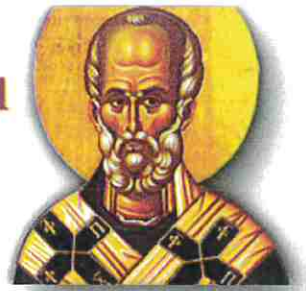




## Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA

419 S Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh PA 15213 412-682-3866



### *FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER*



**THE GREAT MARTYR**

**THEODORE the TYRO**

**HIS FEAST DAY IS**

**FEBRUARY 17, 2022**

### **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.

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**  
**419 S. Dithridge Street Pittsburgh, PA 15213**  
**Reverend Father Christopher Bender, Dean**  
**Reverend Deacon Robert Lykos**

Watch Sunday services streaming live from St Nicholas Cathedral at [www.stnickspgh.org/](http://www.stnickspgh.org/)  
and click on "Live Streaming Click Here".

On-Line Giving donations are up and running on our web page [www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org) by  
clicking please donate button - or you may access the donation page by using  
<https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give>

<b>Father Christopher</b>	724-630-3483	frchbender@verizon.net
<b>Barbara Manners</b>	Office Manager	church@stnickspgh.org
<b>Mary Olszewski</b>	Event Coordinator	<a href="mailto:events@stnickspgh.org">events@stnickspgh.org</a>
<b>Vincent Nelson,</b>	Maintenance	412-537-4073

Church Phone 412-682-3866  
Church Fax 412-683-4960  
Church email: church@stnickspgh.org

**2022 Parish Council**

Peter Nychis, *President*  
John Frentzos, *Vice President*  
James Machin, *Treasurer*  
Dean Panagulias, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Michelle Kotsagrellos, *Secretary*  
Sophia Panagis, *Assistant Secretary*  
Simon Barber, George Bellios, Victor Bertolina, Arthur Dordas,  
Peter Krelis, Van Paras  
Jim Stamatelos

**Service Schedule**

Fall and Winter Hours (September-June):

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

Summer Hours (July & August):

Orthros 8:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

**Hall Rentals**

If you are interested in renting either our small or large hall,  
please contact our events coordinator Mary Olszewski, at  
412-628-9466 for more information and availability.

**Metropolis** 412-621-5529 [www.pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://www.pittsburgh.goarch.org)  
**Archdiocese** 212-570-3500 [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

**CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB**

[www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org)  
[www.stnickscathedralroom.com](http://www.stnickscathedralroom.com)

And look for us on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Saint-Nicholas-Greek-Orthodox-Cathedral-Pittsburgh-PA>



*Important Notice from Metropolitan Savas*

The recent surge in coronavirus cases in our general area, and in our parish communities in particular, has been cause for concern. This has affected clergy and laity, old and young, vaccinated and unvaccinated alike. While we maintain our ultimate trust and hope in God's providence for our lives, we also recognize the fundamental scriptural call for each of us to safeguard one another, especially the most vulnerable among us, regardless of how we perceive the risks to ourselves; we are called to love one another self-sacrificially, to bear each other's burdens, and to be our brother's and sister's keeper.

**Therefore, I am implementing a masking mandate at all Church-related functions (whether on Church property or not) and for all non-Church functions taking place on Church property, effective immediately and until further notice.** For those who are unable to mask, in-person participation in worship and meetings will not be possible, so each community should make reasonable accommodations; contact your parish priest for sacramental needs, and any essential meetings should have an option for participation via electronic means (telephone or videoconference).

I ask you to continue to make supplication to the Lord, to the Theotokos, and to the healing Saints (especially the recently canonized St. Nicephoros the Leper) for those affected by the pandemic: those who have been ill, the doctors and medical workers treating them, supporting family whose loved ones have died or been negatively impacted, those who are suffering job loss or financial instability, and those who suffer with anxiety or other psychological conditions; and may our God grant rest to all those who have departed this life in hope of the Resurrection.

