

62 YEARS



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

KOINONIA

Message from FR. MICHAEL L. PASTRIKOS, PROTOPRESBYTER

I felt that for the month of June my newsletter would be on the topic of Stewardship. Some of you might say, Why the topic of Stewardship? and my response would be; because here at St. Nicholas we lack the knowledge and participation in the Stewardship program of the Church. I've wanted to write this article for a long time but after being in this parish for 11 years and seeing that a lot of our parishioners are not filling out their pledge cards and sending them to the church every year. Last month we posted a chart in the May Koinonia consisting of the donations made by our parishioners to the Stewardship program. This in no way should describe our parish. It was embarrassing for me to see that our parish is really lacking in giving to their community in their stewardship pledges. I think we need to re-educate our parishioners on the importance of Stewardship. Stewardship by all means is the blood line and pulse of the Parish. Some people say let's go back to the dues system where everyone pays the same amount every year to their church. To be honest with everyone I don't think that the Dues System that was in our churches for decades really improved the giving of our parishioners. The Fair share system to me is the best way of giving to the church. The Fair share program gives everyone the opportunity to give from the heart whatever they feel comfortable in giving. But a lot of our parishioners especially the younger generation probably were never taught the right way to give to their church. If anyone would like to do their research, since most of our young people are experts on computers, they should look on the many church websites and see what other people are giving to the Fair share program of their church. You would be amazed to see how some smaller churches give to their Stewardship Program. I have seen parishes that are way smaller than ours with 250 members give over 500,000 thousand dollars in their Stewardship Pledges. As a parish we have tried throughout the years to educate our members the importance of the Stewardship program. We send out articles every four months when we send out the financial statements. We have Stewardship Sunday program every year in our Community trying to educate our young people the importance of giving. The sad part of this is that many of our Young Adults, married and single are not participating in the program. But the root of the problem is that they don't even attend the Sunday services. I think that is where the problem lies. We have a lot of married couples in the church who don't even send their children to church. This is where I draw the line. This is not something new that is happening in our parish, but this is happening in all parishes and all denominations of churches. I hear that all the time, that the Youth has gone away from the church. I would like to take a survey one day through the Koinonia and truly ask our Young married couples and our single people WHY IS IT THAT THAT THEY DON'T



ATTEND CHURCH, AND PARTICPATE IN THE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM. I personally through my experience from other churches that I've served as a parish priest, I have seen a greater amount of participation and giving from those parishes. In fact in Canton, Ohio were I served for 17 years, we had a 96% to 98% percent of the parish giving to their church through the Stewardship Program. Here at St. Nicholas we have 980 registered families and we

are lucky every year to have 600 families give towards the Stewardship program. If you look at the Stewardship chart you can also see with your own eyes that most of our parishioners give less than \$200.00 towards their Stewardship Pledge. That is well below the percentage even lower than the 1% that we are asking for. Now you might say that we have an older parish and that our elderly don't have the finances for that 1% percent. I understand that very well and I don't expect the elderly to give more than what they can give. I'm not writing this article for the elderly, I'm writing this article to the Younger people of the parish that are well off financially. Let's look at what Scripture says about giving? The Bible repeatedly challenges us to give generously as St. Paul writes; 'Just as you excel in everything else in faith, in knowledge, in earnestness, and in love, see that you also excel in the grace of giving' 2 Corinthians 8:7. St. Paul is telling us that we need to give back to God what he has given to us.

Let's see what Stewardship is? A steward is someone who has been entrusted with another's property and charged with the responsibility of managing it in the owner's best interest. So, this means that God has entrusted all of us here at St. Nicholas the responsibility of keeping the doors of the Church open. All the properties that we have belong to God but we are His managers. Our Mission as Stewards of the Church, is to return a portion of His many gifts with which He has blessed each of us, which means that we have to devote our Time, Talent, and Treasure, which in turn enables us to do Christ's work here on earth through our many ministries, services and other outreach programs. We fulfill the mission of Christ's Church by providing the ministries and services for our Church. This list includes Divine Liturgy, Sacraments, Choir, Church School, Greek



Μήνυμα Από τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρικό

School, Parish Office, GOYA, JOY, YAL, HOPE, Sunday Bulletins, Monthly Newsletters, Website, Facilities, Salaries, Maintenance and Insurances. If I had to list the Capital improvements that we did in the last few years, I would need another two sheets extended in this article. The ultimate goal of our Stewardship program is to fund 100% of the operating budget through Stewardship contributions. This will enable us to pay down the Mortgage, update our facilities and help support the Capital improvements that are needed in our parish. This is why we give to our Stewardship program because we need the Church to continue on for not only our Children but for everyone young or old. Our Church is the source of life in Christ, the vehicle of our salvation. It is who we are as Christians; we give in our Stewardship Pledge because we need the Church more than the Church needs us. Just imagine if we didn't have our Churches. What chaos it would cause to the Greek Communities. Without the Church we lose, our Culture, our Heritage and our faith. Where would we go to practice our faith, to worship our Lord, to Baptize our children, to marry our children, and at the end to bury our loved ones with a decent Christian

burial. When we knock on the doors of St. Nicholas, our doors are always open day and night. **Imagine if you came to church one day and you knocked on the doors and the doors were closed forever, what would be your personal thoughts. "How can this happen?"** Well it can happen to us as it has happened to other communities just like ours. It is our responsibility that we keep our St. Nicholas Parish alive and thriving. But this can only happen if we pitch in together and work hard to provide for the sake of our children and the future of our Community. So if you are in that category of people who have not participated in the Stewardship program it's time for you to start. If you would like to receive a Stewardship Pledge card, please call the Church office and we will send it to you. In ending I would like to thank all of our Stewards who faithfully give from their hearts every year to the Stewardship Program. I thank you for your support and hopefully together we can continue Christ's mission for us here on earth... to spread the Good News of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ to others who are in deep need in their faith.

Ενιωθα την ανάγκη για τον μήνα Ιούνιο το άρθρο μου να αναφερόταν σχετικά με το θέμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς. Κάποιοι από εσάς θα μπορούσατε να πείτε: Γιατί το θέμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς ; Και η απάντησή μου θα ήταν: Ναι! Γιατί εδώ στον Άγιο Νικόλαο λείπει η γνώση και η συμμετοχή στο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς προς την Εκκλησία. Ήθελα να γράψω αυτό το άρθρο πριν πολύ καιρό, υπηρετώντας 11 χρόνια την Κοινότητα, και βλέποντας ότι πολλοί από τους ενορίτες μας δεν συμπληρώνουν ή στέλνουν κάθε χρόνο τις κάρτες τους στην εκκλησία. Τον περασμένο μήνα δημοσιεύσαμε στη ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑ του Μαΐου ένα σχεδιάγραμμα που παρουσίαζε τις δωρεές που έκαναν οι ενορίτες μας στο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς.

Αυτό σε καμμία περίπτωση δεν θάπρεπε να περιγράφει την ενορία μας. Με ενόχλησε όταν είδα ότι οι ενορίτες μας στερούν πραγματικά την υποστήριξη τους στην Εκκλησία. Νομίζω ότι πρέπει να επανεκπαιδύσουμε τους ενορίτες μας για τη σημασία της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς. Η Εθελοντική Προσφορά, με όλη τη σημασία της λέξης, είναι η ροή του αίματος και ο παλμός της Ενορίας. Μερικοί άνθρωποι λένε ότι πρέπει να επιστρέψουμε στο σύστημα των συνδρομών, όπου όλοι πληρώνουν το ίδιο ποσό κάθε χρόνο στην εκκλησία τους. Για να είμαι ειλικρινής με όλους, δεν νομίζω ότι το Σύστημα της Συνδρομής που υπήρχε για δεκαετίες στις εκκλησίες μας, βελτίωσε πραγματικά την οικονομική υποστήριξη των Κοινοτήτων μας. Το σύστημα του Δίκαιου Μερισίματος είναι για μένα ο καλύτερος τρόπος να προσφέρουμε στην εκκλησία. Το

Πρόγραμμα του Δίκαιου Μερισίματος παρέχει στο καθένα την ευκαιρία να προσφέρει με τη καρδιά του, ότι αισθάνεται ότι μπορεί να δώσει με άνεση. Αλλά πολλοί από τους ενορίτες μας, ειδικά η νεώτερη γενιά, πιθανότατα δεν διδάχτηκε ποτέ το σωστό τρόπο υποστήριξης της εκκλησίας της. Αν κάποιος θα ήθελε να κάνει την έρευνά του, αφού οι περισσότεροι από τους νέους μας είναι ειδικοί στη χρήση των υπολογιστών, πρέπει να κοιτάξουν στις ιστοσελίδες πολλών άλλων εκκλησιών για να δουν τι δίνουν οι άλλοι στο Πρόγραμμα Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς της εκκλησίας τους. Θα εκπλαγείτε να δείτε τα ποσά που δίνουν μερικές μικρότερες εκκλησίες στο Πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής τους Προσφοράς. Έχω δει Κοινότητες πολύ μικρότερες από τη δική μας, με 250 μέλη, οι οποίες δίνουν πάνω από 500.000 χιλιάδες δολάρια το χρόνο, στις Υποσχέσεις της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς.

