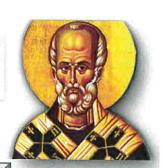
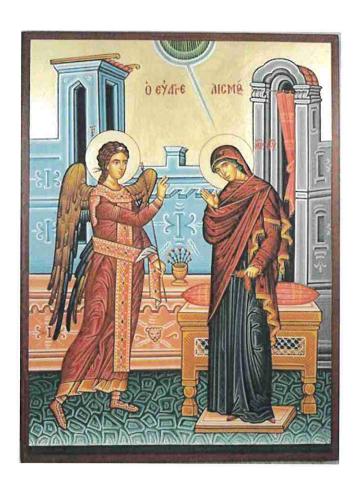


Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA



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

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER



MARCH 25, 2024

The Feast of the Annunciation of
Our Most Holy Lady, the
Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is
celebrated on March 25 each year.
The Feast commemorates the
announcement by the Archangel
Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the
Son of God, would become
incarnate and enter into this world
through her womb.

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
Parameter St. Control of		

Vincent Nelson Maintenance 412-537-4073

2023 Parish Council

Michelle Marie Kotsagrelos, President (412-680-1416)
John Frentzos, Vice President (412-287-0275)
James Machin, Treasurer (724-413-3607)
Rob Day, Assistant Treasurer (917-569-8622)
George Bellios, Secretary (412-897-5354),
Vasili Copetas, Assistant Secretary (412-551-7677)
Victor Bertolina (412-860-2315)
Arthur Dordas (412-719-7796)
Ted Hages (412-523-3571)

Ted Hages (412-523-3571)
Peter Krelis(412-370-2809)
Dean Panagulias (412-596-2501)
Van Paras (412-527-4248)
Peter Tsudis (412-915-7006)

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.

Metropolis412-621-5529www.pittsburgh.goarch.orgArchdiocese212-570-3500www.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-OrthodoxCathedral-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 Kotsagrelos	s 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/HO	OPE/JÓY Nikki Lyko	
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 Dan	cers	= 1 20 200.
GOYA	Kelly Gary	412-741-8567
JOY	Aimee Walker	412-398-6094
Boys Basketball		412-523-3571
	Nick Strauch	724-931-0364
Girls Basketball	: Nikki Lykos	412-897-8208
	Lenna Cominos	412-370-8181

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Cemetery

Community Center & Catering
Finance
Food Festival
Fundraising
Fund

Religious & Greek Education/Greek Affiliations

Social

Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism

TechnologyRob DayYouthTed HagesBylaws/LegalTed HagesBeautificationDeacon Robert Lykos

FATHER'S MESSAGE

March 2024

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The season of Great Lent is upon us. I would like to share with you some wonderful suggestions for Lent, which our Former Archbishop offered at a Lenten Retreat in 2016. Below are the first five of the ten suggestions. May this Lenten season be one that is spiritually uplifting for each of us.

+Fr. 8005

Prayerfully yours,

† Fr. Eleftherios Constantine

Ten Suggestions for Lent

By His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Formerly of America

(Part 1 of 2)

1. Meditate on the History of Salvation

Think of the Lenten period as a time of meditating on the history of salvation. Think about the creation of the universe and of Adam and Eve as the beginning of human life on earth. Think about the fall of Adam and the entrance of sin in humanity. We see in the hymnology of the liturgical book of Lent, the Triodion, constant references to the tragedy of the fall of the first human beings. For example, in the Oikos of the Matins on yesterday's Cheesefare Sunday, we read: "Adam sat and cried in those days across from the delights of Paradise; beat his hands upon his face, and said: Merciful One, have mercy on me who have fallen."

The memory of what happened through the fall of Adam and Eve continues on in us to this day. Think of the current condition of the world with its chaotic situation, confusion, violence, poverty, injustices, oppression, sickness and death, and remember it all started way back with Adam and Eve as a consequence of their sin and fall. But then contemplate the course of history and how the amazing, unimaginable, and unpredictable act of God Himself to become a human being radically changed everything. So in the course of Lent remember the history of salvation: From the fall of humankind, to the promise of redemption, the Incarnation of God as the new Adam, His

FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

Crucifixion, the Resurrection, the Ascension into Heaven, and the Second Coming. Take time to reflect on God's divine actions through history.

2. Review the understanding of fasting

Take fasting seriously as a very important aspect of Lent. Think of fasting not simply as an item of diet, but as something related to the fall of humankind, and at the same time as a victory through Christ. We fast for forty days in Lent before Holy Week not merely as an exercise, an ascesis, but also because there is an important Christological significance attached to fasting. We have forty-day fasting models from both the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament, Moses fasted for forty days on Mount Sinai before receiving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28, Deut. 9:9, 9:18) and Prophet Elijah fasted for forty days on Mount Horeb (3 Kingdoms 19:8). Both of these instances are connected with an encounter with God at the end of their fasting. In the New Testament, we have the forty-day fasting in the desert by our Lord Jesus Christ (Matt. 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13).