With Archpastoral blessings and love in the Lord,

+ SAVAS  
Metropolitan of Pittsburgh

**Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh**  
5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
Ph: 412-621-5529 Fx: 412-621-1522  
<https://pittsburgh.goarch.org>

## FATHER'S MESSAGE

*For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to **be holy** and blameless in his sight.  
– Ephesians 1:4*

February 2022

Beloved Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

God is holy, and wants us to **be holy**. . . (yawn). . . we've heard this message a thousand times, and most of us have probably dismissed it as impossible, or worse, undesirable. After all, it sounds so *boring* – standing around chanting all day, and denying oneself every possible pleasure in life. But to think this way is to fall into the trap of reducing the holy life to a false stereotype, so it can then be conveniently dismissed. When we do so, we short-change ourselves, because being holy does not mean boring, but rather whole, and wholesome – living life in the fullest sense of the word, to the best of our ability, at peace with ourselves, with our neighbors, our world, and – most importantly – with God. This was a lesson that my Dogmatics professor – who happens to have been His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos of blessed memory – drove home to us time and again. For, the Orthodox faith sees the goal of the Christian life as union with God, which is actually a dynamic, never-ending process by which the believer, through God's grace, fulfills his or her humanity by becoming ever more God-like (holy). In doing so, we leave behind nothing but our sin – whatever it may be. We also are gifted to develop the potential to see all things as they really are, in all their pristine glory, as God created them – and not as they normally appear to us, in our fallen human state.

There is much to celebrate and take pleasure in, in this beautiful world: a sunny day, a reunion with loved ones, the mastery of a new skill, satisfaction in a job well done, sharing love with one's spouse, and much, much more. So, the problem is not with pleasure *per se*, but rather, with disordered pleasures – those which are contrary to God's will, because they are harmful to ourselves or to those who count on us. This is the bait that the evil one uses, in order to entice us into sinning. It is sin, then, which enslaves us and drags us down into bondage to the devil. This is the opposite of freedom. It cannot bring any lasting happiness.

What does our Lord offer us, instead? What can possibly make us more fully alive, more human, than we already are? What Christ offers us, by virtue of His sacrifice on the Cross for our sins, is nothing short of adoption into the family of God. Just as He is God's son by nature, so also has He given us the potential to become God's sons (children) by grace. And in doing so, we begin to understand and to taste what *true* freedom is: the "glorious liberty of the children of God" (Rom. 8:21). Freed from enslavement to our sin, we no longer need to succumb to the heartache and anxiety that characterized our former lives. We become "new persons," God's children, transformed by the grace of God working within us.

This new life of freedom does not necessarily require us to join a monastery or the priesthood – these are special vocations, which are only appropriate for those who have received them – but it does ask all of us to make some changes in our lives: first, to let go of that which keeps us far from God – such as our pride, our ego, and our destructive habits; and then, to allow God's Spirit to work within us, so that His gifts become our own: faith, hope, joy, peace, kindness, gentleness, and, especially LOVE.

## FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

February is the month when we begin the long road which leads to Great Lent and beyond. The Gospel readings are intended to prepare us for this "journey to Pascha," as the late, great Orthodox theologian Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, referred to Lent. These readings call us to repent of our pride and learn humility (i.e., honesty about who we really are, and what we have done) (the Publican and the Pharisee); to return in humble repentance to our loving Father's embrace (the Prodigal Son); and to learn what it means to truly see the face of Christ in our neighbor in need (the Last Judgment). Here are three of the most important lessons from Christ's parables, which, if heeded, can become the keys which unlock the chains which bind us.

Another valuable and necessary tool in throwing off the shackles of sin is the Sacrament of *Confession*. Through this mystery of our faith, our Lord comes to us just as the Father does in the parable of the Prodigal Son, to forgive, embrace, and reconcile Himself to us. Confession exists, not to humiliate the sinner or to entertain the priest, but rather, so that we can have a place to go to unload our burden, whatever it may be, and put behind us that which holds us back from making progress on our journey. It is the spiritual equivalent of going to see a doctor. It heals the soul. It restores hope, and brings our flagging faith back to life. Please take advantage of it during this holy season! I am available at any time, by appointment, for this purpose – as are all the Orthodox priests in our area.

