

FEBRUARY 7, 2021 – 16th SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Parthenios, Bishop of Lampsakos; Osios Loukas; Newmartyr George of Alikianos

Tone 2

Orthros Gospel 2

WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!

VISIT www.stnickspgh.org TODAY for news and updates about our parish!

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

Father's Cell & Email: 724-630-3483; frchbender@verizon.net

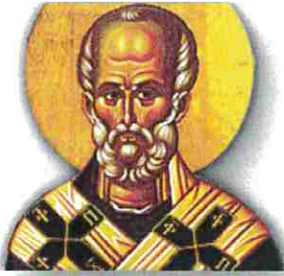
PROTOPSALTIS: Konstantinos Fekos

CHANTERS: Steve Andrews, & Michael Rodites

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Haley Cobb

ALTAR BOY CAPTAINS: TBA



Questions about our Parish? Email church@stnickspgh.org or call 412-682-3866

Our Sunday worship schedule: September 1 – June 13: Orthros 8:45 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

WELCOME, VISITORS! You are honored guests here at St. Nicholas Cathedral and welcome at all our services. We invite you to receive the Holy Eucharist (Communion) if you are an Orthodox Christian who has prepared yourself through fasting, prayer, and confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are Orthodox but have not prepared, we respectfully invite you instead to come forward at the end of the service for a blessing by the priest and a piece of blessed bread (antidoron).

Our Mission & Vision Statements

The **MISSION** of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral is to Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a Spirit of Unity and Love for All through Worship, Service, Education, Fellowship and Outreach.

Our **VISION** is to be a Welcoming and Growing Parish, Striving to Live the New Life in Christ according to the Teachings and Traditions of the Greek Orthodox Faith.

TODAY'S MEMORIAL SERVICE is being chanted for the repose of the soul of the servant of God **ERNIE MANDROS (40 days)** and a **TRISAGION SERVICE** for **PATRICIA MANDROS (4 yrs)** and **DIANE (Mandros) LEISTER (5 months)**, and **Anna Koumbaridou (3 days)**. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their family.

OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO the Family of Lia & Eric Paljug. Lia's Mother Anna Koumbaridou passed away at her home in Cyprus Greece on Friday, February 5, 2021. May God grant her eternal rest and comfort to her family.

TODAY: CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

- Tuesday, Feb 9: Philoptochos Board Meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom
- Wednesday, Feb 10: St Haralambos the Hieromartyr Orthros 9am Divine Liturgy 10am.
Orthodoxy Now 7:30pm (Zoom)
- Saturday, Feb 13: GREEK2GO 12:00 – 6:00pm

HOUSE BLESSINGS have begun for this year but will of necessity be different from the past. The priest will stay OUTSIDE while reciting the prayers and bless the front of the house, and then leave a bottle of Holy Water for the family to use in blessing the interior. If you would like to have your house blessed, please call the Church Office (412-682-3866) and leave a message for Fr. Christopher (extension 2) with your name and the names of everyone living in your house, as well as your address and phone number. Father will let you know when he plans to come. While you do not have to be home for the prayer service to take place, it would be best if you were.

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Tone 2

Orthros Gospel 2

The first hymn chanted at the Small Entrance is for the Feast of the Presentation of Christ:

Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε, ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαριζόμενος ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

Hail Virgin Theotokos full of Grace, for Christ our God, the Sun of Righteousness, has dawned from you, granting light to those in darkness. And you, O Righteous Elder, rejoice, taking in your arms, the Deliverer of our souls, who also grants us Resurrection.

[After the procession with the Gospel the usual Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is chanted]:

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι Ἀλληλούϊα. Come let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us O Son of God, who arose from the dead. We sing to you, Alleluia."

After the Entrance Hymn the Priest enters into the Sanctuary, and the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 2 is chanted: When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.
[SD]

Then the festal hymn is repeated. Next, we hear the hymn of our Church's Patron Saint in Tone 4:

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτίσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

The truth of things have revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Finally, the Kontakion in Tone 1 for the Feast of the Presentation is chanted:

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγιάσας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεὼν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νὺν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 6: 1-10. Brethren, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity,

knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live;

Liturgy on Sunday, February 7: as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. [RSV]

GOSPEL: Matthew 25: 14-30. The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" [RSV]

2021 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex
(Just ask a member of Parish Council)

If you have already submitted your 2021 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.

HELP US REACH/ EXCEED OUR GOAL!!



