

August 6, 2017

The Transfiguration of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Website: www.stnickspgh.org

Email: church@stnickspgh.org

VISIT THE UPDATED WEBSITE TODAY!

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Christopher Bender and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos

Father's Cell - 724-630-3483; Father's E-mail - frchbender@verizon.net

PROTOPSALTIS: Dr. Nick Giannoukakis CHANTER & CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Anna Kovalevska ALTAR BOY CAPTAINS: Nicholas Hages & Andreas Paljug

Today's hymns: please see page 2

Epistle: II Peter 1: 10-19 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

Mon., Wed., & Fri., Aug. 7, 9 & 11: Paraklesis, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 8: Church School Teacher's Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 10: Living Orthodoxy, 11 a.m.

PLEASE JOIN US for coffee & fellowship in the hall following services, hosted by **CHURCH SCHOOL**.

PLEASE HELP WITH THE SUMMER COFFEE HOURS!

Volunteers (organizations and/or individual families) are asked to come forward and take responsibility for one or more of the Coffee Hours this summer -**AUGUST 13th OPEN!** Call Debbie to volunteer, 412-682-3866. (*GOYA will resume in Sept.*)

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NOTICE FOR ALL ORGANIZATIONS OF ST. NICHOLAS

To organize and prioritize the daily needs of St. Nicholas Cathedral, our maintenance staff has adopted a task-list system, prepared with their input, which allots time for routine, seasonal and unexpected needs of our facilities. Employees are required to submit a check list of tasks accomplished daily to the Office Manager (OM) who, in turn, confirms the work has been completed.

Any additional task that may be required of the maintenance staff must be scheduled through the OM. EXAMPLES INCLUDE: running errands, emptying deliveries, setting up tables and chairs, taking something to storage, etc. The OM is responsible for all scheduling of help, including extra personnel needed for church functions. All organizations are asked to adhere to this policy. We have established a proven labor pool that must be respected & used efficiently.

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SIXTY CLUB NEWS Please **pay your 2017 dues - \$10, to Virginia Fekaris.**

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ST. NICHOLAS GARDEN CLUB 2017 dues can now be paid to Elaine Andrianos or Lillie Panagulias. **Your \$10 dues** help maintain the Forbes Avenue parklet, the trees, shrubs and annuals. **Thank you in advance!**

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SPANAKOPITA LOGS – ONLY \$9 PER LOG – GET YOURS TODAY! HURRY BEFORE THEY'RE GONE! A LIMITED NUMBER OF DELICIOUS spanakopita logs are still available (**approx. 50**) from the Philoptochos. They make an excellent addition to your summer picnics! See Nikki Lykos or any Philoptochos Board member to purchase.

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THE FOOD BANK SUPPORTS several of our parishioners and continues to need your support. You can donate to the "St. Nicholas Philoptochos Food Bank" or through United Way by designating the St. Nicholas Food Bank (#3288) through your employers United Way contribution. *Questions? Call Elaine (412-731-4334) or Denise (412-508-1326).*

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PLEASE HELP WITH THE UPCOMING COLLEGE WELCOME BRUNCH Volunteer bakers, cooks & decorators are needed for the upcoming **Welcome College Students Brunch on Sunday, August 27 at St. Nicholas**, following services. Monetary donations are also welcome which will be used for decorations, food and welcome bags. Last year's event was very successful and we look forward to welcoming new and returning students to the St. Nicholas Family. For more information on how to be a part of this event, please contact Diane Strauch-412.726.0685; Linda Hages-412.523.7938; Alex Davides-412.956.6325 or Dae Machin-724.413.1497.

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FAMILY MINISTRY CONFERENCE The Metropolis of Pittsburgh will host the second family ministry conference, *The Orthodox Family in a Changing World*, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Southpointe (Canonsburg, PA) from September 20-23, 2017. EVERYONE is welcome to attend. For more information, please see www.family.goarch.org or see Father Christopher.

August 6, 2017
The Transfiguration of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

First to be chanted at the Small Entrance is the hymn for today's feast (Tone 7):

Μετεμορφώθης εν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ο Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τήν δόξαν σου, καθώς ἠδυναντο,
Λάμψον καί ἡμῖν τοῖς αμαρτωλοῖς, τό φῶς σου τό αἶδιον, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.
You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God, revealing Your glory to Your disciples,
insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light,
through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.

At the procession with the Gospel the special Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn), for the Transfiguration in Tone 2 is chanted:
Ὅτι παρὰ σοὶ πηγὴ ζωῆς, Κύριε, ἐν τῷ φωτὶ σου ὁψόμεθα φῶς. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν τῷ ὄρει τῷ Θαβὼρ μεταμορφωθείς,
ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλοῦῖα.

