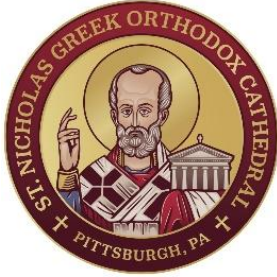


SUNDAY, March 22, 2026 – 4th Sunday of Lent

Saint of the day: our devout Father John, author of The Ladder

Plagal Fourth Mode · Eighth Eothinon · Liturgy of St. Basil the Great



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!

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

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

Father's e-mail address: fr.ec@stnickspgh.org

PROTOPSALTRIA: Amy Hogg

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews | ORGANIST: Brett Wells

Questions about our Parish? E-mail church@stnickspgh.org or call 412-682-3866

Our weekly 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 may participate in our services live at www.stnickspgh.org/ by selecting 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:

- Trisagion for Kyriakos Davides (6 months)
- Doxology for March 25th at end of Liturgy
- Greek School March 25th Program and Luncheon in the Large Hall

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

- **Monday, March 23:** Great Compline 6:00 p.m.
YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 24:** Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.; *Vespers for Annunciation at Annunciation Church in White Oak, PA (6pm)*
- **Wednesday, March 25:** Annunciation of the Theotokos and Greek Independence Day
Orthros 8:30 am; Divine Liturgy 9:30 am *Followed by Doxology*
- **Thursday, March 26:** Catechism 6:00 pm; Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 pm
- **Fri, Sat, Sun, March 27-29:** Festival Food Prep Galatoboureko
Metropolis GOYA Spring Retreat (*at Camp Nazareth*)
- **Friday, March 27:** Akathist Hymn 6:00 p.m. (*followed by reception hosted by Parish Council*)
- **Saturday, March 28:** Greek School 10:00 a.m.

New Days for our Festival this Year

We're making a slight change in our usual festival days this year. Our festival will begin on a Tuesday and end on a Sunday.

64th Annual St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival
Tuesday, May 5 to Mother's Day, Sunday May 10

TODAY'S HYMNS AND READINGS



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

The Resurrection Hymn of the week in pl. 4th mode is chanted twice for the Small Entrance:

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ Εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You!

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

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

After this, the Hymn for the Saint of the day (St. John Climacus) in plagal fourth mode is chanted:

Ταῖς τῶν δακρῶν σου ῥοαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώρησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκατὸν τοὺς πόνους ἐκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστὴρ τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν, Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν ὅσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.



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

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

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

Finally, we chant the Kontakion of the Feast, in plagal fourth mode:

Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν, εὐχαριστήρια ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου, Θεοτόκε· ἀλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον ἵνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε, Νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

My champion gen'ral, I your city now devote to you a feast of vic'try and an offering of gratitude, since from terrors, Theotokos, have I been ransomed, but because you have the might which is invincible, from all kinds of dangers free me and deliver me, that I may cry to you: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Today's Epistle Reading (4th Sunday of Lent):

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (6:13-20)

Ἀδελφοί, τῷ Ἀβραάμ ἐπαγγειλάμενος ὁ Θεός, ἐπεὶ κατ' οὐδενὸς εἶχε μείζονος ὁμόσαι, ὥμοσε καθ' ἑαυτοῦ, λέγων· ἢ μὴν εὐλογῶν εὐλογήσω σε καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε· καὶ οὕτω μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτυχε τῆς ἐπαγγελίας. ἄνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὁμνύουσι, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας

πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ὁ ὄρκος· ἐν ᾧ περισσότερον βουλόμενος ὁ Θεὸς ἐπιδειξαι τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ ἀμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἐμεσίτευσεν ὄρκῳ, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι Θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἦν ὡς ἄγκυραν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος, ὅπου πρόδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσηλθεν Ἰησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ ἀρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. [RSV]

Today's Gospel Reading (*4th Sunday of Lent*):