“And now these three remain: **Faith, Hope and Love**. But the greatest of these is **LOVE**.” Corinthians 13:13

<u>2021</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	148 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$83,405.00 (GOAL \$185,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$563.55

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES

Updated Parish Directory – Please make sure to pick up your updated parish directory from the church office! We also appreciate if those who are able to come to church can take and deliver copies for friends/family who you may visit. If you are a newer member of the parish and have never received the binder that the printed directory goes into, we have extras and would be happy to provide one.

Food Bank – The Food Bank continues to need your support! You can donate by making a check payable 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: contact Elaine Andrianos (412-731-4334) or Denise Daugherty (412-508-1326).

Neighborhood Resilience Project Food Drive – We are collecting non-perishable items for Neighborhood Resilience Project (formerly known as FOCUS Pittsburgh). Please place non-perishable food donations in the bin outside the church office, and we will deliver them to Neighborhood Resilience Project. They appreciate your support.

FROM THE CHURCH SCHOOL DESK:

(The rooms are cleaned, and the teachers & children will social distance and wear masks!)

TODAY we will resume in-person Church School.

THANK YOU Mr. Nicholas Hages for setting up the Zoom Church School
for December and January
(and to the end of the year).

Church School students in grades 7th-12th, have the opportunity to learn more about their faith and participate in the **St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival**.

This year it will be virtual on all levels (Metropolis and National).

For more information, please contact Chair Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com.

AND THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR CHILDREN WITH US!

Yours in Christ,
Miss Michelle

St. Nicholas Cathedral NEW Website – Coming along!

Thanks to all for the thoughtful feedback on the NEW website – it is very much appreciated!

The Website Committee (Michelle Kotsagrellos, Bunny Manners, Sophia Panagis, Stacie de la Parra) worked from a template design and submitted content on the various topics. Regarding the organizations/ministries that own the content (i.e. GOYA, Church School, Food Festival, JOY, etc.) we defer to the Chairs or those responsible for the organizations to control their content. As an example, if Church School wants to update copy or photos on their “tab”, we will happily facilitate.

Some 2021 Stewardship Pledge Cards have been received through the website – which is great! This week’s “tip of the week” is to submit your Philoptochos Membership form now as well. The organization is conducting its membership drive, and if you have misplaced the form (or didn’t receive it), download it yourself, complete and send. The form can be found under the “Forms” tab on the site.

We will never stop asking for your pictures! Please note that given the dimensions of the images on the website, the best pics are in a “landscape” format (not “portrait”) for use throughout the site. That said, pictures for the “Photo Gallery” can be any size or layout. Pictures can be emailed to Stacie de la Parra at events@stnickspgh.org or sent via text to 412-901-3181.

Again, here is the link to the website: <http://stnickspgh.org/>

Sincere thanks from the Website Committee.



Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Greek Revolution in Western Pennsylvania:

A synaxis of friends; to remember where we started from, to realize where we stand, and to decide where we want to go.

Dear Friends: The working group consisting of members of the **American Hellenic Foundation of Western PA, the Greek, French, English, Russian Nationality Room Committees, and the European Art Center of Greece**, are very happy to announce the events that are now formally scheduled in the month of March 2021 to celebrate this once in a lifetime event in our area.

All the events are “virtual” (Website, Youtube, or ZOOM) and open to the public. Over the coming weeks, we will provide a link for the central landing page on the internet from which these events can be accessed on their scheduled day and time. Commemorative Program Books will be available for download at these sites, on those days.

***We are kindly asking all of you to consider sending us a short video (you can shoot it on your smartphone) of up to 3 minutes offering your greetings to the people of Greece (in Greek and/or English), offering your thoughts about what the Greek Revolution means to you, as history, ethos, aspiration, challenge for Greeks in America. Families are highly encouraged to participate (as a group). These videos will be presented on the evening of Saturday March 27th, 2021 and will be broadcast to Greece via news and lifestyle social networks. To participate, please email us before February 15th at contact@pahellenicfoundation.org

***If anyone wants to co-sponsor any one, or all of these events, please let us know before February the 15th, 2021 (email us at contact@pahellenicfoundation.org). All donations are tax-deductible.