At the end of the forty-day fasting by Christ in the desert, there are the well-known "Temptations" of Christ, the first of which is related to eating: And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he [Christ] answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" (Matt. 4:3-4). Is this event in the life of Christ in any way connected to the Fall of Adam? Indeed, the Fall of Adam was caused by an eating situation, yet the victory of Christ also happened through an eating situation. While Adam said "yes" to the temptation and ate (Genesis 3:1-6), Christ said "no" to the temptation and did not eat. This is why the fasting of the forty-days during Lent is not simply a matter of abstention or an issue of diet, but is a major Christological and soteriological situation; the fall of humankind, and then the restoration through the victory of Christ. So let us take fasting seriously and prepare ourselves for a blessed encounter with God.

3. Reconsider our life of prayer

Great Lent is a special time to pray. But what is the content of our prayer? What is our praying language? For several people, their prayer is still on the same level of that when they were ten or fifteen years old; it has stayed undeveloped. Why when speaking to God are we using a poor language? What efforts are we making to improve and enhance our prayer in terms of content and expression? Looking at the Triodion, we see many examples of different types of prayer language and content. Try to pray and study the prayers that the Church has given us which are superb examples of conversing with God and try especially to prayerfully read the Psalms, the standard and universal book of prayer.

FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

During Lent we find an increased number of opportunities for community prayer and worship. The Church invites us each week to pray the services of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, the Presanctified Liturgy, the Salutations to the Theotokos, the Great Compline, and others. So try to pray more frequently this Lent and develop through constant praying a more refined language of prayer.

4. Be conscious of the gravity of sin

Sometimes we don't take sin seriously. Yet Scripture offers a very strong and unequivocal picture of the gravity of sin. The hymnology of the Triodion is replete with occurrences of the word "sin" or variations of it. Sin is a very serious issue. In the Hebrew Old Testament, there are fourteen different words to describe sin, but chiefly four: sin as a matter of human weakness, sin as a distortion or perversion, sin as a rebellion (borrowed from the political realm), and sin as an error or mistake related to ignorance.

If we believe in God becoming a human being and willingly being crucified on the Cross for the sins of the world, then we must understand the seriousness of sin. Let's reflect on how sin has control in our lives, and how it has distorted the divine image within each of us. Let us deal seriously with our sins with an understanding that they are part of the huge amount of sins and evil that led Christ to the Cross. But then remember that God has given forgiveness as the perfect antidote through the very same Cross. Forgiveness, however, is inseparably connected to repentance.

5. Make Lent a season for repentance

Along with sin, we are called to reflect upon repentance. Repentance is a very important aspect in our lives and is a dominant theme throughout the Triodion. We should not forget that Jesus Christ our Lord began His public ministry with the words, "Μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰο ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐοανῶν." "Repent [change your mind], for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 4:17). The whole Sermon on the Mount is a commentary on this fundamental declaration on repentance. The writings of St. Paul and the other New Testament writings are permeated by calls to repentance. Repentance is not merely a shallow or superficial act, but a radical change of mind, soul, will and mentality. It is a central issue and an essential component of the Lenten period. God is always ready to forgive, but first we must

Name	

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL NAMES FOR SATURDAYS OF THE SOULS 2024

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

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

Orthodox Christians

FIRST	NAME	ES ONLY
700		
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<u>C</u>	<u>Others</u>	
		§

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

Show compassion on the poor

and distressed. Trust in God,

not yourself and ask for His help

before every task this week.

Schedule a Confession. Every morning

say, "Today I will be humble."

Use up/freeze meats this week.

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week **FEBRUARY 25th**



TRIODION WEEKS

Publican and the Pharisee

Epistle: Gospel:

2 Timothy 3:10-15 Luke 18:10-14

Normal Fast Week MARCH 3rd



The Prodigal Son Returns!

Epistle: Gospel:

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Luke 15:11-32

Meatfare

MARCH 10th

FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



The Last Judgement

Epistle: Gospel: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Matthew 25:31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

Cheesefare

MARCH 17th

FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY



Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Epistle: Gospel: Romans 13:11-14:4 Matthew 6:14-21

Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

1st Sunday of Lent

MARCH 24th



GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS

SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY

Epistle:

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

Gospel: John 1:43-51 Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 31st



ST GREGORY PALAMAS

Epistle: Gospel: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Mark 2:1-12

Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.

3rd Sunday of Lent

APRIL 7th



VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS HALF WAY TO PASCHA!

Epistle: Gospel: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Mark 8:34-9:1

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!

4th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 14th



ST JOHN of the LADDER

Epistle: Gospel: Hebrews 6:13-20 Mark 9:17-31

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 21st



ST MARY of EGYPT

Epistle: Gospel:

Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 10:32-45

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!

APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

MAY 3rd



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Epistle: Gospel: Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!

FEAST OF FEASTS!

MAY 5th

NO FASTING!



CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before

good morning and goodnight!

PARISH COUNCIL

Our Lenten Journey is about to begin!

This 40-day journey should be filled with the three (3) pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and service which will help us develop a closer relationship to God.

But before then, our parish has a few things to do...

On Saturday, March 2nd, we will be hosting the Metropolis Volleyball Tournament with participants from the tri-state area. Many volunteers are needed. If you are able to help, please contact one of the GOYA Advisors (Linda Hages or Jimmy Machin).

The next day, March 3rd, will be Church School's Open House **AND** our Winter General Assembly, where we will discuss our parish's pledge towards the New Metropolis Center.

Our Food Festival is just two (2) months away, and we will be preparing some of my favorite desserts. Karidopita March 5^{th} , Finikia March 16^{th} , and Galatoboureko March $22^{nd}-24^{th}$ to serve to the thousands of people who come through our doors. Hope you can volunteer some time. 1-2 hours or 1-2 pans, can lighten the load.

Please support the Vlahokerasiotiki Makaronada March 9th. Besides having a delicious meal, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the St. Nicholas Cathedral Church Beautification Fund.

Great Lent will commence March 18^{th} . Philoptochos will have a Lenten Meal (soup) following the 1^{st} Salutations (March 22^{nd}), and the Church School students will participate in the Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession with their favorite icon (March 24^{th}).

To wrap up the month, Greek School will have their annual Evangelismos/ Greek Independence Day Procession, Doxology, Luncheon and Program on March $31^{\rm st}$.

Looking forward to seeing **you** at St. Nicholas (in the **pews** or at one of these events)!

Yours in Christ,

Michelle Marie Kotsagrelos

Parish Council President

P.S. Peter Nychis has stepped down from Parish Council. I want to thank him for his many years serving on Parish Council and his work with the Cemetery.



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

REV TR ELEFTHERIOS CONSTANTINE - REV. DN ROBERT W. LYROS

To: Members of The Greek Community of Allegheny County, PA

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

From: Parish Council

Subject: General Assembly of March 3, 2024

A General Assembly will convene immediately following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 3, 2024.

The agenda for the General Assembly will be as follows:

- A. Opening Prayer
- B. Election of Assembly Chairman (Secretary to be appointed by Chairman)
- C. Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly meeting of October 15, 2023
- D. Election of Board of Auditors (Elect no less than three (3))
- E. Father's Report & Reflections
- F. Executive Committee Report
- G. Finance Committee Report
- H. Foundation Fund Report
- I. Any Other Committee Reports
- J. Old Business
- K. New Business
 - 1. New Metropolis Center Pledge

Michelle Marie Kotsagrelow

- L. Good of the Parish
- M. Adjournment

At this meeting, the General Assembly will be asked to approve the Pledge to the New Metropolis Center. Copies of all documents and minutes of the prior General Assembly will be distributed at the meeting. The Parish Council requests your presence and support. Please make every effort to attend.

Respectfully,

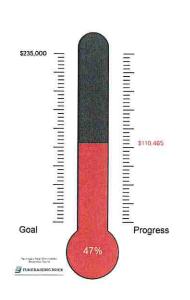
Michelle Marie Kotsagrelos, President

Fr. Eleftherios Constantine, Dean

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.



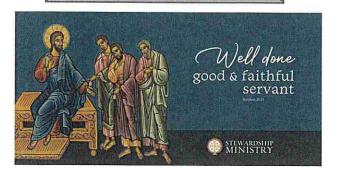
2024 STEWARDSHIP		02/20/2024
Total Stewards		177
Total Amount Pledged		\$110,465.00
Average Pledge		\$856.32
% Parish Participation to Date		59%
2023 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		47%
2023 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 235,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$57,019.30
As of:		12/31/2023
Income: Pledges, Basket Collection and Food Festival	\$1,027,609.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$1,017,935.00	
	\$ 9,674.00	

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



Fr. Eleftherios & Presvytera Elizabeth Constantine

Dn. & Mrs. Robert Lykos James & Electra Agras

Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Amorgianos

Mr. Anthony Andrews Mr. Steven Andrews

Mrs. Elaine Andrianos Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Andrianos

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Andriotis

Mr. George Anthon

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Antonuccio Mr. & Mrs. Spilios Argiropoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Van Backeris Mr. & Mrs. Nick Balouris Mr. & Mrs. Simon Barber Ms. Maria Bardakos

Ms. Bethany Barefoot & Petros Neofotistos

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Baughman Ms. Sophia Bender Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bertolina Mrs. Rebecca Bertos Dr. & Mrs. Paul Blastos Mrs. Mary Brahos

Mrs. Mary Branos Ms. Krista Bullard

Mr. & Mrs. Terry Carlisano

Mrs. Dee Chronis Mr. Greg Cominos

Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Cominos Mrs. Marion Constantinides-Bennett

