



## *The blessed preparation to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord...*

### Note from Father Anthony



The blessed preparation to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord is soon upon us. In Her wisdom, our Holy Orthodox Church has given us the life-giving instruction to prepare for this most-sacred feast with a fasting period, beginning Wednesday, November 15th. This fasting period serves as an opportunity to remind ourselves of God's sustenance in our life by offering back to Him and His creation a small portion of our alms, time, food, and prayer.

One special feast our Church celebrates to teach us by example of dedication to a life in Christ is that of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (November 21). We will celebrate it this year as an all night vigil, beginning at 5pm on the 20th, and concluding at 9pm with a lenten potluck. Offered below is a reflection on that feast by His Grace Bishop Epiphanius of Ledra.

#### A First-Fruit Offering to the Temple of the Lord

Entering the blessed period of the holy forty days of Christmas we are revived by the fast, and we are revived by the feast that has arisen and are gladdened by the protagonist of the celebration.

We are revived by the fast through the rich dishes that come with it, especially by the fish. We are revived by the celebration of the Entrance of the Mother of God that has arisen, and through the festival of the celebration schedules are compiled, and work is organized and conducted, in order to adorn the holiday. Apart from the above, the greatest, most primary, most joy creating, and especially most graceful, is the protagonist of the festival, the heart of our sweet love, the Most Holy Theotokos.

The fruit of holy parents in their old age, they dedicated this fruit of their love to the Lord Sabaoth, when their holy daughter was weaned, passing her over in the third year of her life. Until that day the parents of Mariam, with much nurture and diligence, raised their daughter to grow physically, also increasing in her heart the desire, the love and the eros for God.

When that blessed day arrived, they took their holy virgin daughter and went to the Temple of Solomon. Entering the Temple a chorus of young virgins greeted

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# St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-272-0466

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

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

Administrative Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm



## Sunday Services

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

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



## Fr. Anthony Cornett, Our Presiding Priest

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

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

Office Hours at St. Nicholas

— by appointment —

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

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

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# St. Nicholas Ministries

## AHEPA

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

## Akathist Group Prayer

Kathy Rowley

## Altar Servers

Dr Nick Themelis

## Bible Study

Genevieve Eagle

## Book Store

Dr. Nick Themelis

## Building Committee

Bill Acker

## Building, Grounds & Maintenance

Richard Heidal, John Pangis

## Choir

Rebecca Primis

## Hands of Love

Genevieve Eagle

## Military Service

LTC Gus Chamales

## Premarital Education

George Pirotis, Diane Pirotis

## Stewardship

Fenia Mavromichali

## 2023 Parish Council

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

## Greek Folk Dance

Anastasia Fyntrilakis - Chairperson  
 Evy Kontos - Treasurer

## Dance Instructors:

Teen Group: Anastasia Fyntrilakis  
 Intermediate Group - Rachel  
 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 November 14, 2023



NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>29</p> <p><b>OXI DAY CELEBRATION</b></p> <p>Venerable Abramius</p> <p>Venerable Martyr Anastasia of Rom</p> <p>4 more</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Cleopas the Apostle</p> <p>Martyrs Zenobius and his sister Zen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</li> </ul>	<p>31</p> <p>Apostles Stachys, Apelles, Amplias,</p> <p>Epimachus the Martyr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2pm 40 Days for Life</li> </ul> <p>3 more</p>	<p>Nov 1</p> <p>Holy and wonder-working Unmerc</p> <p>Venerable David of Evia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> <li>7pm Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <p>Eric, Bishop of Slane in Ireland</p> <p>Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasus, Aphith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <p>Martyrs Acoepsimas, Joseph, and Aë</p> <p>Translation of the relics of Saint Gec</p> <p>Winnifred of Wales</p> <p>2 more</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermias</p> <p>Venerable George Karsides the Con</p> <p>Venerable Joannitocus the Great</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w,</li> </ul>
<p>5</p> <p>Martyrs Galaction and Episteme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> <li>10am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul> <p>2 more</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</li> </ul>	<p>7</p> <p>Cyngar of Congressbury, Wales</p> <p>Hieron and the 33 Martyrs of Meliter</p> <p>Venerable Lazarus of Galesion</p> <p>2 more</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Synaxis of the the Chief Commande</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> <li>7pm Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <p>Martyrs Onesiphorus and Porphyrius</p> <p>Nectarius the Wonderworker, Bispor</p> <p>Venerable Matrona</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <p>Apostles Olympus, Rodion, Sosipate</p> <p>Venerable Arsenius of Cappadocia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)</li> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <p>Martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincen</p> <p>Venerable Theodore the Studite and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w,</li> </ul>
<p>12</p> <p>John the Merciful, Archbishop of Ak</p> <p>Nilus the Ascetic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> </ul> <p>2 more</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Join Chrysostom, Archbishop of Co</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</li> </ul>	<p>14</p> <p>Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Th</p> <p>Philip the Apostle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul> <p>2 more</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Martyrs and Confessors Guria, Shan</p> <p>Venerable Paisius Velichkovsky</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Paraklesis</li> <li>7pm Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <p>Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Orthros</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <p>Gregory the Wonderworker, Bishop c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</li> </ul>	<p>18</p> <p>Martyrs Plato and Romanus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w,</li> </ul>
<p>19</p> <p>Abdias (Obadiah) the Prophet</p> <p>Barlaam the Martyr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am Orthros</li> </ul> <p>3 more</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Prefeast of Entrance of Theotokos ir</p> <p>Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinop</p> <p>Venerable Gregory of Decapolis</p> <p>4 more</p>	<p>21</p> <p>ENTRY INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE V</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <p>Philomen the Apostle, and those wit</p> <p>Venerable Iakovos of Evia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul> <p>2 more</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium</p> <p>Gregory, Bishop of Agrigentum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <p>Hieromartyrs Clement, Bishop of Ro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <p>Great Martyrs Catherine the All-Wis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Orthros</li> <li>9am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w,</li> </ul>
<p>26</p> <p>Alypius the Stylite</p> <p>Nicon "Repent Ye"</p> <p>Venerable Stylianus of Paphlagonia</p> <p>3 more</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Great Martyr James the Persian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)</li> <li>6pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</li> </ul>	<p>28</p> <p>Irenarchus the Martyr</p> <p>Oda of Brabant, Blind Princess of Sc</p> <p>Venerable Martyr Stephen the New</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p>29</p> <p>Martyrs Paramonus and Philumenus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:30pm St Andrew Vigil (in Arlingio</li> <li>7pm Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <p>Andrew the First-Called, Apostle</p> <p>Venerable Sebastian of Jackson</p>	<p>Dec 1</p> <p>Nahum the Prophet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)</li> <li>6pm Small Compline (w/ Canon)</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <p>Abacus (Habakkuk) the Prophet</p> <p>Venerable Porphyrius of Kavsoakaly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w,</li> </ul>

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

# NOVEMBER 2023 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Wednesday, November 1</b>                  Holy and wonder-working Unmercenarries Cosmas and Damian of Asia                  Venerable David of Evia                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis                  7:00pm                  Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>Thursday, November 2</b>                  Erc, Bishop of Slane in Ireland                  Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasus, Aphthonius, Elpidophorus, and Enempodistus                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>
<p><b>Friday, November 3</b>                  Martyrs Aicepsimas, Joseph, and Aëthelas                  Translation of the relics of Saint George the Great Martyr and Trophy-bearer                  Winnifred of Wales                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p><b>Saturday, November 4</b>                  Hieromartyrs Nicander and Hermias                  Venerable George Karslides the Confessor                  Venerable Joannicius the Great                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, November 5</b>                  Martyrs Galaction and Episteme                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:00pm                  Festival Appreciation Dinner                  12:15pm                  Sunday Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>Monday, November 6</b>                  Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantino-ple                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, November 7</b>                  Cyngar of Congresbury, Wales                  Hieron and the 33 Martyrs of Melitene with him                  Venerable Lazarus of Galesion                  6:00pm                  Vespers                  7:00pm                  Building Committee</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, November 8</b>                  Synaxis of the the Chief Commanders Michael and Gabriel, and all the Heavenly Bodiless Powers                  6:30am                  Divine Liturgy                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis                  7:00pm                  Choir Practice</p>

# NOVEMBER 2023 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Thursday, November 9</b>                  Martyrs Onesiphorus and Porphyrius                  Nectarius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Pentapolis                  Venerable Matrona                  6:30am                  Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>Friday, November 10</b>                  Apostles Olympus, Rodion, Sosipater, Tertius, Erastus, and Quartus                  Venerable Arsenius of Cappadocia                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 11</b>                  Martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincent                  Venerable Theodore the Studite and Confessor                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p><b>Sunday, November 12</b>                  John the Merciful, Archbishop of Alexandria                  Nilus the Ascetic                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:00pm                  Veteran's Day</p>
<p><b>Monday, November 13</b>                  John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople                  6:30am                  Divine Liturgy                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, November 14</b>                  Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki                  Philip the Apostle                  6:30am                  Divine Liturgy                  6:00pm                  Vespers                  7:00pm                  Parish Council</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, November 15</b>                  Martyrs and Confessors Guria, Shamuna, and Habib                  Venerable Paisius Velichkovsky                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis                  7:00pm                  Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>Thursday, November 16</b>                  Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist                  6:30am                  Orthros</p>
<p><b>Friday, November 17</b>                  Gregory the Wonderworker, Bishop of Neocaesarea                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>	<p><b>Saturday, November 18</b>                  Martyrs Plato and Romanus                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>