Scheduled Events:

1. *Το Ελληνικό Έθνος και η Επανάσταση Μέσα από το Κλέφτικο Τραγούδι (Μέρος Α')* [Στην Ελληνική γλώσσα (In Greek)]
The Greek Nation and the Revolution inside the Klephtiko Song (Part 1)

[Program in Greek]

Friday March 5th, 2021, 8:30 PM

2. *Το Ελληνικό Έθνος και η Επανάσταση Μέσα από το Κλέφτικο Τραγούδι (Μέρος Β')* [Στην Ελληνική γλώσσα (In Greek)]
The Greek Nation and the Revolution inside the Klephtiko Song (Part 2)

[Program in Greek]

Saturday March 6th, 2021, 8:30 PM

3. *Το Ελληνικό Έθνος και η Επανάσταση Μέσα από το Κλέφτικο Τραγούδι (Μέρος Γ')* [Στην Ελληνική γλώσσα (In Greek)]
The Greek Nation and the Revolution inside the Klephtiko Song (Part 3)

[Program in Greek]

Sunday March 7th, 2021, 8:30 PM

4. *Greece in America – America in Greece: First-in-History, Public Unveiling of Correspondence between the Greek Revolutionaries and the American Founding Fathers on the Matter of the Greek Revolution (Part 1)*

Saturday March 13th, 7:30 PM

5. *Greece in America – America in Greece: First-in-History, Public Unveiling of Correspondence between the Greek Revolutionaries and the American Founding Fathers on the Matter of the Greek Revolution (Part 2)*

Sunday March 14th, 7:30 PM

6. *First Principles: What America's Founders Learned from the Greeks and How That Shaped Our Country-A Conversation with the Scholar and Best-Seller Author, Thomas E. Ricks;*

Co-sponsored by the Department of Philosophy of the University of Pittsburgh, GAPPA, and the Icarian Brotherhood

Saturday March 20th, 6:00 PM

7. *Giannis Davaris – A Revolutionary Hero at the Acropolis*

A Narrative and Virtual Exhibit of a Lesser-Known Hero of the Greek

Revolution A Joint Presentation with the European Art Center (Peania, Attica,

Greece) Sunday March 21st, 7:30 PM

8. *In the Beginning was the Logos and the Logos became Flesh:*

A Byzantine Concert-Presentation Celebrating the Unparalleled Christologic Canon of the “Annunciation Dialogue”

Featuring members of the Byzantine Choir of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Thursday, March 25th, 8:00 PM

9. *Bridges of White and Blue: A Commemoration and Celebration of the Descendants in Western PA of the Lesser-Known Revolutionary Heroes*
(A Joint Project with the European Art Center [Greece] under the Auspice of the “Greece 2021”

Committee), Co-sponsored by the Icarian Brotherhood

Saturday March 27th, 7:30 PM

10. *Prometheus Resurrected: The London Protocols- Celebrating the friendship of France, Great Britain, Russia, and Greece in the Rise of the Modern Greek Nation through the London Protocols of 1827-1830*

A Joint Program of the French, English, Russian and Greek Rooms of the Nationality Rooms Program at the University of Pittsburgh and

the European Art Center [Greece], Formal Bicentennial Proclamations by Mayor William Peduto and County Executive Richard Fitzgerald

Sunday March 28th, 6:00 PM

For updated information, please contact us at

contact@pahellenicfoundation.org

– Through our common memories, lives and dreams,
all of us have – inside of us – some part of Greece

GOYA NEWS

PASTICHIO! An annual crowd pleaser, Greek comfort food, easy to prepare and serve, made with love and delicious! The St. Nicholas GOYA is selling frozen pans of pastichio. The pans are 9"by 12" in size. Each pan is \$30. Check or cash is accepted. **For further information text Alea Melacrinos Mavrogeorgis @ 412 726 5940. Please state who you are in the text.** Pans are ready to sell for Thanksgiving and the holidays after church on Sundays or call the church office to purchase Monday-Friday.

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 16th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	8	9 Philoptochos Board Meeting (via Zoom) 7:00 p.m.	10 St. Haralambos, the Hieromartyr Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. ORTHODOXY* NOW 7:30 p.m.	11	12	13 GREEK2GO 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
14 Sunday of the Canaanite Woman Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	15 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16	17 ORTHODOXY* NOW 7:30 p.m.	18	19	20
21 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee – TRIODION BEGINS Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	22	23	24 ORTHODOXY* NOW 7:30 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	<div> *PLEASE JOIN FR. CHRISTOPHER every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. for his new online program on Zoom: ORTHODOXY NOW! We will be discussing a variety of topics touching on current events as well as exploring our ancient faith in depth – its history, worship, sacraments, and traditions, as well as their connection to Holy Scripture. </div>					