Mrs. Marion Constantinid Mr. Phillip Contacos Mrs. Eleni Contis Ms. Jamie Contis Mr. & Mrs. Nick Contis Mrs. Sandra Contis Mr. Charles G. Copetas Mr. George Copetas Mrs. Helen G. Copetas Mrs. Helen M. Copetas

Mrs. Maria Copetas Mrs. Theodora Copetas Mr. & Mrs. William Copetas Mr. & Mrs. George Darakos Mr. & Mrs. Taki Darakos

Ms. Bridgette Daugherty
Mrs. Denise Daugherty

Dr. & Mrs. K.C. Davides Mr. & Mrs. Robin Day Mr. & Mrs. Petros Delivor

Mr. & Mrs. Petros Delivorias Mrs. Christine DeMatteo

Mrs. Christine Dickos

Mr. Art Dordas

Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Doris Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Doris Mr. & Mrs. Randy Eberhardt Dr. & Mrs. Demetrius Ellis

Mrs. Elaine Ellis

Dr. & Mrs. Mike Epitropoulos

Mrs. Penelope Falck Mrs. Alice Flocos

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frank Mr. & Mrs. John Frentzos

Mrs. Alice Gary

Gialamas Parlour Family Mrs. Frances Gialamas Mrs. Alexandra Gregory Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gregory Mr. & Mrs. James Hages

Dr. & Mrs. Dean Hanna Mrs. Frances Hanna Mrs. Rania Harris

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hogg

Mr. Nick Kakavis

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kalabokes

Ms Christine Kanakis

Dr. Diane Karnavas & Mr. Bart Bodkin

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

Ms. Elaine Keim

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kleissas Mr. George Koromvokis Mrs. Estair Kotsagrelos

Ms. Michelle Marie Kotsagrelos

Mr. & Mrs. William Kozy
Ms. Christine Krelis

Mr. & Mrs. Georgis Krinis Mr. & Mrs. John Kristian Mr. James S. Kukunas

Mr. & Mrs. James T. Kukunas Dr. & Mrs. Steve Kukunas

Dr. & Mrs. James Kyros Mr. & Mrs. Louis Langas Ms. Constantina Lardas

Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Lardas Mrs. Kalliope Lardas

Mr. & Mrs. Kleanthis Lardas Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas D. Lardas Mr. & Mrs. Peter Leventopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lipecky

Mrs. Janet Lykos

Mr. & Mrs. James D. Machin

Dr. Nicoletta Machin & Dr. Suman Yadam

Ms. Karen Malobicky

Mrs. Thalia Mandros Mrs. Eugenia Manganas

Mrs. Barbara Manners

Ms. Electra Markopoulos

Mr. Gregory Markopoulos Mrs. Helen Mastros

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mastros

Mr. & Mrs. John McCann Drs. Thomas & Dana McClure

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGuire

Ms.. Patricia McKee Mrs. Maria Menas

Mr. William Michaels Mrs. Venetia Moreno

Mrs. Venetia Moreno Mr. Paul L. Moses

Ms. Maryanne Napiecek Ms. Mary Olszewski

Ms. Mary Olszewski Ms. Alexandra Panagis

Mr. Constantine Panagulias

Ms. Catherine E. Pandeladis

Mr. & Mrs. John N. Panos Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pantages

Mr. & Mrs. Xenophon Papanikolaou Mr. John C. Paras

Mr. John C. Paras Mrs. Katherine Paras Mr. Van Paras

Mrs. Constance Paras -Jennings

Mr. &b Mrs. Dean Paul Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Persinger Mrs. Stamatia Peters

Mr. & Mrs. John Peterson Mr. & Mrs. John Petrolias Ms. Constance Petros Mrs. Vera Poland

Mrs. Helene Powers

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Rakoczy Mr. Anastasios Raptis

Mrs. Kristina Rigoopulos & Mr. William Guttman Mr. A. Robert Shott

Mr. George Sockos

Mr. & Mrs. James Stamatelos

Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Stamoolis

Mrs. Toula Stathopoulos Mrs. Stella Stratigos Mr. Demetri Strauch Mr. & Mrs. Pat Strauch Mr. & Mrs. Robert Swisher

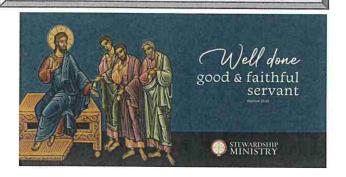
Mrs. Katia Sycara & Mr. Michael Lewis

Ms. Evangeline Theodoridis Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Thomas

Mrs. Chrisoula Torlidas Mr. Peter Tsoukalas

Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsourekis

2024 STEWARDSHIP, Con't



Mr. Sotirios Tsourekis
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tsudis
Mrs. Panagiota Vasilakis
Mrs. Stella Vassilaros
Mrs. Angela Vergos
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vergos
Mr. John Vitsas
Mrs. Helen Waskoskie
Mr. & Mrs. David Williard
Dr. & Mrs. Leo Yannopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Yannopoulos
Dr. Katerina Zavaras
Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Zervoudis
Mrs. Sophia Zozos