Holiness is not boring; it is *exciting*! It is a great venture of self-discovery, which leads us beyond ourselves into the presence of the Living God. It brings us untold blessings, which change us from within into what we were actually destined to be all along. It is God's gift of Himself to us, mediated through His Son, our Savior. It is the living water, the pearl of great price, the lost coin, indeed, the "one thing needful," the "good portion, which shall not be taken away." (Luke 10:42).

May the gracious God who makes everything new – including our hearts – be with you and yours, now, and always.

In Christ's love,

*Rev. Father Christoph H. Bender*

Protopresbyter Christopher Bender, Dean

**Funerals**

**Our deepest condolences to the families of:**

***Danica “Daisy” Vucinich*** who passed away on Friday, December 31, 2021.  
Her funeral was on Monday, January 3, 2022 in Midland PA.

***Catherine Georgiades*** who passed away on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.  
Her funeral & burial was in Cyprus.

***Peter Clyde Papadakos*** who passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022. His funeral was on Thursday, January 20 at Holy Dormition in Oakmont.

***Speros G. Drelles*** who passed away on Friday, January 21, 2022. His funeral was private on January 25, 2022.

***Thomas Nicholas Tanglos*** who passed away on Sunday, January 16, 2022. His funeral was on Saturday, January 29, 2022.

**May God grant them eternal rest & may their memory be eternal.**

# Theophany & the Blessing of the Waters

**“WHAT IS THEOPHANY?”** Every year on January 5 & 6 we celebrate the great feastday of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Baptism of Christ in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptist presents us with a great mystery of God: “He who is the Master of all is baptized by a servant, and He gives mankind cleansing through water.”

**“WHAT IS A HOUSE BLESSING?”** In celebration of Theophany, Orthodox Christians invite Christ not only into their hearts, but also their homes. We call upon Him to bring the blessings and spiritual cleansing of the Jordan into our daily lives. We do this each year by having the priest bless our homes with the Holy Water from the service of Theophany, offering prayers for our health, our family, and the Lord's abundant blessings in the coming year.

**“WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?”** When Fr. Christopher visits, please have ready: 1) a list of names of your family members, 2) an icon. He will begin the service in the dining room or in the area of your home where you keep your icons, and then he will ask you to guide him around the house so that he may sprinkle the Holy Water throughout it. During the service, please turn off televisions, radios, etc., and silence your cell phones, so that full concentration may be given to the service.

**“WHAT ABOUT BUSINESSES?”** You may also request a blessing for your office or business. What better way to offer thanks to the Lord for your livelihood which He provides and to ask for His continued blessings upon it?

**BLESSING OF HOMES:** After the Holy Water Service on January 6, Fr. Christopher will begin blessing the homes of our parish with holy water. This year he will be blessing homes by appointment from January 6 on.

**IN ORDER TO HAVE YOUR HOUSE BLESSED, please fill out this form and return it to the church office. If you are mailing it, please address it to Fr. Christopher and mark it ATTN: HOUSE BLESSING. He will call you to schedule a time for your house blessing.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED TIME OF VISIT: Morning Afternoon Evening





(Name \_\_\_\_\_ )

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
NAMES FOR SATURDAYS OF THE SOULS 2022**

**(February 26, March 5 & 12 & June 11)**

*"Again, we pray for the repose of the souls of the departed servants of God . . . and for the forgiveness of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary."*

(Please note: First names only; use complete baptismal name, if known -Greek or English)

Orthodox Christians  
**FIRST NAMES ONLY**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
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Others

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## GOYA NEWS

The St. Nicholas GOYA attended the 1st Metropolis Basketball Tournament of the season on January 14-16 hosted by All Saints, Canonsburg, Pa. We are very thankful to the All Saints GOYA for hosting this tournament. The weekend was filled with fun, fellowship, and friendly competition. Our Junior Girls won 2nd Place, the Senior Girls won 1st Place and our Senior Boys won consolation. Thank you to everyone who helped make this weekend possible. Our GOYAns are looking forward to attending the 2nd Tournament hosted by the Holy Saints GOYA in Steubenville, Ohio, February 11-13.

