



CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WITHIN THE TEMPLE OF OUR HEARTS

Beloved Saint Nicholas Family,

Throughout the darkening months of December and January we both await the arrival of the Light of the World, Christ our Creator and God, and come to glorify His Incarnation and presence amongst His own creation. The Creator comes to recreate! The Fashioner comes to refashion! The Lord of Lords, King of Kings, and Light of the World unites with His creation, forming them into lights of the world after His own design.

As God-ordained tradition has guided us throughout the centuries, we continue celebrating this blessing with the Feast of our Lord's Meeting at the Temple on February 2–40 days after His birth to the Theotokos, and to all of humanity. In this feast, we find the beloved elder Symeon receiving his Creator and Lord in his own arms as a child, proclaiming Him to be "a light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel." In the West, the tradition of this Great Feast of the Church has come to be known as Candlemas, when a procession of blessed and lit candles occurs in honor of the Lord, the Light Himself, coming to the Temple on this celebrated day.

Below we read from a 7th Century saint of the Church, Sophronius the Patriarch of Jerusalem who speaks to this feast and its honoring through offerings of light:

Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine splendor of the one who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of his eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ.

The Mother of God, the most pure Virgin, carried the true light in her arms and brought him to those who lay in darkness. We too should carry a light for all to see and reflect the radiance of the true light as we hasten to meet him.

The light has come and has shone upon a world enveloped in shadows; the Dayspring from on high has visited us and given light to those who lived in darkness. This,

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St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-272-0466

Parish Website: stnicholastacoma.org

E-Mail: mail@stnicholastacoma.org

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

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

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

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Kathy Rowley

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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

— To be Announced —

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

Coffee Hour

Zach Karanasos

IT, etc.

Bill Samaras

Philia

Diane Pirotis

Pro Life

Genevieve Eagle

Flowers & Church Decorating

Kathy Rowley/Genevieve Eagle

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

Philoptochos Society

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

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 February 13, 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 Venerable Ephraim the Syrian Venerable Isaac the Syrian ● 8:30am Orthros 3 more	29 Translation of the relics of Hieromartyr Basil the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople (ZOOM) ● 5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) ● 6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)	30 Hieromartyr Hippolytus, Pope of Rome Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Great, and John Chrysostom (ZOOM) ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy ● 6pm Vespers	31 Cyrus and John, the wonder-working Parakletis ● 6pm Parakletis ● 7pm Wednesday Chant Class	Feb 1 Brigid of Ireland Trypho the Martyr ● 6:30am Orthros ● 5pm Vigil for Feast (Meeting of Ch)	2 MEETING OF CHRIST ● 6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)	3 Anna the Prophetess The holy and righteous Symeon the Righteous ● 8:30am Hierarchical Orthros (Rice) 3 more
4 Venerable Isidore of Pelusium ● 8:30am Orthros ● 10am Divine Liturgy ● 12pm Coffee Hour: Community	5 Agatha the Martyr ● 5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) ● 6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)	6 Photius the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople Venerable Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy 2 more	7 Venerable Luke of Simastis Venerable Parthenius, Bishop of Laodicea ● 6pm Parakletis ● 7pm Wednesday Chant Class	8 Great Martyr Theodore the Confessor Zacharias the Prophet ● 6:30am Orthros	9 Nicophorus the Martyr ● 10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) ● 6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)	10 Hieromartyr Charalampus the Wonderworker ● 9am Divine Liturgy ● 6pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ Canon)
11 Hieromartyr Blaise the Wonderworker ● 8:30am Orthros ● 10am Divine Liturgy 2 more	12 Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch ● 5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) ● 6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)	13 Aposites Aquila and Priscilla Venerable Martinian ● 10am WOCA Meeting 2 more	14 Venerable Auxentius of the Mountain ● 6pm Parakletis ● 7pm Wednesday Chant Class	15 Onesimus the Apostle Venerable Anthimos of Chios ● 6:30am Orthros	16 Nicholas, Archbishop of Japan and the Holy Apostle Paul Pamphilus the Martyr, and those with him ● 10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) ● 6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)	17 Theodore the Great Martyr and Confessor ● 6pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ Canon)
18 Leo, Pope of Rome ● 8:30am Orthros ● 10am Divine Liturgy 2 more	19 Archippus the Apostle Venerable Martyr Philothei of Athens ● 5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) ● 6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)	20 Leo, Bishop of Catania ● 6pm Vespers	21 Venerable Timothy of Symbola ● 6pm Parakletis ● 7pm Wednesday Chant Class	22 Elwin of Cornwall Finding of the relics of the Martyrs of the Holy Land ● 6:30am Orthros	23 Polycarp the Hieromartyr, Bishop of Smyrna ● 10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) ● 6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)	24 1st and 2nd finding of the precious relics of the Holy Cross ● 9am Divine Liturgy ● 6pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ Canon)
25 Hieromartyr Regino, Bishop of Skopje Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople ● 8:30am Orthros 4 more	26 Martyr Photini the Samaritan, and the Holy Martyr Paphnutius, Bishop of Gaza Venerable Arcadius, son of Xenophonus 2 more	27 Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn Venerable Ephraim of Kataboumakia Venerable Procopius, Confessor of the Holy Mountain ● 6pm Vespers	28 Venerable (John) Cassian, Confessor Venerable Basil the Confessor ● 6pm Parakletis ● 7pm Wednesday Chant Class	29 ● 6:30am Orthros	Mar 1 David of Wales Venerable Martyr Eudokia of Samaria ● 10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) ● 6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)	2 Martyr Hesychnus the Senator Venerable Nicholas Planas ● 6pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ Canon)