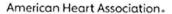


2024 STEWARDSHIP, Con't

(ATTENDA			
Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA		GREEK ORTHODOX C AMILY STEWARDSHIP	
Last Name	First Name		
Address	City	State	Zip
(Alternate address if applicable)			
Home Phone Wo	rk Phone	Cell Phone	
Email			
PLEASE provide pertinent informati	ion on reverse side about y		
□ Please send Stewardship Envelopes □ I c		Statement delivery:	
Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA		items below that you or a fa e or interest. Place initials o ember after each item check	of the
□ Visitation of Elderly □ Outreact □ Youth Ministry □ Gardenia	School Defice/New Website M General Construction Construction	gmt 🗆 Cooking	Choir g/Festival
TIME- St. Nicholas Cathedr	al is grateful for our m	any volunteers. Tho	ınk you!
Name & relationship i.e., self, spouse, child, etc.	Date of birth Marital Status	Occupation OR school/gra	ade

Philoptochos Celebrates "Go Red Sunday"

On Sunday, February 4th, our Philoptochos Chapter joined with the National Philoptochos to celebrate "Go Red Sunday" in support of Heart Health Month. We committed to donate \$10 to the American Heart Association for every person wearing red in church that day. Thanks to the 70 people wearing something red, we made a donation of \$700 to the American Heart Association!





Philoptochos General Meeting Sunday, March 17th



We will have our next General meeting open to all members on Sunday, March 17th after church. This will be a brief meeting (20-30 minutes) to bring our members up to speed on what is happening within our Chapter and to solicit new ideas and suggestions from all of you. Please save the date and plan to join us after church!

Join Us for The 97th Annual

Vlahokerasiotiki Makaronada

Saturday, March 9th

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Dinner followed by Open Greek Night* Featuring The Filarakia

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m. • Dinner Served at 7:00 p.m. Live Music Begins at 8:30 p.m.

Adults - \$40.00 • College Students - \$30.00 Children 12 and under - \$15.00 • Children 3 and under - Free

*No Cover Charge for Greek Night

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the St. Nicholas Cathedral church beautification fund!

For dinner reservations, please contact Nikki Lykos by March 2nd phone: 412-897-8208 e-mail: nvlykos@gmail.com

Name:	PHONE:
Adults	Children 12 and under Children 3 and under
Make che	cks payable to Manthyrea Educational Society and mail to:
	Nikki Velisaris Lykos
	1512 La Salle Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15216

St. Nicholas Church School



The St. Nicholas Church School teachers, staff and students want to wish our GOYANs (and Church School students) Good Luck at their upcoming GOYA Volleyball Tournament March 2, 2024, (that we are hosting).

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral's Church School Open House will be Sunday, March 3, 2024, where parents and grandparents attend Church School to see firsthand what their children are learning.

Sunday, March 24, 2024, the Church School students will participate in the Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession with their favorite icon!

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 Chairman Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com.

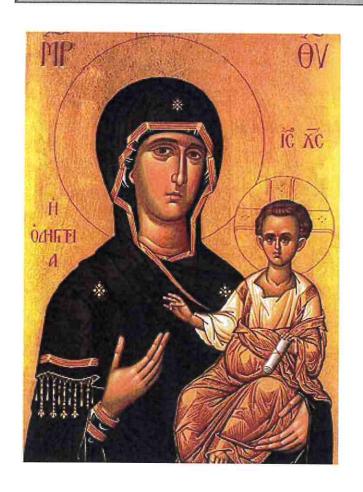
I appreciate the support from all of you and thanks for sharing your children with us every Sunday!

Yours in Christ, Miss Michelle

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



Join your Child or Grandchild for Church Worship, Holy Communion & Church School!



Church School Students: Please bring an icon Sunday, March 24, 2024 for the Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession

St. Nicholas Oratorical Festival

March 2024



For more information, please contact Chairman Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com

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

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.

Dance Group Costumes Donations Needed

The St. Nicholas Dancers (7th grade and up) are in need of additional costumes and replacement pieces. Our current costumes date back to 2013 and our needs have grown. We have contacted the costume manufacturer in Greece and will be placing an order soon. Our festival is quickly approaching, and we find ourselves in need. The current cost of a girl's costume is \$310, and a boy's costume is \$180.

We are currently collecting donations toward this project. Thank you to those who have already donated. Please make checks payable to St. Nicholas Cathedral with St. Nicholas Dancers in the memo line. If you are mailing your check to the church, please write Attn: St. Nicholas Dancers on the envelope.

For further information, please contact Linda Hages: 412-523-7938.

GREEK SCHOOL

On **Sunday, March 31,** will be the celebration of St. Nicholas Cathedral's Annual Evangelismos (Annunciation) and Greek Independence Day Program and Luncheon. Let's celebrate together this beautiful double holiday ---Evangelismos the start of our Salvation and **Greece's Independence** from 400 years of slavery. Make a reservation and support our school which is one of the longest, continuously running Greek Schools in the country. There will be a Procession, a Doxology, a Lenten Luncheon, followed by a wonderful program by the children. Support our school. This is our biggest fundraiser.

