



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Message from FR. MICHAEL L. PASTRIKOS, PROTOPRESBYTER

K O I N O N I A

As I start writing my newsletter, I find myself gazing on the Cross of Christ. On September 14th we celebrated the Elevation or Exaltation of the Holy Cross of Christ. To all the Orthodox Christians all over the world, the Cross of Christ is a profound symbol of Christianity. Many of our Orthodox Christians do not really understand the essence and the value of knowing what the Cross represents in our lives. How can we wake up in the morning and not feel the presence of the Cross and the importance of starting our mornings with Christ's blessings. Remember that each time we think of the Cross or kiss the Cross, we see Him Crucified to remember what He has done for us. Our response to that should be, what have we done for Christ today in our Lives?

The Apostle Paul wanted to know nothing in the world except to know who Jesus Christ was, and Him being crucified. Knowing that Christ was crucified on the Cross for us, then it gives us everything we need to sustain our spiritual lives. But we as human beings live in difficult times; we live in hurried times which do not allow us to focus on our concentration. People today crave and live in a materialistic world, they love entertainment, they do not think about where their spiritual lives are heading to. They do not understand when the Lord said, that in order to follow Christ we must first deny ourselves of the pleasures of the world, pick up our Cross, that is change the way we live, and start following the Commandments of God. If we do all of these things, then we will receive our reward when Christ tells us on the day of Judgment that we lived our life avoiding the many pleasures that the world gave to us, and were diligent, humble, patient, loving, and forgiving. So, my good son since you did all that for my name's sake, then enter into the Kingdom of God.

We must realize that the Cross of Christ always held such power from the ancient times and still today. Our Orthodox Church always considered the Cross as a great defense against all diseases, whether physical or spiritual. What do we as Christians do when first purchasing a Cross? First, we go to our priest and ask him to bless our Cross so that the

Cross is mostly for our protection against the evil influences that the world itself brings upon us every day that we live. The Cross is always for us a weapon against the evil powers meaning satan and his demons. It also is a symbol of our salvation. Let us not forget that by making the sign of the Cross over our bodies, we ask for salvation, forgiveness, and repentance. We cannot be forgiven or saved on account of any personal merits, no matter how great they might be. It is because when Christ went on the Cross, He paid a huge price with His precious blood in order for us to receive salvation. The Cross is also a source of comfort and strength in times of sorrow and despair. When we are in difficult



times who do we reach out to or comfort and support? Of course, who else but our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We must also understand why a Christian's entire life, from the day of his/her birth to the final breath on earth, and even after death is always accompanied by the Cross of Christ.

Whatever we do in the Church, especially administering the Holy Mysteries of the Church, for example --Baptism, Chrismation, and Holy Communion, are all performed and celebrated under the sign and blessings of the

Holy Spirit and the Cross of Christ. So, if our life is filled with despair and disappointments and feel that our life is worth nothing, then we need to change our lifestyle and make a simple U-Turn in our life and accept Christ. Take every single day as a new day as we climb out of the gutter that we put yourself in. Having faith in the Cross of Christ will solve all of our problems. Allow Christ to come into our life and we will see the difference. Anyone who has turned to Christ will change their lives completely.

In today's world we have a growing number of broken families, more epidemics, addictions, criminalities, and deaths. We have growing numbers of suicides, divorces, and violence that are on the rise instead on a downfall. Now I ask you this question--Why has our world turned to all these tragedies, disappointments, and despair? Why?? The answer is: BECAUSE WE HAVE FALLEN AWAY FROM GOD.



# Μήνυμα Από τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρικό

We do not believe in the power of the Cross, and we do not follow the Commandments of God. We have accepted the material and sinful pleasures, and we have forgotten how to love and forgive one another. We are all in this together, and we need to show our true faith, our kindness, and our expression of love. Today my message is a message of "Hope". We need to put aside our misunderstandings, our foolishness, our hatred, and jealousy and bring back that love, kindness, understanding that is lacking in our lives, and make sure

that we build upon our new relationship with Christ on solid rock and not on slippery sand.

May the Lord our God continue to bless everyone in the Community, and I pray that the message that was given today in this newsletter be a blessing to all and keep the Cross of Christ sacred in our heart, mind, and soul.

**Have a great month.**

Καθώς ξεκινά να γράφω το άρθρο μου, παρατηρώ τον Σταυρό του Χριστού. Στις 14 Σεπτεμβρίου εορτάσαμε την Ύψωση του Τιμίου Σταυρού του Χριστού. Για όλους τους Ορθόδοξους Χριστιανούς όλου του κόσμου, ο Σταυρός του Χριστού είναι ένα βαθύ σύμβολο του Χριστιανισμού. Πολλοί από τους Ορθόδοξους Χριστιανούς μας δεν καταλαβαίνουν πραγματικά την ουσία και την αξία της γνώσης του τι αντιπροσωπεύει ο Σταυρός στη ζωή μας. Πώς γίνεται, να ξυπνάμε το πρωί και να μη νοιώθουμε την παρουσία του Σταυρού και τη σημασία να ξεκινάμε τα πρωινά μας με τις ευλογίες του Χριστού; Να θυμάστε ότι κάθε φορά που σκεφτόμαστε τον Σταυρό ή φιλάμε τον Σταυρό, Τον βλέπουμε Εσταυρωμένο, για να μας θυμίζει τι έχει κάνει για εμάς. Η απάντησή μας σε αυτό θα έπρεπε να είναι, τι κάνουμε εμείς για τον Χριστό στη ζωή μας σήμερα;

Ο Απόστολος Παύλος δεν ήθελε να γνωρίζει τίποτα στον κόσμο, εκτός από το να μάθει ποιος ήταν ο Ιησούς Χριστός και σταυρώθηκε. Γνωρίζοντας ότι ο Χριστός σταυρώθηκε πάνω στον Σταυρό για εμάς, μας παρέχει όλα όσα χρειαζόμαστε για να διατηρήσουμε την πνευματική μας ζωή. Αλλά εμείς ως ανθρώπινα όντα ζούμε σε δύσκολες στιγμές, ζούμε σε καιρούς της βιασύνης, που δεν μας επιτρέπουν να εστιάσουμε στη συγκέντρωση μας. Οι άνθρωποι σήμερα ποθούν και ζουν σε έναν υλιστικό κόσμο, αγαπούν την ψυχαγωγία, δεν σκέφτονται πού οδεύει η πνευματική τους ζωή. Δεν καταλαβαίνουν πότε είπε ο Κύριος, ότι για να ακολουθήσουμε τον Χριστό πρέπει πρώτα να αρνηθούμε τις διασκεδάσεις του κόσμου, να σηκώσουμε τον Σταυρό μας, δηλαδή να αλλάξουμε τον τρόπο που ζούμε και να αρχίσουμε να ακολουθούμε τις Εντολές του Θεού. Αν κάνουμε όλα αυτά τα πράγματα, τότε θα λάβουμε την ανταμοιβή μας, όταν ο Χριστός μας πει την ημέρα της Κρίσεως ότι ζήσαμε τη ζωή μας αποφεύγοντας τις πολλές απολαύσεις που μας έδωσε ο κόσμος και ήμασταν επιμελείς, ταπεινοί, υπομονητικοί, στοργικοί και επιεικής. Λοιπόν, καλό μου παιδί, αφού όλα αυτά τα έκανες για χάρη του ονόματός Μου, τότε είσελθε στη Βασιλεία του Θεού.

