



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA

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



JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 17, 2023



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 Eleftherios Constantine, Dean
fr.ec@stnickspgh.org

+

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

Barbara Manners	Office Manager	412-682-3866
Mary Olszewski	Events Coordinator	412-628-9466
Vincent Nelson	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)
 Vasili Copetas (412-551-7677)
 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.

Metropolis	412-621-5529	www.pittsburgh.goarch.org
Archdiocese	212-570-3500	www.goarch.org

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

www.stnickspgh.org

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/ 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>**

ORGANIZATIONS

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

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

FATHER'S MESSAGE

January 2024

*"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
(Joshua 24:15)*

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the dawn of a new year breaks upon us, bringing with it the promise of fresh beginnings and renewed hopes, let us anchor ourselves in a resolution that supersedes all others: a commitment to wholeheartedly embrace Christ in our lives. Just as Joshua declared his unwavering devotion to the Lord, we should also affirm our own dedication to serving God. But our commitment here is not just a fleeting New Year's resolution, but a lifelong struggle.

In the Divine Liturgy, we repeatedly pray to "commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God." This profound invitation beckons us to entrust every aspect of our being—our thoughts, actions, and hearts—to Christ. This commitment to Christ is one we should embrace with open arms, embarking on a journey of faith where Christ is not merely a part of our lives, but the very center.

In another prayer from the Liturgy, the priest entreats God to grant those present in the service "progress in life, faith, and spiritual understanding." This prayer is particularly pertinent as we consider our New Year's resolutions. Often with our resolutions we focus on temporal or worldly goals, but here we pray for progress in our spiritual lives: to deepen our faith, to enhance our understanding of the scriptures, and to cultivate a more intimate relationship with God.

In commending ourselves to Christ, we will quickly learn that our journey with Him is one of continuous growth and learning. Just as a tree grows stronger and taller when it is well-nourished, our spiritual life flourishes when we nurture it with prayer, scripture reading, and participation in the sacraments. This growth is not always clear-cut or without its challenges, but each step brings us closer to *theosis* – oneness with God.

As we embark on this new year, let us reflect on the areas of our life where we can invite Christ in more fully. Whether it be in our personal prayer life, our interactions with others, or our involvement in the church community, each aspect offers an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to serving the Lord.

Let us also remember that our spiritual journey is not one we undertake alone. We journey together as a community of believers, supporting and uplifting one another.

FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

In the words of the Liturgy, as we commend ourselves to Christ, let us also commend one another, nurturing a spirit of love, unity, and mutual support within our cathedral family.

And so, it is my prayer that this new year be a time of spiritual renewal and growth for all of us. May our hearts be filled with the love of Christ, guiding our actions and decisions. And may our resolution to serve the Lord be the light that guides us through this year and beyond.

Prayerfully yours,

+Fr. 

† Fr. Eleftherios Constantine

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptism

With much joy, we welcome into our Family of faith Angela Karvounides and Anna Karvounides, daughters of Dr. John and Lisa Karvounides, baptized on December 2, 2023.

Sponsors were
Dina & Brian Marzullo and Niki & Miltiades Constantine.

Funeral

OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES to the family of *Archdeacon Euripides Christulides* who fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

His funeral was December 16, 2023.

May God grant him eternal rest.

THEOPHANY HOUSE BLESSING SCHEDULING FORM

“WHAT IS THEOPHANY?” Each year on January 6 we celebrate the great feast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, where God is revealed to the world as Trinity. At the Theophany, Christ is baptized in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptist, and we are presented with a great mystery: “He who is the Master of all is baptized by a servant, and He gives mankind cleansing through water.”

BLESSING OF HOMES: After the Blessing of the Water Service on January 6, Fr. Eleftherios will begin blessing the homes of our parish with holy water.

WHAT IS A HOUSE BLESSING? In celebration of Theophany — and throughout the month of January — 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. The priest blesses our homes with Holy Water from the Theophany service, offering prayers for health, family, and God’s abundant blessings in the coming year.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- Please prepare a list of your family members’ names and an icon for the blessing.
- The service will begin in the dining room or an area where your icons are displayed.
- You will be asked to guide the priest throughout your home for the Holy Water blessing.
- Kindly ensure a quiet environment by turning off televisions and silencing cell phones.

WHAT ABOUT BUSINESSES? Blessings are also available for offices or businesses.

IN ORDER TO HAVE YOUR HOUSE OR BUSINESS BLESSED, please fill out this form and return it to the church office. Fr. Eleftherios will communicate with you to schedule a date and time for your house blessing.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail** _____

Address: _____

PREFERRED TIME OF VISIT: Morning Afternoon Evening

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/SPECIAL REQUESTS:

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PRIVACY NOTICE: Your information will be kept confidential and used only for scheduling purposes.

