



METROPOLIS OF
PITTSBURGH

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Pittsburgh, PA

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



OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 18, 2025



Saint Luke, the beloved physician and companion of the Apostle Paul, is the author of the Gospel that bears his name and the Acts of the Apostles. Born in Antioch, he was a man of learning and skill, remembered also as the first to paint holy icons of the Mother of God and the Apostles Peter and Paul. Traveling with Saint Paul on his missionary journeys, Luke witnessed the spread of the Gospel and carefully recorded the work of Christ and the early Church. He preached the Good News throughout the Mediterranean world until, at an old age, he gave his life for Christ in Greece. Saint Luke reminds us that God calls each of us to use our talents—whatever they may be—for the glory of His Kingdom. The Church celebrates his feast each year on October 18.

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

+

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

fr.ec@stnickspgh.org

Barbara Manners	Office Manager	412-682-3866
Mary Olszewski	Events Coordinator	412-682-4000
Vincent Nelson	Maintenance	412-537-4073

2025 Parish Council

Michelle Marie Kotsagrellos, President (412-680-1416)
 Victor Bertolina, Vice President (412-860-2315)
 James Machin, Treasurer (724-413-3607)
 Robin Day, Assistant Treasurer (917-569-8622)
 Lee Katsafanas, Secretary (412-215-6089)
 William Gary, Assistant Secretary (412-889-4795)
 George Bellios (412-897-5354)
 Vasili Copetas (412-352-9323)
 Alexandra Davides (412-956-6325)
 John Frentzos (412-287-0275)
 Peter Krelis (412-370-2809)
 Van Paras (412-527-4248)
 Constance Paras-Jennings (412-302-8960)
 Peter Tsudis (412-915-7006)

Service Schedule

All Year Round
 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	Maria Coutris	412-915-7838
	Linda Hages	412-523-7938
Little Angels/HOPE/JOY	Stavroula Doris STAV828@gmail.com	
60 Club	Fran Hanna	412-731-0790
Garden Club	Elaine Andrianos	412-731-4334
Choir	Steve Andrews	412-561-9102
Organist	Brett Wells	
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:	Nicholas Hages	412-523-9885
	Alex Lountzis	610-743-0903
Girls Basketball:	Nikki Lykos	412-897-8208
	Lenna Cominos	412-370-8181

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Cemetery - Constance Paras-Jennings
Community Center & Catering - George Bellios
Facilities - Victor Bertolina
Finance - James Machin
Food Festival - John Frentzos
Operational & Administration - John Frentzos
Parish Sustainability - Vasili Copetas
Religious & Greek Education/Greek Affiliations - Lee Katsafanas
Social - William Gary
Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism - Alexandra Davides
Technology & Communications - Robin Day
Youth & Young Adult Ministries - Lee Katsafanas
AD HOC Committees

Beautification Deacon Robert Lykos
Bylaws/Legal

FATHER'S MESSAGE

"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled..." (Luke 4:21)

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the lectionary of our Church, we have just begun reading the Sunday Gospel passages from Luke (this cycle begins at the end of September and continues until Great Lent). Early in Luke's Gospel, we encounter the beginning of Christ's ministry with His return to His hometown of Nazareth (Luke 4:16–30). As was His custom, Jesus entered the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read. The passage was from the prophet Isaiah: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor... to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

When He had finished, Jesus sat down and declared something astonishing: *"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."* This was no ordinary sermon. Jesus was not simply teaching about God's promises; He was announcing that those promises were being fulfilled in Him. The long-awaited time of Jubilee (as described in Leviticus 25) had arrived: a time of release, forgiveness, and restoration. Debts were forgiven, the oppressed set free, and new beginnings granted. Of course, Christ Himself is our Jubilee, offering freedom from sin and new life in His Kingdom.

At first, those in the synagogue marveled at His gracious words. But when Jesus reminded them that God's mercy had once been shown not to Israel, but to outsiders—a widow in Sidon and Naaman the Syrian—their admiration turned to fury. They could not accept a Messiah who extended God's grace beyond their expectations. In anger, they drove Him out of the synagogue and even sought to kill Him.

This scene teaches us two insightful truths. First, the Kingdom of God is not distant or abstract: it is breaking into our lives every day. Each time we repent, forgive, and allow Christ to heal that which is broken, Isaiah's words are fulfilled again in us. Second, God's mercy is far greater than our imaginations. Like the people of Nazareth, we may sometimes want God's grace only on our own terms, for those who are like us. Yet the Lord stretches our understanding and enlarges our hearts, teaching us to see every person—even the outsider, even our enemy—as someone who is loved and redeemed by Him. Christ, after all, came not for the righteous alone, but for all of humanity.

