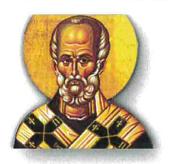
MARCH 14, 2021 - Forgiveness Sunday

Saints of the Day: our devout father Benedict; the holy martyr Alexander of Pidne; and our devout father Efschemon the Confessor, Bishop of Lampsacus. On this day, we remember the expulsion of the first-formed Adam from the Garden of Eden. Verses: Let the world now bitterly mourn with Eve and Adam, for it fell together with them who fell by sweet eating. By Your ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us worthy of the delights of Paradise and have mercy, as You alone love mankind. Amen

Grave (7th) Tone or Mode

Orthros Gospel 7 (John 20:1-10)



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 <u>church@stnickspgh.org</u> or call 412-682-3866 <u>Our Sunday worship schedule: September 1 – June 13: Orthros 8:45 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.</u>

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 soul of the servant of God *Anna Koumbaridou* (40 days). THE **TRISAGION SERVICE** is also being chanted for the souls of the servants of God, for the departed members of the Manthyrea Educational Society (*Vlahokerasiotes*). May God grant them eternal rest.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

• Monday, Mar 15: GREAT LENT BEGINS Great Compline 6:00pm

• Tuesday, Mar 16: GOYA BOYS Basketball 7-9pm

Wednesday, Mar 17: Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 6:00pm
 Friday, Mar 19: First Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00pm

• Saturday, Mar 20: Saturday of the Souls Orthros 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10am

Sunday, Mar 21: SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY (ICON Procession)

HOUSE BLESSINGS will continue by appointment as time permits during Great Lent. 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, address, and phone number. Father will let you know when he plans to come.

MARCH 14, 2021 - Forgiveness Sunday

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Grave (7th) Tone or Mode

Orthros Gospel 7 (John 20:1-10)

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

As the priest exits the Altar the Resurrection Apolytikion in Grave mode is chanted:

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy. [SD]

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἡνέφξας τῷ Ληστῆ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Then the usual Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) for Sundays is heard:
Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Άλληλούϊα.

The Resurrection Apolytikion is repeated. The Hymn for St. Nicholas of Myra the Wonderworker follows: Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῷ ποίμνη σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῷ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῷ πτωχεία τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν. The truth of things has 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.

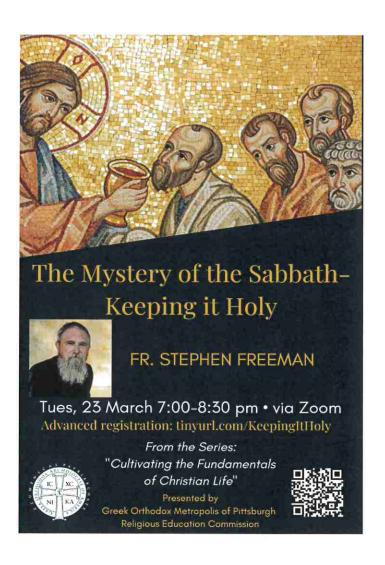
Finally, we hear the Kontakion for Forgiveness Sunday:

O guide to wisdom, provider of prudence, disciplinarian of fools, and defender of the poor, fortify and discipline my heart, O Master; You, give me a word, O Word of the Father. For behold, I will not hinder my lips from crying to You: O merciful Lord, have mercy on me who have fallen. [GKD] Τῆς σοφίας όδηγέ, φρονήσεως χορηγέ, τῶν ἀφρόνων παιδευτά, καὶ πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστά, στήριξον, συνέτισον τὴν καρδίαν μου Δέσποτα. Σὺ δίδου μοι λόγον, ὁ τοῦ Πατρός Λόγος ἱδοὺ γὰρ τὰ χείλη μου, οὐ μὴ κωλύσω ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι Ἑλεῆμον, ἐλέησόν με τὸν παραπεσόντα.

Today's Epistle reading: Rom. 13:11-14; 14:1-4. Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand. [RSV]

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 6:14-21. "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their face that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselve treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." [RSV]

Please note: Today is Cheesefare (Forgiveness)Sunday. Immediately following the Divine Liturgy, we will begin the beautiful Vespers of Forgiveness. Tomorrow the Great Fast (Lent) begins. During this period, the Church asks us to abstain from meat, dairy, olive oil, fish, and alcoholic beverages, if possible. (Fish can be consumed on March 25 and Palm Sunday).