# NOVEMBER 2023 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Sunday, November 19</b>                  Abdias (Obadiah) the Prophet                  Barlaam the Martyr                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:00pm                  Coffee Hour: Daughter's of Penelope                  12:15pm                  Sunday Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>Monday, November 20</b>                  Prefeast of Entrance of Theotokos in the Temple                  Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople                  Venerable Gregory of Decapolis                  5:00pm                  Vigil for Feast                  5:00pm                  Beginner's Greek (ZOOM)                  6:00pm                  Modern Greek (ZOOM)                  9:00pm                  Potluck after Vigil</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, November 21</b>                  ENTRY INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS                  6:00pm                  Vespers</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, November 22</b>                  Philemon the Apostle, and those with him                  Venerable Iakovos of Evia                  6:30am                  Divine Liturgy                  6:00pm                  Paraklesis                  7:00pm                  Choir Practice</p>
<p><b>Thursday, November 23</b>                  Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium                  Gregory, Bishop of Agrigentum                  8:00am                  Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><b>Friday, November 24</b>                  Hieromartyrs Clement, Bishop of Rome and Peter, Bishop of Alexandria                  10:00am                  Bible Study (w/ 3rd Hour)                  6:00pm                  Small Compline (w/ Canon)</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 25</b>                  Great Martyrs Catherine the All-Wise and Mercurius                  8:00am                  Orthros                  9:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  6:00pm                  Vespers &amp; Small Compline (w/ PreCommunion Canon)</p>	<p><b>Sunday, November 26</b>                  Alypius the Stylite                  Nikon "Repent Ye"                  Venerable Stylianus of Paphlagonia                  8:30am                  Orthros                  10:00am                  Divine Liturgy                  12:00pm</p>



# NOVEMBER 2023 DAILY CALENDAR

<p><b>Monday, November 27</b> Great Martyr James the Persian 5:00pm Beginner's Greek (ZOOM) 6:00pm Modern Greek (ZOOM)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, November 28</b> Irenarchus the Martyr Oda of Brabant, Blind Princess of Scotland Venerable Martyr Stephen the New 6:00pm Vespers</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, November 29</b> Martyrs Paramonus and Philumenus 4:30pm St Andrew Vigil (in Arlington) 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>Thursday, November 30</b> Andrew the First-Called Apostle Venerable Sebastian of Jackson</p>





## FESTIVAL NEWS

The 2023 Festival is finally behind us. And, what a Festival it was. We were blessed with great weather, great attendance, and an outpouring of support from our parishioners and the community. One of the goals of this festival was to “sell out” of everything, and we pretty much did that: We completely sold out of:

- Pastitsio dinners
- Chicken dinners
- Salad
- Beans
- Tiropita
- Spanakopita
- Dolmathes
- Souvlaki
- Greek Fries
- Every single piece of pastry at the coffee shop and the pastry shop
- Tsourekki bread



And what food did remain, was mostly returnable leaving our kitchen fridge and freezer empty. Bravo to everyone that helped to make this happen.

Business wise, 2023 was the most successful festival ever, however you might measure it:

- Best sales for a Friday
- Best sales for a Saturday
- Best sales for a Sunday
- Best sales overall beating our previous best in 2019

**Please attend the Festival Appreciation luncheon on Sunday November 5 at noon.** Anyone that contributed to the Festival is invited. This luncheon is free of charge as a small token of appreciation to the volunteers of St. Nicholas and our community that made this Festival a success. We'll present more details of the Festival results.



OPA!

# 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 NOVEMBER:

- 11/05/2023 Festival Appreciation Dinner
- 11/12/2023 Veteran's Day
- 11/19/2023 Daughters of Penelope
- 11/26/2023 Team Charitou

#### TEAMS:

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

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

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

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

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

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

## COUNCIL CORNER

- ✧ **Festival:** Remember, remember the Fifth of November! Why? It is the Festival Appreciation Dinner! The Parish Council will be hosting a special coffee hour to thank everyone who worked to make our 60th annual Greek Festival such a success!
- ✧ **Communication:** The Parish will be moving to the *Mailchimp* email system for publishing communications on our community and ministries. If you are not receiving emails from the Church and would like to join, please contact the Church Office.
- ✧ **Roofing Project:** The Parish Council has selected *Lakewood Roofing* to conduct the re-roofing approved at the last General Assembly. The contractors believe they can start in three to four weeks, contingent on receiving City permits.





