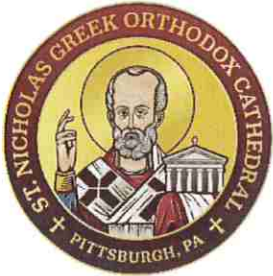


**SUNDAY, July 6, 2025 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

*Saint of the day: our devout Father Sisoies the Great*

**Third Mode · Fourth Eothinon**



## **WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!**

VISIT [www.stnickspgh.org](http://www.stnickspgh.org) for news and updates about our parish!

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

Father's E-mail: [fr.ec@stnickspgh.org](mailto:fr.ec@stnickspgh.org)

PROTOPSALTRIA: Amy Hogg

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews | ORGANIST: Brett Wells

Questions about our Parish? E-mail [church@stnickspgh.org](mailto:church@stnickspgh.org) or call 412-682-3866

**Our Sunday worship schedule: Orthros 8:15 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.**

**WELCOME, VISITORS!** You are honored guests here at St. Nicholas Cathedral and welcome at all our services. We invite you to receive the Holy Eucharist (Communion) if you are an Orthodox Christian who 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).

If you cannot join us in person, you can follow our Sunday services streaming live at: [www.stnickspgh.org/](http://www.stnickspgh.org/) and following the link "Click Here for Live Streaming."

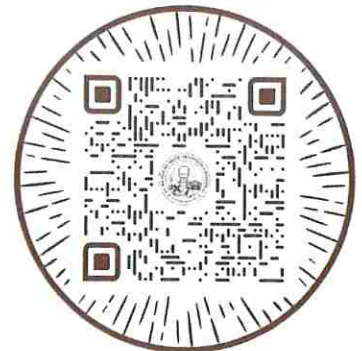
### **OUR MISSION**

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**

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

To make a donation, visit our website or scan the QR code



### **TODAY:**

- ❖ We warmly welcome and thank His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh who is leading us in worship today while Fr. Eleftherios is away.
- ❖ Coffee Hour hosted by Parish Council in the Large Hall.

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:**

- Monday, July 7: YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.
- June 30 – July 11: Father Eleftherios Away
- Sunday, July 13: Memorial Service for John Contis (10 years)  
Trisagion Service for Joann Kartsonas

Parish Council is looking for volunteers (from our parish) to work in our office (answer phones, let workers in, etc.) while Bunny is out for her knee replacement surgery.

It will be from **July 14<sup>th</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>**, during the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

If you are available, please contact Bunny at the office.

St Nicholas would greatly appreciate it!

Thank you!!

Parish Council

## TODAY'S HYMNS AND READINGS

*The Resurrection Hymn of the week in third mode is chanted twice 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 ἐρρύσατο 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.



<https://dcs.goarch.org/parish/>

*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).*

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

**Κανόνα** πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμένῃ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρόσβευε 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:*

**Προστασία** τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς 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 ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

O Protection of Christians that never fails, 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 (Fourth Sunday):**

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Romans (6:18 – 23)

**Ἀδελφοί,** ἐλευθερωθέντες ἀπὸ τῆς ἁμαρτίας ἐδουλώθητε τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ. ἀνθρώπινον λέγω διὰ τὴν ἀσθένειαν τῆς σαρκὸς ὑμῶν. ὥσπερ γὰρ παρεστήσατε τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν δοῦλα τῇ ἀκαθαρσίᾳ καὶ τῇ ἀνομίᾳ εἰς τὴν ἀνομίαν, οὕτω νῦν παραστήσατε τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν δοῦλα τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ εἰς ἁγιασμόν. ὅτε γὰρ δούλοι ἦτε τῆς ἁμαρτίας, ἐλεύθεροι ἦτε τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ. τίνα οὖν καρπὸν εἶχετε τότε ἐφ' οἷς νῦν ἐπαισχύνεσθε; τὸ γὰρ τέλος ἐκείνων θάνατος. νυνὶ δὲ ἐλευθερωθέντες ἀπὸ τῆς ἁμαρτίας δουλωθέντες δὲ τῷ Θεῷ ἔχετε τὸν καρπὸν ὑμῶν εἰς ἁγιασμόν, τὸ δὲ τέλος ζωὴν αἰώνιον.



