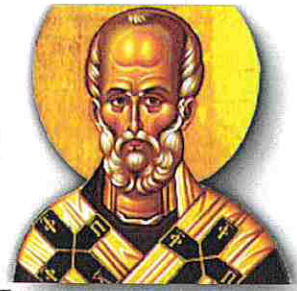


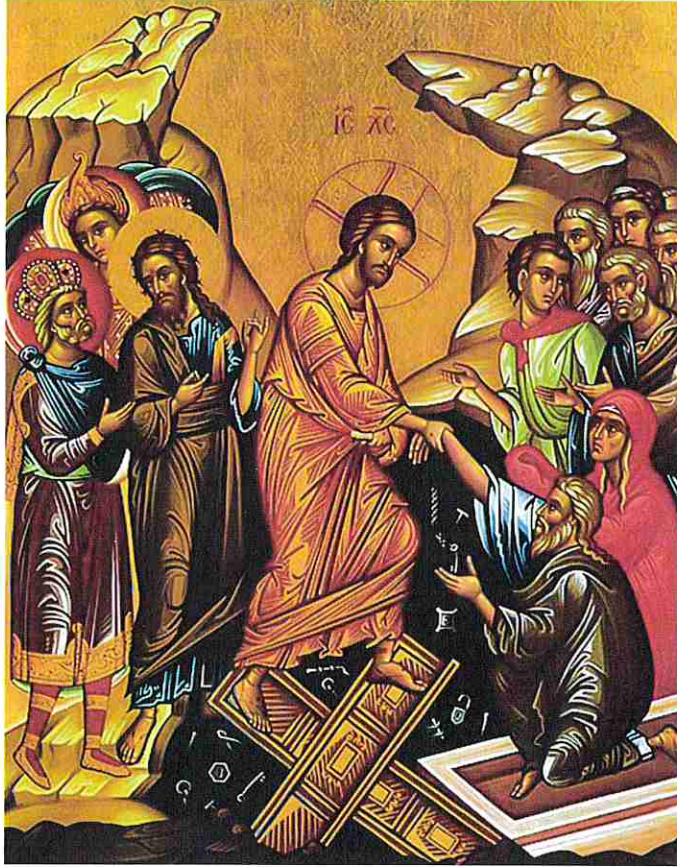


## Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA

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



### *APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER*



### *APRIL 16, 2023*

Holy Week comes to an end at sunset of Great and Holy Saturday, as the Church prepares to celebrate her most ancient and preeminent festival, Pascha, the feast of feasts. The time of preparation will give way to a time of fulfillment. The glorious and resplendent light emanating from the empty Tomb will dispel the darkness. Christ, risen from the dead, cracks the fortress of death and takes "captivity captive" (Psalm 67:19).

All the limitations of our createdness are torn asunder. Death is swallowed up in victory and life is liberated. "For as by a man came death, by a man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Corinthians 15:21-22).

Pascha is the dawn of the new and unending day. The Resurrection constitutes the most radical and decisive deliverance of humankind.

### **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**  
**412-682-3866 (Office) 412-683-4960 (fax) church@stnickspgh.org**

**Reverend Father Christopher Bender, Dean**  
**724-630-3483**  
**frcbender@verizon**

+

**Reverend Deacon Robert Lykos**  
**412-736-2762**  
**robertlykos@gmail.com**

<b>Barbara Manners</b>	Office Manager	412-682-3866
<b>Mary Olszewski</b>	Events Coordinator	412-628-9466
<b>Vincent Nelson</b>	Maintenance	412-537-4073

**2023 Parish Council**

Michelle Marie Kotsagrellos, *President (412-680-1416)*  
 John Frentzos, *Vice President (412-287-0275)*  
 Dean Panagulias, *Treasurer (412-596-2501)*  
 James Machin, *Assistant Treasurer (724-413-3607)*  
 Ted Hages, *Secretary (412-523-3571)*  
 Rob Day, *Assistant Secretary (917-569-8622)*  
 Simon Barber (412-860-3313)  
 George Bellios (412-897-5354)  
 Victor Bertolina (412-860-2315)  
 Arthur Dordas (412-719-7796)  
 Peter Krelis (412-370-2809)  
 Peter Nychis (412-824-4477)  
 Van Paras (412-527-4248)  
 Jim Stamatelos (412-585-3928)

**Service Schedule**

Fall and Winter Hours (September-June):

Orthros 8:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Summer Hours (July & August):

Orthros 8:15 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 or events@stnickspgh.org for more information and availability.

<b>Metropolis</b>	412-621-5529	www.pittsburgh.goarch.org
<b>Archdiocese</b>	212-570-3500	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>

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>

**ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Church School</b>	Michelle Kotsagrellos	412-680-1416
<b>Greek School</b>	Maria Stamoolis	412-963-7283
<b>Philoptochos</b>	Maria Bardakos	412-519-8684
<b>GOYA Advisors</b>	Linda Hages	412-523-7938
	Jimmy Machin	724-413-4309
<b>Little Angels/HOPE/JOY</b>	Nikki Lykos	412-897-8208
<b>60 Club</b>	Fran Hanna	412-731-0790
<b>Garden Club</b>	Elaine Andrianos	412-731-4334
<b>Choir</b>	Steve Andrews	412-561-9102
<b>Organist</b>	Roseanne Yu	
<b>Chanter</b>	Amy Hogg	412-345-1812
<b>Sexton</b>	Jimmy Machin	724-413-4309
<b>Prosfora</b>	Argy Darakos	412-319-7330
	Jim Hages	412-523-7937
<b>Kolyva</b>	Tulla Velisaris	412-889-1648
<b>St Nicholas Dancers</b>		
<b>GOYA</b>	Kelly Gary	412-741-8567
<b>JOY</b>	Aimee Walker	412-398-6094
<b>Boys Basketball:</b>	Ted Hages	412-523-3571
	Nick Strauch	724-931-0364
<b>Girls Basketball:</b>	Nikki Lykos	412-897-8208
	Maria Sfanos	412-512-8746

**PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

<b>Cemetery</b>	Peter Nychis
<b>Community Center &amp; Catering</b>	George Bellios & James Stamatelos
<b>Finance</b>	Dean Panagulias
<b>Food Festival</b>	John Frentzos
<b>Fundraising</b>	George Bellios
<b>Human Resources</b>	John Frentzos
<b>Maintenance/Security</b>	Victor Bertolina
<b>Religious &amp; Greek Education/Greek Affiliations</b>	
<b>Social</b>	John Frentzos
<b>Stewardship, Outreach &amp; Evangelism</b>	James Machin
<b>Technology</b>	Rob Day
<b>Youth</b>	Ted Hages
<b>Bylaws/Legal</b>	Ted Hages

## FATHER'S MESSAGE

### THE PROMISE OF THE RESURRECTION

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This month, we will once again be gathering late on a Saturday evening to observe the most important feastday in the calendar of the Orthodox Christian Church: the holy and glorious Sunday of Pascha, when we celebrate the life-bestowing Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ! All the lights will be turned off, all the candles extinguished – except for one, the small oil lamp on the Altar table. It is pitch dark. This symbolizes the darkness of death – the bitter reality, the wise of this world tell us, which awaits all living creatures on this earth, including every human being that has ever lived or is currently alive, or who will be born in the future.