## Cover Story Continued

*Continued from page 1...*

them, who also had been dedicated to the Temple by their parents, to receive their holy daughter and bring her to the High Priest Zechariah, the father of the Forerunner.

Then Saint Anna, who was holding Mariam in her arms, released her to the ground. These were her first steps on the earth since she came into the world, because her righteous parents out of reverence did not allow her to take steps before this, in order for her dedication to God to be complete, in both soul and body.

As soon as Mariam stepped on the ground, Saint Anna told her, as it is beautifully testified by the hymnographer: "*Go, child, to Him Who gave you to me; to be an offering and a sweet smelling incense. Go into the inner sanctuary that none may enter: learn its mysteries, and prepare yourself to become the pleasing and fair dwelling-place of Jesus, Who grants the world His great mercy*" (2nd Apostichon for the Feast of the Entrance).

The holy daughter, joyous and graceful, began to walk, and so much was the gladness in her heart, that she rushed in her steps and led the way for the other virgin girls to go to the High Priest, to surrender herself to God and become a chosen vessel for the salvation of the world.

For this reason we, even if we are inferior in intellect, weak in strength and short on words, we take courage in boldness as unworthy children of our Mother the Queen and Theotokos, to bring our childhood stammering as gifts and offerings to the measure of our weakness, taking hope in the love of our Mother the Theotokos, and standing before her holy and sacred icon, let us say:

*You are the preaching of the Prophets, the glory of the Apostles, the boast of the Martyrs, the protection and joy of the Venerable Ones, and the renewal of all those upon the earth, Virgin Mother of God, through you we are reconciled to God. Therefore we honor you, as we come to the Temple of the Lord, and with all the Angels, we chant to you "Rejoice!", reverently crying out, we who are saved by your intercessions.*

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony Cornett  
Proistamenos





## Modern Greek Language School



### 2023 Modern Greek Language School / Classes: Every Monday from 5:30—7:00 pm

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

**Teacher - George Pirotis**

Contact Church Office - 253-272-0466

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

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

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

**Yearly possible events and student involvement:**

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

Sunday, October 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-

# DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE



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

If you are interested please contact one of our officers.

President – Maria (Mary) Koumantaros

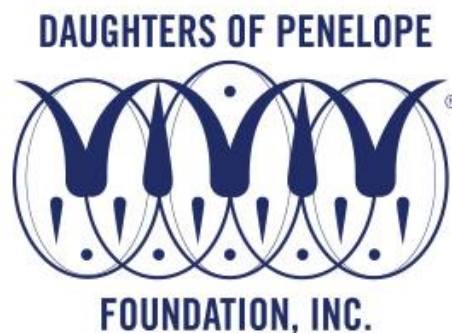
Vice-President – Dr. Olympia Tachopoulos Stafford

Recording Secretary – Debby Lord

Corresponding Secretary – Iphigenia (Fenia) Mavromichali

Treasurer – Evy Kontos

Maids of Athena Advisors – Ingrid Chamales and Virginia McClure.



## Philoptochos News

### President's Message

Greetings everyone! It is such a blessing that the Philoptochos mission is truly a valued part of St. Nicholas parish! The events that Philoptochos has sponsored over the past year have been GENEROUSLY supported by parishioners, and even visitors to our parish. Each event has seen an increase in giving over the previous year; we are humbled by the financial expression of your faith in our ability to help those in our local area and the wider orthodox community who are needy.

**Holiday Food Certificate Drive** - For more than 30 years Philoptochos has spearheaded a project to donate food certificates to families in the community for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we will assist eight families at four schools, Boze, Blix, Downing and Travis (McCarver) elementary schools. Our goal is to raise **\$4,000** for this project.

Philoptochos members hosted a continental breakfast coffee hour on Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023 to start this project. Over \$2,900 was donated towards our goal for this worthwhile project, including generous donations from the Daughters of Penelope and AHEPA. Please continue with your donations. Donations can be made by mail (please make your check out to Philoptochos - memo holiday food certificates) at the church mailing address or through the church donation website.

**Veterans Day Lunch** - Philoptochos will assist with this event by offering lunch after liturgy on November 12, 2023. There will be a free will offering for Fisher House at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Fisher House provides comfortable accommodations where military and veteran families can stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital.

**Philoptochos Membership** - Our year starts in January and runs through December. Annual membership renewal requests will be mailed to all current members soon. We currently have 49 paid members. Please consider renewing your membership if you haven't already. We welcome new members as well. There is a lot of satisfaction in doing things for the common good and helping our church and the less fortunate among us. Annual dues are \$30/year. Please contact Kalitsa Xitco or the church office if you would like the membership form.