Σαν Κοινότητα, προσπαθήσαμε όλα αυτά τα χρόνια να εκπαιδύσουμε τα μέλη μας για τη σημασία του προγράμματος της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς. Στέλνουμε γράμματα κάθε τέσσερις μήνες όταν ταχυδρομούμε τις οικονομικές καταστάσεις. Κάθε χρόνο έχουμε την Κυριακή της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς υποστήριξης στην Κοινότητάς μας, προσπαθώντας να εκπαιδύσουμε τους νέους μας για τη σημασία της παροχής. Το λυπηρό μέρος αυτού είναι ότι πολλοί από τους νεαρούς ενήλικους μας, παντρεμένοι και άγαμοι δεν συμμετέχουν στο πρόγραμμα. Αλλά η ρίζα του προβλήματος είναι ότι δεν παρευρίσκονται ούτε καν στις Λειτουργίες της Κυριακής. Νομίζω ότι εκεί βρίσκεται το πρόβλημα. Έχουμε πολλά παντρεμένα

ζευγάρια στην ενορία που δεν φέρνουν τα παιδιά τους στην Εκκλησία. Αυτό είναι το αποκορύφωμα. Δεν είναι όμως κάτι νέο αυτό που συμβαίνει στην ενορία μας, διότι συμβαίνει σε όλες τις ενορίες και σε όλα τα δόγματα των θρησκειών. Το ακούω όλη την ώρα, ότι η Νεολαία απουσιάζει από την εκκλησία. Θα ήθελα να κάνω μια έρευνα κάποτε, μέσω της ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ, και να ρωτήσω πραγματικά τα νεαρά παντρεμένα ζευγάρια και τα ανύπαντρα άτομα, ΓΙΑΤΙ ΔΕΝ ΜΠΟΡΟΥΝ ΝΑ ΕΡΧΟΝΤΑΙ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΓΙΑΤΙ ΔΕΝ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΕΧΟΥΝ ΣΤΟ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ. Προσωπικά, και λόγω της εμπειρίας μου από άλλες εκκλησίες που έχω υπηρετήσει ως ιερέας, έχω δει από αυτές τις Κοινότητες μεγαλύτερο ποσοστό συμμετοχής και οικονομικής υποστήριξης. Στην πραγματικότητα στο Canton, Ohio, που υπηρέτησα για 17 χρόνια, είχαμε ποσοστό 96% έως 98% της ενορίας που συμμετείχε στην προσφορά της εκκλησίας μέσω του προγράμματος Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς. Εδώ στον Άγιο Νικόλαο έχουμε 980 εγγεγραμμένες οικογένειες και είμαστε τυχεροί αν κάθε χρόνο 600 οικογένειες ανταποκρίνονται στο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς. Εάν κοιτάξετε το διάγραμμα των Υποσχέσεων μπορείτε επίσης να δείτε με τα ίδια σας τα μάτια ότι οι περισσότεροι από τους ενορίτες μας δίνουν λιγότερα από 200,00 δολάρια το χρόνο στο Πρόγραμμα. Το ποσοστό αυτό είναι πολύ χαμηλότερο ακόμη και από αυτό το χαμηλό ποσοστό του 1% που προτείνουμε. Τώρα μπορεί να πείτε ότι έχουμε μια Κοινότητα ηλικιωμένων και ότι οι ηλικιωμένοι μας δεν έχουν τα χρήματα

Μήνυμα Από τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρικό (cont.)

για αυτό το 1% τοις εκατό. Το καταλαβαίνω πολύ καλά και δεν περιμένω από τους ηλικιωμένους να δώσουν περισσότερα από όσα μπορούν να δώσουν. Δεν γράφω όμως αυτό το άρθρο για τους ηλικιωμένους, γράφω αυτό το άρθρο για τους νέους της ενορίας που στέκουν καλά οικονομικά. Ας δούμε τι λέει η Αγία Γραφή για τη δωρεά. Το Ευαγγέλιό μας προκαλεί επανειλημμένα να δίνουμε γενναιόδωρα, όπως γράφει ο Απόστολος Παύλος. «Όπως υπερέχετε σε οτιδήποτε άλλο με πίστη, με γνώση, με σοβαρότητα και με αγάπη, βλέπετε ότι υπερέχετε επίσης στη χάρη της δοξασίας» 2 Κορινθίους 8: 7. Ο Άγιος Παύλος μας λέει ότι πρέπει να επιστρέψουμε πίσω στο Θεό αυτό που μας έχει ήδη δώσει.

Ας δούμε λοιπόν τι είναι η Οικονομική Εθελοντική Προσφορά. Οικονόμος είναι κάποιος στον οποίο έχει ανατεθεί η ιδιοκτησία κάποιου άλλου και έχει την ευθύνη της διαχείρισης του προς το συμφέρον του ιδιοκτήτη. Επομένως, αυτό σημαίνει ότι ο Θεός έχει αναθέσει σε όλους μας εδώ στον Άγιο Νικόλαο την ευθύνη να κρατάμε ανοικτές τις πόρτες της Εκκλησίας. Όλα τα ακίνητα που έχουμε ανήκουν στον Θεό, αλλά εμείς είμαστε οι διαχειριστές Του. Η αποστολή μας ως οικονόμοι της Εκκλησίας είναι να επιστρέψουμε ένα μέρος των πολλών δώρων Του με τα οποία ευλόγησε το καθένα μας, πράγμα που σημαίνει ότι πρέπει να αφιερώσουμε τον Χρόνο, τα Ταλέντα και τα Οικονομικά μας, που με τη σειρά τους, μας δίνουν τη δυνατότητα να επιτελούμε το έργο του Χριστού πάνω στη γη, μέσω των πολλών αποστολών, των υπηρεσιών μας και άλλων προγραμμάτων προβολής. Εκτελούμε την αποστολή της Εκκλησίας του Χριστού

προσφέροντας τις υπηρεσίες μας στην Εκκλησία μας. Η λίστα αυτή περιλαμβάνει τη Θεία Λειτουργία, τα Μυστήρια, τη Χορωδία, το Κατηχητικό Σχολείο, το Ελληνικό Σχολείο, το Κοινοτικό Γραφείο, τη GOYA, JOY, YAL, HOPE, τα Φυλλάδια της Κυριακής, το Μηνιαίο Ενημερωτικό Δελτίο, την Ιστοσελίδα, τις Κτιριακές Εγκαταστάσεις, Μισθούς, Συντήρηση και Ασφάλειες. Εάν έπρεπε να αναφέρω τις κτιριακές που κάναμε τα τελευταία χρόνια, θα χρειαζόμουν άλλα δύο φύλλα σ' αυτό το άρθρο. Το απόλυτο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς είναι να χρηματοδοτεί το 100% του προϋπολογισμού λειτουργίας μέσω των συνεισφορών του Προγράμματος. Αυτό θα μας επιτρέψει να εξοφλήσουμε το δάνειο, να βελτιώσουμε τις εγκαταστάσεις μας και να βελτιώσουμε τα οικονομικά που απαιτούνται στην ενορία μας.