**PASTICHIO FOR SALE** – This year the 9 by 13 pans are \$35. Checks can be made to St. Nicholas GOYA. Cash is also acceptable. For pastichio pickups, call the church office or contact Alea Melacrinos Mavrogeorgis via text 412 726-5940. Please identify who you are in a detailed message.





## *St. Nicholas Church School*

### **From the Church School Desk!**

25 hats, 31 pairs of gloves, 4 scarves, 2 pairs of socks and 1 set of earmuffs were delivered to the Neighborhood Resilience Project for their **Project Bundle-up**. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

The St. Nicholas Church School teachers, staff and students want to wish our GOYANs (and Church School students) Good Luck at their upcoming **GOYA Basketball Tournaments** at Holy Saints (Steubenville, OH) February, 11-13, 2022, and Holy Cross (Pittsburgh, PA) February 25-27, 2022.

Church School students in grades 7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> can learn more about their faith and participate in the **St. Nicholas Oratorical Festival** that will be held in **March 2022**. For more information, please contact Chairman Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com.

**Sunday, March 13, 2022**, the Church School students will participate in the **Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession** with their favorite icon!

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral's Church School Open House** will be **Sunday, April 10, 2022**, where parents and grandparents attend Church School to see firsthand what their children are learning.

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

Yours in Christ,  
*Miss Michelle*

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## *Philoptochos News*

We have begun our yearly Membership Drive. If you haven't received a brochure yet, it's on its way. In 2021, we had 82 Philoptochos members supporting our philanthropic mission. Your membership contribution allows us to continue providing aid for those in need. In the past 2 years we have donated more than \$40,000 in aid to local organizations and community members. We help the community by providing hot meals and bagged lunches to the Neighborhood Resilience Project for distribution. We provide funds to area organizations to assist in their operations and to individuals in need for everyday and emergency expenses. With your continued support we are able to continue our mission.

Our next General Meeting is Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. A zoom link will be provided for those wishing to join virtually. We plan on meeting in person as well but look to your email or contact me to confirm how the meeting will be done, our last board meeting ended up virtual. Either way it is a great opportunity to see what our organization does, how we work, and enjoy some socialization for a great cause.

On Sunday January 9<sup>th</sup>, we raised \$810 for St. Basil's Academy, thank you to all who donated.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Bardakos, President  
412-519-8684  
marbard47@gmail.com



# 2022 STEWARDSHIP

## Our Church. Our Spiritual Home

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



2022 STEWARDSHIP		01/24/2022
Total Stewards		133
Total Amount Pledged		\$ 84,112.00
Average Pledge		\$ 816.62
% Parish Participation to Date		44%
2022 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		45%
2022 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 185,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$ 35,515.95
As of:		12/31/2021
Income: Pledges & Basket Collection, Fall Food Festival and Greek2Go	\$ 539,564.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$ 468,706.00	
	\$ 70,858.00	

