



The 2022 Tacoma Greek Festival – Our 59th Year Sept 30, Oct 1 and 2, 2022



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The “Orthodox” in “Greek Orthodox”

A Greek Festival Message from
Father Seraphim

Greek pastries, Greek dancing, Greek gyros, Greek souvlaki, Greek deli...it’s the annual Tacoma Greek Festival! OPA!

Each year, however, during the church tours, I receive many questions about something else: Greek *ORTHODOX*? What is that? One way of explaining it: if you know the story of the New Testament, you know that the Apostle Paul went around the Mediterranean world preaching the Gospel and establishing local churches. One of the largest such groups was established in Greece: Athens, Thessaloniki and Corinth, among others, are the locations of many major New Testament events and epistles.

What happened between the time St Paul was in Athens 2000 years ago, and today? The answer: the church remained and grew.

Continued page 10....

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. Seraphim Majmudar, Our Presiding Priest

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

Fr. Seraphim’s Cell phone: 253-365-5817

Office Hours at St Nicholas
Thursdays 9:00am - 12:00 noon
Email: frseraphimm@gmail.com

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

Editors: Carol MartinOki/Bill Samaras

Media team: Paula Karanasos, Fr. Seraphim

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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

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
Maria Koumantaros
Gus Chamales

2022 Parish Council
Ronnie-Sue Johnson—President
Alan Means—Vice-President
Mark Robinson—Treasurer
Christina Leinneweber—Secretary
Maria Koumantaros, Andrew Auter, David Orriss Jr., Kathy Johnson, Klaudia Cedeno, Zach Karanasos, Fenia Mavromichali, Tony Panagiotu

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

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
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

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

Sunday School
Sheila Auter, Director

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 October 11, 2022

OCTOBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1
FESTIVAL PREP						
Sergius of Radonezh ● 8:15am Charitou Baptism 3 more	Apostle John the Theologian ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy	Kallistratos	Martyr Chariton 2 more	Venerable Kyriakos of Palesti	Greek Festival 3 more	Protection of the Theotokos 2 more
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Greek Festival ● 7:45am Blessing of Waters ● 8am Divine Liturgy	Dionysios the Areopagite ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy ● 5:30pm Vespers	Hierotheos, First Bp of Athen ● 6:30am Orthros 2 more	Mother Methodia of Kimolos STRICT FAST 3 more	Apostle Thomas ● 5:30pm Modern Greek	Fast: Wine & Oil ok Sergius & Bacchus 2 more	Fr S at TriCities Pelagia ● 6pm No Vespers Tonight
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Patriarch Abraham ● 8:45am Orthros 4 more	Ambrose of Optina ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy ● 5:30pm Vespers	Ap Philip, One of the Seven D ● 10am Fr S at WOCA mtg 2 more	Fast: Wine & Oil ok Symeon the New Theologian 3 more	Martyr Ziata of Bulgaria ● 5:30pm Modern Greek	Nazarios STRICT FAST 3 more	Savinios ● 6pm Vespers
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Longinos the Centurion ● 8:45am Orthros 4 more	Prophet Hosea ● 6:30am Orthros 2 more	Apostle Luke	Fast: Wine & Oil Ok John of Kronstadt 3 more	Gerasimos of Kephhalonia ● 6:30am Divine Liturgy 2 more	Hilarion the Great STRICT FAST 4 more	Averkios ● 2pm McClure Wedding ● 6pm Vespers
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Apostle James, Brother of the ● 8:45am Orthros 3 more	Arethas	Tabitha, raised by Peter ● 6:30am Orthros ● 6pm Vespers at St Demetrio	Great Martyr Demetrios Fast: Wine & Oil ok 4 more	Claudia, Wife of Pilate Nestor 2 more	OXI DAY STRICT FAST 3 more	Anastasia of Rome ● 6pm Vespers
30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5
Cleopas ● 8:45am Orthros 4 more	Stachys of the 70 ● 6:30am Orthros 2 more	Cosmas & Damian David of Evia ● 7pm Building Committee	Erc, Bishop of Slane in Ireland ● 3pm Pro Life Vigil at Cedar I	● 5:30pm Modern Greek	George Karslides ● 10am Bible Study	TURN CLOCKS BACK ● 6pm Vespers

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

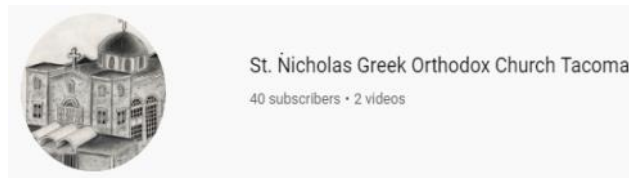
News and Announcements

Watch Services From Home, Live

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—

Festival News

First, thank-you to all of you who worked so hard to make this Festival a success. I'm in awe of the consistent turnout week after week of our baking crews. The dance teams reviving the tradition, with some of the instructors dancing as previous Festival kids themselves. The sponsorship team that has already exceeded expectations. It's also wonderful seeing new faces helping, a lot of new faces.

With that said, our Festival is upon us. Don't be afraid to donate some time as we can surely use help from parishioners, neighbors and friends. Help is always welcome.

Special notes about the 2022 Greek Festival

Some things will be different this year: A new style of tent. The Pastry/Bake Shop is moved downstairs. And we aren't selling dinners from the kitchen. Another change is moving to credit/debit sales at our booths. Here's what you need to know:

- No more tokens. If you have any left, we'll take them for food purchases. Your last chance for tokens,
- Use credit or debit cards as you buy each item
- Cash? No and Yes. You can't use cash at the booths, but you can buy a Spending Card at the Cashier Booth with CASH which works at any booth for purchases. Spending Cards are digital tokens and you can re-load them.

Looking forward to a successful, happy, and safe Festival.

Bill Samaras—

News and Announcements



You are invited to attend

OUR LADY OF SAYDNAYA'S

GALA

Fundraiser

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022

6:00 PM DINNER

75\$ PER ADULT | \$20 UNDER 12 YEARS OLD

6402 226TH ST SW, MOUNTLAKE TERRACE, WA 98043

To purchase ticket

[CLICK HERE](#) اضغط هنا

Live Entertainment | Dinner | Tombola | Non-hosted Bar



News and Announcements

10.16. 2022

Cocktail Hour

HORS D'OEUVRES

Smoked Salmon Crostini Canapes
Mini Pesto Garlic Cheese Bites
Caprese Skewers with Balsamic Glaze
(Non-hosted bar, \$7/drink)



Live Entertainment

by Naseem Band & Joe Khoury

Walid Nakkour on Keyboard | Ihab Nakkour on Tabla
Special Guest Joe Khoury

Dinner Reception by Byblos Deli

DINNER BUFFET | 6:00 PM

Chef Khalil's Famous Hummus
Fattouch Salad
Greek Salad with Feta Cheese

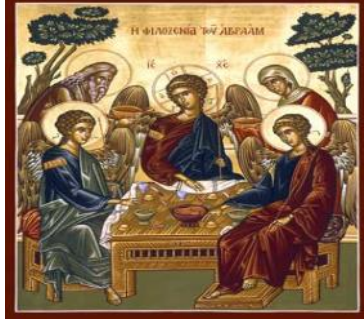
Tawook Chicken Skewers with Rice
Baked Marinated Salmon with Steamed Vegetables
Honey Garlic Meatballs
Vegetarian Eggplant Parmesan
Creamy Herbed Mashed Potatoes