FATHER'S MESSAGE, Con't

The challenge faced by those in Nazareth is the same challenge for us: will we receive Christ on His terms, or insist on our own? The good news is that Jesus still "passes through the midst" of our constant rejection and continues to offer us His presence, His forgiveness, and His Kingdom. May we have the faith to embrace Him, the humility to welcome His grace wherever it appears, and the courage to live as bearers of His good news and healing presence in our community.

Prayerfully yours,

+Fr. 

† Fr. Eleftherios Constantine

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Wedding

Congratulations to Julie de la Parra and Scott Burian, who were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at St. Nicholas Cathedral on Saturday, September 27, 2025. The Koumbaro was Jack de la Parra. May God grant them Many Years!

FUNERAL

OUR CONDOLENCES to the family of *Dr. Kyriakos Davides* who fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, September 10, 2025. His funeral was on Friday, September 12, 2025, at St. Nicholas Cathedral. May his memory be eternal.

PARISH COUNCIL

Happy Fall!

All our Ministries are intertwined with one another to make up our beloved church.

From our Church Services (Worship), Philoptochos (Service), Religious and Greek Schools (Education), Coffee Hours (Fellowship), Y2AM Programs (Outreach), and many more, St. Nicholas Cathedral believes and lives its mission: "To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a spirit of Unity and Love for All through WORSHIP, SERVICE, EDUCATION, FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH."

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Church and getting involved!

Yours in Christ,

Michelle Marie Kotagrelou

UPCOMING EVENTS:

PANCAKES FOR A PURPOSE

Sunday, October 19, 2025
(See attached flyer)

PARISH ASSEMBLY

Sunday, October 26, 2025
(See attachment)

Keeping up with Parish Council:

- ⇒ We are changing to a new church management software, Realm. It will assist with our communication with the parish, as well as member data. More details forthcoming.
- ⇒ Reminder if you need the use of the Facilities (Large Hall, Small Hall, Conference Room, etc.), please inform the Office Manager by the prior Thursday of your needs for proper set-up.
- ⇒ There are currently 28 graves available to purchase at Homewood Cemetery (St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Greek Section). Contact the Church Office at 412-682-3866 for further information.



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

110 South Third Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15211-4596 TEL: (412) 684-3866 FAX: (412) 684-4960



To: Members of The Greek Community of Allegheny County, PA
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

From: Parish Council

Subject: Parish Assembly of October 26, 2025

A Parish Assembly will convene immediately following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 26, 2025.

The agenda for the General Assembly will be as follows:

- A. Opening Prayer
- B. Election of Assembly Chairperson (Secretary to be appointed by Chairperson)
- C. Approval of the minutes of the previous Parish Assembly meetings of October 27, 2024, and March 2, 2025
- D. Election of Board of Elections (Elect no less than three (3))
- E. Election to Fill Any Vacancies on Foundation Fund Board of Trustees (Elect no less than three (3) with staggered terms)
- F. Nominations for Election to Parish Council (Elections to be held on December 7, 2025, for five (5) positions)
- G. Father's Report & Reflections
- H. Executive Committee Report
- I. Foundation Fund Report
- J. Finance Committee Report
- K. Approval of 2026 Budget
- L. Any Other Committee Reports
- M. Old Business
- N. New Business
- O. Good of the Parish
- P. Adjournment

At this meeting, the Parish Assembly will be asked to approve the Budget for 2026. Copies of all of these documents and minutes of the prior Parish Assemblies will be distributed at the meeting. The Parish Council requests your presence and support. Please make every effort to attend.

Respectfully,

Michelle Marie Kotsagrelis, President

Prayerfully yours,

Fr. Eleftherios Constantine, Dean

STEWARDSHIP



Pancakes for a Purpose *Stewardship, Outreach and Evangelism*

Our Saint Nicholas family has always answered the call to serve others. Fellowship, too, is at the heart of outreach. Beginning with the new ecclesiastical year, we are bringing these together in a new parish event: ***Pancakes for a Purpose***, on Sunday, October 19, following the Divine Liturgy.

The purpose of this inaugural event is to unite the Saint Nicholas community in Fellowship and Outreach by giving back together to a cause beyond our usual avenues. This year, our love and support will be directed to Lending Hearts, chosen as the first recipient of our community's care for others.

Lending Hearts was founded by Vasso Paliouras as her way of giving back to pediatric patients and their families facing cancer. Many of you already know her sister, Constance Zotis, who was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 16. Their community came together in many ways to support Constance and her family during her treatment.

