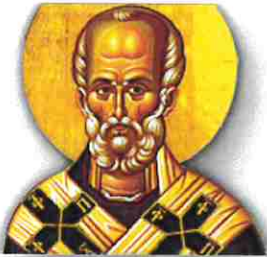


DECEMBER 11, 2022 –Eleventh Sunday of Luke

The Holy Forefathers of Christ. Our devout Fathers Daniel the Stylite and Luke the Stylite; the Holy Martyrs Acepshimas and Aeithalas, Barsabas, Terence, Vincent, Aimilianos, and Bebaia.

Tone 1

Orthros Gospel 4



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: Amy Hogg

CHANTER: Steve Andrews

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Roseanne Yu

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

Our Sunday worship schedule: Sept 11 – May 31: Orthros 8:45 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10:00 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.

Watch Sunday services, which are still streaming live from St Nicholas Cathedral at 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 by clicking please donate button - or you may access the donation page by using <https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give>

TODAYS MEMORIAL SERVICE is being chanted for the soul of the servant of God *Mary Faines* (40 days).

PLEASE JOIN US for coffee and fellowship following services in the Large Hall hosted by GOYA and sponsored by the family of Mary Faines.

TODAY: ST NICHOLAS BAZAAR / PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS

- Tuesday, Dec. 13 2022:
- Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022:
- Saturday, Dec. 17, 2022:
- Sunday, Dec. 18 2022:

GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.

GOYA GIRLS Basketball 7:00 p.m.

Greek School 10:00 a.m.

Memorial Service for Dr. Anthony Gialamas (40 days) & Constantino Cominos (40 years).

DECEMBER 11, 2022 –Eleventh Sunday of Luke

The Holy Forefathers of Christ. Our devout Fathers Daniel the Stylite and Luke the Stylite; the Holy Martyrs Acepsimas and Aeithalas, Barsabas, Terence, Vincent, Aimilianos, and Bebaia.

Tone 1

Orthros Gospel 4

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

First to be chanted as the priest exits the Altar at the Small Entrance is the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 1:

1: Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Lifegiver, "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves humankind!" [SD]

After this, the Resurrection Apolytikion is repeated. Then, the Apolytikion for the Holy Forefathers is heard:

Ἐν πίστει τοὺς Προπάτορας ἐδικαίωσας, τὴν ἐξ Ἑθνῶν δι' αὐτῶν προμνηστευσάμενος Ἐκκλησίαν. Καυχῶνται ἐν δόξῃ οἱ Ἅγιοι, οἱ ἐκ σπέρματος αὐτῶν, ὑπάρχει καρπὸς εὐκλείης, ἡ ἀσπόρως τεκοῦσά σε. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἰκεσίαις, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

You justified the forefathers in faith, and through them betrothed yourself aforetime to the Church taken from out of the Gentiles. The saints boast in glory. For from their seed, there exists a noble crop, who is she who without seed has given You birth. By their intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Then, we hear the Apolytikion for the patron saint of our Church:

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμένι σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω 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 4 for the Nativity of Christ (Dec. 25) is chanted:

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν. Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth ineffably to the pre-eternal Word. Dance for joy upon hearing this, all the world, and with the angels and the shepherds glorify Him whose will it was to be made manifest as a young Child, the pre-eternal God.

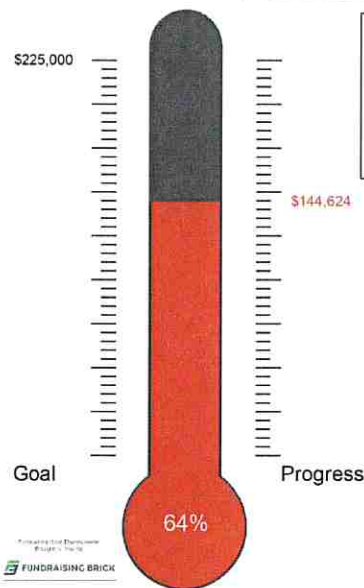
TODAY'S EPISTLE READING: Colossians 3:4-11. Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, freeman, but Christ is all, and in all. [RSV]

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING: Luke 14: 16-24. The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many; and at the time of the banquet, he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'" [RSV]

2022 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex
(Just ask a member of Parish Council)

If you have already submitted your 2022 Stewardship Commitment, THANK YOU! If not, please take the time to make 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!!



<u>2022</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	287 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$144,624.00 GOAL (\$225,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$730.42

GOYA NEWS

ANGELS – ARE DUE TODAY!

Thank you for helping make a difference in a child's life.

