

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

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LIVE YOUR ORTHODOX FAITH

FEBRUARY



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ΑΓΙΟΣ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ

IT IS GOOD TO HONOR THE SAINTS OF THE CHURCH

From the time when Jesus Christ, the Son of God, started the Orthodox Church, He inspired certain people—men, women and children to become Saints. Many Saints even gave up their life for the Savior. In a word, they had a burning desire to do God's will on earth. We today are beneficiaries, to a great extent, of the Faith we have in our Churches.

Today, Saints still live among us. For example, Saint Porferios of Greece who died in 1991 was canonized by the Patriarchal Synod in 2013.

It is good to honor Saints because they encourage the Believer in his quest for salvation. When we are baptized or Chrismated, we are given the name of a Saint, in order for that Saint to intercede to God for the remission of our sins and transgressions as well as for our protection. For this reason we decorate our Churches with icons of the Saints. These icons serve to remind us to become better Christians. We name our Churches for Saints such as our own Saint Nicholas. In our Divine Liturgies we hear petitions honoring the Saints—again and again: especially the Theotokos.

Let us feel comfortable in honoring not only our Patron Saint but the entire group of Saints. In this way, we will feel the spiritual reverence we owe them for their sacrifices, to the good of ourselves and our families. Amen.

Father George S. Zervos
Father George S. Zervos
Proistamenos

Church Calendar

- Jan. 25 Saturday Divine Liturgy in Olean, NY, Trisagion for the late Elaine Johnson to follow-10:30 a.m.
- Jan. 26 Sunday Divine Liturgy, 15th Sunday of St. Luke, Reading of Zacchaeus, 10a.m.
- Jan. 30th Friday: Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas for the Three Hierarchs. Basileios, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostomos.-9:15 a.m.
- Feb. 2nd Sunday Divine Liturgy ; Presentation of Jesus to the Temple by His parents. This is Godparents Sunday. This is the day for Godparents to reach out to their God-Children in some spiritual way. Parents please bring your children to Church by 10a.m. and for Sunday School lessons following Holy Communion.
- Feb. 5th Wednesday: Philoptochos meeting.
- Feb. 9th Sunday Divine Liturgy, Publican & Pharisee. Triodion semi-fast season begins. Sunday School to follow Holy Communion.
- Feb. 10th Monday Divine Liturgy in honor of Saint Charalambos. 9:15 a.m.
- Feb. 12th Parish Council in the Fellowship Hall, 7p.m.
- Feb. 16th Sunday Divine Liturgy. 17th Sun, of St. Luke. 10a.m. Sunday School to follow Holy Communion.
- Feb. 22nd Saturday of the Souls Divine Liturgy with memorial wheat. Names of the deceased to be prayed for. (See memorial page included in this newsletter.) 9:15 a.m.
- Feb. 23rd Sunday Divine Liturgy: Meatfare Sunday, Judgment theme, 10.00a.m. Sunday School to follow Holy Communion.
- Feb.
- March 1st. Second Saturday of the Souls. Memorial wheat is needed. Names of our loved ones will again be commemorated.

COUNCIL CORNER

BY JIM CHERONIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1/08/14

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Parish Council is gearing up for another successful year at St. Nicholas Parish. We are pleased to have two new members on the Council. Damien Piaschyk from Warren, PA is excited to offer his service. We are also blessed with having George Spanos join the Council again. George is a past Council President, with whom I've had the distinct pleasure to serve, back when I myself was a newly appointed Councilmember, and learning the ropes, so to speak, about parish administration. I know that his experience and talents will be a great benefit for the group. We also welcome back Mary Riolo for another term. With her many years of service at St. Nicholas, she brings a good measure of wisdom and sensibility to the table.

