even hotter. Canonically, if you miss the Sunday Liturgy (other than illness, etc.), more than three times, you are out of communion until you are reconciled with the Church.

**Father Seraphim:** How do we know in **Acts 3**, that liturgical prayer is a thing at all? By liturgical prayer, I mean a fixed order in a temple, etc. What’s the text that gives that away?

**Anonymous:** The hour of prayer.

**Father Seraphim:** Right. Which hour? The “Ninth hour” – which is what time? It is 3 p.m. To this day, in the Orthodox Church, 1<sup>st</sup> hour prayers is 6 a.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> hour prayers is 9 a.m., 6<sup>th</sup> hour prayers is noon, 9<sup>th</sup> hour prayers is 3 p.m. The liturgical schedule is organized according to those hours. Those come from the saving events in the New Testament that occurred at those hours. For example: 3<sup>rd</sup> hour is Pentecost - **Acts 2:15** “For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.” There’s even a special hymn specific to the third hour which says, “O Lord, Who sent down the Holy Spirit at the third hour...” . What happened at the 3<sup>rd</sup> hour, the 6<sup>th</sup> hour and the 9<sup>th</sup> hour? Christ was nailed to the Cross at 9 a.m., hung on the Cross at

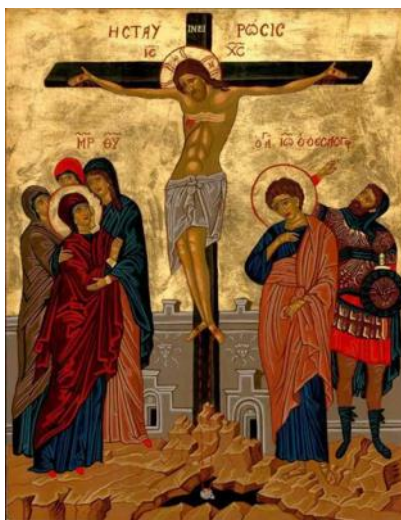
12 p.m. and gave up His Spirit at 3 p.m. The point is, worship of the community came together along those hours. Everything that is happening here: the preaching, the healing, the sermons and the gathering together is in the context of liturgical prayer. It’s not random.

**Fran H:** Does it seem like the time on the Cross is connected to the “New Creation”?

**Father Seraphim:** Yes.

**Fran H:** So you get to the 7<sup>th</sup> hour and it’s done.

**Father Seraphim:** Yes, and what does He say at the very end? It is completed, it is finished, it is consummated. Christ was doing the hours on the Cross. It’s a good time of year to reflect on that because on the first of this month (September) we started the liturgical “New Year”. St. Maximus said that we are the microcosm of the universe or the universe is the macrocosm of the individual. The concept of the Church has always been that liturgical prayer does sustain the universe. That’s why I insist on offering so many morning and evening worship services throughout the week. Our entire life should be a liturgical offering and our final offering to Christ is our own body in our death.



## St. Nicholas Catechumens

### 2023 CATECHUMENS & GODPARENTS



Gus & Ingrid Chamales – Godparents

We are looking for prospective sponsors/Godparents for our Catechumens. Please contact Genevieve 253-359-0455 (text would be the best) or [goobahoo@gmail.com](mailto:goobahoo@gmail.com). Father Anthony will need to approve all sponsors/Godparents who meet the following requirements:

- An Orthodox Christian in good standing
- Must belong to an Orthodox parish
- A person may not serve as a Godparent
- The Godparent must be someone who is active in the life of the Church, supporting the Church with their tithe, keeping the fasts, and otherwise living in all piety and holiness.
- Godparents must actively live the Orthodox Faith, be regular church goers, and be contributing stewards.

The following persons **CANNOT** be Sponsors:

- An Orthodox Christian under twelve years of age.
- An Orthodox Christian who belongs to a parish not in Communion with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.
- A married Orthodox Christian who has not been married in the Orthodox Church.
- Anyone who has been excommunicated or anathematized from the Orthodox Church.
- An Orthodox Deacon, Priest, or Metropolitan.