Αυτός είναι ο λόγος που δίνουμε στο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς μας, επειδή πρέπει η Εκκλησία να συνεχίσει, όχι μόνο για τα παιδιά μας, αλλά για όλους τους νέους ή τους ηλικιωμένους. Η Εκκλησία μας είναι η πηγή της ζωής στον Χριστό, το όχημα της σωτηρίας μας. Είναι το τι είμαστε σαν Χριστιανοί. Δίνουμε στην Εθελοντική μας Προσφορά επειδή χρειαζόμαστε την Εκκλησία περισσότερο από ό, τι η Εκκλησία χρειάζεται εμάς. Φανταστείτε αν δεν είχαμε τις εκκλησίες μας. Τι χάος θα προκαλούσε στις ελληνικές κοινότητες. Χωρίς την Εκκλησία χάνουμε τον πολιτισμό μας, την κληρονομιά μας και την πίστη μας. Πού θα πηγαίναμε να ασκήσουμε την πίστη μας, να προσκυνήσουμε τον Κύριο μας, να βαφτίσουμε τα παιδιά μας, να

παντρέψουμε τα παιδιά μας και στο τέλος να κηδεύσουμε τους αγαπημένους μας με μια αξιοπρεπή χριστιανική ταφή. Όταν χτυπούμε στις πόρτες του Αγίου Νικολάου, οι πόρτες του είναι πάντα ανοιχτές για μας, μέρα και νύχτα.

Φανταστείτε αν ερχόσαστε στην εκκλησία μια μέρα και χτυπούσατε τις πόρτες και οι πόρτες ήταν κλειστές για πάντα, ποιες θα ήταν οι προσωπικές σας εντυπώσεις. "Πώς συνέβη αυτό;" Μπορεί να συμβεί σε εμάς, όπως συνέβη και σε άλλες κοινότητες σαν τη δική μας. Είναι δική μας ευθύνη να κρατήσουμε την Κοινότητα του Αγίου Νικολάου ζωντανή και ευημερούσα. Αλλά αυτό θα συμβεί μόνο όταν όλοι είμαστε ενωμένοι και εργαζόμαστε σκληρά για να τη στηρίξουμε, για χάρη των παιδιών μας και το μέλλον της Κοινότητας μας. Επομένως, αν βρίσκεστε σε αυτή την κατηγορία ανθρώπων που δεν συμμετέχουν στο πρόγραμμα της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς ήρθε η ώρα να ξεκινήσετε τη συμμετοχή σας. Εάν επιθυμείτε να λάβετε την Κάρτα Υπόσχεσης της Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς, επικοινωνήστε με το Γραφείο της Εκκλησίας και θα σας την στείλουν. Τέλος θα ήθελα να ευχαριστήσω όλους τους Οικονόμους μας που κάθε χρόνο πιστά δίνουν από την καρδιά τους στο Πρόγραμμα. Σας ευχαριστώ για την υποστήριξή σας και ελπίζω ότι μπορούμε να συνεχίσουμε την αποστολή του Χριστού, εδώ στη γη ... να διαδώσουμε τα καλά νέα του Κυρίου και Σωτήρα μας Ιησού Χριστού σε άλλους που έχουν βαθιά ανάγκη στην πίστη τους.

PAN-HELLENIC DANCE GROUP

The lessons for the Saint Nicholas Pan-Hellenic Dance Group are continuing. The meeting and practice day is every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Community SOcial Hall. We accept new members, come and join us every Wednesday. We urge and encourage all those who love to dance to join the Pan-Hellenic Dance Group. Our Dance instructor is Mrs. Efi Karabelas. For registration or more information please contact and talk to Mrs. Anastasia (Stasa) Hatziefthimiou Loukaki, phone 443-845-8903.

ΧΟΡΕΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ "ΠΑΝ-ΧΕΛΛΕΝΙΚ"

Τα μαθήματα χορού του Χορευτικού Ομίλου του Αγίου Νικολάου ΠΑΝ-ΧΕΛΛΕΝΙΚ, συνεχίζονται. Οι πρόβες γίνονται κάθε Τετάρτη βράδυ στις 7:00 μ.μ. στη Κοινοτική Αίθουσα. Δεχόμαστε νέες εγγραφές μελών κάθε Τετάρτη. Προτρέπουμε και ενθαρρύνουμε όσες και όσους αγαπούν το χορό να ενταχθούν στο γκρουπ του Παν-Χελλένικ. Δασκάλα του Παν-Χελλένικ είναι η κ. Έφη Καράμπελα. Για εγγραφές ή περισσότερες πληροφορίες τηλεφωνήστε και μιλήστε στο τηλ. 443-845-8903 με την κ. Αναστασία (Στάσα) Χατζηευθυμίου Λουκάκη.



Message from

DEMOS ANASTASIADES, PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT / ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟ

Dear Parishioners, and Friends of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church,

It is time again for the St. Nicholas Annual Greek Folk Festival! June is a special month for us when we all come together to support our church and share our faith, traditions, culture, delicious Greek food, music and dances with our fellow neighbors and friends. Once again, our Festival will extend from the front of our church, along Ponca Street and end at our Greektown Square and Event Center.

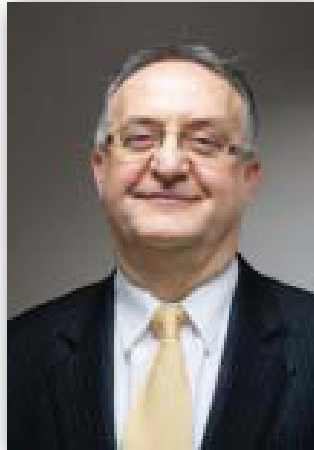
A festival of this magnitude requires many dedicated individuals and groups to become a success. A huge thank you goes out to the following:

- our Almighty God, who has been shepherding us in our Faith and strengthening us in our plans to promote His Word through the Church.
- our spiritual leader, Rev. Father Michael L. Pastrikos, for the faith he has placed in us and for his willingness to lead us onto the road of salvation;
- all volunteers who have given their time, talent and treasure every day for the growth and continuation of our Saint Nicholas Church;
- an especially BIG THANK YOU to the individuals who have continued to plan and work daily for the success of our Greek Folk Festival.
- the advisors and leaders of our ministries: GOYA, JOY, PTA, Sunday School, Hellenic Golden Coins, Ladies Philoptochos Society, Stewardship Committee, Entertainment Committee, Panhellenic Dance Group, Plateia Planning Committee and Staff, Diamonds, Ladies and United Chios Societies, the Rhodian Society and many more who never say, "no" when asked for their assistance;
- my fellow brothers and sisters on the Parish Council who have been by my side as Parish Council President;
- our church secretaries and office staff, sexton, chanter, assistant chanters, organist, church choir, altar boys, principal and the teaching staff of our Greek School and Bilingual Learning Center for their dedication and zeal in preserving our Greek language and culture;
- the many community businesses and individuals who sponsor our Festival program booklet and to those who not only support us this weekend, but throughout the year. This support allows us to share our faith and culture with those outside our community, but more importantly, helps us to expand our ministries within our church to our youth and elderly. Again, thank you all for your continued generosity.

We hope that you can join us for this year's festival. We are sure that you will love sharing and celebrating our Greek culture, food, pastries and drinks as well as our famous hospitality.

Kalo Glendi! Have a Great Time!

Demos Anastasiades, Parish Council President



Αγαπητά μέλη, και φίλοι της Ελληνικής Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας του Αγίου Νικολάου,

Νάμαστε και πάλι έτοιμοι για το Ετήσιο Ελληνικό Λαϊκό Φεστιβάλ του Αγίου Νικολάου! Ο Ιούνιος είναι ένας ιδιαίτερος μήνας για εμάς διότι συναντιόμαστε όλοι μαζί για να υποστηρίξουμε την Εκκλησία μας και να μοιραστούμε με γείτονες και φίλους την πίστη μας, τις παραδόσεις, τον πολιτισμό, τα νόστιμα ελληνικά φαγητά, τη μουσική και τους χορούς μας. Για άλλη μια φορά, το Φεστιβάλ μας θα εκτείνεται από το μπροστινό μέρος της εκκλησίας μας, κατά μήκος της οδού Ponca και θα τελειώνει στην Πλατεία, στο Κέντρο Εκδηλώσεων.

