

62 YEARS



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

KOINONIA
HIGHLIGHTS

Message from FR. MICHAEL L. PASTRIKOS, PROTOPRESBYTER

In a few weeks on Sunday, April 16, 2017 we will be greeting everyone with the spiritual words of "Christ is Risen, Truly He is Risen". Certainly "The Feast of Pascha" is the most significant of all Festivals in our Orthodox Church and why shouldn't it be, for on Saturday's evening service we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ from the dead, and if even there was a reason to be joyful, surely this is it, is it not? What really fascinates me writing this Pascal article is the fact that on the first day of the week, at early dawn they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared to anoint the body of Christ. This as you know is a Jewish Custom to anoint their dead at burial. But when they came to the tomb they found the huge stone rolled away, and they found no one in the tomb. You would think after all the journeys, the teachings, the miracles, the spiritual moments with Christ- that His Disciples would be the ones to wake up the next morning to go and see if what Christ said and did throughout His Ministry on earth was true. And if we look back during the Crucifixion - Where his disciples present? Where they there at the footsteps of the Cross? Did they stand by Him so the world can see that Christ had true disciples that really loved Him and cared for Him? Even Peter who Christ had so much love and respect for denied him 3 times. The only disciple that was at the Cross was John. Out of the 12 one returned. This reminds me of the parable of the 10 Lepers, only one returned to say thank you to the Lord. Let's get back to the subject of the "Tomb". Who woke up early to be with Christ? It was the women, Mary Madeline, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. These are the courageous women who stood by the Cross of Christ. But they were amazed when they reached the tomb and it was empty. When the women told this story to the disciples Peter was the first to run to the tomb and he found the tomb empty also and he was amazed. We might ask ourselves this question? Why did the women go to the tomb? Did they travel to the tomb with expectations? Where they truly caring, faithful, and courageous to the end for Jesus? Did they come looking for closure? Did they have any knowledge or clues about Jesus that were different from their male counterparts? You know we all strive to find closure on painful events in our lives so that we can move on. This whole ordeal with Christ



took 3 years. Three years is quite enough time to really know someone and believe in him. These women had traveled with Jesus, they ate with Him, and they listened and laughed and cried with Him. They shared hopes and dreams as to where all this was going to lead them. And when they saw their Savior hung on a wooden Cross, imagine what went through their thoughts. All hope and dreams were shattered. But where they? It all stems on the (Open Tomb). If they didn't find an Open Tomb-

then there is no reason even for me to continue writing this article. There would be no reason for anyone to believe that there is a God or that there is hope, or there will be a Resurrection for all His children. The women and the disciples were filled with questions, wondering, fear, and despair. They were gathered together looking at each other so they can make some sense out of all of this. They started to think back on what Jesus taught them but they were also confused by all the events that took place. Today we stand at the empty tomb looking and finding more questions than answers. This does not sit well with us because in our culture we want answers now and not suggestions... Every year we go through the Liturgical calendar and we are faced with the "Paschal Season" and for some of us this season is always an interesting one. This is a season where we fast, pray, meditate, more than other seasons. This is an emotional season; it touches the very core of our being, the core of our faith. To really come out and say "What do we believe? Did Jesus rise from the dead? Are the promises true that Christ made to His children? Why should we not fear death? Is there a Resurrection for us? Will we be with Christ after we pass this life?"

If you read the Bible then you should know that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and what He promised all this will come true. So if we believe that there is a Resurrection for everyone then death does not have the final say. Death will come to all of us, but for the Christians it is a gateway to eternal life. A place where we can truly be at home. A passage which is not to be feared but celebrated. So in conclusion, we need to practice our faith and truly believe that Christ went on that Cross to bring salvation to the entire world. "CHRIST IS RISEN" "TRULY HE IS RISEN".

May you have a Blessed Pascha!!

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Μήνυμα Από τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρικό

Σε λίγες εβδομάδες, την Κυριακή 16 Απριλίου, 2017, θα χαιρετούμε ο ένας τον άλλο με τα πνευματικά λόγια “Χριστός Ανέστη, Αληθώς Ανέστη. Σίγουρα “Η Γιορτή του Πάσχα” είναι η πιο σημαντική όλων των εορτών στην Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία μας, δεν θάπρεπε να είναι; αφού στην Ακολουθία το βράδυ του Μεγάλου Σαββάτου γιορτάζουμε την Ανάσταση του Χριστού από τους νεκρούς; Αυτό όμως που πραγματικά με παρακινεί να γράψω το Πασχαλινό αυτό άρθρο είναι το γεγονός ότι την πρώτη ημέρα της εβδομάδας, νωρίς το πρωί, ήρθαν στον τάφο, φέροντας μοίρα που είχαν προετοιμάσει για να αλείψουν το σώμα του Χριστού. Αυτό όπως ξέρετε είναι ένα εβραϊκό έθιμο να χρίζουν τους νεκρούς τους κατά τη ταφή. Αλλά όταν ήρθαν στον τάφο βρήκαν τη τεράστια πέτρα παραμερισμένη, και ο τάφος ήταν κενός. Θα πίστευε κανείς ότι μετά από όλες τις διαδρομές, τις διδασκαλίες, τα θαύματα, τις πνευματικές στιγμές με το Χριστό, οι μαθητές Του θα ήταν αυτοί που θα ξυπνούσαν το επόμενο πρωί, για να πάνε να δούνε αν αυτό που είπε και έκανε καθ’όλη τη διακονία Του στη γη ο Χριστός, ήταν αλήθεια. Και αν κοιτάζουμε πίσω κατά τη διάρκεια της Σταύρωσης - Ήταν οι μαθητές του παρόντες; Ήταν εκεί στα πόδια του Σταυρού; Μήπως στέκονταν δίπλα σ’ Αυτόν, ώστε ο κόσμος να δει ότι ο Χριστός είχε αληθινούς μαθητές που τον αγάπησαν πραγματικά και φρόντιζαν γι’ Αυτόν; Ακόμα και αυτός ο Πέτρος που ο Χριστός του είχε τόσο πολύ αγάπη και σεβασμό, τον αρνήθηκε τρεις φορές. Ο μόνος μαθητής που ήταν δίπλα στο Σταυρό ήταν ο Ιωάννης. Από τους 12 ένας επέστρεψε. Το γεγονός αυτό μου θυμίζει την παραβολή των 10 λεπρών, μόνο ένας επέστρεψε για να πει ευχαριστώ στον Κύριο. Ας επιστρέψουμε πίσω στο θέμα του «Τάφου». Ποιος ξύπνησε νωρίς για να είναι με τον Χριστό; Ήταν οι γυναίκες, η Μαρία Μαγδαληνή, η Ιωάννα και η Μαρία η

μητέρα του Ιακώβου. Αυτές ήταν οι θαρραλέες γυναίκες που στέκονταν κοντά στο Σταυρό του Χριστού. Ήταν όμως έκπληκτες όταν έφτασαν τον τάφο και τον βρήκαν άδειο. Όταν οι γυναίκες ανέφεραν αυτό το γεγονός στους μαθητές, ο Πέτρος ήταν ο πρώτος που έτρεξε στον τάφο και τον βρήκε επίσης άδειο, και έμεινε κι αυτός έκπληκτος. Θα μπορούσαμε να αναρωτηθούμε; Γιατί οι γυναίκες πήγαν στον τάφο; Μήπως πήγαν στον τάφο με προσδοκίες; ενδιαφέρονταν πραγματικά, πιστά και θαρραλέα, μέχρι το τέλος για τον Ιησού; Μήπως έρχονταν ψάχνοντας για το τέλος; Μήπως είχαν καμία γνώση ή ενδείξεις για τον Ιησού ότι ήταν διαφορετικός από τα αρσενικά αντίθετα μέρη τους; Ξέρετε όλοι μας προσπαθούμε να βρούμε το τέλος με οδυνηρά γεγονότα στη ζωή μας, έτσι ώστε να μπορούμε να προχωρήσουμε. Όλη αυτή η δοκιμασία με τον Χριστό διήρκεσε 3 χρόνια. Τρία χρόνια είναι αρκετό χρονικό διάστημα για να γνωρίσει κανείς πραγματικά κάποιον και να πιστέψει σε αυτόν. Αυτές οι γυναίκες είχαν ταξιδέψει μαζί με τον Ιησού, είχαν γευματίσει μαζί Του, και άκουσαν και γέλασαν και έκλαψαν μαζί Του. Μοιράστηκαν ελπίδες και όνειρα για το πού όλα αυτά θα τους οδηγούσαν. Και όταν είδαν το Σωτήρα τους κρεμασμένο στο ξύλινο Σταυρό, φανταστείτε τι ασκέφθηκαν. Όλες οι ελπίδες και τα όνειρά τους, γκρεμίστηκαν. Αλλά γκρεμίστηκαν; Όλα ξεκίνησαν από τον ανοιχτό τάφο. Αν δεν έβρισκαν τον Τάφο ανοικτό - τότε δεν θα υπήρχε κανένας λόγος, ακόμη και για μένα να συνεχίσω το γράψιμο αυτού του άρθρου. Δεν θα υπήρχε λόγος για κανέναν να πιστεύει ότι υπάρχει Θεός ή ότι υπάρχει ελπίδα, ή θα υπάρξει Ανάσταση για όλα τα παιδιά Του. Οι γυναίκες και οι μαθητές, είχαν απορίες, ερωτήσεις, φόβο, και απελπισία. Είχαν συγκεντρωθεί όλοι μαζί κοιτάζοντας ο ένας τον άλλο, ώστε να μπορέσουν να βγάλουν κάποιο νόημα από όλα αυτά. Αρχισαν

