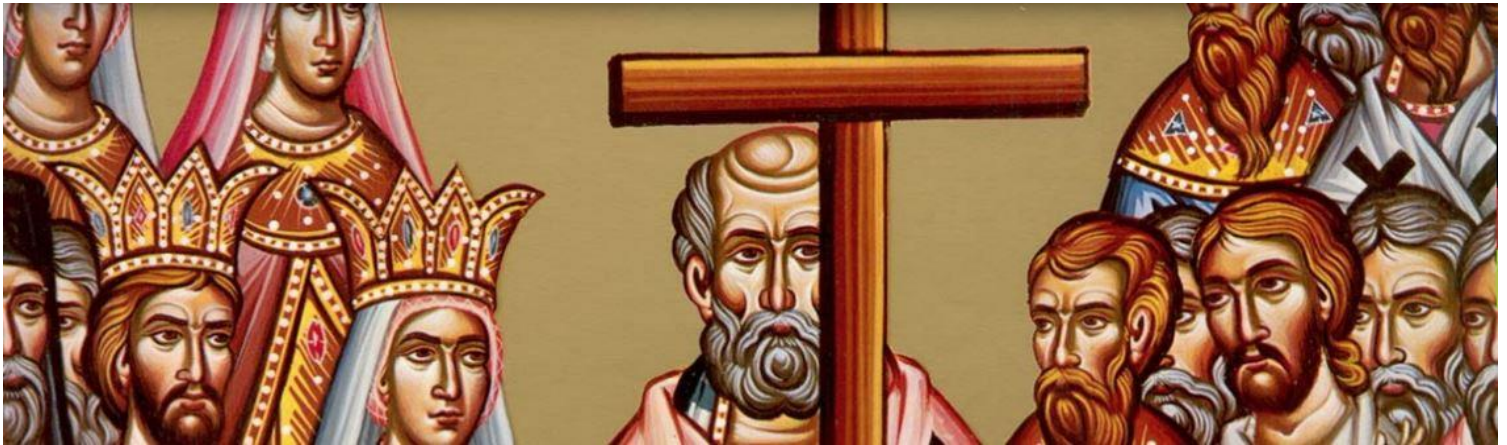




## Great Lent—A United Effort, a United Cause



*Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross - April 8, 2024*

**M**y beloved Saint Nicholas Family,

As we journey together on this great Ark of Salvation through the waters of Great and Holy Lent, we are united in effort, and united in cause. We can so easily fall prey to entering into the Lenten season with a spirit of individuality, and thus feel isolated in a time when we need support of one another the most. There is a beautiful custom in households around the world, perhaps more prominent in years past, where the family would gather around a single dinner table for a meal—a place to reconvene, to share stories, and to make each other present before one another in sharing a common meal. As time goes on, and as children grow older, it is easy to fall prey to the distractions of the world—whether it be a television in the other room, a cell phone text exchange, or

the desire to enjoy our own personal tv dinner without the company of others. Let us be reminded of our call to unite at the one table, as a family. Of course we see this uniting at one table in the image of our own Eucharistic gathering in the Divine Liturgy, but this is also our journey into the season of Lent, preparing for the Resurrection.

Let us be encouraged to build a strong foundation for our families—in our homes, and within our spiritual home, the Church. It is never too late to come after our Lord, to take up our Cross, and to follow Him. This is never an individual effort, but a communal one. It is often said that it takes a community to raise a child. Whether we are 2 or 92, let us see that ‘child’ as our own precious soul. As we continue through this Lenten journey, let us be united in effort and cause, lifting each other’s burdens, and meeting at the Heavenly Banquet of our Resurrected King and God.

### Inside Messenger

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*In Christ, Fr. Anthony*

# 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

## 2024 Parish Council

Andrew Primis - President  
Yianni Charitou - Vice President  
Fenia Mavromichali - Secretary  
Mark Robinson - Treasurer  
Nicholas Themelis, Kathy Johnson, Bill Samaras, Alan Means, Zachary Karanasos, Christina Leinneweber, Tony Panagiotu, George Pirotis

## Daughters of Penelope

Mary Koumantaros - President  
Olympia T. Stafford - Vice President  
Evy Kontos - Treasurer  
D. Lord/F. Mavromichali - Rec/Cor-Secretary

