



Welcome

Father Anthony Cornett

Presbytera Anna

Miriam

Zoe

Despina

And

Macrina

Inside Messenger

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February 26, 2023 will be the first Sunday of hopefully many blessed Sundays under the pastoral care and guidance of our new priest, Fr. Anthony Cornett.

As we begin our Lenten journey toward Great and Holy Pascha, so also we begin our journey with this new priest and shepherd to our flock who represents Christ in our midst and all that flows from Him.

“For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hands.” (Psalm 94)

On behalf of the Parish Council and all the St. Nicholas Parish, I ask you to join me in welcoming and embracing Fr. Anthony, Presbytera Anna, and their daughters Miriam, Despina, Zoe, and Macrina as family members of our parish.

Χρόνια Καλα και Πολλά! May God grant them many good and fruitful years!

With Faith and Love,

Andrew Primis

Parish Council President

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

General 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

‘to be announced’

Email: anthonymcornett@gmail.com

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

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St. Nicholas Ministries

AHEPA

Paul Apostle, 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

To be announced

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
Presbytera Sophie Majmudar – 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 March 14, 2023

MARCH 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>26</p> <p>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</p> <p>Martyr Photini the Symaritan,</p> <p>Porphyrus, Bishop of Gaza</p> <p>5 more</p>	<p>27</p> <p>CLEAN MONDAY</p> <p>Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn</p> <p>Venerable Ephraim of Katoun</p> <p>4 more</p>	<p>28</p> <p>CLEAN TUESDAY</p> <p>Venerable (John) Cassian, Cc</p> <p>Venerable Basil the Confesso</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Great Compline (Canor) 	<p>Mar 1</p> <p>CLEAN WEDNESDAY</p> <p>David of Wales</p> <p>Venerable Martyr Eudokia of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Presanctified Liturgy 	<p>2</p> <p>CLEAN THURSDAY</p> <p>Martyr Hesychius the Senator</p> <p>Venerable Nicholas Planas</p> <p>2 more</p>	<p>3</p> <p>CLEAN FRIDAY</p> <p>Martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Presanctified Liturg <p>2 more</p>	<p>4</p> <p>First Saturday of Lent: Miracle</p> <p>Venerable Gerasimus of the J</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Orthros <p>2 more</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Piran of Cornwall</p> <p>SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY</p> <p>Venerable Martyr Conon of Is</p> <p>4 more</p>	<p>6</p> <p>42 Martyrs of Amorium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Beginning Greek 	<p>7</p> <p>Hieromartyrs of Cherson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Building Committee 	<p>8</p> <p>Venerable Theophylact the Ct</p>	<p>9</p> <p>40 Great Martyrs of Sebaste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Modern Greek 	<p>10</p> <p>Quadratus the Martyr of Corit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15pm Lenten Book Study 	<p>11</p> <p>Sophronius, Patriarch of Jeru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Vespers
<p>12</p> <p>Gregory the Great, Pope of Rc</p> <p>ST GREGORY PALAMAS SUNDAY</p> <p>Venerable Theophanes the Ct</p> <p>4 more</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Translation of the relics of Ni</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Beginning Greek 	<p>14</p> <p>Venerable Benedict of Nursia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Parish Council 	<p>15</p> <p>Agapius the Martyr, and those</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Sabinus, the Martyr of Egypt</p> <p>Venerable Christodulus of Pa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Modern Greek 	<p>17</p> <p>Venerable Alexius, the Man o</p> <p>Venerable Patrick, Enlightene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15pm Lenten Book Study 	<p>18</p> <p>Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem</p> <p>Nikolai Velimirovic of Pennsy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Vespers
<p>19</p> <p>Martyrs Chrysanthus and Dar</p> <p>VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Orthros <p>3 more</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Cuthbert of Lindisfame</p> <p>Venerable Fathers slain in Sai</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Beginning Greek 	<p>21</p> <p>Venerable Bishop James the</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Hieromartyr Basil, Presbyter c</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Hieromartyr Nikon, and his 15</p> <p>Tikhon, Enlightener of Americ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Modern Greek 	<p>24</p> <p>Venerable Artemon, Bishop o</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15pm Lenten Book Study 	<p>25</p> <p>ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Vespers
<p>26</p> <p>ST JOHN OF THE LADDER SUNDAY</p> <p>Synaxis of Archangel Gabriel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Orthros <p>3 more</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Matrona, Martyr of Thessalon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Beginning Greek 	<p>28</p> <p>Venerable Hilarion the New, A</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Mark, Bishop of Arethusa and</p> <p>Martyrs Jonas and Barachisit</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Venerable John of Sinai, auth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Modern Greek 	<p>31</p> <p>Hieromartyr Hypatius, Bishop</p> <p>Innocent of Alaska, Equal-to-</p>	<p>Apr 1</p> <p>AKATHIST SATURDAY</p> <p>Venerable Mary of Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am (Baby Shower) in Low <p>2 more</p>

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

Father Anthony's March Article

Prayerful Preparation for a Joyous Resurrection

As we enter into the Great Forty Days of the Lenten Fast, we have the esteemed privilege of knowing how this all ends: Christ's glorious Resurrection on the third day, as celebrated in Great and Holy Pascha, on April 16th of this year. However, before we receive and celebrate this reward of eternal life that has been extended to all of the Lord's faithful flock, we are first called to a period of preparation.