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (9:17–31)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἄνθρωπός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ γονυπετῶν αὐτῷ καὶ λέγων· διδάσκαλε, ἤνεγκα τὸν υἱόν μου πρὸς σε, ἔχοντα πνεῦμα ἄλαλον. καὶ ὅπου ἂν αὐτὸν καταλάβῃ, ῥήσσει αὐτόν, καὶ ἀφρίζει καὶ τρίζει τοὺς ὀδόντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ξηραίνεται· καὶ εἶπον τοῖς μαθηταῖς σου ἵνα αὐτὸ ἐκβάλωσι, καὶ οὐκ ἴσχυσαν. ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς αὐτῷ λέγει· ᾧ γενεὰ ἄπιστος, ἕως πότε πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἔσομαι; ἕως πότε ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; φέρετε αὐτὸν πρὸς με. καὶ ἤνεγκαν αὐτόν πρὸς αὐτόν. καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν εὐθέως τὸ πνεῦμα ἐσπάραξεν αὐτόν, καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐκυλίετο ἀφρίζων. καὶ ἐπηρώτησε τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ· πόσος χρόνος ἐστὶν ὡς τοῦτο γέγονεν αὐτῷ; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· παιδιόθεν. καὶ πολλάκις αὐτόν καὶ εἰς πῦρ ἔβαλε καὶ εἰς ὕδατα, ἵνα ἀπολέσῃ αὐτόν· ἀλλ' εἴ τι δύνασαι, βοήθησον ἡμῖν σπλαγχνισθεὶς ἐφ' ἡμᾶς. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ τὸ εἰ δύνασαι πιστεῦσαι, πάντα δυνατὰ τῷ πιστεύοντι. καὶ εὐθέως κράξας ὁ πατὴρ τοῦ παιδίου μετὰ δακρύων ἔλεγε· πιστεύω, κύριε· βοήθει μου τῇ ἀπιστίᾳ. ἰδὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐπισυντρέχει ὄχλος, ἐπετίμησε τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ λέγων αὐτῷ· τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἄλαλον καὶ κωφόν, ἐγὼ σοι ἐπιτάσσω, ἔξελθε ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ μηκέτι εἰσέλθῃς εἰς αὐτόν. καὶ κράξαν καὶ πολλὰ σπαράξαν αὐτόν ἐξῆλθε, καὶ ἐγένετο ὡσεὶ νεκρός, ὥστε πολλοὺς λέγειν ὅτι ἀπέθανεν. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς κρατήσας αὐτόν τῆς χειρὸς ἤγειρεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀνέστη. Καὶ εἰσελθόντα αὐτόν εἰς οἶκον οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπηρώτων αὐτόν κατ' ἰδίαν, ὅτι ἡμεῖς οὐκ ἠδυνήθημεν ἐκβαλεῖν αὐτό. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τοῦτο τὸ γένος ἐν οὐδενὶ δύναται ἐξελεῖν εἰ μὴ ἐν προσευχῇ καὶ νηστείᾳ. Καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐξελθόντες παρεπορεύοντο διὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, καὶ οὐκ ἤθελεν ἵνα τις γνῶ· ἐδίδασκε γὰρ τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς ὅτι ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου παραδίδοται εἰς χεῖρας ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ἀποκτενοῦσιν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀποκτανθεὶς τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ ἀναστήσεται.

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he

fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise." [RSV]

~ ~ ~

The hymn of the Theotokos for the Liturgy of St. Basil is chanted (Instead of "It is truly right..."):

Ἐπί σοι χαίρει, Κεχαριτωμένη, πᾶσα ἡ κτίσις, Ἀγγέλων τὸ σύστημα, καὶ ἀνθρώπων τὸ γένος, ἡγιασμένε ναέ, καὶ Παράδεισε λογικέ, παρθενικὸν καύχημα· ἐξ ἧς Θεὸς ἐσαρκώθη, καὶ παιδίον γέγονεν, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων ὑπάρχων Θεὸς ἡμῶν. Τὴν γὰρ σὴν μήτραν, θρόνον ἐποίησε, καὶ τὴν σὴν γαστέρα, πλατυτέραν οὐρανῶν ἀπειργάσατο. Ἐπί σοι χαίρει, Κεχαριτωμένη, πᾶσα ἡ κτίσις· δόξα σοι.