**Philoptochos Member Meetings** - Our next member meeting will be Thursday, November 16, at 10:00 in the upper hall of church. The meeting will be accessible by Zoom as well. Topics will include the planned St. Nicholas vespers and feast day food service and other 2023 and 2024 activities. We invite members and interested parishioners to join these meetings and share their thoughts.

**Outreach to others** - Please take a few minutes to call and support the older members of our community during the pandemic. Human contact and interaction is so important during these trying COVID-19 times

*Thanks for your Continuous Support!*

*Jane Evancho*



# Philo托chos News



*Philo托chos Hosted Continental Breakfast, Kicking off the Holiday Food Certificate Drive*



# Building Committee

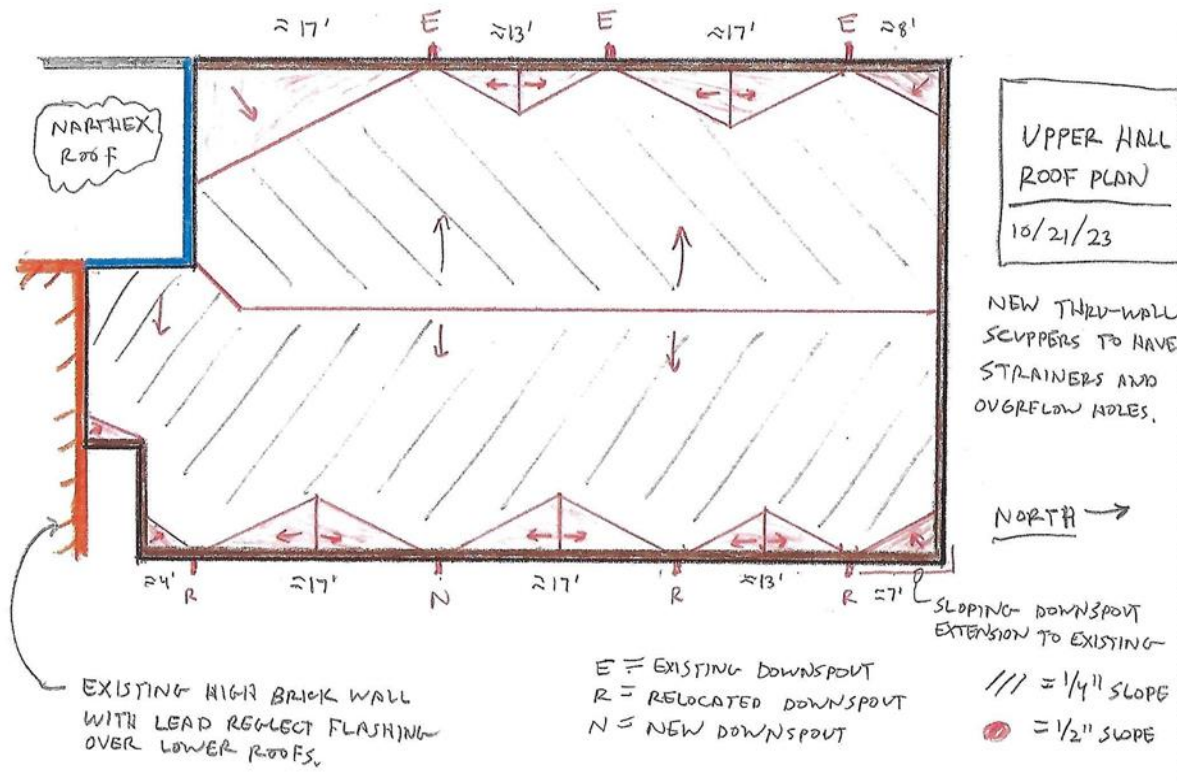
## NOVEMBER BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

A not-to exceed budget of \$240,000 was approved at last September's General Assembly to replace roofing over the Lower and Upper Hall areas. Since then, more information has been gathered, and inquires for further clarification requested.

A very good piece of positive news is a licensed engineer who was brought on board has determined that structural reinforcement is not required at the Upper Hall roof, as the net weight of the proposed new roofing assembly will be less than the existing, the latter of which consists of four assemblies that will be completely removed. This has helped facilitate a green light to proceed with the roofing replacement work sooner rather than later.

The Parish Council has approved Lakewood Roofing, the low bidder, as the roofing contractor to work with. We are currently in negotiations to fine tune their scope, and implement some other desired upgrades beyond their initial proposal. Tentatively, field work could start before Thanksgiving if no other significant hurdles get in the way.

Because the roofing replacement will be taking place in late fall when the weather gets colder and wetter, what could be a 2 to 3 week project during the summer is likely to extend out longer, but that will be factored into the final bid, with the sentiment that the sooner it gets done the fewer future roof leaks we are likely to experience.