Throughout Scripture, we find various examples of the preparation of God's people in order to receive a great reward. In the Old Testament, the Jewish people journeyed for 40 years in the desert in order to receive and enter into the gift of the Promised Land. In the New Testament, we are given countless examples through the Parables of our Lord to teach us the importance of preparing for the Great Banquet with the Master. The 9th Chapter of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew enlightens us to this fact with the following gems:

14 Then John's disciples came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples don't fast?"

15 Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast."

16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch would tear away from the garment, and a worse hole is made.

17 Neither do people put new wine into old wine skins, or else the skins would burst, and the wine be spilled, and the skins ruined. No, they put new wine into fresh wine skins, and both are preserved."

As we prepare to receive our risen Bridegroom, my brothers and sisters in Christ, we prepare not only with abstaining from certain foods (chiefly meat and dairy, as our bodies allow), but first and foremost by abstaining from every passion, as so beautifully noted in our Vespers Service on the Sunday of Forgiveness:

Let us observe a fast acceptable and pleasing to the Lord.

True Fasting is to put away all evil,

To control the tongue, to forbear from anger,

To abstain from lust, slander, falsehood and perjury.

If we renounce these things, then is our fasting true and acceptable to God.

Let us keep the Fast not only by refraining from food,

But by becoming strangers to all the bodily passions.

Saturday of the Souls & the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

With the blessing of increased liturgical services, and other opportunities to unite as the Body of Christ during this Lenten season, one of the most-treasured moments is the Saturday of the Souls (Ψυχοσάββατον). On this day, we offer both kollyva (boiled wheat) as well as prayers on behalf of our loved ones who have gone on before us.

"What," you might ask, "makes the Saturday of the Souls different from any other memorial?"

Some of you might be acquainted with the wonderful monument in the Arlington National Cemetery, which is dedicated to the "Unknown Soldier". This monument is guarded at all times by a dedicated serviceperson, rain or shine. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier stands for the soldiers whose lives were lost in battle, but remains have yet to be identified. These persons are honored with dignity and respect, even though we may not be able to identify them by name.

Father Anthony's March Article Continued

This is the primary reason we gather on Saturday of the Souls—to honor those who have gone before us, yet have not been given proper memorials by their given name. Our website for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese offers the following instructive words for this day,

“Since many throughout the ages, because of an untimely death in a faraway place, or other adverse circumstances, have died without being deemed worthy of the appointed memorial services, the divine Fathers, being so moved in their love for man, have decreed that a common memorial be made this day for all pious Orthodox Christians who have reposed from all ages past, so that those who did not have particular memorial services may be included in this common one for all.”

Of course many of us also bring a list of names for our beloved family and friends to be commemorated, alongside our own ‘unknown soldiers in Christ’. When we unite again, either online or in person, for the next Saturday of Souls, let us also bring to mind our own ‘unknown soldiers’, whose names our loving God surely knows.

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony Cornett, Proistamenos



March 25th Celebration



MARCH 25TH CELEBRATION!



of the:
ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS
and
THE “GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY”

When: March 26, 2023 / after Divine Liturgy

PROGRAM:

Opening Prayer / Coffee Hour

Presentation of the Flags / National Anthems / Key Note Speaker(s)

Dance Group Performance - Dance for All

***Lenten Potluck Luncheon – If you have any questions please contact Ingrid Chamales and Diane Pirotis**

Continued next page...

March 25th Celebration

The USA National Anthem

O say! can you see, by the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof thro' the night, that our flag was still there.
 O say! does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

The Greek National Anthem:

Σε γνωρίζω απο την κόψη – Του σπαθιού την τρομερή
 Σε γνωρίζω απο την όψη – Που με βιά μετρά τη γή
 Απ τα κόκαλα βγαλμένη – Των Ελλήνων τα ιερά
 Και σαν πρώτα ανδρειωμένη – Χαίρε, ώ χαίρε, Ελευθεριά

Latin Transliteration:

Se gnoriso apo tin kopsi, Tou spathiou tin romeri,
 Se gnoriso apo tin opsi, Pou me via metra tin yi.
 Ap' ta kokala vialmeni, Ton Ellinon ta iera,
 Ke san prota andriomeni, Haire, o haire, leftheria!
 (repeat previous one line three times)

English Translation:

We knew thee of old, Oh, divinely restored,
 By the lights of thine eyes, and the Light of thy Sword,
 From the graves of our slain, Shall thy valor prevail,
 As we greet thee Aga - Hail, Liberty! Hail!
 (repeat previous two lines three times)

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 MARCH:

3/5/2023	Team Karanasos
3/12/2023	Community Coffee Hour*
3/19/2023	Team Charitou
3/26/2023	March 25 th Celebration

* **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 Ishchenko

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

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

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:

Αγίασμας (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 New Year! 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:

Welcome Coffee Hour for Father Anthony Cornett and family - Philoptochos will host a welcome coffee hour on February 26 welcoming Father Anthony Cornett and his family to St. Nicholas.