**ST. NICHOLAS CATECHUMENS**

- If the Church has not blessed a Godparent's marriage or, if civilly divorced, he or she has not been granted an ecclesiastical divorce, or for any other reason he or she is not in communion with the Orthodox Church.

Some things to keep in mind: If two people have the same Godparent, they cannot marry. It is an impediment to marriage, because they're spiritually related as siblings. Normally there is only one sponsor, but two may be allowed.

The institution of sponsors or Godparents: Novά – Nona – Godmother & Novός – Nonos – Godfather is one that dates back to the first century of the Christian Church. Anyone approaching baptism, be they infant or adult, was required to have a Godparent. In the case of an infant, it is the Godparent who speaks for the child, answering the questions posed by the priest during the baptismal service. But it doesn't stop there! The Godparent is charged by the Church with the duty to make sure the newly baptized is instructed in the teachings of the Church, remains a frequent communicant within the Church and remains active in the Church. In the case of a child, it is to the Godparents that the parents entrust their child, knowing that the Godparent will remain actively supporting the child within the life of the Church. Should something happen to the parents, it is traditionally the Godparent who will make sure the child continues to be taken to Church, and remains Orthodox.

Because of the awesome responsibility of Godparents, it is all the more important that great care be taken when choosing someone who will take on this role. The Church does not allow anyone to become a Godparent who is not Orthodox, for how can one who is not himself a pious, active Orthodox Christian give witness to living a life immersed in the Orthodox faith? The Godparent must therefore be a person of high moral character, and able to inspire the newly baptized to fulfill their baptismal vows.

When the newly baptized approaches the holy chalice for the first three consecutive Sundays following baptism, it is the Godparent who accompanies them to receive the Holy Mysteries. The Godparent must, therefore, be someone who himself/herself is a frequent communicant. Additionally, the person chosen to act as a Godparent must be someone willing to honor their commitment to the newly baptized for a lifetime, and willing to help nourish the spiritual life and development of the Godchild throughout their life. Thus, it is a very bad idea to pick someone as a godparent simply because they are a good friend. Godparents are duty bound to continue giving support to their Godchild, even into adulthood. They must be someone who will remember to honor their Godson or Goddaughter on special occasions, such as a birthday or names-day. They should be a part of the Godchild's life during the great feasts of the Church, such as Pascha or Nativity.

Everything should be done to strengthen the bond between the Godparent and the Godchild throughout the ensuing years. Because baptism has been called Illumination, and brings us out of the darkness of sin and into the light of Christ, the role of the Godparent is critical. The godparent must ensure that the Light of Christ continues to shine in the soul of the Godchild. Thus, this role as godparent is an awesome responsibility, and is not to be considered a one-day event. If you've been asked to be a Godparent, but are unwilling to see this as a lifelong vocation, please decline the honor.

The responsibilities of the Godparent only begin at baptism, the role really expands and hopefully blossoms as the Godparent and Godchild develop a close and loving relationship. As with any relationship, this spiritual one needs to be fostered and cared for in order for it to develop. The best way for this relationship to grow is through prayer. Pray for your Godchild and his or her parents, and the parents should encourage their child to pray for the Godparents. By doing this you are encouraging a relationship and giving it the spiritual basis on which to mature.

## ST. NICHOLAS CATECHUMENS

Model your faith through your actions. Understand the sacraments as well as the teachings of the Church so that you will be able to answer questions that your Godchild may have.

From the moment of Baptism, your Godchild deserves a very special place in your prayers, for on the day of judgment you will be asked about your Godchild's soul.

The relationship between the Godparent and the baptized is so important and so close that the Church forbids marriage between the Godparent and Godchild.

We have a wonderful group of people in our Catechumenate and some of them are in need of Godparents. If you meet the pre-requisites for an Orthodox Godparent and are considering taking on this responsibility, please go to God in prayer before making a commitment. If you choose this path, please contact Genevieve. April 9 is Palm Sunday and the day those Catechumens, who are ready, will be welcomed into the Church, so please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested.