Ένα Φεστιβάλ αυτού του μεγέθους απαιτεί πολλά αφοσιωμένα άτομα και αφοσιωμένες ομάδες για να έχει επιτυχία. Ένα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ απευθύνω :

- Στο Παντοδύναμο Θεό μας, ο οποίος μας καθοδηγεί στην πίστη μας και μας ενδυναμώνει στα προγράμματά μας για την εξάπλωση του Λόγου Του μέσω της Εκκλησίας.
- Στο πνευματικό ηγέτη μας, τον Αιδεσ. Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Λ. Παστρικό, για την εμπιστοσύνη του σε μας και για την προθυμία του να μας οδηγήσει στο δρόμο της σωτηρίας.
- Σε όλους τους εθελοντές που δίνουν καθημερινά το χρόνο, το ταλέντο και τα χρήματά τους για την ανάπτυξη και συνέχιση της Εκκλησίας του Αγίου Νικολάου.
- ένα ιδιαίτερα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ απευθύνεται στα άτομα εκείνα που συνεχίζουν να προγραμματίζουν και να εργάζονται καθημερινά για την επιτυχία του Ελληνικού μας Φεστιβάλ.
- Στους υπεύθυνους και τους συμβούλους των αποστολών μας: GOYA, JOY, PTA, Κατηχητικό Σχολείο, Χορευτικό Όμιλο Ελληνικά Χρυσά Φλουριά, κυρίες Φιλοπτώχου, Επιτροπή Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς, Επιτροπή Ψυχαγωγίας, Χορευτικό Όμιλο ΠΑΝ-ΧΕΛΛΗΝΙΚ, στην Επιτροπή Προγραμματισμού της Πλατείας και στο προσωπικό της, Διαμάντια, στα Χιακά Σωματεία Κυριών και Ηνωμένα Χιακά Σωματεία, το Ροδιακό Σύλλογο και πολλούς άλλους που δεν λένε ποτέ "όχι" όταν τους ζητήθηκε η βοήθεια τους.
- στους συνάδελφους μου, άνδρες και γυναίκες, του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου, οι οποίοι στάθηκαν στο πλευρό μου ως Πρόεδρου του Συμβουλίου.
- Στις γραμματείες της Εκκλησίας και το προσωπικό του γραφείου μας, τον Νεωκόρο μας, τον ψάλτη, τους βοηθούς ψάλτες, τον Χειριστή του Εκκλησιαστικού Οργάνου, την εκκλησιαστική χορωδία, τους Ιερόπαιδες, την Διευθύντρια και το διδακτικό προσωπικό του Ελληνικού Σχολείου και του Δίγλωσσου Κέντρου Μάθησης για την αφοσίωση και το ζήλο τους για τη διατήρηση της ελληνικής μας γλώσσας και πολιτισμού.
- Στις πολλές κοινοτικές επιχειρήσεις και τα άτομα που υποστηρίζουν το Διαφημιστικό Άλμπουμ του Φεστιβάλ μας και σε όσους όχι μόνο μας υποστηρίζουν αυτό το Σαββατοκύριακο, αλλά όλο το χρόνο. Αυτή η στήριξη μας επιτρέπει να μοιραζόμαστε την πίστη και τον πολιτισμό μας με εκείνους εκτός της κοινότητάς μας, αλλά το σημαντικότερο, μας βοηθά να επεκτείνουμε τις Αποστολές μας στην εκκλησία μας στους νέους και τους ηλικιωμένους μας. Και πάλι, σας ευχαριστώ όλους για τη συνεχή γενναιοδωρία σας.

Ελπίζουμε ότι θα είστε μαζί μας και στο φετινό Ελληνικό Λαϊκό μας Πανηγύρι. Είμαστε σίγουροι ότι θα αγαπήσετε την ανταλλαγή και την ανάδειξη του Ελληνικού μας πολιτισμού, τα φαγητά, γλυκά και ποτά μας, καθώς και τη διάσημη φιλοξενία μας.

ΚΑΛΑ ΝΑ ΠΕΡΑΣΕΤΕ!!

Δήμος Αναστασιάδης - Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου.

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In memory of Dr. Nicolas Papadimitriou

Mrs. Erma Papadimitriou
Dr. George Dimitri

In memory of Kalliope Christakou

The Christakou Family
Ms. Maria Salpeas

In memory of LEMONIA STAVROU

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Avgerinos
Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Cornias



In memory of George Soulikas

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Avgerinos
Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Cornias

In memory of Eleni Forakis

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Avgerinos

In memory of Thrasivoulos (Lucky) Christ

The Toutsis Family

In memory of Steve Tetteris

Kenneth & Margo Gudaitis

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE



Parishioners attend a Memorial Day service by Fr. Michael Pastrikos, held at Oak Lawn Cemetery on Monday, May 29th.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PROTOPRESBYTER FR. MICHAEL PASTRIKOS, PASTOR Tel: 410-633-5020 • Fax: 410-633-4352 • Cell: 443-742-8314

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MARIA SALPEAS

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NURSERY AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN:
LIA KARAGIANOPOULOS, ROSE KOSTAKIS
KINDERGARTEN: YANA KARABELAS, AIDE-NIKI CANNING
1ST GRADE: PENNY GERAPETRITIS, AIDE-LEMONIA
2ND GRADE: NIKOL AKALESTOS, JENNA STAKIAS
3RD GRADE: KRISTINA ANASTASIADES, 3RD GRADE
4TH GRADE: GEORGE KARAGIANOPOULOS,
AIDE-ELENI PIKOUNIS
5TH GRADE: STAVROULA SAKELAKIS,

SUNDAY SCHOOL continued

AIDE-MARKELLA CORNIAS
6TH GRADE: MARIA FILIPPOU,
AIDE-FLORA GIAKOUMAKIS
7TH GRADE: CHRISSY COSSIS,
8TH GRADE: FOULA PARAGIOS
9TH GRADE: PHAEDRA AVGERINOS
10TH GRADE: VASILI PHILIPPOU

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EIRINI ANASTASIOU-TSIATSOLI
ASIMINA BLETSA-FILIPPAKIS
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DANCE TEACHER: ZENOVIA (JENNA) D. STAKIAS

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: **KOINONIA DEADLINE**

Please submit your article(s) to the Koinonia staff by the deadline stated below:

ISSUE MONTH: JULY/AUGUST 2017 -
SUBMISSIONS DUE: JUNE 20th

Please email your article(s) to:
msalpeas@stnicholasmd.org

Articles are due no later than the 20th of each month. If they are received after the deadline they will be published in the following month's issue.

All articles must be proofread and color corrected prior to submission.

Holy Pentecost

Courtesy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
www.goarch.org

Introduction

The Feast of Holy Pentecost is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter) and ten days after the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. The Feast is always celebrated on a Sunday.

The Feast commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, a feast of the Jewish tradition. It also celebrates the establishment of the Church through the preaching of the Apostles and the baptism of the thousands who on that day believed in the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Feast is also seen as the culmination of the revelation of the Holy Trinity.



23:17-20; Deuteronomy 16:9-10).

Since the Jewish Feast of Pentecost was a great pilgrimage feast, many people from throughout the Roman Empire were gathered in Jerusalem on this day. When the people in Jerusalem heard the sound, they came together and heard their own languages being spoken by the Apostles (Acts 2:5-6). The people were amazed, knowing that some of those speaking were Galileans, and not men who would normally speak many different languages. They wondered what this meant, and some even thought the Apostles were drunk (Acts 2:7-13).

Peter, hearing these remarks, stood up and addressed the crowd. He preached to the people

regarding the Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He spoke about Jesus Christ and His death and glorious Resurrection. Great conviction fell upon the people, and they asked the Apostles, "What shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38-39).

The Bible records that on that day about three thousand were baptized. Following, the book of Acts states that the newly baptized continued daily to hear the teaching of the Apostles, as the early Christians met together for fellowship, the breaking of bread, and for prayer. Many wonderful signs and miracles were done through the Apostles, and the Lord added to the Church daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:42-47).

(continued pg. 9)

Historical Background

The story of Pentecost is found in the book of The Acts of the Apostles. In Chapter two we are told that the Apostles of our Lord were gathered together in one place. Suddenly, a sound came from heaven like a rushing wind, filling the entire house where they were sitting. Then, tongues of fire appeared, and one sat upon each one of Apostles. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as directed by the Spirit (Acts 2:1-4).