Today, Lending Hearts continues that spirit. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, it provides free, unique, and comprehensive services for pediatric patients and their families, offering emotional and supportive programs throughout treatment and into remission.

Join our Saint Nicholas family on October 19 for fellowship, pancakes, and more. Through your generosity, many patients and families will feel the love and care of our community.

Give from your hearts—for Lending Hearts—at this freewill event.

If you would like to volunteer or help sponsor the breakfast, please contact: Alexandra Davides at 412.956.6325 or Michelle Kotsagrellos at 412.680.1416.

See you on October 19!

Pancakes for a Purpose

Sunday, October 19

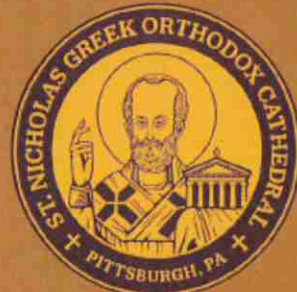
*St. Nicholas Cathedral Hall
following Divine Liturgy*

Our **purpose** is to give back to our local community.
This inaugural breakfast will benefit **Lending Hearts**.
Give from your heart, to this free-will event.

For more information, please contact:
Michelle Kotsagrellos or Alexandra Davides



 **Lending
hearts**



Gluten free options
will be available

Attention all college and grad students.

The Moms and Dads of St. Nicholas invite you to a "Friendsgiving" dinner on Sunday, October 26. Come to the Cathedral any time between 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Looking forward to seeing you.



The Saint Nicholas Cathedral
Moms & Dads invite
all college and grad students to

FRIENDSGIVING

dinner

Sunday, October 26

4:00 - 7:00 pm

Saint Nicholas

Greek Orthodox Cathedral

419 South Dithridge St, Pittsburgh, PA

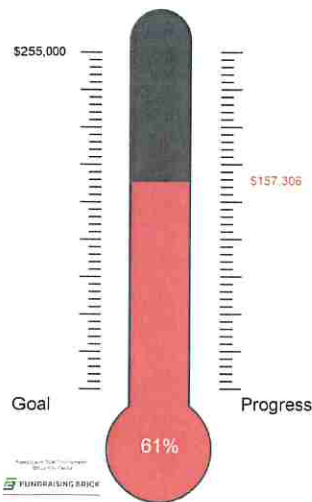
RSVP not required but requested
for more Info, text or call:
Linda 412-523-7938



2025 STEWARDSHIP

"YOUR OWN FROM YOUR OWN"

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



2025 STEWARDSHIP		09/30/2025
Total Stewards		268
Total Amount Pledged		\$157,306.00
Average Pledge		\$1,001.95
% Parish Participation to Date		89%
2024 Stewards (GOAL)		300
% of Total Budget to Date		61%
2025 Budget (GOAL)		\$ 255,000.00
Total Giving to Date		\$187,374.23
As of:		08/31/2025
Income: Envelopes & Pledges, Basket Collection & Food Festival	\$561,790.00	
Expenses: Salaries, Utilities, Maintenance, Commitments, etc.	\$484,482.00	
	\$ 77,308.00	

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>

2025 STEWARDSHIP



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Pittsburgh, PA

2025 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 2025 \$ _____ 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.

☐ Greek Language School _____ ☐ Church School _____ ☐ Office/Newsletter _____ ☐ Church Choir _____
☐ Visitation of Elderly _____ ☐ Outreach Ministry _____ ☐ Website Mgmt. _____ ☐ Cooking/Festival _____
☐ Youth Ministry _____ ☐ Gardening _____ ☐ Construction/Mechanical/Plumbing _____
☐ Philoptochos _____ ☐ 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

2025 STEWARDSHIP



Fr. Eleftherios & Presvytera Elizabeth Constantine
 Dn. & Mrs. Robert Lykos
 Mrs. Michelle Ackerman
 Mr. William J. Adams and Ms. Constance Petros
 James & Electra Agras
 Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Agras
 Dr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Alfaras-Melainis
 Mr. Emanuel Amorgianos
 Ms. Anna Andrews
 Mr. Steven Andrews
 Mrs. Elaine Andrianos
 Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Andrianos
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Andriotis
 Mr. George Anthon
 Mrs. Jeanne Antonuccio
 Dr. Artemisia Apostolopoulou
 Mr. & Mrs. Spiliotis Argiropoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Athanasiou
 Mr. & Mrs. Van Backeris
 Mr. Arthur Baker
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Balouris
 Mr. & Mrs. Simon Barber
 Ms. Maria Bardakos
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Baughman
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Baughman
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Bedel
 Ms. Sophia Bender
 Mrs. Alexandra Bergstrom
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bertolina
 Ms. Pamela Bertos
 Mrs. Rebecca Bertos
 Dr. & Mrs. Paul Blastos
 Mrs. Elaine Bolanis
 Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Bouzos
 Mrs. Mary Brahos
 Ms. Krista Bullard
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Carlisano
 Mrs. Elena G. Cerri
 Mr. & Mrs. William Chapas
 Mrs. Dee Chronis
 Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Cominos
 Ms. Theodora Constantine
 Mrs. Marion Constantinides-Bennett
 Mr. Phillip Contacos
 Mrs. Eleni Contis
 Ms. Jamie Contis
 Mr. & Mrs. George Contis
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Contis
 Mrs. Sandra Contis
 Mrs. Alexandra Copetas
 Mr. Charles G. Copetas
 Mr. George Copetas
 Mrs. Helen G. Copetas
 Mrs. Helen M. Copetas