If you haven't met our new Catechumens, please take a few minutes to introduce yourself and get to know these great people



Ethan Wright



Jaclyn Lukehart



Jeffrey Swain



Jim Belsvig



Lisa Lauderback



Justine, Angela & Porter Montoya



Christine Chansley

Submitted by: 'Mama' Genevieve



# ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Care Net of Puget Sound's  
Light & Life Banquet 2023



Kathy Johnson

Jim Belsvig

Genevieve Eagle

Kathy Johnson, her husband, Jim, and Genevieve Eagle attended Care Net's Light and Life Banquet this year. They had a wonderful evening of fellowship and moving testimonials from the guest speaker, Amy Ford.



"LOOK OUT INTO THE WORLD AND SEE WHAT BREAKS YOUR HEART. RUN TOWARD YOUR HEARTBREAK, NOT AWAY FROM IT. DIG IN AND ASK GOD IF YOUR HEART IS BROKEN BECAUSE HIS IS TOO. WHEN YOUR HEARTBREAK BECOMES A MAP TO FIND A PLACE TO SERVE, IT WILL SET YOUR SOUL ON FIRE."

- AMY FORD

## ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Going through an unplanned pregnancy in her teens was one of the hardest times in her life. She remembers so well how lonely and ashamed she felt. Friends pulled away and she felt uncomfortable at Church. Looking back on those 9 months of brokenness, fueled the passion and desire to change things for young women with unplanned pregnancies. Amy and her friend Salina, started a small group within Gateway Church that met weekly with girls in that same situation providing support, friendship, guidance and love. A few years later in 2012, Embrace Grace, a national non profit to equip Churches all around the nation to have a pro-life focus and help women be brave and choose life. Since then, thousands of women have gone through the Embrace Grace program and were put back on a path towards Jesus Christ.

Serving in Embrace Grace, Amy has seen first-hand how women have felt empowered to choose life for their babies because of the impact of the pregnancy centers in their community and knowing she has the community of a local church. Pregnancy centers are the first response team and the Church is the hospital.

Currently, Embrace Grace is in over 700 Churches across the nation, in 47 states and 10 countries. The heart of Embrace Grace is to make the Church one of the first places a young woman runs to instead of the last because of shame and guilt.

Submitted by Genevieve





# St. Nicholas Flower Ministry

Holy Week is fast approaching and Pascha is coming sooner than we think. The Flower Ministry is in great need of helpers starting the week of April 3. Please contact Genevieve 253-359-0455 (texting works the best) or goobahoo@gmail.com.

No experience is necessary. Kathy Rowley is our designer and will be glad to help those who want to learn to get creative with flowers. Also needed are laborers to lift & carry, sort, organize, climb ladders and clean up.

These are the flowers designed for Pascha 2022:

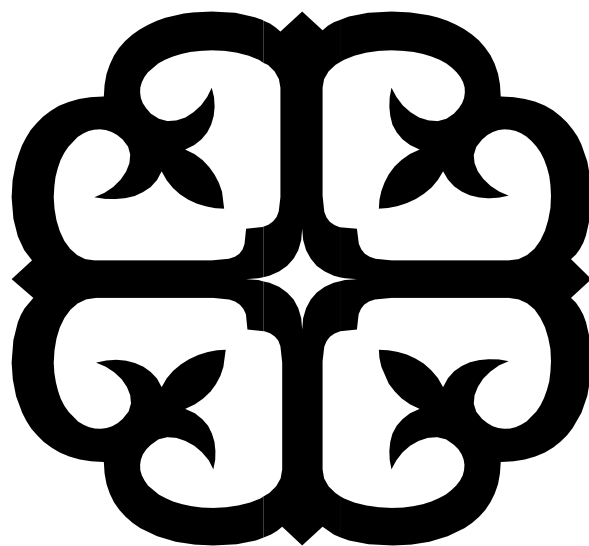




# St. Nicholas Flower Ministry



Submitted by: Genevieve





# PROSPHORA

## PROVIDING THE OFFERING

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

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

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

Fenia Mavromichali brings the offering the fourth Sunday of every month.

Regular Sunday prosphora bakers are needed.