I wish to thank Jerry Newburg and Basil Gedz for their work on Council over the past three years. While they will now get to enjoy some "time off" from council activities, they continue to express their love for God and our beloved St. Nicholas Church by being active members of our church family. I expect that we'll see Jerry cooking up some tasty vittles in our newly renovated kitchen from time to time. And Basil also maintains a visible presence as he leads our Greeter/Usher Ministry and also with helping out at coffee hour and with church maintenance.

My wish is for all these folks to be a shining example for all our parishioners that the fruit of our love for God can naturally be illustrated through service within our parish. We always need people to help, and there's always something that can be done!

With love in Christ,

Jim Cheronis
Council President

CHOIR NEWS

The choir is in the process of finding suitable new robes, hopefully in time for Lent. We are also sending in our stewardship to MEFGOX and National forum. All Orthodox organizations need our help as does our own Church, Diocese and Archdiocese so that all the good works that go on can continue. Again, thanks to all who donated to the choir luncheon. Our stewardship offerings and our robes will be partially paid for out of these funds. All choir members are also responsible for sending in their own personal contributions to the Music Associations above. Also, we must pay for the books that come every year with the SIRA or order of hymns for each Sunday's Divine Liturgy as well as the major Feast days.

Again, I wish to thank all choir members, who despite weather or illness have shown up on Sundays and brought beautiful sound to accompany the beautiful services.

Presvytera Anne

PARISHONERS IN ALTERNATIVE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Helen Douvlos:

Rouse County Home, 701 Rouse Ave., Youngsville, PA 16371

Shelia Hollobaugh:

Kane Nursing Home, 100 High Point Dr., Kane, PA 16735

Katherine Nianiatos:

Ecumenical Home, 100 St. Francis Dr., Bradford, PA 16701

Virginia Cummings

Emeritus Home, 3596 Woodhaven Dr., Jamestown, NY 14701

KNOWN TO BE RECUPERATING FROM SURGERY

- Athena Dimitri - at home
- Betty Pappas of Olean, NY
- Jimmy Zorich, Warren, PA

MEMORY ETERNAL

Elaine Johnson of Port Allegheny Passed away recently. Her funeral was held there on January 9th.

Michael Christatos, Father of Liz Newburg, passed away January 11th.

His funeral took place at St. Nicholas on January 14th.

May God rest their souls and give comfort to their families.



YASSOU FAVORITES CALL FOR RECIPES

Yassou Favorites and More has been a successful project and we are now ready to develop a revised edition! Thank you everyone for your past support. There were several parishioners who did not submit a recipe for the original cook book in 2008. We also have several new parish families and individuals since that time. We are welcoming additional recipes for any category. We also particularly welcome vegetarian, egg free, milk free, and gluten free recipes. Please e-mail your complete recipe to Liz Frederick, mfred323@windstream.net, or by mail, at 323 Palmer St., Jamestown, NY, 14701. I thank you in advance of your additional support. Liz Sklepetas Frederick

ERENE SOCIETY

Submitted by Athena Constantine, President

To all of you from the Ladies Society, a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year!

Our last meeting was held on Wednesday, November 6th at the Church Fellowship Hall. Refreshment Hostess was Violet Kianos.

Donations were made to the following: Metropolis Emergency Fund, Toys for Tots, Make a Wish Foundation, Boys Town, and the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists.

A report was made on a successful fall rummage sale. No meeting was held in December as we were preparing for our Bazaar. December birthdays were Elizabeth Frederik and Joann Christ. Thomaidha Dimas has a January 10th birthday.

Thank you again to all of you who made it possible for such a wonderful and successful Christmas Bazaar.

The following were winners of the raffles we held:

Sandra Cottrell won the Icon donated by a society member

L. Turatte won the nativity set donated by Elizabeth Fredrick

Kathy Decker won the Christmas Tree, donated by Sandra Cottrell

Magda Fanaritis won the ceramic snowman donated by Betty Pappas

Joann Dimitri won the Christmas Wreath donated by the Erene Society

Thank you to Ticket Chairman Elizabeth Fredrick and to Christine Anderson, chairman of the Bazaar. Another successful year.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 5th, weather permitting.