να ξανασκέφτονται αυτά που ο Ιησούς τους δίδαξε, αλλά απορούσαν, επίσης, από όλα τα γεγονότα που συνέβησαν. Σήμερα βρισκόμαστε μπροστά στον άδειο τάφο αναζητώντας και βρισκοντας περισσότερες ερωτήσεις παρά απαντήσεις. Αυτό δεν μας ικανοποιεί, γιατί στον πολιτισμό μας θέλουμε απαντήσεις τώρα και όχι προτάσεις ... Κάθε χρόνο περνώντας από το Λειτουργικό ημερολόγιο βρισκόμαστε αντιμέτωποι με την «πασχαλινή περίοδο» και για μερικούς από εμάς αυτή τη περίοδο είναι πάντα ενδιαφέρουσα. Είναι μια εποχή όπου νηστεύουμε, προσευχόμαστε, και σκεπτόμαστε περισσότερο από άλλες εποχές. Είναι μια συναισθηματική εποχή, αγγίζει τον ίδιο τον πυρήνα της ύπαρξής μας, τον πυρήνα της πίστης μας. Για να εκφράσει και να πει “Τι πιστεύουμε; Άραγε ο Ιησούς αναστήθηκε από τους νεκρούς; Πραγματοποιήθηκαν οι υποσχέσεις που ο Χριστός έκανε για τα παιδιά του; Γιατί δεν θα πρέπει να φοβόμαστε τον θάνατο; Υπάρχει και για μας Ανάσταση εκεί; Θα είμαστε μαζί με τον Χριστό αφού περάσουμε αυτή τη ζωή;

Εάν διαβάσετε το Ευαγγέλιο, τότε θα καταλάβετε ότι ο Ιησούς Χριστός είναι ο Κύριος και Σωτήρας μας και ό, τι υποσχέθηκε θα γίνει πραγματικότητα. Έτσι, αν πιστεύουμε ότι υπάρχει Ανάσταση για όλους τότε ο θάνατος δεν έχει τον τελικό λόγο. Ο θάνατος θα έρθει σε όλους μας, αλλά για τους χριστιανούς είναι μια πύλη προς την αιώνια ζωή. Ένα μέρος όπου μπορούμε πραγματικά να θεωρούμε σπίτι μας. Ένα πέρασμα που δεν πρέπει να φοβόμαστε αλλά να πανηγυρίζουμε. Έτσι, κλείνοντας, συνιστώ ‘οτι θα πρέπει να ασκούμε την πίστη μας και πραγματικά πιστεύω ότι ο Χριστός Σταυρώθηκε για να φέρει τη σωτηρία σε ολόκληρο τον κόσμο. “ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ” “ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ”.

~ The Koutsonouris and The Andreas & Paraskevi Kaikis Memorial Scholarship Programs ~

The Koutsonouris Memorial Scholarship application is now available to be picked up at the church office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This year we are also having another scholarship to be awarded for One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) which is the Andreas and Paraskevi Kaiki s Memorial Scholarship.

Deadline for both applications is April 23, 2017. Scholarships will be awarded Sunday, May 21, 2017.

Applications may be returned to the church office or given to Parish Council Member Mary Serafis.

Mary Serafis
Scholarship Chairperson



Message from

DEMOS ANASTASIADES, PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT / ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟ

Dear Parishioners,

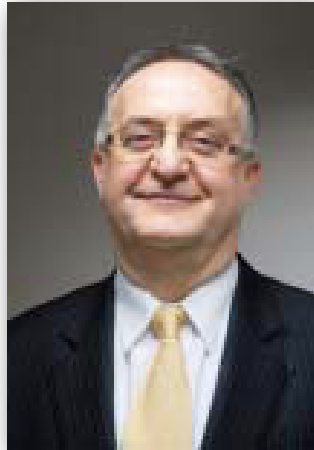
With Pascha fast approaching, let us all make every effort to attend our ancient and moving services held during Holy Week. Father Michael, Chanters, Choir, Parish Council and Philoptochos are finalizing their plans for the various services and activities that beautify our Saint Nicholas Church during these solemn days that lead up to Pascha. We ask that you come and receive the Lord's blessings as we commemorate the holiest observance of the Greek Orthodox ecclesiastical year--the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Let us not forget that not too far in the future our Annual Greek Folk Festival will be held on June 8-11, 2017! Our festival is a COMMUNITY event, and we need you to volunteer to make this festival a success. Whether it be for food preparation, setting up or working during the festival, we need everyone!