## Maids of Athena

Ana Matteson - President  
Alexandra Lord - Vice President  
Lexi Samaras - Treasurer  
I. Mastras/P. Montoya - Secretary  
Advisors: Chamales, McClure, Apostle

## Greek Folk Dance

Anastasia Fyntrilakis - Chairperson  
Evy Kontos - Treasurer

## Dance Instructors:

Teen Group: Anastasia Fyntrilakis  
Intermediate Group - Evy Kontos  
Beginner Group - Kelly Rosati  
Adult Group - George Pirotis

## Philoptochos Society

Jane Evancho - President  
Hoddi Motz - 1st Vice-President  
Merrilee Pangis - 2nd Vice-President  
Susie Manthou - Secretary  
Ingrid Chamales - Treasurer

## Coffee Hour

Zach Karanasos

## IT, etc.

Bill Samaras

## Philia

Diane Pirotis

## Pro Life

Genevieve Eagle

## Flowers & Church Decorating

Genevieve Eagle

## Greek School

George Pirotis

## Lazarus Group

Dean Hamos

## Pilgrimage

Zach Karanasos

## Prosphora Baking

Presvytera Anna

## Welcome

Gus Chamales

# Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting will be Tuesday April 9, 2024

# APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>31</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Hypatius, I</b></p> <p><b>Innocent of Alaska, Equ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> </ul> <p>3 more</p>	<p>Apr 1</p> <p><b>Venerable Mary of Egypt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (Z)</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Venerable Titus the Wo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> <li>7pm Building Commitment</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Venerable Nicetas the C</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Venerable George of Mi</b></p> <p><b>Venerable Theonas, Ar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>5</p> <p><b>Claudius, Diodore, and I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Eutychius, Patriarch of</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small</li> </ul>
<p>7</p> <p><b>Calliopius the Martyr</b></p> <p><b>Venerable George the S</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> </ul> <p>3 more</p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>Agabus, Rufius, Asyncri</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Modern Greek (Z)</li> <li>7pm Weekday Chant C</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <p><b>Newly Revealed Martyr</b></p> <p><b>Martyr Euphychius of C</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> <li>7pm Parish Council</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Gregory th</b></p> <p><b>Martyrs Terence, Pomp</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Antipas, Bi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Venerable Basil the Cor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <p><b>Martin, Pope of Rome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small</li> </ul>
<p>14</p> <p><b>Aristarchus, Pudens, ar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> <li>10am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>12:15pm Catechism: C</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <p><b>Crescens the Martyr</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (Z)</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Amphiloikos of Patmos</b></p> <p><b>Martyrs Agape, Irene, a</b></p> <p><b>Venerable Amphilochio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Symeon, B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> </ul>	<p>18</p> <p><b>Venerable John, Discipl</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>19</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Paphnutiu:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Venerable Theodore the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small</li> </ul>
<p>21</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Bishop Jar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> <li>10am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul> <p>2 more</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>Venerable Theodore of</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Modern Greek (Z)</li> <li>7pm Weekday Chant C</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <p><b>Great Martyr George th</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <p><b>Venerable Elisabeth the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Mark the Apostle and E</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>26</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Basil, Bish</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Hieromartyr Symeon, B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small</li> </ul>
<p>28</p> <p><b>Nine Martyrs of Cyzicu:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> <li>10am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p>29</p> <p><b>Apostles Jason and So:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (Z)</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <p><b>Ignatius (Brianchanin</b></p> <p><b>James the Apostle, bro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p>May 1</p> <p><b>Jeremiah the Prophet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Translation of the relics</b></p> <p><b>Venerable Matrona of A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Martyrs Timothy and M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Ven Beuno of Clynnog I</b></p> <p><b>Venerable Martyr Pelag</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small</li> </ul>