Cake & Coffee

*****Menu is subject to minor changes | Non-hosted Bar*****

OUR LADY OF SAYDNAYA GALA FUNDRAISER

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 OCTOBER:

10/2/2022 Festival
 10/9/2022 Georgopolos Family Memorial
 10/16/2022 Men's Team
 10/23/2022 Philoptochos Fall Food Drive

 10/30/2022 Festival Appreciation

***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 Johnson: Joseph Johnson, Leader; Ronie-Sue Johnson, Fenia Mavromichali, Barbara Phillips, Sandra Ciarochi, Yvonne Brandvold, Maro Kouklis and Yanni & Sophia Charitou

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

Team Pres Sophie: Pres Sophie Majmudar, Leader; Evy Kontos, Irene Misiewicz, Gloria Brown, Deborah Talbot, Savina Frisk, Claudia Cedeno and Scott & Rachael Parrell

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

Parking Lot Beautification Project

Thanks to Perry Panagiotu who arranged for the parking lot clean up and landscaping inside the fences of the Church parking lot. The landscapers weeded, trimmed up the grape vines and berry bushes and even trimmed up the bay tree at the gate. They hauled away all the refuse and spread beauty bark. The results are not only beautiful, but the plants and bushes are healthier and the clean-up should help to prevent vermin from making their homes in our parking lot.



Basil donated by Rikki Kapes—
Planter decorated by Fran Hall



Because of the nurturing from Fran H. our
Pascha lilies are blooming in the fall



Submitted by: Genevieve Eagle

Cover Story Continued

The churches that St Paul established in Greece never disappeared. On the contrary, they have thrived, with an unbroken line of continuity stretching across two millennia. That's over twenty centuries of continuous existence!

That's why we are called the Greek Orthodox Church. Greek, because our particular parish was started a hundred years ago by Orthodox Christian migrants from Greece, and Orthodox because we are those who have remained in that unbroken communion with the One Church that Christ established and the Apostles planted. Orthodox means "correct worship", and is the term to describe the many regional churches whose founding dates back to the Apostles themselves (or who are "daughter" churches of the apostolic churches) and who have not fallen into any heresy and kept the authentic faith in Christ pure and unde-filed. Here's a list of the global family of Orthodox Churches:

Orthodox Church of Constantinople (Istanbul)

Orthodox Church of Jerusalem & Palestine

Orthodox Church of Alexandria & All Africa

Orthodox Church of Antioch (Syria & Lebanon)

Orthodox Church of Russia

Orthodox Church of Romania

Orthodox Church of Bulgaria

Orthodox Church of Serbia

Orthodox Churches in North America, Asia, South America, Europe, Australia & the entire globe.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son & Holy Spirit), incarnate of the Virgin Mary, possessing two natures (human and divine) in one divine Person. He was crucified, died on the Cross of His own will, and rose in both soul and body, ascended to heaven, and will come again to judge the world and inaugurate His eternal Kingdom.

Hence, the Orthodox in "Greek Orthodox": correct worship in the ancient church. COME AND JOIN US! The Orthodox Church is for every precious human soul, regardless of ethnic origin.

Fr Seraphim Majmudar,

Pastor, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church



2022 Festival

FREE ADMISSION  AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

59th
**TACOMA
GREEK
FESTIVAL**



Sep 30, Oct 1, Oct 2, 2022


Friday 4-9PM, Saturday 11AM-9PM, Sunday 11AM-6PM

HOSTED BY



ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1523 S. YAKIMA AVE, TACOMA, WA

STNICHOLASTACOMA.ORG/GREEKFESTIVAL  (253) 272-0466

Philoptochos News

PHILOPTOCHOS

President's Message

Recent and planned Philoptochos activities are described below. Members continue to review our activities in light of the Covid restrictions and will try to schedule accordingly.

Holiday Food Certificate Drive- Every year Philoptochos spearheads a project to donate food certificates to families in the community for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we will assist families at four schools, Boze, Blix, Downing and McCarver elementary schools. Our goal is to raise \$2,000 for this project. A flyer describing the project is a separate attachment in the Messenger. Philoptochos members will host a breakfast coffee hour on October 23 to start this project. 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.

Special Tray Collection for Hellenic College/Holy Cross Scholarship Fund- Through the generosity of our parishioners, \$1,727 was collected for the Hellenic College/Holy Cross scholarship fund. This fund provides tuition scholarships to worthy and dedicated students, both men and women at Hellenic College and seminarians at Holy Cross to assist with tuition expenses.

Philoptochos Membership-Our year starts in January and runs through December. Annual membership renewal requests have been mailed to all current members. We currently have 47 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 the church office secretary if you would like the membership form.

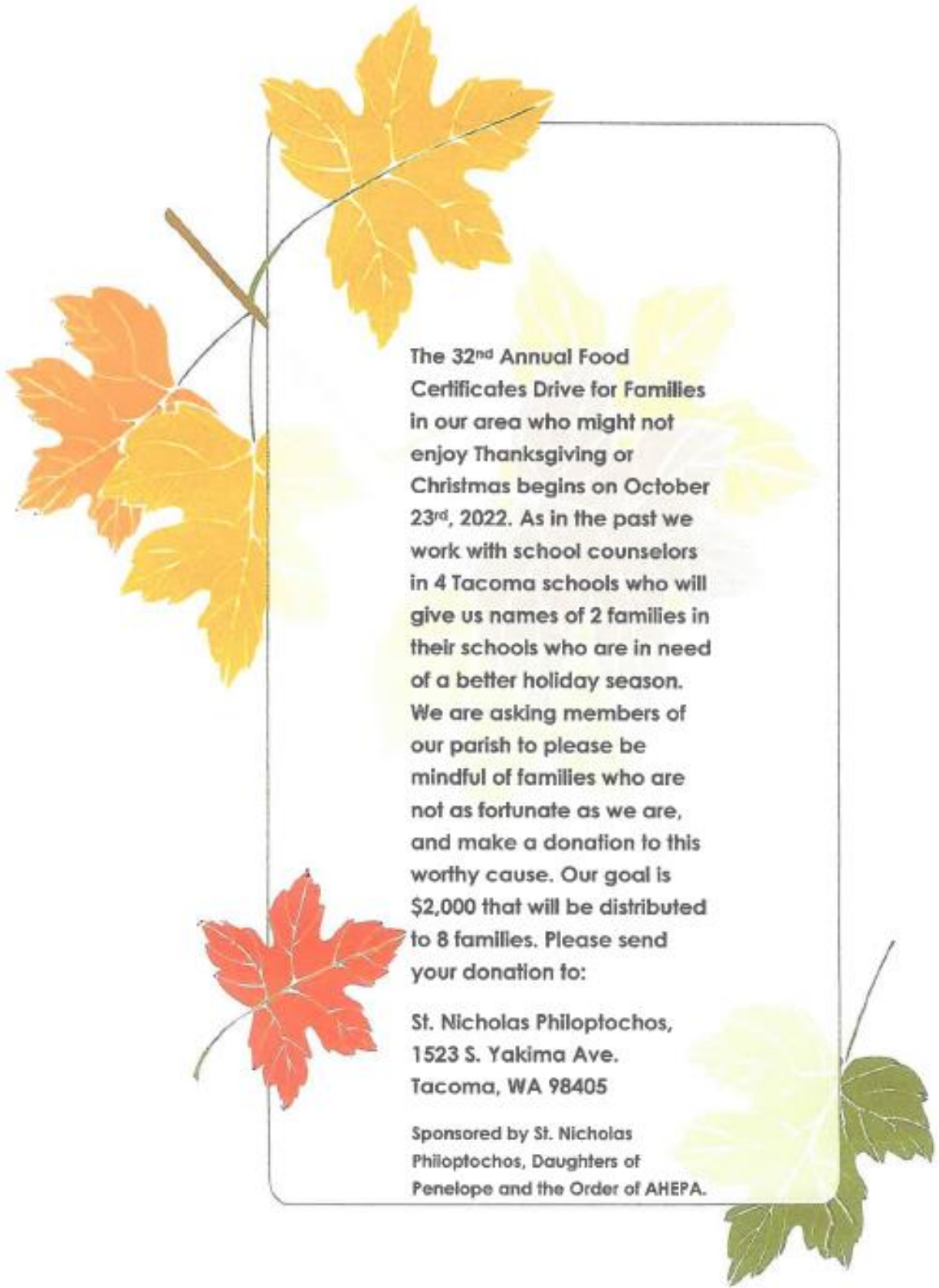
Philoptochos Member Meetings- Our next member meeting will be Thursday, October 13, at 10:00 in the lower hall of church. Topics will include the planned breakfast to kick off the holiday food certificate drive and other 2022 and 2023 activities. We also plan to take a group photo. We invite members 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