In you, O Lady full of grace, all creation rejoices, the hosts of Angels and the human race. O consecrated temple and allegorical Paradise, virgins boast of you. For God became incarnate from you, yes, our eternally existing God became a child from you. He made a throne of your womb, and He made your body wider than the heavens. In you, O Lady full of grace, all creation rejoices. Glory to you!



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 100/2026

Archepiscopal Encyclical on Greek Independence Day

March 25, 2026

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, 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, Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.
(Galatians 5:1)

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

On this day, when we remember the sacrifice of the Immortal Heroes of 1821, let us rededicate our lives to the liberty that our Lord grants us by His grace. His sacrifice upon the Precious and Life-giving Cross is mirrored for us by the brave souls whose struggles against tyranny in every generation inspire us to embrace this inheritance with deep and abiding gratitude. The freedom represented by the date of March 25 should move us to a profound resolution. For just as we possess an interior freedom, which is the gift of God, we should also manifest a steadfast determination to advance all the external freedoms that we can achieve in our world, too. Because in this way, we preserve the liberty passed down to us from our blessed ancestors and simultaneously share it with future generations to come as well.

The victories for which we hope, and to which we aspire, are often hidden from our eyes. How many of the Heroes of 1821 did not live to see Greece free and whole? How many battles have been waged by good and decent individuals who never beheld the outcome of their sacrifice? Nevertheless, we have the unique advantage of being able to look back across the decades and centuries to the triumphs of our physical and spiritual ancestors. But this should never make us complacent. Our freedom in Christ teaches us that such liberty should be lived, extended and passed on to all people. Of course, while it may not be possible to liberate every

heart and mind into the freedom that Christ offers, we can nonetheless pursue its righteous expansion for every member of our society.

Therefore, as we celebrate the 25th of March and all that it signifies — both in terms of its immeasurable theological meaning and its special implications for Hellenes everywhere — may we re-commit ourselves to living in the freedom to which our Lord has called us, the gift of God and the gift of those whose sacrifices formed the world that we now inhabit.

Long live 1821! Long live Greece! And long live the United States of America!

With much paternal love in Christ,

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

SAINTS ALIVE



March 22nd

- Basil the Holy Martyr of Ancyra
- Kalliniki & Vassilisa the Martyrs

March 23rd

- The Holy Righteous Martyr Nikon and His 199 Disciples

March 24th

- Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow

March 25th

- **Annunciation of the Theotokos**

March 26th

- Synaxis in honor of the Archangel Gabriel

March 27th

- Martyr Matrona of Thessaloniki
- Paul, Bishop of Corinth

March 28th

- Hilarion the New



From the Church School Desk:

'Our' children are very busy with school and extracurricular activities and could easily find reasonable excuses not to spend any time researching, writing and speaking about their faith, but please save the date (Church School students in grades 7th–12th) for the **St. Nicholas Oratorical Festival** to be held **April 2026**. For more information, please contact Chairman Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Youth Retreat, Breakfast & Palm Cross Making

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Following the Divine Liturgy

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2026

Following the Agape Service

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

ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

APRIL 2026

CONTACT
Eve Elsen
EVE.M.ELSEN@GMAIL.COM
412-580-9415

ATTENTION:
ALL CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS

YOUTH RETREAT
(WITH CANDLE CRAFT & LAZARAKIA BAKING)
BREAKFAST & PALM MAKING

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026
(Following the Divine Liturgy in the Small Hall)

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Easter EGG HUNT

If you wish to help, please bring one dozen pre-filled plastic eggs on Sunday and drop them off in the Narthex before Church.

ALL PARISHIONERS are welcome to join the fun for coffee, juice, and donuts!

Following the Agape Service

Questions: Call Michelle Kotsagrelis (412) 680-1416

Myrophores

Any young girl (grades 2nd – 6th) who would like to be a Myrophora on Good Friday during the Lamentation Service, please contact Miss Michelle (412-680-1416).

You will need to wear your own white dress.

GOYA GIRLS:

Your help is needed to distribute the light of the Resurrected Lord as Myrophores.