With the start of Great Lent, students prepare to read prayers to Panaghia and Christ at the beautiful Salutation Services to our Most Holy Theotokos. Some current students as well as alumni will be reading or chanting prayers in Biblical Greek. The first Salutation Service will take place on **Friday, March 22.** Try to attend these inspiring services which are held on the first five Fridays of Great Lent.

Some Greek School students are also preparing to take Ellinomatheas Exams in May and will need to register by March 20th. These exams will take place in mid-May at St. Nicholas Cathedral, which is the Testing Center for our Metropolis. Students who are successful with B Level Ellinomatheas and take it in their junior year are to receive a "Seal of Biliterary" on their high school diploma.

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh's 9th Annual Greek Language Festival and Quiz Bowl will take place at St. Demetrios Church in Rocky River this year on Saturday, April 13, 2024. We are hoping to have a musical representation, a team for the Quiz Bowl, as well as, artwork on exhibit.

Καλή Μεγάλη Σαρακοστή!!

Celebrate the Evangelismos and Greek Independence Day

with

St. Nicholas Cathedral Greek School

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Luncheon-immediately after Doxology in church

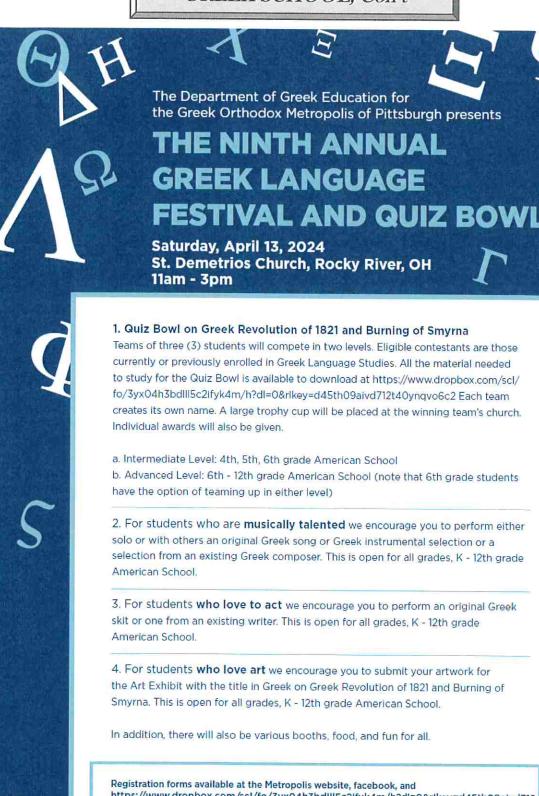


luncheon reservations, by Mar. 22
Call/Text Maria Stamoolis at 412-874-4422 or E-mail
mstamoolis@verizon.net

Shrimp Luncheon – adults \$15 / children 13 and under \$10

Then stay and celebrate with the children-- POEMS! SONGS! PLAY! Dancing!

GREEK SCHOOL, Con't



y

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

GOYA NEWS

Welcome back to the Goya page! During the month of February, our goya has attended the third and final tournament of this basketball season. Congratulations to our seniors; Kalliope Kristian, Alexis Hammerling, and Nasi Edgos who will be greatly missed! Thank you guys for providing such a positive impact on our goya. With that being said, our senior girls won 1st place! Our junior girls won 4 trophies in just three tournaments: three Junior 1st place awards, and 1 third place trophy in the senior division! Huge congratulations to them. Our boys are getting much better. Thank you to all the coaches, chaperones, and advisors for such a successful basketball season! Also, we would like thank Fr. Eleftherios for his continued support and dedication to our youth.

Next up on our agenda we will be hosting the annual indoor volleyball tournament in our gym on March 3rd. Wish us luck in our attempt in winning back to back Championships. Dance practices are starting and it looks like we will be having practices every Sunday.

GOYA NEWS, Con't





GOYA NEWS, Con't





GOYA NEWS, Con't





FOOD FESTIVAL

Festival Cooking Schedule

Food Festival Cooking Update As we enter the month of March, we are almost at the halfway mark of our preparations...6 down and 7 more to go. A heartfelt shoutout goes to those of you who have helped us come this far. Without you, we wouldn't have the vast amount of homemade food items we need to serve the thousands of guests who attend our festival. Now in its 62nd year, our reputation supersedes us. We are known for the traditional, authentic, high quality of our food. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you have not already done so, please consider giving some of your time to help for the remaining items. We welcome all, with or without experience. Join us in the St. Nick's Kitchen! St. Nicholas thanks you!

A special Thank You goes to our February Food Chairs, Tina Argiropoulos Hammerling (Baklava) and Alea Mavrogeorgis (Pastitsio).