PARISH COUNCIL

I would like to thank the Parish Council, and **you**, the parishioners of St. Nicholas, for entrusting me as your Parish Council President this past year.

We started the year with returning to worship in the sanctuary after the ceiling collapse, and hearing the whole choir again. The GOYAns had a successful athletic season; the Little Angels, HOPE & JOY had several fun and philanthropic events; and Greek School continued to be the best in the area. And where would we be without Philoptochos' philanthropic spirit helping all those in need.

We were honored to have Metropolitan Savas join us for Holy **Week**. Then right into the most successful Food Festival in our history and Golf Outing Fundraiser. The retirement of Fr. Christopher Bender shocked our parish, but with the assignment of Fr. Eleftherios Constantine, as the new Dean of the Cathedral, we never missed a beat. The parish planned another College Welcome (the talk of the Metropolis), fun-filled Church Picnic, our new annual Ministry Sunday event, College Friendsgiving Dinner, the Ball at the Cathedral, and a wonderful St. Nicholas Bazaar.

There have been many things that have happened this past year and we did it together.

Wishing you a Happy & Healthy 2024!

Yours in Christ,

Michelle Marie Kotsagrelou

Parish Council President



The Philoptochos Board Invites You To

Mimosas & Membership

**Sunday, January 21st
During Coffee Hour**

*Join us to celebrate our wonderful organization
and our amazing women as we kick off our
2024 membership drive.*

*Bring your membership donation and
join us for a mimosa!*

Food Bank

The Food Bank continues to need your support! You can donate by making a check payable to the "St. Nicholas Philoptochos Food Bank" or through United Way by designating the St. Nicholas Food Bank (#3288) through your employers United Way contribution.

For more info, contact Elaine Andrianos (412-731-4334) or Denise Daugherty (412-508-1326).



GREEK SCHOOL

The St. Nicholas Greek School Christmas Party is postponed until we return in person on January 13. Classes will be on zoom during the weekday of the first week of January. With the first Saturday in January being the Theophany, there are no classes and everyone is encouraged to attend church services.

On January 13, a New Years/Christmas Party with singing of Carols, cutting of Vasilopita, food, and fun will be held. During January, students will be making projects with quotes and information on the Three Hierarchs and an exhibit will be held on January 28, for our Celebration of the Three Hierarchs/Greek Letters Day, displaying of the projects. Our Annual Celebration of the Three Hierarchs/Greek Letters Day consists of the Annual Artoclasia Blessing for our School and Community, a Trisagion in memory of key persons who helped with either starting or assisting in its continuation of our Greek School, a presentation whereby we started last year with the children learning “Fos Ilaron” in memory of Archon Peter Clyde Papadakos, then followed by our Annual Bake Sale and Exhibit.

The entire St. Nicholas Greek School wish to everyone

“Μία ευλογημένη 2024 με υγεία και χαρά!”

“A blessed 2024 with health and joy!”

GREEK SCHOOL, Con't

ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR ADULT 2023 - 2024

Please select

___ Beginners

___ Intermediates

___ Advanced

Yearly Tuition \$ 350 per student

Checks payable to

St. Nicholas Cathedral

Memo: Greek School

Books are purchased by students
on their own

Please print

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell phone _____

E-mail _____

Emergency contact _____

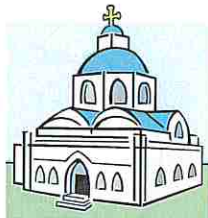
Emergency phone _____

Have you had previous Greek lessons? _____

If so where _____

Why do you want to learn Modern Greek? _____

St. Nicholas Church School



Now that the New Year has begun, it is time to say thank you for the jobs well done in 2023, and to look forward to the rest of the Church School year!

Church School, organized by Sophia Bender, had a very successful Bake Sale at the **St. Nicholas Day Bazaar**. Thank you, Sophia, for your efforts!

Many hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, etc. will be delivered to **Neighborhood Resilience Project** for their **Project Bundle-up**. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

The Church School children presented their **Christmas Pageant** under the direction of Joanna Darakos and Aimee Walker on Sunday, December 17, 2023. It was a beautiful program (especially Baby Jesus) enjoyed by the whole congregation. Thank you, Joanna and Aimee!

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 Annunciation Cathedral (Columbus, OH) on 01/12-14/24, and Annunciation (Akron, OH) on 01/26-28/24.

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

Yours in Christ,
Miss Michelle

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, 412-944-4961.