The great Italian poet Dante Alighiari, in his epic poem, *The Inferno*, described the grim words which he imagined would be posted above the cave mouth which he described as the entrance to Hell: “*Abandon all hope, all ye who enter here.*” He meant this message to apply only to those who would be condemned to Hell for their evil deeds. In our secular time, however, Dante’s words might as well apply to all of us. Indeed, the grim reality is that the modern world in its sophistication has more or less rejected the central message of the Christian Gospel – which is the promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, the One who conquered death by death. Instead, more and more people have embraced the belief that death is immediate and final for all human beings – just as it is for every other creature that has ever lived. Consequently, there is no room for hope, no place for the central message of the Gospel to take root in their souls.

The Orthodox Christian Church has always rejected such skepticism and has never strayed far from the conviction that the Good News of Christ’s Resurrection is *the core* of the Gospel message. That is why we put such emphasis on the season of Holy Week and Pascha (Easter). We see it as a time for renewal of our faith in an increasingly cynical and dangerous world, of reading and hearing once again – or perhaps for the first time – the whole story of the last days of Jesus Christ on earth, and how they led, through the Cross, to His victory over death and his glorious Resurrection on the third day. It is this story which constitutes the heart of the Gospel and of our faith.

## FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

It is a moving story, which begins with the miraculous triumph over death which Jesus demonstrated in Bethany, when He called his beloved friend Lazarus (who had passed away four days earlier) to arise and come out of his tomb into the light of day, fully alive once again (Lazarus Saturday). This is followed by Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), where word had gotten out about what had happened in Bethany. But the people misunderstood. They welcomed Him as a king – a political leader – who would restore Israel and expel the Roman overlords. He was indeed a king. But, as He told Pontius Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36, NKJV). He was not sent to assume earthly authority, but rather, to proclaim the Good News of salvation from sin and death and subsequent citizenship in God's eternal Kingdom, which He would accomplish through His sacrifice on the Cross and His Resurrection.

The evening services on Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, and Holy Tuesday, honor Jesus as the "Bridegroom" and the Church as His Bride. Our Lord, out of His infinite love for His wayward children – humanity – gave His own life, in order to save His Bride from sin and death. This metaphor has Old Testament antecedents (i.e., God and the children of Israel), and is used by the Lord in a number of places, but the primary reference here is to Jesus's parable in Matthew 25:1-13 of the 10 Virgins (5 foolish, and 5 wise) that Jesus told near the end of His earthly ministry. It is read during the Presanctified Liturgy of Holy Tuesday morning (rarely celebrated in parish churches), and we shall hear it when it is repeated during the Sacrament of Holy Unction on Holy Wednesday evening. It challenges us to "be ready" on a daily basis for that unknown moment when the Bridegroom (the Risen Lord) will return in glory to judge the living and the dead, and to usher into His eternal Kingdom those who are prepared. Each of the virgins has an oil lamp, which must be lit in order to welcome the Bridegroom when he arrives. However, five are foolish, and bring no extra bottle of oil with them, while the wise virgins are fully prepared. All keep their lamps lit for the entire evening, but only the wise virgins have a way to refill their lamps when they are about to go out. As a consequence, only the wise virgins are permitted to enter the bridal chamber.

The *Orthodox Study Bible* explains that the "This parable is primarily about the virtue of charity and almsgiving, as **oil** and **mercy** have the same root in Greek. The **wise virgins** are those who practice charity and mercy in this life, while the **foolish** are those who squander God's gifts on themselves." (See p. 1317)



## *FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't*

On Holy Wednesday evening and especially on Holy Thursday morning, we commemorate the **Last Supper**, which forms the basis for the institution of the sacrament of **Holy Communion** which is celebrated at every Divine Liturgy. We believe that our Lord really meant it, when He said to His disciples that the bread and wine which He blessed mystically becomes His Risen Body and Blood, through the Holy Spirit. We also profess that it was His will and commandment that we, as Christians and members of His Church (which St. Paul also called His Body) should do this in memory of Him on a regular basis. This is the most appropriate day of the year to receive Holy Communion, and I strongly encourage everyone who possibly can to do so, if their schedule allows.

On Holy Thursday evening, we commemorate by anticipation, with great solemnity and reverence, the trial and Crucifixion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The enormity of what occurred on the hill of Golgotha, and what our Lord had to suffer and endure in His humanity in order to save us from ourselves and our penchant for sin and death, is beyond our ability even to imagine. There is a good reason why we sing the “Se Innoumen” hymn at every Divine Liturgy, while the celebrant fervently prays that God may send down His Holy Spirit and make the bread and wine His Body and Blood: “We praise You, we bless You, we give thanks to You, and we pray to You, Lord our God.” While we may have much to be thankful for – each in our own personal way – nothing else even comes close to the gratitude that all of us owe our Creator and Savior – who created us in the beginning, and then, remade us into His Sons and daughters by grace through the death and resurrection of our Lord, the Son of God made flesh for this express purpose.

On Great and Holy Friday, we keep vigil with the Lord in His grave, as depicted in the *kouvouklion* (a stylized bier, decorated with beautiful flowers). But, even here, the power of the Resurrection is made manifest, as we believe that the Lord in His divinity descended to hell and broke the bonds of those held captive there, “trampling down death by death,” even while His body was resting in the grave. Then, He brought them with Him out of Hell. Glory to God, for His divine condescension!

All is dark on Holy Saturday night, as midnight approaches in our Church. The bishop steps forward with his candle to light it from the vigil lamp on the altar table. He begins that ancient chant, which embodies all the hope and joy that the world can imagine, and more: “Come receive the light, from the light which knows no night, and glorify Christ, who is risen from the dead!” Soon, all the candles are lit, and the room is filled with light. The faithful spill out into the cold night air, in order to hear the Good News as it is symbolically proclaimed to the whole world by the Bishop, who reads Mark’s account of the “young man” (an angel?) they find sitting in Christ’s empty tomb: “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified? He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him!”

## *FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't*

Day after day, from Lazarus Saturday until now, every service, every hymn, and every scripture reading has been moving us towards this moment: "He is risen! He is not here." And then, the clergy and the people begin to sing that ancient anthem: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life!"

In the light of the Resurrection, all things are made new, and hope is restored to humanity. We live in difficult times, with "wars, and rumors of wars" running rampant, as well as epidemics and domestic unrest. But, was it not always so? Indeed, we live as Christians in two worlds: in the everyday world with all its flaws and imperfections, and in the world to come in God's Kingdom, the promise of which is conveyed to us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All of us can become ambassadors for this Kingdom which is to come, this holy place where the Resurrection is a reality and evil has been banished. We do so, when we seek to become a loving presence to everyone around us, taking care of our neighbors in need, and visiting the ill or shut-ins in their loneliness. We do so, when we set the good example in our homes, by teaching our children how important it is to be thoughtful, kind and fair, and to build up, not tear down, those around us. God's Kingdom, you see, is not just to come. It has arrived, and we live within it, when we allow God's love to govern our hearts. Christ is Risen! Truly he is Risen!

With love in Christ,

*Rev. Father Christoph H. Bender*

Rev. Protopresbyter Christopher Bender, Dean

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## *SACRAMENTAL LIFE*

### **Funerals**

Our deepest condolences to the family of *Louis J Countouris* who fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, March 18, 2023 . His funeral took place on Thursday, March 23, 2023.

May his memory be eternal!



## ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2023

His Eminence Metropolitan Savas Presiding

**Lazarus Saturday, April 8** – Σάββατο του Λαζάρου, 8 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 9** – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΒΑΙΩΝ, 9 Απριλίου:

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

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m.** – 1<sup>η</sup> Ακολουθία του

Νυμφίου, 7:00 μ.μ.