Ladies Lunch and Raffle-Philoptochos annual fun event with lovely tables, exciting raffle items, and a huge dessert buffet will be held on Saturday, May 6. More details will follow.

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

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. \$1,508 donated from parishioners for this event was sent to the St. Basil's Academy, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese home for children in need in New York.

Soup Coffee Hour - On January 29, members prepared a variety of soups and rolls to be served at the coffee hour. This was a free-will offering and \$1,472 was collected. Funds for this event benefited two National funds, the Social Services fund and the Cancer and Other Major Illnesses Fund.



Philoptochos ladies ready for the Soup Coffee Hour on January 20, 2023

Philoptochos News

(Soup Coffee Hour continued from page 9)

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.

Pie coffee hour on February 12, 2023



Pie Coffee Hour - On February 12, members served a variety of pies for \$3.00/piece at the coffee hour. Donated funds totaling \$1,250 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--

Daughters of Penelope



The Daughters of Penelope Icaria Chapter 175 Salutes the Heroes of the Greek Independence
– Hellenes and Philhellenes and reflects and remembers their sacrifices.

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people; and

WHEREAS, the Founders of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, Greek soldiers were with the United States Marines on the shores of Tripoli in the military operations memorialized in the United States Marine Corps' Hymn; and

WHEREAS, many Americans fought alongside the Greeks in their fight for Greek independence, while stirring speeches by President James Monroe and Representative Daniel Webster led Congress to send funds and supplies to aid the Greeks in the struggle for freedom; and

WHEREAS, Greece is one of only three nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century, including World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and the Balkans; and

WHEREAS, Greece and the United States of America are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights; and

WHEREAS, March 25, 2023, marks the 202nd anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim March 25, 2023, as

Greek Independence Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 14th day of February, 2023



Governor Jay Inslee



Proclamation courtesy of Daughters of Penelope Seattle, WA Alcides Chapter #D160

Building Committee

MARCH BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

A 2023 church budget presented by the Parish Council was passed at a General Assembly held on January 29, which included approval to replace the church furnace in the Lower Hall. A contract has since been signed with Narrows Heating, the contractor selected to do the work. The furnace replacement work should take about a week or so. Mutually acceptable dates are in the process of being set, with the work possibly taking place as soon as sometime in March as long as it doesn't interfere with Lent services and activities.

Details and specifics of new church iconography, both in the Narthex and elsewhere, continue to be worked out between the iconographer and the church icon committee. This is a long and meticulous process. Unofficially, actual iconography panels within the main Narthex area might be completed and in place around November of this year.

A six month roofing inspection of the new Narthex area roofing should be taking place this month. Also, the attic space above the Sanctuary and the existing Upper Hall and Dining/Kitchen area roofs will be looked at as well; with the intent to further obtain viable preventive maintenance and future renovation possibilities.

A preliminary proposal that has been mentioned in previous Messengers to address long-term fixes to the deteriorating Upper Hall and Dining Hall/Kitchen area roofs, in conjunction with providing a big-picture overall church renovation plan has been drafted and presented to the Building Committee and Parish Council. With the transition of priests being done in a quicker than ideal manner and Lent soon to be starting, it has been decided to let things settle, take the time to absorb, and present a more vetted proposal shortly after Pascha.

In closing, below are some reminder photos of the existing state of the Upper Hall and Dining Hall/Kitchen area roofs.



This is the roof drain area over the Upper Hall, shot on a sunny day a few months ago, looking north towards the Narthex. Note the standing water puddles that linger on a roof that has no slope built into it.



Above is the Dining Hall/Kitchen roof looking east. The light colored stripes consist of mastic with white granules on top, applied to roofing seams and other suspect areas as a preventive maintenance effort.

Submitted by Bill Acker

MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS

In military units people come and go all the time. Generally assignments are 2-4 years and then military personnel are assigned elsewhere. Often this is due to promotions and the need for people to experience other jobs and challenges designed to broaden their horizons and enable them to grow professionally. My perception is that the same is true for most professions.

Whenever an officer arrives in a new unit, or whenever one is preparing to leave the one in which they've served for the last few years, military tradition is for the unit to coordinate for a "Hail and Farewell." These were always "command performance" events meaning your attendance was mandatory, and your spouse's attendance was also expected. It was an opportunity to get together in a relaxed social environment, to introduce and welcome the new officer(s) that recently arrived, and then to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of the officer(s) that is departing, along with the contributions of his/her spouse and family.

This past month Philoptochos and the Parish Council hosted a "Farewell" for Fr. Seraphim and his family and what a fabulous event it was. It was heartwarming to see so many people in attendance, and Philoptochos and the Parish Council should be commended for such an outstanding event on rather short notice.

We were fortunate to have Father Seraphim as our parish priest and enjoy the Majmudar family as a part of ours for almost 14 years. Fr. Seraphim grew into his spiritual calling by getting to know the people of our parish and our community, and by navigating a variety of experiences and learning from each of them. We all benefited from his wisdom and he helped us grow spiritually. Now he will shepherd a larger parish and do the same for them.