Πρέπει να συνειδητοποιήσουμε ότι ο Σταυρός του Χριστού είχε πάντα μεγάλη δύναμη από τα αρχαία χρόνια και μέχρι σήμερα. Η Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία μας θεωρούσε πάντα τον Σταυρό ως μια μεγάλη άμυνα ενάντια σε όλες τις ασθένειες, είτε σωματικές είτε πνευματικές. Τι κάνουμε εμείς ως Χριστιανοί όταν αγοράζουμε για πρώτη φορά ένα Σταυρό; Πρώτα, πηγαίνουμε στον ιερέα μας και του ζητάμε να ευλογήσει τον Σταυρό μας, ώστε ο Σταυρός να είναι κυρίως προστάτης μας από τις κακές επιρροές που φέρνει πάνω μας ο ίδιος ο κόσμος κάθε μέρα που ζούμε. Ο Σταυρός είναι πάντα για μας ένα όπλο ενάντια στις κακές δυνάμεις που εννοεί το Σατανά και τους δαίμονές του. Είναι επίσης σύμβολο της σωτηρίας μας. Ας μην ξεχνάμε ότι κάνοντάς το σημείο του Σταυρού πάνω από τα σώματά μας, ζητούμε σωτηρία, συγχώρεση και μετάνοια. Δεν μπορούμε να συγχωρηθούμε ή να σωθούμε λόγω προσωπικών πλεονεκτημάτων, όσο σπουδαία κι αν είναι. Είναι επειδή όταν ο Χριστός Σταυρώθηκε,

πλήρωσε ένα τεράστιο τίμημα με το πολύτιμο αίμα Του για να λάβουμε τη σωτηρία. Ο Σταυρός είναι επίσης πηγή παρηγορίας και δύναμης σε περιόδους θλίψης και απελπισίας. Όταν βρισκόμαστε σε δύσκολες στιγμές, σε ποιον απευθυνόμαστε ή ζητάμε παρηγορία και στήριξη; Φυσικά, από ποιον άλλον εκτός από τον Κύριο μας και Σωτήρα Ιησού Χριστό. Πρέπει επίσης να καταλάβουμε γιατί ολοκληρή η ζωή ενός Χριστιανού, από την ημέρα της γέννησής του μέχρι την τελική πνοή στη γη, ακόμη και μετά τον θάνατο, συνοδεύεται πάντα από τον Σταυρό του Χριστού.

Ό,τι κι αν κάνουμε στην Εκκλησία, ειδικά εκτελώντας τα Ιερά Μυστήρια της Εκκλησίας, για παράδειγμα -- Το Βάπτισμα, το Χρίσμα και η Θεία Κοινωνία, όλα τελούνται και εκτελούνται κάτω από το σημείο και τις ευλογίες του Αγίου Πνεύματος και του Σταυρού του Χριστού. Αν, λοιπόν, η ζωή μας είναι γεμάτη απόγνωση και απογοητεύσεις και νιώθουμε ότι η ζωή μας δεν αξίζει τίποτα, τότε πρέπει να αλλάξουμε τον τρόπο ζωής μας και να κάνουμε μια απλή στροφή, να αποδεχτούμε τον Χριστό. Πάρτε κάθε μέρα σαν μια καινούργια μέρα καθώς βγαίνουμε από λούκι που βάζαμε τον εαυτό μας. Έχοντας πίστη στον Σταυρό του Χριστού θα λύσουμε όλα μας τα προβλήματα. Επιτρέψτε στον Χριστό να έρθει στη ζωή μας και θα δούμε τη διαφορά. Όποιος έχει στραφεί στον Χριστό η ζωή του θα αλλάξει του εντελώς.

Στον σημερινό κόσμο έχουμε έναν αυξημένο αριθμό διαλυμένων οικογενειών, περισσότερες επιδημίες, εθισμούς, εγκλήματα και θανάτους. Έχουμε περισσότερες αυτοκτονίες, διαζύγια και βίες που αυξάνονται αντί να μειώνονται. Τώρα σας κάνω αυτή την ερώτηση -- Γιατί ο κόσμος μας έχει στραφεί σε όλες αυτές τις τραγωδίες, τις απογοητεύσεις και την απόγνωση; Γιατί; Η απάντηση είναι: ΓΙΑΤΙ ΕΧΟΥΜΕ ΑΠΟΜΑΚΡΥΝΘΕΙ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΘΕΟ.

Δεν πιστεύουμε στη δύναμη του Σταυρού, ούτε ακολουθούμε τις Εντολές του Θεού. Έχουμε δεχτεί τις υλικές και αμαρτωλές απολαύσεις και έχουμε ξεχάσει πώς να αγαπάμε και να συγχωρούμε ο ένας τον άλλον. Είμαστε όλοι μαζί σε αυτό και πρέπει να δείξουμε την αληθινή μας πίστη, την καλοσύνη μας και την έκφραση της αγάπης μας. Σήμερα το μήνυμά μου είναι ένα μήνυμα «Ελπίδας». Πρέπει να αφήσουμε στην άκρη τις παρεξηγήσεις μας, την ανοησία μας, το μίσος και τη ζήλια μας και να επαναφέρουμε την αγάπη, την καλοσύνη, την κατανόηση που λείπει από τη ζωή μας και να βεβαιωθούμε ότι θα χτίσουμε τη νέα μας σχέση με τον Χριστό σε στιβαρό βράχο και όχι σε ολισθηρή άμμο.

Εύχομαι ο Κύριος και Θεός μας συνεχίσει να σας ευλογεί όλους στην Κοινότητα και προσεύχομαι το μήνυμα που δόθηκε σήμερα με το παρόν άρθρο να είναι ευλογία για όλους και να κρατά τον Σταυρό του Χριστού ιερό στην καρδιά, στο μυαλό και στην ψυχή σας.

# CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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DIRECTORS

PHAEDRA AVGERINOS 10TH

NIKKI CANNING AND ROSE KOSTAKIS,

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

YANA KARABELAS, KINDERGARTEN

PENNY GERAPETRITIS & VASILIKI FONIADIKI, 1ST & 2ND

JENNA STAKIAS, 3RD & 4TH

STAVROULA SAKELAKIS 5TH

KALLIOPI CORNIAS & FLORA GIACOUMAKIS, 6TH

ELENI PIKOUNIS 7TH

MARIA FILIPPOU. 8TH & 9TH

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IRINI ANASTASIOU

YVONI GALETAKI

VOULA KOSMATOU

DESPINA LARENTZOS

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IRENE VASILAKOPOULOS, CHAIRPERSON

IRENE ANGELOS

ADRIENNE KOURTESIS

FOULA PARAGIOS

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

## KOINONIA DEADLINE

Please submit your article(s) to the Koinonia staff by the deadline stated below:

**ISSUE MONTH: NOVEMBER 2022**

**SUBMISSIONS DUE: OCTOBER 20<sup>th</sup>**

Please email your article(s) to: [msalpeas@stnicholasmd.org](mailto:msalpeas@stnicholasmd.org)

*Articles are due no later than the 20th of each month. If they are received after the deadline they will be published in the following month's issue.*

*All articles must be proofread and color corrected prior to submission.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Dear parishioners and friends of Saint Nicholas,*

*With the blessing of our Holy God, the ecclesiastical year has begun for once more. Everything is going smoothly with calmness, perfect cooperation and endless love.*

*Our Greek School and Sunday School have started and we expect all the kids to come and enjoy these wonderful experiences, to meet new friends, to build beautiful memories and to hold up high our home country and our religion. Don't deprive your kids from this gift. They will be grateful to you throughout their lives. Don't ask them if they want to go to the Greek School or the Sunday School. Just explain them with simple words the benefits that they will have later in their lives. They need to come to the Holy Liturgy every Sunday so as to say the prayers and feel the church as their house, so that later on, in their life, when they are in need, they can find shelter in our patron Saint Nicholas. My joy is endless every time I see the kids in our church. I feel so lucky that every problem or tiredness goes away.*

*We will celebrate the national celebration of the 28th of October with grandiosity. Come to watch our kids and feel proud for the excellent work of our wonderful teachers. Let's all hold together the diamond that is called "Greece", even though we are miles away from our home country, by having our kids close to our church.*

*Health and Blessings to all of us.*

*With much appreciation and love,*

*Stamatia Ieromonachou  
President of Parish Council  
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
Baltimore, MD*

*Αγαπημένοι μας ενοριτες και φίλοι του Αγίου Νικολάου,*

*Με την ευλογία του Αγίου Θεού μας ξεκίνησε και φέτος η εκκλησιαστική χρονιά μας . Όλα κυλούν με ηρεμία, άψογη συνεργασία και απέραντη αγάπη.*

*Το ελληνικό μας σχολείο όπως και το κατηχητικό μας ξεκίνησαν και περιμένουμε όλα τα παιδάκια να έρθουν να απολαύσουν αυτές τις υπέροχες εμπειρίες. Να γνωρίσουν νέους φίλους, να χτίσουν όμορφες αναμνήσεις και να κρατήσουν ψηλά την πατρίδα και την θρησκεία μας. Μην στερήσετε από τα παιδιά σας αυτό το δώρο θα σας ευγνωμονούν μια ζωή αργότερα . Μην τα ρωτάτε αν θέλουν να πάνε στο ελληνικό σχολείο ή στο κατηχητικό σχολείο, απλά εξηγήστε τους με απλά λόγια την ωφέλεια που θα έχουν αργότερα στην ζωή τους. Να έρχονται να λένε τις προσευχές την Κυριακή στην Θεία Λειτουργία, να νιώσουν την εκκλησία μας σπίτι τους, να τρέξουν στην ανάγκη τους μετέπειτα στην ζωή τους στον Πολιούχο Άγιο Νικόλαο μας. Απέραντη η χαρά μου κάθε φορά που βλέπω τα παιδάκια στην εκκλησία μας. Νιώθω τόσο τυχερή που κάθε πρόβλημα και κάθε κούραση φεύγουν μακριά.*