**Holy Monday, April 10** – Μεγάλη Δευτέρα, 10 Απριλίου:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m.** – 2<sup>η</sup> Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου, 7:00 μ.μ.

**Holy Tuesday, April 11** – Μεγάλη Τρίτη, 11 Απριλίου:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Bridegroom Service, 7:00 p.m.** – 3<sup>η</sup> Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου (Τροπάριον της Κασσιανής), 7:00 μ.μ.

**Holy Wednesday, April 12** – Μεγάλη Τετάρτη, 12 Απριλίου:

**Holy Unction and Anointing, 3:00 p.m.** – Το Ευχέλαιον, 3:00 μ.μ.

**Orthros preparing for Holy Thursday (by anticipation), 7:00 p.m.** (*Please note: Anointing with Holy Unction will be offered after this service for those who cannot make it to the 3:00 service*).

Ο Όρθρος της Μεγάλης Πέμπτης 7 μ.μ. (Το Χρίσμα με το Ευχέλαιον θα γίνει στο τέλος για όσους έλειπαν το απόγευμα.)

**Holy Thursday, April 13** – Μεγάλη Πέμπτη, 13 Απριλίου:

**Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, 9:30 a.m., commemorating the Last Supper.**

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

**Service of the Holy Passion of our Lord, 6:30 p.m.** Τα Άγια Πάθη του Κυρίου – Όρθρος, 6:30 μ.μ.

**GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY, APRIL 14** – ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ, 14 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, APRIL 15** – ΜΕΓΑ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ, 15 ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΥ:

**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, APRIL 16** – ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ, 16 ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΥ:

**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! ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΒΟΚΡΕС! ХРИСТОС А ÎNVIAT!**

**HOLY FRIDAY TRISAGION – April 14, 2023**  
[To take place at the conclusion of the Apokathelosis  
(Taking-Down from the Cross) Vespers]

First Names Only- Please Print Clearly!

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



## Good Friday Luminary Memorials



**Remember your loved ones with Luminaries  
on Good Friday, April 14, 2023.**

***To include your loved one,  
please fill out the form below.***

**Luminaries will have names included on the bags and  
will be displayed on the steps of the church on  
Good Friday Evening, as we walk with the  
“Epitaphio” around the church.  
Names will also be published.**

Please fill out the form below and give to one of the parish council  
members or mail to the parish office. Donations of \$10.00 per  
Luminary to be paid to St. Nicholas Cathedral by Monday, April 10th.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Names to be commemorated:**

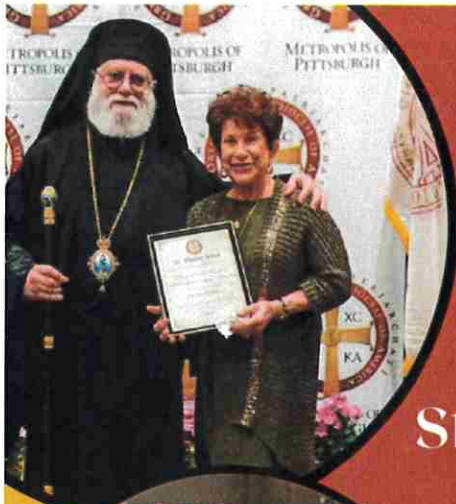
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Paid By	
Check #	
Amount	
Date Rec'd	

## 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

**2023**

## Metropolis of Pittsburgh St. Photios Awards Banquet

**Saturday April 29, 2023**

4:00pm Hors d'oeuvres 5:00pm Dinner

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Pittsburgh-Cranberry**

910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA 16046

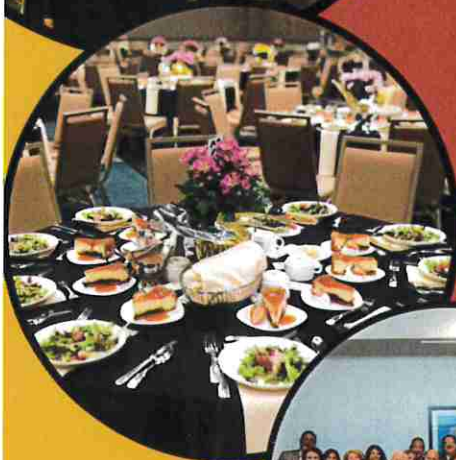
Reservations:

\$95/adult, \$25/child (under 12)

Reservation & Sponsorship Deadline:

April 1, 2023

No Refunds available after April 17, 2023



## NET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE METROPOLITAN'S BENEVOLENCE FUND

Please mail reservations to:

St. Photios Awards Banquet  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh  
5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Please make checks payable to:  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Please refer questions to:

Banquet Co-Chairpersons:

Marianne Stearns

412 600 2159

mstearns@nauticom.net

or Archdeacon Ryan

412 621 5529

rgzikowski@pittsburgh.goarch.org



☎ 412 621 5529

✉ METROPOLIS@PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG

🌐 PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG



## GOYA NEWS

**Easter Chocolate Sale** - GOYA is once again having a chocolate sale. Please support our GOYAns by placing an order after church. Deadline for orders is April 2, 2023. Thank you for your continued support.

**Pastitsio Sale** - GOYA is selling their annual frozen 9 by 13 pans of Pastitsio for \$35.00. For Pastitsio pickups, call the church office or contact Alea Melacrinos 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.

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## GREEK SCHOOL

### St. Nicholas Greek School

The month of March ended with the Evangelismos, Greek Independence Program and luncheon on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. A large backdrop was made which was a blown-up picture of the mountains of the Peloponnese region of Greece. Heroes of the Greek Revolution and their armies would stay in those areas in order to fight and hide. The program opened with the Annunciation performed in Biblical Greek. Another skit, showed us how Laskarina Bouboulina's flag was designed. And in the skit of the Exodus of Missolonghi, a smoke machine and song written by Dionysios Solomos was played to emphasize the martyrdom of thousands of Greeks in the Exodus of Missolonghi. All the classes did a great job. This year the talented GOYA dancers performed and then danced with all the children to end the program. We thank everyone and especially thank our events coordinator, Mary Olszewski, who assisted immeasurably.

With one more service of the Salutations to our Most Holy Theotokos remaining, Greek School students and graduates will be reading or chanting the prayers of Panaghia and Christ. Preparing many more students to participate in these inspirational services is a goal we strive to do.

As Pascha is upon us, we plan to increase combining our Orthodox faith with learning the Greek language. On Saturday of Lazarus we will have shortened classes after service and stay to help make crosses from the palms.

There will not be classes during Holy Week and we will resume on April 22 with the Greek Language Festival. The teachers, parents, and students wish to everyone "Καλό Πάσχα."



















The Department of Greek Education for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh presents

## THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GREEK LANGUAGE FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 22, 2023  
St. Nicholas Cathedral, Pittsburgh, PA  
11am - 3pm


- 1. Quiz Bowl on Greek Revolution of 1821 and Burning of Smyrna**  
Teams of three (3) students will compete in two levels. Eligible contestants are those currently or previously enrolled in Greek Language Studies. All the material needed to study for the Quiz Bowl is available to download at <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/3yx04h3bdll5c2ifk4m/h?dl=0&rikey=d45th09aivd712t40ynqvo6c2>. Each team creates its own name. A large trophy cup will be placed at the winning team's church. Individual awards will also be given.  
  
a. Intermediate Level: 4th, 5th, 6th grade American School  
b. Advanced Level: 6th - 12th grade American School (note that 6th grade students have the option of teaming up in either level).
- 2. For students who are musically talented** we encourage you to perform either solo or with others an original Greek song or Greek instrumental selection or a selection from an existing Greek composer on Greek Revolution of 1821 and Burning of Smyrna. This is open for all grades, K - 12th grade American School.
- 3. For students who love to act** we encourage you to perform an original Greek skit or one from an existing writer on Greek Revolution of 1821 and Burning of Smyrna. This is open for all grades, K - 12th grade American School.
- 4. For students who love art** we encourage you to submit your artwork for the Art Exhibit with the title in Greek on Greek Revolution of 1821 and Burning of Smyrna. This is open for all grades, K - 12th grade American School.

