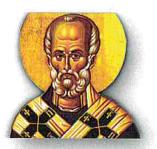
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024 - 16th Sunday of Matthew

Saints of the Day: Blaise the Hieromartyr of Sebastia, Theodora the Empress

Third Eothinon · 3rd Mode



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!

VISIT www.stnickspgh.org TODAY for news and updates about our parish!

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Eleftherios Constantine and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos

Father's Email: fr.ec@stnickspgh.org PROTOPSALTRIA: Amy Hogg

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews
ORGANIST: Larsen Vincent

Questions about our Parish? E-mail <u>church@stnickspgh.org</u> or call 412-682-3866 <u>Our Sunday worship schedule: September – May: Orthros 8:45 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</u>

WELCOME, VISITORS! You are honored guests here at St. Nicholas Cathedral and welcome at all our services. We invite you to receive the Holy Eucharist (Communion) if you are an Orthodox Christian who is prepared through fasting, prayer, and confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are Orthodox but have not prepared, we respectfully invite you instead to come forward at the end of the service for a blessing by the priest and a piece of blessed bread (antidoron).

Our Mission & Vision Statements

The MISSION of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral is to Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a Spirit of Unity and Love for All through Worship, Service, Education, Fellowship and Outreach.

Our VISION is to be a Welcoming and Growing Parish, Striving to Live the New Life in Christ according to the Teachings and Traditions of the Greek Orthodox Faith.

Watch Sunday services, which are 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 the please donate button — or you may access the donation page by visiting https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give

TODAY:

- Memorial Service is being chanted for the souls of the servants of God for James T. Kukunas (40 days), Alexandros Hages (10 years) and Payonitsa Hages (2 years).
- Coffee hour is hosted today by GOYA and sponsored by the Kukunas family in the Small Hall.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

Monday, February 12, 2024: Food Festival Prep – Baklava 9am-4pm

Philoptochos Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.; YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.

• Tuesday, February 13, 2024:

GOYA Basketball 6:00 p.m.; Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.

Fri, Sat, Sun, February 16-18, 2024:

GOYA Basketball Tournament in Canonsburg

Saturday, February 17, 2024:

Greek School 10:00 a.m.

• Sunday, February 18, 2024:

Memorial Service for John Tsoukalas, Victoria Tsoukalas, and Emanuel Supertzi.

Trisagion Service for Ekatarini Houliara (1 year).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024 - 16th Sunday of Matthew

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TODAY'S HYMNS AND READINGS

The Resurrection Hymn of the week in third mode is chanted for the Small Entrance:

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον· πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο· ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐὀῥύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

At the Small Entrance, the usual Entrance Hymn is chanted:

Following the Small Entrance, the Resurrection Hymn of the week in third mode is repeated (see above).

After this, we chant the hymn of the day (for the St. Blaise) in fourth mode.

Καὶ τρόπων μέτοχος, καὶ θρόνων διάδοχος, τῶν Ἀποστόλων γενόμενος, τὴν πρᾶξιν εὖρες Θεόπνευστε, εἰς θεωρίας ἐπίβασιν· διὰ τοῦτο τὸν λόγον τῆς ἀληθείας ὀρθοτομῶν, καὶ τῆ πίστει ἐνήθλησας μέχρις αἵματος, Ἱερομάρτυς Βλάσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Becoming a partner with the Apostles in way of life and successor to their thrones, O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you found an entrance to contemplation. Hence you rightly expounded the word of truth, and you shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O Hieromartyr Blaise, Intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.

Then, the clergy chant the hymn for the memorial service in plagal fourth mode.

Μνήσθητι Κύριε, ώς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου, καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίω ἥμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ Σὰ ὁ δυνάμενος, καὶ τοῖς μεταστᾶσι δοῦναι τήν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

We then chant the Apolytikion hymn for our patron, St. Nicholas, in fourth mode:

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποίμνῃ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχεία τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

The truth of things have revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Finally, we chant the usual Kontakion, in second mode:

Ποοστασία τῶν Χοιστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, ποὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεί, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.