We welcome new members. The Ladies Philoptochis Society plays a significant role in the work of the Church.



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About



Photos

84

Likes



Map



Events

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church has a Facebook page! It's a place for members of the Church and the community to see all the wonderful events, activities, and information that the Orthodox life has to offer. Stay up to date with the Divine Liturgy's Epistle and Gospel readings, notable dates in the Orthodox calendar, prayers, and Psalms.

If you have Facebook or if someone you know has Facebook (i.e. Children, Grandchildren, Niece, Nephew, Godchildren) please like  us! If there is an event you would like to have announced on the page please send a private message through Facebook. If you do not have Facebook then feel free to e-mail me at spiaschyk@gmail.com or speak to me at Church about your event and I will put something together on the page to promote or advertise your event.

Thank you for your support! Sabrina Piaschyk

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INFORMATIONAL CORNER REGARDING CHURCH PROCEDURE

Recently Betty Pappas of Olean, NY asked me to explain Church Funerals and why we conduct them in a certain way. To cover her questions, which I am sure other parishioners also have, I will quote some passages from my funeral book published in 1979. This is the book also used for our services for every funeral.

THE MEANING OF THE ORTHODOX FUNERAL

The Orthodox Church conducts its funeral services in such a way as to confront the congregation with:

The reality of death

Our personal salvation

Our dependence with faith and hope on God

The constant repetition of the Orthodox age-old chant: “*Kyrie Eleison*” for “Lord have mercy,” unites the living and the dead. The deceased has murmured, or sung or meditated this mini-prayer all his or her days on earth. In the funeral service, the clergy and laymen together chant “*Kyrie Eleison*” in behalf of their beloved departed, as well as for themselves.

The use of the hymns and psalms, which are quoted on the following pages, also have their particular purpose.

Death is not an event to be glossed over by the Orthodox believers. With the deceased in the open casket, facing the altar where he or she has worshipped all his or her life, we acknowledge the depth of our pain, sense of loss and awareness of death’s finality.

So, the psalms relate, vividly, the loneliness of death, the difficulty of our passage, the perception of our sin and weakness.

The day is dark. The hours painful.

But with this pain and darkness, the ever-present care of the One who loves us all endlessly, weaves His pattern of hope, both for our loved ones and for our own salvation.

Beloved, since the beginning of time, God has His plan for our salvation. Our Orthodox funeral service helps us to see this more clearly, and to increase our faith and our hope in:

God—the Father

God—the Son

God—the Holy Spirit

Amen

COMMEMORATION SERVICES

Our Holy Orthodox Church in the Americas is under the jurisdiction of the Holy Patriarchate of Constantinople.

For this reason, I will cite the Patriarchal guidelines which we follow in the United States, in determining when commemorations are to be performed after the death of our loved ones.

Several commemoration services of mnemosina can be offered by the family and friends: three days after the repose of a dear one; nine days, forty days, three months, six months, nine months, yearly and every year afterwards.

The three days commemoration signifies, according to St. Symeon of Thessalonike (PANTA, 1882; Regopoulos Publisher, page 310-311) that our dear departed is now accompanied by the Holy Trinity. The nine day service signifies that the departed has become a bodiless spirit and is now numbered with the nine orders of the angels. The forty day commemoration indicates that at the time of the Resurrection to come he (she) will be reunited with his (her) body in a new and higher form: he (she) will ascend upward like our Lord did, and will be caught up in the clouds to face the Last Judgment, (cf. Typicon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: Edited by Constantine, head chanter, Publisher M. Saliberon, p. 440)

Commemorations can be performed without the use of a tray of wheat. However, it is traditional to use boiled wheat, which symbolizes the Resurrection; for according to the Holy Gospel, “except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abides alone; but if it die, it brings forth much fruit.” (Jn. 12:24)

The Church will conduct commemoration services whenever members request, with these exceptions:

- 1) On the Holy Days of the Lord (*Despotikai Eortai*) Christmas, Epiphany, etc.
- 2) From Saturday before Palm Sunday to and including St. Thomas Sunday
- 3) On the Sunday of Pentecost
- 4) On August 15th – The Dormition of the Theotokos.