In addition, there will also be various booths, food, and fun for all.

Registration forms available at the Metropolis website, facebook, and <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/3yx04h3bdll5c2ifk4m/h?dl=0&rikey=d45th09aivd712t40ynqvo6c2>  
**Registration deadline is April 7, 2023**  
**Questions contact Maria Stamoolis: [mstamoolis@verizon.net](mailto:mstamoolis@verizon.net)**

The Department of Greek Education for the Metropolis of Pittsburgh presents

## The Annual Greek Language Story Contest



**Do you know of someone in your family or community with a fascinating story to tell?**

Interview and write the life story of an elderly immigrant with Greek or Cypriot roots living (either) independently or dependently, such as in a nursing home, assisted living, etc.; or interview the child or spouse of an elderly or deceased immigrant and tell their life story.

- 1 Tell of their life before and after coming to the U.S.**
  - where they traveled from and why they left
  - who they traveled with and how they traveled
  - who they prayed to for strength and any miracles
  - how old they were when they arrived to the U.S.
  - what challenges they faced
  - what did they do here in the U.S.
- 2 Provide pictures**
  - of them, their family
  - of places where they lived abroad, and in the U.S.
  - of their favorite places and pastimes, both abroad and in the U.S.
- 3 Provide samples of**
  - their favorite Greek songs, hymns, poems, etc.

**You are not limited to only the above questions, nor are all of the above imperative**  
Type this in Greek and in English in a Word document. Provide a copy for the person you interviewed and send a copy to:  
The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh Department of Greek Education, 5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232, also email a copy with the pictures separately not in the word document to [mstamoolis@verizon.net](mailto:mstamoolis@verizon.net)  
Student interviewers are from 4th - 12th grade. Awards given to students who display thoroughness and hard work.

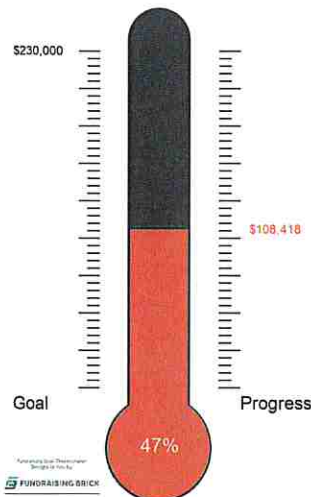
**Deadline to register is April 7, 2023. Deadline for submission is April 18, 2023. For information e-mail Maria Stamoolis, [mstamoolis@verizon.net](mailto:mstamoolis@verizon.net).**

# 2023 STEWARDSHIP

## Giving Thanks, Eucharistic Stewardship

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



2023 STEWARDSHIP		03/29/2023
Total Stewards		200
Total Amount Pledged		\$108,418.00
Average Pledge		\$774.41
% Parish Participation to Date		67%
2023 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		47%
2023 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 230,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$73,386.10
As of:		02/28/2023
Income: Pledges & Basket Collection	\$96,408.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$125,803.00	
	(\$29,395.00)	

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>



## 2023 STEWARDSHIP

Ms. Debra Adams  
 James & Electra Agrad  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Amorgianos  
 Ms. Anna Andrews  
 Mr. Anthony Andrews  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Andrews  
 Mr. Steven Andrews  
 Mrs. Elaine Andrianos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Andriotis  
 Mr. George Anthon  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yianni Antoniadis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Antonuccio  
 Dr. Artemisia Apostolopoulou  
 Mr. & Mrs. Spiliot Argiropoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Athanasiou  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Avery  
 Ms. Rhea Ballas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Simon Barber  
 Ms. Maria Bardakos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Baughman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Baughman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Bedel  
 Ms. Andrea Beldecos  
 Fr. Christopher & Dr. Filitsa Bender  
 Ms. Sophia Bender  
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bertolina  
 Ms. Pamela Bertos  
 Mrs. Rebecca Bertos  
 Mrs. Elaine Bolanis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bouzos  
 Mrs. Mary Brahos  
 Ms. Krista Bullard  
 Mr. & Mrs. Maury Burgwin  
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Carlisano  
 Mrs. Elena Cerri  
 Mrs. Dee Chronis  
 Mr. Greg Cominos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Cominos  
 Mrs. Marion Constantinides-Bennett  
 Mr. Philip Contacos  
 Ms. Jamie Contis  
 Mrs. Sandra Contis  
 Mr. Charles G. Copetas  
 Mrs. Helen G. Copetas  
 Mrs. Maria Copetas  
 Mrs. Theodora Copetas  
 Mr. Vasili Copetas  
 Mrs. Vasso Copetas  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Copetas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis<sup>+</sup> Countouris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nevin Craig  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Darakos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Taki Darakos  
 Dr. & Mrs. K.C. Davides  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rob Day  
 Mr. & Mrs. Petros Delivorias  
 Mrs. Christine DeMatteo  
 Mrs. Christine Dickos

Mr. Arthur J. Dordas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Doris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Eberhardt  
 Mrs. Sophia Edgos  
 Dr. & Mrs. Demetrius Ellis  
 Mrs. Elaine Ellis  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Ellis  
 Dr. & Mrs. Mike Epitropoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. George P. Faines  
 Mrs. Penelope Falck  
 Mrs. Virginia Fekaris  
 Mrs. Bessie Ferency  
 Mrs. Olga Florence  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frank  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Frentzos  
 Mrs. Alice Gary  
 Mrs. Alexandra Gregory  
 Mr. & Mrs. Van Beck Hall  
 Ms. Christina Hammerling  
 Dr. & Mrs. Dean Hanna  
 Mrs. Frances Hanna  
 Dr. John Haretos  
 Mr. Theodore Haretos  
 Mrs. Rania Harris  
 Ms. Maria Hnarakis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hogg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kakavis  
 Ms. Christine Kanakis  
 Mr. Kyle Glaser & Ellie-Anne Karras  
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster Kartsotis  
 Dr. & Mrs. John Karvounides  
 Mrs. Georgia Katsafanas  
 Mr. Lee Katsafanas  
 Mr. Andron Kavouras  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Kefalos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kefalos  
 Dr. & Mrs. Georgios Kitsios  
 Mrs. Mary Kleissas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kleissas  
 Ms. Nicole Klidas  
 Mrs. Estair Kotsagrelas  
 Ms. Michelle Marie Kotsagrelas  
 Mr. Chris Kouklis  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Kozy  
 Ms. Christine Krelis  
 Mr. Peter Krelis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kristian  
 Mr. & Mrs. James T. Kukunas  
 Dr. & Mrs. James Kyros  
 Ms. Constantina Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Lardas  
 Mrs. Kalliope Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kleanthis Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas D. Lardas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Leombruno  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Leventopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lipecky  
 Mrs. Janet Lykos