## 2022 STEWARDSHIP, Con't

### 2022 St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Stewards 01/24/22

Ms. Debra Adams  
 James & Electra Agras  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Amorgianos  
 Mr. Steven Andrews  
 Mrs. Elaine Andrianos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Andriotis  
 Mr. George Anthon  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yianni Antoniadis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Spilius Argiropoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Avery  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Ban  
 Mr. & Mrs. Simon Barber  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Baughman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Baughman  
 Ms. Andrea Beldecos  
 Fr. Christopher & Dr. Filitsa Bender  
 Ms. Sophia Bender  
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bertolina  
 Mrs. Rebecca Bertos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Carlisano  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Chapas  
 Mr. Greg Cominos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Cominos  
 Mrs. Marion Constantinides-Bennett  
 Mr. Philip Contacos  
 Ms. Jamie Contis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John J. Contis  
 Mr. Charles G. Copetas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dino P. Copetas  
 Mrs. Helen G. Copetas  
 Mrs. Theodora Copetas  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Copetas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Countouris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yianni Coutris  
 Mr. John Dakis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Taki Darakos  
 Mrs. Christine Dickos  
 Mr. Arthur J. Dordas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Doris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Eberhardt  
 Dr. & Mrs. Demetrius Ellis  
 Mrs. Elaine Ellis  
 Mrs. Virginia Fekaris  
 Mrs. Alice K. Flocos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frank  
 Mrs. Alice Gary  
 Mrs. Alexandra Gregory  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gregory  
 Mr. & Mrs. James P. Hages  
 Ms. Aphrodite Halleran  
 Dr. & Mrs. Dean Hanna  
 Mrs. Frances Hanna  
 Mrs. Rania Harris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kakavis  
 Mrs. Lucia Kalaras  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kamarados  
 Mr. Peter Kamaras  
 Ms. Christine Kanakis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster Kartotis  
 Mrs. Georgia Katsafanas

Mr. Lee Katsafanas  
 Mr. Andron Kavouras  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Kefalos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kefalos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Georgios Kitsios  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kleissas  
 Mrs. Estair Kotsagrelas  
 Ms. Michelle Marie Kotsagrelas  
 Ms. Christine Krelis  
 Ms. Georgia Krelis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kristian  
 Mr. & Mrs. James T. Kukunas  
 Dr. & Mrs. James Kyros  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kemon Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas D. Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Leombruno  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lipecky  
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Lykos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James D. Machin  
 Dr. Nicoletta Machin & Dr. Suman Yadam  
 Ms. Karen Malobicky  
 Ms. Electra Markopoulos  
 Mr. Greg Markopoulos  
 Mrs. Helen Mastro  
 Ms. Alisa Mathews  
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGuire  
 Mrs. Patricia McKee  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christos S. Melacrinis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Menniti  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Michaels  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Mitchell  
 Mr. Paul L. Moses  
 Mrs. Tara Pallas-Sheetz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Panagoulas  
 Mrs. Georgia Pandeladis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John N. Panos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pantages  
 Mr. John C. Paras  
 Mr. Van Paras  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Parlour  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jake Persinger  
 Mrs. Stamatia Peters  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Peterson  
 Mrs. Vera Poland  
 Mrs. Helene Powers  
 Mrs. Esther Rafaloski  
 Mr. Anastasios Raptis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nikolaos Sarioglou  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Sideris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Francis Silva-Muracca  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stamatelos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Stamoolis  
 Mrs. Toulia Stathopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stratigos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Pat Strauch  
 Mrs. Katia Sycara & Mr. Michael Lewis  
 Ms. Evangeline Theodoridis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Thomas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsourekis

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tsudis  
 Ms Mary Vasilakis  
 Mr. Sam Vassilaros & Ms. Alexa Loufman  
 Mrs. Stella Vassilaros  
 Mr. & Mrs. Perry Velisaris  
 Mrs. Frances Vlahos  
 Mrs. Stacey Whipple  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leo Yannopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Yannopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Zaras  
 Dr. Katerina Zavaras







Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
Pittsburgh, PA

**2022 ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
CONFIDENTIAL FAMILY STEWARDSHIP CARD**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Alternate address if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***PLEASE provide pertinent information on reverse side about your family members-THANK YOU!***

**TREASURE-** Total Gift for 2022 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution Frequency: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

☐ Please send Stewardship Envelopes ☐ I don't use envelopes Statement delivery: ☐ US Mail ☐ Email



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
Pittsburgh, PA

**TALENT-** Please check the items below that you or a family member  
has some expertise or interest. Place initials of the  
specific family member after each item checked.

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Language School _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Church School _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> Office/Newsletter _____          | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Choir _____     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation of Elderly _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach Ministry _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Mgmt. _____              | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking/Festival _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ministry _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Mechanical/Plumbing |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philoptochos _____          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____             |   |   |

**TIME-** St. Nicholas Cathedral is grateful for our many volunteers. Thank you!

Name & relationship i.e., self, spouse, child, etc. Date of birth Marital Status Occupation OR school/grade

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Many of you have been contributing, but **PLEASE** complete  
a Stewardship Card.