We were blessed to get to know Presbyteria Sophie through many different social engagements, parties that she hosted at the "Maj Mahal," and of course her hundreds of hours of festival preparation and supervision at the Gyro booth. Her tremendous sense of humor often made me laugh so hard my sides hurt, and many times I said to Ingrid, "Presbyteria should have been a stand up comedian!" We will miss Presbyteria Sophie and we wish her well in her new home.

What an absolute pleasure it has been to watch the Majmudar family grow! If you've been a part of our St. Nicholas family for a length of time you watched Brigid and John go from middle school, to high school, and on to college. Brigid is now married with a fantastic husband, and is a young mother with a family of her own. John is an outstanding and handsome young man about to graduate from college, and many of us are watching with curious anticipation to see where he goes and what he does, but with total confidence that he too will be successful in life.

Not to be forgotten of course are Nicholas, Tommy and Gabriel. Many of us watched them grow to be the outstanding young fellas they are today. For many years Ingrid and I sat up in the balcony during Divine Liturgy. If I had a nickel for the number of times I was amused and chuckled because of the antics of these boys, I could have retired a long time ago! Watching Nicholas and Tommy serve as alter boys and participate in our services provided a sense of pride for all of us. I dare say any man that grew up in the Orthodox church and served as an alter boy was reminded of his own youthful experiences whenever Nicholas and Tommy stepped out from behind the alter. *Cont'd on next page....*

MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS

The Majmudar family are now a part of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church history. By the time this article is published Fr. Anthony and his family will have arrived and already begun etching their contributions in a new chapter. The “Hail” and welcoming dinner for Fr. Anthony, Presbyter Anna, and their daughters has already occurred and special thanks go out to our fabulous Philoptochos and Parish Council for organizing such a beautiful event. If you were able to attend thank you so much for your support of our church, our new Priest, and his beautiful family! If you were unable to attend please join all of us at your earliest opportunity in writing the newest chapter of our church’s history. Become an active part in helping us grow! We look forward to seeing you soon!

MARCH 26th we will celebrate Greek Independence Day! This year will mark the 202nd anniversary of the Greek War for Independence. Mr. George Pirotis will be giving a presentation on Sunday, March 26th, following the Divine Liturgy, and during the Sunday luncheon. If you have never attended one of George’s presentations in the past, you certainly won’t want to miss this opportunity! His presentations are always informative, educational, and entertaining, and they highlight the contributions that Greece has provided to freedom loving countries around the world. **ZITO Y HELLAS!**

March 25, 1821. The Greek Revolution of 1821, also known as Greek Independence Day.

March 25th is celebrated in Greece, Cyprus, and anywhere else that Greeks gather. It is sometimes referred to as Greece’s Independence Day, but more appropriately it is the day that was selected to mark the start of the Greek Revolution. The day coincides with the feast day of the Annunciation, the day the Archangel Gabriel



Bishop Germanos blessing the fighters.

Chieftains of the Greek Revolution



visited Panagia, and told her that she would be the mother of the son of God. This feast day was chosen as the day of the start of the Greek Revolution against the Ottoman Empire, by the “FILIKI ETERIA” or the “Society of Friends,” which at the time was led by Alexander Ypsilantis.

The Filiki Eteria was a secret society that was formed in 1814 with the goal of liberating Greece from the Ottoman Turks. The group planned the insurrection to occur on the feast day of the Annunciation, but in some parts of Greece the fighting actually started sooner. On March 25 Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the flag of revolution over the Monastery of Agia Lavra in the Peloponnese. The cry “Freedom or death” became the motto of the revolution and in the year 1829 success was finally achieved, and Greece gained its independence from the Ottoman Empire.

Continued on next page....

MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS



Over the course of the last 200 years the country of Greece has had to fight several wars to maintain its freedom and to support the cause of freedom with allies as a part of NATO. The men and women of the Greek armed forces have fought in World War I, the Greco-Turkish War, World War II, the Greek Civil War, the Korean War, the Cold War, and most recently in support of NATO forces during Operation Enduring Freedom, the war in Afghanistan.

Freedom is not free and many in uniform have paid for that freedom in blood. Many of our parishioners have family members who have served in the armed forces of Greece. We are extremely grateful for their service, for their support of the United States, and for their support of freedom loving countries around the world.

Family members of St. Nicholas parishioners who served in the Army and Air Force of Greece.



Kapetan Giannikos
Cretan Guerilla Leader
HERO OF THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE
Island of Crete.
John & Maro Kouklis' Great Grandfather



Theofanis Ampatzis
 Hellenic Army
Cold War
 George & Despina Ampatzis' son



SGT Sam G. Buldis
World War I
Served in both the Royal Hellenic Army and the United States Army
 Steve Buldis' Grandfather



COL(R) Avram Demetriades
 Hellenic Army
Recipient of the Royal Hellenic Order of the Phoenix w/Golden Cross. It is equivalent to the American Legion of Merit Medal.
 Despina Kipelidis' father



Antonios D. Georgantzis
 Royal Hellenic Army
WWII
Wounded while fighting the Italians & Germans early in the war.
 Hoddi Motz's father



Ionnis Kiosses
 Royal Hellenic Army
WWII
Fought the Italians and later captured in the war.
 Chrysanthe Barnes' father



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



Continued on next page....