τὰ γὰρ ὀψώνια τῆς ἁμαρτίας θάνατος, τὸ δὲ χάρισμα τοῦ Θεοῦ ζωὴ αἰώνιος ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.

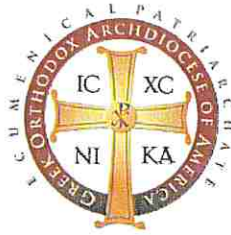
Brethren, having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. [RSV]

**Today's Gospel Reading** (*Fourth Sunday of Matthew*):

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (8:5 – 13)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσελθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς Καπερναοὺμ προσῆλθεν αὐτῷ ἑκατόνταρχος παρακαλῶν αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· Κύριε, ὁ παῖς μου βέβληται ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ παραλυτικός, δεινῶς βασανιζόμενος. καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἐγὼ ἐλθὼν θεραπεύσω αὐτόν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ ἑκατόνταρχος ἔφη· Κύριε, οὐκ εἰμὶ ἰκανὸς ἵνα μου ὑπὸ τὴν στέγην εἰσέλθῃς· ἀλλὰ μόνον εἰπέ λόγῳ, καὶ ἰαθήσεται ὁ παῖς μου. καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ἄνθρωπός εἰμι ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν, ἔχων ὑπ' ἐμαυτὸν στρατιώτας, καὶ λέγω τούτῳ, πορεύθητι, καὶ πορεύεται, καὶ ἄλλῳ, ἔρχου, καὶ ἔρχεται, καὶ τῷ δούλῳ μου, ποιήσον τοῦτο, καὶ ποιεῖ. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐθαύμασε καὶ εἶπε τοῖς ἀκολουθοῦσιν· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐδὲ ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοσαύτην πίστιν εὔρον. λέγω δὲ ὑμῖν ὅτι πολλοὶ ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν καὶ δυσμῶν ἥξουσι καὶ ἀνακλιθήσονται μετὰ Ἀβραάμ καὶ Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν, οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ τῆς βασιλείας ἐκβληθήσονται εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον· ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τῷ ἑκατοντάρχῳ· ὕπαγε, καὶ ὡς ἐπίστευσας γεννηθήτω σοι. καὶ ἰάθη ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment. [RSV]



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA  
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 268/2025

Archepiscopal Encyclical on the Fourth of July

July 4, 2025

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Sacred Archdiocese of America:

*Εὰν ὑμεῖς μένητε ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, ἀληθῶς μαθηταί μου ἐστε, καὶ γνώσεσθε τὴν ἀλήθειαν, καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια ἐλευθερώσει ὑμᾶς. (κατὰ Ἰωάννην 8:31-32)*

*If you abide in My Message, then you are truly My followers, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (John 8:31-32)*

My beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,

The Fourth of July is much more than the American celebration of liberty. It is the memory of that moment of the turning of the tide, when a people who were abused by the powerful chose to stand up for themselves and grasp for the freedom that their conscience told them was their "unalienable right." And this is the very same liberty that we constantly strive to preserve and ensure in this blessed American land for the liberties of all people, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin. However, a true freedom that is equal for every human being can only come from God, in the inner person.

The Lord Jesus Christ told His disciples that the truth would set them free. But in a world where the truth oftentimes appears to be obscured, we find ourselves frequently asking the same question as the man who ordered the crucifixion of our Lord did two millennia ago, "What is truth?" If we are able to *know* the truth of things, then we must also recognize that the condition for that knowledge is abiding in the Logos — the Message of the One Who ascended the Cross of His own free will for our salvation.

Therefore, freedom and truth are inextricably linked in the person of our Savior. If we are not truthful people — or in other words, if we are not *of* the truth, as the Lord answered Pontius Pilate (John 18:37) — then our perception will always be shackled to our own personal opinions or our willingness to blindly follow the views of others and not the Logos of the Word of God. And this, my dear friends, is contrary to the ethos and authentic perspective of the Orthodox Church and the Gospel.

On our Nation's Birthday, then, when the entire world and our Country yearn for truth and peace — the firm and unyielding hallmarks of a genuine life in Christ — let us commit to truly being Christ's followers. The Lord understands our need for freedom and knowledge, but He bestows them upon us in proportion to the measure of our faithfulness and the good deeds that we perform as His servants. Let us, therefore, strive to be honest disciples of His Divine Word, so that we may "know the truth" (John 8:32) and be truly free!