This miraculous event occurred on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, celebrated by the Jews on the fiftieth day after the Passover as the culmination of the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22; Deuteronomy 16:10). The Feast of Weeks began on the third day after the Passover with the presentation of the first harvest sheaves to God, and it concluded on Pentecost with the offering of two loaves of unleavened bread, representing the first products of the harvest (Leviticus

PENTECOST - SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH

(continued from pg. 8)

Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Feast of Pentecost is known as “The Descent of the Holy Spirit”. It is an icon of bold colors of red and gold signifying that this is a great event. The movement of the icon is from the top to the bottom. At the top of the icon is a semicircle with rays coming from it. The rays are pointing toward the Apostles, and the tongues of fire are seen descending upon each one of them signifying the descent of the Holy Spirit.

The building in the background of the icon represents the upper room where the Disciples of Christ gathered after the Ascension. The Apostles are shown seated in a semicircle which shows the unity of the Church. Included in the group of the Apostles is Saint Paul, who, though not present with the others on the day of Pentecost, became an Apostle of the Church and the greatest missionary. Also included are the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, holding books of the Gospel, while the other Apostles are holding scrolls that represent the teaching authority given to them by Christ.

In the center of the icon below the Apostles, a royal figure is seen against a dark background. This is a symbolic figure, Cosmos, representing the people of the world living in darkness and sin, and involved in pagan worship. However, the figure carries in his hands a cloth containing scrolls which represent the teaching of the Apostles. The tradition of the Church holds that the Apostles carried the message of the Gospel to all parts of the world.

In the icon of Pentecost we see the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, sent down upon the Apostles who will teach the nations and baptize them in the name of the Holy Trinity. Here we see that the Church is brought together and sustained in unity through the presence and work of the Holy Spirit, that the Spirit guides the Church in the missionary endeavor throughout the world, and that the Spirit nurtures the Body of Christ, the Church, in truth and love.

Orthodox Christian Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost

This great Feast of the Church is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom on the Sunday that is the fiftieth day after the celebration of Pascha. The Liturgy is conducted on the day of the Feast, and is preceded the evening before by a Great Vespers service and on the

morning of the Feast by the Matins service. On the day of the Feast a Vespers service is conducted that includes the kneeling prayers. These prayers mark the beginning of the practice of kneeling during the Liturgy at the time when the holy gifts of bread and wine are consecrated as the body and blood of Christ. The practice of kneeling has been suspended during the Paschal season. On the Monday following the Feast, the Divine Liturgy is conducted in commemoration of the All-holy and Life-creating and All-powerful Spirit, Who is God, and One of the Trinity, and of one honor and one essence and one glory with the Father and the Son (From the Synaxarion of the Feast).

Scripture readings for the Feast are the following: At the Saturday Vespers: Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29; Joel 2:23-32; Ezekiel 36:24-28. At the Orthros (Matins): John 20:19-23. At the Pentecost Sunday Divine Liturgy: Acts 2:1-11; John 7:37-52, 8:12. At the Divine Liturgy on the Monday of the Holy Spirit: Ephesians 5:8-19; Matthew 18:10-20.

Prayer of the Holy Spirit

Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of life: come and abide in us, cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One.

Hymns of the Feast

Apolytikion (Plagal Tone Four)

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fisherman all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them, drawing all the world into Your net. O Loving One, glory be to You.

Kontakion (Plagal Tone Four)

When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men at Babel, He divided the nations. When He dispensed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity, and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit.

H O L Y L A N D P I L G R I M A G E

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS: ALL ABOARD TO A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!



We are very pleased to announce, that the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Baltimore, Maryland is planning a trip once again to the Holy Lands (Jerusalem). Fr. Michael has received many calls from parishioners asking questions about the Holy Land trip. He is very grateful for the interest and enthusiasm that the people have expressed in the last few months. What a beautiful opportunity to follow the footsteps of our Lord, and to visit the land where the Old Testament Prophets and Saints of our faith lived. But in order for this excursion to be successful we really need to do our basic homework. Fr. Michael has taken many groups to the Holy Lands throughout his ministry and he knows through experience that there is a lot of groundwork to be done to prepare for this trip. The first step that we take is to schedule a meeting date for everyone interested. So the first scheduled meeting will take place at the Church on Monday, June 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. This will give everyone a consensus of what time of the year is desirable and where you would like to visit. There are two options on the table that we need to discuss together. This trip will also have an option to also visit Greece. To give you some insight on when we are planning this trip, it will be on October 1, thru the 17th of 2017.

All the details of this trip will be discussed in our first meeting. I hope you will join us on this exciting pilgrimage. If you have any friends or relatives that you think would like to join us on this trip, please convey this information to them.

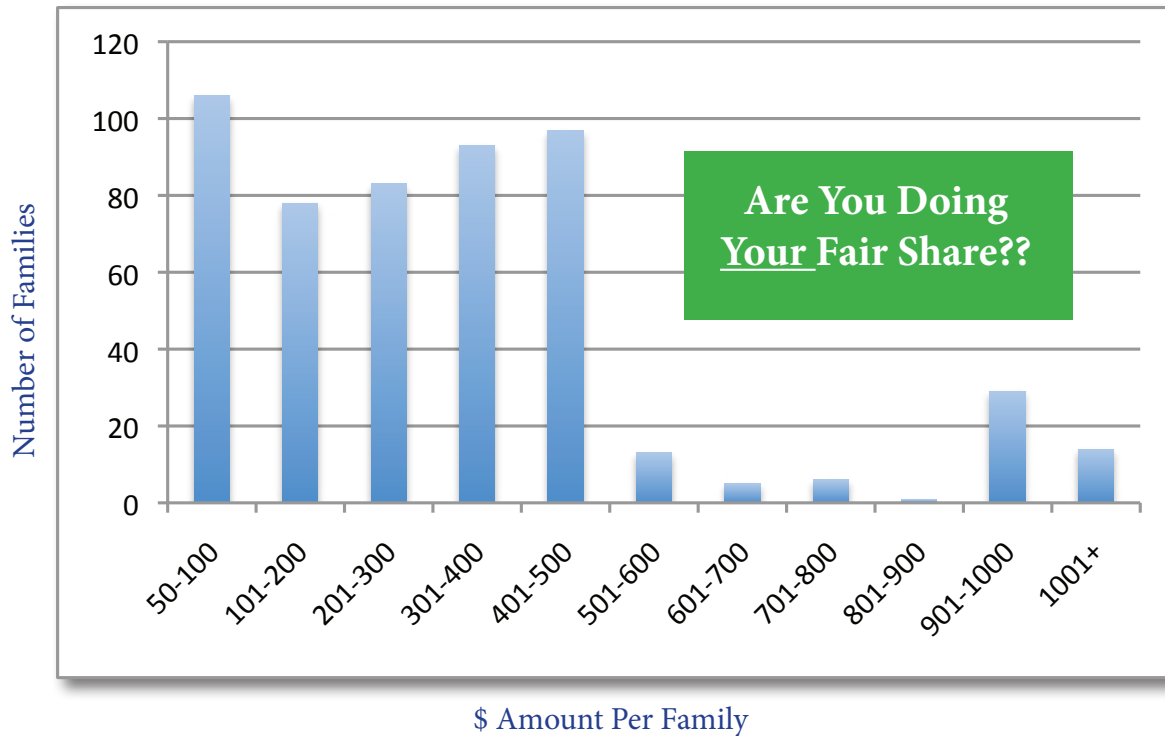
If you are interested and cannot make the first meeting please contact Fr. Michael at 443-742-8314.

Hoping to see everyone there, be safe and enjoy the summer months ahead.

With Love in Christ,

Fr. Michael L. Pastrikos
Protopresbyter

2016 STEWARDSHIP TOTALS



2017 Stewardship Challenge - ONE PERCENT

Stewardship only covers about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the church's expenses per year.

We are asking each family to donate only
ONE PERCENT of their annual income to help!

Do you make \$30,000 per year? That's only \$300....

How about \$50,000? Your donation would be \$500.

\$100,000 or more? \$1,000 would make sure a difference!