Dn. & Mrs. Robert Lykos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James D. Machin  
 Dr. Nicoletta Machin & Dr. Suman Yadav  
 Mr. & Mrs. Spero Maginas  
 Ms. Karen Malobicky  
 Mrs. Kay Mandalakas  
 Mr. Christopher George Mandros  
 Mrs. Thalia Mandros  
 Mrs. Eugenia Manganas  
 Ms. Electra Markopoulos  
 Mr. Gregory Markopoulos  
 Mrs. Helen Mastro  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mastro  
 Mrs. Alisa Mathews-Balouris  
 Mr. & Mrs. John McCann  
 Drs. Thomas & Dana McClure  
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGuire  
 Mrs. Patricia McKee  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christos S. Melacrinos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Menniti  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Michaels  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Mitchell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Moratis  
 Mrs. Venetia Moreno  
 Mr. Paul L. Moses  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Nychis  
 Mrs. Georgia Pandeladis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John N. Panos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Panousis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pantages  
 Dr. & Mrs. Spiro Papas  
 Mr. John C. Paras  
 Mr. Van Paras  
 Mrs. Constance Paras -Jennings  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pease  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jake Persinger  
 Mrs. Stamatia Peters  
 Mrs. Vera Poland  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Rakoczy  
 Mr. Anastasios Raptis  
 Mrs. Kristina Rigoopoulos & Mr. William Guttman  
 Mr. Bill Sfamenos  
 Mr. A. Robert Shott  
 Mr. George Sockos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stamatelos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Stamoolis  
 Mrs. Toulia Stathopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stratigos  
 Mr. Nicholas Strauch  
 Mr. & Mrs. Pat Strauch  
 Mrs. Argie Stuart  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Swisher  
 Mrs. Katia Sycara & Mr. Michael Lewis  
 Ms. Evngeline Theodoridis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Thomas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsourekis  
 Mr. Sotirios Tsourekis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tsudis  
 Mrs. Joanna Tzortzis

## *2023 STEWARDSHIP*

Mrs. Panagiota Vasilakis  
Mrs. Stella Vassilaros  
Mr. & MMrs. Perry Velisaris  
Mrs. Angela Vergos  
Mr. Chris Vergos & Ms. Amber Lilly  
Ms. Elaine Vitsas  
Mr. John Vitsas  
Mrs. Frances Vlahos  
Mrs. Becky Vlahoulis<sup>+</sup>  
Mrs. Helen Waskoskie  
Dr. & Mrs. Leo Yannopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Yannopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Zaras  
Dr. Katerina Zavaras  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Zervoudis  
Mrs. Sophia Zozos



## *PARISH COUNCIL*

Our journey to Pascha began on Clean Monday (Καθαρά Δευτέρα). The weeks that followed have taken us through the period of Great Lent. We have tried to increase our prayer, our repentance, our almsgiving, and our dietary choices (fasting). Our destination, the Lord's empty tomb.

We have been on this journey together. Then again, maybe we have not. For whatever reason, some of us have not participated in Great Lent or wished we had done more. The good news is that it is not too late. The final push is Holy Week! There is no better time for us to increase all of our efforts. We are invited to attend the Holy Week Services (see enclosed Schedule) and to make a Paschal Offering.

Pascha, "Greek Easter," is on April 16<sup>th</sup>. WE ARE ALL INVITED TO THE FEAST. I hope to see you all there!

Yours in Christ,  
Michelle Marie Kotsagrellos  
Parish Council President

## 2023 STEWARDSHIP, Con't



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
Pittsburgh, PA

### 2023 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 2023 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 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

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



## FROM THE CHURCH SCHOOL DESK



### Upcoming dates to remember:

Communion Breakfast and Palm Making  
Saturday, April 8, 2023  
(Following the Divine Liturgy)

Easter Egg Hunt  
Sunday, April 16, 2023  
(Following the Agape Service)

Church School Graduation  
Sunday, May 21, 2023

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

Wishing you a Blessed Easter!

Yours in Christ,  
*Miss Michelle*

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## **YOUTH SAFETY WORKERS**

Who is considered a Youth Safety Worker?

**All Clergymen (Bishops/Priests/Deacons, both Active & Retired)  
Pastoral Assistants & Youth Directors**

**People assisting, in any ministry, where the participants are under 18  
years of age or in high school, whichever is later.**

**Including Parish Youth Safety Administrators, Church School  
Teachers, Dance Directors, Greek School Teachers, Youth Advisors  
(including Chaperones & Drivers) and Parish Council.**

**Even... Parents who occasionally help-out, but are alone with other  
people's children.**

Each Youth Safety Worker is required to register yearly with the church.

Registration is available through the church office. In addition, all Youth Safety Workers are required to take two courses (on-line training platform) annually and to complete a background check every other year.

Here is the website: Please register at <https://ncsrisk.org/goarch/>. The first course, Youth Safety, has two parts. The second course, Youth Worker Regulations, has one part. Prompt completion is necessary as one cannot participate in any youth programs without being registered, having a background check, having PA state clearances, and completing the two courses.

Those interested in becoming a Youth Safety Worker and have not started the process or need to determine what documentation you need to complete, please contact Taki Darakos, [edarakos@aol.com](mailto:edarakos@aol.com), 412-944-4961.



# **ATTENTION:**

**ALL CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**Communion Breakfast**

**&**

**Palm Making**

**Saturday, April 8, 2023**

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

**Remember there is  
Church School on  
Palm Sunday,  
April 9, 2023!**





Please join us for our annual

# Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, April 16, 2023

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.

ALL PARISHIONERS are welcome to join the fun for coffee, juice, and donuts after the service!

Questions: Call Michelle Kotsagrellos (412) 680-1416



*St. Nicholas Church School, Con't*

Sunday,  
March 19, 2023

Church School  
Open House





## *Philoptochos News*

### *Keeping up with Philoptochos...*

Philoptochos is continuously preparing for fundraisers and our on-going outreach programs, which is the very essence of Philoptochos. You are cordially invited to participate in our efforts.

**Please take a minute to see what Philoptochos all is about!**

#### **OUTREACH:**

##### **FEEDING THE FOOD INSECURE:**

Keep an eye out for information regarding our ongoing Community Outreach with Neighborhood Resilience Project's Saturday Bagged Lunches.

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, Christos Mediterranean Grille will be providing the Wednesday Hot Meal for Philoptochos.

##### **FOOD BANK:**

The Food Bank supports several of our parishioners and 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 through your employers United Way contribution. Just designate #3288. Questions: contact Elaine Andrianos (412-731-4334) or Denise Daugherty (412-508-1326).

#### **FUNDRAISERS:**

##### **Sunday Soupa!**

Quart-sized Homemade Lenten Soup (Lentil (Fakes) or Bean (Fasolada)) provided by Christos Mediterranean Grille and bread provided by Chef Joe Bardakos.

**Attention All Bread Bakers, Wrappers & Bow Makers!** - Please reserve **Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** for the annual Philoptochos' **Easter Bread Baking** session. Everyone is welcome to come any time after 9:00 a.m. and join us in the Cathedral's Kitchen for Fun & Fellowship. As always, any amount of time you can offer to help us in this important project helps our Philoptochos to continue to help those in need. Any questions please contact Nikki Lykos (412-897-8208).

##### **Mother's Day Cards:**

This popular fundraiser honors Mothers, Aunts, Nounas, Yiayias and "special" women, both living and those who have passed. A card is sent to the honoree and their name is also listed in the bulletin on Mother's Day (and the Ecclesia). It is a wonderful way to honor and remember those who are thought of in a loving way.