GOYA NEWS

December was spectacular for our GOYA. We got together for one of our biggest fundraisers to make Pastitsio. **AND WE ARE SOLD OUT!** Thank you to those who supported this great fundraiser. A special thank you to Alice Gary, John Edgos, Vasili Copetas and Greg Countouris for their help!

We then participated in the annual Saint Nicholas Bazaar! The GOYAns love this event because they can interact with the younger children of our church.

In January we will have our Christmas party and attend two basketball tournaments, one in Columbus, Ohio (on the The Ohio State campus, which is super exciting) and the other in Akron, Ohio!

Houston and Dimitra

GOYA COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

*CHRISTMAS ANGELS DELIVERED TO NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE
PROJECT ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH.
THANK YOU EVERYONE WHO DONATED GIFTS.
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!*



FOOD FESTIVAL

2024 Festival Cooking Schedule, Revised January, 2024

As the New Year rolls in, it's time to roll up our sleeves and think of 420+ pans of Spanakopita, 8,000+ Souzoukakia and 3,000+ Koulourakia. Yes, a lot of food! Please join us if you can to help make this year's festival preparations the best. Many hands are needed to get all these items prepared.

Join the fun!

Join the merriment!

***Please note **Evening Cooking** for Spanakopita **Monday, January 8.**

January

Spanakopita	Thursday, January 4 (Prep) Sunday, January 7 after Church till 4:00 pm Monday, Jan. 8, 9:00 am continuously till 8:00pm, Evening Cooking, Jan. 9, and 10, 9:00 – 4:00 Possibly Thursday, Jan. 11, 9:00 am
Souzoukakia	Friday and Saturday, January 19, 20, 9:00 to 4:00 Sunday, Jan. 21, After Church till 4:00
Koulourakia	Saturday, January 27, 9:00 to 4:00

February

Pasta Flora	February 3
Baklava	February 10, 11, 12
Pastitsio	February 23, 24, 25

March

Karidopita	March 5
Finikia	March 16
Galatouboureko	March 22, 23, 24

April

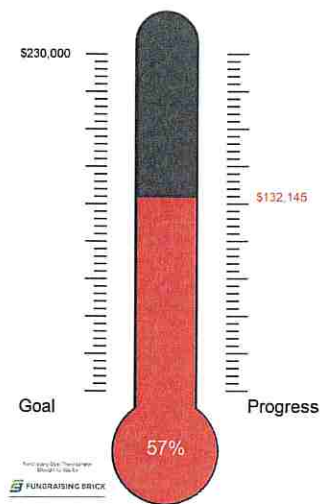
Kourambiethes	April 6
Tiropita	April 13, 14
Diples	April 22 or 23, TBD

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		12/28/2023
Total Stewards		294
Total Amount Pledged		\$132,145.00
Average Pledge		\$702.90
% Parish Participation to Date		98%
2023 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		57%
2023 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 230,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$211,999.83
As of:		11/30/2023
Income: Pledges, Basket Collection and Food Festival	\$953,716.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$939,589.00	
	\$ 14,127.00	

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 Agras
 Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Amorgianos
 Ms. Anna Andrews
 Mr. Anthony Andrews
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Andrews
 Mr. Steven Andrews
 Mrs. Elaine Andrianos
 Mr. Nikos Andrianos
 Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Andrianos
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Andriotis
 Mr. Gregory Angelides
 Mr. George Anthon
 Mr. & Mrs. Yianni Antoniadis
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Antonuccio
 Dr. Artemisia Apostolopoulou
 Mr. & Mrs. Spilios Argiropoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Athanasiou
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Avery
 Mr. & Mrs. Van Backeris
 Ms. Rhea Ballas
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Balouris
 Mr. & Mrs. Simon Barber
 Ms. Maria Bardakos
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Baughman
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Baughman
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Bedel
 Ms. Andrea Beldecos
 Mr. John Nicholas Beldecos
 Fr. Christopher & Dr. Filitsa Bender
 Ms. Sophia Bender
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bertolina
 Ms. Pamela Bertos
 Mrs. Rebecca Bertos
 Dr. & Mrs. Paul Blastos
 Mrs. Elaine Bolanis
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bouzos
 Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Bouzos
 Mrs. Mary Brahos
 Ms. Krista Bullard
 Mr. & Mrs. Maury Burgwin
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Carlisano
 Mrs. Elena Cerri
 Mr. & Mrs. William Chapas
 Dr. & Mrs. Antonios Christou
 Presbytera Rozalia Christulides
 Mrs. Dee Chronis
 Mr. Panos Chrysanthis
 Mr. Greg Cominos
 Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Cominos
 Mrs. Marion Constantinides-Bennett
 Mr. Philip Contacos
 Mr. Athanasios Contis
 Mrs. Eleni Contis
 Mr. & Mrs. George Contis
 Ms. Jamie Contis
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Contis
 Mrs. Sandra Contis
 Mrs. Alexandria Copetas
 Mr. Charles G. Copetas
 Mr. & Mrs. Dino Copetas
 Mr. George Copetas
 Mrs. Helen G. Copetas
 Mrs. Maria Copetas