The most up to date calendar is always found at the St. Nicholas web page:
www.stnicholastacom.org

FEBRUARY 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

<p>Thursday, February 1 Brigid of Ireland Trypho the Martyr 6:30am Orthros</p>	<p>Friday, February 2 MEETING OF CHRIST 10:00am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) 6:00pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>
<p>Saturday, February 3 Anna the Prophetess The holy and righteous Symeon the God-receiver 6:00pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p>Sunday, February 4 Venerable Isidore of Pelusium 8:30am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy</p>
<p>Monday, February 5 Agatha the Martyr 5:00pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) 6:00pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 6 Photius the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople Venerable Bocolus, Bishop of Smyrna 6:00pm Vespers 7:00pm Building Committee</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 7 Venerable Luke of Steiris Venerable Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus 6:00pm Paraklesis 7:00pm Wednesday Chant Class</p>	<p>Thursday, February 8 Great Martyr Theodore the Commander Zacharias the Prophet 6:30am Orthros</p>
<p>Friday, February 9 Nicephorus the Martyr 10:00am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) 6:00pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p>Saturday, February 10 Hieromartyr Charalampos the Wonderworker 6:00pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>



FEBRUARY 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

<p>Sunday, February 11 Hieromartyr Blaise the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Sebaste 8:30am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:15pm Choir Practice (Divine Liturgy Group)</p>	<p>Monday, February 12 Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch 5:00pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) 6:00pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>
<p>Tuesday, February 13 Apostles Aquila and Priscilla Venerable Martinian 10:00am WOCA Meeting 6:00pm Vespers 7:00pm Parish Council</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 14 Venerable Auxentius of the Mountain 6:00pm Paraklesis 7:00pm Wednesday Chant Class</p>
<p>Thursday, February 15 Onesimus the Apostle Venerable Anthimos of Chios 6:30am Orthros</p>	<p>Friday, February 16 Nicholas, Archbishop of Japan and Equal-to-the-Apostles Pamphilus the Martyr, and those with him 10:00am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) 6:00pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>
<p>Saturday, February 17 Theodore the Great Martyr and Recruit 6:00pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p>Sunday, February 18 Leo, Pope of Rome 8:30am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy</p>
<p>Monday, February 19 Archippus the Apostle Venerable Martyr Philothei of Athens 5:00pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) 6:00pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 20 Leo, Bishop of Catania 6:00pm Vespers</p>