Philoptochos News Food Drive



The 32nd Annual Food Certificates Drive for Families in our area who might not enjoy Thanksgiving or Christmas begins on October 23rd, 2022. As in the past we work with school counselors in 4 Tacoma schools who will give us names of 2 families in their schools who are in need of a better holiday season. We are asking members of our parish to please be mindful of families who are not as fortunate as we are, and make a donation to this worthy cause. Our goal is \$2,000 that will be distributed to 8 families. Please send your donation to:

St. Nicholas Philoptochos,
1523 S. Yakima Ave.
Tacoma, WA 98405

Sponsored by St. Nicholas Philoptochos, Daughters of Penelope and the Order of AHEPA.

Building Committee

OCTOBER BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Final outstanding items of the Narthex Renovation are finally coming to completion. At the time of this writing, a flawed half of the main entry scissor gate has been replaced, as shown in the left photo below. Also, by the time this issue of the Messenger comes out, the last of special weather stripping should be installed at the main entry exterior doors. In addition, two ornamental exterior wall sconce light fixtures at the main entry have finally arrived and should be installed well before the upcoming Greek Festival.

Some short term roofing fixes at the Upper Hall and Kitchen/Dining roofs are being solicited to prospective roofers, and planned to be take place around the end of October before the rainy fall weather comes into full force. Also, the re-investigating of an attic space above the Sanctuary Canter area where some small ripples in the ceiling plaster finish have been observed should take place around that time. It remains to be determined whether the ceiling ripples are from previous roof leaks before the Sanctuary was re-roofed in 2014, or from recent moisture intrusion. No evidence of the latter has yet been discovered.

A recent major development has recently occurred, as it appears the City of Tacoma intends to clear out homeless tents around the church vicinity that have been lingering for months, and then allow the church to place boulders at a southeast corner of the Yakima Avenue and 16th Street intersection, shown in the right photo below, in a right-of-way strip that runs along a south church lot property line. The City may also allow boulders to be placed along the west side of Yakima Avenue as well, contingent upon receiving letters of permission from owners of the properties that face the church.

The intent of placing boulders is to dissuade future tents from coming back around the church vicinity shortly after the former have been cleared, along with the problems of trash, debris, vandalism and safety concerns they bring. More on this should be coming up in the next Messenger, if not sooner in other venues as well.



Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

October 13, 1775, Birthday of the United States Navy. Back then it was known as the Continental navy and it consisted of a small fleet of ships that patrolled our coastal waters. Their mission was simple – intercept ships sent to resupply British Army troops at or near the colonies. The creation of this fleet was not without controversy. In fact, it was hotly debated for 11 days in the Continental Congress. According to the official website of the U.S. Navy, some in that debate were convinced that having a standing navy was “the maddest idea in the world.”

The Navy Birthday is celebrated every year in many different ways throughout the United States and the world, but on Navy installations the main event is always the U.S. Navy Birthday Ball.

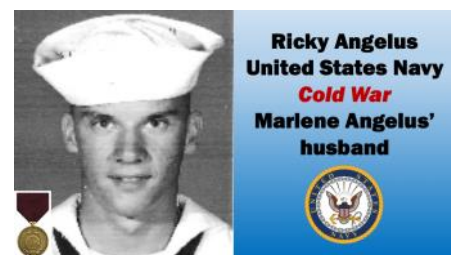
The men and women of the United States Navy have kept our country free for over 200 years and the following words of President George Washington on 15 November 1781, still ring true to this very day.

“It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it, everything honorable and glorious.”

President George Washington to Marquis de Lafayette

St. Nicholas has had many parishioners and their family members that served honorably in the United States Navy in peacetime and in war. Below are some of those who sailed the seven seas in defense of our nation.

Continued on next page....



Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News



Robert C. Derby
United States Navy
World War II & Korean War
Genevieve Eagle's father



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



Glenn Griffin
United States Navy
World War II
Robin Griffin's dad



Michael J. Hall
United States Navy
Vietnam
Corpsman at the battle for Khe San.
Fran Hall's brother



John Kafka
United States Navy
Submariner
Melissa Kafka's husband



John A. Karanzas
United States Navy
World War II
Recipient of the **Distinguished Flying Cross & Air Medal** w/30LCs for valor in combat as a side gunner on a PB4Y Patrol Bomber.
Mary Koumantros' father



Lieutenant John C. Kouklis
United States Navy
SeaBee
Cold War
Andrew's father



Walter R. Motz
United States Navy
World War II
Walter A. Motz's father



MSG(R) Walter A. Motz
United States Navy
Cold War
Hoddi Motz's husband



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



George Panagiotu
United States Navy
Cold War
Served on U.S. Navy Destroyer DD687, USS Uhlmann
Tony & Perry's father



John Pangis
United States Navy
Vietnam War
Merilee Pangis' husband



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



Robert Simpson
United States Navy
World War II
Marlene Angelus' father



Shianne Taylor Soles
United States Navy
Killed in a non-combat incident while on active duty - May 2019
Genevieve Eagle's niece



Stergos I. Stergachis
United States Navy
World War II
Andy Stergachis' father



Robert Talbot
United States Navy
World War II
Deborah Talbot's dad
Served on **USS Talbot, USS Lexington & USS Taussig**



Military, CIA, Law Enforcement Ministry News

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Below are family members of fought against the Italian and WWII.

Greek 'Oxi Day
October 28



'Oxi Day is a national holiday in Greece commemorating the day of October 28, 1940 when Prime Minister and General Ioannis Metaxas replied 'Oxi (no) to Italian dictator Benito Mousolini's demand to give Italian troops free passage into Greek Territory.

The courage of the Greeks changed the outcome of World War II.