Mrs. Theodora Copetas
 Mr. Vasili Copetas
 Mrs. Vasso Copetas
 Mr. & Mrs. William Copetas
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis' Countouris
 Mr. & Mrs. Yianni Coutris
 Mr. & Mrs. Nevin Craig
 Dr. & Mrs. John DaPos
 Mr. & Mrs. George Darakos
 Mr. & Mrs. Taki Darakos
 Ms. Bridgette Daugherty
 Mrs. Denise Daugherty
 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. Sotirios Doris
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Eberhardt
 Mr. John H. Edgos
 Mrs. Sophia Edgos
 Dr. & Mrs. Demetrius Ellis
 Mrs. Elaine Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. George Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. James Elsen
 Dr. & Mrs. Mike Epitropoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. George P. Faines
 Mrs. Penelope Falck
 Mrs. Virginia Fekaris
 Mrs. Bessie Ferency
 Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Ferrari
 Mrs. Alice Flocos
 Mrs. Olga Florence
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frank
 Mr. & Mrs. John Frentzos
 Mrs. Alice Gary
 Mr. & Mrs. William Gary
 Drs. Athan & Lydia Contis Georgiades
 Mrs. Fran Gialamas
 Mrs. Alexandra Gregory
 Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Guminski
 Mr. & Mrs. James Hages
 Mr. Ted Hages
 Mrs. Paula Hall
 Ms. Aphrodite Halleran
 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. Roger Jutras† & Mrs. Katherine Paras
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kakavis
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kalabokes
 Mrs. Lucia Kalaris
 Ms. Christine Kanakis
 Dr. & Mrs. George Kappakas
 Dr. Diane Karnavas & Mr. Bart Bodkin
 Mr. Kyle Glaser & Ellie-Anne Karras
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster Kartsotis

Dr. & Mrs. John Karvounides
 Mrs. Georgia Katsafanas
 Mr. Lee Katsafanas
 Mr. Andron Kavouras
 Mr. Nicholas Kefal
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Kefalos
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kefalos
 Ms. Elaine Keim
 Dr. & Mrs. Georgios Kitsios
 Mrs. Mary Kleissas⁺
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kleissas
 Ms. Nicole Klidas
 Mr. Konstantinos Koromvokis
 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
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Langas
 Ms. Maria Langas
 Ms. Constantina Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Lardas
 Mrs. Kalliope Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Kleanthis Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas D. Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Leombruno
 Mr. Richard Lepidi
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Leventopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. David Levine
 Mr. Peter Liodos & Dr. Vasiliki Christopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lipecky
 Mrs. Janet Lykos
 Dn. & Mrs. Robert Lykos
 Mr. & Mrs. James D. Machin
 Mr. James L. Machin
 Dr. Nicoletta Machin & Dr. Suman Yadam
 Mr. & Mrs. Spero Maginas
 Ms. Karen Malobicky
 Mrs. Kay Mandalakas
 Mr. Christopher George Mandros
 Mrs. Thalia Mandros
 Mrs. Eugenia Manganas
 Mrs. Barbara Manners
 Ms. Electra Markopoulos
 Mr. Gregory Markopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Michail Marthas
 Mrs. Helen Mastro
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mastro
 Mrs. Dana Mathews
 Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Mavrogeorgis
 Mr. & Mrs. John McCann
 Drs. Thomas & Dana McClure
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGuire
 Mrs. Patricia McKee
 Mr. & Mrs. Christos S. Melacrinis
 Mr. & Mrs. George Mellis
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Menniti
 Mr. William Michaels
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Mitchell
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Moratis