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

# APRIL 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Monday, April 1</b>                  Venerable Mary of Egypt                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, April 2</b>                  Venerable Titus the Wonderworker                  6:00pm                  Vespers                  7:00pm                  Building Committee</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, April 3</b>                  Venerable Nicetas the Confessor, Abbot of the Medikion Monastery                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis</p>	<p><b>Thursday, April 4</b>                  Venerable George of Maleon                  Venerable Theonas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>
<p><b>Friday, April 5</b>                  Claudius, Diodore, and the five martyrs with them                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p><b>Saturday, April 6</b>                  Eutychius, Patriarch of Constantinople                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, April 7</b>                  Calliopius the Martyr                  Venerable George the Standard-bearer, Bishop of Mytilene                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:15pm                  Catechism: Class 17                  12:15pm                  Choir Practice (Divine Liturgy Group)</p>	<p><b>Monday, April 8</b>                  Agabus, Rufus, Asyncritus, Phlegon, Herodion, and Hermes of the Seventy Apostles                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)                  7:00pm                  Weekday Chant Class</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, April 9</b>                  Newly Revealed Martyrs Raphael, Nicholas and Irene of Lesbos                  Martyr Euppsychius of Caesarea                  6:00pm                  Vespers                  7:00pm                  Parish Council</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, April 10</b>                  Hieromartyr Gregory the 5th, Patriarch of Constantinople                  Martyrs Terence, Pompeius, Maximus, Africanus, and those with them                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis</p>



# APRIL 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

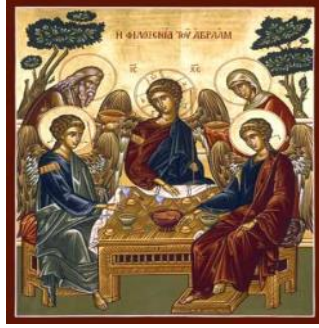
<p><b>Thursday, April 11</b>                  Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamon                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>	<p><b>Friday, April 12</b>                  Venerable Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Parium                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>
<p><b>Saturday, April 13</b>                  Martin, Pope of Rome                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p><b>Sunday, April 14</b>                  Aristarchus, Pudens, and Trophimus of the Seventy Apostles                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:15pm                  Catechism: Class 18</p>
<p><b>Monday, April 15</b>                  Crescens the Martyr                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, April 16</b>                  Amphilokios of Patmos                  Martyrs Agape, Irene, and Chionia                  Venerable Amphilochios of Patmos                  6:00pm                  Vespers</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, April 17</b>                  Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop of Persia                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis</p>	<p><b>Thursday, April 18</b>                  Venerable John, Disciple of Gregory of Decapolis                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>
<p><b>Friday, April 19</b>                  Hieromartyr Paphnutius of Jerusalem                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p><b>Saturday, April 20</b>                  Venerable Theodore the Hair-shirt Wearer                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, April 21</b>                  Hieromartyr Bishop Januarius, and those with him                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:15pm                  Catechism: Conclusion                  12:15pm                  Choir Practice (Divine Liturgy Group)</p>	<p><b>Monday, April 22</b>                  Venerable Theodore of Sykeon, Bishop of Anastasiopolis                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)                  7:00pm                  Weekday Chant Class</p>

# APRIL 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Tuesday, April 23</b>                  Great Martyr George the Trophy-bearer                  6:00pm                  Vespers</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, April 24</b>                  Venerable Elisabeth the Wonderworker                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis</p>
<p><b>Thursday, April 25</b>                  Mark the Apostle and Evangelist                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>	<p><b>Friday, April 26</b>                  Hieromartyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>
<p><b>Saturday, April 27</b>                  Hieromartyr Symeon, Bishop of Jerusalem                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p><b>Sunday, April 28</b>                  Nine Martyrs of Cyzicus                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy</p>
<p><b>Monday, April 29</b>                  Apostles Jason and Sosipater                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, April 30</b>                  Ignatius (Brianchaninov) of Caucasus                  James the Apostle, brother of John the Theologian                  6:00pm                  Vespers</p>



# 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:

4/7/2024	Community Coffee Hour*
4/14/2024	Team Karanasos
4/21/2024	Community Coffee Hour*
4/28/2024	Palm Sunday Luncheon

\* **Community Coffee Hour:** Parishioners are encouraged to bring cookies, pastries, chips, fruit, 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, Ann Koopman, Pres Maria Armatas and Lisa Faithful

**Team Charitou:** Yanni & Sophia Charitou, Leaders; Fenia Mavromichali, Sandra Ciarochi, Yvonne Brandvold, Dino Basil, Maro Kouklis and Lisa Lauderback

**Team Chamales:** Dr Ingrid Chamales, Leader; Karen Samaras, Sally Hallis, Rikky Kapes, Kathy Johnson, Sharon Kennedy and Tim & Kathie Harvey