YOUNG ADULT SPRING RETREAT

Saturday, March 27th

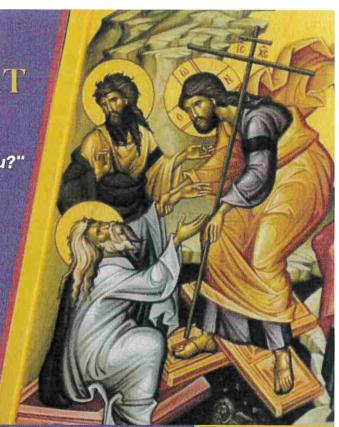
God asked Adam, "Where are you?"

Keynote Speakers: Fr John Cox, Fr John Touloumes

If you knew God was looking for you, would you hide too? If we are lost, let's be found together too.

Via Zoom. No fee. Registration required.

Sign-up: tinyurl.com/YASpring2021



RETREAT SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 27th

Lost and Found "Where are you?" -Genesis 3:9

- 10:30 am Panachida (Memorial) from the Sts Cyril & Methodius Chapel at Camp Nazareth
- 10:45 am Meet & Greet
- 11:15 am Short break Grab some coffee
- 11:30 am Session 1 (Fr John Cox presentation, Q&A)
- 12:00 noon Discussion Groups
- 12:30 pm Afternoon Break (12:30-3:00 pm)
- 3:00 pm Log back in
- 3:10 pm Session 2 (Fr John Touloumes presentation, Q&A)
- 3:40 pm Discussion Groups
- 4:00 pm Surprise!
- 4:30 pm Closing Prayer

Sponsored by:

American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese Metropolis of Pittsburgh Youth & Young Adult Ministries Ukrainian Orthodox Diocese Youth & Young Adult Ministries

More info: youngadultretreats@gmail.com





Registration: tinyurl.com/YASpring2021

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

Goal \$185,000

> \$107,897 Raised

2021	STEWARDSHIP		
Total Stewards	202 (GOAL 300)		
Total Pledged	\$107,897.00 (GOAL \$185,000.00)		
Avg. Pledge	\$534.14		

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 knowns 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.

HELP **PHILOPTOCHOS** HELP THOSE IN NEED BY ORDERING OUR NEW LENTEN FUNDRAISER

Sunday Soupa!

Choose from our delicious homemade Lentil Soup (Fakes) or Bean Soup (Fasolada). Can't decide....order both!

Soups are completely Lenten and available ONLY on Sunday, March 28, April 11 & 25

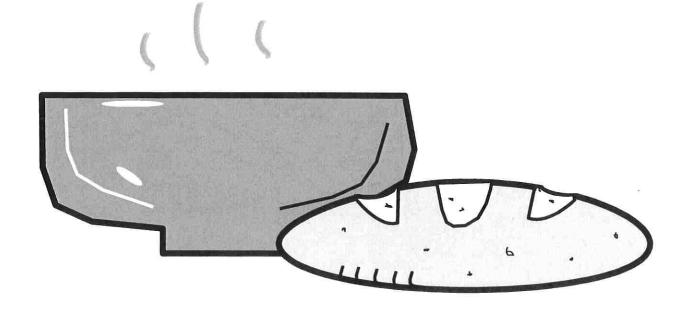
Each quart-size soup comes with a fresh homemade loaf of bread by Chef Joe Bardakos



PREORDERS ONLY

Orders must be placed by Thursday prior to pick-up date by phone, text or email to Nikki Lykos 412.897.8208 / nvlykos@gmail.com

Cash or check made out to St. Nicholas Philoptochos



FROM THE CHURCH SCHOOL DESK:

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

Next week, Sunday, March 21, 2021, the Church School students will participate in the Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession with their favorite icon!

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 (Parish, 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

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!

St. Nicholas Cathedral NEW Website - Keep sending those photos!

We continue to get fabulous pictures from our rich history of St. Nicholas weddings, baptisms, and other celebrations. Thank you! Check out the entire website at: https://www.stnickspgh.org/.