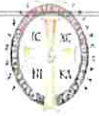
2023 STEWARDSHIP

Ms. Evangelia Moreno
 Mrs. Venetia Moreno
 Mr. Paul L. Moses
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Nychis
 Ms. Mary Olszewski
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Paljug
 Ms. Sophia Panagis
 Mr. Constantine Panagulias
 Mrs. Lillian Panagulias
 Ms. Catherine Pandeladis
 Mrs. Georgia Pandeladis
 Mr. & Mrs. John N. Panos
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Panousis
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pantages
 Mr. & Mrs. Xenophon Papanikolaou
 Dr. & Mrs. Spiro Papas
 Dr. George Pappas
 Mr. John C. Paras
 Mr. Van Paras
 Mrs. Constance Paras -Jennings
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pease
 Mr. & Mrs. Jake Persinger
 Mr. & Mrs. George Peters
 Mrs. Stamatia Peters
 Mr. & Mrs. John Peterson
 Mr. & Mrs. John Petrolias
 Ms. Constance Petros
 Mrs. Vera Poland
 Mrs. Helene Powers
 Mrs. Anastasia Raftis
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Rakoczy
 Mr. Anastasios Raptis
 Mrs. Kristina Rigoopulos & Mr. William Guttman
 Mr. Bill Sfamenos
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sfanos
 Mr. A. Robert Shott
 Mr. & Mrs. George Sideris
 Mr. George Sockos
 Dr. & Mrs. Peter Sotos
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stamatelos
 Ms. Catherine Stamoolis
 Ms. Connie Stamoolis
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Stamoolis

Mrs. Toulia Stathopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. James' Stratigos
 Mr. Nicholas Strauch
 Mr. & Mrs. Pat Strauch
 Ms. Nia Strintzis
 Mrs. Argie Stuart
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Swisher
 Mrs. Katia Sycara & Mr. Michael Lewis
 Ms. Evangeline Theodoridis
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Thomas
 Mrs. Chrisoula Torlidas
 Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsourekis
 Mr. Athanasios Tsourekis
 Mr. Sotirios Tsourekis
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tsudis
 Mr. John C. Tumazos
 Mrs. Joanna Tzortzis
 Mrs. Panagiota Vasilakis
 Mrs. Stella Vassilaros
 Mr. & Mrs. John Velisaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Art Velisaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Perry Velisaris
 Ms. Eugenia Vergis
 Mrs. Angela Vergos
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vergos
 Ms. Alexandra Villafana
 Ms. Elaine Vitsas
 Mr. John Vitsas
 Mrs. Frances Vlahos
 Mrs. Becky Vlahoulis⁺
 Mr. Sarantos Vrettacos
 Mr. & Mrs. Luke Wagner
 Mr. & Mrs. Jason Walker
 Mrs. Helen Waskoskie
 Ms. Franceska Xhakaj
 Dr. & Mrs. Leo Yannopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Yannopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Zaras
 Dr. Katerina Zavaras
 Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Zervoudis
 Mr. Michael Zikos
 Mrs. Sophia Zozos



2024 STEWARDSHIP, Con't



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Pittsburgh, PA

2024 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 2024 \$ _____ 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

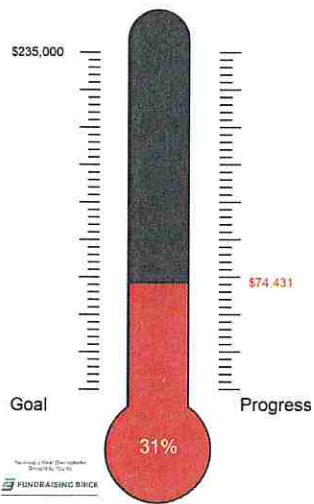
2024 STEWARDSHIP

"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant"

Mathew 25:23

Re-dedicate yourself to God by participating
in the Divine Liturgy each Sunday and offer your
TIME, Talent and treasure.

2024 STEWARDSHIP		12/28/2023
Total Stewards		78
Total Amount Pledged		\$74,531.00
Average Pledge		\$1,005.82
% Parish Participation to Date		26%
2023 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		32%
2023 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 235,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$7,250.00
As of:		11/30/2023
Income: Pledges, Basket Collection and Food Festival	\$953,716.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$939,589.00	
	\$ 14,127.00	