Dear Ladies:

This is the recipe for making the offering bread for any Divine Liturgy. If you would like to make it, see me for purchasing a seal.

Thank you. - Father George (483-0022)

P.S. Baking Prosforon for the Church Liturgy is a joy.

RECIPE FOR MAKING TRADITIONAL PROSFORON

You should have an icon before you on your work table and recite an Orthodox prayer before, during, and after making your Prosforon or Offering Bread.

The basic recipe for making two Prosfora is:

8 cups of flour (for bread) SIFTED
3 cups of warm tap water
2 packages granulated FLEISHANN'S RAPID YEAST

In a smaller bowl, pour 3 cups of the lukewarm water and 2 packages of the yeast. Mix until dissolved. Set aside for 5 to 10 minutes.

In a larger bowl, pour 8 cups of the bread flour that has been sifted. Make a hole in the center of the flour and add the yeast mixture. Mix and knead well, by hand or by machine until thoroughly mixed.

Let rise for 1 HOUR in a warm place. Cover with a heavy terry towel. Remove from bowl. Roll into cylindrical shape and cut into 2 pieces. Knead each piece and flatten into 8 inch round non-stick baking pan.

With a Prosforon seal press, press down in the center of the dough. Count to 25. Remove the seal and use a toothpick to puncture the corners of the seal. Cover and keep in a warm place for 10 minutes.

Bake at 350°F on the middle rack for 35 minutes. Ovens vary. It is best to turn the oven on before you start mixing the bread.

Remove the Prosforon from the pans and set on a wire rack to cool. Brush off any flour on the tops of the bread.

***It is customary to include a list of the Living and the Dead when you present your Prosforon to the priest so he will pray for them during the Divine Liturgy.

2014 ST. NICHOLAS BREADMAKING CALENDAR

JANUARY	APRIL	JULY	OCTOBER
5 Angie Turner	6 Maria Stanton	6 Joanne Christ	5 Chris Cheronis
1 Tony & Nan Marano	1 Joanne Christ	1 Chris Cheronis	1 Angie Turner
2	3	3	2
1 Maria Stanton	2 Chris Cheronis (make for 19 th)	2 Angie Turner	1 Tony & Nan Marano
9	0	0	9
2 Joanne Christ	2 Angie Turner	2 Tony & Nan Marano	2 Lou Hill
6	7	7	6
FEBRUARY	MAY	AUGUST	NOVEMBER
2 Chris Cheronis	4 Tony & Nan Marano	3 Lou Hill	2 Maria Stanton
9 Angie Turner	Lou Hill	Maria Stanton	Joanne Christ
1 Tony & Nan Marano	1	10	9
6	1	Joanne Christ	Chris Cheronis
2 Maria Stanton	Maria Stanton	1	1
3	1	7	6
	8	Chris Cheronis	Angie Turner
MARCH	Joanne Christ	2	2
2 Joanne Christ	2	4	3
9 Chris Cheronis	5	Angie Turner	Tony & Nan Marano
1 Angie Turner		3	3
6	JUNE	1	0
2 Tony & Nan Marano	1 Chris Cheronis	SEPTEMBER	DECEMBER
3	Angie Turner	7 Tony & Nan Marano	7 Lou Hill
3 Lou Hill	8	Lou Hill	Maria Stanton
0	1	1	1
	5	4	4
	Lou Hill	Maria Stanton	Chris Cheronis
	2	2	2
	2	1	1
	Maria Stanton	Joanne Christ	Angie Turner
	2	2	2
	9	8	8