FEBRUARY 2024 DAILY CALENDAR

<p>Wednesday, February 21 Venerable Timothy of Symbola 6:00pm Paraklesis 7:00pm Wednesday Chant Class</p>	<p>Thursday, February 22 Elwin of Cornwall Finding of the relics of the Martyrs of Eugenius 6:30am Orthros</p>
<p>Friday, February 23 Polycarp the Hieromartyr, Bishop of Smyrna 10:00am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour) 6:00pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p>Saturday, February 24 1st and 2nd finding of the precious head of the Forerunner and Baptist John 6:00pm Vespers & Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>
<p>Sunday, February 25 Hieromartyr Reginos, Bishop of Skopelos Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople 8:30am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:15pm Choir Practice (Divine Liturgy Group)</p>	<p>Monday, February 26 Martyr Photini the Symaritan, and those with her Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza Venerable Arcadius, son of Xenophon 5:00pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) 6:00pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>
<p>Tuesday, February 27 Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn Venerable Ephraim of Katounakia Venerable Procopius, Confessor of Decapolis 6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 28 Venerable (John) Cassian, Confessor of Rome Venerable Basil the Confessor 6:00pm Paraklesis 7:00pm Wednesday Chant Class</p>
<p>Thursday, February 29 6:30am Orthros</p>	



Coffee Hour



COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO JOIN TEAMS

MISSION:

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

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

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

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

If you are moved to join a Coffee Hour Ministry team, please contact Zach Karanasos or Fenia Mavromichali

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY:

01/28/2024	Philoptochos Soup/Social Services/Cancer & Major Illness Fund
02/04/2024	Community Coffee Hour
02/11/2024	Philoptochos Autism Pie Drive
02/18/2024	Team Charitou
02/25/2024	Community Coffee Hour

Father Anthony's Message continued

then, is our feast, and we join in procession with lighted candles to reveal the light that has shone upon us and the glory that is yet to come to us through him. So let us hasten all together to meet our God.

The true light has come, the light that enlightens every man who is born into this world. Let all of us, my brethren, be enlightened and made radiant by this light. Let all of us share in its splendor, and be so filled with it that no one remains in the darkness. Let us be shining ourselves as we go together to meet and to receive with the aged Simeon the light whose brilliance is eternal.

Rejoicing with Symeon, let us sing a hymn of thanksgiving to God, the Father of the light, who sent the true light to dispel the darkness and to give us all a share in his splendor.

Through Symeon's eyes we too have seen the salvation of God which he prepared for all the nations and revealed as the glory of the new Israel, which is ourselves. As Simeon was released from the bonds of this life when he had seen Christ, so we too were at once freed from our old state of sinfulness.

By faith we, too, embraced Christ, the salvation of God the Father, as he came to us from Bethlehem. Gentiles before, we have now become the people of God. Our eyes have seen God incarnate, and because we have seen him present among us and have mentally received him into our arms, we are called the new Israel.

Never shall we forget this presence; every year we keep a feast in his honor.

May we all have the Light, Christ our true God, illuminating our lives on this day and always, unto the ages of ages.

Amen. — Fr. Anthony

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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:

Αγιασμός (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

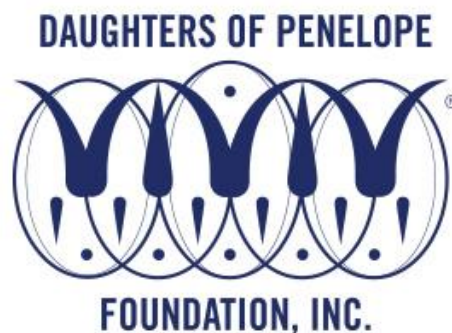
Vice-President – Dr. Olympia Tachopoulos Stafford

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 and Happy New Year! It is such a blessing that the Philoptochos mission is truly a valued part of St. Nicholas parish! Each event that Philoptochos has sponsored over the past year has been GENEROUSLY supported by not only our parishioners but by visitors to our parish as well. These events see an increase in giving over the previous years. Philoptochos is humbled by the financial expression of your faith in our ability to help those who are needy both within our local area and within the wider orthodox community as well.

