

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**

SUNDAY MARCH 13, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (ORTHODOX SUNDAY)

WELCOME ALL VISITORS:

On behalf of the Parish Council, Fr. Michael, the Church Staff, and the entire St. Nicholas family we would like to welcome all our visitors who have come to worship with us today. If you need any assistance please approach any of our Parish Council members and they will assist you. You are also invited to the Coffee Hour downstairs after Church. We thank you for visiting our Community and hope that your experience was a memorable one.

GODPARENTS SUNDAY:

On behalf of the entire St. Nicholas Community, we would like to welcome all the Godparents along with their Godchildren who have come today to worship with us in faith. Today we celebrate **GODPARENTS DAY**, and we want to take this opportunity to thank them for making this day a special event for our Church and Community. This is a great opportunity to bring back the beautiful memories that you shared together as a family. It is suggested that when the Godparents come forward with their children to receive Holy Communion, it is proper that they both receive the Holy Eucharist together. May the Lord our God continue to bless all of you with much health, joy, and happiness.

LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE:

Memorial services will be chanted today in memory of our departed members of the Ladies Philoptochos Society. Let's take a moment to look back and honor the members of the great Philanthropic Organization who have offered to our Church, our Community at large, our Metropolis, our Archdiocese, and most important of all, the support and dedication that they have given to the poor and less fortunate of the world through the years. May the souls of the departed members of the Philoptochos Society rest in peace and may their memory be eternal. May God Bless our Philoptochos Society.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

A 3 year Memorial will be chanted today in memory of our sister in Christ, Aglaia Rigopoulos. May her soul rest in peace and may her memory be eternal.

PROCESSION OF THE HOLY ICONS:

Immediately following the Memorial service, we will conduct the procession of the Holy Icons. The First Sunday of Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy) represents the Triumph of the Orthodox Church. The Church recalls its victory over the Iconoclasts heresy and other heresies and gratefully remembers all who fought for the Orthodox Faith, and our Heritage. We have the faith of the Apostles, the blood of our brave Martyrs, our heritage and traditions to base 2,000 years of Church History. In honor of this historical celebration, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sunday School Teachers and Students, and also the members of the parish Council for their participation in this celebration.

SECOND TRAY:

A second tray will be passed out today to acknowledge and support the crucial work of the Philoptochos Sisterhood of the Metropolis of New Jersey. Your support will always make a difference in the lives of countless persons who need the help of this Sisterhood. This is a true example of Almsgiving that we are supposed to give during this Lenten Season. May this Holy and Great Lent period bring all of you many blessings, love, humility, patience, kindness, and every good virtue that we need for our salvation as we journey together to our Lord's glorious Resurrection from the Tomb.

LITURGICAL PROGRAM:

Monday, March 14: Compline Service: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 16: Presanctified Liturgy: 7:00 pm

Friday, March 18: Second Salutation Service: 7:00 pm

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 14: Greek school Classes: 4:45 pm to 7:45 pm
Parish Council Meeting: 5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 16: Greek School Classes: 4:45 pm to 7:45 pm

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 ww.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.

FR. MICHAEL'S ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL THE CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS:

If any Church Organization is planning to hold meetings during the Lenten Period, they must have their meetings on days that there are no liturgical services. Please look in the March and April Koinonia Newsletter for the Liturgical program and arrange your meetings accordingly.

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS: SPECIAL NOTICE:

NO MEMORIAL SERVICES WILL BE CHANTED ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY'S. SUNDAY MARCH 27TH(VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS) APRIL 17TH (PALM SUNDAY) APRIL 24TH(HOLY PASCHA) APRIL 1ST(SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS)