

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
November 29, 2009

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1-7

BRETHREN, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion of the Church

The truth of your manner of life manifested you to our flock as a rule of faith and an icon of gentleness and a teacher of self-control. By humility, therefore, you acquired the things on high, and riches through poverty. Father Holy Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God, entreating that our souls be saved.

Kontakion

On this day the Virgin cometh to a cave to give birth to God the Word ineffable, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the glad-some tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Gabriella and Viroel Andrews, Constantine Evangelinos, Faye Sekaros, Patrick Gutierrez, Toni Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Robert Ashley, Sr., Priscilla Pardon, Pat Ricaldi, Deryl Deveau, Fotica George, Lucia Gagalis, Kevin Kling, Euthie Stamos, Steven Garkinos, Helen Camp, Bridget Smith, Steve Theodorou, Rosaleen Baldwin

Gospel

Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' " And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Wisdom from the Fathers

Love of money is the worship of idols, a daughter of unbelief, an excuse for infirmities, a foreboder of old age, a harbinger of drought, a herald of hunger.

He who has conquered this passion has cut out care; but he who is bound by it never attains to pure prayer ...

Poverty is the resignation of cares, life without anxiety, an unencumbered traveler, alienation from sorrow, fidelity to the commandments.

St. John Climacus, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 16:2,7 and Step 17:1* 6th Century

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

The Friends of the Metropolis program is designed to help raise much-needed funds for the operation of the Metropolis of Detroit. Funds raised help pay for the operations of the Metropolis, the Metropolitan's travel expenses and the ministries of the Metropolis. Forms are available in the hallway and any amount of a donation is welcomed. Please do your best, at any giving level, to help support the ministries of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis of Detroit. God bless you!



Parish News and Events www.stnickaa.org

Welcome Visitors!

Please fill out the form on the notepads in the pews and put it in the collection tray so we may welcome you to our Parish.

Visitors Please Note

Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians. Visitors are welcome to receive the Antidoro (Blessed Bread), which is distributed at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Fellowship Hour Sponsors needed for Sunday November 29.

It is not our own wealth that we distribute, but Christ's; therefore let us dispense it as He wishes.

St. John the Almsgiver 7th century.

GOYA

On **December 6th**, the GOYAnS will once again go to the tree farm to select and cut the parish Christmas tree. For more information, please contact Vicki Kiningham at rkinigh@umich.edu. Please note date change for this activity.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing is still scheduled for Monday, December 7th, in front of Krogers from 6 PM to 7 PM.

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

Monday, December 7th. Shifts are one (1) hour and will begin at 12 noon and end at 9:00 p.m. Please call Helen Garris at 663-0270 to schedule your time. We need all the help we can get. Thanks.

Orthodoxy 101

Starting **December 3rd**, we'll be having a series on the Orthodox Faith open to all parishioners. Each session will begin with **Vespers at 6:00 p.m.** followed by a potluck supper followed by our talk. The first session will be Thursday, December 3 and the topic will be the Holy Eucharist. The presenter is Fr. Dean Hountalas and we hope to have childcare. More information to follow.

Found in the Church social hall: a French poodle brooch and a blue Adidas sport watch. Please call the office if these items belong to you.

St. Nicholas Seniors

Please sign up for our Christmas Luncheon at the coffee hour. Details are on the sign-up board. Let us know if you need a ride.

Philoptochos

Thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen who came and helped us with baklava baking. Our bake sale was a huge success!

We are in need of sheets and pillowcases for the bedpads for Arbor Hospice. Please bring them to the Parish Office.

Christmas Wreath Pickup

Next Sunday your wreath orders will be available. Please make every effort to pick them up between noon and 2:-00 p.m.

Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army on Monday, December 7th. Please make sure you fulfill your commitment. If you have questions, please call Helen Garris.

Church School Notes**NO CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY**

Thank you to all the children and their families for donating to the "Thanksgiving Food Drive". The S.O.S. Community Service of Ypsilanti has collected our donations and they will distribute all of the food to families in need during the holidays.

The Christmas Pageant is scheduled for **Sunday, December 20th** after church service.

Parents of children in the church School are asked to sign up to contribute a food or drink item for the coffee hour on 12/20/09 following the Christmas Pageant. The sign-up board is in the hall outside the social hall. Please contact Gail Altenburg at 971-6962 if you have any questions or if you can help with coffee hour that day.

Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your image, to Your honor and praise. Amen.

*From Transfiguration Orthodox Prayer Book
 Compiled from various sources by Fr. Peter Gregory*

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Traditional Greek Christmas Cookies and Bread

This bake sale is sponsored by our Greek School to benefit our church. Last year the sale generated \$2,000 for our church. Please help us to do better.

All sales are pre-ordered and pre-paid. Order deadline is Friday, November 27, 2009. Pick up dates for cookies/bread, Sunday December 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Vasiliopita, Wednesday, Dec. 30th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Order forms are available on the table in the hallway. Please make checks payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Choir Notes

Choir rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesday, December 2 and **Thursday**, December 17.

We will also be singing at the Saturday, December 5th St. Nicholas Vespers.

Outreach and Evangelism

“...if any one among you wanders from the truth and some one bring him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20.

The Mission of the Outreach & Evangelism Ministry is to renew and share the Orthodox Christian Faith by nurturing a deeper commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ within His Church. Please consider joining this important ministry by contacting Chris Kerry or the Church office.

The Bookstore recommends: New inventory—*Lost to the West: the Forgotten Byzantine Empire that Rescued Western Civilization*, a captivating portrait by acclaimed writer Lars Brownworth. We also have beautiful photo cards of Greece by artist Alice E. Nuttall—very high quality cards for all occasions, each an original signed by the artist. See also Mark Mazower's book on *Salonica*.

December 6 Reception at the Metropolis

In honor of Metropolitan Nicholas' feastday, the Metropolis will have an open house on Sunday, **December 6th from 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.** It is sponsored by the Metropolis of Detroit Council and Philoptochos. All are invited and welcome to attend. 2560 Crooks Road—Troy, MI 48084

Be A Part of The Welcoming Program

This ministry is important and ensures that everyone passing through our doors and entering Christ's Church are welcomed and made to feel comfortable as being created in the image and likeness of God. As well, we get to know others in our parish we normally might not get to know—or make the time to know. We are in need of people to sign up for this ministry so please consider taking part in it. Sign up sheets are in the exo-narthex. Thank you for participating.

Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7



November 30

Andrew The First-Called Apostle

This Saint was from Bethsaida of Galilee; he was the son of Jonas and the brother of Peter, the chief of the Apostles. He had first been a disciple of John the Baptist; afterwards, on hearing the Baptist's witness concerning Jesus, when he pointed Him out with his finger and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1.29,36), he straightway followed Christ, and became His first disciple; wherefore he is called the First-called of the Apostles. After the Ascension of the Saviour, he preached in various lands; and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he died in Patras of Achaia, where he was crucified on a cross in the shape of an "X," the first letter of "Christ" in Greek; this cross is also the symbol of Saint Andrew.

Reading Courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

AHEPA SCHOLARSHIPS

High School Seniors and College Students, if you are planning to apply for an AHEPA Scholarship for 2010, please let Dr. Kleanthous know by phone: 734-475-2034 or email: c.kleanthousmd@sbcglobal.net or by mail 19345 Bush Road, Chelsea MI 48118. College students must belong in the ahepa Family and High School Seniors must be children of an Ahepan. Your parents don't have to be Greek to join the AHEPA. I will provide you an application if you request one.

Metropolis Chapel Feastday—St. Spyridon

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas, the Metropolis Council and the Metropolis Philoptochos are sponsoring a Vespers Divine Liturgy at the St. Spyridon Chapel at the Metropolis on **Friday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m.** A reception will follow the Liturgy. All are invited and welcome to attend. 2560 Crooks Road—Troy, MI 48084

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN November 29, 2009

Orthros

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM

Church School

After Holy Communion

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 4:1-7

Gospel

Luke 18:18-27



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

UP-COMING EVENTS

NO CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY

Monday, November 30

Feast of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle

9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Bible Study after Divine Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, December 1

9:30 a.m. Bed pad Sewing for Hospice
12:30 p.m. Seniors Planning Meeting
7:30 p.m. OCF

Wednesday, December 2

10:30 a.m. Exercise Class
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 3

7:00 p.m. YERAC

Friday, December 4

Feast of St. Barbara

9:00 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
11:00 a.m. Exercise Class
7:30 p.m. Paraklesis

Saturday, December 5

5:00 p.m. Vespers for St. Nicholas Feast Day

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Web: www.stnickaa.org E-Mail: kate@stnickaa.org

Proistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis (nhkotsis@hotmail.com)

Church office: 734/332-8200 Home: 734/677-7891 Cell: 734/604-3214

Psaltis
Zannis Res

Choir
Jon Wardner

Prosforo
Pliakas Family

Fellowship Hour
Parish Council

Greeter
Chris Kerry