*Left: a basket of Prosphora. Right: a basket of artoklasia. The artoklasia does not need to be decorated. It is a sweet bread offered at Vespers in five loaves (from the Gospel accounts of feeding 5000+) in honor of the Lord, or the Theotokos, or a saint. Artoklasia means breaking bread.*



The blessing of the artoklasia from the GOARCH website:

**Priest:** Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, You blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and from them five thousand men were filled. Bless now these loaves, the wheat, the wine and oil and multiply them in this holy church, this city, in the homes of those who celebrate today, and in Your whole world. And sanctify Your faithful servants who partake of them.

**Priest:** For You are He who blesses and sanctifies all things, Christ our God, and to You we offer up glory together with Your eternal Father and Your holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**The Priest kisses the loaf and then enters the holy sanctuary, singing:**

The rich have grown poor and gone hungry but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.  
(3)

*Submitted by: Deborah Talbot*

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

The Stewardship Ministry encourages all parishioners to fill out and submit a **yearly** donation/ stewardship card so that we can maintain an accurate registry of information and commitment.

The ministry is grateful to the following individuals and families who have supported our church by completing a 2023 stewardship card and or have made a contribution to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church to date. As always, we honor those who make contributions of time, talent and treasure as well. YOU make St. Nicholas the wonderful place that it is to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### 2023 Donations and or commitments as of March 30, 2023

Jim and Carol Abel *	William and Mary Acker *
Leonidas and Despina Alatsis *	Patra Alatsis
George and Despina Ampatzis	Sonny and Irene Angelos *
Rick and Marlene Angelus *	Elana M. Apostle *
Paul and Dolores Apostle *	Tony and Lori Apostle *
Andrew and Sheila Auter	Tina Ayers
George Ballasiotes	Tyler and Lexi Balser
Costa and Donna Basil *	Harry C. and Sheri Basil
T.L. Berg	Theodora Bessinas
John and Terri Botsis	Yvonne Brandvold*
Dora Brown	Monica Bultz
Deborah Middleton and Barry Cassidy	Klaudia Cedeno
C.G. and Ingrid Chamales*	Steven Chamales
Christine Chansley	Yianni and Sophia Charitou*
Reagan and Reanne Charuhas	Chris Cherbas
Anthony and Sandra Ciarochi*	Nick and Cheryl Cosmakos*
Belinda and Chris Cummins	Sharmarie and Troy Dares*
Dina Deliyianides*	John Diaconou
Jacqueline Dionas*	Sandra Dutton*
Gretchen (Genevieve) Eagle*	Timothy and Sunny Edgren*
Frederick and Anastasia Ehret	Andrew and Jane Evancho*
Krisann and Peter Firth*	James and Konstantoula Forinopoulos
Fregory Carcia*	John and Judy Godulas*
Stephen and Claire Gorham*	Sally Hallis*
Dean and Carol Hamos*	Michael and Kristine Hanberg
Daniel and Ekaterini Hanson*	Natalya Harpe
Timothy and Kathleen Harvey*	Richard and Hathleen Heidal*

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

William Frederick Lincoln Horton\*  
 Kathy Johnson and Jim Belsvig  
 Anna Karanasos\*  
 Zachary and Daphne Karanasos\*  
 Naser and Catalina Khalaj  
 Anna Koopman\*  
 Ann and Jessee Kiraki Macharia\*  
 Steve Koukles\*  
 Peter and Margaret Laketa  
 Robert and Anne Latz\*  
 Mary Leonard  
 George and Bess Lurker \*  
 Olga Lynn Manos \*  
 Matthew Manthou \*  
 Katherine and Gregory Mason \*  
 Iphigenia Mavromichali\*  
 Helen and George McClure  
 Charles and Gail Mentis\*  
 Angela Montoya\*  
 David and Katrina Orriss\*  
 Tony and Debbie Panagiotu\*  
 Alex Pangis\*  
 Scott and Rachael Parnell  
 George and Diane Pirotis\*  
 Andrew and Rebecca Primis\*  
 Martin J. and Lorissa C. Reiter III  
 Richard and Alexandra Schutt\*  
 Andy and JoAnn Stergachis\*  
 Rob (Moses) and Lea (Mary) Sullivan  
 James and Jenise Sweeney\*  
 Nicholas and Becky Themelis\*  
 Michael Jane White\*  
 Edward Winskill\*  
 John and Kalitsa Xitco\*  
 Matthew and Leigh Ann Zehnder

