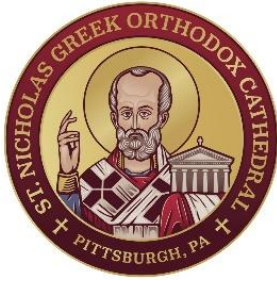


SUNDAY, September 20, 2026 – Sunday after the Cross

Saints of the Day: the Great-martyr Efstathios and his family

Grave Mode · Fifth Eothinon



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 Service for Bessie Andrews (19 yrs)**
- **Blessing of water for new church school year at end of service**
- **Church Picnic at Schenley Park Vietnam Veterans Pavilion after Divine Liturgy**
- **GOYA Meeting** today after Liturgy in the GOYA Room. Everyone in grades 7th -12th is invited to attend the first meeting of the academic year. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

- **Monday, September 21:** Parish Council Meeting 6:30 pm
YAL Basketball 7:00 pm
- **Wednesday, September 23:** Paraklesis 6:00 pm
- **Thursday, September 24:** Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 pm
- **Sunday, September 27:** PGH Great Race (*check road closures in Oakland around the Cathedral*)

TODAY'S HYMNS AND READINGS

For the second Antiphon, the following festal variation is chanted along with the corresponding verses:

Σώσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ σαρκὶ σταυρωθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Save us, O Son of God, who were crucified in the flesh. We sing to You, Alleluia.



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

The Festal Hymn for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in first mode is chanted twice for the Small Entrance:

Σώσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου, καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων, διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

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

Following the Small Entrance, we chant the following:

Resurrection Hymn of the week in grave mode.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον· ἠνέφξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον· τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 1st Mode – repeated (see above).

Apolytikion for the saint of the day, St. Efstathios and his family – 4th Mode.

Οἱ Μάρτυρές σου Κύριε, ἐν τῇ ἀθλήσει αὐτῶν, στεφάνους ἐκομίσαντο τῆς ἀφθαρσίας, ἐκ σοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν· σχόντες γὰρ τὴν ἰσχύν σου, τοὺς τυράννους καθεῖλον, ἔθραυσαν καὶ δαιμόνων, τὰ ἀνίσχυρα θράση. Αὐτῶν ταῖς ἱκεσίαις, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

Apolytikion hymn for our patron, St. Nicholas – 4th mode:

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

Festal Kontakion for the Exaltation of the Cross – 4th mode:

Ο ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ ἐκουσίως, τῇ ἐπωνύμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ, τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Εὐφρανον ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου, τοὺς πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς, κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων· τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τὴν σὴν, ὄπλον εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, granting them the victories against their adversaries. And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, peace as their armor, the trophy invincible.

Today's Epistle Reading (*Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross*):

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Galatians (2:16 – 20)

Αδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦνται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, διότι οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ γένοιτο. εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνίστημι. ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα Θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῇ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. [RSV]

Today's Gospel Reading (*Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross*):

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John (3:13 – 17)

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἐὰν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν ἐπαισχυνηθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμούς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνηθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Lord said: “If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.” [RSV]

RESCHEDULED PICNIC

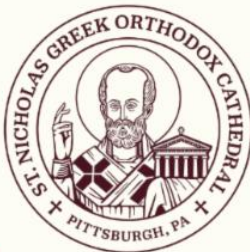
in the
Park

SUNDAY
20
SEPTEMBER



FOOD - FELLOWSHIP - FUN

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL PICNIC
FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY



SCHENLEY PARK

**AT THE VIETNAM
VETERANS PAVILION**



TODAY, the bells will start to ring again for the beginning of Church School with an Agiasmo (Blessings of the Water)!

As the Church School Director I am looking forward to working with the teachers and **YOU** (the St. Nicholas parishioners) to enrich the lives of our children. St. Nicholas is our spiritual family and we all should take part in educating our **youth** (the **you** of tomorrow). As a community, we need to show our children our love and devotion to our Orthodox faith.