Pastitsio Sale - GOYA is selling their annual frozen 9 by 13 pans of Pastitsio for \$35.00. Please stop by the GOYA table to purchase. For Pastitsio pickups, call the church office or contact Alea Melachrinou Mavrogeorgis via text 412-726-5940. Please identify who you are in a detailed message. Checks can be made to St. Nicholas GOYA or cash is also acceptable. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser.

Christmas Chocolate Sale - GOYA is once again selling SARRIS Chocolate. Please place your order with a GOYAn during coffee hour. Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts.

SIXTY CLUB

Reminder:

Joint meeting with AHEPA and daughters of Penelope:

SCOGGIO'S RESTAURANT, GREENTREE

Tuesday, December 13

6:00 p.m.

Menu: Virginia Spots, Pork Chop, Chicken Marsala

Price: \$32.50, includes Salad, Side Pasta, Hors d'oeuvres,

Dessert and Gratuity

Reservation must include

choice of entrée and payment; due December 1.

Contact Joanne Melacrinos,

531 Berkshire Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15226

CHECKS PAYABLE TO AHEPA

Reminder also:

Dues for 2022-2023 are \$15.00 /person:

payable to St. Nicholas Sixty Club.



From the Church School Desk!

The Church School children will present a **Christmas Pageant** on Sunday, December 18, 2022.
Please refer to the enclosed practice schedule for further details.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church School is preparing for their Holiday Outreach Project:

We are looking for hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, etc. for **Neighborhood Resilience Project's Project Bundle-up**. Thanks in advance for your warm winter accessories and teaching the children the gift of giving.

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

Yours in Christ
Miss Michelle



**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral's
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule**

Sunday, December 11, 2022

During Church School for Nursery-6th Graders

Saturday, December 17, 2022

12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Final Rehearsal for all children

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Christmas Pageant at Church

Questions?

Contact

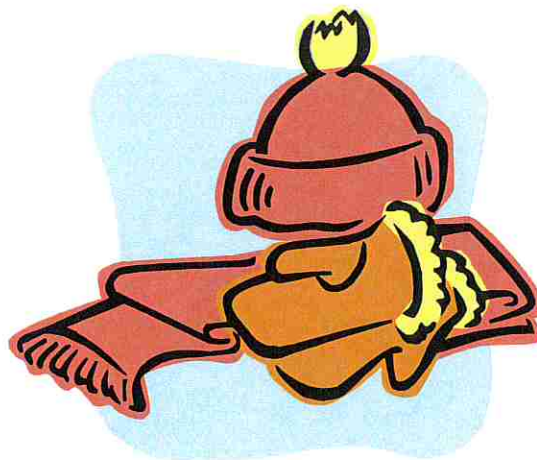
Michelle Kotsagrelos at 412-680-1416

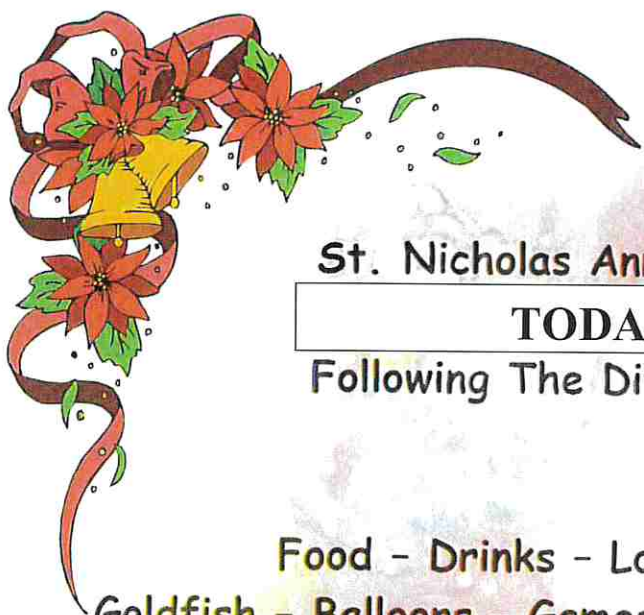




PROJECT BUNDLE UP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES & GLOVES
FOR NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE PROJECT'S
PROJECT BUNDLE UP!





St. Nicholas Annual Bazaar

TODAY

Following The Divine Liturgy

Food - Drinks - Loukoumades -
Goldfish - Balloons - Games - and so much more!!

Come join us for some fellowship and fun.



Chairpersons:
Lenna Cominos,
Keli Frentzos, and
Lisa Kristian

Cathedral Ceiling Repair Update #10, December 8

Repair Progress

In the last restoration update, we reported that new plaster had been installed in all areas but the one that had the cracked joist and that application of the skim coat plaster was underway. Now, all repair plastering and skim coat application are complete.

Also, in the last update, the painting has not started except for test painting for the color match. Now, nearly half of the ceiling is painted. Petrinis Painting has been staffing the job with 2 or 3 painters every day, allowing for quick progress.