March

Karidopita	Tuesday, March 5, 9:00 am to 4:00pm
Finikia	Saturday,March 16, 9:00 am to 4:00pm
Galatoboureko	Friday and Saturday, , March 22 & 23, 9:00 am to 4:00pm Sunday, March 24, after Church to 4:00pm

April

Kourambiethes	Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am to 4:00pm
Tiropita	Saturday, April 13, 9:00am to 4:00pm Sunday, April 14, after Church to 4:00pm
Pasta Flora*	Saturday, April 20, 9:00 – 4:00 pm

Diples*	Wednesday, April 24, 9:00 – 4:00pm

^{*}Please note the new dates for Pasta Flora and Diples.

FOOD FESTIVAL DATES SUNDAY, MAY 12 – SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

FOOD FESTIVAL, Con't

The food prepping is well underway, and the ad book committee is ramping things up for this year's campaign. Through this communication, we would like to open the opportunity for all members of our parish to help us with this church fundraiser.

We understand that everyone has a lot on their plate, and we don't want to add too much more. However, we would like to enlist our parishioners to help us sell more ads. Let's use the friends and family approach and either contact them directly about an ad or introduce one of us and we can follow up. This can be a friend's business, a brothers-in-law's law firm, your neighbor's restaurant....whatever it is, we would welcome new advertisers.

If you have ideas, thoughts, or questions, please contact one of the ad book committee members, so we can assist you. If by chance you would like to join our small humble fun committee, we welcome volunteers of course.

Thank you for helping us,

Elaine Andrianos, Alisa Balouris, Simon Barber, Lenna Cominos,

St. Nicholas Ad Book Committee

St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival

February 2024

Dear Friends,

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral will be hosting our 62nd annual Greek Food Festival from **May 12** thru **May 18**. We truly enjoy bringing this weeklong event to our community year after year.

We would like to give you the opportunity to be part of our festival by advertising in our **2024 Food Festival Ad Book**. This is a great way to advertise your business to the <u>thousands of people</u> who come to enjoy our great Greek food, music and hospitality, while at the same time, supporting our church's fundraising efforts. The money raised through our ad book benefits the St. Nicholas Cathedral Building Fund and since St. Nicholas is a 501(C)3 that makes your contribution tax deductible.

Below you will find this year's advertising prices and which are also outlined on the ad contract:

Ad Size	Cost
Full Page Premium* (inside covers and center pages)	\$850
Full Page/4.5w x 7.5h	\$700
Half Page/ 4.5w x 3.75h	\$400
Quarter Page/ 4.5w x 1.8750h	\$250
Patron/ listing (family names or in memory of someone)	\$50

^{*}There are 4 premium pages available and are on a first come first serve basis.

Please consider placing an ad by completing the attached ad contract with your contact information, payment type, and ad size selection. Completed contracts and ads can be sent via e-mail to foodfestadbook@stnickspgh.org, or mail to:

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

A few things to note:

- DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS is April 15, 2024
- · For all ads, please use high resolution JPEG files.
- If you would like to use an ad previously placed in the ad book, please indicate on the ad contract
- All ads are in color

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.

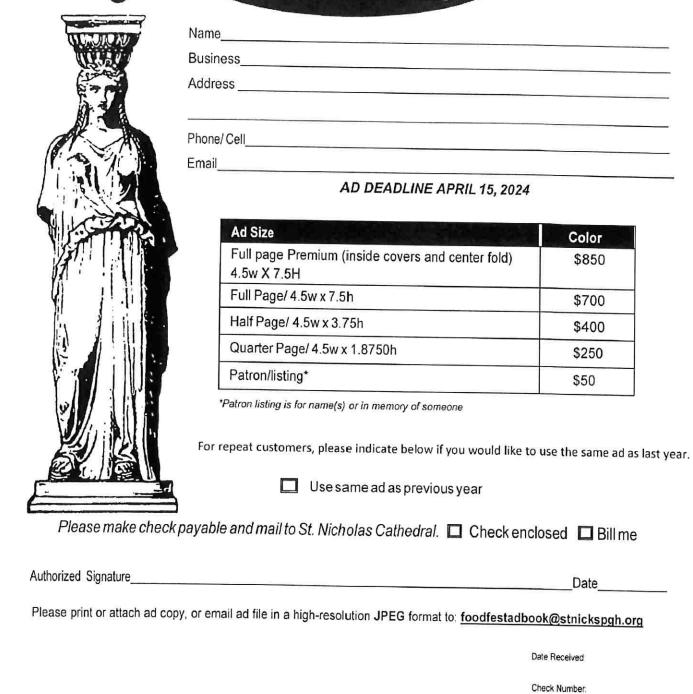
Best regards,

Elaine Andrianos, Alisa Balouris, Simon Barber, Lenna Cominos

St. Nicholas Ad Book Committee

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

2024 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL ADVERTISING CONTRACT

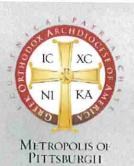


419 S. Dithridge St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 • Phone: 412-412-682-3866 • Fax: 412-683-4960

Receipt Number.