## Philoptochos Annual Tea Party



*St. Nicholas*

*Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society*

*Cordially invites you to the*

*Annual Women's Tea and Luncheon*

*Saturday at 11:30 am, May 18, 2024*

*For more information, please contact*

*Heddi Motz (253-205-9018) or Jane Ewancho (253- 213-5869)*

*Tickets will be \$30.00 per person.*

*A Luncheon and Dessert Buffet will be served.*

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



# Camp Agape Northwest



Camp Agape Northwest (a summer camp for kids with cancer and their families since 1997) is accepting applications for volunteers. If you are 16 and older, we encourage you to join this extraordinary group of volunteers. For any questions about volunteering, please contact Presvytera Pat Tsagalakis (206) 380-1862 or Kalitsa Xitco (to help out in the kitchen) (253) 312-6312. Applications are due April 15th. Camp takes place at All Saints Camp (Gig Harbor) July 20-27. St. Nicholas volunteers are encouraged to join in this outreach opportunity.

The Agape 5k run/walk will be May 19, 2024. Please visit <https://www.campagapenw.org/run-for-agape-5k> for more information and to register!



# Festival Baking for April

That's right. The 2024 Festival baking has commenced, and, already with good success. Please contribute if you can. Even an hour of your time is appreciated.

## APRIL 2024 BAKING

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Baking days are in BLUE. On April 2 & 3, we'll be making Koulourakia which we haven't made for a few years. After that, large pans of baklava.

Baking begins at 9AM and ends at 2PM in the church kitchen. Lunch is provided, and appreciate any help with lunches.

Let's help make the 2024 Festival the best ever. We're off to a great start.



*Making Koulourakia in 2019*

## Modern Greek Language School



### 2024 Modern Greek Language School / Classes: Monday beginners 5pm (ZOOM) Modern Greek 6pm (ZOOM)

General Information: The classes are open to everyone who may be 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:**

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

Sunday, October 27th, 2024 - **OXI Day Celebration.**

Sunday, March 24th, 2024 **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-

# DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE



The Daughters of Penelope is a sisterhood of dedicated women who want to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence. We are starting our new fiscal year, and are inviting women of our parish to join our sisterhood.

If you are interested please contact one of our officers.

President – Maria (Mary) Koumantaros

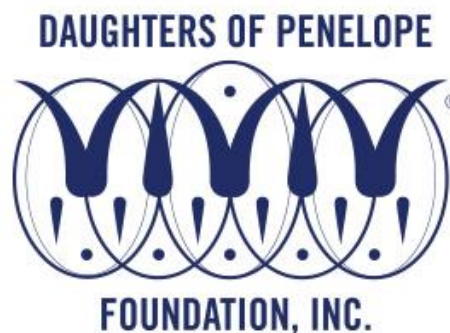
Vice-President – Dr. Olympia Tachopoulos Stafford

Recording Secretary – Debby Lord

Corresponding Secretary – Iphigenia (Fenia) Mavromichali

Treasurer – Evy Kontos

Maids of Athena Advisors – Ingrid Chamales and Virginia McClure.





## Philoptochos News

### President's Message

Greetings everyone ! 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 28, 2024. 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 18, 2024. This gala event will include a Greek meal of chicken phyllo wrap, meatballs, green salad and dessert buffet. There will be an incredible selection of raffle items too! Please contact Hoddi Motz or Jane Evancho 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 and interested Philoptochos members will discuss how to allocate this generous donation to community charities and individuals in need. Funds will also be held for a future senior event.

**Membership** - Our year starts in January and runs through December. We currently have 48 members, both new and renewals, for the 2024 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--

## Building Committee

### APRIL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Roofing replacement work should finally be starting around the time of this writing, with Lakewood Roofing, the contracted roofer mobilizing, staging and stocking materials. There has been a slight change in plan with the Lower Hall roofing now to be replaced before the Upper Hall work starts rather than vice versa. Largely depending upon weather, both the Lower and Upper Halls may be done, or at least close to being done by the time the next Messenger comes out.

Fencing upgrades around the north church parking lot were completed last month. The most obvious improvements were replacing a sliding gate that leads into the north parking lot, getting rid of imposing & gritty looking top strands of barbed wire, and installing privacy slats in fencing mesh that faces the east alley. A special thanks to Yianni Charitou for soliciting and organizing the project, and Fencing Specialists the contractor who did the work.