Our website may be used to fill out a Stewardship Card and  
make a payment <https://www.stnickspgh.org>  
or call the church office (412-682-3866).

## FOOD FESTIVAL COOKING SCHEDULE

### February

Galatouboureko	Saturday, February 5 (9 a.m.—1:00 p.m. only kitchen) Sunday, 12-4 Monday: starting at 9:00 a.m. (February 6 & 7)
Pastitsio	Friday, February 18 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Sunday, February 20th 12 noon—4:00 p.m.
Koulourakia	Sunday, Feb 27 12:00 noon — 4:00 p.m. Possibly Monday, February 28 9:00 a.m.

### March

Kourambiethes	Tuesday: March 8
Baklava	Sunday, Monday : March 13 & 14
Finikia	Sunday: March 20

### April

Tiropita	Saturday, Sunday & Monday: April 2,3 & 4
Diples	Tuesday: April 12

## FOOD FESTIVAL UPDATE

4 down, 9 to go!  
1/3 of the way there!

If 5 new faces come and make 5 pans each, we'd be 25 pans ahead!

If 10 new faces come and make 5 pans each, we'd be 50 pans ahead!

Please come join us!  
Men, Women, Young and Old  
No experience needed

Training on site  
Impress your family and friends telling them that the Finiki or Koulouraki  
they're enjoying at the festival  
might be one you made!

**St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival**  
**May 1 - 7, 2022**

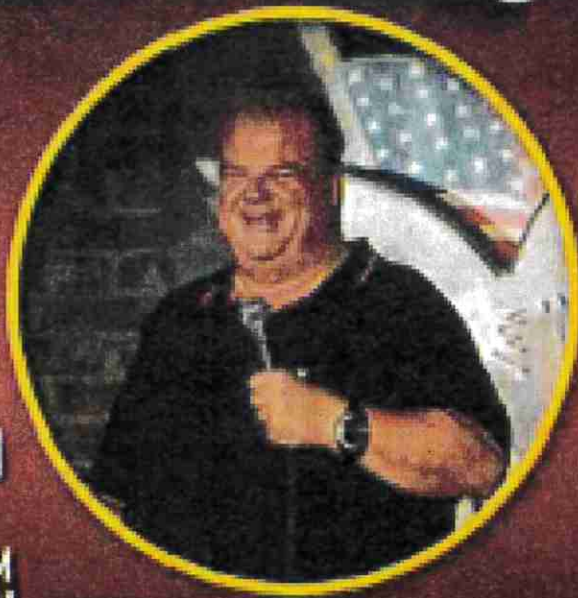
## VENUE CHANGE

# ANGELO TSAROUCHAS



**FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 4TH**

**DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM  
SHOW STARTS AT 8PM**



**FRANZEE'S BANQUET HALL  
1300 MERCHANT ST  
AMBRIDGE, PA 15003**

**FOR TICKETS CONTACT:**

**CONNIE 724-624-1993**

**HARRY 412-292-4205**



**WWW.GREEKPROMOTIONS.LIVE.COM**





## A GOOD WORD — Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH  
VOLUME 5 No. 9 (Issue 43) — FEBRUARY 2022



### PASSING OF ARCHON PETER CLYDE PAPADAKOS

A son of the late Archon Nicholas & Stavroula Papadakos, Peter Clyde was an engaged member of the Church his entire life, learning to chant from a young age and applying this gift for more than five decades in three different parishes. He further enhanced the music ministry in the Pittsburgh area by offering free instruction in Byzantine Music to many individuals through the years.

He was a dedicated servant of the Metropolis, serving on the Council since its inception in 1979, spending most of those years as its Secretary and Legal Counsel. He was frequently involved as a co-chair or key facilitator of major events, and offered his love and talents to many, assisting with Greek Education, the Armonia Chorus, Youth Ministry, chanting in other parishes on feastdays, ordinations, funerals, and other sacraments. This he did while also remaining among the longest-participating members of the Grecian Odyssey Dancers of Ypapanti GOC of East Pittsburgh, with whom he performed 835 shows.