MILITARY MINISTRY NEWS



Lieutenant Costas Kouklis
Royal Hellenic Army
WWII
John & Maro Kouklis'
father and Parish Priest, St.
Nicholas Greek Orthodox
Church/Tacoma 1952-57



Panos Koumantaros
Royal Hellenic Army
Maria Koumantaros'
husband



George Markakis
Royal Hellenic Army
Killed in Action
during the Italian
Invasion of Greece at
beginning of WWII



Mary Leonard's
grandfather



James Michalareas
Royal Hellenic Army
Greco-Turkish War
Killed by communist
guerillas during WWII
Gus Chamales' great
uncle



Chris Pamboukas
Royal Hellenic
Army
1968-1970
Served as a parachute
rigger and General's
staff assistant



ZLT Efthimios S. Pirotis
Hellenic Army
2nd Paratrooper
Squadron, 1st Special
Forces Group
1967-1968
George Pirotis' brother



Efthimios G. Pirotis
Hellenic Army
Served in the
5th Moira Special Forces
1972-1974
George Pirotis' cousin



George S. Pirotis
Hellenic Army
Served in the
576th Infantry BN
Diane Pirotis' husband



Stavros E. Pirotis
Hellenic Army
Evzone in the Presidential
Guard, & the Guard of the
Tomb of the Unknown
Soldier
George Pirotis' nephew



Memory Eternal. Four St. Nicholas veterans passed away in the month of March in past years. In our continuing effort to honor their service and keep their legacy alive, they are remembered below.

Sam Buldis, March 4, 1974
John Pantelis, March 17, 2006

John Paul Brandvold, March 26, 1998
Steve G. Maritakis, March 13, 2019



SGT Sam G. Bulldis
World War I
Served in both the
Royal Hellenic Army and
United States Army
Steve Bulldis'
Grandfather



John Paul Brandvold
U.S. Marine Corps
Cold War
Vonnie Brandvold's
husband



CPO(R) John Pantelis
United States Navy
World War II
Medical Corpsman
w/USMC on Iwo Jima
Tina Pantelis' father



Steve Maritakis
United States Air Force
Korean War
Mary Mather's
brother



ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed



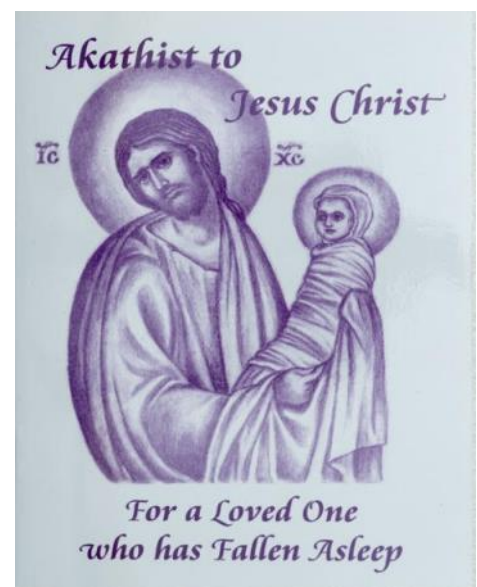
Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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.