For with You is the fountain of life; O Lord, in Your light we shall see light. Save us,
O Son of God, Who were transfigured in glory on Mt. Tabor, we sing to You Alleluia.

*As the Clergy reenter the Sanctuary, the Transfiguration hymn is repeated. Directly after this,
we hear the Kontakion for the Transfiguration:*

Επὶ τοῦ ὄρους μετεμορφώθης, καί ως ἐχώρουν οἱ Μαθηταὶ σου τήν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ο Θεός εθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἴδωσι
σταυρούμενον, τό μέν πάθος νοήσωσιν ἐκούσιον, τῷ δέ κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σύ ὑπάρχεις ἀληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τό ἀπαύγασμα.
You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory.
Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that
You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

EPISTLE: II Peter 1: 10-19: Brethren, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made surer. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 1-9: At that time, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

2017 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex *(Just ask a member of Parish Council)*

If you have already submitted your 2017 Stewardship Commitment, **THANK YOU!** If not, please take the time to make your financial Stewardship Commitment today and complete the talent portion of the card to enable **OUR** Community to grow and carry on the mission of our faith.

Re-dedicate yourself to God by participating in the Divine Liturgy each Sunday and offer your
TIME, Talent and treasure.

HELP US REACH/ EXCEED OUR GOAL!!

2017	STEWARDSHIP
Total Stewards	193 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$128,645.00 (GOAL \$175,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$666.55

"As the Father Has Sent Me, So I Send You" John 20:21



ECCLESIASTICAL MUSIC MINISTRY AT THE CATHEDRAL

You are cordially invited! Come and learn Byzantine chant from a world-class instructor, or join our choir and learn to sing the unique and beautiful arrangements composed by our founding choir director!



Our Cathedral is graced by two music ministries grounded in tradition that we hope you will consider participating in:

The first is rooted at the Analogion (the Chanter Bookstand). Our Analogion Ministry, blessed by the volunteer service of Dr. Nick Giannoukakis, invites and welcomes anyone with some musical ability, especially the younger generation, to join and learn the beautiful and 1200 year-old tradition of Byzantine hymnology and chant. Those who faithfully adhere to the ministry will not only have an opportunity to grow musically, but more importantly, will solidify their understanding of Greek, gain an appreciation for the structure of the services, and a better insight into our Orthodox faith and its theology through a comprehension of the hymns. With the exception of the summer months (June-August), the Ministry will focus on the Sunday Orthros and the occasional Vespers, in addition to the evening services of Lent and Holy Week. Between June and early September, the Ministry will also focus on the Holy and Divine Liturgy.

Dr. Giannoukakis, who was distinguished and tonsured as Protopsaltis by Metropolitan Maximos in 1998, and noted to be among the "who is who" of Byzantine Chanters in a historical compendium published in Greece in 1994, is also the only chanter in our Metropolis to hold a certificate and diploma in Byzantine Music from a Greek Music Conservatory. Dr. Giannoukakis, personally-trained by renowned and respected Greek chanters (Constantin Lagouros, Georgios Syrkas, Emmanuel Hatzimarkos), offers music to the highest possible standards of the Great Church of Christ (the Ecumenical Patriarchate) and has successfully trained young and old individuals for more than 25 years. To learn more, and to consider participating, contact Dr. Giannoukakis at ngni@andrew.cmu.edu or at ngianni@pitt.edu. All educational materials are complimentary.

The second is rooted in the rich polyphonic innovations of the late Rudolph Agraphtotis who in the early 1900s, first composed the lyrical Liturgy conducted in our church to this day. Some of the choir members are among those who came together to constitute the first choir directed by Mr. Agraphtotis. Today, the choir is in the very capable hands of Mr. Steve Andrews who directs it as another of our Cathedral's volunteers. The choir can be heard during the Divine Liturgy for most of the year's Sunday services as well as at the services for Holy Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The Choir invites and welcomes anyone with some musical ability, especially the younger generation, to join. To learn more, and to consider participating, contact Mr. Steve Andrews at beyondfromwithin@comcast.net. Why not join both ministries? As it is written: "He who delights in the Lord, and walks in the Light will not stumble" (From the Doxastikon of the Orthros of the 5th Sunday of Lent).

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A campaign to burn our mortgage
by December, 2018

**Show your support by donating
and TOGETHER
we can reach our goal!**

St. Nicholas Cathedral thanks you for your support.

***Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox
Cathedral Cordially invites***

All College and Graduate Students

to

A Welcome Brunch

**Sunday, August 27, 2017
Following the Divine Liturgy**

**419 S. Dithridge Street
Corner of Forbes & Dithridge Streets**

Hosted by St. Nicholas Cathedral Moms & Dads

**We look forward to welcoming
all new & returning students
to Pittsburgh and the
Saint Nicholas Family!**

Your Blessings Fathers and my Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are reaching out to you to contribute in any way that your love allows to our fund-raising efforts to build a new Monastery for you and for your children. We are living in a time where we are witnessing an increase in Christian suffering and persecution throughout the world. From the Orthodox Church's early history, monastics have come to the aid of the Church in times of persecution.

We call upon you to help create a spiritual haven in our region as many Orthodox have done so in other parts of the country; a place for you and your families to come in times of personal pain and suffering; a place to share our faith, the love of our Christ, and fellowship.

What does it mean to make an offering to build a monastery?

You will become a builder of a monastery before Christ.....

Throughout the centuries, there were builders of monasteries who because of their great faith in God and love of Orthodoxy, created treasures for themselves and their family members in the Kingdom of Heaven.

"...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:18

You will benefit the souls of your departed loved ones.....

Contemporary Church Fathers tell us how much help the departed seek!since they see that the help of the living greatly assists them to find rest, they yearn, seek, and long for someone to commemorate them.

You will benefit yourself, relatives, and friends through the ceaseless, daily prayers of the Monastery.....

- *For physical and spiritual well-being to endure personal trials and afflictions.*
- *For your work that it progresses in a spirit of harmony and godliness*
- *For those nearing the end of their life - that they find salvation and counseling through the sacrament of the church, confession.*

You will benefit those who come after you.....

- *Women dedicating themselves to Christ and a life of prayer will continue the precedence of hospitality and missionizing to pilgrims.*
- *People seeking refuge from a world that has created spiritual illness and imbalance in their daily lives.*
- *Young adults, pressured to undertake a path that can lead to physical and spiritual damage. They will find encouragement to counteract the problems they face and see modeled an alternative Christian lifestyle which is quickly disappearing in our present-day society.*

As long as the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery exists, with the last breath of the last monastic, you will be commemorated – both those who are living and those who have fallen asleep.

Monasteries will always remain eternal as the Orthodox Church is eternal.

May our Most Holy Theotokos intercede for you before Her Son our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ and may She pour upon you all Her love and protection.

My love in Christ to you and to your families, Gerontissa Theophano and my Sisterhood

Gerontissa Theophano

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017 – *"All Generations Will Call Me Blessed"*

4th Annual Dinner Banquet in Memory of Gerontissa Taxiarchia – An evening of fundraising to help build a new monastery

Please help the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery build new facilities with a donation to help with this year's fundraising dinner.

Donations of any size will be humbly and gratefully accepted and will be recognized on an insert in the program book at the dinner.

Your financial support will honor the Panagia and bring spiritual benefit. Together we can help to build a new monastery "brick by brick"! The following sponsorship levels will be specially recognized:

Level 1 - \$500 - \$1499 Level 2 - \$1,500 - \$2,999 Level 3 - \$3,000 and higher.

Thank you for your generous donation!

Name & Address _____ Donation amount \$ _____

Name to appear in the Dinner Banquet Program Book on September 9th. _____

Monetary donations can be made payable to:

Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery, 121 St. Elias Ln., Saxonburg, PA 16056 Attn: Dinner Banquet Sponsorship

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH "Ypapanti"

1672 Electric Avenue, East Pittsburgh, 412-824-9188

34th Annual Greek Food Festival - Free Admission!!

August 17, 18, 19 & 20

Indoor Food Line, Outside Grill and Tent

Thursday-Saturday: Food line & Pastries 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Sunday: Food line and Pastries 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Outdoor Taverna Daily: 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Feast on the Festival's Fabulous Food!!!

Shop for: Artifacts Imported from Greece, T-shirts of the Grecian Isles, Icons of the Church, Gold & Silver Jewelry

Holy Trinity's

TASTE OF GREECE

A VARIETY OF FAVORITE GREEK FOOD & PASTRY!!

August 30 - September 3, 2017

Wednesday thru Sunday, 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church,
985 Providence Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237
(Corner of Babcock & Cumberland, across from UPMC Passavant).

**FREE Parking & Shuttle Service Available from the
GREEN LOT at UPMC Passavant.**

**Shuttle hours: Wed.-Fri. 5-11 p.m. AND Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-11
p.m. 412-366-8700 or www.holytrinitypgh.orh**