

“The Wonderworker”

**Saint Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church**

15 Francis Street
PO Box 264
Jamestown, N.Y. 14702

716-483-0022

Website: www.stnicholasjamestown.org
Email: stnicholasjamestown@gmail.com



LIVE YOUR ORTHODOX FAITH

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2016

PRIESTS MESSAGE

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

We will soon be celebrating our national holiday of Thanksgiving and preparing for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. These are special opportunities for rejoicing, increasing our prayer life, and giving thanks to God for all that He has given us. The preparation for Christmas serves as a reminder that the year is about to end. As 2016 comes to a close, it is helpful to take a spiritual inventory. Have we grown spiritually in 2016? Did we learn more about our faith this year? Did we read the Bible and pray regularly during 2016? Answers to these and other similar questions will help us prepare for 2017.

We have many opportunities to increase our spiritual efforts before the year ends. On November 23 at 6:30 pm, the evening before Thanksgiving, we will celebrate a Vespers Divine Liturgy to provide our community an opportunity to gather as a Church family to give thanks to God before we gather together the next day with our families and friends. We will celebrate our Parish Feast Day with a luncheon and a program by our Sunday School on Sunday, December 4 after the Divine Liturgy. For the first time, we will celebrate the actual Feast Day of Saint Nicholas on December 5 at 6:30 pm with a Vespers Divine Liturgy. This will allow our parishioners who are working during the day or in school to attend the service and seek the intercessions of our Parish Patron, Saint Nicholas. We will also celebrate our traditional Christmas Eve and Christmas services.

These are exciting days at Saint Nicholas Church. We have many reasons and opportunities to rejoice, pray, and give thanks to God as a Church family. Through the prayers of Saint Nicholas, may we all embrace these opportunities and increase our spiritual efforts as we conclude 2016.

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COUNCIL CORNER



By Tim Anderson, Council President
October 20, 2016

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As we look forward to the holiday season, we thank the Lord for our blessings and look to reach out to those in need. Please consider how you can best serve our Church and local citizens by helping out in any way!

The Council is moving forward with receiving bids for the Sunday school classroom, as we believe the water issues behind the stage have finally been resolved. While this project has been delayed, we thank everyone for their patience and understanding, especially our Sunday school instructors and students.

As we prepare for the winter season, we are also working with the Department of Public Works to address the erosion behind the Fellowship Hall. Measures will be taken to prevent any further damage.

As always, the Council looks forward to serving the needs of the church with the guidance of our Lord!

With love in Christ,

Tim Anderson
Council President

CHOIR CORNER



By Jim Cheronis, Choir Coordinator
October 25, 2016

The Choir is doing a great job transitioning from singing with an organ accompaniment to a cappella. We've received copies of the Divine Liturgy Hymnal for a choir setting and a CD of all the hymns as well. We are learning how to stay together with the choir conductor and also learning the most common hymns. In the long run, we will be practicing singing all the hymns of the Divine Liturgy in 4-part harmony. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Sunday October 2, 2016 was Annual Church Music Sunday, and Father Jarrod administered a special thanks and blessing to all choir and church music participants. Many thanks to Jerry Newburg for preparation of the delicious chicken dinner which everyone enjoyed in the Fellowship Hall after the celebration of Divine Liturgy. Pictured are: Dean Stanton, Basil Getz, Kathleen Morrison, Kathy Kieva, Fr. Jarrod Russell, Alexis Singleton, Angie Turner, Kathy Theofilactidis, Elizabeth Newburg and Jim Cheronis. Missing from the photo: Jerry Newburg, Joanne Christ, Dora Turner, Ashley Stanton and Chryssie Rose Panteli.



In Christ, Jim Cheronis
Choir Coordinator

SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Sabrina Piaschyk
November 2016



Sunday school began in September and we have been very pleased with attendance. Thanks to all the parents making an effort to bring their children to church!

A GOYA event was held on Saturday October 15 at Gateway Laser Tag in Jamestown. As you can see by the photos, the group had a great time playing and then enjoying fellowship, pizza and snacks afterward. Look for more GOYA events in the weekly emails and Sunday bulletins.

Our Christmas Play will be held on Sunday December 4, 2016 following Divine Liturgy. We gratefully request that you donate baked goods for coffee hour that day to support our children's program. Thank you!

GATEWAY LASER TAG FUN!



SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

November 2016

Old Testament
Nativity Fast begins

Tabernacle
David and Goliath
Jonah

December 2016

"For Us a Child is Born"

4th - St. Nicholas day: Luncheon
Children's Christmas Concert

January 2017

Our Life in the Church

Theophany of our Lord
Stewardship
Godparent Brunch

February 2017

The Presentation of our Lord
Scout Sunday
Triodion Begins: Passports begin
Publican and Pharisee
Prodigal Son
Meatfare Sunday
Forgiveness (Cheesefare) Sunday
Great and Holy Lent Begins

Special Events:

Children's sermon: 9/18, 10/9, 11/13, 12/11
No Sunday school: 11/27, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1,
& 1/8/17
Graduation/Scholarships
Picnic

March 2017

Lessons: "Journey through Great Lent"