*Θα γιορτάσουμε την 28η Οκτωβρίου με μεγαλοπρέπεια ελάτε να καμαρώσετε τα παιδάκια μας ελάτε να δείτε την εξαιρετική δουλειά που κάνουν οι υπέροχες δασκάλες μας. Ας κρατήσουμε όλοι μαζί το διαμάντι που λέγεται Ελλάδα και ας είμαστε και μίλια μακριά από την πατρίδα μας με το να έχουμε τα παιδιά μας κοντά στην εκκλησία μας.*

*Υγεία και Ευλογία σε όλους σας.  
Με εκτίμηση και αγάπη*

*Σταματία Ιερομονάχου  
Πρόεδρος του Συμβουλίου  
Αγίου Νικολάου  
Βαλτιμόρης*



# ORDINATION OF KONSTANTINOS LOUKAS TO THE HOLY DIACONATE



## ORDINATION OF KONSTANTINOS LOUKAS TO THE HOLY DIACONATE

On Saturday, September 17th, the faithful gathered at St. Nicholas Church in Baltimore to witness the Ordination of Konstantinos Loukas to the Holy Diaconate with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and through the laying on of hands by His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia.

His Grace was joined in the service by the following clergy: His Grace Bishop-Elect Constantine of Sassima (Moralis), Annunciation Cathedral, Baltimore, MD; V. Rev. Archimandrite Christoforos Oikonomidis, Chancellor-Metropolis of NJ; V. Rev. Archimandrite Avgoustinos Psomas, St. Thomas Church, Cherry Hill, NJ; V. Rev. Archimandrite Philotheos Tomszewski, Metropolis of New Jersey; Protopresbyter Anastasios Bourantas, St. George Church, Media, PA; Protopresbyter Dimitrios Antokas, St. George Church, Bethesda, MD; Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Pastrikos, St. Nicholas Church, Baltimore; Rev. Protopresbyter Emmanuel Burdusi, St. Theodore Church, Lanham, MD; Rev. Protopresbyter Anastasios Kousoulas, St. Anna Church, Flemington, NJ; Rev. Presbyter George Mastakas, Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Frederick, MD; Reverend Eleftherios Plevrakis, Sts. Mary Magdalene & Markella, Darlington, MD; Reverend Theofanis Rauch, St. Demetrios Church, Elmhurst, IL; and Reverend Alexandros Douvres, New York, NY.

Konstantinos Loukas was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and grew up attending St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. After completing High School, he enrolled at Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, graduating with his Bachelor in Religious Studies in 2018 and his Master of Divinity in May of 2021. In addition, Konstantinos completed the Byzantine Music program and received a Certificate in Byzantine Chant in 2021. Since graduation, he has worked on the parish level as Pastoral Assistant and Youth Director of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Bethesda, Maryland.

Deacon Konstantinos is succeeding the Rev. Fr. Peter Thornberg, who faithfully served as the Metropolis Youth Director for the past year! He has already eagerly assumed his new responsibilities, which will include the Metropolis-wide youth programs of Camp Good Shepherd, the annual Hellenic Folk Dance Festival, the Oratorical Festival, and the Annual GOYA Olympics, as well as overseeing all of the various regional and parish youth events and ministries.



# Holy Protection of the Theotokos

Courtesy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America  
[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)



## Reading

The Feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the tenth century, as recorded in the life of Saint Andrew the Fool for Christ's sake. While the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, the friend of Saint Andrew, through the Saint's prayers, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful and spreading out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing

protection of all Christians. Because of this we keep a yearly feast of gratitude, imploring our Lady never to cease sheltering us in her mighty prayers.

## [Apolytikion of Holy Protection of the Theotokos](#)

### *Fourth Tone*

O Virgin, we extol the great grace of thy Protection, which thou didst spread out like a bright cloud beyond all understanding; for thou dost invisibly protect thy people from the foe's every assault. Since we have thee as our shelter and certain help, we cry to thee with our whole soul: Glory to thy great deeds, O most pure Maid. Glory to thy shelter most divine. Glory to thy care and providence for us, O spotless one.

## [Kontakion of Holy Protection of the Theotokos](#)

### *Third Tone*

Let us the faithful hasten to the Theotokos now and venerate her sacred veil, as we chant unto her, singing hymns to praise and honour her, as is fitting; for she shelt'reth with her shelter and all her faithful flock and preserveth them unharmed from all calamities, as they cry to her: Rejoice, Protection most radiant.

# Lord, Do I Really Love You?

By: Father Joshua Pappas, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Courtesy of [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

"It's my first day of school!" shouted an exuberant Chrysostom as he woke up Friday morning, standing on his bed. His puffy morning eyes were hidden in a countenance beaming with light.

Sadly, but naturally, the exuberance won't last. The compelling momentum of the "new" will fade. There will be mornings of unrelenting whininess; mornings of defiant stubbornness; of tired laziness; of distraction with a game or toy. There will be mornings when, as parents, we'll feel no joy in tending to an infant while preparing two uncooperative kids for school. It may even feel hellish.

When those mornings come, the real test begins. Chrysostom will continue to go to school, every day and on time, whether he likes it or not. His feelings, and our parental feelings, won't dictate anything, no matter the cost (and parents often pay a heavy cost).

Our forced faithfulness to school – our unwavering commitment – will communicate a message that penetrates deeply into the soul of young, impressionable Chrysostom.

The message, without needing to say a word about it, is this: "School is of utmost value, and nothing will get in the way of it." School is precious and nonnegotiable.

God-willing (and only God knows when), Chrysostom will gradually realize the value of sacrifice in preserving a worthy commitment. (Much patience and prayer may be required of parents, and even then, there's no guarantee). God-willing, values and their inevitable sacrifices will be engrafted on his heart. He'll become a man of sacrifice, a man of character.

Every sensible parent shares the same commitment, a commitment that often reflects a very human desire: for our children to be viable members of society. We don't want them to "live in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work" (2 Thess. 3:11). We want them to be like St. Paul, who says, "We didn't eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor, we worked day and night, so that we might not burden any of you" (2 Thess. 3:8).

Neediness terrifies us. We want our children to be successful, professionally and socially, not just for viability but also to enjoy a certain stature in life. And we're meticulously careful to tend to their worldly success.

*Imagine if we cared for our children's spiritual success – their eternal souls – with the same ferocity.* We're less inclined that way, for the fruits aren't as obvious. But the importance is greater, for what is more important than our children's relationship with Christ, a relationship that determines their fulfillment in life and bears eternal influence?

Everything we do communicates a message. Who we are radiates to those around us. This is why St. John Chrysostom says, "A pattern of life is what is needed, not empty speeches; character, not cleverness, deeds, not words. These things will secure the Kingdom and bestow God's blessings."<sup>[1]</sup>

As we begin the new ecclesiastical and academic year, we should consider what message we're sending to our children, to our subconscious selves, and to God. What is my pattern of life, and what does it communicate about



me? Consider a few doable spiritual commitments that might send a soul-penetrating message:

Come to Divine Liturgy every Sunday, and on time. We don't skip school or work when things are difficult, and we would be embarrassed to be tardy for such important activities.

After Liturgy, reflect on "the meaning of the [Epistle and Gospel] readings" (St. John Chrysostom).<sup>[2]</sup> Ask your kids what they learned in Sunday School.

Pray briefly every morning and evening with reverence, even if your kids aren't attentive.

Fast on Wednesdays and Fridays. Christ was betrayed by Judas on Wednesday and gave up His life on the Cross on Friday. Remember His love, His willing sacrifice, and give Him heightened conscientiousness and a small sacrifice those days by simplifying your diet, removing the tastiness of meat and dairy.

Keep less for yourself, do less for yourself, and give away more. Tell your children about your giving of alms, about the social needs you're supporting, and why you're doing it. Have them participate, if possible. Tell your children about your stewardship in this parish: how you offer your time, your skills, and your money in significant ways, because everything we have comes from God.

If we don't attend Liturgy regularly and on time; if we don't pray; if we don't fast; if we don't discuss spiritual things in the home; if we don't sacrificially look past our desires in order to see the needs of the parish and the world – all of this communicates a message. The message is this: "God isn't really that important. We fit Him in when there's time, and when it's convenient. There are other more pressing priorities."

