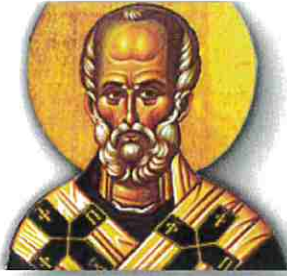


APRIL 11, 2021 – 4th SUNDAY OF LENT – ST. JOHN CLIMACUS

Commemorated today: the holy Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum; the devout woman Tryphaina of Cyzicus; our devout father Farmuthios.

Tone (Mode) 3

Orthros Gospel 11



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 TRISAGION SERVICE is being chanted for the soul of the servant of God *Athena Mandros Krelis* (34 yrs). May God grant her eternal rest.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

- Wednesday, Apr 14: Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm.
- Friday, Apr 16: The Akathist Hymn 7:00 pm.

A BIG THANK YOU to John Peterson for mulching the church grounds. Thank you John!

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Tone (Mode) 3

Orthros Gospel 11

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY:

The first hymn chanted at the Small Entrance is the Resurrection Apolytikion in this week's tone (3):

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιášθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ᾄδου ἐρόύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος. Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy. [SD]

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

“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.” Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι Ἀλληλουῖα.

After the Entrance Hymn the Priest reenters the Sanctuary, and the Resurrection hymn is repeated. This is followed by the hymn for the saint of the Day (John Climacus):

Ταῖς τῶν δακρῶν σου ροαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τό ἀγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκατόν τούς πόνους ἐκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστήρ, τῇ οἰκουμένη λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασι, Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν, Ὅσιε, Πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν. With the rivers of your tears, you have made the barren desert fertile. Through sighs of sorrow from deep within you, your labors have borne fruit a hundred-fold. By your miracles you have become a light, shining upon the world. O John, our Holy Father, pray to Christ our God, to save our souls.

Following this, we chant the Hymn for our Church's Patron Saint, St. Nicholas (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.

*Then, **the** Seasonal Kontakion in the Eighth Tone is heard:*

O Champion General, we your faithful inscribe to you the prize of victory as gratitude for being rescued from calamity, O Theotokos. But since you have invincible power, free us from all kinds of perils so that we may cry out to you: Rejoice, O Bride unwedded.

Τὴ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, ἀναγράφω σοὶ ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε, Ἀλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, ἐκ παντοίων μὲ κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, ἵνα κράζω σοί, Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

Epistle: Hebrews 6: 13-20. Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus as gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. [RSV]

Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31. At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise." [RSV]

GOYA

PASTICHIO: Break the Lenten fast with a Greek crowd pleaser, pastichio! It is "a must" on every Pascha (Easter) table! The frozen pastichio pans are 9"X12" 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 still available for Pascha, while supplies last. You can buy pans on Sunday or call the church office to purchase Monday-Friday.

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

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	220 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$118,672.00 (GOAL \$185,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$539.42

FROM THE CHURCH SCHOOL DESK:

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

Upcoming dates to remember:

Palm Making

Saturday, April 24, 2021

(Following the Divine Liturgy)

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, May 2, 2021

(Following the Agape Service)

Church School Graduation

Sunday, May 23, 2021

I appreciate the support from all of you and thanks for sharing your children with us every Sunday!

Yours in Christ,

Miss Michelle

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES

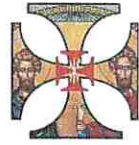
Updated Parish Directory – Please make sure to pick up your updated parish directory from the church office! We also appreciate if those who are able to come to church can take and deliver copies for friends/family who you may visit. If you are a newer member of the parish and have never received the 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.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH
GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY



March 31, 2021

Dear Philoptochos Sister in Christ,

This past year has been a difficult one to say the least. Life as we knew it was forever changed by the pandemic. People around the world were faced with illness, job loss, and the loss of loved ones. The National Philoptochos, as well as our Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos and local chapters, provided assistance to those in need.

One of the most devastating outcomes of this pandemic has been the increased number of individuals and families facing food insecurity. Hunger in America is on the rise. Now more than ever, people are turning to food pantries and food banks for help. Our Metropolis of Pittsburgh is poised and ready to help with this increased need.

Due to Covid restrictions, this year's **Daffodil Luncheon** will not be held as an in-person event. Instead we are raising monies that will be distributed among Food Banks throughout our Metropolis with **100%** of all donations going directly to the Food Banks. So 100% of your tax deductible donation will go directly to help feed individuals and families in need.

Prior to this year, our Daffodil Luncheon has been a time when we gathered together as one body, enjoyed a delicious meal and raised money for our own Social Services, with portions going to outside organizations. This year, we will gather together virtually in the true spirit of giving to provide delicious, healthy meals to those individuals and families in need. Won't you join us in almsgiving this Lenten Season to help make this year's Daffodil Luncheon Fundraiser a true blessing to others? The enclosed flyer has details on how you can donate.