Significant activities in January included:

Vasilopeta - On January 9, special loaves of bread (made by our Philoptochos members in the church kitchen), were cut and served to representatives of the St. Nicholas ministries. \$1,886 donated from parishioners for this event will go to the St. Basil's Academy, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese home in New York for children in need.

Holiday Food Certificate Drive - Every year Philoptochos has spearheaded a project to donate food certificates to families in the community for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we helped eight families at four schools, Boze, Blix, Downing and Travis (formerly McCarver), elementary schools. Gift cards were distributed to the families for both holidays.

Our goal was to raise \$4,000 for this project. As of December 31, 2023, we had raised \$4,911, surpassing this goal. Thank you to AHEPA, Daughters of Penelope, and all members of our community who donated to the Holiday Food Certificate Drive.

January/February planned activities to further our mission of helping those less fortunate and to promote participation in the Philoptochos Society:

Soup Coffee Hour - On January 28, members will prepare a variety of soups and rolls to be served at the coffee hour. This will be a free-will offering. Funds for this event will benefit two National funds: the Social Services fund and the Cancer and Other Major Illnesses Fund.

The Social Services fund provides assistance to improve the quality of life of those in need. Through confidential and professional services, the National office provides outreach, education, support, advocacy, financial assistance and referrals to local and broader resources as needed.

The Philoptochos Cancer and Other Major Illnesses fund provides relief to members of our community, so they can focus on their health and health care needs.

Philoptochos News

Pie Coffee Hour - On February 11 members will serve a variety of pies for \$3.00/piece at the coffee hour. Funds from this event will go to the Autism Assistance Fund. This fund provides assistance and support to persons within the Autism spectrum and promotes education to heighten Autism awareness.

Membership - Our year starts in January and runs through December. The membership is \$30 for the year. Please ask any member about Philoptochos – it is the Orthodox Church's Women's Ministry. Please contact Jane Evancho for membership payment. 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--



VASILOPETA
January 9, 2024



Philoptochos News



YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

Philoptochos Spring Luncheon & Fashion Show

MARCH 9, 2024



EVENT STARTS AT 11:30AM

The Church of the Assumption
1804 13th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122
RSVP to Marianne Bratsanos
(206) 992 - 7664



Building Committee

FEBRUARY BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

A contract has been signed and materials are currently being procured for roofing replacement over the Upper and Lower Halls, with field work expected to start in early February. The Upper Hall roof is planned to be done first, followed by the Lower Hall roof after the former is completed. Each of the roofs are expected to take about 2 to 3 weeks to complete without factoring in for bad weather, so completion for both is speculated to be around late March or early April.

Chapel renovation work and preparation for new iconography in the Narthex should be done around the time this Messenger comes out. Several small enhancements have been implemented in the Chapel, and most exposed Narthex area wall surfaces have been skim coated smooth over existing rough faced textures, both behind where new iconography will be installed, and above and beyond up to existing ceilings. Unfortunately, the initial time slot for the iconographer who is to install the iconography was lost due to an injury, and he will not be available until a later time, possibly after Pascha, to be determined. Regardless, the walls will be primed and ready, and still act as an improvement over what was previously there.

A contract has been signed with AHBL Engineering to investigate the existing Sanctuary floor structure and produce permit-ready working design drawings that would greatly enhance the floor assembly. If fully implemented the upgrades would provide the church with greater flexibility in what it may want to do in the future in terms of possible further tile flooring enhancements and modifying seating layouts, while taking away the "bounce" one can presently feel when walking across the Sanctuary floor.

The upcoming AHBL design will provide a means to more accurately define what specific scope would be required for a plethora of floor improvement options, which will be used for estimating purposes and help quantify other logistical considerations. Completed design drawings should be ready within the next couple of months, with scope proposals to cost and present afterwards.



The above left photo shows the northeast corner of the Chapel pointing towards the Narthex, where a closet has been removed, and a power outlet and a dimmer switch added. Still left to be done is final drywall finishing and painting. The above right photo shows a rooftop condenser unit over the kitchen area that provides cooling to both a walk-in freezer and cooler below. A side benefit of the re-roofing work is that deteriorated rigid foam insulation wrapped around some exterior refrigerant lines at the condenser will be replaced, allowing the unit to run smoother and more efficiently.