#### **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:**

Last call for the **Philoptochos Membership Drive!** The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society has held fast to the tradition of philanthropy and we have strengthened the sense of love and compassion for all individuals that are in need. Philoptochos is a connection with other women who share the same feeling and who desire to share their thoughts and talents. **PLEASE JOIN or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!** It's easy. Just complete the membership form and send it in. **Men are welcomed to join, too.**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sunday, April 2 & 9, 2023 Sunday Soupa  
Friday, April 7, 2023, Easter Bread Baking  
Sunday, April 9, 2023, Palm Sunday Luncheon  
Sunday, April 16, 2023, Anastasi Meal  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023, Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 16, 2023, General Meeting and Board Elections

Your time, talent and treasure, is needed so we can continue to help those individuals in need – PHILOPTOCHOS' MISSION.

**Have a Blessed Lenten Season & Easter!**

Yours in Christ,  
Maria Bardakos, President

*Philoptochos News Con't*

Sunday, March 12, 2023

Philoptochos and the Youth made  
cards, cooked and served dinner at  
Family House





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!

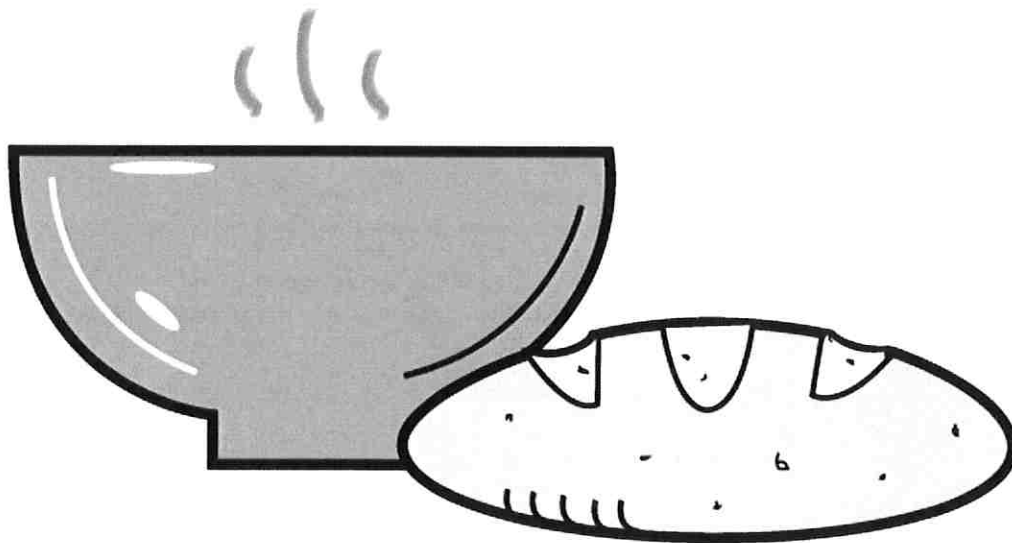
Soups are completely Lenten  
and available **ONLY** on **Sunday, March 26, April 2 & 9**

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 Maria Bardakos 412-519-8684 / marbard47@gmail.com  
Cash or check made out to St. Nicholas Philoptochos





# Easter Bread

ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL PHILOPTOCHOS IS TAKING ORDERS  
FOR OUR DELICIOUS GREEK EASTER BREAD.

**\$12 per loaf**

BREAD WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP  
FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH, 4 PM TO 6 PM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER  
AND SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHURCH.

## ORDER FORM

Complete the order form below and mail along WITH A CHECK made payable to:

St. Nicholas Philoptochos/Easter Bread, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 419 S. Dithridge St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Loaves \_\_\_\_\_

☐ with Sesame Seeds

☐ without Sesame Seeds

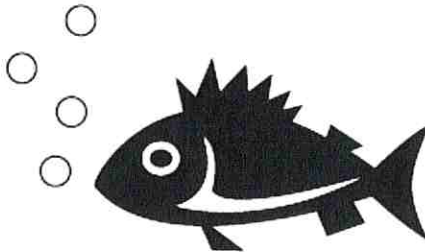
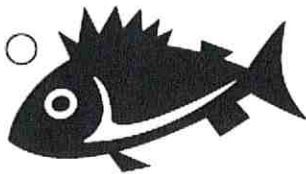

ORDERS CAN BE PLACED BY CALLING (412) 897-8208 OR BY FAX: (412) 683-4960

*Thank you for your support.*

*All Proceeds Benefit the Ongoing Charitable Activities of our Philoptochos.*



for our

**Reservations Required. Deadline Sunday, April 2**

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_ Children x \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

29

# *Anastasi*

## CELEBRATION



Please join Philoptochos for a Paschal meal  
as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord

Following Anastasi Services  
The Cathedral Room

**Free-Will Offering**  
is being accepted by Philoptochos to offset expenses

For more information, call Michelle Kotsagrellos at 412.680.1416



# Celebrating MOTHER'S DAY

St. Nicholas Philoptochos believes in honoring the women in our lives. Honor your wife, mother, grandmother, godmother, sister, aunt or special friend with a gift to Philoptochos. Your donation will enable us to continue our work of charitable giving to individuals and families in need, area food banks, shelters for the homeless, social service agencies and countless research efforts in the battle against cancer and other catastrophic diseases.

Join us this Mother's Day by honoring someone you love with a gift to Philoptochos.

*Make checks payable and send to: St. Nicholas Philoptochos, 419 S. Dithridge St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213, Memo: Mother's Day*

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NAMES FOR INCLUSION IN BULLETIN – SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023**

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(minimum gift of \$5.00 per name please — all donations are tax deductible)

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

Honorees will receive a special Mother's Day acknowledgement card.

The amount of your gift will not be disclosed.

☐ Please accept this gift in **honor** of:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

☐ Please accept this gift in **memory** of:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

*List any additional names and addresses on the back of this flyer and indicate whether donation is in Honor or in Memory.  
Please print clearly.*



## 2023 Membership

You define what kind of member you will be. We are always looking for new skills, experiences, and personalities. We welcome you with open arms to join us in making a difference.

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my 2023 membership donation in the amount of:

( ) \$50 ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to St. Nicholas Philoptochos*

### RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
419 S. Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**"Compassion is our passion!"**

— Denise Panos Daugherty

We do so much more than just bake bread...

- In the last **two years**, we have provided **more than \$34,000** in financial support to those in need;
- We've served hundreds of hot meals and lunches through Neighborhood Resilience Project (formerly known as FOCUS Pittsburgh);
- We've held shoe, pajama and backpack drives to help local children in need;
- We've volunteered at Brother's Brother to help organize medical equipment for countries in need; and
- We support the ministries of our own Cathedral as well as Neighborhood Resilience Project, IOCC and the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery.


### Why Join Philoptochos?

- Help someone in need
- Get involved in your community
- Make an impact
- Change someone's life
- Meet new people
- Share your skills and expertise
- Gain knowledge
- Network
- Be part of a philanthropic movement

**Give hope to those in need and make a difference in people's lives.**

People are struggling everywhere. The need is greater than ever before. Help expand our outreach and help us to continue to give donations, hope and love immediately when a tragedy happens.

Become a member and contribute to existing initiatives, develop new programs, or identify a need that hasn't been met.

Follow us on Facebook   
[facebook.com/Philoptochos-St-Nicholas-Cathedral-Pittsburgh](https://facebook.com/Philoptochos-St-Nicholas-Cathedral-Pittsburgh)

**ST. NICHOLAS WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL OF OUR 2023  
GRADUATES  
MAY 21<sup>st</sup>!**

Please fill out this short questionnaire and submit to church office via email, fax (412-683-4960) or  
mail (419 S. Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) by May 15, 2023.