We challenge each family to commit to their **1%** !!

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FOUR DAYS OF NON-STOP GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING AND FUN!



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK FOLK FESTIVAL

THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

JUNE 8, 9, 10, 11

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Free Admission & Parking 410-633-5020

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners,

In an effort to accommodate everyone, the Parish Council has taken some measures to ensure adequate and sufficient parking. Many of you are already aware of the signs posted in the parking lot which clearly indicate the rules of parking. They are as follows:

PRIVATE PARKING

**Parking lot is owned by St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
& Greektown Square & Event Center**

NO OVERNIGHT PARKING PERMITTED

**from the hours of
2 am to 7 am**

SUNDAYS

7 am to 2 pm

Church Parishioner Parking Only

All violators will be towed at vehicle owner's expense

NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PERMITTED

Parishioners must have a St. Nicholas parking permit sticker placed on their car's windshield. You can obtain a parking permit from the church office by paying your 2017 stewardship. However, please note that even with a parking permit, if you park your car overnight in the lot, it will be towed. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Neither the church secretary nor Father Michael have the authority to exempt anyone from adhering to the parking lot rules.

With Love In Christ,
Demos Anastasiades
St. Nicholas Parish Council President

The Sacredness of Rest

by Archbishop Demetrios

Courtesy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
www.goarch.org

This month of June, we joyously cross the threshold of the long-awaited summer season. For many of us, the summer months provide an opportunity to take a respite from our labors, a welcome invitation to pause from our work or studies, and to consider the vital role of rest in our lives.

Our cherished time away from work grants us the benefit of revitalizing ourselves once again, allowing us to return to our labors with renewed minds and spirits. We

human beings are cyclic creatures, repeating patterns of labor and rest on an annual basis, in harmony with the seasons, so that our lives may be filled with order, rhythm, and structure. The healthy interrelationship between labor and rest is widely affirmed within our contemporary society; our resting from the burdens of work, anxiety, and stress contributes to productive work environments as well as healthy relationships.

Understood as a theological concept, rest is of far more than mere practical or functional significance, however. There is a sacred dimension to rest, a model offered to us by God, Himself, Who according to the Bible “rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done” (Genesis 2:2). This supreme model suggests that rest is far more than a mere cessation of worldly activity; rather, rest is a spiritually imitative act of profound reverence for our Creator. To rest is to recognize with humility our privileged place in the grand scheme of God’s Creation, to participate in His divine creative act through our human acts of worship, praise, and love.

Thus, our resting from our labors during the summer

period can never translate into a “vacation” or departure from our worship and praise of God. Quite the contrary, our resting from our labors grants us especially

refreshing opportunities for spiritual renewal, occasions to retreat away from the demands of the workplace so that we may revitalize our souls through prayer and the quiet contemplation of God.

We are given the perfect example of spiritual retreat in the person of

our Lord Jesus Christ, Who relieved His intense labors of ministry with the spiritual benefits of rest as an opportunity of being alone with God the Father. On so many occasions, we find Christ retreating from society in order to find rest and strength through prayer and the contemplation of the will of His Heavenly Father. His regular act of rest was, in and of itself, a spiritually invigorating act, rooted in faithful religious observance, steadfast obedience to God, and undying love for all humanity.

As we enter the summer season, I pray that we may especially remember the sacred dimension of rest, and the tremendous opportunities for spiritual renewal that our periods of vacation present to us. May God, the Creator of all humankind, keep you forever in His loving protection; and may He transform your time of vacation into a time of spiritual and bodily renewal.





Monday, May 1st at 7:00 p.m. Philoptochos held Elections. The newly elected board will be Katina Fotinos, Maria Georgaki, Patty Kafallas, Nora Kefalas, Stella Koukides, Maria Koutsouri, Eva Nychis, Zoe Perdikakis, Evagelia Saliaris, Renee Themelis, Tsambika Triantafilos and Irene Vasiliou. We would like to thank Tina Harris for her dedication and service to Philoptochos and are sure even though she is no longer on the board her heart is still devoted and will continue to work towards the missions of Philoptochos.

On Saturday, May 6th we hosted our first Mothers Day Derby Brunch. Thank you to all those that supported by attending and generous donations. It was truly enjoyed by all and was a great success! So mark your calendars for the Saturday before Mothers Day Next year God Willing! May 8th in New Jersey we represented our chapter at the Metropolitan of New Jersey Clergy / Laity Assembly / Philoptochos Convention. Many Blessings and greetings from our His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos as well as our Metropolitan President Anne Michals. Our chapter had donated 100 bottles of shampoos that were part of items used to fill 100 duffel bags with essential items for girls that are saved from Human Trafficking.

Sunday, May 14th Mothers Day we honored three Mothers from our community. Mrs. Metaxia Chrisomalis, Mrs. Despina Kostalas and Mrs. Harikli Mavromoustakas Sigambris. We wish them many Blessed years filled with Health and Happiness. To all Mothers we hope your Mothers Day was a Happy one and to those Mothers no longer with us, May their memory be eternal.

The following Memorial Scholarships were awarded. Thank to the families and May their memory be eternal!

Thomas Lambros Memorial Scholarship awarded to:

Flora Giakoumakis and Konstantinos Loukas

Antonio's Nicolaidis Memorial Scholarship awarded to : Irene Christ

Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Memorial Scholarship in memory of: Vasiliou Tsambikos, Chrysa Minadakis, George Koutsounouris, Nicoletta Bournousouzi, George Stakias, Meropi Sofokleous, Antonio's Nicolaidis, Despina Siskos, Michael Kolivos and Bill Diakokominos - Awarded to: Katerina Ieromonachos

Philoptochos awarded two other scholarships to : Irene Angelos and Foulia Paragios

Congratulations to all the recipients and continued successes in their future.

DONATIONS: Mrs. Garifalia Conway, Mr. And Mrs. Panteli Kostalas, Mr. And Mrs. John Sigambris

In memory of Evaggelia Agapios: Mr. And Mrs. Ioannis Paragios

As the summer begins and everyone is getting ready for the school year to end, vacations to start, we would like to thank everyone who supported Philoptochos and the fundraisers of the Philoxenia House either by your generous donations, attending a function or even by your kind words and encouragement it was greatly appreciated! Realization and understanding of Philoptochos is when you see the faces and smiles of those you help through your generosity. It's been a humbling experience and an honor to serve Philoptochos. Have a safe and happy summer!

Την Δευτέρα, 1η Μαΐου στις 7:00 μ.μ. διεξήχθησαν οι Εκλογές της Φιλοπτώχου προς ανάδειξη νέου Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου. Τα νεοεκλεγέντα μέλη είναι : Κατίνα Φωτεινού, Μαρία Γιωργάκη, Παναγιώτα Καφάλλα, Νόρα Κεφάλια, Στέλλα Κουκίδου, Μαρία Κουτσούρη, Ευαγγελία Νύχη, Ζωή Περδικάκη, Ευαγγελία Σαλιάρη, Ρενέ Θέμελη, Τσαμπίκα Τριανταφύλλου, και Ειρήνη Βασιλείου. Θα θέλαμε επ' ευκαιρία να ευχαριστήσουμε την Αθηνά (Τίνα) Χαρχαρίδου για την αφοσίωσή της και τις υπηρεσίες της στη Φιλοπτώχο και είμαστε βέβαιες, ότι ακόμη αν και δεν είναι πια μέλος του Συμβουλίου της Φιλοπτώχου η καρδιά της είναι ακόμη εδώ και θα συνεχίσει να εργάζεται για τις αποστολές της Φιλοπτώχου.

Το Σάββατο, 6 Μαΐου εορτάσαμε την Ημέρα της Μητέρας με Derby Branch. Ευχαριστούμε όλους όσοι παρευρέθηκαν και όσοι έκαναν γενναϊόδωρες δωρεές. Όλοι ευχαριστήθηκαν και είχε μεγάλη επιτυχία. Σημειώστε το λοιπόν στο ημερολόγιό σας για του χρόνου, Θεού θέλοντος, το Σάββατο πριν την Ημέρα της Μητέρας.