With much paternal love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "+ ELPIDOPHOROS". The script is cursive and fluid, with a cross at the beginning of the first word.

+ ELPIDOPHOROS  
Archbishop of America

### REMINDER TO ALL

Join us for our annual Church Picnic in  
Schenley Park

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

at the **Vietnam Veterans Pavilion**

More details to follow.

### Homewood Cemetery

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Greek Section  
There are currently 32 graves available for purchase.

Cost per grave

\$2800.00 per grave for member of St. Nicholas

\$3300.00 per grave for non-members.

Contact the church office at 412-682-3866 for  
further information.

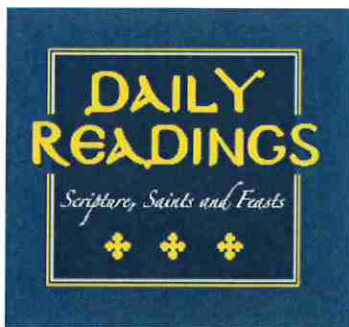
## Helpful Apps



## DIGITAL CHANT STAND

OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

The **GOA Digital Chant Stand** provides resources intended to enhance the worship experience of the Orthodox faithful with easily accessible liturgical texts and music. Follow along with the church services on this app. Available for iPhone and Android devices.



The **Daily Readings App** on your mobile device is the easiest way to access the day's Bible readings prescribed by the Lectionary of the Greek Orthodox Church. The Daily Readings App also lets you read the lives of the saints or lookup fasting guidelines for each day right on your device. Available for iPhone, Android, and Kindle Fire devices.

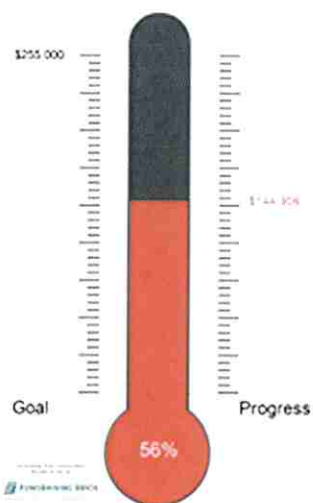




## "YOUR OWN OF YOUR OWN, WE OFFER TO YOU..."

We offer back to God  
that which He has given us.

Visit our website to fill out a Stewardship Card or to donate at <https://stnickspgh.org>



<u>2025</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	249 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$ 144,906.00 GOAL (\$255,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$1,020.

**Stewardship 2025:** Thank you to our new and returning Saint Nicholas Stewards! For those who have not filled out a card, please do so as our church depends on stewardship for ongoing ministries as well as maintaining our beautiful Cathedral.

Cards are available in the Narthex and online at <http://www.stnickspgh.org>.

## 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.





# GIFTS THAT WARM THE HEART!

Perfect gift for birthdays, weddings, or special moments.

AVAILABLE AT  
St. John Chrysostom Bookstore





**SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025**

The Food Festival is over, and it was a success!  
So, Parish Council would like to invite you to a

## **THANK YOU LUNCHEON**



**Food Festival  
Financials will be  
presented.**

For more  
information contact:  
**Michelle Kotsagrellos**  
412-680-1416

**WE WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING  
FATHER ELEFThERIOS'  
2 YEAR ANNIVESARY  
AT  
ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!**



# THE 2025 PITTSBURGH SUMMER GREEK FESTIVALS GUIDE

*It's a great tradition, and it's here again: 36 days of Greek Festivals in the Pittsburgh region, so plan well and you can eat Greek all summer! Post this schedule on your refrigerator and share copies with others. We look forward to seeing you!*

## LOCATION

## DATES

- ☐ St. Nicholas (Pittsburgh/Oakland) ..... May 4-10
- ☐ All Saints (Canonsburg) ..... June 2-6
- ☐ Holy Cross (Pittsburgh/Mt. Lebanon) ..... June 9-13
- ☐ Kimisis Tis Theotokou (Aliquippa) ..... June 12-14
- ☐ Holy Dormition (Oakmont) ..... June 27-29
- ☐ St. Spyridon (Monessen) ..... July 11
- ☐ Holy Trinity (Ambridge) ..... July 15-19
- ☐ Presentation of Christ/Ypapanti (East Pgh.) ..... July 24-26
- ☐ Holy Trinity (Pittsburgh/North Hills) ..... August 28-31

SEE BELOW FOR FESTIVAL HOURS & HOST PARISH WEB SITES. CHECK FOR UPDATES.