Mrs. Maria Copetas
 Mr. & Mrs. Dino G. Copetas
 Mrs. Theodora Copetas
 Mr. Vasili Copetas
 Mrs. Vasso Copetas
 Mr. & Mrs. William Copetas
 Mr. Gregory Countouris
 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. Robin Day
 Mr. & Mrs. Petros Delivorias
 Mr. Anthony DeMatteo
 Mrs. Christine DeMatteo
 Ms. Victoria Dionisios
 Mr. Arthur J. Dordas
 Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Doris
 Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Doris
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Eberhardt
 Steve & Lydia Economou
 Mr. John Edgos
 Dr. & Mrs. Demetrius Ellis
 Mrs. Elaine Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. James Elsen
 Mr. Emmanuel Epitropoulos
 Dr. & Mrs. Mike Epitropoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. George Faines
 Mrs. Virginia Fekaris
 Mrs. Olga Florence
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frank
 Mr. & Mrs. John Frentzos
 Mrs. Alice Gary
 Mr. & Mrs. William Gary
 Drs. Athan & Lydia Georgiades
 Mrs. Fran Gialamas
 Mrs. Jamie Gori
 Mrs. Alexandra Gregory
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gregory
 Dr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Hadjipanayis
 Mr. & Mrs. James Hages
 Mrs. Aphrodite Halleran
 Mrs. Christina Hammerling
 Dr. & Mrs. Dean Hanna
 Mrs. Frances Hanna
 Dr. John Haretos
 Mr. Theodore Haretos
 Mrs. Dena Haritos Tsamitis
 Mrs. Rania Harris
 Ms. Maria Hnarakis
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hogg

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kakavis
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kalabokes
 Mrs. Lucia Kalaras
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kamarados
 Mr. Peter Kamaras
 Ms. Christine Kanakis
 Dr. Diane Karnavas & Mr. Bart Bodkin
 Mrs. Elli Anne Karras & Mr. Kyle Glasser
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster Kartotitis
 Dr. & Mrs. Yianni Karvounides
 Mr. Konstantinos Kasamias
 Mrs. Georgia Katsafanas
 Mr. Lee Katsafanas
 Mr. Andron Kavouras
 Mr. Nicholas Kefal
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Kefalos
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kefalos
 Ms. Elaine Keim
 Mrs. Sandra Kemrer
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kleissas
 Ms. Nicole Klidas
 Mr. Konstantinos Koromvokis
 Mrs. Estair Kotsagrelis
 Ms. Michelle Marie Kotsagrelis
 Mr. Chris T. Kouklis
 Ms. Christine Krelis⁺
 Mr. Peter Krelis
 Mr. & Mrs. Giorgios Krinis
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kristian
 Mr. James S. Kukunas
 Dr. & Mrs. Steve Kukunas
 Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Kypriotakis
 Dr. & Mrs. James Kyros
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Lamprinakis
 Ms. Constantina Lardas
 Mrs. Kalliope Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Kleanthis Lardas
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas D. Lardas
 Ms. Shqipe Latifi
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Leombruno
 Mr. Richard Lepidi
 Mr. & Mrs. John C. Leventis
 Mr. Dean Leventopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Leventopoulos
 Mr. Panagiotis Lidos
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lipecky
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Lountzis
 Mrs. Janet Lykos
 Mr. & Mrs. James D. Machin
 Dr. Nicoletta Machin & Dr. Suman Yadav
 Ms. Karen Malobicky
 Mr. Christopher Mandros
 Mrs. Eugenia Manganas
 Ms. Electra Markopoulou
 Mr. Gregory Markopoulos