Please be at church by 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 11, 2026

We made 100



Hygiene Kits



**ST. NICHOLAS PHILOPTOCHOS
WEEKEND OF SERVICE**



**We helped people in need!
Our parish assembled 100 hygiene kits
that were delivered to local shelters.**

**Each kit cost \$10. Monetary donations can be made by cash
or check payable to St. Nicholas Philoptochos with
"Weekend of Service" in the memo.**

Thank you to all who helped assemble the hygiene kits!



Please Join Philoptochos
for our Annual
**Palm Sunday
Family Luncheon**

Sunday, April 5th 2026

Following Church Services

\$20 for Adults ~ \$10 for Kids (12 and under)

***Reservations are Required*
by Monday, March 30th**

Call or Text Michelle Kotsagrelou (412) 680-1416 or fill out the reservation
form below & mail it along with check to St. Nicholas Philoptochos

Name _____

Phone # _____

Reservations:

_____ Adults x \$20 = _____ Kids x \$10 = _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2026

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week
FEBRUARY 1st



TRIODION WEEKS
Publican and the Pharisee
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Normal Fast Week
FEBRUARY 8th



The Prodigal Son Returns!
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare
FEBRUARY 15th
FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



The Last Judgement
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2
Gospel: 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
FEBRUARY 22nd
FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY



Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!
FORGIVENESS SUNDAY
Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4
Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

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

1st Sunday of Lent
MARCH 1st



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 8th



ST GREGORY PALAMAS
Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3
Gospel: 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
MARCH 15th



VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
HALF WAY TO PASCHA!
Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6
Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

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

4th Sunday of Lent
MARCH 22nd



ST JOHN of the LADDER
Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20
Gospel: 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
MARCH 29th



ST MARY of EGYPT
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14
Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

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

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!
APRIL 5th
GREAT WEEK BEGINS



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK
ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9
Gospel: John 12:1-18

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

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY
APRIL 10th



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS
CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

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

FEAST OF FEASTS!
APRIL 12th
NO FASTING!



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!

SIXTY CLUB NEWS

Come one come all for this end of the summer special fun trip to New York City, August 18th, 19th, & 20th. The price for double occupancy is \$989 per person; single occupancy is \$1289 and triple occupancy is \$959 per person. This includes all taxes and gratuities, a Broadway show, a visit to the St. Nicholas Shrine and much more.

For more information, please contact
Alice Lardas Gary
412-249-8612

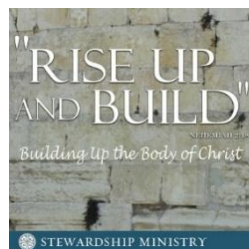
FOOD FESTIVAL NEWS

Next weekend we will be at it again making pans of our mouthwatering, Galatobourekos. We will need many hands Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, 9 am to 4pm, to get the job done. If we aren't finished then, we will continue again Sunday after church. Please join us. The more, the merrier! We're almost there! Help us get to the finish line!

- Galatobourekos, Friday and Saturday, March 27, 28, 9 AM to 4 PM, and possibly Sunday after church
- Kourambiethes, Saturday, April 18
- Diples, Monday, April 27

We have new days this year for our food festival. Our festival begins Tuesday, May 5, and runs through Sunday, May 10. Spread the word!

The 64th edition of our St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival ad book will be hitting the press soon. Please consider supporting it with either a personal ad or one from your business. All proceeds benefit the Saint Nicholas Building Fund. Contract forms are located in the Narthex.



We build up the Body of Christ by offering our time, talents, and treasures with love and joy.

Visit our website to fill out a Stewardship Card or to donate at www.stnickspgh.org.

<u>2026</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	115 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$101,056.00 GOAL (\$255,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$1033.91

Stewardship 2026: 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>.

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

Questions? Email: youthsafety@goarch.org



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

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Philoptochos is trying to put together a list of individuals who are willing and able to help the area college students (Pitt, CMU, Carlow, Chatham, Duquesne, RMU, CCAC, Penn State (Pittsburgh), Point Park, and LaRoche) during their stay here in Pittsburgh. A list of drivers, doctors, dentists, pharmacists, etc. is being compiled so they will have someone to call. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. The goal is to have this list complete by the end of the year for distribution in January (next semester'). For more information, contact Michelle Kotsagrelas at 412-680-1416.