YaSas.com

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St. Nicholas parishioners who the German Armys during



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



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



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



George Markakis
Royal Hellenic Army
World War II
Killed in Action during Italian Invasion
Mary Leonard's grandfather



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



Submitted by: Gus

ST. NICHOLAS AKATHIST MINISTRY

Ministry of Akathist, Prayers for the Departed



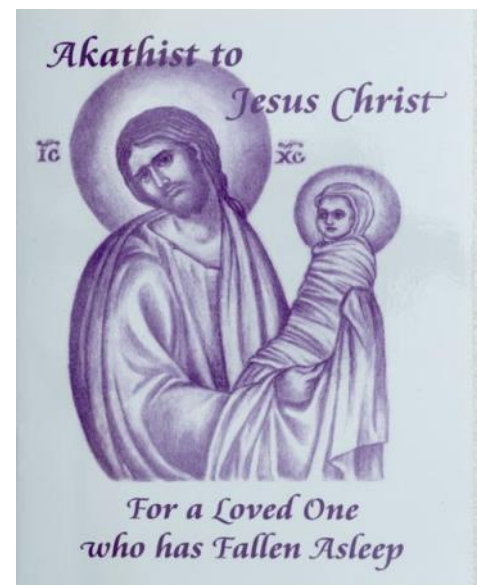
Thank you to all who are involved in this wonderful ministry at Saint Nicholas. In offering the gift of praying the Akathist to Jesus Christ for a Loved One who Has Fallen Asleep, it is a great comfort to family and friends of the departed ones.

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

ST. NICHOLAS BIBLE STUDY

The Book of Acts

Romans 16: (1) Phoebe our sister; (3) Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ; (5) beloved Epae-netus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ; (6) Mary, who labored much for us; (7) Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and fellow prisoners (8) Amplias, my beloved in the Lord; (9) Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved; (10) Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.; Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the household of Narcis-sus who are in the Lord.; (12) Tryphena and Pryphosa, who have labored in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord.; (13) Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. (14) Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them. (15) Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the saints who are with them. And how does he want them to be greeted? (16) Greet one another with a holy kiss. The Churches of Christ greet you. (21) Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my countrymen... (22) I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, (meaning who copied it) greet you in the Lord. (23) Gaius, my host and the host of the whole Church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother.

What do we get from that? There's the fact that St. Luke records 120 people saved; the fact that the twelve had to be fulfilled (it couldn't be eleven – it had to be twelve); and all the greetings to specific people who are named.

Genevieve E: Verification. These people existed and this was not a “made up” story.

Sunny E: You are the epistle written on the heart. (**Corinthians**)

Father Seraphim: The point here is that it is always personal and always concrete – not an abstraction. Think about it: The Good News – the Salvation of the World! The most important revelation of God to mankind of all time – the New Testament. Is it a big book? No. It's skinny! Philosophers have written treatises of their ideas of the truth of the world in multiple volumes that are hundreds of times longer than the New Testament. And yet the New Testament bears witness to the ultimate truth – the Good News, the Gospel – and it is short. Every word matters. So why would so much valuable copy be dedicated to the names of people who, unless you were alive at the time, most of humanity would not know?

Roberta N: In the Scriptures it says that God has written the name of every single person down. Each person was chosen by God and each one is unique and unrepeatable.

Father Seraphim: As St. Maximos said, each person is a microcosm of the universe and of the Church. Everybody is known by name. The Gospel message is specific to each person. That's why in the **Book of Acts** there are little markers (a number of who's in the Church) and then that number will dramatically jump after Pentecost. Some might ask, “Why does that even matter?” Noting the names of these individuals goes beyond that time period. It's showing that every individual person is deliberately made by God and called by God for salvation. The Kingdom of God is persons in communion specifically. To link it to the **Book of Revelation**, remember what we said? What will be the marker for the end of human history?

Dimitri A: The last human to be in the Kingdom of Heaven will be born.

Father Seraphim: There is a finite number of humans in the Kingdom of Heaven. It's concrete and that personal concrete mentality is expressed here in the **Book of Acts** and also in the “Greetings” of Paul. An important principle that we are going to see in this study is that facts become truth when they are told as stories. Another important principle is that every single person will matter and it's always specific and concrete.

Sunny E: How does this compare to the genealogy in Matthew's Gospel, for example? Not everybody on that list was righteous.

St. Nicholas Bible Study

Father Seraphim: That’s right. Because even Judas’ name is mentioned – “let another take his office” **Acts 1:20**. Every single person is permanent. Every single person has their role to play in the salvation of mankind. It never becomes abstract. In Hinduism there was a complete inverse of this.

This is a typical image that I use to see growing up:



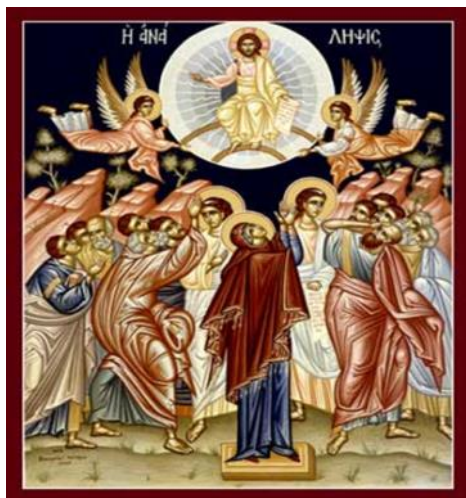
What do you think that image is saying?

Father Seraphim: All these different faces are the same reality, and therefore, the faces are irrelevant. The point of Hinduism is, if you think you are a unique individual, because you’re caught in the lie of some sorrow, the cycle of rebirths because you’ve fallen away from your awareness of yourself as “non-self”. You think you have a “self” because you’re trapped in the world of illusion. The more you ascend the height of illumination, the more you realize that you are actually the “all one”. That’s how they explain suffering. It’s Monism. Suffering is because someone clings to the ego-lie that you exist individually. That’s why there’s so much suffering in the world of re-births. These are the thousand faces of god for the sake of specificity temporarily. No such being like this exists. The point is it renders personhood, continuity, specificity irrelevant. That’s in sharp contrast to what we just read – the names of all these individuals.

Genevieve E: To me, it conveys chaos, confusion and constant motion. Whereas, the One and Only true God is stable.

Father Seraphim: Yes. Even though the **Book of Acts** seems concrete and simple, all these things illustrate our deepest understanding of what it means to be a human and what it means for God’s salvation – the retelling of the “Story”, the principle of personhood.

The goal of the Apostles was to spread the Good News to everyone. Every single one of the billions of people who exist is given the Good News personally. The tagline that we will use for that is “The Principle of Personhood”. That’s why they needed the Holy Spirit because there is no way the Apostles were going to pull that off without help.



Holy Ascension of Christ

HOLY ASCENSION

Apolytikion

Fourth Mode

Intonation: #10
Allegro 1.250 Ἄνελεθήσῃς ἐν δόξῃ

Un E Un

You have as-cend-ed in glo-ry, O Christ our God, and glad-dened

G E

Your dis-ci-ples with the prom-ise of the Ho-ly Spir-it;

G E

and they were as-sured by the bless-ing that You are the

Intermediate Ending

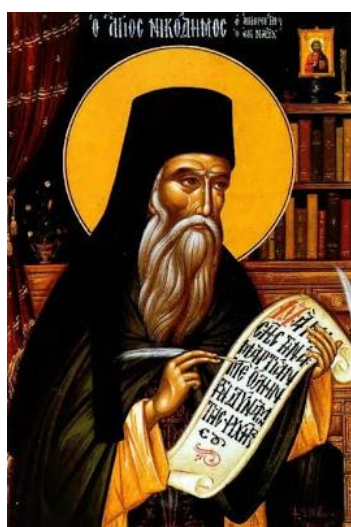
E

Son of God and Re-deem-er of the world.

St. Nicholas Bible Study

Everything that's important about the Scripture, we experience directly. There's no such thing as an abstract study of Scripture. It always has to be lived. The primary great scholar of Mount Athos and lived is in the liturgical life. The Apolytikion is the primary hymn of any feast day or commemoration of a Saint in which the main point is summarized. If every Bible was lost and all we had was these hymns that we have memorized in our hearts, we'd still have the Gospel with us. For example, the **Book of Acts** is crystallized and summarized by the Church in musical form.

The liturgical timeline that we follow is drawn from the **Book of Acts**, literally played out.



If you're reading St. Nikodemos, you're

cf "12 Feasts of the Lord" Vlachos, pg. 280

reading every

BIRTH	"FIRSTBORN..."	+ 40 DAYS
INCARNATION DECEMBER 25	"...of many brothers, in the flesh"	Presented in The Temple February 2
BAPTISM JANUARY 6	"...of the new creation"	Defeats devil's temptations in the desert
RESURREC- TION (moveable)	"...of the dead"	ASCENSION (enthroned at right hand of the Father)

saint before him. He's like a "Compiler" of all the saints. He took the entire deposit of the patristic teaching and delivers it to us in short sentences. He articulates, what he calls, the "3 Births of Christ". He identifies them as the Incarnation, the Baptism and the Resurrection of Christ. Referring to "...of many brothers, in the flesh" (under Firstborn) Christ has now become human. "...of the new creation" refers to the water in the Jordan flowing uphill every year on this feast day (January 6), when the Patriarch of Jerusalem plunges the Cross in the Jordan and the flow is reversed. (On the Feast of Transfiguration at the women's monastery on the Mt. of Olives, a fragrant mist appears out of nowhere during the vigil and Liturgy; and the third miracle is the Holy Fire that descends in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on Great & Holy Saturday). "...of the dead" a quote from St. Paul - that Christ becomes the "Firstborn of the dead". Metropolitan Hierotheos observes something about the Three Births of Christ that St. Nikodemos identifies: there is a significant 40 day period after each of the 3 Births. The 40 day period after the Incarnation (December 25) culminates in the Presentation in the Temple (February 2). 40 days after Christ's Baptism (January 6) is Christ's triumph (3 temptations) over the devil in the desert. (The early Church used to celebrate a 40 day fasting period after January 6.) The third 40 day period after Christ's Resurrection from the dead is the Feast of Ascension. Each of these represents the Lord in

St. Nicholas Bible Study

His Flesh taking humanity with Him from one stage to the next. We don't have the capacity to make those advances on our own. The spiritual life is always forward motion.



I always use the example of salmon swimming upstream. The female salmon fights against numerous obstacles that try to prevent her from fulfilling her purpose. She has to swim faster than the current that is pulling against her. Before the "Fall" Adam & Eve were going with the current; after the "Fall" the current of human nature started going against us because we're fallen – it results in a tendency to pull away from God.

Genevieve E: Being from Fairbanks, Alaska, I have witnessed salmon swimming upstream in barely enough water to swim. They are fighting the current, struggling over rocks and pushing against each other to make headway. Because of the obstacles and hardships their flesh starts to corrupt because they're nearing the end of their lives. Skin and meat falls off as they fight against nature.

Father Seraphim: When Christ takes human flesh, each of those three Births represent Him advancing us upriver. That's where the love of God helps us so we don't despair or be prideful (thinking that we can advance on our own). We have to be willing to struggle, but He's the One Who moves us forward. That's why the Resurrection matters and that is why the Ascension matters. One temptation we fall into is despair because we think we don't receive help from God. We forget (using the salmon analogy) that He became the "Big Fish" and swims ahead of us so that we can swim in His slipstream to help ease our struggles. The second temptation is pride, to think that we can do it all on our own. Theologically we express this in the "Three Births". Has Christ elevated us beyond the limitations of nature? Yes. The reversal of the waters in the Jordan on January 6, St. Peter walking on water, the "Feeding of the 5,000" – that's the triumph over the natural creation. The Apostles were already manifesting that triumph – that's the second birth, to go beyond the limitations of sin-riddled fallen beings who are headed for death. The third is the Ascension where He takes us from the Resurrection over death and seats us at the right hand of the Father. None of these are possible without Christ but it does require our co-operation. We shouldn't conceive the spiritual life as "me and the river". While talking about the salmon analogy, did you picture yourself alone against the river? Now add the following: add the Big Fish in front of you and you're in His slipstream with a whole school of salmon swimming with you, and that's the Church. If we don't picture that, then we have a long way to go to acquire the mindset of the Church. One of the things that we can take from the **Book of Acts** is "togetherness". It also shows that separation (Paul and Barnabas) happens, but our goal and the lesson is to strive to work together.

Sunny E: Christ is miraculous beyond nature through those Three Births.

John P: We also have to balance out the fact that we will be judged individually.

Sunny E: But in Scripture, God judges nations?

Father Seraphim: The answer, as often as the case is, it's a both/and universe, not an either/or universe in this case. Remember each of us is becoming more and more ourselves – more fully unique. In cults a person's identity diminishes at the expense of the cult leader. One of the things you see in those scenarios is the real "you" goes down and eventually disappears. In the true experience of the Church the individual becomes more vibrant and their freedom becomes more prominent and accessi-

St. Nicholas Bible Study

ble to them. When I talk to young people who are starting to become involved in romantic relationships, I tell them to ask themselves this question, “Do I feel more and more free in myself or do I feel that I have to curate myself? The more curated I am the less freedom there is and the less it resembles a relationship that is going to lead to a blessing.” This is a small version of the Kingdom. When you’re in a Church and your priest or pastor relates to you in a way that you can be yourself and be more and more free and there is no compulsion and that’s the general culture of the parish, then that’s a sign that you are in a healthy community. If you’re in a Church community where there’s a lot of compulsion (especially coming from the leader and being enforced by his/her underlings) and a conformity expectation and your freedom is curtailed then that is a sign that you are in a “not so healthy” relationship. We call that co-dependent, dysfunctional or abusive.

Nectarios O: In the Orthodox Church, I feel very comfortable. It’s calm which makes me feel safe & comfortable. As a teacher, I know that some kids don’t feel comfortable – they feel more comfortable when they are moving around and being loud. So how does the Orthodox Church reach those people? How do you balance being your natural self with being in a Church environment?

Father Seraphim: What we’re dealing with here is something that we’re about to deal with in the Book of Acts. That is the issue of the Gentiles coming into the Church. Are they going to have to follow the Jewish Law of circumcision, etc.? Some people (the former Pharisees) were saying “We’re Christians now, we recognize the Messiah, but here’s the deal – things have to fit a certain shape, namely the Jewish Law.” The Church figured out a way to allow that diversity by treating it as a “both/and universe”. It chose to pick out the imposition of the Judaizing as the fault, but it also set expectations. They had to self-regulate their behavior because there was a point at which their freedom becomes self-will (when they imposed it on others). The Christian “Jews” went to Temple until A.D. 70 when the Romans destroyed it. They would attend Church and partake of the Holy Eucharist too, but on Tuesdays they would go to Temple and participate in the sacrifices (not seeing the contradiction). The Church didn’t forbid the Jews to practice this way, but they did forbid the Judaizers to impose the Judaizing impulse on others.

What happens after we die? One thing for certain is that we see ourselves totally stripped of every layer behind which we normally hide in this life and see everything that we have become. It’s simultaneously an individual experience, but it is inextricably linked with the inter-relationships with everyone else. You can’t blend them, but you can’t separate them. It’s those moments that make us take responsibility.

Submitted by: Genevieve Eagle

Flower Ministry

The Flower Ministry is searching for parishioners who would be willing to donate flowers and greenery from their own personal gardens for some of the feast days throughout the year. I've listed the feasts below for which we make flower arrangements, their dates and the colors and flower types that we need. Please contact Genevieve at goobahoo@gmail.com if you would like to help us out.