Radu Adrian and Ramona Ionita-Flores  
 Hariklia "Rikki" Kapes  
 Paula Karanasos\*  
 Sharon Kennedy\*  
 Claudia Kieszling\*  
 Evan and Despina Kipelidis  
 John C. Kouklis  
 Maria Koumantaros\*  
 Elia and Micheline Lakkis\*  
 Christina Leinneweber\*  
 Hugh and Marella Lewis \*  
 Fr. Seraphim and Sophie Majmudar  
 Chris and Susan Manthou \*  
 Carol MartinOki  
 Dean and Julie Mastras \*  
 Viki McCarty\*  
 Alan and Sheilagh Means  
 Tatyana Mikeladze  
 Michael and Rodica Murphy\*  
 George Panagiotu  
 Perry Panagiotu  
 John and Merrilee Pangis\*  
 Kesha Patel  
 Steve and Kathleen Politakis\*  
 Emmanuel Psilovikos  
 Neal (Barnabas) Schaefer  
 Richard and Denise Stahl\*  
 Liam Sullivan  
 Jacob Herman Swain\*  
 Deborah Talbot\*  
 Roxanne Vallantine\*  
 Jeffrey and Janice Williams  
 Daniel and Mary Wright  
 Tasso and Sarah Zambaras\*  
 Luai Zureikat

\* indicates those individuals who have filled out the Stewardship/donation commitment form.

## ALL SAINTS CAMP 2023

### All Saints Camp 2023 Registration is Open!

Camper Registration for All Saints Camp 2023 opened Wednesday, 1/25 at 8:30am! Our overnight camp takes place in beautiful Gig Harbor, WA on Raft Island at All Saints Camp. Campers have the chance to experience the outdoors, make new friends, grow in their Orthodox spirituality, and have lots of fun! Each day features time in Orthodox Life and Chapel, Arts & Crafts, games at the Sports Court, time outside on the dock and beach, and hiking Camp's many trails, swimming at a local pool, cabin activities and competitions, and campfire each evening.

### We are excited to offer two sessions this year:

- Elementary (Campers entering grades 3-5 in Fall 2023)
- Intermediate (Campers entering grades 6-8 in Fall 2023).

### Early Bird Rates through March 1st, 2023:

- First camper registration fee: \$400
- Any additional campers registration: \$375/camper



Register today for  
All Saints Camp  
Summer Sessions 2023!

ELEMENTARY (GRADES 3-5):

JULY 9-15TH

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 6-8):

JULY 16- 22ND

[www.allsaintscamp.com](http://www.allsaintscamp.com)