Contributed by: Bill Acker

ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed



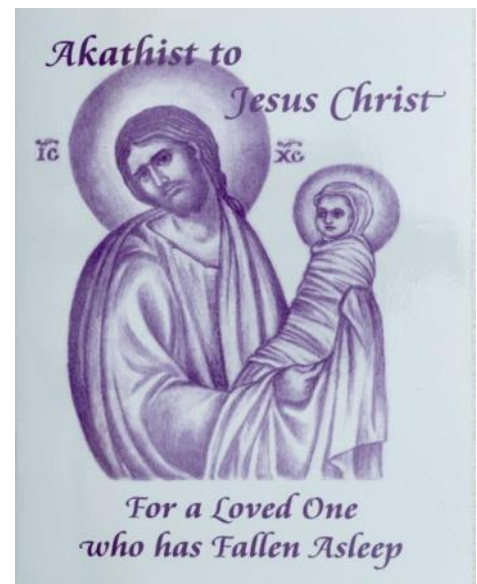
Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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
to add your name to our email list.

Catechumens

ST. NICHOLAS' NEWLY ILLUMINED



Christina



Moses

The Baptism and Chrismation of Christina and Moses – Theophany, January 6, 2024



Preparation



Baptism



Chrismation



Newly Illumined

Catechumens



First Communion for our Newly Illumined, Christina & Moses

CATECHISM CLASS – 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, not just Catechumens and/or inquirers. 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

Hands of Love

The Hands of Love Ministry had our first meeting of the new year and there was a great turn-out.



Our youngest new member, Despina, and her first crocheting project!



Hands of Love



I didn't get a lot done with my project, but with my new protégé, I was thoroughly entertained!



Justine, a beginning knitter, totally engaged in her new project.



Zoe receiving guidance from Jane.



A sneak peek at my new design for Festival 2024, Greek Evzones (Εύζωνες) soldiers, "George" and "Nicholas".

Pro—Life Ministry

Sanctity of Life Sunday, January 21, 2024

WE STAND FOR
SANCTITY
 OF
HUMAN
LIFE




On January 22, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a presidential proclamation designating the third Sunday of January (or close to that) as National Sanctity of Human Life Day.

Pastors, Churches and life organizations across the United States use this day to bring awareness to the attacks that are daily waged against human life through the abortion industry.

One of the best ways we can protect unborn lives is by bringing into the light the darkness of abortion, and supporting local Pregnancy Help Organizations who daily reach women and families with messages of hope and life.

I want to thank our St. Nicholas parishioners for their generosity and support of our Pro-Life Ministry on the Sanctity of Life Sunday, January 21, 2024. I also want to thank our ministry members who contributed the delicious salads and desserts. Thanks to Kathy Rowley and Kathy Johnson and Roxanne Valentine for working so hard behind the scenes with preparation, serving and clean-up. I hope all had a wonderful time.



CareNet is one of the Pro Life Ministry's greatest champions for the unborn and their parents. These are just some of the services they provide:

- Parenting support
- Support for dads
- Support after abortion
- Pregnancy and infant loss support
- Pregnancy test
- Viability ultrasound
- Abortion pill reversal
- Abstinence classes
- Referrals
- Supplies: clothing, diapers, formula, etc.

CareNet Locations

Tacoma, Lakewood, Puyallup, Federal Way, Gig Harbor, Bellevue and Kenmore

Pro—Life Ministry



Spring 2024 Campaign



KEEP THE DATES
Tuesdays 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
February 14 – March 24
Cedar River Clinic
1401 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA



St. Nicholas Pro-Life Ministry has committed to sponsor each Tuesday, starting February 14 through March 24, from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. at the Cedar River Clinic, 1401 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA.

All are welcome to join us in the Orthodox Christian Service of Supplication for the Victims of Abortion – the more the merrier!! Please contact me, Genevieve, at stnicholaszoom@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.