Today's Epistle Reading (16th Sunday):

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians (6:1-10)

Αδελφοί, συνεργούντες παρακαλούμεν, μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ Θεοῦ δέξασθαι ὑμᾶς. Λέγει γάρ Καιρῷ δεκτῷ ἐπήκουσά σου καὶ ἐν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας ἐβοήθησά σοι ἰδοὺ νῦν καιρὸς εὐπρόσδεκτος ἰδοὺ νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας. Μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπήν, ἵνα μὴ μωμηθῆ ἡ διακονία, ἀλλ' ἐν παντὶ συνιστῶντες ἑαυτοὺς ὡς Θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῆ πολλῆ, ἐν θλίψεσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαῖς, ἐν φυλακαῖς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγρυπνίαις, ἐν νηστείαις, ἐν άγνότητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμία, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν Πνεύματι άγίω, ἐν ἀγάπη ἀνυποκρίτω, ἐν λόγω ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει Θεοῦ διὰ τῶν ὅπλων τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς, ὡς ἀγνοούμενοι καὶ ἐπιγινωσκόμενοι, ὡς ἀποθνήσκοντες καὶ ἰδοὺ ζῶμεν, ὡς παιδευόμενοι καὶ μὴ θανατούμενοι, ὡς λυπούμενοι ἀεὶ δὲ χαίροντες, ὡς πτωχοὶ πολλοὺς δὲ πλουτίζοντες, ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.

Brethren, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. [RSV]

Today's Gospel Reading (16th Sunday of Matthew):

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (25:14-30)

Εἰπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην. Ἀνθρωπός τις ἀποδημῶν ἐκάλεσε τοὺς ἰδίους δούλους καὶ παρέδωκεν αὐτοῖς τὰ ὑπάρχοντα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ῷ μὲν ἔδωκε πέντε τάλαντα, ῷ δὲ δύο, ῷ δὲ ἕν, ἑκάστῳ κατὰ τὴν ἰδίαν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀπεδήμησεν εὐθέως. πορευθεὶς δὲ ὁ τὰ πέντε τάλαντα λαβὼν εἰργάσατο ἐν αὐτοῖς καὶ ἐποίησεν ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα ώσαύτως καὶ ὁ τὰ δύο ἐκέρδησε καὶ αὐτὸς ἄλλα δύο. ὁ δὲ τὸ εν λαβὼν ἀπελθὼν ὤρυξεν ἐν τῷ γῷ καὶ ἀπέκρυψε τὸ ἀργύριον τοῦ κυρίου αὐτοῦ. μετὰ δὲ χρόνον πολὺν ἔρχεται ὁ κύριος τῶν δούλων ἐκείνων καὶ συναίρει μετ' αὐτῶν λόγον. καὶ

ποοσελθών ὁ τὰ πέντε τάλαντα λαβών ποοσήνεγκεν ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα λέγων κύοιε, πέντε τάλαντά μοι παρέδωκας: ἴδε ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα ἐκέρδησα ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ· εὖ, δοῦλε ἀγαθὲ καὶ πιστέ! ἐπὶ ὀλίγα ῆς πιστός, ἐπὶ πολλῶν σε καταστήσω εἴσελθε εἰς τὴν χαρὰν τοῦ κυρίου σου. προσελθών δὲ καὶ ὁ τὰ δύο τάλαντα λαβών εἶπε· κύριε, δύο τάλαντά μοι παρέδωκας: ἴδε ἄλλα δύο τάλαντα ἐκέρδησα ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ· εὖ, δοῦλε ἀγαθὲ καὶ πιστέ! ἐπὶ ὀλίγα ῆς πιστός, ἐπὶ πολλῶν σε καταστήσω εἴσελθε εἰς τὴν χαρὰν τοῦ κυρίου σου. προσελθών δὲ καὶ ὁ τὸ εν τάλαντον εἰληφώς εἶπε· κύριε, ἔγνων σε ὅτι σκληρὸς εἶ ἄνθρωπος, θερίζων ὅπου οὐκ ἔσπειρας καὶ συνάγων ὅθεν οὐ διεσκόρπισας· καὶ φοβηθεὶς ἀπελθών ἔκρυψα τὸ τάλαντόν σου ἐν τῆ γῆ· ἴδε ἔχεις τὸ σόν. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· πονηρὲ δοῦλε καὶ ὀκνηρέ! ἤδεις ὅτι θερίζω ὅπου οὐκ ἔσπειρα καὶ συνάγω ὅθεν οὐ διεσκόρπισα! ἔδει οὖν σε βαλεῖν τὸ ἀργύριόν μου τοῖς τραπεζίταις, καὶ ἐλθών ἐγὼ ἐκομισάμην ἄν τὸ ἐμὸν σὺν τόκῳ. ἄρατε οὖν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ τὸ τάλαντον καὶ δότε τῷ ἔχοντι τὰ δέκα τάλαντα· τῷ γὰρ ἔχοντι παντὶ δοθήσεται καὶ περισσευθήσεται· ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ μὴ ἔχοντος καὶ ὁ ἔχει ἀρθήσεται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. καὶ τὸν ἀχρεῖον δοῦλον ἐκβάλετε εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων. Ταῦτα λέγων ἐφώνει· ὁ ἔχων ὧτα ἀκούειν ἀκουέτω.