For anyone who would be using an actual photo to start, kindly scan and send, or just take a 'really good picture' of the photo and email. We are passing the torch to Bunny Manners, Office Manager, so please email your pictures to: church@stnickspgh.org.

Wedding Pics: Please include maiden name of bride and date of wedding.

Baptism Pics: Please include baby's name, parents, godparents, (approx) date/year of baptism.

Other Celebration Pics: Please include names of those pictured, occasion of the photo, and approximate date.

Please continue to bear with us while we identify the best way to share this rich history.

Sincere thanks from the Website Committee.



Church School Students:
Please bring an icon
Sunday, March 21, 2021
for the
Sunday of Orthodoxy
Icon Procession

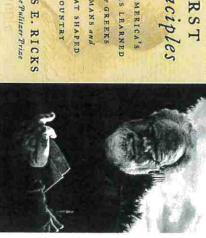




Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Greek Revolution in Western Pennsylvania:

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





First Principles: What America's Founders Learned from the Greeks & ROMANS and How That Shaped Our Country

A Conversation with the Scholar and Best-Seller Author Thomas E. Ricks

Saturday March 20th, 6:00 PM

Open access to the Event "Virtual" live interaction forum upon registration At contact@pahellenicfoundation.org

the Department of Philosophy of the University of Pittsburgh The Greek American Progressive Association (Supreme Lodge) The Icarian Brotherhood Co-sponsored by









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.

Please visit the Celebrations website https://pahellenicfoundation.org/2021 for a complete schedule of events. We will be updating the website with links to the specific events, which are summarized below. Commemorative Program Books will be available for download at these sites, on those days. Among our very distinguished invited guests, who will be participating at scheduled events, are Her Excellency Mrs. Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki, President of the "Greece 2021" Committee, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, His Excellency Mr. Phillipe Etienne, Ambassador of the Republic of France to the USA, Her Excellency Dame Karen Pierce DCMG, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the USA, His Excellency Mr. Anatoly Antonov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the USA, Her Excellency Mrs. Alexandra Papadopoulou, Ambassador of Greece to the USA, Mr. Richard Fitzgerald, Chief Executive of Allegheny County, Mr. William Peduto, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, Mr. Isidoros Madis, Mayor of the Municipality of Peania (Attica, Greece), and Dr. Ariel C. Armony, Vice-Provost for Global Affairs, Director of the University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh.

Scheduled Events:

1. Greetings, Welcome, and Proclamations by Mr. Richard Fitzgerald, Chief Executive of Allegheny County & Mr. William Peduto, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh designating the month of March 2021 as Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh "Celebration of, and Tribute to Greek-Americans in Western PA and Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Greek Revolution of

Monday, March 1st, 2021, 8 PM

2. 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

3. 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

4. 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

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

Saturday March 13th, 7:30 PM

6. From the Partimenti to the National Anthem: First-in-History, Public Performance by a String Ensemble of selections of the unknown chamber music compositions of Nikolaos Mantzaros, Greece's first modern National Composer

Sunday March 14th, 7:30 PM

7. 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, GAPA, and the Icarian Brotherhood

Saturday March 20th, 6:00 PM

8. 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

9. 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,

Co-sponsored by the American Society of Byzantine Music and Hymnology

Thursday, March 25th, 8:00 PM

10. 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

11. 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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 FORGIVENESS (CHEESEFARE) SUNDAY Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. and Forgiveness Vespers	GREAT LENT BEGINS Great Compline 6:00 p.m.	GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts* 6:00 p.m.	18	First Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 p.m.	20 Saturday of the Souls & St. Theodore Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. and Icon Procession	Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 6:00 p.m.	THE ANNUNCIATION Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Second Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 p.m.	27
SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	29	GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts* 6:00 p.m.			

^{*}PLEASE NOTE: Due to the crowded evening schedule of Lenten services, *Orthodoxy Now!* will go on hiatus as a separate program once Lent starts on March 15. However, Fr. Christopher will instead offer a lesson at the conclusion of each Presanctified Liturgy (between 7:15 and 7:30 pm), which viewers can watch from home with our new A-V system.