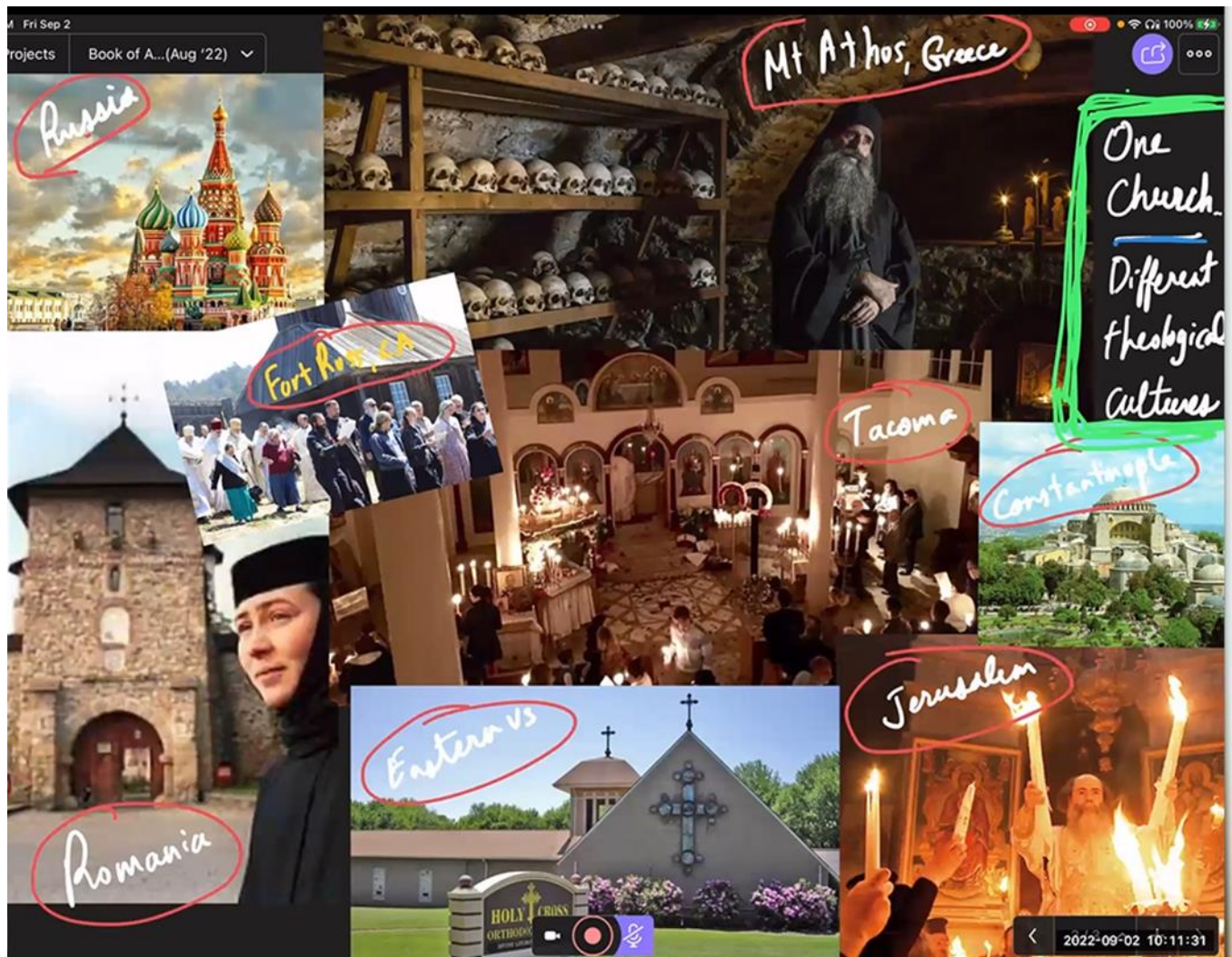
Thank you again,

Kathy Rowley



St. Nicholas Bible Study

The Book of Acts



Father Seraphim: I want the members of our Bible Study to understand that you all are playing a very important role in the life of St. Nicholas. This is like a little lab where we germinate our own theological culture. This is where ideas are expressed because our parish is a product of the actual people who come to it. As students of Scripture and theology, that puts us on the leading edge of the wing, so to speak, of what this body is thinking about, cares about, approach to Scripture, approaches to different things, social issues, themes that we return to and the particular experience of being in Tacoma, WA as opposed to any of these other places. Every parish has a theological culture just as every family has a culture. When an identifiable group of people get together, their shared life, their artifacts, their food and the way they express themselves form a culture. Above are samples that represent various corners of the Orthodox world. I want people to understand that, for example in the top left corner, St. Basil's in Russia has a feel, a sound and a smell. Every single one of these is all one faith, one Church and One Christ and one goal, but they are expressed in different ways. The Russian "feel" is a little different than the Romanian "feel" and the Romanian "feel" is a little different than the Mt. Athos, Greece "feel" and that's different than Jerusalem and it's a little bit different between the west coast of the US and the east coast of the US. It's all One Church, though. I wanted everyone to start thinking about this - if you participate at St. Nicholas, the deeper you go in this community (especially if you are a Bible Study participant - it's like our "think tank" or "lab") all our experiences as individuals are coming together because we are in this

St. Nicholas Bible Study

particular location. Every parish has a parish culture – the question is, is that culture deliberate? Is it informed by things of the nature of the Gospel? Are we expressing ourselves in a way that's concomitant with our own tradition and history but germinating how we express that locally. Bible Study forms a very important part where everyone is gathered together as both members and theologians to start figuring out what the St. Nicholas vibe (the St. Nicholas emphasis) is. God calls us to create something infused by His grace.

You can tell the difference between the Russian Novgorod style of iconography versus the Cretan style of iconography. They are both distinctly Orthodox but you get a flavor of the culture that gave birth to it. There's a proper creativity that each school of iconography expresses within the parameters of tradition.



Novgorod style – Panagia & Christ



Cretan style – Panagia & Christ

I hope everyone sees that it's exciting to be part of a creative work just like an iconographer expresses themselves except within the tradition. I refer to Bible Study conversations frequently because this is the leading edge of the culture development of this parish. I'm not trying to single it out as better than anything else, but I'm singling us out as the essence of what the theological culture is at St. Nicholas Parish. If that is what you're looking for, Bible Study is where you're going to find it. I hope you see yourselves as participants in creating something distinct, precious and valuable.

St. Nicholas Bible Study



Excerpt from a Sermon by St. John Chrysostom: Apostles Peter and John heal the lame man (Acts 3)

Everywhere we find these two Apostles ¹*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 ²*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 temple.” **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. ³*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? ⁴*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.