Portions of new ceiling where the painting is complete.

Note the three-color pattern on the decorative detail.

The artistic detail throughout the ceiling requires slow-paced detail painting.



The full-room scaffolding that was erected allows multiple painters, sanders, patchers to be working at the same time

The painting should complete this month. However, there will still be a lot of work that must be done to bring the Cathedral back to normal. The scaffolding has to be disassembled and removed. All the protective enclosures and barriers need to be disassembled and removed. And finally, all surfaces need to be cleaned. We are not sure of the timetable for all of this work but hope that we will be performing the Divine Liturgy in the Sanctuary by late January.

Fundraising Efforts

Capital Campaign

The capital campaign was kicked off with an appeal letter to all parishioners. The initial response to this appeal has been great, with \$88,000 donated or pledged to date (Thank You!). The donor form for the ceiling restoration is attached. Please consider making your pledge and/or donation by yearend.

As a memento of the ceiling project, a construction board is available for all donors and project volunteers to sign including signatures of all of your family members. This board will be installed in a non-visible location on the new ceiling. It will act as a permanent connection between your family and your St. Nicholas Cathedral. Please sign this board at the St. Nicholas Bazaar this morning.

Also, for those who wish, engraved pavers can be installed in the existing circle in the parklet along Forbes Ave. Pavers are available at the \$1,250, \$2,500, \$5,000, and \$25,000 level. A pledged donation can be paid over a two-year period.

Fundraising Events and Activities

A committee has met and generated a number of ideas for potential fundraising activities. These events will be planned and organized over the upcoming year. In the short term, the following events are scheduled, so save the dates.

- **Raise the Roof Glendi** – January 7 – a young adult oriented dance with a Greek band, mezethes, bar, and lots of Greek dancing.
- **Greek2Go** – January 21 - Resurrecting the event that got the Cathedral finances through the pandemic with on-line takeout orders.
- **Popcorn with a Prize** – popcorn to be sold at the St. Nicholas Bazaar with proceeds to go toward the ceiling restoration.
- **Manthytrea Educational Society Annual Vlahokerasiotiki Makaronada Dinner** – This year, all proceeds from the event will be donated to the Ceiling Restoration. In addition, the Society will match the proceeds donation, doubling the amount for the project.

The repair of the ceiling was a totally unanticipated problem. Though the repair costs are high, the St. Nicholas parish has devoted parishioners and resources to address the problem and have a Sanctuary that will provide us with another 100 years of worship services.

Cathedral Restoration Project

Donation and Pledge Form

Donor Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Total Amount Pledged _____

Payment Options

Paid in Full _____

Initial Payment _____ Your plan for additional payments _____

Donations can be by check or made on-line with credit card. From the St. Nicholas web site, www.stnickspgh.org, go to the "Giving" tab and click the "Donate" pull-down. This will transfer you to the on-line giving form. Select Ceiling Fund on the Fund pull down menu.

A construction board with signatures of all donors will be installed as part of the new ceiling. All donor family members can sign it. The board will be available at the church from mid-November through the end of December.

Engraved commemorative pavers are also available at the sizes below. These pavers will be added to the granite circle in our green space. Please indicate if you are interested in a paver and you will be provided with additional information.

____ 8" x 4" Paver at \$1,250

____ 8" x 8" Paver at \$2,500

____ 12" x 12" Granite at \$5,000 (pieces that make up the center cross)

____ 42" x 15" Exterior Granite Ring at \$25,000 (pieces on either side of the Bible verse)

FOR YOUNG ADULTS 18+

RAISE the ROOF GLENDI

AT

St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Pittsburgh, PA

Featuring "The Meraklides" and special guest, Victoria Mavrogeorgis

January 7, 2023

Cocktail Hour: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Dancing: 8:00 PM – 1:00 AM

**HELP RAISE MONEY FOR REPAIRS OF THE SANCTUARY'S CEILING WHILE
HAVING A FUN NIGHT OF MUSIC AND DANCING!**

(ALL TICKET SALES GO TOWARDS THE CEILING REPAIR FUND.)

Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/raisetherooftglendi>

\$30 before; \$35 at the door

\$10 Mezethes + Cash Bar





Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA

Dear Parishioners of St. Nicholas Cathedral,

Ever since we learned that the plaster ceiling of our sanctuary has been dangerously damaged, we all have wanted to help repair it quickly.

That's why, we, the young adults of St. Nicholas, have decided to spearhead a fundraising effort to help pay for the extensive restoration process, which is so important to all of us, because only then can we return to worshipping in our beautiful sanctuary again. Introducing the "Raise the Roof *Glendi*!" This will be an 18+ *Glendi* held on January 7, 2023, in the Cathedral Room. It will feature a popular local Greek band, The Meraklides, along with our very own Victoria Mavrogeorgis!