*God isn't looking for more members of the parish. God isn't looking for religious consumers: people who come to church to get something. He's looking for disciples: those willing to leave important things behind to follow something (Someone) of much greater importance. Discipleship is an orientation – a pattern of life – that involves commitment, action, sacrifice. The Church is a hospital where we're healed, but St. Paul also refers to the Church as an athletic training ground and battlefield.*

In the end, one thing matters: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). Love is a commitment, and not an easy one. Love means I put you first. Love entails sacrifice. Love has concrete expressions. Love is never willy-nilly, according to changing feelings and circumstances.

As we enter the new ecclesiastical and academic year, let's keep in our hearts as much as possible the two most important questions: Lord, do I really love You? How am I showing my love for You?

In Christ,  
Fr. Joshua Pappas  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
Grand Rapids, MI

# MEMORIALS

## *In memory of*

### ***Sylvia (Sevasti) Cornias***

Mrs. Mary Serafis  
Mr & Mrs. Michael Klosteridis  
Ms. Anthie Zairis  
Ms. Maria Salpeas  
Ms. Catherine Riddle  
Mrs. Metaxia Chryssomallis  
Mr. & Mrs. George &  
Maria Kornias & Effie  
The Rologas Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Theoharis  
Mrs. Soulla Kapetanakos  
Ms. Theresa C. Akerman-Ihle  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Katina Yianakis  
Mrs. Patricia A. Konkolic  
Dr. Michael & Karen Riger  
Mrs. Amalia Syropoulos  
Ms. Kristie Nicols  
Nikolaos & Chrysanthi Karanikolis  
Michael & Effie Moniodis  
James & Argyrenia Maurakis  
Mrs. Anastasia Vasilakopoulos  
Ms. Sofia Xouri  
Helen Bisbikis & Family  
Ms. Stavroula Christakou  
Frank & Irene Vasilios  
Chuck & Olga Paterakis  
Mr. George Skandalis  
Mrs. Efstathia Verinakis  
Maria & Jerry Charping  
Holden & Christina Hodges  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Cornias  
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Atsalis  
Manoli & Joanne Salpeas  
Mrs. Maria Verinakis  
Mrs. Maritsa Souranis  
Mrs. Maria Kalambihis  
Mr. & Mrs. John &  
Despina Pikounis  
George & Diane Stavros

## *In Memory of Evangelia Yialouris*

Michael & Effie Moniodis

## *In memory of Kalliopi (Penny)*

### ***Tserkis Mullins***

Nicolas & Dimitra Douskas  
Mr. & Mrs. George & Angie Basil  
Mrs. Amalia Syropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. James Fotinos

## *In memory of Pantelis Tserkis*

Mrs. Amalia Syropoulos

## *In memory of Eugenia Kalis*

Mr. George Skandalis  
Mrs. Nomiki Bouloumbassis  
Mr. Maritsa Souranis

## *In memory of Antonios Sfiriou*

Mr. & Mrs. George &  
Maria Kornias & Effie  
Mrs. Amalia Syropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

## *In memory of Linda Skandalis*

Mr. George Skandalis

## *In memery of Argyro Vatakis*

Helen & Harry Harris

## *In memory of Demetrios Avgerinos*

Mr. & Mrs. George &  
Maria Kornias

## *In memory of Kalliopi Kornias*

Mr. & Mrs. George &  
Maria Kornias

## *In memory of Maria K. Nicolaidis*

Mrs. Arezina (Roza) Cornias  
John & Irene C.M. Angelos  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis  
Mr Antonios Sazaklis

## *In memory of Demetrios Cavouras*

Ladies Philoptochos Society of  
Saint Nicholas

## *In memory of Vasilios Trintis*

Mr. & Mrs. George & Elaine  
Demetriadis  
Mrs. Maritsa Souranis

## *In memory of Gerasimos Fotinos*

Mrs. Arezina (Roza) Cornias  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

## *In memory of Irene Pappas*

Mrs. Arezina (Roza) Cornias

## *In memory of Zoe Paros Maltas*

Kalliopi & George Lintzeris

## *In memory of:*

***Nicholas Pantoulis, Aristotelis  
(Teli) Stroumbis), Bill Koutrelakos,  
Eugenia Kalis, Edward Weitzel,  
Sevasti Cornias, John, Nicholas,  
Irene, Evanthia, Lallas***

**AND**

***All Greek and Armenian Orthodox  
Christians who perished at the  
hands of the Turks during the  
Catastrophe of Smyrni, Asia Minor  
in September, 1922.***

From Ms. Eva Lallas





Celebration of the Ordination of  
**His Grace Constantine Moralis Bishop of Sassima**  
**PANTA AXIOS - ΠΑΝΤΑ ΑΕΙΟΣ**

**Sunday, October 23, 2022**

**4:00pm to 8:00pm Martin's West**

(6817 Dogwood Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244 )

**Dinner followed by Community Dance—Music by Zephyros**



Tickets are: \$50/Ages over 12 ~ \$30/ages 6 to 12 ~ Free/5 and under

To RSVP, fill out the Ticket RSVP form located:

<https://forms.gle/1J2P3tbPJcPNXqcP8>

or scan the Ticket QR code and follow the instructions.

Tables consist of 10 seats.

Payment options will appear once your RSVP is submitted.

Checks and Credit Cards are accepted.

**RSVP By October 2, 2022. Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.**



Tickets QR Code

We are also offering sponsorships to help defray some of the cost. Each sponsor level, consist of a certain amount of tickets and front area seating.

**Diamond - \$2000 (10 Tickets)**

**Gold - \$1000 (4 tickets)**

**Silver - \$500 (2 tickets)**

All sponsors will be acknowledged in the program and at the event. The deadline to sponsor is September 18, 2022.



GIFT QR Code

For anyone interested in participating in His Grace Bishop Constantine's Elevation gift of Hierarchical Vestments & Liturgical Items, fill out the Gift Form located: <https://forms.gle/2brtiMWbVJ1n3JZw6> or scan the Gift QR Code and follow the instructions. Your Name(s) will be acknowledged at the Event.

If you have any questions or to become a sponsor, contact Rhoula Monios/443-625-9898, Nikki Monios/443-930-0404, Eleni Roros/443-621-0587 or at [frdeans25th@gmail.com](mailto:frdeans25th@gmail.com)

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH- BALTIMORE-MARYLAND

### Notice of General Assembly Sunday, November 13, 2022

Pursuant to the regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the By-laws of the Greek Orthodox Community of Saint Nicholas, Baltimore, Maryland, the date of the General Assembly meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, November 13, 2022, following Sunday services promptly.**

According to Church By-Laws, those persons wishing to participate, and vote must pay their Stewardship up to the date of the Assembly. A regular member of the Parish who is already enrolled in the Parish register but has neglected to pay his/her stewardship may pay the same day and before the beginning of the Assembly in order to participate and vote.

All members of the Community are urged to attend this Parish Assembly meeting, because it is important. It is also our duty as members of the Community of Saint Nicholas to come and offer our support for the progress of the community. Your presence is mandatory to establish a quorum. PLEASE ATTEND.

From the Priest and Parish Council of Saint Nicholas

## ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΒΑΛΤΙΜΟΡΗ, ΜΑΙΡΥΛΑΝΤ

### ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ ΓΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΣΥΝΕΛΕΥΣΗΣ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 13 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ, 2022

Σύμφωνα με τους Ομοιομόρφους Κανονισμούς των Κοινοτήτων της Ιεράς Αρχιεπισκοπής Αμερικής, και τους Εσωτερικούς Κανονισμούς της Κοινοτήτάς μας, καλούμε Γενική Συνέλευση των μελών, **την Κυριακή, 13 Νοέμβριου, 2022 αμέσως μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία.**

Σύμφωνα με τους Εσωτερικούς Κανονισμούς της Κοινοτήτας, όσοι επιθυμούν να συμμετέχουν και να ψηφίσουν στην Συνέλευση, οφείλουν να έχουν εκπληρώσει τις προς την Κοινότητα οικονομικές τους υποχρεώσεις, Εθελοντική Προσφορά, μέχρι και την ημέρα της Συνέλευσης. Κανονικό μέλος της Κοινοτήτας που ήδη έχει εγγραφεί στο Κατάλογο των μελών αλλά δεν έχει εκπληρώσει τις οικονομικές του υποχρεώσεις μπορεί να πληρώσει την ίδια ημέρα και πριν την έναρξή της για να συμμετέχει και να ψηφίσει.

#### ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΑ ΔΙΑΤΑΞΗ

Όλα τα μέλη της Κοινοτήτας προτρέπονται να λάβουν μέρος στη Συνέλευση, διότι

θασυζητηθούν θέματα σοβαρά. Επίσης σαν μέλη της Κοινοτήτας του Αγίου Νικολάου, είναι καθήκον μας να συμμετέχουμε στις Συνελεύσεις και να εκφράζουμε την υποστήριξή μας και τη γνώμη μας, για το καλό και την πρόοδο της Κοινοτήτας. ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΕΙΣΤΕ ΝΑ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΕΧΕΤΕ. Από τον Ιερέα και το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο.

## ΤΟ ΗΡΩΙΚΟ "ΟΧΙ"

Che fece... il gran rifiuto

Σε μερικούς ανθρώπους έρχεται μια μέρα  
 Που πρέπει το μεγάλο Ναι ή το μεγάλο Όχι  
 Να πούνε. Φανερώνεται αμέσως όποιος τόχει  
 Έτοιμο μέσα του το Ναι, και λέγοντας το πέρα  
 Πηγαίνει στην τιμή και στην πεποίθσι του.  
 Ο αρνηθείς δεν μετανιώνει. Αν ρωτιούνταν πάλι,  
 Όχι θα ξαναέλεγε. Κι όμως τον καταβάλλει  
 Εκείνο το όχι – το σωστό- εις όλην την ζωή του.

Κ.Π. Καβάφης

Με αυτό το ποίημα, ο μεγάλος ποιητής Κ.Π. Καβάφης μιλάει για την δυνατότητα των ανθρώπων να παίρνουν μεγάλες αποφάσεις για τη ζωή τους. Υπάρχουν πολλοί που δεν έχουν την δύναμη να το κάνουν ή άλλοι που έχουν αφήσει την ζωή τους να κυλά χωρίς να περιμένουν κάτι από αυτήν. Στους άλλους ανθρώπους όμως, που παλεύουν για τη ζωή και τα όνειρά τους και τους στόχους τους, έρχεται αυτή η μέρα που πρέπει να αποφασίσουν κάτι σπουδαίο, να απαντήσουν σε ένα μεγάλο δίλημμα ή σε μια δύσκολη πρόταση. Σ' αυτό το δίλημμα ήρθε κάποτε λοιπόν ο Ελληνικός Λαός και σίγουρα δεν το μετάνιωσε!

**Η 28<sup>η</sup> Οκτωβρίου** είναι μια ημέρα, που γράφτηκε στην ιστορία θυμίζοντας σε όλους τους Έλληνες παγκοσμίως το ηρωικό «ΟΧΙ» της Ελλάδας στον Ιταλό δικτάτορα, Μουσολίνι. Η ιταλική κυβέρνηση απέστειλε στην Ελλάδα τελεσίγραφο με το οποίο και απαιτούσε την ελεύθερη διέλευση του ιταλικού στρατού από τα Ελληνοαλβανικά σύνορα προκειμένου στη συνέχεια να καταλάβει κάποια στρατηγικά σημεία της Ελλάδος. Η απάντηση της κυβέρνησης του Ιωάννη Μεταξά στο τελεσίγραφο ήταν αρνητική.

*"Αυτό λοιπόν σημαίνει πόλεμο"*

Συνέπεια της άρνησης αυτής ήταν η είσοδος της χώρας μας στο Β΄ Παγκόσμιο Πόλεμο και η έναρξη του Ελληνοϊταλικού πολέμου του 1940.

Οι εδαφικές ιδιαιτερότητες στα βουνά της Πίνδου καθώς και η απροσδόκητα μεγάλη αντίσταση του Ελληνικού στρατού κατάφεραν να κρατήσουν τους Ιταλούς έξω από τα Ελληνικά σύνορα.

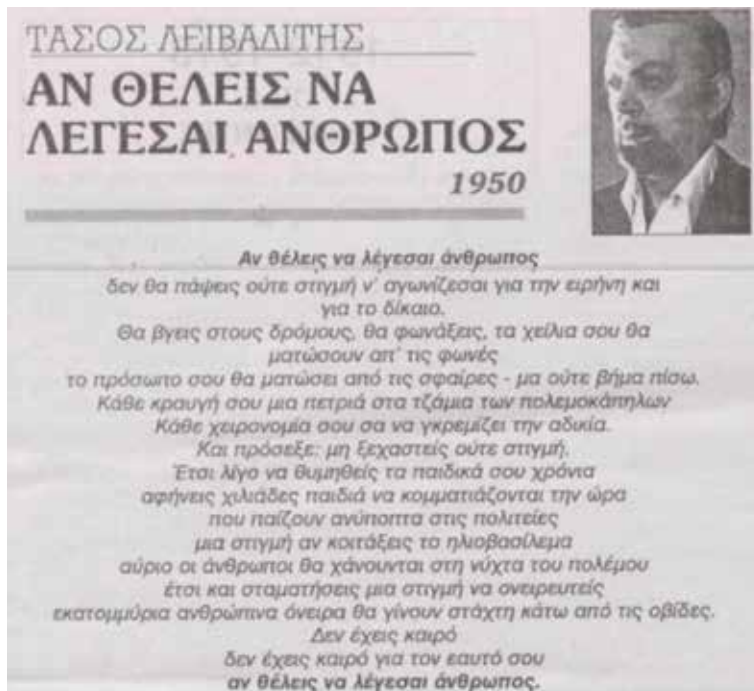


*"Η επέτειος του ΟΧΙ"*

Η ημέρα αυτή σημάδεψε την Ελλάδα και έμεινε γνωστή ως **επέτειος του "ΟΧΙ"**. Καθερώθηκε να εορτάζεται στην Ελλάδα κάθε χρόνο ως επίσημη εθνική εορτή και αργία.

Οι περισσότερες χώρες συνηθίζουν να γιορτάζουν την λήξη ενός πολέμου, και την έλευση της ειρήνης. Αντιθέτως, η Ελλάδα γιορτάζει την είσοδο της στον πόλεμο του '40! Για την Ελλάδα, δεν είχε σημασία το αποτέλεσμα. Για την Ελλάδα, μια τόσο μικρή και στρατιωτικά αδύναμη χώρα, η δύναμη του να πεις όχι, η δύναμη να αντισταθείς και να προσπαθήσεις για το ανευφικτο αποτελεί αφορμή για να γιορτάσουμε. Το θάρρος, η γενναιότητα και η ανθρωπιά που έδειξαν οι Έλληνες μέσα από τον αγώνα τους ενάντια στη σκλαβιά και τον φασισμό, αποτελεί αφορμή για να γιορτάσουμε. Η αγάπη για την πατρίδα που με τόσες θυσίες

υπερασπίστηκαν, αποτελεί αφορμή για να γιορτάσουμε. Αξίζει, λοιπόν, και με το παραπάνω να εορταστεί και να τιμηθεί αυτή οι επέτειος από όλο το Ελληνικό έθνος.



Η επέτειος του "ΟΧΙ" ξεκίνησε λοιπόν να γιορτάζεται από την πρώτη κιόλας χρονιά παρά το γεγονός ότι η χώρα μας ήταν υπό Ιταλο-γερμανική κατοχή. Στο κεντρικό κτίριο και στον προαύλιο χώρο του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών πραγματοποιήθηκε ο πρώτος εορτασμός στις 28 Οκτωβρίου 1941.

Για πρώτη φορά επίσημα εορτάστηκε στις 28 Οκτωβρίου 1944 με παρέλαση ενώπιον του πρωθυπουργού Γεωργίου Παπανδρέου. Λόγω του ότι η χώρα βρισκόταν ακόμη υπό κατοχή ακολούθησαν συλλήψεις.

Σήμερα, ελεύθεροι πλέον, γιορτάζουμε την εθνική αυτή επέτειο υπενθυμίζοντας σε όλους πως ακόμα και το πιο μικρό κράτος έχει την δύναμη να πει ΟΧΙ σε ότι απειλεί την ελευθερία του. Αυτή την ημέρα, στην Αθήνα και σε άλλες πόλεις της Ελλάδας διεξάγονται μαθητικές παρελάσεις. Όλα τα σχολεία διοργανώνουν εορταστικές εκδηλώσεις προς τιμήν του αγώνα των Ελλήνων προγόνων μας. Ως σύμβολο υπερηφάνειας για τον ένδοξο αγώνα της αντίστασης, η Ελληνική σημαία ανεμίζει σε πολλά σπίτια.