Preliminary drawings were recently provided by AHBL, the structural engineer designing proposed Sanctuary floor structure upgrades. The information from the drawings, supplemented with a recent ZOOM question & answer meeting, provides enough information to produce a detailed estimate based on an established set of assumptions. The estimate will provide costs to:

- 1) Fill floor recesses in the pew areas without the need for structural upgrades.
- 2) Structural upgrades that will stiffen up the floor and allow greater loading capacity.
- 3) A premium to fill pew areas with tile flooring rather than resilient flooring.

The estimate, once completed will be vetted through the Building Committee and submitted to the Parish Council. If deemed warranted, at least three large cuts into the existing Lower Hall plaster ceiling will be made to verify if a set of assumptions in the initial estimate are indeed valid. Afterwards the estimate will be tightened up into a formal budget proposal to be resubmitted to the Parish Council. If approved, eventually it presumably would be presented at a future General Assembly for an up and down vote. There is still much work to be done and hurdles to clear, and its continuing progress will be reported in future Messengers.

An estimate was presented to the Parish Council in March to add a new toilet fixture & stall in the Lower Hall women's restroom and do some other ancillary improvements in that area. The estimate is still to be vetted by the Building Committee and then be resubmitted to the Parish Council for further review. Conceivably, improvements could be presented as a proposed budget line item in the 2025 budget next year. More to come.

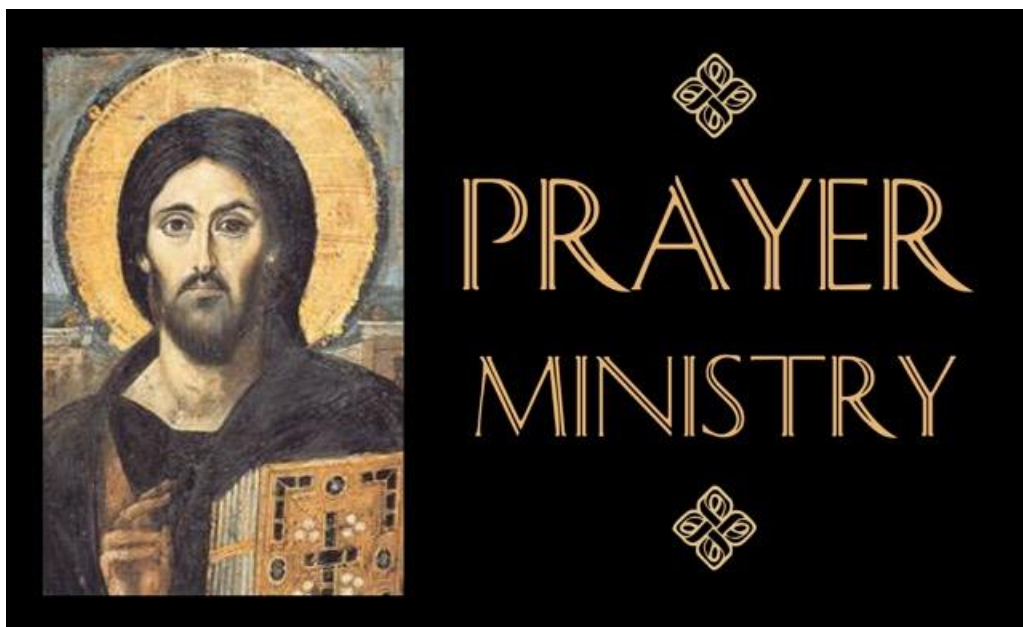


*The photo on the left shows a column in the Lower Hall where a large cut into the existing plaster ceiling soffit would be desired at two sides of the column to confirm existing Sanctuary floor framing conditions above. The right photo shows a replaced slider fence gate leading into the church parking lot, and wood privacy slats installed in fencing mesh facing east.*

Submitted by: Bill Acker...

# ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

## Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed

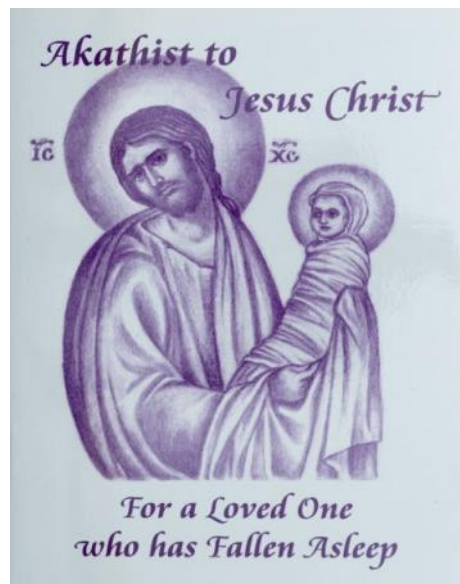


Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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

Join us in person  
or on ZOOM!