Thank you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Month of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Or

University/ Graduate School: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Please email a recent photo to [church@stnickspgh.org](mailto:church@stnickspgh.org) so that we can include in the next issue  
of the Newsletter.

Awards and Honors:

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Activities:

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Future Plans:

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## *FOOD FESTIVAL UPDATE*

### **Food Festival Preparations**

#### **Tiropita and Diples**

We're nearing the finish line with only two more items remaining.

Join the hustle and bustle of our kitchen this coming **Saturday (9:00am- 3:30pm) and Sunday (12 noon to 4:00), April 1 and 2**, as we complete Tiropita, a long-standing favorite among many of our festival goers.

Join us again at the end of the month as we tackle Diples. If you know how to make, or would like to learn this almost "lost art", mark Diples on your calendar, **Tuesday, April 25.**

#### **61<sup>st</sup> Annual St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival Sunday, May 7 to Saturday, May 13 Volunteer**

Our festival has become a much anticipated happening in the Pittsburgh scene. Our reputation supercedes us.

We look forward to welcoming the thousands of guests coming through our doors in search of authentic, homemade Greek cuisine laced with our warm, Greek hospitality and Greek kefi.

Your help in volunteering will make this year's festival the best ever. Choose your favorite spot.

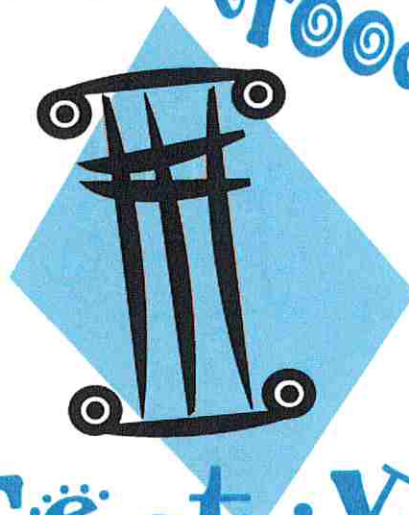
The choice is yours: online orders, food line, pastries, loukoumades, ice cream stand, coffee, bar, cashier, runner, server, greeter, pastry cutter, and the list goes on...

Look to sign up on SIGN UP GENIUS or contact the Church Office or any Parish Council or food festival member. OPA!

# Opal!

St. Nicholas Cathedral • 61<sup>ST</sup> Annual

## Greek Food



## Festival

Sunday, May 7 - Saturday, May 13

Delicious Greek Food • Luscious Sweet Pastries • Lively Greek Music  
Entertainment by our St. Nicholas Dancers

Sunday: Noon to 8 pm • Monday thru Thursday: 11 am to 8 pm  
Friday: 11 am to 9 pm (music till midnight) • Saturday: 1 pm to 9 pm

*Dine In or Take-Out*  
[www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org)

# St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival

We've been hosting our annual Greek Food Festival now for sixty-one years. As we butter the filo, bake the Baklava, and prepare the entrees, we know that the need for this food festival and the fundraising efforts is crucial this year more than any other year. St. Nicholas Cathedral recently had a state of emergency, with a poor and failing ceiling infrastructure. Restoring our home of worship has come at quite an expense to our community.

To help keep the roof over our head and the ability to bring such Greek flair and tradition to our Pittsburgh community, all ad book proceeds will go to St. Nicholas Ceiling Fund. We invite you to play a role in our fundraising efforts by advertising in the **2023 St. Nicholas Food Festival Ad Book**.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Food Festival will be from **May 7 thru May 13**. Year after year, thousands of people attend this weeklong event, enjoying our food, music, and hospitality. What a fantastic way to advertise your business, while at the same time support a great cause. St. Nicholas is a 501(C)3 that makes your contribution tax deductible.

On the back of this letter, you will find the advertising contract detailing ad sizes and prices. If you are interested in placing an ad, please complete the form with your contact information, payment type, and ad size selection.

You may submit completed contracts and ads via e-mail to [foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org](mailto:foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org), or mail to:

St. Nicholas Cathedral  
c/o Greek Food Festival  
Ad Book Committee  
419 South Dithridge Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

## **DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS is April 7, 2023**

For additional information or if you have any questions, please call Lenna Cominos at (412) 370-8181, or send an e-mail to [foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org](mailto:foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org).

We sincerely hope that you will play a part in making this year's edition of our ad book a success.

Best regards,

Elaine Andrianos, Alisa Balouris, Simon Barber, Lenna Cominos

*St. Nicholas Ad Book Committee*



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

**2023 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL  
ADVERTISING CONTRACT**



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**AD DEADLINE APRIL 7, 2023**

Ad Size	Color
Full Page/ 4.5w x 7.5h	\$700
Half Page/ 4.5w x 3.75h	\$400
Quarter Page/ 4.5w x 1.875h	\$250
Patron/ listing	\$50

For repeat customers, please indicate below if you would like to use the same ad as last year.

☐

Use same ad as previous year

Please make check payable and mail to St. Nicholas Cathedral. ☐ Check enclosed ☐ Bill me

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please print or attach ad copy, or email ad file in a JPEG format to: [foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org](mailto:foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org)

Date Received

Check Number

Receipt Number

419 S. Dithridge St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 • Phone: 412-412-682-3866 • Fax: 412-683-4960

Give a little--Help a lot!



## *Spaghetti Luncheon*

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

\$15.00 Dine in or Take Out

\$10.00 Under 12 years old

Kelli 412-337-1297

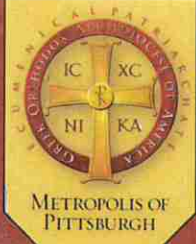
Lisa 412-600-1240

Carrie 412-680-0210

Consider making a donation if you cannot attend

All proceeds go to offsetting costs for  
St Nicholas' children to attend camp Nazareth






VOLUME 6 NO. 6 ISSUE: 51

APRIL 2023

# A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

## NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH





**SAT  
APRIL 1  
11 am**


METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH  
PHILOTOCHOS

### 2023 DAFFODIL LUNCHEON

DONATE/SPONSOR:  
PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG/PHILOTOCHOS

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OHIO 44221-5811





His Eminence  
Metropolitan Savas  
cordially invites you to  
celebrate the dedicated  
volunteers of our Holy  
and God-protected  
Metropolis of Pittsburgh  
at the


### 2023 Metropolis of Pittsburgh St. Photios Awards Banquet

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023**

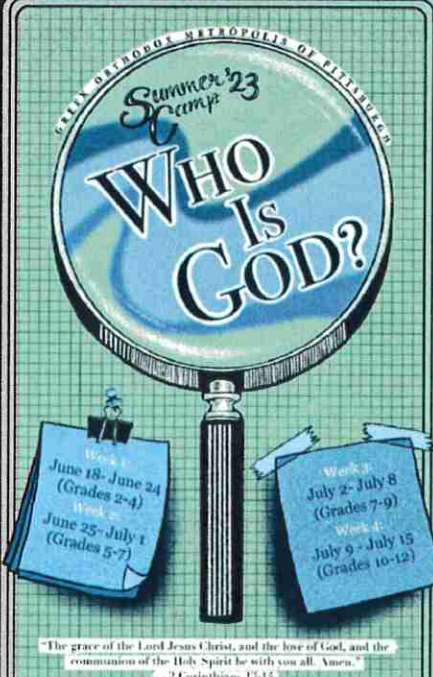
DoubleTree by Hilton  
Pittsburgh Cranberry, Mars, PA  
Hors d'oeuvres - 4:00 pm  
Dinner & Awards - 5:00 pm