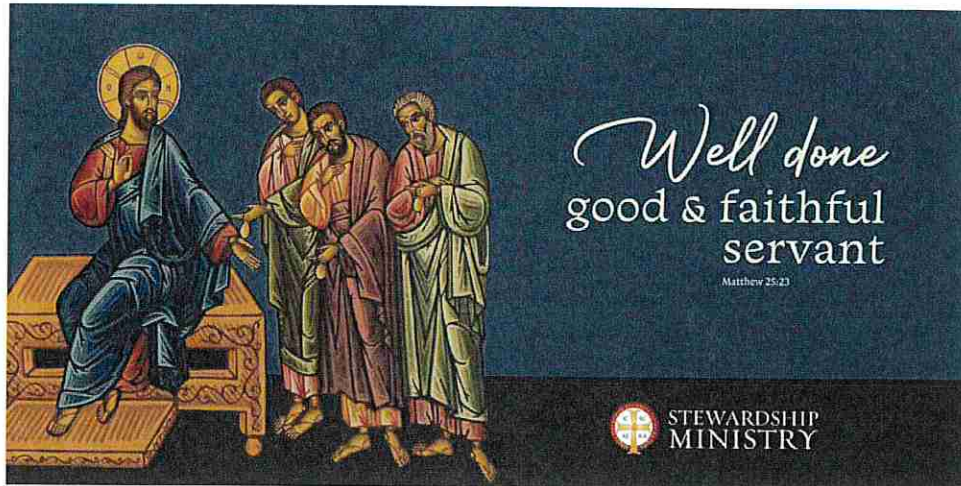
Many of you have been contributing, but

PLEASE complete a Stewardship Card.

Our website may be used to fill out a Stewardship Card and make a payment

<https://www.stnickspgh.org>

2024 STEWARDSHIP



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 Dr. Diane Karnavas & Mr. Bart Bodkin
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster Kartsotis
 Mrs. Georgia Katsafanas
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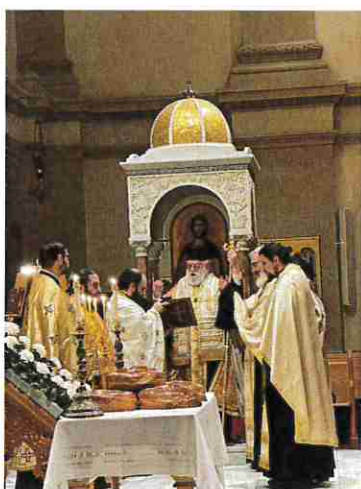
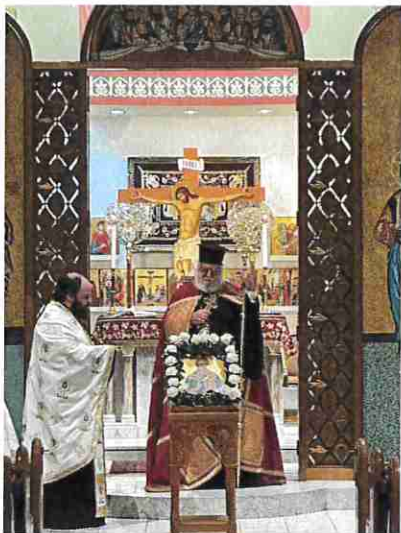
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 Mrs. Estair Kotsagrellos
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 Ms. Christine Krelis
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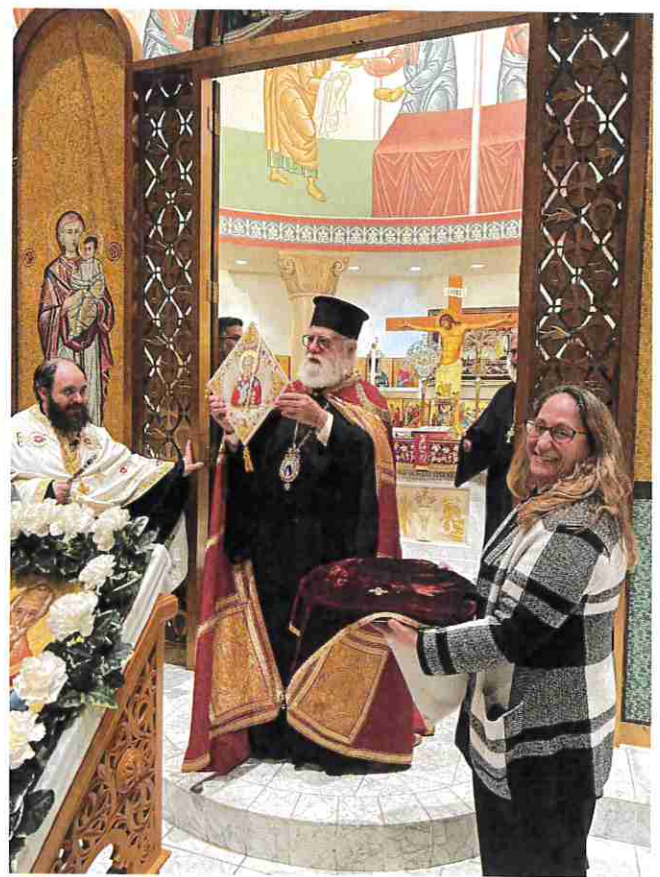
December 3, 2023