Homewood Cemetery

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Greek Section

There are currently 19 graves available for purchase.

Cost per grave:

\$2,800.00 per grave for a member of St. Nicholas.

\$3,300.00 per grave for non-member.

Contact the Church Office at 412-682-3866 for further information.

MOMS & DADS of ST NICKS

College and Graduate Students - The Moms and Dads of St. Nicholas would like you to be our guest at the Palm Sunday Luncheon on April 5 following Liturgy. Please make your reservation and inform them you are a college student. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

For more information and reservations contact:
Michelle Kotsagrelas 412-680-1416.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a student for the luncheon, please contact Dae Machin 724-413-1497 or Linda Hages 412-523-7938.

St. John Chrysostom
Bookstore

Celebrate 25η Μαρτίου

PRE-ORDER EVENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

Evzone/Amalia Plush Pillow Dolls

Traditional Greek costume
illustrated on the front

Greek National Anthem printed
on the back in Greek

12 inch height

Each pillow is sold individually

First 30 pillows sold to be
received by Palm Sunday. All
others will arrive after Pascha.



**Visit the bookstore downstairs to see the
other new items just in!**

Contact



bookstore@stnickspgh.org

Metropolis of Pittsburgh Camp



MARCH 27-29, 2026

GOYA SPRING RETREAT



Camper Registration opens on Monday, February 16th at 7 PM EST!

QUESTIONS? camp@pittsburgh.goarch.org

For questions, contact our Camping Ministries Coordinator, Sophia Millinkovic.

2026 Summer Camp Dates

WEEK 1 (2ND-4TH GRADE): JUNE 21ST-27TH
 WEEK 2 (5TH-7TH GRADE): JUNE 28TH-JULY 4TH
 WEEK 3 (7TH-9TH GRADE): JULY 5TH-JULY 11TH
 WEEK 4 (10TH-12TH GRADE): JULY 12TH-JULY 18TH

CAMPERS WILL ATTEND THE WEEK OF THE GRADE LEVEL THEY ARE COMPLETING IN THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR. REGISTRATION WILL OPEN SPRING 2026. FOR MORE INFORMATION: Y2AM.PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG/SUMMERCAMP





Metropolis of Pittsburgh Ladies Philoptochos Society

Virtual Daffodil Fundraiser

March 15, 2026 ~ April 18, 2026

Proceeds to benefit:

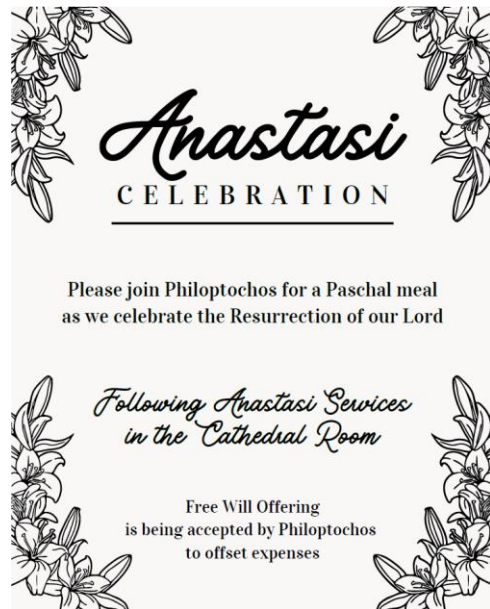
Metropolis Social Service Fund
 &
 Our Seminarians Our Future Fund

Join us in observing this Lenten Season and help make this year's Virtual Daffodil Fundraiser a true blessing to others!