Above is a sketch of an upgraded drainage plan of the Upper Hall roof we are desiring to implement. The premium of this and other upgrades are likely to bring the final low bid close to the second low bid, but still be well under the approved budget that was passed.

# ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

## Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed

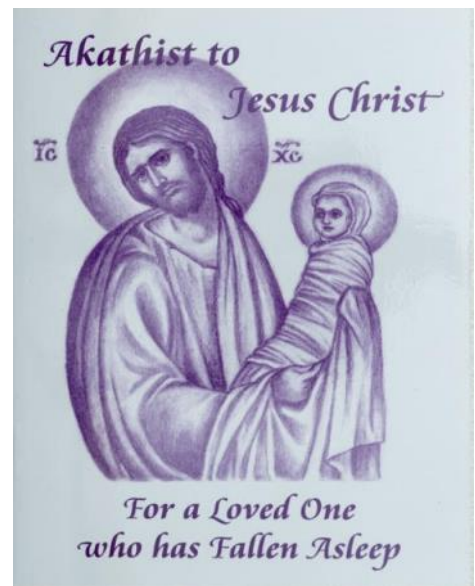


Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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.

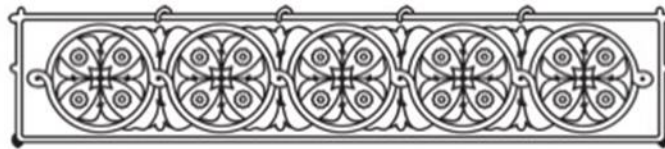
Thank you again,  
Kathy Rowley



# CATECHUMENS

## 2023 CATECHUMENS

Please pray for our Catechumens:  
Christine (Christina), Jeffrey (Isaac), Erik (Ambrose)  
Ethan (Moses) and Ava (Evanthia)  
Catechism classes are open to all – please feel free to join us!!



### CATECHISM PART ONE

### *The Doctrines of Christ*

(Meeting in the Nave of the Church at 12:15pm on Sundays)

*Sunday, October 15*

INTRO: **What is the Orthodox Church?**

*Sunday, October 22*

CLASS ONE: **The Foundation of the Orthodox Church**

*Sunday, October 29*

CLASS TWO: **The Holy Trinity**

*Sunday, November 5*

CLASS THREE: **Creation**

*Sunday, November 12*

CLASS FOUR: **The Fall of Mankind**

*Sunday, November 19*

CLASS FIVE: **The Promised Messiah of Israel**

*Sunday, November 26*

CLASS SIX: **The Incarnation**

*Sunday, December 3*

CLASS SEVEN: **Man's "Yes" to God**

*Sunday, December 10*

CLASS EIGHT: **The Teachings of Christ**

*Sunday, December 17*

CLASS NINE: **Love is Stronger than Death**

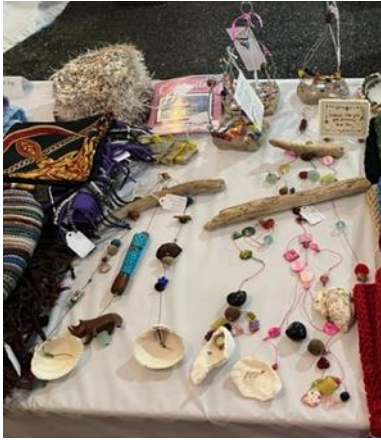


Submitted by: "Mama" Genevieve



# HANDS OF LOVE

Many thanks to our Hands of Love Ministry members and supporters. These are some of the items donated to this year's Festival.



Rikki Kapes



Miriam (10 years old)



Kathleen Heidal



Jane Evancho



Robin Derby (Genevieve's sister)



Denise Stahl

This year we raffled off (6) Custom Vintage Christmas socks (valued at \$210.00) bringing in \$300.00. Congratulations to our "Grand Prize" winners, Chris and Belinda Cummins!!

Submitted by: Genevieve



# St. Nicholas Bible Study

Join us in person  
or on ZOOM!

# BIBLE STUDY

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

**Fridays 10am-12pm**

Metropolitan of Nafpaktos Hierotheos

## The Seer



The Life of the Prophet Samuel  
and its Relevance Today

Birth of the Theotokos  
Monastery

### INTERESTED IN JOINING?

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

# Pro—Life Ministry



**KEEP THE DATES**  
Tuesdays 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
October 3 – 31  
Cedar River Clinic  
1401 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA



St. Nicholas Pro-Life Ministry has committed to sponsor each **Tuesday, starting October 3 through October 31, 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](mailto:stnicholaszoom@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