*Γνωρίζουν άραγε τα παιδιά εδώ σήμερα τι ακριβώς γιορτάζει η Ελλάδα την 28η Οκτωβρίου; Για ποιο λόγο έχει μείνει στην ιστορία η ημέρα αυτή; Νιώθουν υπερήφανοι για την χώρα από την οποία κατάγονται;*

Για να μάθουν λοιπόν οι νεότεροι και να θυμηθούν οι μεγαλύτεροι, το Ελληνικό Σχολείο του Αγίου Νικολάου διοργανώνει και φέτος εορταστική εκδήλωση προς τιμήν της ένδοξης αντίστασης του '40. Σας προσκαλούμε να γιορτάσουμε όλοι μαζί με αφηγήσεις, τραγούδια, ποιήματα και θεατρικές παραστάσεις από τους μικρούς μας μαθητές, τα μικρά μας Ελληνόπουλα. Σας περιμένουμε όλους την Κυριακή στις 30 Οκτωβρίου μετά την Λειτουργία.

Ελληνικό Σχολείο Αγίου Νικολάου

THE HEROIC "OHI"  
Che fece ... il gran rifiuto

For some people it comes a day  
when either the great Yes or the great No  
needs to be said. It's clear at once who has  
ready within him the Yes, and by saying it,

he follows the path of honor and conviction.  
The denier does not regret. Asked again,  
he would still say no. Yet it torments him  
that no—the right one — all his life.

K.P. Cavafy

## THE HEROIC "OHI"

Che fece ... il gran rifiuto

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The denier does not regret. Asked again,  
he would still say no. Yet it torments him  
that no—the right one — all his life.

K.P. Cavafy

With this poem, the great poet K.P. Cavafy talks about the ability of people to make big decisions. There are many of them who do not have the strength to do so or others who have let their lives flow with no expectations. But for other people, those who are fighting for their lives and their dreams and their goals, that day comes when they have to decide something big, answering to a big dilemma or a difficult proposition. So the Greek people once came to this dilemma and they certainly do not regret it! October 28<sup>th</sup> is a benchmark date by all Greeks around the globe reminding the heroic "OHI" of the Greek folk said with decisiveness to the Italian dictator Mussolini.

On October 28<sup>th</sup> 1940, Benito Mussolini issued an ultimatum demanding the cession of Greek territory, which the Prime Minister of Greece, Ioannis Metaxas, rejected.

### *"This means war"*

The consequence of this rejection was the participation of our country into the World War II and the beginning of the Greek-Italian war of 1940. The mountainous terrain on the Albanian-Greek border and the unexpectedly tenacious resistance by the Greek Army stopped the Italian invasion just inside Greek territory.

### *"The Anniversary of "OHI""*

This day left a scar to Greek history and is known since then as the anniversary of "OXI". It was established to be celebrated in Greece each year as an official national holiday.

Most of the countries are accustomed to celebrating the end of a war, and the advent of peace. Greece, on the other hand, is celebrating the beginning of the 1940s war! For Greece, the effect of the war didn't matter. The courage of such a small and militarily weak country, to say no to the enemy, the incredible strength shown to resist and to try for the impossible, against all odds, the bravery and the humanity along with all the sacrifices made by the Greek people in order to defend their homeland against military occupation and fascism was something remarkable which needs to be remembered and honored.

The anniversary of "OHI" began to be celebrated for the first time since the first year despite the fact that our country was under Italian-German occupation. In the main building of the University of Athens, the first celebration was held on October 28, 1941.

It was officially celebrated on 28 October 1944 with a parade in front of Prime Minister George Papandreou. Due to the fact that the country was still under occupation, arrests followed.

Nowadays, the 28<sup>th</sup> of October is the day to celebrate the anniversary of 'OHI' and to remind everyone that even a small country has the right to say NO to anything that threatens its liberty. This day, student parades take place in Athens as well as in other cities of Greece, while schools organize festive events to honor the struggle of our Greek ancestors. As a symbol of national pride, the Greek flag waves in every home reminding everyone the tenacious resistance of our country against the enemy.

Do children know what exactly is Greece celebrating on October 28th? Why is this day in history? Are they proud of their country of origin?

In order to help the youngest to learn and the older ones to remember, our Greek School of St. Nicholas is organizing this year's program on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> to honor of the 40's resistance. Following Church Service, we invite you to celebrate together with narratives, songs, poems and performances by our students, our new Greek generation. Save the date!

Saint Nicholas Greek School Team

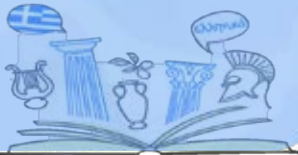
# GREEK SCHOOL



520 Ponca St,  
Baltimore, MD 21224



**SAINT  
NICHOLAS  
GREEK  
EVENING  
SCHOOL**



## Our Program



**Greek Language Classes**  
Pre-k - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Ellinomathia Preparation**  
All levels  
A1-A2, B1-B2, C1-C2



**Greek Traditional  
Dance Classes**



**REGISTRATIONS  
2022-2023**

**OPEN**

# Enroll Now!!



**410-633-5022**



**Online Adult Classes**  
All Levels



<https://stnicholasmd.org/academics.php?page=Greek%20School-Registration#top>

✉ [stngreekschool@gmail.com](mailto:stngreekschool@gmail.com)



# 100 CENTENNIAL 1922-2022 PILGRIMAGE

LED BY HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
ELPIDOPHOROS OF AMERICA



## CAPPADOCIA

- Among the many sites visit Goreme Open Air Museum to see the Byzantine rock churches, the Underground City of Kaymakli (Anakou), the old Greek cities of Sinassos, Aravissos & much more Attend the Divine Liturgy celebrated by H.A.H. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at the Ancient Rock Church.

## SMYRNA

Tour the city including the old Greek section & the promenade by the sea. A full day tour to Ephesus where St Paul preached the Gospel & was imprisoned. See the Library of Celsus, & the Basilica of St. John. Tour Pergamon, the northern most of the seven churches of Asia & visit the Pergamon Altar, the Asclpion



## CONSTANTINOPLE

- Experience the Queen of Cities by visiting sites sacred to the Orthodox faith: The Sacred Center of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Hagia Sophia, the Theological School of Halki, Panagia Vlacherna, Baloukli Monastery, and celebrate the Feast Day of the H.A.H Ecumenical Patriarch Batholomew!

**12 NIGHTS  
14 DAYS**



PRICE:  
**\$4850 DOUBLE  
\$5800 SINGLE**



DATE  
**MAY 31- JUNE 13**



Reserve your spot today by contacting  
Cloud Tours at (718)721-3808 and  
[stephen@cloudtours.com](mailto:stephen@cloudtours.com)

## NOTICES

### SPONSOR A COFFEE HOUR

We have resumed the Coffee Hour following the Divine Liturgy on Sundays. Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour in memory of a loved one, for the health of your family, or in honor of our St. Nicholas Church.

Please call the office at **410-633-5020** to schedule.

*Thank you  
for your  
support!*



#### **HELP US GROW THROUGH E-GIVING**



It's through your contributions that we're able to carry on important work both spiritually and in our community.

Electronic giving is a convenient, easy way to support St. Nicholas.

By giving electronically, you can:

- Give anywhere, anytime from your computer, smartphone or tablet.
- Donate easily for special projects.
- Set up recurring offerings and pledges and never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again.

Show your support and try one of our e-Giving options. If you would like to give electronically, visit our website [www.stnicholasmd.org](http://www.stnicholasmd.org) or download the GivePlus mobile app.

Thank you for all you do to support our St. Nicholas family throughout the year!



#### NOTICE:

**All organizations must review their upcoming events with Maria Salpeas (410-633-5020) who will add the event to the official church calendar on the bulletin board across from Father Michael's office.**

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

Thoughts on Life  
Count your life by  
smiles not tears;  
count your age by  
friends, not years.

- Anonymous





*Especially  
Now*

## St. Nicholas eGiving Stewardship

**One Less Thing**  
*to think about*

### *eGiving Benefits*

- Easy set up
- One-time/recurring payment options
- Confidential & secure
- Track easily for tax purposes

### *How it Works*

- Go to: [stnicholasmd.org/give](http://stnicholasmd.org/give)
- Select fund(s)
- Create your profile
- Select amount, payment method & frequency
- Complete donation
- THAT'S IT! Simple.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Give yourself *One Less Thing* to think about  
**[stnicholasmd.org/give](http://stnicholasmd.org/give)**



## MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE CARD ΚΑΡΤΑ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ

“OUR CHURCH. OUR SPIRITUAL HOME.”

“Η ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΜΑΣ. ΤΟ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΙΚΟ ΜΑΣ ΣΠΙΤΙ.”