Reservations: \$95 adult, \$25 child (under 12)  
Reservation & Sponsorship Deadline: April 1, 2023  
No Refunds available after April 17, 2023

Visit: [pittsburgh.goarch.org/st-photios-awards-banquet](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org/st-photios-awards-banquet)  
or call: 412 621 5329



SUMMER CAMP '23  
REGISTRATION OPENS: APRIL 4!  
[y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/summercamp](http://y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/summercamp)



Summer '23  
**Who Is God?**

Week 1: June 18- June 24 (Grades 2-4)  
Week 2: June 25- July 1 (Grades 5-7)  
Week 3: July 2- July 8 (Grades 7-9)  
Week 4: July 9 - July 15 (Grades 10-12)

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."  
- 2 Corinthians 13:14

### METROPOLIS PHILOTOCHOS HELPS RESIDENTS OF EAST PALESTINE, OHIO

On February 3rd, a train with 38 cars carrying hazardous materials derailed, caught fire and sent clouds of chemicals into the air and into the nearby waterways, including the Ohio River. Residents of the small town of East Palestine, Ohio, which is located about 20 miles south of Youngstown and 40 miles northwest of Pittsburgh, had to evacuate their homes, leave behind personal belongings and drink only bottled water.

The Metropolis Philoptochos Board voted to send \$1,000 from our Emergency Fund to an organization known as The Brightside Project in East Palestine that is providing support to families. As always, when Philoptochos sees suffering, we respond with assistance.

Joyce Spanakis  
Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos President

To learn more, visit: [brightsideprojectohio.org](http://brightsideprojectohio.org)





Reverend Fathers and Presvyteres, devoted Archons, esteemed Metropolis Council, Philotochos, and Parish Council members, dedicated Parish Secretaries, and devout Faithful of the Holy and

God-Protected Metropolis of Pittsburgh,

It has been His Eminence Metropolitan Savas' dream for years to host an annual music and arts festival, showcasing the many talents of the people of our Pittsburgh Metropolis.

That dream will finally become a reality this year with our first ever GOMoP Palooza Music and Arts Festival! This will be an event for the whole family, held on Saturday, August 19th at Angel's Acres Farm in Eighty Four, PA.

"GOMoP" stands for "Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh," and all the art displayed, and music performed will be offered by our very own GOMoP people, of all ages.

We also have a very real need to raise funds for our Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and this event will hopefully become an annual fundraiser to support the various youth and young adult ministries of our metropolis. All proceeds will be used to impact the spiritual formation of our young people.

The festival will feature music performances on two different stages, a byzantine choir performance, arts and crafts exhibits, delicious food and beverages, a large swimming pool, a pond, and a beautiful countryside to enjoy.

At this time, we are seeking talent to showcase and ask that if you or someone in your family/parish family have musical or artistic talent, to please share your/their contact information with our committee so that we may invite them to perform or display their art or craft. Please submit via email the name, particular talent, and contact phone number or email address to:

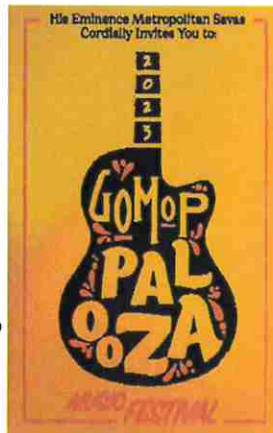
Fr. Joe DiStefano at: [frjdistefano@yahoo.com](mailto:frjdistefano@yahoo.com). Please feel free to contact Fr. Joe with any questions you may have.

Wishing You All a Blessed Lenten Journey!

Fr. Joseph Z. DiStefano

GOMoP Palooza Festival Committee Chairman

724-304-1230 \* [frjdistefano@yahoo.com](mailto:frjdistefano@yahoo.com)



## GREEK EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The 8th Annual Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh's Greek Language Festival with Quiz Bowl will take place on Saturday, April 22 at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Pittsburgh. Entertainment by students at various schools, an art exhibit, crafts, fun, and food. In addition, there will also be a Quiz Bowl on the Greek Revolution and Burning of Smyrna. Everyone is welcome.

The Department of Greek Education has its Annual Greek Language Story Contest to document the life of an elderly immigrant with Greek or Cypriot roots.

Deadline to register is April 7, with submission by April 18, 2023.

Contact Maria Stamoolis at: [mstamoolis@verizon.net](mailto:mstamoolis@verizon.net)



## 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:

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, 5201 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

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

[pittsburgh.goarch.org](http://pittsburgh.goarch.org) [info@pittsburgh.goarch.org](mailto:info@pittsburgh.goarch.org)





# **ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL 2023 GOLF OUTING**

**Registration/Lunch Buffet 11:00**

**Shotgun Start 12:30**

**Cocktails 5:30**

**Dinner/Auction/Prizes 6:00**

Golf Foursome \$750 Individual \$200

Tee and Prize sponsorships available

***Monday, May 22, 2023  
Shannopin Country Club***

**For Reservations and Sponsorships  
412-421-0294/Bellios216@gmail.com**

# Cathedral Restoration Project

## Donation and Pledge Form

Todays Date \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://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 Building Fund and indicate on the memo line that the donation is for the ceiling project.

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)



# APRIL 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						<sup>1</sup> Greek School 10:00 a.m.
<sup>2</sup> St. Mary of Egypt Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	<sup>3</sup> GOYA Volleyball Practice 7:00 p.m.	<sup>4</sup> Open Gym 7:00 p.m.	<sup>5</sup> Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m.	<sup>6</sup>	<sup>7</sup>	<sup>8</sup> Lazarus Saturday Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
<sup>9</sup> Palm Sunday Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  Palm Sunday Luncheon  1 <sup>st</sup> Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	<sup>10</sup> Holy Monday  2 <sup>nd</sup> Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	<sup>11</sup> Holy Tuesday  3 <sup>rd</sup> Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	<sup>12</sup> Holy Wednesday  Holy Unction & Anointing 3:00 p.m.  Orthros 7:00 p.m. Anointing (only) with Holy Unc- tion will follow service.	<sup>13</sup> Holy Thursday Vespers Divine Liturgy of St Basil  9:30 a.m.  Service of the Holy Passion 6:30 p.m.	<sup>14</sup> Great and Holy Friday Royal Hours 9:00 a.m.  Great Vespers 2:30 p.m.  Lamentations Service 7:00 p.m.	<sup>15</sup> Great and Holy Saturday Vespers Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  Vigil Service 10:45 p.m.  Resurrection Ser- vice & Paschal Liturgy 11:45 p.m.
<sup>16</sup> GREAT & HOLY PASCHA  Vespers of Agape 1:00 p.m.	<sup>17</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  GOYA Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	<sup>18</sup> Open Gym 7:00 p.m.	<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup>	<sup>22</sup> Greek School 10:00 a.m.
<sup>23</sup> Thomas Sunday & Great Martyr George  Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  Camp Nazareth Spaghetti Lunch- eon  —  <sup>30</sup> Myrrh-bearing Women  Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	<sup>24</sup> GOYA Volleyball Practice 7:00 p.m.	<sup>25</sup> Open Gym 7:00 p.m.	<sup>26</sup>	<sup>27</sup>	<sup>28</sup>	<sup>29</sup> Greek School 10:00 a.m.

St. Nicholas Greek  
Orthodox Cathedral  
419 S. Dithridge Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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