2025 STEWARDSHIP, Continued



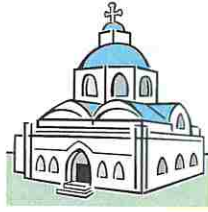
Mr. & Mrs. Michail Marthas
 Mrs. Helen Mastros
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mastros
 Mrs. Dana Mathews
 Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Mavrogeorgis
 Mr. & Mrs. John C. McCann
 Drs. Thomas & Dana McClure
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGuire
 Mrs. Patricia McKee
 Mr. & Mrs. Christos Melacrinis
 Mrs. Maria Menas
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Menniti
 Mr. & Mrs. Casey Mindlin
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Mitchell
 Mrs. Georgia Mitrakos
 Mr. Andrew Mitry
 Mrs. Venetia Moreno
 Mr. Paul L. Moses
 Mrs. Filio Moshovakis
 Mr. Jacob Murray
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Nychis
 Mr. Mrs. Eric Paljug
 Mrs. Tara Pallas-Sheetz
 Ms. Alexandra Panagis
 Ms. Sophia Panagis
 Ms. Catherine E. 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
 Mrs. Katherine Paras
 Mr. Van Paras
 Mrs. Constance Paras -Jennings
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Persinger
 Mr. & Mrs. George J. Peters
 Mrs. Stamatia Peters
 Mr. & Mrs. John Peterson
 Mr. & Mrs. John Petrolas
 Mrs. Amal Philopes
 Ms. Eleni Pikounis
 Mrs. Vera Poland⁺
 Dr. Danae Powers
 Mrs. Helene T. Powers
 Mrs. Anastasia Raftis
 Mr. George Raftis, II
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Rakoczy

Mr. Anastasios Raptis
 Mrs. Kristina Rigoopoulos & Mr. William Guttman
 Mr. William Sfamenos
 Mr. A. Robert Shott
 Mr. Corran Smith
 Mrs. Gloriann Snyder-Aneja
 Mr. George Sockos⁺
 Mr. & Mrs. James Stamatelos
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Stamoolis
 Mrs. Toula Stathopoulos
 Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Stepanow
 Mrs. Stella Stratigos
 Mr. Demetri Strauch
 Mr. Nicholas Strauch
 Mr. & Mrs. Pat L. Strauch
 Mrs. Nia Strintzis
 Mrs. Argie Stuart
 Mrs. Katia Sycara & Mr. Michael Lewis
 Ms. Evangeline Theodoridis
 Mr. & Mrs.. Stephen Thomas
 Mr. Christopher Thompson
 Mr. Peter Tsoukalas
 Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsourekis
 Mr. Athanasios Tsourekis
 Mr. Sotirios Tsourekis
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tsudis
 Mrs. Joanna Tzortzis
 Mrs. Panagiota Vasilakis
 Mrs. Stella Vassilaros
 Mr. & Mrs. Achilles Vassilicos
 Mr. & Mrs. John Velisaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Orestis Velisaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Perry Velisaris
 Mrs. Angela Vergos
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vergos
 Mr. Adam Viccaro
 Mr. John Vitsas
 Ms. Jane Voros
 Mr. Sarantos Vrettacos
 Mrs. Helen Waskoskie
 Mr. Brett David Wells
 Mrs. Debra Wiesen
 Mr. & Mrs. David Williard
 Ms. Franceska Xhakaj
 Mr. Anthony Xyftis
 Dr. & Mrs. Leo Yannopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Yannopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Zaras
 Dr. Katerina Zavaras
 Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Zervoudis
 Mr. Michael Zikos



St. Nicholas Church School,



Sunday, September 21, 2025, the bells started to ring again for the beginning of Church School with a special Agiasmo (Blessing of the Water) Service!

Sunday, November 2, 2025, will be **Godparent Sunday**. Godparents will join their godchild in worship during the Divine Liturgy, receive Holy Communion together, then attend Church School to see what their godchild learns there (and make cards to send to children at Children's Hospital and veterans at the VA Hospital for Make a Difference Day). Afterwards many will attend Coffee Hour sponsored by Philoptochos. It will be the start of a wonderful day together!