## THE 2025 PITTSBURGH SUMMER GREEK FESTIVALS: ALL THE DETAILS

Don't cook tonight...go Greek! Please pass copies on to your friends! Greek food is always enjoyed best with good company!

Parish	Dates	Address	Phone	Website	Hours
Saint Nicholas	May 4-10	419 S. Dithridge Street Pittsburgh (Oakland)	412-682-3866	<a href="http://www.StNicksPgh.org">www.StNicksPgh.org</a>	Sun: 12p-8p; Mon-Fri: 11a-9p; Sat: 1p-9p
All Saints	June 2-6	601 West McMurray Road Canonsburg	724-745-5205	<a href="http://www.AllSaintsCbg.org">www.AllSaintsCbg.org</a>	Mon-Fri: 11a-9p
Holy Cross	June 9-13	123 Gilkeson Road Pittsburgh (Mt. Lebanon)	412-833-3355	<a href="http://www.HolyCrossPgh.org">www.HolyCrossPgh.org</a>	Mon-Thu: 11a-9p, Dinner until 8p; Fri: 11a-10p, Dinner until 9p
Kimisis Tis Theotokou	June 12-14	2111 Davidson Street Aliquippa	724-375-5341	<a href="http://www.Theotokou.org">www.Theotokou.org</a>	Thu-Sat: 11a-8p
Holy Dormition	June 27-29	12 Washington Avenue Oakmont	412-828-4144	<a href="http://www.DormitionPgh.org">www.DormitionPgh.org</a>	Fri-Sun: 12p-11p Dinner until 9pm
Saint Spyridon	July 11	1207 Grand Boulevard Monessen	724-684-5411	<a href="http://stspyridon.pa.goarch.org">stspyridon.pa.goarch.org</a>	Fri: 11a-9p
Holy Trinity (Ambridge)	July 15-19	2930 Beaver Road Ambridge	724-266-5336	<a href="http://www.htgoc.org">www.htgoc.org</a>	Tue-Sat: 11:30a-8:30p
Ypapanti (Presentation of Christ)	July 24-26	1672 Electric Avenue East Pittsburgh	412-824-9188	<a href="http://www.ypapanti.net">www.ypapanti.net</a>	Thu-Sat: 11a-9p
Holy Trinity (Pittsburgh)	August 28-31	985 Providence Boulevard Pittsburgh (across from Passavant Hospital)	412-366-8700	<a href="http://www.HolyTrinityPgh.org">www.HolyTrinityPgh.org</a>	Thu-Sun: 11a-9p

Thank you for enjoying our great Greek food and visiting our churches. Want to also help these communities feed, minister to and provide health care for the hungry and needy of the Hill District and the Pittsburgh area? Support the Neighbor Resilience Project by visiting [neighborhoodresilience.org](http://neighborhoodresilience.org), a philanthropic ministry united in faith and joined by a desire to provide action-oriented and sustainable solutions for poverty-and-trauma-affected communities in the Pittsburgh area.

This free guide is provided as a public service of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church (Pittsburgh). Online at [HolyTrinityPgh.org/pittsburgh-greek-festivals-guide](http://HolyTrinityPgh.org/pittsburgh-greek-festivals-guide).



# JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>6</b> <b>4th Sunday of Matthew</b>  Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	<b>7</b> <b>YAL Basketball</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>YAL Volleyball</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Father Eleftherios Away June 30 - July 11						
<b>13</b> <b>Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council</b>  Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  <i>Sacrament</i> 12:30 p.m.	<b>14</b> <b>YAL Basketball</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>St. Marina, the Great-Martyr</b>  Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>6th Sunday of Matthew</b>  Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	<b>21</b> <b>YAL Basketball</b> 7:00 p.m.  <b>Parish Council Meeting</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>22</b> <b>St. Markella of Chios &amp; St. Mary Magdelene</b>  Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	<b>23</b> <b>YAL Volleyball</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>7th Sunday of Matthew</b>  Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	<b>28</b> <b>YAL Basketball</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		