St. Nicholas Bible Study

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.

¹Harmony

²Christ DIDN'T heal him

³Gentleness

⁴"..Nazareth"

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. ²⁰When 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 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.

St. Nicholas Bible Study

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".

Submitted by: Genevieve Eagle



ST. NICHOLAS CATECHUMENS

2023 CATECHUMENS



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



40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated **40-day campaign that aims to end abortion** locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

Spring 2023 Prayer Vigils
February 22 – April 2

Please join our new priest, Father Anthony Cornett and the St. Nicholas Orthodox Pro-Life Ministry as we hold our Orthodox Prayer Vigils on a new day of the week this year. We will be at the Cedar River Clinic, **1401 MLK Jr. Way**, every **Thursday** during the 40 Days for Life Spring Vigil, **February 22 – April 2, from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** 40 Days for Life has helped to save thousands of innocent lives and has helped to awaken the inherent maternal and paternal instinct given to us by God. Come help us make a difference through prayer.

Care Net of Puget Sound's Light & Life



Email Genevieve (goobahoo@gmail.com) and make your reservation by March 5!
Event: Saturday – March 18: 5:00 – 8:00 pm

e Banquet

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

2023 LIGHT & LIFE FUNDRAISING DINNER with Amy Ford of Embrace Grace

Join us Saturday, March 18, 2023

5:15 pm Check in & Reception

6:00-8:00 Dinner & Program

Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center

1500 Commerce St, Tacoma, WA 98402

Register by March 5!

supportcnps.org/events or scan the QR code.

Questions? 253-383-6033



I have reserved 2 tables (20 people). Please contact me (goobahoo@gmail.com) if you want me to make your reservation and sit at one of the St. Nicholas Church tables. If you choose to make reservations on your own – please make sure you reply to the inquiry: “Please list any organization or Church with whom you would like to be seated” with the following: **Genevieve Eagle – St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.**

There are two choices for entrées:

French Chicken Breast or Butternut Squash Ravioli (btw: we will be in the midst of Lenten Fast during this event). If you want me to make reservations for you,

please provide your name, phone number, email address and entrée choice. I will need the same information for anyone who will be accompanying you.

About Amy Ford



Amy Ford, founder of
Embrace Grace

Amy Ford is the co-founder and president of **Embrace Grace**, a non-profit that inspires and equips the church to love single and pregnant young women and their families. She is also the author of the book, *Help Her Be Brave: Discover Your Place in the Pro-Life Movement* released in January 2021 as well as other books. Amy speaks nationally to a varied audience including women’s ministry events, pro-life and adoption conferences, church leadership equipping and pregnancy center benefits.

Serving in Embrace Grace, she has countless stories of how churches, pregnancy centers, and the body of Christ have come together to impact communities in a beautiful way.

She brings a fresh perspective on how one life can make a difference by stepping out of our comfort zones and just loving people. Amy delivers a combination of inspiration, authenticity, and depth to every event.

Priest's Office Renovation



Priest's office before the renovation



Thanks to Fran and John for helping with the transformation



Priest's Office after the renovation

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 prospophora bakers are needed.



Left: a basket of Prospophora. 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 February 22, 2023

Jim and Carol Abel *	William and Mary Acker *
Leonidas and Despina Alatsis *	Patra Alatsis
George and Despina Ampatzi	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
Tyler and Lexi Balsler	Costa and Donna Basil *
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 *	Anthony and Sandra Ciarochi *
Nick and Cheryl Cosmakos *	Belinda and Chris Cummins
Sharmarie and Troy Dares *	Dina Deliyianides *
Jacqueline Dionas *	Sandra Dutton *
Genevieve Eagle *	Timothy and Sunny Edgren *
Andrew and Jane Evancho *	Krisann and Peter Firth *
Gregory Garcia	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 Kathleen Heidal *	William Frederick Lincoln Horton *
Radu Adrian and Ramona Ionita-Flores	Kathy Johnson and Jim Belsvig
Hariklia "Rikki" Kapes *	Anna Karanasos *
Paula Karanasos *	Zachary and Daphne Karanasos *
Sharon Kennedy *	Naser and Catalina Khalaj
Claudia Kieszling *	Anna Koopman *
Evan and Despina Kipelidis	John C. Kouklis
Steve Koukles *	Maria Koumantaros
Peter and Margaret Laketa	Elia and Micheline Lakkis *
Robert and Anne Latz *	Mary Leonard
Hugh and Mariella Lewis *	Hugh and Marella Lewis
George and Bess Lurker *	Fr. Seraphim and Sophie Majmudar

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

Continued from page 28...

Olga Lynn Manos *
 Matthew Manthou *
 Katherine and Gregory Mason *
 Iphigenia Mavromichali *
 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
 Jacob Herman Swain *
 Deborah Talbot *
 Roxanne Vallantine *
 Jeffrey and Janice Williams
 Daniel and Mary Wright
 Tasso and Sarah Zambaras *

Chris and Susan Manthou *
 Carol MartinOki
 Dean and Julie Mastras *
 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
 Jeffrey T. Swain *
 James and Jenise Sweeney *
 Nicholas and Becky Themelis *
 Michael Jane White *
 Edward Winskill *
 John and Kalitsa Xitco *

* 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

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.