12th - St. Patrick's Day
Sunday of Orthodoxy: *Bring Icons*
St Gregory Palamas
Sunday of the Holy Cross: *Bring Crosses*
Sunday of St. John Climacus

April 2017

Lessons: "Journey through Holy week"

Mary of Egypt
8th - Lazarus Saturday/Cross making/Sweet
bread baking/Children's confession/break-
fast
9th - Palm Sunday/Bake Sale
Myrofora Girls: Sunday night, Monday,
Tuesday
Holy Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri (Myrofora
Girls)
16th - Great and Holy Pascha (Easter Egg
Hunt)
30th - Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing
Women

May 2017

Our Life in the Church

Mother's day
No Sunday School-Memorial day



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
Cordially Invites You to Our

Christmas Concert

December 4th
after Divine Liturgy



Sabrina Piaschyk as soon as possible if your child wants to
classes will be assigned and practice will start in a few weeks.

Donations would be greatly appreciated for coffee hour

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 10am Bible Study	4	5
6 Daylight Savings 10am Divine Liturgy General Assy Mtg Stewardship Sunday Ladies Host Lunch	7	8 Election Day	9 6:30pm Ladies Erene Meeting at Church	10 10am Bible Study	11 Youth Dancers to Syracuse Veterans Day	12 10:30am Olean Divine Liturgy
13 10am Divine Liturgy	14	15	16	17 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	18	19
20 10am Divine Liturgy	21 9:30am Divine Liturgy	22	23 6:30pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy	24 No Bible Study Thanksgiving	25	26
27 10am Divine Liturgy	28	29	30			

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10am Bible Study	2	3 11 - 2 Ladies Christmas Bazaar & Lunch
4 10am Divine Liturgy Luncheon & Children's Xmas Program	5 6:30pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas	6	7 6:30pm Ladies Erene Meeting Location TBA	8 10am Bible Study	9	10
11 10am Divine Liturgy	12 9:30am Divine Liturgy for St. Spyridon	13	14	15 No Bible Study 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	16	17
18 10am Divine Liturgy	19	20	21 Winter Begins	22 No Bible Study	23	24 Christmas Eve Services TBA
25 10am Divine Liturgy Christmas Day	26	27	28	29 No Bible Study	30	31 New Year's Eve

Friends of the Metropolis Fund Campaign

Submitted by: Angie Turner, Parish Council Secretary

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners and Friends,
Herein are details pertaining to the Friends of the Metropolis Fund Campaign.

This fund supports a number of ministries in our region, including our own parish.

The Metropolis website lists the Friends donors and is updated monthly.

Donors List: www.detroit.goarch.org/donors
If you wish to make a personal donation to this fund, please complete the card and mail your donation to:

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit
2560 Crooks Road
Troy, MI 48084.

More information at: www.detroit.goarch.org/friends
Thank you, on behalf of all outreach missions supported by our Metropolis Friends Program!

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation. Because of your devotion to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service. I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis of Detroit in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

Thanking you for your kind and generous response, I remain, with paternal blessings and prayers,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

MORE INFO AT:
WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS



GENERAL SUPPORT

Fully fund the general expenses of the Metropolis office, including programs and travels.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society. Participate in inter-Christian and interfaith activities. Provide quick responses to national and international disasters.

EDUCATION

Enhance various scholarship opportunities, adult education programs, and support Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

HELLENISM

Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history, and arts.

CLERGY/PARISH SUPPORT

Develop and provide instructional seminars and services for clergy and parishes.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Support the youth & young adult ministries, including our summer camps, as well as the activities of a full-time Metropolis Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

LEADERSHIP

Organize Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Youth Worker and Religious Education Training, and Adult Education Seminars.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Continued website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries, charity and philanthropy.

FRIENDS INFORMATION

Please print the following required details.



PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make checks payable to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit.



.....
Name

.....
Address

.....
City State Zip

.....
Email Mobile No.

.....
Parish Name City/State

Credit Card Check Money Order

.....
Credit Card No.

.....
Expiry CVC No.

.....
Total in \$

.....
Signature

Fill out this card and send it with payment to: Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit - 2560 Crooks Road - Troy, MI 48084

ERENE SOCIETY

Submitted by: Christine Cheronis, President

The Ladies Erene Society began their new season in September. Father Jarrod will be offering an educational lesson about the special women of the Orthodox faith each meeting. His first lesson was on St. Helen who found the Holy Cross. Because of her endless faith, we celebrate each season the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Her mission to spread the faith is an inspiration to all women and men of the faith. Thanks to Father Jarrod for adding this special educational time to our Erene Society meetings!



The Erene Society is also looking forward to several new initiatives that assist us in our mission of serving others in need. We will be developing the "St. Erene's Kitchen" which will provide a home-cooked meal to parishioners and we will be establishing a committee to visit those of our parish who are unable to get out of their homes who may need a friendly visit, errands run or a trip to the doctor. We have many in need who have been faithful in our St. Nicholas Church who now need our support and love.

The ladies are currently involved in our Fall fundraisers and in November we will host a luncheon during the General Assembly for those attending. We look forward to our Annual Christmas Bazaar the first Saturday of December as well.