Στις 8 Μαΐου αντιπροσωπεύσαμε το Τμήμα μας στο Κληρικολαϊκό Συνέδριο της Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης και στη Συνέλευση των Φιλοπτώχων. Λάβαμε πολλές ενθουσιάζουσες από το Πανιερώτατο Μητροπολίτη Ευάγγελο και από την Πρόεδρο της Φιλοπτώχου Άννα Μάικελς. Το Τμήμα μας δώρησε 100 μπουτιλιές Σαμπουάν που συνετέλεσαν στο να γεμίσουν τα 100 καλάθια με τα απαραίτητα είδη υγιεινής για κορίτσια που σώθηκαν από το Ανθρώπινο Εμπόριο.

Κυριακή 14 Μαΐου, Ημέρα της Μητέρας, τιμήσαμε τρεις Μητέρες από την Κοινότητά μας. Την κ. Μεταξία Χρυσομάλλη, την κα. Δέσποινα Κωστώλα, και την κα. Χαρίλεια Μαυρομούστακου Συγκαμρή. Τους ευχόμαστε έτη πολλά γεμάτα ηγεία και ευτυχία. Προς όλες τις Μητέρες ελπίζουμε ότι η Ημέρα της Μητέρας ήταν χαρούμενη και σε εκείνες τις μητέρες που έφυγαν από τη ζωή ευχόμαστε η μνήμη τους να είναι αιωνία.

Απονομήθηκαν οι ακόλουθες Υποτροφίες εις μνήμη προσφιλών ατόμων. Ευχαριστούμε τις οικογένειες και ευχόμαστε οη μνήμη των να είναι αιωνία.

Υποτροφία εις μνήμη του Θωμά Λάμπρου - Στην Φλόρα Γιακουμάκη και στο Κωνσταντίνο Λουκά.

Υποτροφία εις μνήμη του Αντωνίου Νικολαΐδη - Στην Ειρήνη Χριστοφή

Υποτροφία της Φιλοπτώχου του Αγίου Νικολάου εις μνήμη των Βασιλείου Τσαμπίκου, Χρύσας Μιναδάκη, Γεωργίου Κουτσουρούρη, Νικολέττας Μπουρνούσουζη, Γεωργίου Στακιά, Μερόπης Σοφοκλέους, Αντωνίου Νικολαΐδη, Δέσποινας Σίσκου, Μιχαήλ Κολιβιά, και Βασιλείου Λιακοκομηνού : Κατερίνα Ιερομονάχου.

Η Φιλοπτώχος απένειμε ακόμη δύο υποτροφίες προς τις: Ειρήνη Αγγελή και Φούλια Παραγιού.

Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους τους παραλήπτες και τους ευχόμαστε συνεχείς επιτυχίες στο μέλλον τους.

Δωρεές : κα. Γαριφαλιά Κάνγουεϊ, Ο κος και κα. Παντελή Κωστώλα, ο κος και κα. Ιωάννη Συγκαμρή.

Εμνήμη της Ευαγγελίας Αγάπιου: κος. Και κα. Ιωάννη Παραγιού.

Καθώς το καλοκαίρι ξεκινά και όλοι ετοιμάζονται για το τέλος της σχολικής χρονιάς, για να ξεκινήσουν τις διακοπές, θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε όλους όσους υποστήριξαν τη Φιλοπτώχο είτε με τους εράνους προς το Σπίτι της Φιλοξενίας, είτε με τις γενναϊόδωρες δωρεές τους, συμμετέχοντας σε κάποια εκδήλωση, ή ακόμα με τα καλά τους Λόγια και ενθάρρυνση, εκτιμήθηκε πολύ! Υλοποίηση και κατανόηση της Φιλοπτώχου είναι όταν βλέπεις στα πρόσωπα τα χαμόγελα από αυτούς που βοηθάς με τη γενναϊοδωρία σας. Είναι ταπεινή εμπειρία και τιμή να υπηρετείς στη Φιλοπτώχο. Σας εύχομαι ένα ασφαλές και χαρούμενο καλοκαίρι!



EARLY EDUCATION CENTER NEWS

St. Nicholas Bilingual Early Education Center Now Open and Enrolling Infants through 5 years olds. Contact Director Sophia Moshoniotis at 518-660-5039 to schedule a tour of the center and register your child. Spaces are filling up for a September, 2017 placement as well as Spring and Summer, 2017.



Infant 6 weeks old – 5 year olds

502 South Ponca Street
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-633-5020

Sophias Moshoniotis (Director) 518-860-5039

NOW HIRING!!

- Certified pre-school teachers - 90 hour certificate required
- Certified infant teacher with 90 hour/45 hour infant certificate required

DIAMONDS NEWS

On Saturday morning, November 18, 2017, we plan to go to the Rainbow Dinner Theatre, in Paradise PA, to see a comedy show. For information please contact Rose Tsakalos at 410-282-2940. Price per person \$ 85.00. includes, transportation, Luncheon and the ticket for the Theatre. If you wish to attend, you need to give a deposit of \$ 20.00. More information to be announced at the meeting.

Thank you,
Rose Tsakalos - President
Saint Nicholas DIAMONDS

Το Σάββατο, 18 Νοεμβρίου, 2017, προγραμματίζουμε ταξίδι στην Πενσυλβάνια, στο Rainbow Dinner Theatre, να παρακολουθήσουμε τη ξεκαρδιστική κωμωδία. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες επικοινωνήστε με Κ. Ρόζα Τσακάλου (410-282-2940). Κατά γενική απαίτηση τούτο το ταξίδι θα γίνει Σάββατο πρωί για να μπορέσουν να έλθουν και οι εργαζόμενοι. Στοιχίζει \$ 85.00 το άτομο. Συμπεριλαμβάνει το Λεωφορείο, το γεύμα, και το εισιτήριο του Θεάτρου. Αν επιθυμείτε να συμμετέχετε σας παρακαλούμε να δώσετε μια μικρή προκαταβολή \$ 20.00 για να κλείσετε τη θέση σας, περισσότερες λεπτομέρειες στη συνεδρίαση.

Σας ευχαριστώ,
Ρόζα Τσακάλου Πρόεδρος
Saint Nicholas DIAMONDS



MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

~ The Koutsonouris and The Andreas & Paraskevi Kaikis
Memorial Scholarship Programs ~

On Sunday, May 21st, The Koutsonouris Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Kristina Anastasiades.
The Andreas and Paraskevi Kaikis Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Foula Paragios.

Congratulation to both scholarship winners and we wish them great success in the future!



GREEK SCHOOL NEWS



**GREEK SCHOOL GRADUATION WAS HELD AT THE PLATEIA
ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 1ST.**

CONGRATUATIONS TO ALL!!



COMMUNITY NEWS

GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER

WEDDING RECEPTIONS • ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES
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News and Events

The Greektown Square & Event Center (Plateia) is excited to report that we now have a website!

Please visit us at greektownsquare.com and let us know what you think.

Email us at info@greektownsquare.com

The Plateia Committee continues to make great strides. Improvements continue to be made. Event bookings are increasing within as well as outside of our community. To keep up with this momentum, our Marketing Committee needs your help in developing our grass roots outreach program. Please consider volunteering your services. We thank you for your continued faith and support.