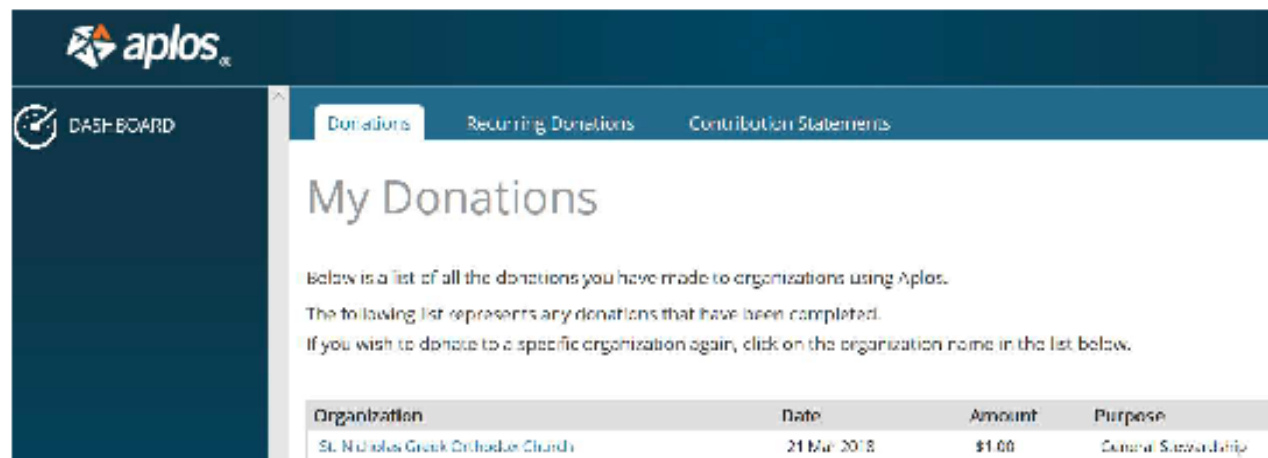
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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



The screenshot shows the Aplos software interface. At the top left is the Aplos logo. Below it is a navigation menu with 'DASH BOARD' and three tabs: 'Donations', 'Recurring Donations', and 'Contribution Statements'. The main heading is 'My Donations'. Below the heading is a paragraph of text: 'Below is a list of all the donations you have made to organizations using Aplos. The following list represents any donations that have been completed. If you wish to donate to a specific organization again, click on the organization name in the list below.' Below this text is a table with the following data:

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

OUR MISSION

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

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

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

HOW TO RETURN THIS CARD

BY MAIL:

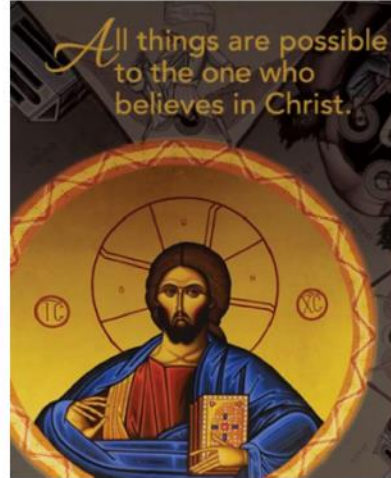
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
Attn: Church Treasurer
1523 S. Yakima Ave.
Tacoma, WA 98405

AT CHURCH:

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

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

**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.....

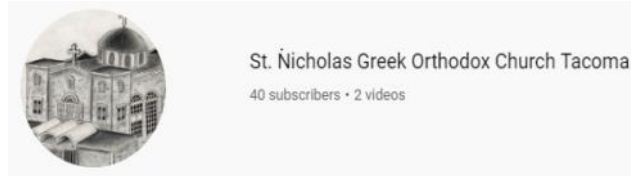
On Line Services

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. 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*

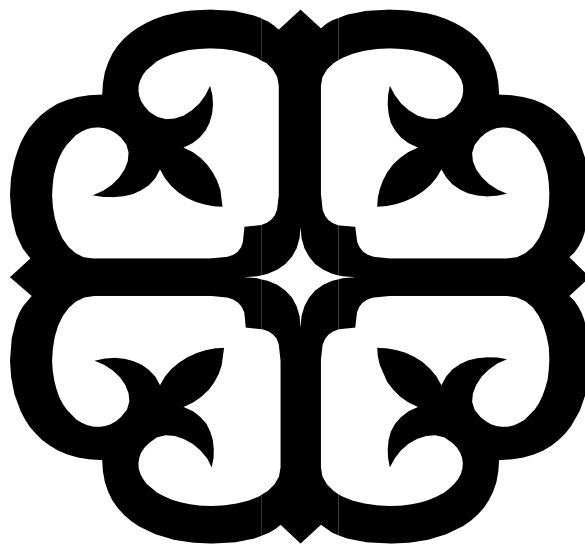
Click on this selection;



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