# PROSPHORA

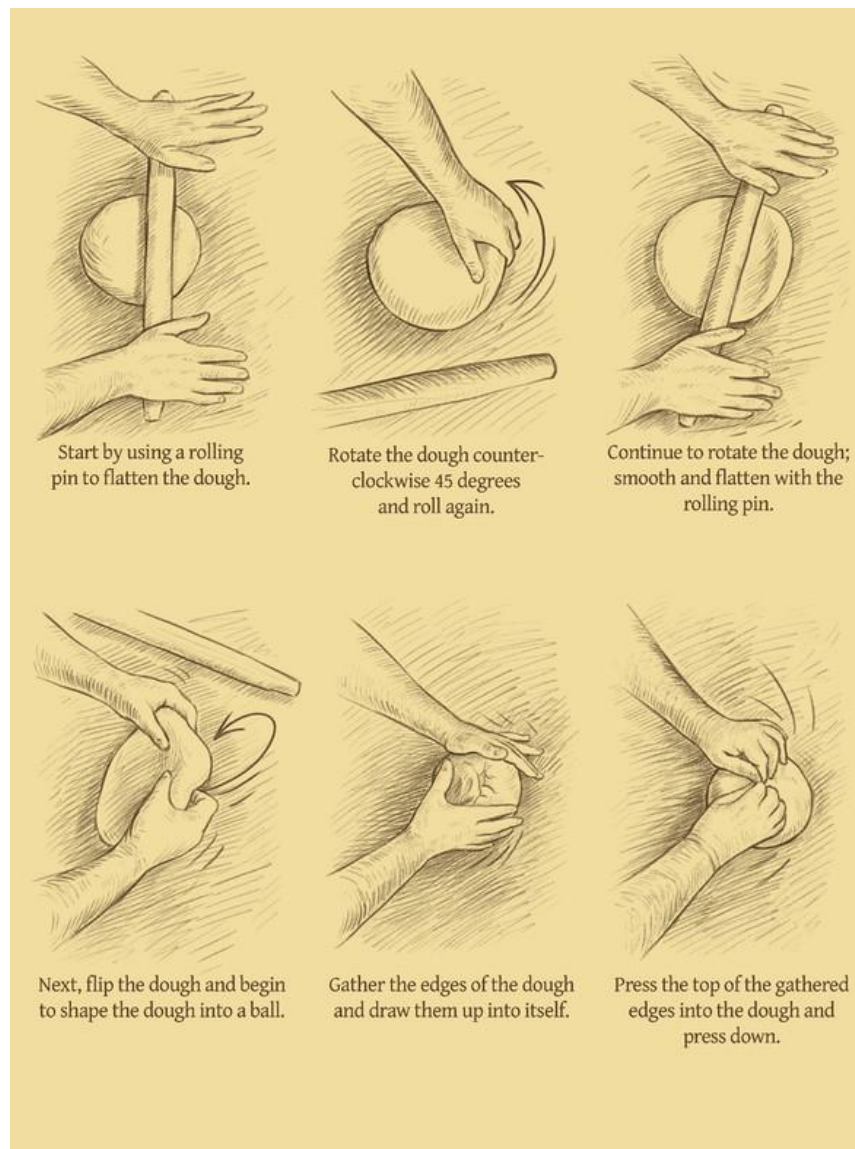
## PROVIDING THE OFFERING

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

There is a unique joy that comes from giving—for both the giver and the receiver. Holy Scripture abounds with examples of human persons making offerings to God—not, of course, because God needs material things. Rather, such offerings were made out of devotion, gratitude, love, and for justice. Fundamentally, in making any offering to God we follow the example of God Himself who made the most sublime offering of His Son to us for our eternal salvation.

(This is an excerpt written by the Reverend Protopresbyter Michael G. Monos for the newest publication of *The Heavenly Gift: The Ancient Art of Liturgical Bread-Making*.)

Thank you Despina Ampatzis, Deborah Talbot, Stephen Gorham, Fenia Mavromichali, and Presvytera for providing the offering this month.