# 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.

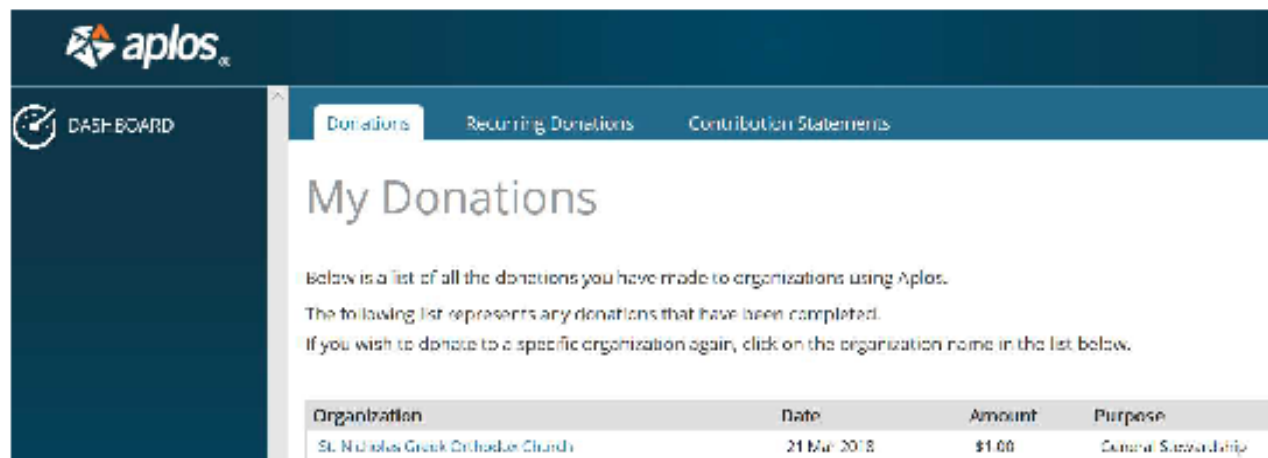
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality. 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](http://www.stnicholastacoma.org)
- 2) Select the  button. This takes you to the Church’s donate page!
- 3) Select the gold colored donate  button at the bottom of the page.
- 4) You will now be taken to the page to make your donation. Simply complete the form.
- 5) From the contributions email you receive, select the link to setup your own Aplos account. An account history page will be available. The first tab will show only on-line donations, the second tab allows accounting for recurring donations, and the third is for contribution statements listing on-line, check, and cash donations.



**OUR MISSION**

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

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

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

**HOW TO RETURN THIS CARD**

**BY MAIL:**

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

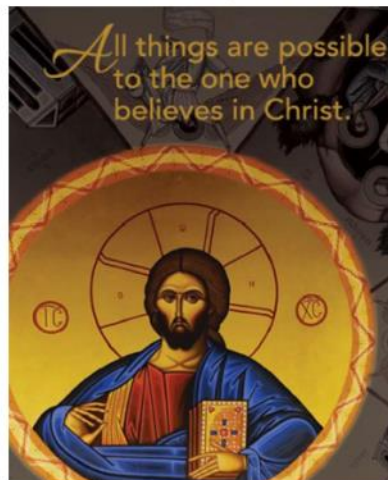
**AT CHURCH:**

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

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

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

**2023 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/M/L)	DOB (m/d/y)	Orthodox
.....	.....	.....(Y/N)
.....	.....	.....(Y/N)
.....	.....	.....(Y/N)
.....	.....	.....(Y/N)

*"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.**

**2023 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 2023 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.....

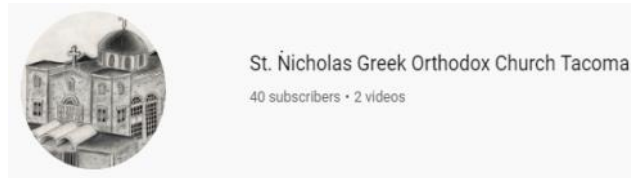
# On Line Services

## Watch Services From Home, Live (it's working again)

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](http://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*

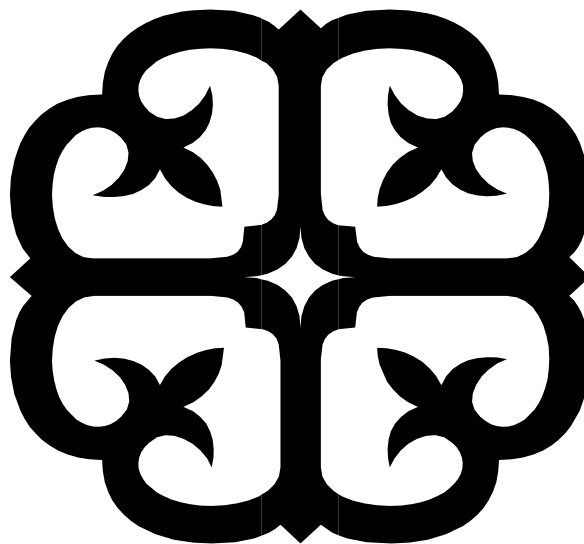
Click on this selection;



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—*



Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

*Address Service Requested*