We are asking businesses to purchase an advertisement for the ad book which is distributed throughout the 4 days to all attendees. We also need volunteers to reach out to people and businesses to sell these ads. Experienced or non-experienced cashiers are needed to run the registers. We will train you! Is there anyone interested in keeping track of the inventory items? We need you! There is a job for young and old who are willing and able to volunteer in the various areas of the festival. JUST GET INVOLVED!

With my sincerest wishes for a glorious Easter,

In Christ,
Demos Anastasiades
Parish Council President



Αγαπητοί Ενορίτες,

Με το Πάσχα να πλησιάζει, ας καταβάλουμε όλοι κάθε δυνατή προσπάθεια να παρακολουθήσουμε τις πανάρχαιες και τόσο συγκινητικές Ακολουθίες που τελούνται κατά τη διάρκεια της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας. Ο Πατέρας Μιχαήλ, οι Ψάλτες, η Χορωδία, το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο και η Φιλόπρωχος βρίσκονται στο τελικό στάδιο προγραμματισμού των διαφόρων Ακολουθιών και δραστηριοτήτων και των ομορφαινούν την Εκκλησία μας του Αγίου Νικολάου, κατά τη διάρκεια αυτών των εορταστικών ημερών, οι οποίες μας οδηγούν στο Πάσχα. Σας ζητούμε να εκκλησιαστείτε και να λάβετε τις ευλογίες του Κυρίου όπως επίσης να τιμήσετε την Εορτή των Εορτών της Ελληνορθόδοξης Πίστεως - την Ανάσταση του Κυρίου και Σωτήρα μας, Ιησού Χριστού!

Ας μην ξεχνάμε ότι το Ετήσιο Ελληνικό Λαϊκό μας Πανηγύρι πλησιάζει, δεν είναι πολύ μακριά, θα γίνει στις 8, 9, 10 και 11 Ιουνίου, 2017! Υπενθυμίζουμε σε όλους ότι το Φεστιβάλ είναι μια εκδήλωση συνεργασίας ολοκλήρου της Κοινότητας, προς όφελος της Εκκλησίας μας, των δραστηριοτήτων και των Αποστολών της. Ως εκ τούτου, είναι χριστιανική υποχρέωσή μας να προσφέρουμε εθελοντικά, και να προσπαθήσουμε όσο μπορούμε να κάνουμε αυτό το Φεστιβάλ καλύτερο από ποτέ. Είτε πρόκειται για την προετοιμασία των φαγητών, τη προετοιμασία των περιπτέρων ή την εργασία κατά τη διάρκεια του Φεστιβάλ, σας χρειαζόμαστε όλους! Ζητάμε από τις επιχειρήσεις να αγοράσουν μια διαφήμιση για το διαφημιστικό βιβλίο, που δίνουμε και τις 4 ημέρες σε όλους τους επισκέπτες. Χρειαζόμαστε επίσης εθελοντές να επικοινωνήσουν με άτομα και επιχειρήσεις για να πουλήσουν αυτές τις διαφημίσεις. Ακόμη χρειαζόμαστε έμπειρους ή μη έμπειρους ταμίες για τη λειτουργία των ταμειακών μηχανών. Εμείς θα τους εκπαιδεύσουμε! Χρειαζόμαστε κάποιον να κάνει την παρακολούθηση και την απογραφή της αποθήκης. Σας χρειαζόμαστε! Υπάρχει δουλειά για μικρούς και μεγάλους, πρόθυμους και ικανούς να εργαστούν εθελοντικά στα διάφορα περίπτερα του Φεστιβάλ. Απλά κάντε το βήμα και ελάτε!

Με τις πιο ειλικρινείς μου ευχές ΚΑΛΟ ΠΑΣΧΑ!!

Με θερμές ευχές εν Χριστώ,
Δήμος Αναστασιάδης,
Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου

The Church would like to start interviewing parishioners who either volunteer their time or work at below market wages for our beloved St. Nicholas Church. The interviews will be shown on the large video screen in the Atrium after Church services and at various times when people are at the Church. Interview scripts have already been prepared and a list of people to be interviewed is being developed.

*To get this started, the Church is **seeking someone who would be interested in contacting the volunteers on our list and to conduct the interviews.** It should actually be a lot of fun. The interviews will start with Father Michael, then Demos and followed by our Board members. Next, the interviews will include everyone else who supports the Plateia and our many Church and Church-affiliated organizations.*

This is what you will need to do:

1. Contact the individuals on our interview list,
2. Set-up interview dates,
3. Coordinate with our videographer who will professionally record the interviews, and
4. Conduct the interviews...

If you are interested in being the interviewer, please notify the Church office or tell someone on the Parish Council.