This year's Church School theme is "***Living the Liturgical Life.***" Each week in the bulletin & sermonette, there will be information about different Feast Days that we, as Orthodox Christians, commemorate, as well as proper Church etiquette.

Every week your child is encouraged to bring "a donation" to Church School (this will help them learn the lesson of "stewardship"), plus, be assigned homework: Do something nice for someone!

Continuing this year, a Church School Choir! Psalteria Amy Hogg will continue to have special lessons with Church School students to teach them to chant the Divine Liturgy.

Please take the time to look over the attached 2026-2027 Church School Calendar, fill out the registration form (and bring it on or before the 20th) and volunteer **your** time, talent, and treasure to help **our** children.

I would like to thank the parents in advance for sharing your children with us every Sunday! But what can you do to help? You can help our Church School program, in the final analysis, your child, by bringing him/her every Sunday. Encourage your child to tell you about the lesson taught for the day, as well as the craft brought home. Pray with your child. (Each lesson should begin and end with Prayer.)

Attend worship services together as a family; Divine Liturgy starts at 9:30 a.m.

Yours in Christ,

Miss Michelle



**Registration Form
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Church School**

Parent's Names

Address

Phone Numbers

Cell _____

E-mail _____

Children	Grade	Birthday	Nameday	Allergies
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May we call you to volunteer for one of our projects?

Substitute Teacher _____	Oratorical Festival _____
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St. Nicholas Bazaar _____	Youth Retreat _____
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Christmas Pageant _____	Easter Egg Hunt _____
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Snacks _____	Outreach Projects _____
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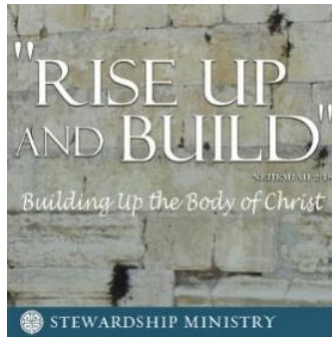
Thanks for sharing your children with us every Sunday!



Church School Schedule

2026~2027

Sunday, September 20, 2026		Church School Begins with Agiasmo
Sunday, September 27, 2026	No Classroom Attendance	Great Race
Sunday, November 1, 2026		Godparent Sunday
Sunday, November 29, 2026	No Classroom Attendance	Thanksgiving Break
Sunday, December 6, 2026		St. Nicholas Bazaar
Sunday, December 20, 2026		Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 27, 2026	No Classroom Attendance	Christmas Break
Sunday, January 3, 2027		Church School Resumes & Vasilopita Cutting
Sunday, February 28, 2027		Church School Open House
Sunday, March 21, 2027	Participation in Procession	Sunday of Orthodoxy
Saturday, April 24, 2027	Saturday of Lazarus	Breakfast/Retreat/Palm Making
Sunday, April 25, 2027	Classroom Attendance	Palm Sunday
Sunday, May 2, 2027	No Classroom Attendance	Easter Sunday
Sunday, May 16, 2027	No Classroom Attendance	Food Festival
Sunday, May 23, 2027		Commencement/Graduate Sunday



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	198 (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>.

Homewood Cemetery

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Greek Section
There are currently 45 graves available for purchase.

New Cost per grave:

\$4,000.00 per grave for a member of St. Nicholas.

\$5,000.00 per grave for non-member.