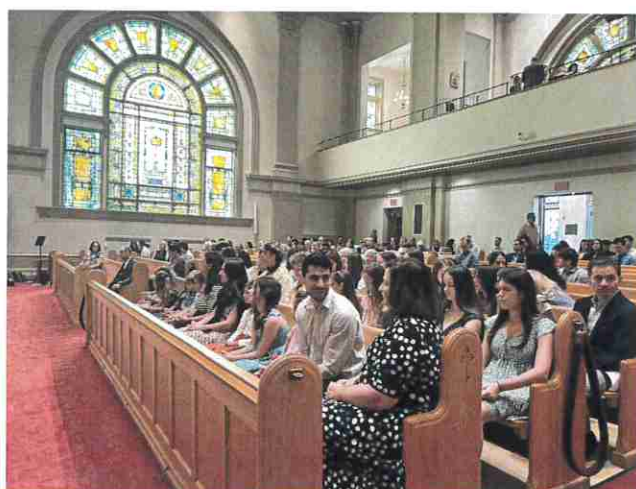
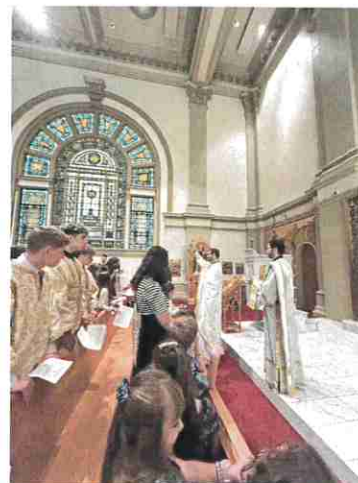
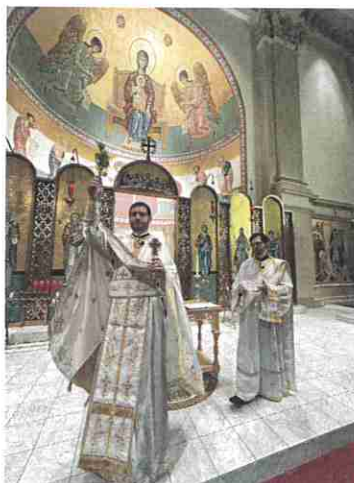
I appreciate the support from all of you and thanks for sharing your children with us every Sunday!

Yours in Christ

Miss Michelle

St. Nicholas Church School, Con't

First Day of Church School Sunday September 21st. - Agiasmo





GODPARENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025



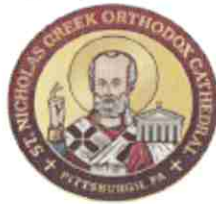
**JOIN YOUR GODCHILD FOR
CHURCH WORSHIP, HOLY COMMUNION,
& CHURCH SCHOOL!**



JOY, HOPE & Little Angels



JOY HOPE LITTLE ANGELS
FALL FESTIVAL



Friday, October 17th | 6:00pm

Craft - Pizza - Truck Decorating
Candy Passing - Costumes

ST. NICHOLAS PARKING LOT & FELLOWSHIP ROOM

RSVP TO STAVROULA AT
STAV828@GMAIL.COM



There will be slider lunch and business meeting in small hall **OCTOBER 5th, after Liturgy.**

FOOD FESTIVAL

Hello all church members!

Food Festival will be here before you know it so it's time to start preparing.

We are getting an earlier start this year to, hopefully, make it easier during the winter months. Below is the October schedule. The balance of the cooking schedule will be coming out before the end of the year.

For those who work during the week, please consider helping on Saturday or Sunday. *Baklava is our largest quantity to prepare.* So needless to say we need A LOT of help! Bring your friends, your family....the more the merrier!

So here we go.....

BAKLAVA*

Thursday, October 9 thru Saturday, October 11 / 9am to 4pm

Sunday, October 12 / immediately after church till 4pm

**** POSSIBLY Monday, October 13 if need be / 9am to 4pm**

MOUSSAKA

Monday, October 20 thru Thursday, October 23 / 9am to 4pm

*** SPANAKOPITA**

Possibly in November. Be on the lookout for dates.

Thanks in advance for your help.

See you in the kitchen!

GREEK SCHOOL

St. Nicholas Greek School classes for children started on September 13 at 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.. It was a fun-filled day with classes, Agghiasmo Service with Fr. Eleftherios, then the Annual Ice Cream Social. Starting the following week Mrs. Sophia Alfaras-Melainis and Mrs. Faith Williard went into classes and gave students who had Name Days that week a beautiful candle with their Saint on it. What a very special way to celebrate their baptismal name! This will be done every week a student celebrates. The Children's Classes start with Pre K and go to 7th. Teaching this year is Theano Kiafas for PreK; Sophia Vroulos for K; Maria Stamoolis 1st; Christina Retsou 2nd; Dimitra Agapitou 3rd; Katerina Mavriki 4th; Anna Papazoglou 6th, 7th.

Adult classes will begin on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Teaching Beginners is Dimitra Agapitou; Intermediates is Christina Retsou; and Advanced is Katerina Mavriki. Classes run until the end of May.