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners,

On behalf of Father Michael Pastrikos and the St. Nicholas Parish Council, I wish all of you Kali Sarakosti. I pray that this Lenten season will serve as yet another opportunity for you and your families to come closer to our Lord Jesus Christ through prayer, fasting, reflection & worship.

As we all know, the Lenten period consists of numerous services both during the week as well as the weekend. As a result, we will be seeing more parishioners than usual coming to church to worship.

In an effort to accommodate everyone, the Parish Council has taken some measures to ensure adequate and sufficient parking. Many of you are already aware of the signs posted in the parking lot which clearly indicate the rules of parking. They are as follows:

PRIVATE PARKING

**Parking lot is owned by St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
& Greektown Square & Event Center**

NO OVERNIGHT PARKING PERMITTED

**from the hours of
2 am to 7 am**

SUNDAYS

7 am to 2 pm

Church Parishioner Parking Only

All violators will be towed at vehicle owner's expense

NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PERMITTED

Parishioners must have a St. Nicholas parking permit sticker placed on their car's windshield. You can obtain a parking permit from the church office by paying your 2017 stewardship. However, please note that even with a parking permit, if you park your car overnight in the lot, it will be towed. NO EXCEPTIONS. Neither the church secretary nor Father Michael have the authority to exempt anyone from adhering to the parking lot rules.

In order to help the Parish Council maintain order and safety during the busy Lenten season, I kindly ask everyone's cooperation in following the parking lot rules.

On behalf of Father Michael and the St. Nicholas Parish Council, I wish all of you a most holy and blessed Lenten season.

With Love In Christ,

Demos Anastasiades, St. Nicholas Parish Council President

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PROTOPRESBYTER FR. MICHAEL PASTRIKOS, PASTOR Tel: 410-633-5020 • Fax: 410-633-4352 • Cell: 443-742-8314

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MARIA SALPEAS

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY

AMALIA SYROPOULOS-KOSTRIVAS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NURSERY AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN:
LIA KARAGIANOPOULOS, ROSE KOSTAKIS
KINDERGARTEN: YANA KARABELAS, AIDE-NIKI CANNING
1ST GRADE: PENNY GERAPETRITIS, AIDE-LEMONIA
2ND GRADE: NIKOL AKALESTOS, JENNA STAKIAS
3RD GRADE: KRISTINA ANASTASIADES, 3RD GRADE
4TH GRADE: GEORGE KARAGIANOPULOS,
AIDE-ELENI PIKOUNIS
5TH GRADE: STAVROULA SAKELAKIS,

SUNDAY SCHOOL continued

AIDE-MARKELLA CORNIAS
6TH GRADE: MARIA FILIPPOU,
AIDE-FLORA GIAKOUMAKIS
7TH GRADE: CHRISSY COSSIS,
8TH GRADE: FOULA PARAGIOS
9TH GRADE: PHAEDRA AVGERINOS
10TH GRADE: VASILI PHILIPPOU

AFTERNOON GREEK SCHOOL

CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK SCHOOL COMMITTEE &
DIRECTOR OF THE GREEK SCHOOL:

STAMATIA IEROMONAHOS

TEACHERS:

CHARA RONTOULI-BACHER
DESPINA CHATZAKOU-LARENTZOS
KALLIOPI PEROS-VASILIADIS
STELLA TZINI-MOSHONISIOTIS
EIRINI ANASTASIOU-TSIATSOULI
ASIMINA BLETSA-FILIPPAKIS
ELENI MASTORAS
DANCE TEACHER: ZENOVIA (JENNA) D. STAKIAS

GREEK SCHOOL P.T.A.

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ASMINA BITSANIS-PERIVOLA, VICE-PRESIDENT
VASILIKI KARANIKOLAS, RECORDING SECRETARY
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PANAYIOTA ALAFASSOS, TREASURER
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IMPORTANT NOTICE: **KOINONIA DEADLINE**

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

ISSUE MONTH: MAY 2017 - SUBMISSIONS DUE: APRIL 20th

Please email your article(s) to:
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.*

Thank you for your consideration!



The Lord's Entry Into Jerusalem

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

Courtesy of the Orthodox Church in America
www.ora.org

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

Today Christ enters the path not only of His sufferings but of that dreadful loneliness which enshrouds Him during all the days of Passion week. The loneliness begins with a misunderstanding; the people expect that the Lord's entry into Jerusalem will be the triumphant procession of a political leader, of a leader who will free his people from oppression, from slavery, from what they consider godlessness – because all paganism or idol-worship is a denial of the living God. The loneliness will develop further into the dreadful loneliness of not being understood even by His disciples. At the Last Supper when the Saviour talks to them for the last time, they will be in constant doubt as to the meaning of His words. And later when He goes into the Garden of Gethsemane before the fearful death that is facing Him, His closest disciples, Peter, John and James – whom He chose to go with Him fall asleep, depressed, tired, hopeless. The culmination of this loneliness will be Christ's cry on the cross, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Abandoned men, rejected by the people of Israel

He encounters the extreme of forsakenness and dies without God, without men, alone, with only His love for God and His love for mankind, dying for its sake and for God's glory.