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

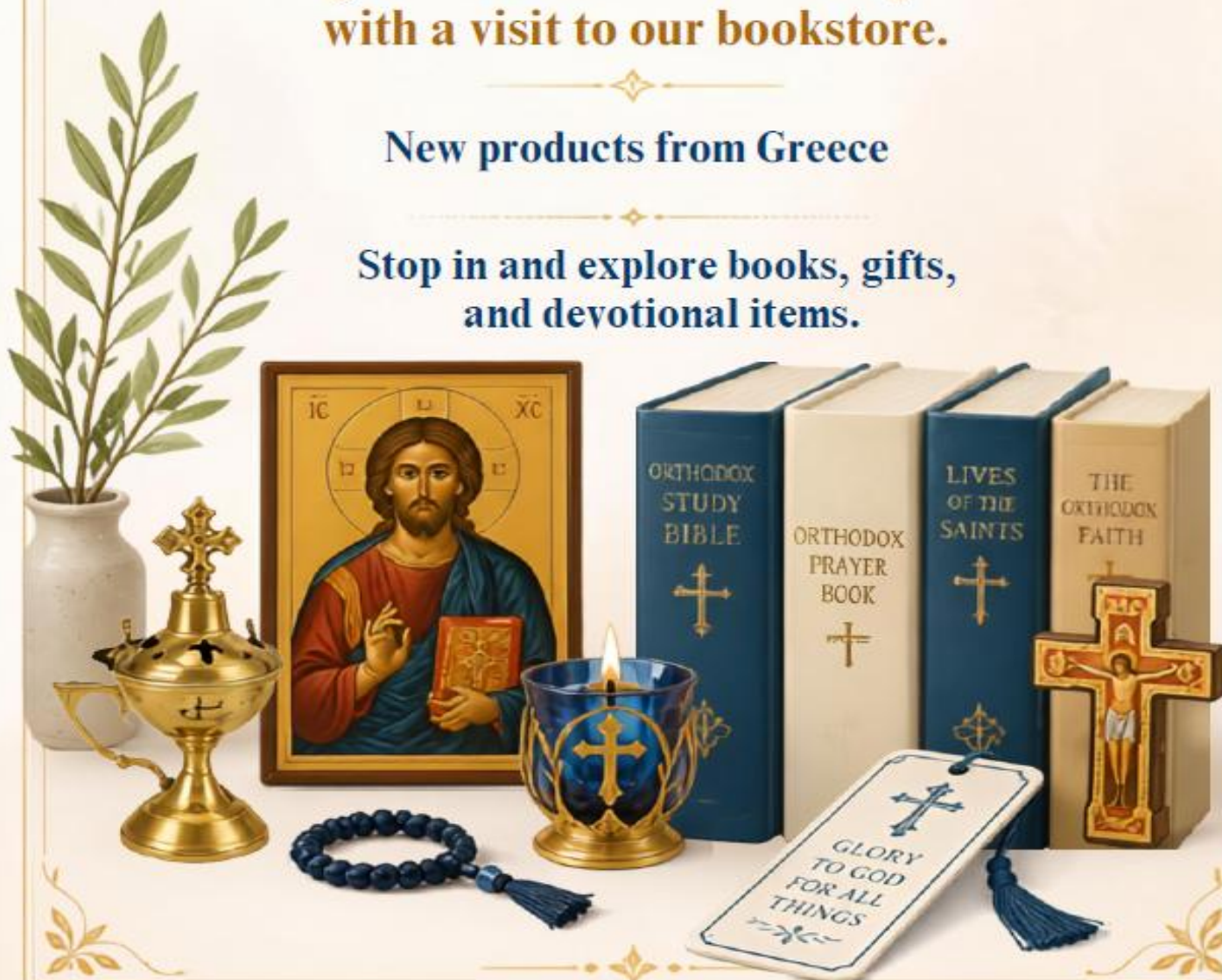


St. John Chrysostom Bookstore

Begin the new ecclesiastical year
with a visit to our bookstore.

New products from Greece

Stop in and explore books, gifts,
and devotional items.

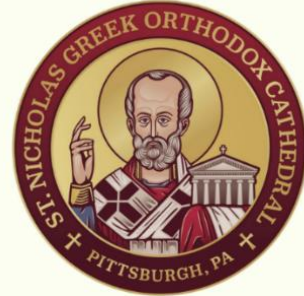


Objects are representational

SAINT NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL - PITTSBURGH



Do you like to sing? Join Our Choir



No need to sing every Sunday!
Interested? Need more information?
Contact Steve Andrews,
Cathedral Choir Director
412-561-9102
Or just head up to the Choir Loft
on Sunday!