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



MAY 18 2024 · 4:00 PM

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON PITTSBURGH-CRANBERRY

910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA 16046

Online reservation:

tinyurl.com/stphotiosawardsreg \$95/adult, \$25/child (under 12)

Reservation & Sponsorship

Deadline: April 28
No Refunds available after May 4

or mail reservations to:

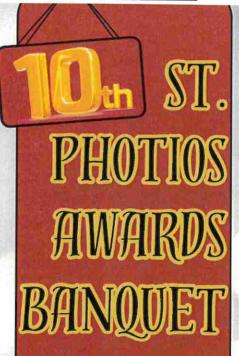
St. Photios Awards Banquet
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh
5201 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232
Please make checks payable to:
'Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh'

Banquet Co-Chairpersons:
Archdeacon Ryan:
412 621 5529
rgzikowski@pittsburgh.goarch.org
Marianne Stearns:
412 600 2159
mstearns@nauticom.net



NET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE METROPOLITAN'S BENEVOLENCE FUND

pittsburgh.goarch.org | 412 621 5529 contact: |henry@pittsburgh.goarch.org







St. Photios Awards, Con't

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL 2024 METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH ST. PHOTIOS AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Nominations for St. Photios Awards for 2024 have been officially opened by the Metropolis. The awards recognize two lay members of each parish for their faithful and selfless efforts and hard work on behalf of their Church. Please note that the Awards Banquet will take place this year on Saturday, May 18 (the last day of our Food Festival). All members of our community are invited and encouraged to submit nominations. The deadline to submit names for our Cathedral is March 17.

Please write the names of up to two nominees who have distinguished themselves over time through dedicated and hard-working service to our community as volunteers, along with two sentences about why you are nominating them:

1)			
<u>2)</u>			

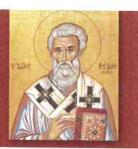
METROPOLIS OF

TTTSBURGH

VOLUME 7 NO. 11 ISSUE: 62

MARCH 2024

A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH





New Metropolis Center Construction Update

Given the winter months and the heavy rainfall, our geotechnical engineers felt that the work that was done in November to provide an improved base in the elevator pit had to be revisited as the replacement clay had been water saturated for so long and compromised. After much testing of additional clay found on the site, and the dry weather we enjoyed all last week, the clay base was removed and replaced with flowable fill concrete and dry/compactible clay with footers poured. We're all done with that with a total incremental cost of \$36,000 to the project. In the meantime, scaffolding was erected and encased with plastic over the two-story stairwell so that masons could work in that area. At the same time, footers and piers were completed for the first floor and much work was done to continue building the foundation walls on the first floor and basement which will continue, weather permitting. To learn more about, donate or pledge for the New Metropolis Center campaign please visit: pittsburgh.goarch.org/metropolis-center Thank you!

Archon Nick Lekas - New Metropolis Center Project Manager













Further Information: y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/summercamp







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





MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 GOYA Volleyball Tournament
Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Church School Open House PARISH ASSEMBLY	YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	5. Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	6 YAL Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	7	8	9 Saturday of Souls Orthros 8:30 a.m. Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Greek School 10:00 a.m.
Little Angels, HOPE & JOY Greek Dancing					Metropolis GO	YA Retreat March 8-10
Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday) Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Little Angels, HOPE & JOY Greek Dancing	YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	13	14	Pan-Orthodox Regional Akathist Service "For those afflicted with cancer" at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Allison Park 6:30 p.m.	Commemoration of the Holy Men and Women Who Have Excelled in Asceticism ("2" Saturday of Souls") Orthros 9:00 a.m. Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Greek School 10:00 a.m. Little Angels, HOPE & JOY Greek Dancing
Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday) Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Philoptochos General Meeting Forgiveness Vespers of Compuction	18 CLEAN MONDAY LENT BEGINS Great Compline 6:00 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.	21	1st Salutations to the Theotokos 6:30 p.m. Reception Hosted by Philoptochos	Commemoration of the Miracle of Kollyva wrought by Saint Theodore ("3rd Saturday of Souls") Orthros 9:00 a.m. Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Greek School
5:00 p.m.						10:00 a.m.
1 st Sunday of Lent SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Little Angels, HOPE & JOY	Annunciation of the Theotokos and Greek Independence Day Orthros 9:00 a.m. Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. Pittsburgh Metropolis Clergy Lenten Retreat in Ligonier, PA March 26-28			29 2 nd Salutations to the Theotokos 6:30 p.m.	Greek School 10:00 a.m.
Greek Dancing Pan-Orthodox Vespers at Holy Trinity North Hills 4:30 p.m.	Followed by Doxology YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.					
2 nd Sunday of Lent Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.			35			
March 25 th Program and Luncheon						

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

Non-profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Pittsburgh, PA Permit No 287