The beginning of Christ's Passion is today's triumphal procession; the people expected a king, a leader – and they found the Saviour of their souls. Nothing embitters a person so much as a lost, a disappointed hope; and that explains why people who could receive Him like that, who witnessed the raising of Lazarus, who saw Christ's miracles and heard His teaching, admired every word, who were ready to become His disciples as long as He brought victory, broke away from Him, turned their backs on Him and a few days later shouted, "Crucify Him, crucify Him." And Christ spent all those days in loneliness, knowing what was in store for Him, abandoned by every one except the Mother of God, who stood silently by, as she had done throughout her life, participating in His tragic ascent to the Cross; she who had accepted the Annunciation, the Good Tidings, but who also accepted in silence Simeon's prophecy that a sword would pierce her heart.

During the coming days we shall be present – not just remember, but be present – at Christ's Passion. We shall be part of the crowd surrounding Christ and the disciples and the Mother of God; as we hear the Gospel readings, as we listen to the prayers of the Church, as one image after another of these days of the Passion passes before our eyes, let each one of us ask himself the question, "Where do I stand, who am I in this crowd? A Pharisee? A Scribe? A traitor, a coward? Who? Or do I stand among the Apostles?" But they too were overcome by fear. Peter denied Him thrice, Judas betrayed Him, John, James and Peter went to sleep just when Christ most needed human love and support; the other disciples fled; no one remained except John and the Mother of God, those who were bound to Him by the kind of love which fears nothing and is ready to share in everything.

Once more let us ask ourselves who we are and where we stand, what our position in this crowd is. Do we stand with hope or despair, or what? And if we stand with indifference, we too are part of that terrifying crowd that surrounded Christ, shuffling, listening, and then going away; as we shall go away from church. The Crucifix will be standing here on Thursday and we shall be reading the Gospel about the Cross, the Crucifixion and death – and then what will happen? The Cross will remain standing, but we shall go away for a rest, go home to have supper, to sleep, to prepare for the fatigues of the next day. And during this time Christ is on the Cross, Christ is in the tomb. How awful it is that, like the disciples in their day, we are not able to spend one night, one hour with Him. Let us think about this, and if we are incapable of doing anything, let us at least realise who we are and where we stand, and at the final hour turn to Christ with the cry, the appeal of the thief, Remember me, Lord, in Thy Kingdom. Amen.

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Courtesy of the Orthodox Archdiocese of America
www.goarch.org

Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Saviour on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. On the morrow, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested for the whole day. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulchre with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulchre, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there became as dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulchre, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Saviour was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.

As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Saviour's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honour of the Lord; in honour and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labour that was formerly assigned to the Sabbath of the ancient Law.



Apolytikion Of Great And Holy Pascha Plagal Of The First Tone

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Kontakion Of Great And Holy Pascha Plagal Of The Fourth Tone

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.



DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

In memory of George Soulikas

John & Jennifer Roros
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Skordalos
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moniodis & Family
John & Despina Pikounis
Gus & Angela Sfakianoudis
John & Angeliki Sfakianoudis
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George & Kiki Roros
Dimitrios & Politimi Roros
Mrs. Mary Serafis

In memory of Lemonia Stavrou

Mr. & Ms. George Kornias
Effie Filipidis, Maria & Nicoletta
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Skordalos
Ms. Maria Salpeas
John & Despina Pikounis
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Mr. & Mrs. Aristides Polychronis
Mrs. Kiki Vavakas
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In memory of Eleni Forakis

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John & Jennifer Roros
John & Despina Pikounis
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Mr. Chris Angelopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Susan Wallen
Mrs. Anastasia Vasilakopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Irodotos Reppas
Mrs. Kiki Vavakas

In memory of Theodora "Dora" Patras

Mr. & Mrs. Geore Katsafanas
Mrs. Angeliki Hatzidakis
Saint Nicholas "DIAMONDS"
Mrs. Mary Serafis
Mr. & Mrs. John & Irene Voxakis
Mr. Christopher Glase
Mrs. Anastasia Vasilakopoulos
Mrs. Koula Dragogiakis
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Trikoulis
Michael & Sophia Katsaros

Mrs. Rosa Cornias
George & Maria Georgas
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Verinakis
Mr. Christ Angelopoulos
Ms. Jean Drizos
Ann & Steve Janowjch