DATE	FEAST	FLOWER COLORS
9/8	Nativity of the Theotokos	White lily - white & blue & pastels Basil - Flower colors: purple, red, white, yellow
9/14	Exaltation (or Elevation) of the Cross	White, blue & pastels
11/21	Presentation of the Theotokos	Red, metallics (gold & silver) green
12/6	St. Nicholas	White
12/25	Christmas - Nativity of Christ	White
1/6	Theophany - Baptism of Christ	White
2/2	Presentation of Jesus at the Temple	Blue
3rd Sun Lent	Veneration of the Cross	Must: Daffodils
3/25	Annunciation	White and blue
Palm Sunday	Entry into Jerusalem - Palm Sunday	Must: palms Flowers: willow, greens
Holy Friday	Crucifixion of Christ	Epitaphios flowers
Holy Saturday	Great and Holy Saturday	Must: bay leaves & rose petals Completion of flowers brought during holy week
Pascha	Resurrection of Christ Ascension of Christ (40 days after Pascha)	White
Ascension	Pascha)	White
Pentecost	Pentecost (50 days after Pascha)	Green, white
6/29	Sts. Peter & Paul	Red, white
8/6	Transfiguration of Christ	White
8/15	Dormition of the Theotokos	White & Blue

Here are some arrangements created from parishioners donations:
from the store and from their gardens



Begonias donated by Rikki Kapes



Blue Hydrangeas donated by Merrilee Pangis

Flower Ministry



Basil donated and arranged by Deborah Talbot



Flowers for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Donated by Kalitsa Xitco



Vespers Service
 Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Pro-Life Ministry

The Memorial that Mobilizes

40 Days for Life started in Texas and has inspired communities around the world to pray, fast, and end abortion at the local level. The world came knocking. By the grace of God, this effort is not something in the past, but is active around the world where abortions happen every day. This Memorial to the Unborn not only honors those lost at this location, but serves as a call to action that we must be a voice for the voiceless in every community where abortion takes place.



Ebenezer Stone

Ebenezer is only mentioned three times in the Bible. By definition Ebenezer means “stone of help”. Israel set up camp beside Ebenezer in preparation for battle against the Philistines. After great defeat, the Ark of the Covenant was taken by the Philistines from Ebenezer to Ashdod. In **1 Samuel 7:3**, Samuel addressed all of Israel and advised them, “*if ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve Him only: and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines (1 Samuel 7:3).*”

Israel responded in kind and discontinued the worship of the false gods Balaam and Ashtaroth. A revival of sorts took place, and Israel returned to serve the Lord only. Samuel then gathered all of Israel for prayer, which included both fasting and repentance. When the Philistines neared Israel, a “great thunder” scared and shook up the Philistines (**1 Samuel 7:10**). This state of dismay allowed Israel to prevail. Samuel memorialized the victory and set a stone between Mizpah and Shen.

Submitted by: Genevieve

Pro-Life Ministry

ST. NICHOLAS PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

The 40 Days for Life, Tacoma Fall 2022 Campaign starts Wednesday, September 28 – November 6. St. Nicholas Pro-Life Ministry is scheduled to hold Orthodox prayer vigils every Wednesday during this period from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. at 1401 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma, Washington. Please join Father Seraphim and the Pro-Life Ministry to pray for those who have no voice. Please contact Genevieve at goobahoo@gmail.com for more information.

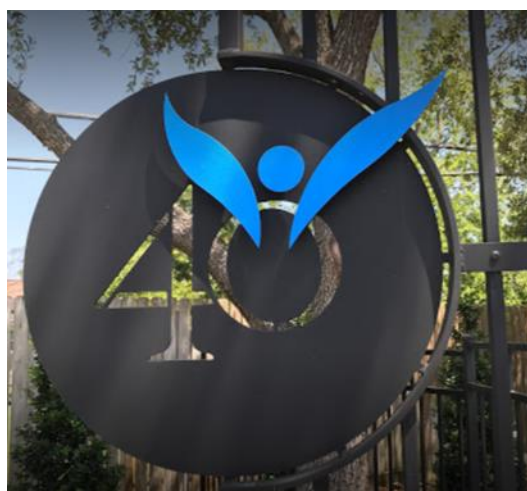


“Let the children come to Me. Do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” Mark 10:14. In loving memory of the 6,400 baby boys and girls aborted at this location. May their short lives inspire us to be a voice for the voiceless at every abortion facility around the world. *“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father Who is in Heaven.” Matthew 18:10*



Planned Parenthood closes

Bryan, Texas 2004



40 Days for Life is born

PROSPHORA

PROVIDING PROSFORO

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.

We could use two more regular bakers for Sunday Prospora. Anyone interested in providing Prospora or Artoklasia should contact Father Seraphim or Deborah Talbot

Michael and Susanna Hawk, and their children Anna, Basil, and Seraphim are leaving us in October. Michael is exiting the Air Force and they are going home to farm llamas. Godspeed - may your family prosper. The blessing of the artoklasia from the GOARCH website:



A basket of Prospora and 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

PROSPHORA

LEHEM-ARTOS-BREAD

Following the Word Through Scripture

*1 Kingdoms 21:3-7: So David said to the priest, "Today the king gave a command to me saying, 'Do not let anyone know anything about the business on which I send you or what I command you.' And I gave orders to the young men to go to a place called the Faithfulness of God, Phellani Alemoni. Now, if there are five loaves (**lehem/artos**) under your hand being ready, give them into my hand." And the priest answered David and said, "There are no common loaves of **bread/lehem/artos** on hand. There is holy **bread/lehem/artos**, but only if the young men have been keeping themselves from women will they eat." Then David answered the priest and said to him, "Truly, we have kept ourselves from women for three days, with all the young men having been purified when I came on this journey. Even so, this expedition itself is unclean; thus because of my weapons, it shall be sanctified this day." So Abimelech the priest gave him the **showbread/lehem/artos**; for there were no loaves there except the bread of the Presence which had been removed from before the Lord, in order to put hot **bread/lehem/artos** in its place when it was taken away.*

Last month we left David in Nob, a city on the north side of Jerusalem where he presented himself alone to Abimelech the priest and asked for five loaves of bread. Abimelech was startled to see him and inquired why he was alone. In the Hebrew manuscripts translated into English it is recorded that David responded that the king had sent him on secret business, and his servants had gone to a specific place that would remain unnamed. I really wish I could read the Greek manuscript. I can tell you that verse which reads in English *the Faithfulness of God, Phellani Alimoni*, does say in the Greek *lego theos pistis phellani alemoni* (to affirm in words/God/faith/unknown/unknown. The unknown words, *phellani alemoni* look like transliterations of the original Hebrew words said to mean a *specific one but in a sense of concealment or unnamed*). The verse also speaks of *diamartyromai* which has a meaning of calling gods and men to witness, to testify. I think this is important in understanding the whole passage, because there is a theme, I believe, of David fleeing to God and seeking truth. He has fled to a man of God, the priest, as a fugitive, and when the priest inquires, he does not actually spin out a lie to his own advantage - as some people read it - but he answers that the king (his King being ultimately God and king Saul being the anointed of God still in the position of king of Israel) has sent him on a mission about which he knows nothing, but he (David) is trusting in God, and he needs food for the journey and a weapon. Whatever it was the priest understood David to be saying, the Lord provided to David through the priest this very special offering of bread which had been sitting in His presence for an entire week, and the sword of Goliath whom David had killed. Can you see how to David that would clearly be a comforting word from God, a kind of rest, a reassurance about this business that was secret even from David - why was Saul trying to kill him? What was his sin or his offense?