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" [RSV]

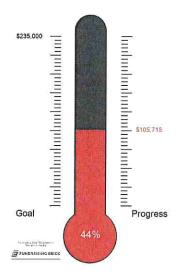


2024 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex

(Just ask a member of Parish Council)



Visit our website to fill out a Stewardship Card for 2024 or to make a donation https://www.stnickspgh.org



2024	STEWARDSHIP			
Total Stewards	122 (GOAL 300)			
Total Pledged	\$ 105,715.00 GOAL (\$235,000.00)			
Avg. Pledge	\$866.52			

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.



From the Church School Desk!

Church School students in grades 7th—12th can learn more about their faith and participate in the St. Nicholas Oratorical Festival that will be held in March 2024. For more information, please contact our Oratorical Festival Chair Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com.

Yours in Christ Miss Michelle

SAINT NICHOLAS GOLF OUTING COMMITTEE

We are looking for committee members for the golf outing fundraiser.

The committee needs people to help with sponsors, auction items, and golfers.

If you are interested in helping, please call the church office.

Thank you.

GOYA NEWS

<u>Volunteers Needed</u> - Our St. Nicholas GOYA will be hosting the Metropolis Volleyball Tournament at St. Nicholas on Saturday, March 2. Help will be needed to be scorekeepers, line judges, food servers, donate baked goods, etc. Please contact Carla Antoniades at 724-759-0016 or Linda Hages at 412-523-7938 to volunteer.

Thank you to all the parishioners who have stepped up in the past and continue to do so for these events. Come and enjoy a day of volleyball and help the cause.

GREEK SCHOOL

Keep open March 31, 2024, to join us in the celebration of the Feast Day of Evangelismos and Greek Independence.

On that day a Doxology, a luncheon, followed with an annual program presented by the students and GOYA dancers will take place.

Food Festival Preparations

This weekend we are tackling our most popular pastry, Baklava. We hope to see some new and familiar faces. Help us reach our goal of 240 pans.

We started yesterday and will continue today after Church and Monday 9:00am to 4:00pm.

February

Baklava	Saturday, February 10, 9:00 am – 4:00pm Sunday, Feb. 11, after Church till 4:00pm Monday, February 12, 9:00am – 4:00pm Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24, 9:00am – 4:00pm		
Pastitsio			
	Sunday, Feb. 25, After Church till 4:00pm		

PHILOPTOCHOS

OPERATION CLASSROOM

Our parish's Philoptochos is getting started with Operation Classroom this year! Operation Classroom's mission, according to National Philoptochos, is "to assist and offer support to teachers and students in underserved or underfunded schools and provide resources that would not have been available through the local school district."

For more information on Operation Classroom, visit www.philoptochos.org/operation-classroom/

St. Nicholas Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos Society





To make a monetary donation for Operation Classroom, please make checks payable to St. Nick's Philoptochos, and put Operation Classroom in the memo.

ST. NICHOLAS PHILOPTOCHOS THANKS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



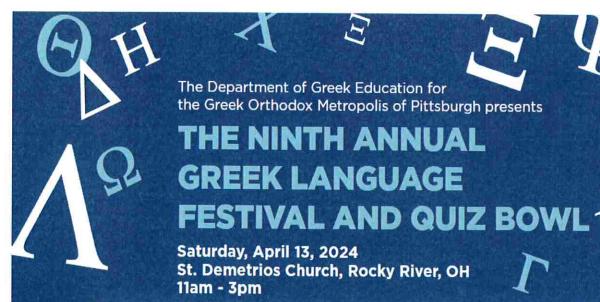
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church School Open House Sunday, March 3, 2024



Join your Child or Grandchild for

Church Worship, Holy Communion & Church School!





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/3yx04h3bdlll5c2ifyk4m/h?dl=0&rlkey=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. 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/fo/3yx04h3bdlll5c2lfyk4m/h?dl=0&rlkey=d45th09alvd712 t40ynqvo6c2

Registration deadline is March 30, 2024

Questions contact Maria Stamoolis: mstamoolis@verizon.net



FEBRUARY 2024								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
11 16th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:45 a.m.	Philoptochos Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.	13 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Basketball	14	15	16	Greek Schoo 10:00 a.m.		
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	etball 6:00 p.m.		GOYA Basketball Tournament in Canonsburg, PA: Feb. 16-18		
Basketball Practice				J				
Sunday of the Canaanite Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Parish Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	20 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. GOYA Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	YAL Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	22	23	Greek Schoo 10:00 a.m.		
Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: TRIODION BEGINS Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	GOYA Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	29	1 Volleyball set up	Volleyball Tournament		
Concert: VITAMINS FOR	FAST FREE WEEK							
THE SOUL: Musical Prayers from the Triodion "To-Go" 6:00 p.m.								