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 MR/MRS VERENAKIS MICHAEL &
 MR/MRS VOXAKIS JOHN & IRENE
 MR/MRS ZANDELI - ZHUPA ELISEO - IRINI

MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS VASILIS &
 MR/MRS SIGAMBRIS JOHN &
 MR/MRS SKANDALIS GEORGE
 MR SOLLON JOHN JAMES
 MR SOURANIS PARASKEVI
 MR/MRS STAKIAS PETE &
 MR/MRS STAKIAS STELIOS &
 MR/MRS STAMOULIS GEORGE
 MR STAVROU STAMATIOS G.
 MR/MRS TAGLIAMBURIS JOHN
 MR/MRS TETTERIS STEVE
 MR/MRS THEOHARIS EMMANUEL
 MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS COSTAS
 MRS TRINTIS THORINA
 MRS TSAKALAS JULIE
 MRS TSAMBIKOS IRENE
 MR TZAVARIS DEMOSTHENIS
 MR/MRS VASILIOS FRANK
 MR/MRS VERGOS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS VOXAKIS GEORGE
 MR/MRS ZENDELI, ZHUPA ELESEO, IRINI

MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS JOHN
 MR/MRS SISAMIS IOANNIS &
 MR/MRS SKORDALOS VASILIOS
 MRS SOPHOCLEOUS HELEN
 MRS SOURANIS MARITSA
 MR/MRS STAKIAS MICHAEL &
 MR/MRS STAKIAS GEORGE
 MR/MRS STAVLAS NIKOLAOS &
 MRS STRAKES KATHERINE
 MRS TAHINOS STEPHANIE
 MR THEMELIS JOHN
 MR THEOHARIS GEORGE
 MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS NICHOLAS
 MR/MRS TRINTIS NICOLAOS &
 MR/MRS TSAKALOS ROSE
 MR/MRS TSAMPOS GEORGE
 MRS VASILAKOPOULOU ANASTASIA
 MS VATAKIS TESSIE
 MRS VAHANIARIS EVANGELIA
 MS XOURIS SOFIA
 MR/MRS ZISOPOULOS NICHOLAS

MR/MRS SFIRIOU ANTONIOS
 MR/MRS SISKOS STEFANOS
 MR/MRS SOLLON NICK &
 MRS SOULIKAS EVANGELINE
 MR/MRS SOURANIS MICHAEL &
 MR/MRS STAKIAS DIMITRIOS
 MR/MRS STAMATIADIS NIKITAS
 MRS STAVRAKIS MARIA
 MR/MRS SYROPOULOS NICHOLAS
 MR TARATSIDES GEORGE
 MISS THEMELIS STELLA
 MR THEOS ADAM
 MISS TRIKOULIS JOANNE
 MRS TRIPOLITIS EKATERINI
 MS. TSAKALOS JEANETTE
 MR/MRS TSERKIS PANTELIS -
 MS VASILAKOPOULOU IRENE
 MS VENZKE KELLIE ANN
 MRS VOURVOULAS SOPHIA
 MR/MRS YIANAKIS STEVE &
 MR/MRS ZISSIMOS GUS PETE -

Remember to submit your 2017 stewardship cards
 and receive your parking permit!
ONE YEAR - ONE PERCENT
 We can ALL do it!!

THE AWARD WINNING
Lazy Eye
 DISTILLERY
 Hand Crafted Spirits

*America's First Tsipouro
 Coming to Maryland!*

Lazy Eye Vodka
 Lazy Eye Raki
 Lazy Eye Raki with Anise
 Lazy Eye Barrel Aged Raki

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COMMUNITY NEWS

THE GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER (PLATEIA) is establishing a list of Business Partners that it can refer clients to for weddings and other event services. If you, your family members or friends are in these lines of business and would like to have clients referred to you, let us know. We will include your business name on our website, include you on Facebook features and provide clients with your business name and contact information during bookings of the facility. In exchange, we ask that you do the same to help us market the Plateia and to offer our clients promo pricing or other benefits you deem appropriate. The list of businesses includes the following:

ENTERTAINMENT

MAGICIANS
DISC JOCKEYS
BANDS
SOLOISTS
JUGGLERS
BALLOON ARTISTS
FACE PAINTERS
PHOTOBOOTH OPERATORS

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES
OFFICIANTS
PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
WEDDING PLANNERS
VALET PARKING

FOOD AND DÉCOR SUPPORT

RENTAL FURNITURE/DECOR
FLORISTS
DECORATORS
BAKERIES
LIMO COMPANIES

MARKETING SUPPORT:

Now that the Plateia is being marketed to the greater Baltimore area, we are receiving many internet inquiries. Therefore, all parishioners and friends of St. Nicholas who have either sponsored or attended events at the Plateia could help us tremendously if reviews were posted on the following internet sites:

- Our website at www.greerownsquare.com - Send us Testimonials – (use the “Contact Us” tab). If you want to include your picture with the testimonial as others have, then send us your testimonial using the Plateia’s email address at info@greerownsquare.com and attach the picture.
- Review us on our Facebook page at www.greerownsquare.com
- Review us on www.Weddingwire.com
- Review us on www.theknot.com

Also, please “Like” us on Facebook and ask your family, your Facebook friends and others to do the same. This will help us expand our client base and keep everyone informed of our news releases as well as past and future events.



NEW! 2017 CHURCH PARKING PERMITS

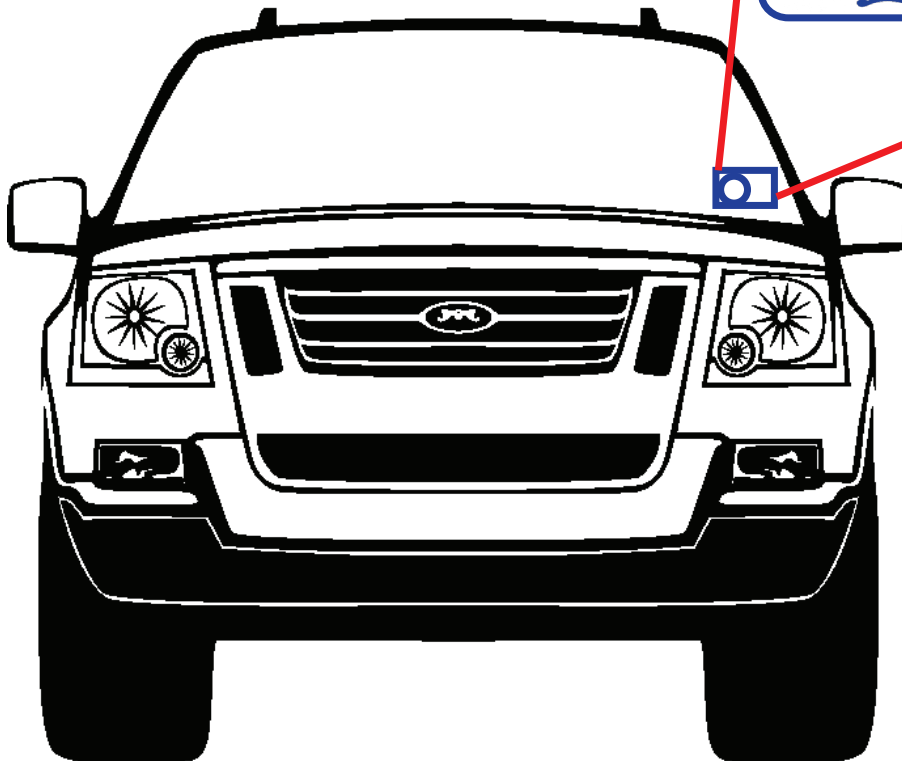
How do I obtain a parking permit?

- Submit your 2017 stewardship card and receive one permit for each of your vehicles

Where do I place my new parking permit?

- Lower left corner of driver's side windshield

If you do not have a parking permit sticker displayed on your car's windshield, your vehicle may be towed according to the parking lot signs.



NO
COMMERCIAL
VEHICLES

LITURGICAL PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JUNE 3: SATURDAY OF THE SOULS: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY: 9:30 a.m.
Note: The Memorial Service for the departed in Christ, will take place at the end of the Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, JUNE 4: SUNDAY OF PENTECOST: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY: 10:00 a.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 5: DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY: 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11: SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY: 10:00 a.m.

MONDAY JUNE 12 BEGINS THE APOSTLE'S FAST. THIS FAST WILL CONTINUE UNTIL JUNE 28. DURING THE FAST "FISH" IS NOT PERMITTED DURING WEDNESDAY'S AND FRIDAY'S.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18: SECOND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY: 10:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24: NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY: 9:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29: HOLY APOSTLES PETER & PAUL: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY: 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30: SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY APOSTLES: ORTHROS: 8:45 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY: 9:30 a.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, June 5th: GOYA monthly meeting at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7th: GOYA and Community Set-Up for the Festival

Thursday, June 8th - Sunday, June 11th: St. Nicholas Greek Folk Festival

Wednesday, June 14th: Bible Study with Fr. Michael

Friday, June 16th: GOYA End of Year Celebration

Sunday, June 18th: GOYA Father's Day Recognition

Monday, June 19th - Friday, June 23rd: Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 21st - Friday, June 23rd: GOYA End of Year Trip - Tentative



HAPPY
SUMMER