[This incident is, of course, the one Jesus speaks of in the gospels Matthew, Mark, and Luke when he says that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath, and the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.]

From Nob, David fled to Gath and then to Adullam, a cave or a fortress, depending on what comments you read, where his father's household went to him, and many other people who were grieved and distressed. Scripture records there were about 400 men with him.

Meanwhile Saul, unlike David, was not seeking God or truth. When he heard it was known where David and his men were living, he began promising his servants riches and accusing them of treachery until one of them, Doeg the Syrian, Saul's mule herder, who had seen David with the priest at Nob, told Saul what he had seen. Saul summoned the priests and accused the priest Abimelech of conspiring against him.

PROSPHORA

*1 Kingdoms 22:13: Then Saul said to him, "Why did you conspire against me, you and the son of Jesse, by giving him **bread/lehem/artos** and a sword and inquiring of God for him so he should rise against me to be an enemy, as he is today?"*

The priest denied being a traitor, but Saul took vengeance anyway. He had his servant Doeg slaughter the priests of Nob, and their women, and children, and animals. One of the priest's sons, Abiathar, escaped to David and told him that Saul had killed all the Lord's priests. Again, to emphasize the contrast between David and Saul, David said to Abiathar, *"...I am responsible for the life of the house of your father. Stay with me. Do not fear. For wherever I seek a place for my life, I will also seek a place for your life, for you have protection with me."*

To be continued...



A DRAWING FROM [HTTPS://WWW.BIBLEWALKS.COM/ADULLAM#PHOTOS](https://www.biblewalks.com/adullam#photos) SHOWING TEL ADULLAM IN THE BACKGROUND. ADULLAM IS WHERE DAVID FLED AND WHERE HIS FATHER'S HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER PEOPLE CAME TO HIM. FOR THOSE FAMILIAR WITH OUR VESPERS SERVICE, PSALMS 140-141 (LORD I HAVE CRIED) MAY HAVE BEEN WRITTEN FROM ADULLAM.

Submitted by: Deborah Talbot

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

By the time you read this article our 2022 St. Nicholas Greek Festival will either be in full swing, or will have recently ended. Many people contributed their time and talent to this year's festival, and we wish to express our sincere thanks to all who played a role in making it happen! Additionally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the wonderful people who came out and supported our festival. We hope you enjoyed learning about our church and our culture and we thank you sincerely for the fabulous support you have provided over the years! **Doxa To Theo!!!**



val, and we wish to express our sincere thanks to all who played a role in making it happen! Additionally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the wonderful people who came out and supported our festival. We hope you enjoyed learning about our church and our culture and we thank

you sincerely for the fabulous support you have provided over the years! **Doxa To Theo!!!**

It takes a lot of time and effort to make the festival happen and every year there is a relatively small group of people who do so much of the planning, the preparation, and the work to make it happen. This year's festival committee/core group of workers included Bill and Karen S., Evy K., Kalitsa X., Olga M., Ingrid C., Presbyteria Sophie, Krisann F., Fenia M., Zak K., and Tony P. They did the lion's share of the planning and organizing; assisting them through that process were past year committee

members John and Merrilee Pangis, and Sally Hallis. We owe these parishioners and several others special thanks. Without their dedication the festival would not have been the success that it was, and quite likely would not have happened.

Doxa To Theo!!!

Continued on next page....



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

I feel compelled to mention three other people because although they were not physically present at this year's festival, they were certainly with us in our hearts. Mrs. Mary Georgopoulos, Mrs. Kay Turlis, and Mrs. Elly Pangis were long-time parishioners at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. In 2019 during our last festival, all three of these women were over 90 years old, yet all three regularly attended the baking sessions from July to October. For those who never had the distinct honor and privilege of knowing these three wonderful ladies, you should know that combined they had well in excess of 180 years of stewardship to our church. Together I would estimate that they devoted every year close to 1000 hours of sincere love and hard work toward all the festivals that preceded this one.



Mrs. Mary Georgopoulos

Mrs. Kay Turlis

Miss Elly Pangis

These ladies trained many of the people that worked at this year's festival and through their love and compassion they taught many of us how to prepare the pastries and food items that we currently serve. We will never match their level of perfection, but thankfully they instilled in us the love and spirit of **PHILOTIMO** (A Greek word that has the literal translation of "love of honor". However, philotimo is claimed to be impossible to translate sufficiently as it describes a complex array of virtues.) that enabled us to restart the festival after three years of COVID.

At this year's baking sessions they were often the topic of discussion, and stories of their legendary contributions brought a great deal of joy and laughter to all who were present.

May we always cherish the loving example they were for all of us, and *MAY THEIR BLESSED MEMORY BE ETERNAL!!!*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

The stewardship ministry is extremely grateful to all of the following who have supported our church by completing a stewardship card or by making a contribution of time, talent and treasure. YOU make St. Nicholas the wonderful place that it is to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We cannot thank you enough!

Donations and or Stewardship Commitments as of September 21, 2022

William and Mary Acker •	Nicholas Afeiche
Maria and Kosta Aggelidakis •	Leonidas and Despina Alatsis•
Patra Alatsis •	Sonny and Irene Angelos •
Richard and Marlene Angelus•	Paul and Dolores Apostle •
Tony and Lori Apostle •	Andrew and Sheila Auter •
Tina Ayers ▪	Ourania Ayume•
George Ballasiotes •	Tyler and Lexi Balsler•
E. Anthe Barbas	Chrysanthe and SFC(R) Wiley Barnes •
Harry and Sheri Basil •	T. L. Berg ▪
Theodora Bessinas•	Dean and Anna Bolaris ▪
Ricardo Aaron Bottino •	Yvonne Brandvold •
Dora Brown ▪	Gloria and Peter Brown •
Monica Bultz	Penelope Burke ▪
Anne and Don Calcote	William and Bonnie Caress•
Barry and Debora Middleton Cassidy •	Klaudia Cedeno •
C.G. and Ingrid Chamales •	Steven Chamales ▪
Yianni and Sophie Charitou •	Reagan and Reanne Charuhas •
Chris Cherbas •	Anthony and Sandra Ciarochi•
John and Maria Cook •	Nick and Cheryl Cosmakos•
Irina Crouse	Belinda and Chris Cummins •
Daughters of Penelope	Dina Deliyianides •
John Diaconou	Voula Dodd
John and Melinda Dionas	Genevieve Eagle •
Timothy and Sunny Edgren •	Frederick Ehret and Anastasia Fyntrilakis•
Callie Elliott	Mary Erickson ▪
Andrew and Jane Evancho •	Krisann and Peter Firth•
Radu Florea and Ramona Ionita ▪	James and Konstantoula Fotinopoulos •
David and Savina Frisk ▪	Dayle Sokratis Frisk ▪
Gregory Joseph Garcia•	John and Judy Godulas•
Stephania and Jason Greenwood▪	Christina Gretty •
Sally Hallis •	Dean and Carol Hamos •
Michael and Kristine Hanberg •	Daniel and Ekaterini Hanson•
Natalya Harpe •	Timothy and Kathleen Harvey •
Bret and Evangelia Hassel •	Magdaline Hatzikazakis & Reginald Williams•
Vance and Suzanne Hawk •	Richard and Kathleen Heidal •
Meslissa Holden •	William Frederick Lincoln Horton •
Laurie Hulter	Melissa and Miguel Hungria ▪
Lisa Ishchenko	Thomas and Helga Jackson•
Danni and Brian Johnson	Joseph and Ronnie-Sue Johnson •
Kathy Johnson •	Joyce and Robin Kalivas Griffin •
Hariklia (Rikki) Kapes •	Anna Karanasos •