Huge upcoming event!

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of America (All Hierarchs of the Orthodox Churches) will be at Saint Nicholas Cathedral for Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 4th. The Pittsburgh Pan-Orthodox Choir will be singing. We are invited to join them.

PREPARE FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR KEEP KIDS SAFE



Are You a Youth Worker or on Parish Council?

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 Saint Nicholas Cathedral's Parish Youth Safety Administrator (PYSA),
Carol Tsudis, ctsudis@gmail.com
or youthsafety@goarch.org

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





ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Assembly of Bishops is meeting in Pittsburgh and invites you to join hierarchs from across Orthodox jurisdictions for weekend events, including a historic Divine Liturgy on Sunday at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Oakland.

ASL Interpretation services provided for all public events.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 -
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**



Vespers & Reception

October 3, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

St. George Antiochian
Orthodox Church
329 Washington Pike,
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Join us for an evening of prayer and
fellowship at St. George Antiochian
Orthodox Church.



Liturgy & Reception

October 4, 2026
Orthros: 8:00 a.m., Liturgy: 9:30 a.m.

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

Join the Assembly of Bishops for
Liturgy and fellowship at St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

RSVPs are optional, but appreciated
to help host parishes prepare.



Cultural Performances

October 4, 2026 | 4:30 p.m.

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox
Church
123 Gilkeson Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Join the Assembly of Bishops for an
evening of dance and choral
performances from local Orthodox
Christian parishes featuring their
distinct cultural traditions.

Scan QR code
or visit
bit.ly/aob2026
to register



Sign up using the
QR Code or by going to
tinyurl.com/AoB-Pittsburgh

Please join us
as we welcome the
**Assembly of Canonical
Orthodox Bishops in the USA**



For
The Divine Liturgy
and a
Fellowship Luncheon
following services

Sunday, October 4, 2026
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Luncheon RSVP by Sunday Sept 27
Michelle Kotsagrellos
412.680.1416
or
Church Office
412.682.3866

***Sponsorships Welcome for
Parish Luncheon***

***If you would like to help
underwrite the Parish Luncheon,
please make out a check to
Saint Nicholas Cathedral,
marking the memo "Parish
Luncheon" and send it to the
church office.***

Saint Nicholas thanks you!

Pastries and Cookies Needed

October 4 Luncheon at St. Nicholas



Pittsburgh Cookie Table



We kindly ask you to bring pastries and cookies for the luncheon welcoming the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the USA

Please bring your contribution already plated the morning of Sunday, October 4 (*we won't be able to store them the night before*)



Suggested Greek Favorites

Baklava • Koulourakia • Finkia •
Kourambiedes • Karithopia •
Pasta Flora • Kataife

Suggested American Treats

Assorted Cookies and Pies,
Cupcakes, Biscotti, Fresh Fruit Platters,
Nut-Free and/or Gluten-Free Desserts

For more information, please contact
Argy Darakos at 412.979.4131 or by
email: argy.darakos@outlook.com



JOY HOPE LITTLE ANGELS
FALL FESTIVAL



Friday, October 9th | 6:00pm

Craft - Pizza - Trunk Decorating
Candy Passing - Costumes

ST. NICHOLAS PARKING LOT & FELLOWSHIP ROOM

RSVP TO STAVROULA AT STAV828@GMAIL.COM



September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20 Sunday after Holy Cross Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Church Picnic Vietnam Veterans Pavilion in Schenley Park	21 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	22	23 Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.	24 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 p.m.	25	26 Metropolis of Pittsburgh Clergy Laity Assembly
27 1st Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. <i>PGH Great Race</i>	28 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	29	30 Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.	OCT 1 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 p.m.	2	3
4 Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Parish Luncheon	5 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.	8 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 p.m.	9	10
11 Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	12 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	13	14 Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.	15 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 p.m.	16	17
18 Orthros 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.	19 YAL Basketball 7:00 p.m.	20	21 Paraklesis 6:00 p.m.	22 Pitt/CMU OCF 7:00 p.m.	23	24