ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

SUNDAY MARCH 6, 2022

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY

WELCOME: HIS GRACE BISHOP APOSTOLOS OF MEDEIA:

Today we have the honor to welcome His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia to our St. Nicholas Community. It is always and honor to have His Grace Bishop Apostolos to celebrate the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with us this morning as we commemorate the Unification of the Dodecanese Islands. A special Doxology/Artoklasia will be chanted for the remembrance of the Unification of the Dedecanesian Islands with the Motherland Greece. Following the Church services the Rhodian Society "Diagoras" and the Carpathian Society would like to invite the congregation to the Plateia for a special luncheon in honor of His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia and also to honor today's celebrating event. We also want to take this opportunity to welcome our visiting Guests and Dignitaries who have come from near and far to our church today to worship with us on this historical and prestigious day of the Unification of the Dodecanisian Islands. We thank you for visiting our community and hope that your experience will be a memorable one.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

A 1 year Memorial service will be chanted today in memory of our brother in Christ, Theodore Onassis. May his soul rest in peace and may his memory be eternal.

LITURGICAL PROGRAM:

Monday, March 7: The beginning of the Great Lenten Period: (KALH SARAKASTE) Compline
Service 7:00 pm. The Ladies Philoptochos Society will give out after the Compline service small bags of goodies to everybody to take home.

<u>Tuesday, March 8:</u> Orthodox Bible Study: 6:00 pm From now on the Bible Studies will be conducted on every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. This change is due to the Great Lenten Liturgical schedule.

Wednesday, March 9: Presanctified Liturgy: 7:00 pm <u>Friday, March 11:</u> First Salutation Service: 7:00 pm

<u>Saturday</u>, <u>March 12</u>: Saturday of the Souls: Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Memorial service will follow. Please bring in the names of your departed loved ones during the week. May their souls rest in peace and may their memory be eternal.

THANK YOU NOTE:

We would like to take this opportunity to also thank all the members of the Dodecanisian committee for their dedicated effort and the long hours that they spent coordinating and putting on this great event that we are experiencing today. We want to give out a special thank you to Master of Ceremony George Diacommninos for his love and dedication along with the Committee members who have done an exceptional job in putting on this successful celebration. Also we would like to thank our St. Nicholas Choir members, the Chanters, Sfefanos Niktas and Dimitri Apostolou for their participation and dedication. Thank you also to our Evzones, Altar boys, and to our Greek School children who participated in this beautiful and memorable event. We also would like to thank the people who worked in the Kitchen and who prepared the delicious and traditional food that we will enjoy eating today. Thank you also to our Video Photographer Dimitri Panagos and his wife, who came to us from New York to be with us putting on this great production for us. This Video will be televised on Ytube and will be distributed to all the Dodecanisian Islands. We are also proud to say that Dimitri is also the Photographer for the whole Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and we are honored to have him here with us during this great celebration.

We cannot forget also our Dance groups that will perform for us during the celebration at the Plateia. Again let's not forget that it took a Village to put on this historical event.

COFFEE HOUR: ATTENTION EVERYONE:

We would like to inform everyone that we are starting up again our Coffee Hour program back into the life of the Church. It's been a long struggle but finally we are now permitted to have our Coffee Hour. If anyone wishes to sponsor a Coffee Hour after Church, please call the Church office to schedule your event for any given Sunday. Usually we offer the Coffee Hour for people who are sponsoring a Memorial service in the Church, but anyone is permitted to schedule a Coffee Hour for any given event.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Monday, March 7: Greek school Classes: 4:45 pm to 7:45 pm Wednesday, March 9: Greek School Classes: 4:45 pm to 7:45 pm

<u>Sunday,</u> <u>March 13: "GOD PARENTS SUNDAY"</u> Just preparing all of you for God Parents Sunday Make sure that you mark your calendars and give enough time to invite your God Parents to the service on Sunday.

Wednesday, March 23: 25TH OF MARCH "GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM" at the Plateia 5:30 pm Sunday, March 27: "MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE": ATTENTION EVERYONE: This year's Independence Day Parade will take place on Sunday, March 27th at 2:00 pm. Please visit www.greekparade.com in order to register to participate as a marching group, and if you wanted to donate towards the Parade please use the current E-mail address. Youth and Young Adults interested in representing regions of Greece in the Parade or participating on parade floats, please E-mail info@greekparade.com. Young men interested in becoming an Evzone, please contact Stavros Katsas at 443-835-5276 or skatsas@yahoo.com. Also His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia and our Metropolis Chancellor the V. Rev. Fr. Christoforos Oikonomides will be in attendance. Please do not miss this Historical and Memorable event. Please make sure you get the message out to everyone that you know.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful parishioners who sent in their 2022 Stewardship Pledge Card. We take pride in our parishioners who take the time to help support their Church, with their Time, Talent, and Treasures. Let's work together with enthusiasm to support our Stewardship Program. We kindly ask you to participate in this effort. What we really want to accomplish is to reach out to as many people possible to notify and involve them in all the services, programs, ministries, and events taking place in our parish. All the families in the Parish by now have received their personal Stewardship Pledge Card. Please take a moment to fill the card out and give your personal offering to the Church. We have so many ministries and so many programs in our Parish, that without your financial support we would not be able to financially support these activities. Our St. Nicholas Parish has grown and with that growth comes responsibility. We need to understand and remind the members and Stewards of the great responsibility that we have in order to continue and support the ministries of the Church. We are asking for YOUR help! Let's not forget the famous expression" Fasouli, Fasouli, Gemise to Sakouli". Remember our Stewards are the backbone of our Parish! Whether you are a lifelong supporter, a newcomer to the Stewardship Program, or someone who is recommitting, you are all vitally important to our parish and ministries. If you have lost your Stewardship Pledge Card in the past, please go to the Church office and pick one up. Thank You and May God Bless our St. Nicholas Stewards.