### 2021 SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CONFIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD 2021 ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ –ΚΑΡΤΑ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΗΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ ΜΕΛΩΝ

In gratitude for God's blessings I/we make the following commitment to the ministries of St. Nicholas Church:  
Σαν έκφραση ευγνωμοσύνης μου για τις ευλογίες που έχω λάβει από τον Θεό, δεσμεύομαι με την ακόλουθη οικονομική και εθελοντική μου προσφορά προς την Εκκλησία του Αγίου Νικολάου:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Weekly / Monthly / Quarterly / Yearly)  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Εβδομαδιαίως / Μηνιαίως / Ανά Τρίμηνο / Ετησίως)  
TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGE FOR 2022 :\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Συνολικό ποσό προσφοράς για το 2022 :\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Come and See God work through your talents, skills, and experience, as well as your financial support.  
Your offering to Christ and His Church can do as much as you empower it to do.

We give to Christ and His Church not according to our means but according to our love for Him.  
Γίνετε μάρτυρες του έργου του Θεού! Δώστε από το ταλέντο με το οποίο σας έχει προικίσει, με τις ικανότητες, τις εμπειρίες, την οικονομική σας ευχέρεια. Η προσφορά μας στον Χριστό και την Εκκλησία Του ας βασιστεί στην αγάπη μας προς Αυτόν, όχι στην οικονομική μας δυνατότητα.

Planned Giving \_\_\_\_\_ Please send me information on making a planned gift to the Church.  
Δωρεά που σχεδιάζω \_\_\_\_\_ Παρακαλώ στείλτε μου πληροφορίες σχετικά με τον τρόπο που μπορώ να προσφέρω να δωρίσω.

Print Full Name/ Γράψτε με κεφαλαία γράμματα το επίθετό σας

Signature/ Υπογραφή

Date/ Ημερομηνία

Name / Ονομα	Date of Birth / Ημερομ. Γεννήσεως
Name of Spouse / Ονομα συζύγου	Date of Birth / Ημερομ. Γεννήσεως
Occupation / Επάγγελμα	
Occupation / Επάγγελμα (Spouse)	
Street Address / Ιλεούθυση	
City / πόλη	Zip Code / ταχ. τομέας
Home Phone / Σταθερό τηλέφωνο σπιτιού	
Mobile Phone / Κινητό τηλέφωνο	Mobile Phone / Κινητό τηλέφωνο (Spouse)
Email Address / Ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση	
Email Address of Spouse / Ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση συζύγου	
Communication Preferences / Προτιμήσεις επικοινωνίας	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail / Ταχυδρομείο <input type="checkbox"/> Email / Ηλεκτρονική <input type="checkbox"/> Text / Μήνυμα	
Dependent Children's Names and Birthdates / Ονόματα παιδιών και ημερομηνία γεννήσεώς τους	

### Introducing Auto Pay Set It and Forget It!

Take the work out of giving! Set up automatic offerings and pledges right from your computer or tablet that will seamlessly reoccur every week, month, quarter, or year.

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website [www.stnicholasmd.org/give](http://www.stnicholasmd.org/give) or download the GivePlus mobile app. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 410-633-5020.



ΕΙΣΑΓΩΓΗ ΣΤΟΝ  
ΑΥΤΟΜΑΤΟ ΤΡΟΠΟ  
ΠΛΗΡΩΜΗΣ  
ΡΥΘΜΙΣΤΕ ΤΟ ΚΑΙ ...  
ΞΕΧΑΣΤΕ ΤΟ!

Δεν χρειάζεται να θυμάστε να στείλετε τη προσφορά σας. Ρυθμίστε την αυτόματη δωρεά και την εθελοντική σας προσφορά απευθείας από τον υπολογιστή σας ή το tablet σας που θα επαναλαμβάνεται ανελλιπώς κάθε εβδομάδα, μήνα, τρίμηνο ή έτος.

Εάν επιθυμείτε να στείλετε τη δωρεά σας ηλεκτρονικά, επισκεφθείτε την ιστοσελίδα μας [www.stnicholasmd.org/give](http://www.stnicholasmd.org/give) ή κατεβάστε την εφαρμογή GivePlus mobile. Εάν έχετε απορίες, επικοινωνήστε με το Γραφείο της Εκκλησίας στο τηλέφωνο 410-633-5020.

The DIAMONDS of Saint Nicholas  
**CRAB FEAST**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022  
AT THE PLATEIA**



TIME: 4:00 p.m.

Price: \$55.00 per person

INCLUDES CRABS, CORN ON THE COB, FOOD, REFRESHMENTS,  
BEER, COFFEE AND DESSERT

For more information or to buy tickets  
please call the President of DIAMONDS,  
Mrs. Rose Tsakalos 410-282-2940, or the Church Office 410-633-5020

**Thank you for your support!**

# 2022 PLEDGES-\$187,620.00 / Payments-\$180,055.00 / Balance-\$7,565.00

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 MRS POLYCHRONIS ELENI  
 MR/MRS PROTOPAPAS EMMANUEL &  
 MR/MRS QHIAKIO MIRO &  
 MR/MRS REPPAS SOTERIOS &  
 MR/MRS ROBERTS BRIAN  
 MR/MRS ROUFAS VASILIS

# 2022 PLEDGES-\$187,620.00 / Payments-\$180,055.00 / Balance-\$7,565.00

MR/MRS ROUSSOS ANTHONY &  
MS SALPEAS MARIA  
MR/MRS SARIOGLOU YIANNI  
MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS JOHN  
MR/MRS SISAMIS IOANNIS &  
MR SIFARAS BASIL C.  
MRS SOURANIS STANLEY  
MRS STAMIDES GEFSI  
MR/MRS STAMIOULIS GEORGE  
MR/MRS SYRJCEK CHRISTOPHER  
MR TARATSIDES GEORGE  
MR THEMELIS JOHN  
MR TRIANTAFILOS NICHOLAS  
MS TSAMOUTALIS DESPENA  
MR/MRS TSAMPOS- KELLY,  
MR/MRS TSERKIS VASILIOS &  
MRS VASILAKOPOULO ANASTASIA  
MR/MRS VASILIADES ANTONIOS  
MR/MRS VENETIS DIMITRIOS &  
MRS VIZANTARIS EVANGELINE  
MS XOURI SOFIA

MR/MRS ROXANIS DEAN & SOULA  
MR SAMARAS PETER GEORGE  
MR SAZAKLIS ANTONIOS  
MS SFIRIOU ANTONIA  
MR/MRS SISKOS PARASKEVAS  
MR SKANDALIS GEORGE  
MR/MRS STAKIAS MICHAEL &  
MRS STAMIDES SOFIA  
MR/MRS STAVLAS JERRY  
MRS SYROPOULOS AMALIA  
MR/MRS TASKER DALE &  
MISS THEMELIS STELLA  
MRS TRINTIS THORINA  
MR/MRS TSAMPOS GEORGE  
MR. TSAPADIKIS- NIKOLAOS-  
MR/MRS TSIRONIS NICK &  
MS VASILAKOPOULO IRENE  
MR/MRS VASILIOS FRANK  
MRS VERENAKIS MICHAEL &  
MR VOURGARAKIS HARRY  
MR/MRS VIANAKIS STEVE &

MR/MRS SAKELLIS GEORGE  
MR/MRS SARIGIANIS- THOMAS &  
MRS SERAFIS MARY  
MR SFIRIOU ANTONIOS  
MR/MRS SISKOS STEFANOS  
MR/MRS SOURANIS MICHAEL &  
MR/MRS STAKIAS STELIOS &  
MR/MRS STAMIDIS ANASTASIOS &  
MR/MRS STEWART JOHN  
MR/MRS SYROPOULOS NICHOLAS  
MRS TETTERIS RHODEA  
MR/MRS THEOCHARIS EMMANUEL  
MS TSAKALOS JEANETTE  
MR/MRS TSAMPOS MICHAEL &  
MR/MRS TSAPAKIDIS- THEOCHARIS-  
MR TZAVARIS DEMOSTHENIS  
MR/MRS VASILAKOPOULO IRENE  
MS YATAKIS TESSIE  
MR VERGOS GEORGE  
MR/MRS YOURVOULAS SOPHIA

MR/MRS SAKPAZIS IOANNIS  
MRS SARIOGLOU ANASTASIA  
MR/MRS SFAKIANOS NICHOLAS  
MR/MRS SIGAMBIRIS HARRY  
MR/MRS SISKOS- PARASKEVAS-  
MRS SOURANIS PARASKEVI  
MR STAMATIOPOULO NICK  
MR/MRS STAMIDIS- PEREZ CHRISOULA  
MR/MRS STOUPAKI SYRM ANNA  
MRS TARATSIDES ATHENA  
MR/MRS THEMELIS JOHN & RENEE  
MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS COSTAS &  
MRS TSAKALOS ROSE  
MR/MRS TSAMPOS- KELLY-  
MR/MRS TSERKIS GEORGE  
MR/MRS TZAVARIS STYLIANOS-  
MRS VASILAKOPOULO PARASKEVI  
MRS VAVAKAS KIRIAKI  
MR/MRS VERGOS JOHN  
MS VOXAKIS SAMANTHA

We are excited to have begun the new Ecclesiastical year with **Sunday School**

Students who are in church by 10:00 a.m. will sit in the front pews until after the Holy Gospel and Father's sermon. We will then dismiss to Sunday School.