Meetings for the Ladies Erene Society will be held primarily on Wednesday evenings and occasionally on Sundays after Divine Liturgy. We will continue to move our meetings around the area to accommodate those who are unable to drive to the meetings. In October, we had a wonderful meeting at the LSS facility and were able to reunite several of our ladies who live there with our current group of women. We hope to see all the ladies of St. Nicholas at our upcoming meetings!

EVENTS RECENTLY CELEBRATED



The marriage of **Thomas George Spanos and Melissa Katherine Bell-Thomson** was celebrated at the Hellenic Orthodox Church of the Annunciation in Buffalo on Sunday October 9th, 2016. Proud parents are **George and Mary Ann Spanos** and **Barbara and Jack Hladczuk**, koumbaro **Panayiotis R Spanos**, priest **Fr. Christos Cristakis** and **Fr. John Sakellariou** presided over the ceremony. Tom graduated from UB law school and passed the NY State Bar in 2014. Melissa also graduated from UB with a master degree in linguistics. The couple is currently living in Buffalo.

The baptism of baby girl **Audrey Antigone Dimitri** was celebrated on Saturday October 15, 2016 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Jamestown. Proud parents are **Adam and Kelly Dimitri**, big sister **Adrienne**, and grandparents **John and Julie Dimitri**. Congratulations to the godparents **Alexander Dimitri** and **Emily Freeland** - many years of good health and blessings to all.



Note: We encourage all parishioners to submit announcements and a photo of the event to be shared for inclusion in this newsletter.

STEWARDSHIP

October 30, 2016

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners,

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church joyfully announces our 2017 Stewardship Ministry Program with the theme, "*As the Father has sent me, so I send you (John 20:21)*". As Orthodox Christians, we have been sent into the world in order to manifest Christ in our everyday lives. Stewardship is an essential part of manifesting this Christ centered life.

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. (Matt. 6:21)

Stewardship acknowledges God's many gifts to us. Being blessed with these gifts, we are stewards of them. These gifts are for the benefit of others and ultimately, for the glory of God, the Giver of all good things. We acknowledge and thank the faithful stewards who have contributed and continue to contribute their time, talent, and treasure during 2016.

What have you that you did not receive? (1 Cor. 4:7)

It is time to make our 2017 commitment to St. Nicholas Church with the below 2017 Stewardship Commitment Card. We fulfill this commitment by prayerfully considering our many gifts from God and honoring God with our time, talent and treasure. Our commitment to the Lord is manifested by our regular presence at the Divine Liturgy, our willingness to serve, and our prayers. That commitment is also manifested when we give back to the Lord from the financial blessings He has bestowed on us.

For our money is the Lord's, however we may have gathered it. (St. John Chrysostom)

Our first parish Stewardship Sunday is November 6. Let us all bring our completed Stewardship Commitment Cards on Stewardship Sunday to honor the Lord by being faithful stewards and committing our time, talent and treasure to Christ and His Church.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Jarrod Russell
Parish Priest

Ronald A. Zorich
Stewardship Team Chair

2017 ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CONFIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD

Please complete this card and *drop off at church*, or mail to: *Ron Zorich, 820 Cobham Park Rd, Warren PA 16365*.
Please enter family name as you would want it to appear in the Church directory and other mailings.

Family Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone: _____ Email: _____

**From the gifts received from the Lord, I/we make the following commitment to the ministries of
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church:**

Installments of \$ _____ per _____ beginning **1/01/2017**.
(week, month, quarter, year)

Annual Total = \$ _____

Your offering to Christ and His Church can do as much as you empower it to do

MEMORIALS & DONATIONS

SEPT - OCT 2016

Donation in HONOR of our dear parishioner **Maria Stanton**

* **Elizabeth & Mark Frederick**

Donations in MEMORY of **Mary Michos Riolo**

* **Elizabeth & Mark Frederick**
Panoria Kontes Magnuson

Donations in MEMORY of **Nicholas Juvelis**

Evelyn Tsitso
Jim and Demetra Raptis
Nick Furlas

Donation in MEMORY of **Nicholas Kozas**

Fay Kozas

**Donation designated to Scholarship Fund*



OLEAN DIVINE LITURGY

Saturday Sept. 24, 2016:

Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Olean NY. Saint Nicholas Parishioners in attendance were from Coudersport NY, Wellsville NY, Olean NY, Jamestown NY and Warren PA. The service commemorated Saint Silouan of Athos, followed by fellowship and a lovely luncheon coordinated by Betty Pappas. We plan to continue to bring these services to our outlying community, and encourage all Saint Nicholas parishioners and friends to attend. The next Divine Liturgy at Olean will be celebrated on **Saturday Nov 12, 2016.**

Photo: (1st row left-right): Lorraine McCarthy, Connie Psychos, Kitty Cretekos, Fr. Jarrod Russell, Anna Ross.

(2nd row left-right): Deanna McCarthy, Maria Kostadinov, Stephanie Cretekos, Angie Turner, Christo Christodoulou, Christine Cheronis, James Cheronis.





METROPOLIS OF DETROIT
SAINT NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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JAMESTOWN NY - 14702-0264



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