*(Continued on page 2)*



### PREPARE NOW FOR A SUCCESSFUL ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Procrastination is a regular part of our lives. But organizers of the St. John Oratorical Festival – at the parish, Metropolis and Archdiocesan levels – are doing their best to make sure we're not waiting until the last minute by offering ways to prepare for success today. For example, the topics for the oratorical festival were published in November 2021 and can be found online at:

<https://www.goarch.org/en/-/preparing-for-a-local-oratorical-festival>

In the Metropolis of Pittsburgh, oratorical festival organizer Ann Ariano offers the following tips for a successful parish event:

- Include the list of topics in your Parish's monthly/weekly newsletter.
- Distribute the list and remind students of the festival dates during GOYA meetings.
- Brainstorm ideas for speeches into the Sunday School Curriculum for 7th-12th grades (beginning in January)
- If your Parish has had a past Metropolis or National Finalist, ask him/her to speak to your Sunday School/GOYA about their experience.
- Make the Parish Festival a formal event, consider including a meal for the participants and their families, invite the entire parish to attend.
- Encourage 4-6th grade students to participate in the Elementary Division of the Festival and have speeches at the same time as your Junior/Senior speakers to gain experience speaking in public and to be inspired by their older peers.
- Ask Festival Judges to provide written constructive feedback to all speakers - including Elementary participants.
- Consider offering scholarships (to camps, for example) or other incentives. Also consider asking Parish organizations such as Philoptochos, AHEPA, Sunday School, etc. for donations towards scholarships. Elementary participants can each receive a small gift or cash award.
- In the weeks that follow your Parish Festival, allow the participants to give their speeches in church so the entire community may hear them.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

- Passing of Archon Peter Clyde Papadakos
- Prepare Now for a Successful Oratorical Festival
- Cultivating a Love of Service Webinar
- 2022 Young Adult Spring Retreat
- Day of Service: March 2022

You can learn more about the Metropolis of Pittsburgh Oratorical Festival online, by visiting: <https://www.pittsburgh.goarch.org/oratorical>



2022 YOUNG  
ADULT

# Spring Retreat

March 25-27, 2022  
AT CAMP NAZARETH

Open to **all** jurisdictions ages 18-35

Forming  
Christ-Centered  
Relationships



With Guest Speakers: Fr. Chris and Kh. Sophia Shadid

# Day of Service

March 12/13, 2022



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METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH  
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT  
MINISTRIES

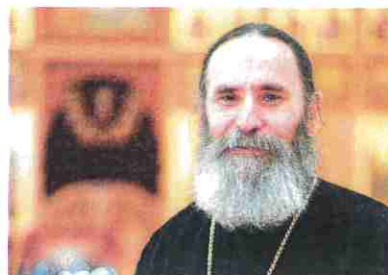
Metropolis of Pittsburgh



Philoptochos

## CULTIVATING A LOVE OF SERVICE

On Feb. 15 at 7 PM, the Metropolis Religious Education Committee is hosting a presentation of-



ffered by Fr. Patrick Tishel entitled "Cultivating A Love of Service" that is open to all. In addition to being headmaster and co-founder of St. Herman of Alaska Christian School, Fr. Tishel is parish priest at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church in Allston, MA. Among the ministries he started is a weekly soup kitchen that has been serving nutritious, homemade meals for more than 30 years.

Fr. Tishel is a frequent speaker and teacher who has appeared in countless interviews and talks, many of which can be found online. Stay tuned to Metropolis social media outlets (and your email) for a forthcoming registration link.

*(Continued from page 1)*

He excelled in his service to the national Church, representing the Diocese & Metropolis on the Archdiocesan Council for many terms, and participating with distinction on the Legal and Religious Education Committees, and was recognized via investiture as Archon Ekdikos of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 2006, and he has furthered the work of the order within this Metropolis as its Regional Commander.