It's that time of year and we are excited to begin getting confirmations from those who wish to attend Care Net's annual Light & Life Fundraiser Dinner. This event will be held at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, 1500 Broadway, Tacoma, WAA 98402, on Saturday, March 16th. Check-in is 5:15 p.m. and the dinner & program is 6:00-8:00 p.m. More details to follow. If you are interested in attending this event (free of charge – but it is a fundraiser) please contact Genevieve, stnicholaszoom@gmail.com to reserve seats.

FLOWER MINISTRY



Feast Day of St. Nikiforos the Leper and Wonderworker



Theophany



Submitted by: Genevieve

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.

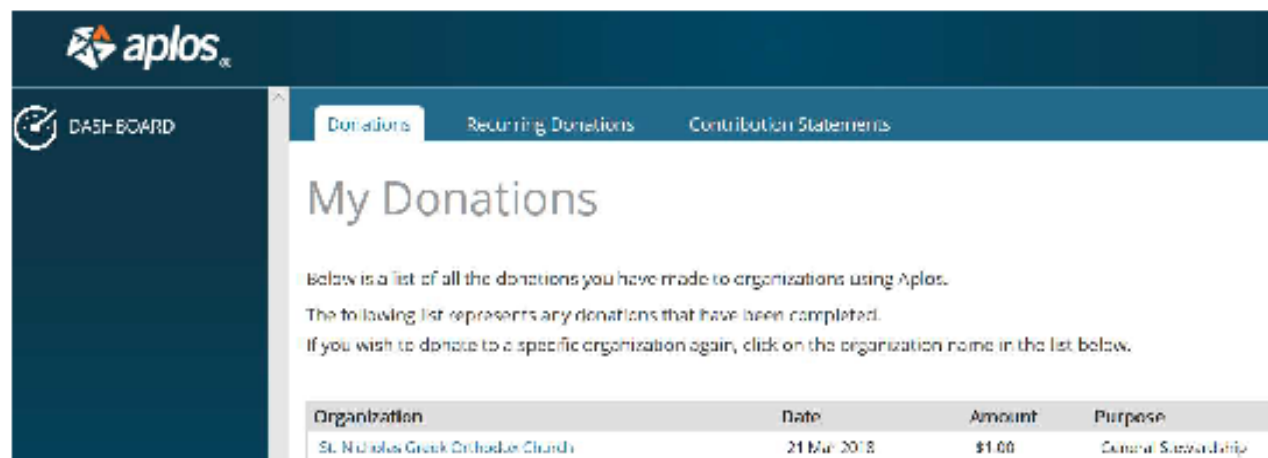
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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



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

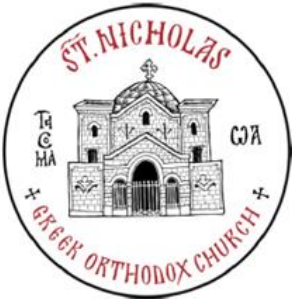
NAME _____ D.O.B. _____ ORTHODOX? YES NO

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.

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. 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*

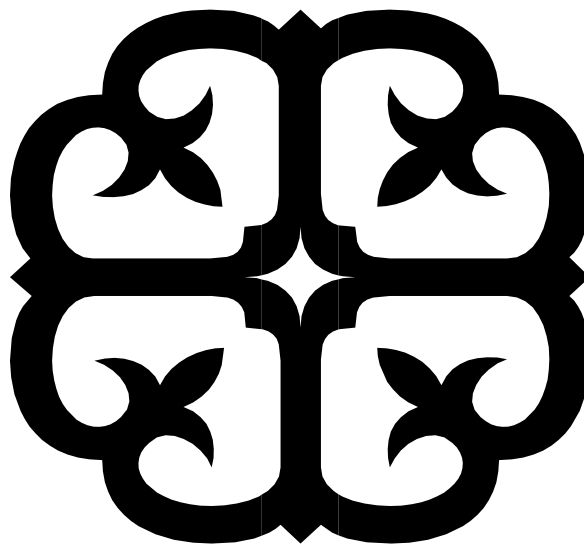
Click on this selection;



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