Donations can be made by scanning this QR code:



Or by check payable to:
 The Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos
 c/o Paula Yankomats
 230 Little Road
 Altoona, PA 15001



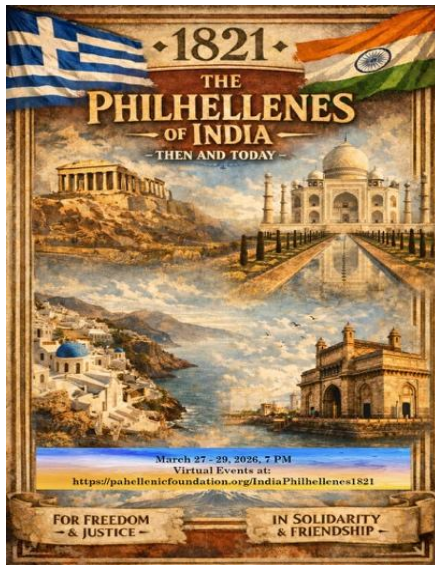
Anastasi

CELEBRATION

Please join Philoptochos for a Paschal meal as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord

Following Anastasi Services in the Cathedral Room

Free Will Offering is being accepted by Philoptochos to offset expenses



1821

THE PHILHELLENES OF INDIA

THEN AND TODAY

March 27 - 29, 2026, 7 PM
 Virtual Events at:
<https://pahellenicfoundation.org/IndiaPhilhellenes1821>

FOR FREEDOM & JUSTICE

IN SOLIDARITY & FRIENDSHIP

Let's play Golf !

Save the Date

St. Nicholas Golf Outing
 Monday, June 22, 2026
 Shannopin Country Club
 1 Windmere Road
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15202



Tee off at 12:00 pm



2026 Holy Week Service Schedule

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 — SUNDAY, APRIL 12

LAZARUS SATURDAY (4/4)	Orthros and Liturgy <i>Followed by Youth Retreat and Palm Folding</i>	8:30 a.m./9:30 a.m.
PALM SUNDAY (4/5)	Orthros and Liturgy Bridegroom Service	8:15 a.m./9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
HOLY MONDAY (4/6)	Bridegroom Service	6:30 p.m.
HOLY TUESDAY (4/7)	Bridegroom Service	6:30 p.m.
HOLY WEDNESDAY (4/8)	Holy Unction Bridegroom Service <i>with Holy Unction</i>	3:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
HOLY THURSDAY (4/9)	Vesperal Liturgy Service of the 12 Gospels	9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
HOLY FRIDAY (4/10)	Royal Hours Apokathelosis Service of Lamentations	9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
HOLY SATURDAY (4/11)	Proti-Anastasi Vesperal Liturgy Midnight Office (Pannychis) Service of the Resurrection	9:30 a.m. 11:00 p.m. 11:45 p.m.
PASCHA SUNDAY (4/12)	Agape Vespers	11:00 a.m.

MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 4th Sunday of Lent St. John Climacus Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	23 Great Compline 6:00 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	24 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m. <i>Vespers for Annunciation at Annunciation Church in White Oak, PA</i>	25 Annunciation of the Theotokos and Greek Independence Day Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. <i>Followed by Doxology</i>	26 Catechism Class 6:00 p.m. Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	27 Akathist Hymn 6:00 p.m. <i>Reception hosted by Parish Council</i>	28 Greek School 10:00 a.m.
					Festival Prep and Cooking – Galatoubourekó	
					Metropolis GOYA Spring Retreat March 27-29 (at Camp Nazareth)	
29 5th Sunday of Lent St. Mary of Egypt Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	30 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	31 Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	1 APRIL	2 Catechism Class 6:00 p.m. Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	3	4 Lazarus Saturday Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Followed by Youth Retreat and Palm Making</i>
5 PALM SUNDAY Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Luncheon Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm	6 HOLY MONDAY Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm	7 HOLY TUESDAY Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm	8 HOLY WEDNESDAY Holy Unction 3:00 pm Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm <i>Holy Unction offered At end of service</i>	9 HOLY THURSDAY Vesperal Liturgy 9:30 am Service of the 12 Gospels 6:00 pm	10 HOLY FRIDAY Royal Hours 9:30 am Apokathelosis 3:00 pm Lamentations 6:30 pm	11 HOLY SATURDAY Vesperal Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Midnight Office of the Resurrection 11:00 p.m. Service of the Resurrection 11:45 p.m.
12 GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA Agape Vespers 11:00 a.m.	13	14 Feasts of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, Irene, the Newly-revealed Martyrs of Mytilene <i>Liturgy at their Chapel at Dormition Church in Oakmont</i> Adult Greek Classes 6:30 p.m.	15	16 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Greek School 10:00 a.m. <i>Sacrament: Baptism 11:00 a.m.</i>