# BIBLE STUDY

- **Samuel (1st & 2nd Kingdoms)**
- Accompanying text: ***The Seer***
- Meeting for **3rd Hour Prayer** in Church followed by study in Upper Hall

**Fridays 10am-12pm**

Metropolitan of Nafpaktos Hierotheos

## The Seer



The Life of the Prophet Samuel  
and its Relevance Today

Birth of the Theotokos  
Monastery

### INTERESTED IN JOINING?

Please contact Genevieve  
at [stnicholaszoom@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholaszoom@gmail.com)  
to add your name to our email list.



## Catechumens

### ST. NICHOLAS' CATECHISM CLASS



2023 Catechumens



2021 Catechumens

## CATECHISM – SPRING 2024 PART 2

Starting Sunday, February 18, Father Anthony will start the second half of the Catechism Program at St. Nicholas in the Nave of the Church at 12:15 p.m. every Sunday through April 21. All are welcome. Please feel free to join us after coffee hour.

### Catechism Part Two *The Life in Christ*

February 18:	Class 10:	The Birth and Mission of the Church
February 25	Class 11:	The Structure of the Church
March 3:	Class 12:	Holy Baptism
March 10:	Class 13:	The Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit
March 17:	Class 14:	The Mystical Supper
March 24:	Class 15:	The Church at Prayer
March 31:	Class 16:	The Mystery of Love
April 7:	Class 17:	Monasticism
April 14:	Class 18:	The Age to Come
April 21:	Conclusion:	Living an Orthodox Life in a Secular World

Submitted by: "Mama" Genevieve



# Pro—Life Ministry



What a difference a day makes!



Cold & Cloudy



Warm & Sunny

I want to give my thanks to two of our Catechumens, Evanthia (Ava) and Isaac (Jeffrey), for their faithful support and devotion to our Pro-Life Ministry and the 40 Days for Life Spring 2024 campaign. It is so comforting and rewarding to know that our presence and prayers can help an expectant couple make a life-changing decision to choose life! We faced a variety of weather conditions this spring but were so blessed to end this campaign with a beautiful and sunny day. Glory be to God for all things!!



ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS FOR LIFE



### Support Life with the National Orthodox Baby Shower

Each spring, we coordinate the annual National Orthodox Baby Shower. Our parish is invited to participate in this national effort to support women in crisis pregnancies and help them choose life for their children, coinciding with the celebration of the **Feast of the Annunciation**. The collection is for the months of March and April. We can only collect new items and will donate these items to our local PRC (Pregnancy Resource Center) which is CareNet of Puget Sound, here in Tacoma. The photos show what we have collected so far – Thank you so much to our generous and supportive parishioners!! We have a playpen set up at the bottom of the stairs in the lower hall for donated items. Please contact me, Genevieve, at [stnicholaszoom@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholaszoom@gmail.com) or come talk to me after Liturgy if you have any questions.

# Pro—Life Ministry

## CARE NET of PUGET SOUND - Light & Life Fundraiser Dinner



Vonnie and Kathy



Christina and Anna



Ava and Robert (Ava's son)



Kathy, Jim and Andrew (Kathy's son)

I want to thank Jim, Kathy, Andrew, Anna, Christina, Ava (Evanthia), Robert and Vonnie for joining me for CareNet's annual fundraiser banquet. We enjoyed the food, the testimonies, the entertainment and fellowship!

Submitted by: Genevieve



# ST. NICHOLAS FLOWER MINISTRY

## The Feast of the Annunciation March 25





# FLOWER MINISTRY



Thanks to those who serve!!