Sunday School classes are from pre-k to tenth grade. We would love to have more volunteers as aides and teachers. We will take volunteers from high school juniors to adults. Please email [stnicholassundayschool@yahoo.com](mailto:stnicholassundayschool@yahoo.com), if you are willing and able to give back to the church in this way.

High Schoolers!!

We can offer you community service hours for your service.

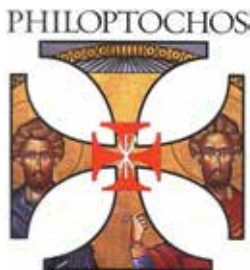
Με ενθουσιασμό ξεκινάμε τη νέα Εκκλησιαστική χρονιά!! Οι εγγραφές του Κατηχητικού Σχολείου

Αν οι μαθητές βρίσκονται στην Εκκλησία στις 10:00 το πρωί θα κάθονται στα μπροστινά στασίδια, μέχρι την ανάγνωση του Ευαγγελίου και μετά το τέλος του Κηρύγματος του Ιερέα. Στη συνέχεια θα αναχωρούμε για τις τάξεις του Κατηχητικού Σχολείου.

Το Κατηχητικό Σχολείο αρχίζει με παιδιά του Προνηπιαγωγείου και συνεχίζει μέχρι και τη Δεκάτη Τάξη. Χρειαζόμαστε περισσότερους εθελοντές ως βοηθούς και δασκάλους. Δεχόμαστε ως εθελοντές βοηθούς και δασκάλους, νέους τελειόφοιτους Γυμνασίων έως και ενηλίκους.

Αν ενδιαφέρεστε παρακαλείστε να στείλετε e-mail στο [stnicholassundayschool@yahoo.com](mailto:stnicholassundayschool@yahoo.com). Αν είστε πρόθυμοι και ικανοί να επιστρέψετε κάτι πίσω στην Εκκλησία σας κατ' αυτό το τρόπο.

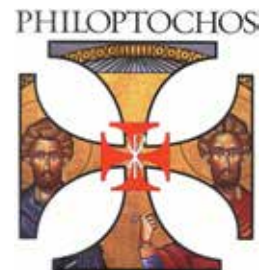
Προσφέρουμε στους μαθητές Γυμνασίων Πιστοποιητικό Κοινοτήτων Υπηρεσιών (Community Service).



## Saint Nicholas Philoptochos Harvest Night Out

Monday, October 24, 2022  
Liberatore's Ristorante  
5005 Honeygo Center Drive  
Perry Hall, Maryland 21128  
6:00 p.m.

Donation \$40  
Cash Bar  
Proceeds to benefit the missions of Philoptochos





**United Chios Societies of Baltimore**

# **Holiday Light Show Bus Trip**

## **Longwood Gardens**

**Saturday, November 19, 2022**

**Departure @1pm / Return 9:30 pm**

**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**

**520 Ponca Street Baltimore Maryland 21224**

**RSVP by October 27, 2022**

**Vaso Koumoudis 443-844-0802 or**

**Irene Komninos 443-562-1198**

**Light refreshments &  
snacks provided on bus**



**\$75 / plus the cost of your meal**  
**Indoor & Outdoor Events Dress Accordingly**



# FINANCIALS

## Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Church and Greek School January - August 2022

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4000 Stewardship	138,722.00	137,440.00	1,282.00
4010 Greek School Registration	10,085.01	1,670.00	8,415.01
Other Income	179,291.14	123,125.50	56,165.64
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>328,098.15</b>	<b>262,235.50</b>	<b>65,862.65</b>
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>28,741.96</b>	<b>25,520.00</b>	<b>3,221.96</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>299,356.19</b>	<b>236,715.50</b>	<b>62,640.69</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Total CAPITAL COSTS (CHURCH)	16,809.89	6,965.00	9,844.89
Total GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	159,177.85	167,195.50	(8,017.65)
Total OCCUPANCY COSTS	53,004.58	47,554.00	5,450.58
Total PAYROLL EXPENSES	196,484.21	181,448.75	15,035.46
Total YOUTH AND EDUCATIONAL	90.00	2,500.00	0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>425,566.53</b>	<b>405,663.25</b>	<b>19,903.28</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(126,210.34)</b>	<b>(168,947.75)</b>	<b>42,737.41</b>

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4815 Eastern AVE Mortgage Principal Payments	\$ 4,515.64
<b>OVERALL CHURCH SURPLUS (LOSS) (Operating and Mortgage)</b>	<b>(\$130,725.98)</b>

## Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Learning Center January - August 2022

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4011 Learning Center Income	559,352.31	768,499.00	(209,146.69)
<b>Total 4011 Learning Center Income</b>	<b>559,352.31</b>	<b>768,499.00</b>	<b>(209,146.69)</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>559,352.31</b>	<b>768,499.00</b>	<b>(209,146.69)</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>559,352.31</b>	<b>768,499.00</b>	<b>(209,146.69)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>LEARNING CENTER</b>			
Total Payroll Expense (L.C.)	368,836.26	476,204.00	(107,367.74)
Total Food and Classroom Supplies (L.C.)	21,902.67	31,120.00	(9,217.33)
Total Admin and Office Expenses (L.C.)	20,441.21	31,203.00	(10,761.79)
Total Occupancy Expenses/Cap Improvements (L.C.)	34,288.82	31,111.00	3,177.82
<b>Total LEARNING CENTER</b>	<b>445,468.96</b>	<b>569,638.00</b>	<b>(124,169.04)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>445,468.96</b>	<b>569,638.00</b>	<b>(124,169.04)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>113,883.35</b>	<b>198,861.00</b>	<b>(84,977.65)</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
State and Local Grants	42,554.00	0.00	42,554.00
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 42,554.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 42,554.00</b>
<b>Net Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 42,554.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 42,554.00</b>
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 156,437.35</b>	<b>\$ 198,861.00</b>	<b>(42,423.65)</b>

# FINANCIALS

## Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Plateia January - August 2022

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4140 Plateia Income (Onsite)	119,666.88	211,660.00	(91,993.12)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>119,666.88</b>	<b>211,660.00</b>	<b>(91,993.12)</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
<b>COST OF GOODS SOLD</b>			
Total Plateia CGS Expenses	41,378.95	77,520.00	(36,141.05)
<b>Total COST OF GOODS SOLD</b>	<b>41,378.95</b>	<b>77,520.00</b>	<b>(36,141.05)</b>
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>41,378.95</b>	<b>77,520.00</b>	<b>(36,141.05)</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>78,287.93</b>	<b>134,140.00</b>	<b>(55,852.07)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>PLATEIA EXPENSES</b>			
Total Occupancy Expenses (Plateia)	64,484.64	62,721.50	1,763.14
Total Payroll Expenses (Plateia)	9,056.08	35,729.00	(26,672.92)
Total Admin Expenses (Plateia)	10,363.11	10,460.00	(96.89)
Total Bus Dev/Marketing Expenses (Plateia)	9,915.00	11,680.00	(1,765.00)
<b>Total PLATEIA EXPENSES</b>	<b>93,818.83</b>	<b>120,590.50</b>	<b>(26,771.67)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>93,818.83</b>	<b>120,590.50</b>	<b>(26,771.67)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(15,530.90)</b>	<b>13,549.50</b>	<b>(29,080.40)</b>

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR - OCTOBER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2	SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9	THIRD SUNDAY OF LUKE: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16	HOLY FATHERS 7th ECUMENICAL COUNCIL: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23	SIXTH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25	GREAT VESPER SERVICE ( AT ST. DEMETRIOS CHURCH): 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26	ST. DEMETRIOS THE MYRRBEARER (AT ST. NICHOLAS): Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28	THE HOLY PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND THE CELEBRATION OF "OXY DAY": Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30	FIFTH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am