The family requests that donations be directed to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh with the memo "Peter Clyde Memorial", for a scholarship fund to be set up in his honor.

**SUPPORT HIS EMINENCE AND OUR METROPOLIS MINISTRIES:** It costs approximately \$1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis—including Metropolitan Savas's Archpastoral visitations, preparations for Summer Camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry, and more. Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis: <https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/support>



**GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH**

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412-621-5529 (Main) - 412-465-0460 (Camp) - 412-621-8543 (Youth) - 412-621-1522 (Fax)

## *St. Photios Awards Banquet*

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SAVAS  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS  
OF OUR HOLY AND GOD-PROTECTED METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH AT THE

# 2022 METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH ST. PHOTIOS AWARDS BANQUET



SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022  
4:00 PM HORS D'OEUVRES, 5:00 PM DINNER

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL PITTSBURGH-CRANBERRY  
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MAIL TO:  
PETER CLYDE PAPADAKOS  
ST. PHOTIOS AWARDS BANQUET  
109 LINDBERG DR.  
MCKEESPORT, PA 15132

PLEASE REFER QUESTIONS TO: MARY DOREZA, 412-877-3415  
doreza@verizon.net

NET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE METROPOLITAN'S BENEVOLENCE FUND

*NO REFUNDS AVAILABLE AFTER APRIL 18, 2022*

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Annual Metropolis of Pittsburgh St. Photios Awards Banquet is scheduled to resume on Saturday, April 30, 2022, as indicated in the flyer above.

This will give us all a chance to extend congratulations and a big **Thank You** to our original nominees from 2020/2021—**Rebecca Bertos and Linda Hages**—who will finally be honored!

I hope that I will see as many of you as possible at this beautiful event, which is always a joy to attend.

Father Christopher

# FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>GOYA BOYS Basketball Practice</b> 7:00 p.m.  <b>Great Vespers at Ypapanti (East Pgh.)</b> 6:30 p.m.	2  Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. <b>at Ypapanti (East Pgh.)</b> (For their Feast Day)  PLEASE NOTE: NO online (Zoom) program scheduled this evening.	3	4  Angelo Tsarouchas (Comedian) Live Show 7 p.m. at Franzee's Banquet Hall Ambridge	5  Greek School 10:00 a.m.
6 <b>Sunday of the Canaanite Woman</b> Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  <b>GOYA GIRLS Basketball</b>	7	8 <b>GOYA BOYS Basketball Practice</b> 7:00 p.m.  <b>PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING</b> 7:00 p.m.	9 <b>Orthodoxy Now</b> (via Zoom) 7:30 p.m.	10	11  <div><b>GOYA Basketball Tournament</b> Holy Saints (Steubenville, OH) February 11-13, 2022</div>	12  Greek School 10:00 a.m.
13 <b>Sunday of Publican &amp; Pharisee</b> (Triodion begins) Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	14 <b>GOYA GIRLS Basketball Practice</b> 6:30 p.m.	15 <b>GOYA BOYS Basketball Practice</b> 7:00 p.m.  <b>PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b> 7:00 p.m.	16 <b>Orthodoxy Now</b> (via Zoom) 7:30 p.m.	17	18	19  Greek School 10:00 a.m.
20 <b>Sunday of Prodigal Son</b> Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  <b>Parish General Assembly</b> 12:00 Noon	21 <b>GOYA GIRLS Basketball Practice</b> 6:30 p.m.	22 <b>GOYA BOYS Basketball Practice</b> 7:00 p.m.	23 <b>Orthodoxy Now</b> (via Zoom) 7:30 p.m.	24	25  <div><b>GOYA Basketball Tournament</b> Holy Cross (Pittsburgh, PA) February 25-27, 2022</div>	26 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Souls</b> Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  Greek School 10:00 a.m.
27 <b>Judgement (Meatfare) Sunday</b> Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  <b>Vlahokerasiotiko Dinner</b> (Take out)	28					



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