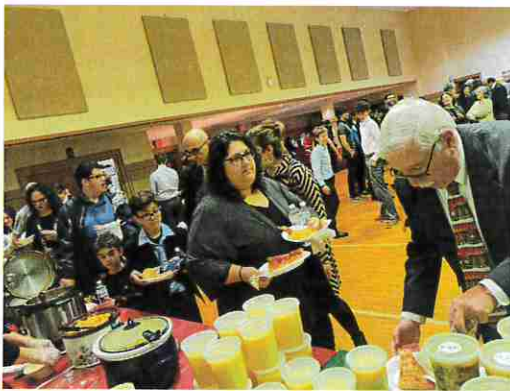
ST. NICHOLAS VESPERS DECEMBER 5, 2023



ST. NICHOLAS VESPERS DECEMBER 5, 2023



CHURCH BAZAAR DECEMBER 10, 2023



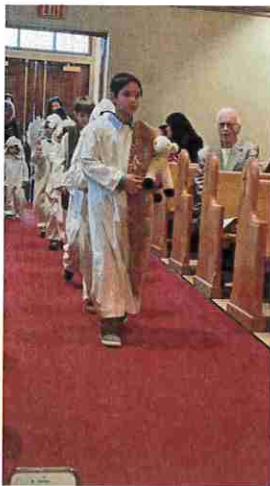
CHURCH BAZAAR DECEMBER 10, 2023



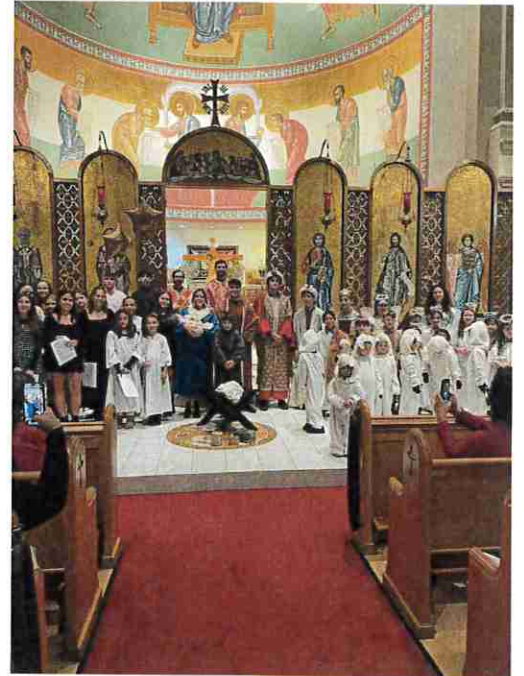
CHURCH BAZAAR DECEMBER 10, 2023



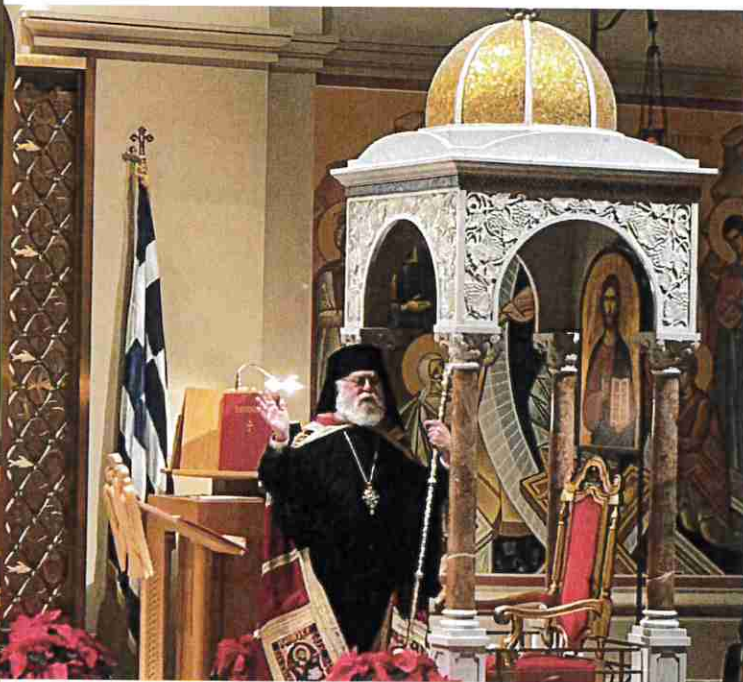
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 17, 2023

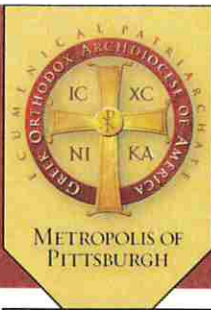


CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 17, 2023



CHRISTMAS EVE VESPERS DECEMBER 24, 2023





A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



New Metropolis Center Construction Update

At the writing of last month's report, we were introduced to unstable soils in the deepest portion of our excavating, at the elevator pit. Further testing in and around the entire site resulted in overall positive results except in and around the elevator pit. According to our geotechnicals, onus was upon us to over excavate the elevator pit by many feet and backfill with compactible clay. You'll see the huge difference in color in the first upper left picture where above is brown/tan compatible soil and at the bottom of the pit, the solid turns to a dark blue green color of carbonaceous shale containing pyrite. As adjacent soils to the elevator became suspect and tested poorly, footers within a dozen feet of the elevator had to be removed, soils replaced/compacted and footers redone. This interlocking effort cost us the month of November.