Greek Language Adult Classes 2025-2026

October 7 Start of Beginners, Intermediates, and Advanced Classes

December 23 No Adult Classes

December 30 No Adult Classes

January 6 Resume Classes

May 26 Last Class

GREEK SCHOOL, Con't

ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR CHILD 2025 - 2026

Yearly Tuition for Children

1 student=\$250; 2 students=\$450; 3 students=\$675; 4 students=\$900
Make checks payable to St. Nicholas Cathedral with Greek School in the memo.

Child's LAST NAME (English&Greek) _____
 Child's First Name (English &Greek) _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 HOME PHONE _____ primary CELL _____
 Primary E-MAIL _____
 Another CELL phone to receive info. _____
 Another E-MAIL to receive info. _____
 FATHER'S NAME (English & Greek) _____
 MOTHER'S NAME (English & Greek) _____
 School District Child Attends _____

Child's Age	Grade American School	Name Day	Birthdate	Grade Greek School	If Greek roots,name region

Any food allergies? Please list _____

IN case of EMERGENCY Εν ώρα ΑΝΑΓΚΗΣ Please give the names of relatives or other persons that could be reached. Children will be taken to Children's Hospital.

Emergency Name _____ PHONE _____
 Emergency Name _____ PHONE _____

Parent's Signature _____

Parent Volunteering – Your Help is Needed!

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ serving on Greek School Committee
☐ with Costume fitting
☐ with St. Nicholas Bazaar
☐ with Christmas Caroling in nursing homes
☐ with copying | ☐ Substituting
☐ March 25 th Luncheon
☐ setting up student activities
☐ with Bake Sale
☐ being a teacher's assistant |
|--|--|

GREEK SCHOOL. Con't

ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL
GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL REGISTRATION **FOR ADULT**
2025 - 2026

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? _____

Philoptochos News

With our board officially affirmed we began our 2026 membership drive at Ministries Sunday with our traditional “Mimosas and Membership.” As usual, you did not disappoint. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. It allows us to maintain our Food Bank, continue Operation Classroom, and help local families and individuals in need.

It may be a bit early but we will be backing Vasilopita on Thursday December, 4th. Most of the help is needed from 9-1 and 3-5. Lunch will be provided. Please see Nikki Lykos or Alisa Balouris for more information or to let them know you can help. It is a fun day of baking and fellowship.

Our next general meeting is November 9th after service in the small hall. We are planning on a guest speaker and light snacks and drinks will be provided. We would be honored to share more of our activities with you.

We are looking for schools in need of supplies as we pick up Operation Classroom again. If you know of any district, school, teacher, or institution in need of school supplies please contact Sophia Bender or Eve Elsen.

As always, I am humbled and honored to again lead this amazing group of women in our efforts and outreach. If you know anyone in need of our assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the board members or to me directly.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Bardakos

Philoptochos President

412-519-8684

KEEP KIDS SAFE

ARCHDIOCESE POLICIES



Are You a Youth Worker?

All Clergy, Altar Helpers, Sunday School or Greek School Teachers, Folk Dance Instructors, Oratorical Festival Chairs, GOYA Advisors, Basketball Coaches, Chaperones, JOY Advisors, etc! Parish Council Members too.

If so, you must register or log-in to your account each year.

youthsafetyplatform.goarch.org

Note: PA Law has additional requirements. For more info, search Keep Kids Safe PA on the internet.



Questions? Email: youthsafety@goarch.org

Goya season has officially started during the month of September and we couldn't be more excited for what this new season brings. We held our first meeting on Ministry Sunday and mapped out the year. From outreach and fundraising, to tournaments and dance, Saint Nicholas Goya is ready to do the Lord's work and make many great memories along the way!

Thank you to everyone for supporting our upcoming Car Wash fundraiser this Sunday, October 5 after Liturgy. Your generosity helps support our upcoming GOYA ministry year.



MINISTRY SUNDAY, September 21st

SUPPORT GOYA MISSION WALK FOR GUATEMALA



On October 12, 2025, St. Nicholas GOYA will participate in a walk through Oakland supporting the vital work of the mission trips in Guatemala.

Money raised from this event will be used for:

- Building hospitals
- Establishing a seminary
- Translating liturgical/ theological books
- Sewing vestments/ other liturgical coverings
- Providing parishes with icons/ liturgical utensils
- Assisting less fortunate members of the church
- Supporting other mission teams

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

You can help by making a donation. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross Mission Fund and give to a GOYA member or mail to:

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

If you have any questions,
please contact the chair of this
event, Demetri Darakos, at
demetri.darakos@gmail.com

Ministry Sunday, September 21

Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism



60 Club

Parish Council



Food Festival



Choir, Chanters & Byzantine Youth Choir



GOYA



Ministry Sunday, September 21

Philoptochos



Little Angels, JOY & HOPE



Church School



Greek School



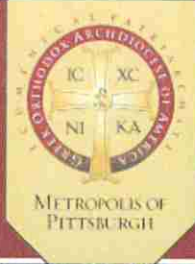
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your spiritual journey!