We want as much of our proceeds from the dance to go toward the repairs as possible. That is why, in addition to extending this invitation for you to join us, we are also looking for sponsors to help us add to the bottom line. Listed below are our sponsorship level titles:

- *Platina*: \$1,000 and above
- *Diamanti*: \$500-\$999
- *Chryso*: \$250-\$499
- *Asimi*: \$100-\$249
- *Brountzos*: \$50-\$99
- *Filo*: \$25-\$49

Sponsors will be highlighted with posters the night of the event, and with social media posts thanking them after the event. This will be a great way to have you or your business recognized while also helping the church! Also, if you or your business would like to donate in other ways, such as with in-kind donations, those would be kindly accepted as well.

Of course, any donation, whether to this event or to the Parish Council's campaign to pay for the repairs, will be greatly appreciated to help us cover this enormous and unexpected expense.

If you know of any person or business willing to be a sponsor for our event, do not hesitate to let us know! To become one of our sponsors, please either send a check to the Church Office marked "ATTN: Raise the Roof," made out to the Cathedral, with "Fundraiser Sponsorship" written in the memo line, or donate online at: <https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give>, select "Ceiling Fund" in the "Fund" section, and type "Raise the Roof Sponsorship" with your chosen sponsorship level in the memo section.

If you have any questions, please feel free to either email us at: raisetherooftglendi@gmail.com or approach any one of our committee members during Coffee Hour for more information.

Sincerely,

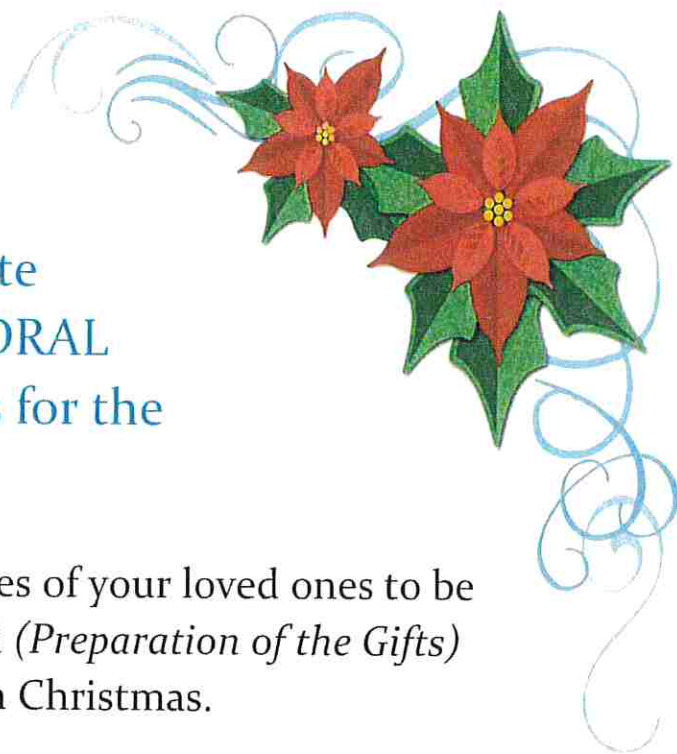
The "Raise the Roof *Glendi*" Fundraising Event Committee

Maria Bender, *Committee Chair*

Sophia Bender, Ted Hages, Lisa Kefalos, and Victoria Mavrogeorgis, *Committee Members*

Advisor: Michelle Kotsagrellos

*Christ is Born!
Glorify Him!*



PLEASE HELP US decorate
OUR BELOVED CATHEDRAL
with beautiful poinsettias for the
Nativity Season.

If you wish, please list the names of your loved ones to be
remembered in the Proskomidi (*Preparation of the Gifts*)
at every Divine Liturgy through Christmas.

For the Health of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Name & Address: _____

Suggested donation:

\$25 OR MORE, payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral (memo: Poinsettia)

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ORDERS IN NO LATER THAN December 11, 2022.

Please, either place in the Sunday offering tray or mail it to:

419 S. Dithridge St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PLEASE NOTE: ALL REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORSHIP SERVICES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CRYSTAL ROOM (SMALL HALL), UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.						
11 11th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. ST. NICHOLAS DAY BAZAAR PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	12	13 GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	14 GOYA GIRLS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	15	16	17 Greek School 10:00 a.m. (Christmas Party follows)
18 Sunday before Christmas Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant	19 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	20 GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	21 GOYA GIRLS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. NO Greek School Great Vespers 6:00 p.m.
25 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST Orthros 8:45 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	26	27 GOYA BOYS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	28 GOYA GIRLS Basketball 7:00 p.m.	29	30	31 NO Greek School