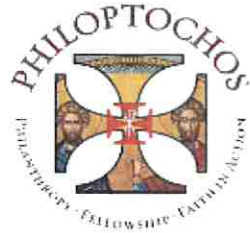
"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."
(Matthew 25)

Sincerely,

Joyce Spanakis
Daffodil Fundraiser Chairperson

Despina Sarantopoulou
Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos President

METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH PHILOPTOCHOS
DAFFODIL VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER



Join us in our Fight Against Hunger!

Help us raise money for the regional Food Banks throughout the Metropolis to provide meals for those individuals and families in need.

100% of all monies raised will be donated directly to the Food Banks.

This year rather than enjoying a luncheon together, support us in our effort to feed others!



**Make checks payable to
The Metropolis of
Pittsburgh
Philoptochos: c/o Paula
Makris Larance
46 Maple Avenue
Wheeling, WV 26003**

**Donations can be made by
scanning this QR Code:**



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!

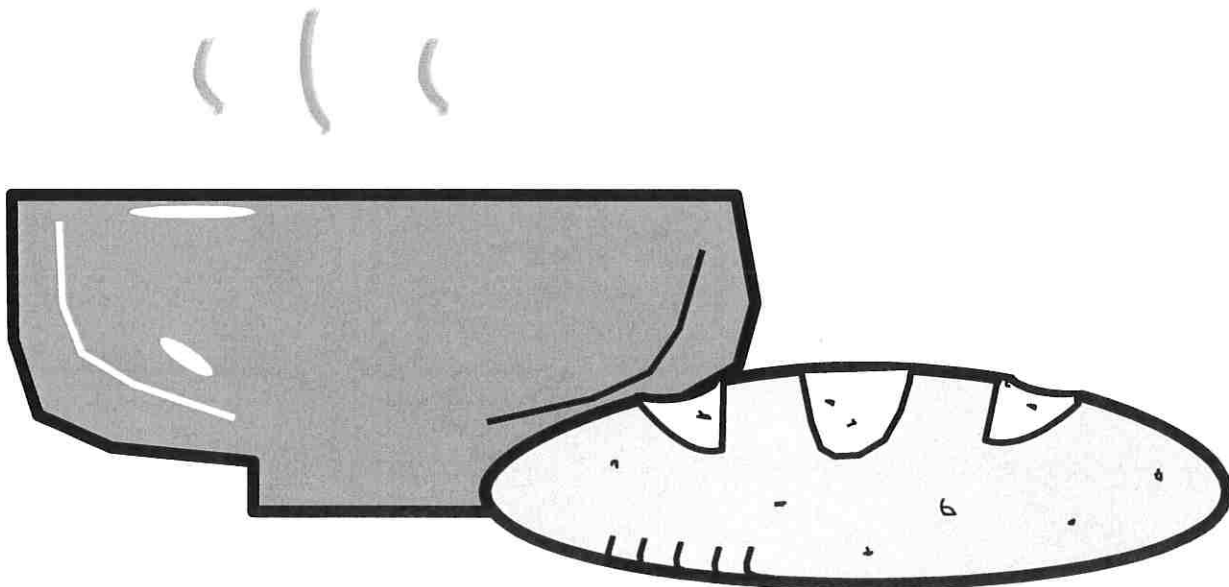
Soups are completely Lenten
and available **ONLY** on **Sunday, April 11 & 25**

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

\$10 *qt.*

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



ATTENTION:

Palm Making

Saturday, April 24, 2021

**Following the Divine Liturgy in the
Small Hall**



**Remember there is
Church School on
Palm Sunday,
April 25, 2021!**



Please join us for our annual

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, May 2, 2021

Following the Agape Service

**If you wish to help,
please bring one dozen pre-filled plastic eggs on Sunday
and drop them off in the Narthex before Church.**

Questions: Call Michelle Kotsagrellos (412) 680-1416



METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH AND
THE GOA CENTER FOR FAMILY CARE

Jesus – the Resurrection and the Life of the Family

A FAMILY LENTEN RETREAT



Saturday, April 17th, 10-11:30 am

Zoom registration link:
tinyurl.com/GOMoP-FamilyRetreat



Jesus – the Resurrection and the Life of the Family

A FAMILY LENTEN RETREAT

Retreat Schedule

- 10:00 am - Welcome
 - Opening Prayer
 - Comments
- 10:15 am - Keynote Address-
Fr. Alex Goussetis
- 10:30 am - Guided Discussion
- 10:45 am - Breakout Groups
- 11:15 am - Wrap-up Discussion
- 11:30 am - Closing Comments

More info? Fr. Joseph DiStefano
Email: frjdistefano@yahoo.com
Phone: 724.304.1230



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2021

Lazarus Saturday, April 24 – Σάββατο του Λαζάρου, 24 Απριλίου

Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

Όρθρος, 8:45 π.μ., Θεία Λειτουργία, 10:00 π.μ.