2013 FINAL STEWARDSHIP LIST

Anderson, Greg & Christina	Giopulus, John & Shirley	Ross, Anna
Anderson, Tim & Rachel	Grieco, Eleanor & Donato	Saines, James
Bechakas, Costas	Hanson, Jason & Cherie	Searls, R. Ted & Laretta C.
Bechakas, James and Marisa	Hill, Louise H.	Simos, Constantine and Jennifer
Bechakas, John & Toula	Jamesson, Kaliopé	Singleton, Todd & Alexis
Bechakas, Michael & Heather	Johnson, Mark J & Sara Jane	Silo, John & Barbara
Bechakas, Terry & Soultana	Johnson, Merle & Elaine D.	Snell, William & Affroula
Beers, Mary	Jonethis, Athena	Spanos, George and Mary Ann
Benchley, M&M Andrew	Juvelis, Nicholas G. & Martha	Spero, Kathleen
Bertrand, John & Victoria	Kianos, Robert & Michelle	Spiridon, Dean & Linda
Bruner, Kenneth & Helen	Kianos, Violet	Stanton, Dean & Maria, Ashley
Cheronis, James & Christine	Kress, Eric & Natalie, Kylie, James	Theofilactidis, Dimitrios & Tiffany
Christ, James Sr. & Tara Family	Lampropoulos, Stephanie	Theofelactidis, George & Kathy
Christ, Terry & Joanne	Louis, L. Terry	Theofilactidis, Lazaros & Courtney
Constantine, Athena	Lundmark, Jason	Tsilso, Christine
Constantine, Terry	Luzzi, Anna	Tsitso, Evdoxia (Evelyn)
Coustenis, Virginia	Marano, Maria & Kim	Tsitso, Nicholas
Crandall, Chad, Brittany & James	Marano, Tony & Nancy	Tsitso, Spiro
Cretekos, Kathryn	Matjoulis, John	Turner, Angie & William
Cummings, Bryan	Matjoulis, John Jr.	VanGinhoven, Mary Jane
Cummings, Virginia	McCandless, Nicolette	Verleni, Gust
Decker, Jim and Kathy	Michos, Alexandra	Verleni, Nick & Helen
Deppas, Deborah, & Chelsea, Joshua, Anthony	Michos, Crist & Robin	Verros, Crissi I.
Deppas, Greg	Michos, Elizabeth	Voulgaris, Tony & Helen
Deppas, John	Mignoli, Constance	Zorich, Ron & Voula & family
Deppas, Lou & Melissa	Mihal, Paul & Marguerite	
Deppas, Ryan	Morrison, Heath & Kathleen	
Dimas, George & Dorothy	Newburg, Elizabeth & Jerry	
Dimas, Louis & Thomaidha	Noni, Ordella M.	
Dimitri, Adam & Szymanowicz, Kelly	O'Kelley, Norma T.	
Dimitri, Athena	Panteli, Pantelis & Linda	
Dimitri, John, Julie, Alex	Pappas, Elizabeth (Betty)	
Dimitri, L. Michael & Joann	Piaschyk, Damian & Sabrina	
Duro, Christian	Psychos, Constance	
Duro, Teresa	Rafael, Presvytera Claire	
Elia, Mark & Vanessa	Rafael, Timothy, Chryssanthe & Family	
Enserro, Ethel & Stephanie	Raptis, James & Demetra	
Fanaritas, Magdaline	Rigas, Gus & Rheba	
Feell, Theodora	Rigas, John & Doris	
Fillsinger, Tom & Leslie (Keri)	Rigas, Michael	
Frederick, Elizabeth S.	Rigas, Tim	
Gedz, Basil G.	Riola, Mary Michos	

109 Total Stewards

20 Stewards did not complete their commitment.

17 Stewards contributed more than they committed.

Total Stewardship Contributions: \$64,023



METROPOLIS OF DETROIT
SAINT NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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