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

Paula Karanasos •
 Sharon Kennedy •
 Claudia Kieszling ▪
 Ann Kiraki and Jessee Macharia•
 Ann Ruth Koopman •
 Andrew and Melinda Kouklis •
 Mary Kouklis •
 Peter and Margaret Laketa ▪
 Robert and Anne Latz •
 Mary Leonard•
 Joshua and Jill Livingston
 Jennifer Luna and Daniel Gonzales ▪
 George and Bess Lurker•
 Olga Manos •
 Mathew John Manthou •
 Carol MartinOki
 Katherine and Gregory Mason •
 Iphigenia Mavromichali •
 Helen McClure •
 Alan and Sheilagh Means •
 Paul and Cassie Moeller •
 Angela Montoya •
 Dick and Hariklia (Hoddi) Motz •
 Derek Olsen ▪
 David and Katrina Orriss •
 Niko and Sonia Pamboukas •
 George Panagiotu ▪
 Alex Pangis •
 Scott and Rachael Parnell•
 John Payne •
 George and Diane Pirotis •
 Josquin Poirot
 Andrew and Rebecca Primis •
 Martin J. and Lorissa C. Reiter III •
 Katherine and Mike Rowley•
 Bill and Karen Samaras•
 Neal (Barnabas) Schaefer ▪
 Todd and Teresa Silver
 Olympia and John Stafford •
 Andy and JoAnn Stergachis •
 Jacob Swain •
 Deborah Talbot •
 Charles Tomaras ▪
 Edward Tuohy
 John and Angela Vlahas
 Morgan Waterman •
 Jeffrey and Janice Williams
 Ed Winskill •
 Kalitsa Xitco •
 Matthew and Leigh Ann Zehnder •

Zachary and Daphne Karanasos •
 Naser and Catalina Khalaj •
 Evan and Despina Kipelidis •
 Evy Kontos and Mark Matteson •
 Steve Koukles ▪
 John C. Kouklis•
 Maria Koumantaros•
 Elia and Micheline Lakkis •
 Christina Leinneuber•
 Hugh and Mariella Lewis ▪
 Jaclyn Lukehart
 Bonnie Luntzel and Douglas Fairbanks
 Fr. Seraphim and Sophie Majmudar •
 Chris and Susan Manthou •
 Natalia Marberg
 Dean and Julie Mastras •
 Evangelia Mavrogiorgos
 George McClure ▪
 Virginia McClure •
 Tatyana Mikeladze ▪
 Tom Mollas ▪
 Nina and John Morrison •
 Michael and Rodica Murphy•
 Order of AHEPA, Olympia Chapter
 Marian Palas •
 Evangelos and Anastasia Pampoukas ▪
 Tony and Debbie Panagiotu •
 John and Merrilee Pangis •
 Kesha Patel ▪
 Andrew Phillips
 Charles and Lena Plunkett •
 Steve and Kathleen Politakis •
 Sammy Ramzi
 Mark and Dana Robinson •
 Katherine Salatas ▪
 Peter Sandas Jr.
 Richard and Alexandra Schutt•
 St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society
 Richard and Denice Stahl•
 Rob and Lea Sullivan•
 James & Jenise Sweeney ▪
 Nick and Becky Themelis •
 Samuel Torvend
 Roxanne Vallantine •
 John Voklert ▪
 Michael Jane White •
 Anna and Raymond Wilson •
 Hugh Winskill •
 Tasso and Sarah Zambaras •
 Luai Zureikat

•Steward ▪ Active Contributor

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.

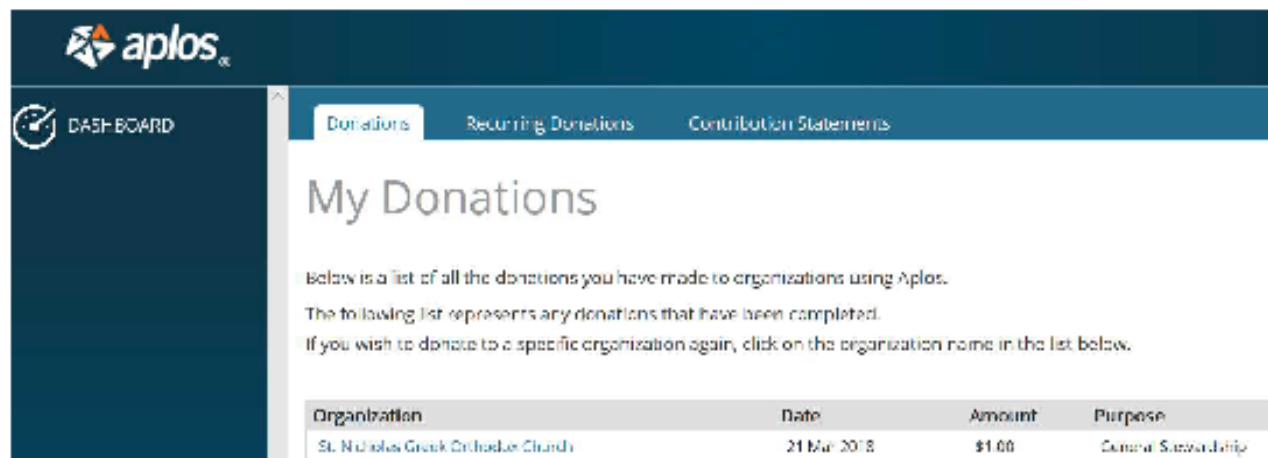
I want parishioners to enjoy greater flexibility in making Church donations and receiving an accounting of their annual to date contributions at any time of the year. Many of you have asked and inquired about the possibility of accounting for your donations automatically on-line. It is now a reality. 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
- 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 dashboard interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with a 'DASH-BOARD' menu item. The main content area has a top navigation bar with 'Donations', 'Recurring Donations', and 'Contribution Statements' tabs. Below the navigation is the heading 'My Donations'. A paragraph of text explains that the list below shows all donations made to organizations using Aplos, and that the list only includes completed donations. It also notes that clicking on an organization name in the list will allow for another donation to that organization.

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.

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/MI/L)	DOB (m/d/y)	Orthodox
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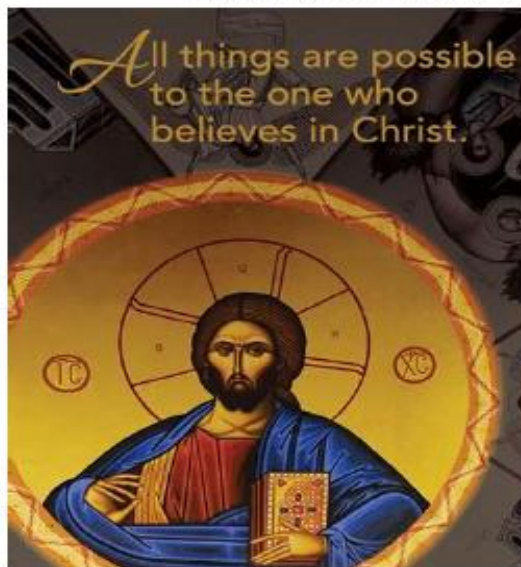
.....(Y/N)

.....(Y/N)

.....(Y/N)

.....(Y/N)

2022 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

"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.

2022 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 2022 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.....

Saint Nicholas Messenger

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

1523 S Yakima Ave

Tacoma, WA 98405

Address Service Requested