PALM SUNDAY, April 25 – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΒΑΙΩΝ, 25 Απριλίου:

Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

Όρθρος, 8:30 π.μ., Θεία Λειτουργία, 10:00 π.μ.

1st Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m. – 1^η Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου, 7:00 μ.μ.

Holy Monday, April 26 – Μεγάλη Δευτέρα, 26 Απριλίου:

2nd Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m. – 2^η Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου, 7:00 μ.μ.

Holy Tuesday, April 27 – Μεγάλη Τρίτη, 27 Απριλίου:

3rd Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m. – 3^η Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου (Τροπάριον της Κασσιανής), 7:00 μ.μ.

Holy Wednesday, April 28 – Μεγάλη Τετάρτη, 28 Απριλίου:

Holy Unction and Anointing, 5:00 p.m. – Το Ευχέλαιον, 5:00 μ.μ.

Holy Thursday, April 29 – Μεγάλη Πέμπτη, 29 Απριλίου:

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, 9:30 a.m.

Εσπερινή Θεία Λειτουργία του Μεγάλου Βασιλείου, 9:30 π.μ.

Service of the Holy Passion of our Lord, 6:30 p.m.

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY, APRIL 30 – ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ, 30 Απριλίου:

Royal Hours, 9:00 a.m. – Ακολουθία των Βασιλικών Ωρών, 9:00 π.μ.

Great Vespers (Descent from the Cross), 2:30 p.m. – Εσπερινός της Αποκαθήλωσης, 2:30 μ.μ.

The Lamentations Service, 7:00 p.m. – Ο Επιτάφιος Θρήνος, 7:00 μ.μ.

GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY, MAY 1 – ΜΕΓΑ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ, 1 Μαΐου

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 9:30 a.m.

Εσπερινός και Θεία Λειτουργία του Μεγάλου Βασιλείου, 9:30 π.μ.

Vigil Service, 10:45 p.m. – Παννύχτις, 10:45 μ.μ.

RESURRECTION SERVICE AND DIVINE LITURGY, 11:45 p.m.

ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΕΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ, 11:45 μ.μ.

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA, SUNDAY, MAY 2 – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ, 2 ΜΑΙΟΥ

Vespers of Agape, 1:00 p.m. – Εσπερινός της Αγάπης, 1:00 μ.μ. (Volunteers are kindly invited to read the Gospel in various languages – please see Fr. Christopher)

CHRIST IS RISEN! ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ΧΡΗCΤΟC ΒΟCΚΡΕC! HRISTOS A ÎNVIAT!

APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 Sunday of St. John Climacus Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Sunday Soupa 11:30 a.m.	12	13 GOYA Vollyball 7pm	14 Presanctified Liturgy * 6:00 p.m.	15	16 The Akathist Hymn 7:00 p.m.	17
18 Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	19 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	20 GOYA Vollyball 7pm	21 Presanctified Liturgy* 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24 Lazarus Saturday Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
25 Palm Sunday Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Sunday Soupa 11:30 a.m. Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	26 Holy Monday Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	27 Holy Tuesday Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	28 Holy Wednesday Holy Unction & Anointing 5:00 p.m.	29 Holy Thursday Vesperal Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Mystical (Last) Supper 12 Gospels (Crucifixion) Service 6:30 p.m.	30 Great and Holy Friday Royal Hours 9:00 a.m. Apokathelosis Vespers 2:30 p.m. Lamentations 7:00 p.m.	MAY 1 Great and Holy Saturday Vesperal Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Vigil Service 10:45 p.m. Resurrection Service & Paschal Liturgy 11:45 p.m.
MAY 2 GREAT & HOLY PASCHA Vespers of Agape 1:00 p.m.	<div> <p>*PLEASE NOTE: Due to the crowded evening schedule of Lenten services, <i>Orthodoxy Now!</i> 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.</p> </div>					

St. Nicholas Cathedral NEW Website

Please continue sending photos (i.e., Church Picnics, Food Festival, Greek School Events, etc.). 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 to church@stnickspgh.org.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Wedding Pics: Please include Maiden name of Bride and Date of Wedding.

Baptism Pics: Please include Baby's Name, Parents, Godparents, Date/Year of Baptism.

Other Celebratory Pics: Please include Names of those pictured, Occasion, and Date.

Continue to use the website for filling out your **Stewardship** card, as well as, making a **Donation** toward your yearly Stewardship Commitment.

If anyone has any suggestions for the website, please let us know.

Check out the entire website at: <https://www.stnickspgh.org/>

Sincere thanks from the Website Committee