Contributed by Presvytera Anna



# Donations and Pledges

## On line Donations now possible

### ON-LINE DONATIONS

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



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

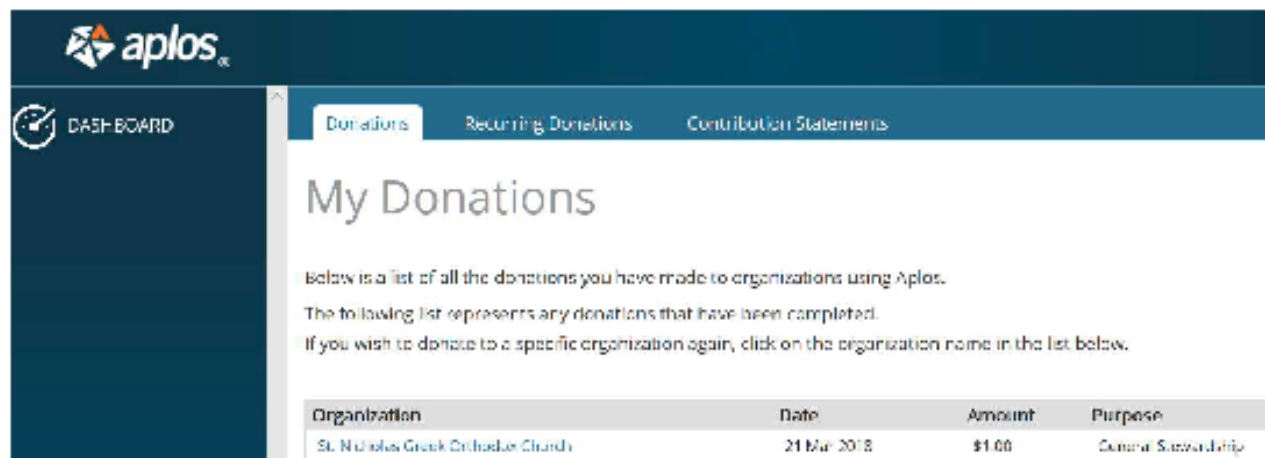
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality.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

In Christ,

Mark Robinson

### On-Line Contribution Instructions:

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



**OUR MISSION**

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

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

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

**HOW TO RETURN THIS CARD**

**BY MAIL:**

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

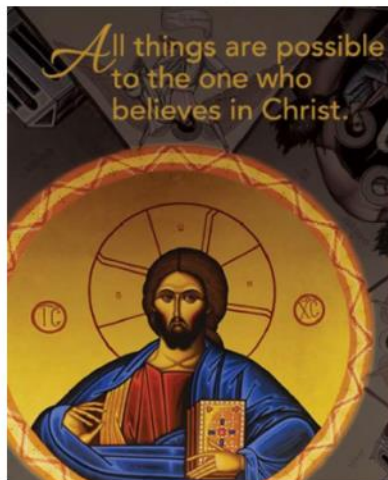
**AT CHURCH:**

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

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

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

**2023 STEWARDSHIP CARD**  
**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**TACOMA, WASHINGTON**



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

Please PRINT your information clearly

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

**Household Information**

Address  
 .....  
 City/St/Zip  
 .....

**Dependent Children**

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

*"Those who seek the Lord shall never want for any good thing." (Psalm 34:10)*

**OUR DONATIONS ARE IN THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED BLESSINGS GIVEN TO US. OUR DONATION REFLECTS HOW MUCH WE ARE BLESSED AND HOW THANKFUL WE ARE; HOWEVER, WE ARE AWARE THAT GOD EXPECTS US TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY TO HIS WORK.**

**2023 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT**

Stewardship contributions cover all of our parish operating expenses. An average contribution of approximately \$2000/year from each family would enable our parish to meet its operational expenses without depending on Festival revenue.

I/We offer a minimum stewardship pledge of \$...../year or \$...../month in 2023 to support God's work.

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

SIGNATURE.....

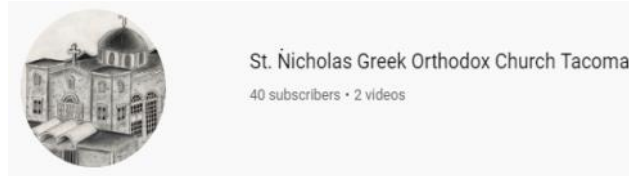
## On Line Services

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

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

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

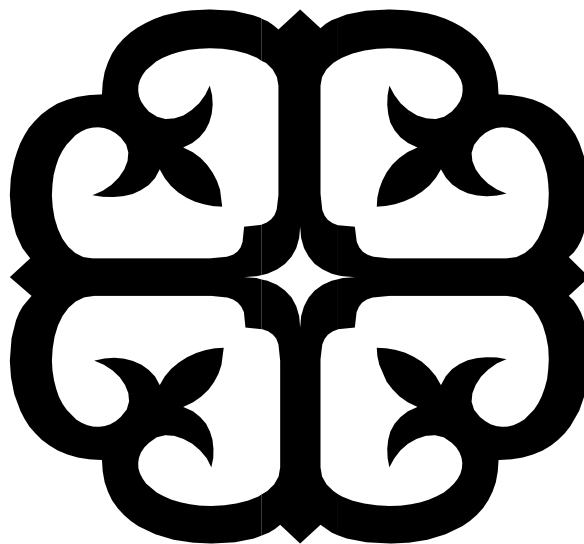
Click on this selection;



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

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

*Bill Samaras—*





Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

*Address Service Requested*