Incremental costs to date hover around \$20,000 with another \$10,000 anticipated in further soil remediation. By all accounts, the worst is behind us, and we have already begun replacing footers with the expectation of footers-completion before the holidays.



His Eminence, Nick & Peter Liokareas

Overview of Breadth of Our Land!

Notably, the Liokareas brothers have been a joy to work with as they were quick to point out the soil issues. Would every other GC be willing to forego a month's income waiting on engineers, testing, results, recommendations, over-excavating, backfilling, compacting, more testing, etc., or would another firm be quick to 'bury' the problems and move on with no regard to the integrity of the building in time to come? And for all of the delay, this month's construction costs are approximately \$135,000.

Again, don't be left out! Your family and your parish MUST be represented. Generations to come will look for their original connection to the center. With the advent of construction, more parishes and individuals are pledging.

As I always will, I ask that you seriously consider a pledge, or raising your pledge, or pre-paying your pledge so that we AVOID ANY DEBT! We will continue fundraising until we are there! Please help us such that this new home of work and worship and gathering and fellowship is only ever a blessing AND NEVER A BURDEN to our church. Please help. To get your pledge matched, please click on this link:-

<https://www.pittsburgh.goarch.org/pledge> or scan the QR code:





Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Spring Retreat
at Camp Nazareth
March 8-10, 2024

Camper Registration
& Staff Applications
will open January 22nd
y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/retreats

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

THE NINTH ANNUAL GREEK LANGUAGE FESTIVAL AND QUIZ BOWL

Saturday, April 13, 2024
St. Demetrios Church, Rocky River, OH 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/fd/3y04n3bdll5c2fyx4m/h?dl=0&key=d45th09arvd712140yngv06c2> 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. 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. 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/fd/3y04n3bdll5c2fyx4m/h?dl=0&key=d45th09arvd712140yngv06c2>
Registration deadline is March 30, 2024

Questions contact Maria Stamoolis: mstamoolis@verizon.net

Mark your calendars!

10th ST. PHOTIOS AWARDS BANQUET

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 18TH 2024 • 4:00 PM
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON PITTSBURGH-CRANBERRY

pittsburgh.goarch.org

Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Summer Camp 2024

Week 1: June 16-22
Week 2: June 23-29
Week 3: June 30-July 6
Week 4: July 7-13

Staff Applications OPEN January 1st!
More Information:
y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/summerncamp



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 info@pittsburgh.goarch.org



JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY, CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD, FEAST OF BASIL THE GREAT: Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 10:00 a.m.	2 GOYA Girls Basketball 6:00 p.m.	3	4	5 Royal Hours of Theophany 10:00 a.m. Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, followed by the Great Agiasmos 6:30 p.m.	6 THEOPHANY Festal Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Agiasmos 10:00 a.m. <i>No Greek School</i>
7 Synaxis of John the Holy Glori- ous Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Cutting of Vasilopita Parish Council Affirmation of Office GOYA Girls BB GOYA Xmas Party	8 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	9 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Girls Basketball 6:00 p.m.	10	11	12 <div>GOYA BBA Tourney in Columbus, OH</div>	13 Greek School 10:00 a.m. Greek School Vasilopita, Car- ols and Hymns 12:00 noon
14 Leavetaking of the Theophany Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	15 Parish Council Meet- ing 6:30 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	16 St. Anthony the Great Orthros 6:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Girls Basketball 6:00 p.m.	17	18 Sts. Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	19	20 Greek School 10:00 a.m. Metropolis Parish Leadership Conference
21 12th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Philoptochos Membership Drive Oratorical Education Sunday GOYA Girls BB	22 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	23 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Girls Basketball 6:00 p.m.	24	25 Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	26 <div>GOYA BBA Tourney in Akron, OH</div>	27 Greek School 10:00 a.m.
28 15th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Three Hierarchs Celebration - Artoklasia and Memorial for Greek School	29 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	30 Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Girls Basketball 6:00 p.m.	31			

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