VOLUME 9 NO. 6 ISSUE: 81

OCTOBER 2025

A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX

METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



2025 GOMoPALOOZA Music & Arts Festival

Our 2nd Annual GOMoPalooza Music & Arts Festival held at St. Demetrios, Warren, Ohio on Saturday August 23 celebrated the talent and craft of all ages of the Metropolis! The fabulous assortment of music all day by solo performers, bands, acoustic singers and our very own 'Band of Fathers' created a carnival fun atmosphere and in all we had 16 Youth & Adult solo acts and five Bands play. The Art Exhibit showcased artisans, craftspeople and Iconographers, in total 30+ works of art were displayed. Kids had a fantastic time participating in over ten activity stations and we enjoyed a delicious selection of refreshments. Thanks to all that volunteered their time to create this wholesome family fun event. Much gratitude to all the sponsors, we are eternally grateful, and big thanks to all of YOU that came out to GOMoPalooza! We look forward to seeing you next summer for more GOMoPalooza!!





2025 PHILOPTOCHOS ASSEMBLY
OCTOBER 3 - 4, 2025
Assembly registration & refreshments open
Fri Oct 3 - 5:00pm

Hosted by
**All Saints Church,
Canonsburg, PA**
601 W McMurray Rd
Canonsburg, PA 15317-2437

NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS PRESIDENT DEBBIE GEORGE WILL BE ATTENDING

More info & online registration:
pittsburgh.goarch.org/2025-metropolis-philoptochos-assembly

Registration Cost: \$50.00/pp

Online Registration Deadline: September 26
No refunds after September 26

Hotel:
Homewood Suites Pittsburgh Southpointe
1000 Switzen Vian Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Group Rate available until 09-04-2025

HOTEL BOOKING Call: 724-745-4662
Use Group Rate Code: **CHW508**

ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION

412 621 5529
jspanakis@me.com
pittsburgh.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh
5201 Ellsworth Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Wonderfully Made Day Retreat
OPEN TO ALL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

THROUGH THE CROSS, JOY!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025
10 AM TO 2:30 PM

NEW DATE!

Wonderfully Made is a new ministry through the Metropolis of Pittsburgh's Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries to provide a welcoming environment for participants with disabilities and their families, reminding them that they are wonderfully made in His Image.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
270 N. Walnut St. Youngstown, OH

Questions? Contact Alyssa Kyritsis at akyritsis@pittsburgh.goarch.org

REGISTER USING THE QR CODE!

Metropolis of Pittsburgh Camp GOYA FALL RETREAT



at Camp Nazareth

NOVEMBER 21-23, 2025

Camper Registration & Staff Applications will open October 1st at Noon.

More Information: y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/retreats

Live Greek Music by **Ta Filoxenia**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! SAVE THE DATES!

THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

November 14-16, 2025

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
985 Providence Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Featuring dance workshops with guest instructors
Groups & individuals welcome. Ages 8 and up

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
ELEM DEDOUSIS
VICTORIA ANDROMALOS DALE
HOST PARISH COORDINATORS
greekdancers@HolyTrinityPgh.org

MICHELLE KOTSAGRELOS
METROPOLIS CHAIRPERSON
memk8317@hotmail.com

ALYSSA KYRITSIS
METROPOLIS Y2AM DIRECTOR
akyritsis@pittsburgh.goarch.org




PLEASE SUPPORT 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



OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 YAL Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	2 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	3	4 Greek School 10:00 a.m. <i>Sacrament: Wedding</i>
5 2 nd Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. GOYA CAR WASH	6 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	7	8	9 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	10	11 Greek School 10:00 a.m. <i>Sacrament: Wedding</i>
National Clergy Retreat October 6-9						
12 Sunday of the 7 th Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. GOYA WALK FOR MISSIONS	13 Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Philoptochos Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	14 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	15 YAL Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	16 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	17 Little Angels/ HOPE/JOY FALL FESTIVAL 6:00 p.m.	18 Greek School 10:00 a.m.
19 3 rd Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Pancakes for a Purpose GOYA BB Practice	20 Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	21 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	22	23 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	24	25 Greek School 10:00 a.m.
26 6 th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. PARISH ASSEMBLY GOYA BB Practice Friendsgiving Dinner	27 Bible Study 5:30 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	28 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	29 YAL Volleyball 7:00 p.m.	30 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	31	

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