Flowers from our Church's Camilia tree

# 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.

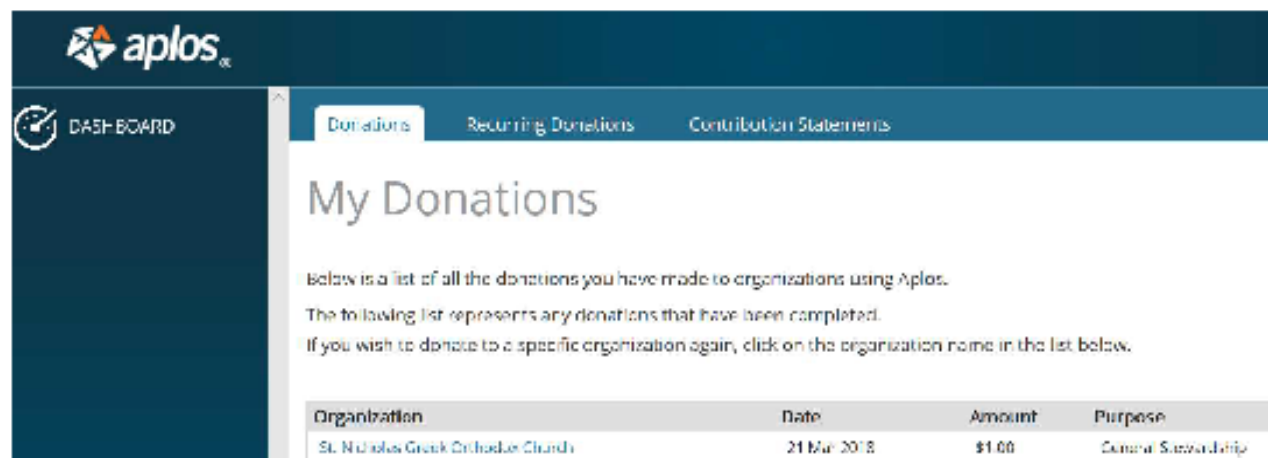
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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



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

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



# Donations and Pledges

## 2024 SAINT NICHOLAS (TACOMA, WA) STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

JAN-DEC 2024

*Please print clearly in all applicable fields.*

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE\* \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ CELL ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL(S) \_\_\_\_\_

PROFESSION (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_ ANNIVERSARY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ BIRTHDAY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

NEW STEWARD  ACTIVE STEWARD \*SPOUSE BIRTHDAY \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ \*SPOUSE IS ORTHODOX?  YES  NO

*Dependent Children*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ ORTHODOX?  YES  NO

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ ORTHODOX?  YES  NO

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ ORTHODOX?  YES  NO

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES <<< PLEDGE CARD MUST BE COMPLETED ANNUALLY

## 2024 SAINT NICHOLAS (TACOMA, WA) STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

JAN-DEC 2024

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED CARD BY DECEMBER 17, 2023 USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:



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

**CHURCH**  
Drop your completed card for the  
2024 Stewardship Pledge 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).

*A contribution of \$2000/yr per family allows for coverage of operational costs.*

As a steward in gratitude for God's blessings, I/we commit to support the work of His church by offering the following PLEDGE of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /annually

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES <<< PLEDGE CARD MUST BE COMPLETED ANNUALLY

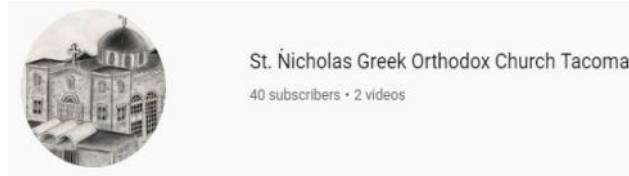
## On Line Services

### 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*

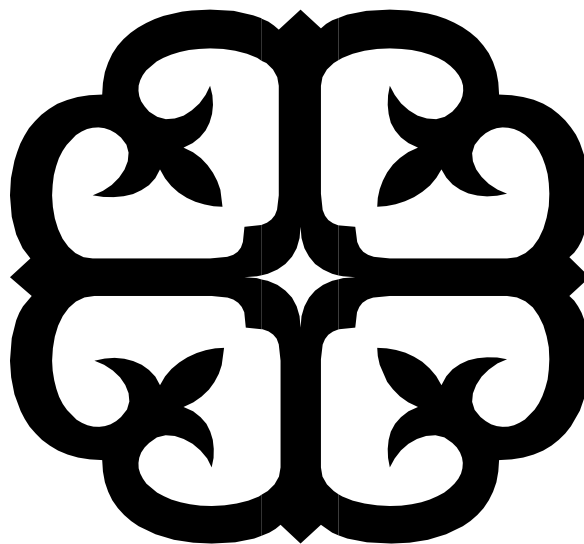
Click on this selection;



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*