In memory of Thrasivoulos "Lucky" Christ

Mr. & Mrs. Clemis Kaikis
Mrs. Mary Serafis
Ms. Maria Salpeas
Mrs. Irene Vavas
Mrs. Maria Kalambihis
Mr. & Mrs. Stergos Trintis
Mrs. Despina Cornias
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Mrs. Rose Tsakalos
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Mrs. Fotini Anastasis
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Mrs. Rosa Cornias
Mrs. Koula Proakis
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Mrs. Maritsa Souranis
Mrs. Antigoni Apesos
Mr. & Mrs. Gabriel Pantelidis
Mr. Christ Angelopoulos

In memory of Eleftheria Perdikakis

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vasilios
Ms. Maria Salpeas
Mrs. Sofia Kaliakoudas
Mrs. Despina Glykiadis

In memory of Evangelia Agapios

Mrs. Maria Salpeas
Mr. Jordan Orpa

In memory of Emily Spanos

Mrs. Madaline Karnavas

In memory of Andreas & Paraskevi Kaikis

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vasilios

In memory of Eleni Derempeidou

Michael & Effie Moniodes
Mrs. Despina Cornias
Mrs. Helen Pikounis

In memory of Ernest, Freda

& Mavroudis Angelopoulos
Mr. Christ Angelopoulos

In memory of Alexandros Vasilios

Mr. & Mrs. John & Irene Voxakis
Mr. Goerge Skandalis
Mrs. Rosa Cornias

In memory of Sophia Magoulas

Ms. Susan A. Kuhn

In memory of George W. Roros

Mrs. Rosa Cornias
Charles & Olga Paterakis
Mr. & Mrs. Edward S. Ammeen
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Theoharis
Mr. George Skandalis
Ladies Pan-Chian Society

Mrs. Thorina Trintis
Mrs. Despina Cornias
Ms. Jeanette Tsakalos
Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Cornias

In memory of George & Angelou Sfakianoudis

Charles & Olga Paterakis
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Sfakianoudis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Effie Moniodis

In memory of Andrew Tsakalas Sr. & Andy Tsakalas Jr.

Charles & Olga Paterakis

In memory of Isidoros & Olga Marusiodis

Charles & Olga Paterakis

In memory of Theodoros Polychroniou

Michael & Katina Klosteridis

In memory of Hariklia Kostopoulos

Her grandchildren -
Hariklia & Alexandros Kostopoulos
Ms. Jeanette Preston

In memory of George Moniodis

Joseph & Christine Gormley
Michael & Katina Klosteridis

In memory of Maria Orfanos

Mr. & Mrs. George Matthews
Mr. & Mrs. George Mavromoustakos
Ms. Maria Salpeas
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Sollon
Mrs. Helen Pikounis
Mr. & Mrs. Aristides Polychronis

In memory of Linda Skandalis

Ms. Janie Tripolitis

In memory of George C. Cornias

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Trikoulis & Joanne
George & Maria Chrissomallis
Mrs. Rosa Cornias
Ms. Sevasti Cornias
Ladies Pan-Chian Society

In memory of Anna Marangos Farsadakis

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Stakias
Mr. Antonios Sazaklis

In memory of Maria Saliaris

Ladies Pan-Chian Society

In memory of Dr. Nicolas Papadimitriou

Mrs. Erma Papadimitriou
Dr. George Dimitri

In memory of Xenofon Roros

Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Cornias



DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

WREATHS & OTHER ITEMS FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2017

1. PALMS
 2. PALM SUNDAY ICON – APRIL 9th
 3. PALM SUNDAY PROSKINITARI APRIL 9th –
(color YELLOW)
 4. NYMPHIOS ICON – APRIL 9th (evening) –
(color PURPLE)
 5. HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13th – CROSS FOR
THE CROWN
 6. HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 13th – WREATH FOR
THE BASE OF THE CROSS
CRUCIFIXION ICON -- APRIL 14, GOOD FRIDAY
 7. CRUCIFIXION (PROSKINITARI) APRIL 14, GOOD
FRIDAY
 8. RESURRECTION HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15th –
LAVARO
 9. RESURRECTION ICON HOLY SATURDAY,
WHITE ROSES
- INCENSE FOR LENT AND FOR HOLY WEEK
- HOLY WEDNESDAY UNCTION SUPPLIES
- GOOD FRIDAY – Sheet - Rose petals
- HOLY SATURDAY LAUREL & BAY LEAVES
- DECORATION OF THE ICONOSTASIO
- EASTER EGGS

CANDLES DONATIONS

- 11' YELLOW
- 11 ' WHITE
- YELLOW LAMBADES FOR GOOD FRIDAY WITH
WHITE CUPS
- WHITE LAMBADES FOR HOLY SATURDAY
WITH RED CUPS
- 5 DAY VOTIVE LIGHTS
- 50 CASES RED
- 50 CASES PURPLE

*Thank you for
your support!*

PAN-HELLENIC DANCE GROUP

The lessons for the Saint Nicholas Pan-Hellenic Dance Group are continuing. The meeting and practice day is every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Social Hall. We accept new members, come and join us every Wednesday. We urge and encourage all those who love to dance to join the Pan-Hellenic Dance Group. Our Dance instructor is Mrs. Efie Karabelas. For registration or more information please contact and talk to Mrs. Anastasia (Stasa) Hatziefthimiou Loukaki, phone 443-845-8903.



ΧΟΡΕΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ “ΠΑΝ-ΧΕΛΛΕΝΙΚ”

Τα μαθήματα χορού του Χορευτικού Ομίλου του Αγίου Νικολάου ΠΑΝ-ΧΕΛΛΕΝΙΚ, συνεχίζονται. Οι πρόβες γίνονται κάθε Τετάρτη βράδυ στι 7:00 μ.μ. στη Κοινοτική Αίθουσα. Δεχόμαστε νέες εγγραφές μελών κάθε Τετάρτη. Προτρέπουμε και ενθαρρύνουμε όσες και όσους αγαπούν το χορό να ενταχθούν στο γκρουπ του Παν-Χελλένικ. Δασκάλα του Παν-Χελλένικι είναι η κ. Έφη Καράμπελα. Για εγγραφές ή περισσότερες πληροφορίες τηλεφωνείστε και μιλήστε στο τηλ. 443-845-8903 με την κ. Αναστασία (Στάσα) Χατζηευθυμίου Λουκάκη.

**CLIP
HERE**

GOOD FRIDAY—LAMENTATIONS SERVICE PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

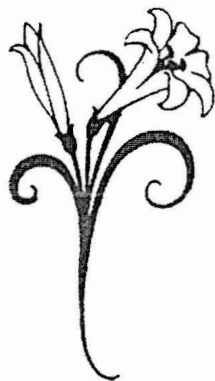
Την Μεγάλη Παρασκευή, κατά την διάρκεια της Ακολουθίας του Επιταφίου Θρήνου, και το Μεγάλο Σάββατο το πρωί, προσευχόμαστε στο Θεό για τις ψυχές των απελθόντων προσφιλών συγγενών και φίλων. Όσοι επιθυμούν να μνημονεύσουν τα αγαπημένα τους πρόσωπα τις ημέρες αυτές, παρακαλούνται να συμπληρώσουν το κάτωθι έντυπο και να το φέρουν στην Εκκλησία πριν την Μεγάλη Παρασκευή.

During the Lamentations Service of Good Friday evening, and on Holy Saturday morning, we offer prayers to God for the souls of our departed beloved family members and friends. For those who wish to have their departed brethren remembered on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, you are asked to complete the below form and submit the names before Good Friday.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**CLIP
COUPON**

EASTER LILIES FOR THE CHURCH ΔΩΡΕΕΣ ΑΝΘΕΩΝ (ΚΡΙΝΑ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ)



Please donate Easter Lilies to decorate our church for Easter. The cost is \$25.00. Fill out this form and send or bring it to Saint Nicholas Church.

Αν επιθυμείτε να κάνετε τη δωρεά σας \$25.00, συμπληρώσετε το έντυπο αυτό και στείλετε την δωρεά σας εγκαίρως στον Άγιο Νικόλαο.

NAME

ADDRESS

AMOUNT \$25.00

OTHER AMOUNT

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School has been having a very good year. Please take the time to “like” us on Facebook for updates and parents please make sure that your email address and other contact information is accurate and on file with the Sunday School volunteer staff.

Some important updates:

Confession:

Father Michael has set aside a few hours on Saturday, April 1, for Sunday School students to participate in confession. Sessions for confession will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and will be held in fifteen minute increments. Please contact Phaedra Avgerinos to sign-up for a confession time.

Oratorical Festival:

We would like to thank those of you that supported our Oratorical festival this past Saturday by encouraging your children to participate and coming to watch all of the speakers.

The district festival is on April 22 at Annunciation Church downtown for anyone who would like to attend and support our parish finalists. The finalists were:

Kyriakos Koumoudis
Mia Chrissomallis
Argirios Stakias

Sunday School, April 2

Sunday School will be in session this Sunday, despite it being the parade day. The parade happens later and will not affect our lessons.

Thank you for your continued support.

The St. Nicholas Sunday School Teachers



St. Nicholas Bilingual Early Education
Center Now Open and Enrolling Infants
through 5 years olds. Contact Director
Sophia Moshoniotis at 518-660-5039 to
schedule a tour of the center and register
your child. Spaces are filling up for a
September, 2017 placement as well as
Spring and Summer, 2017.



Infant 6 weeks old – 5 year olds

502 South Ponca Street
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-633-5020

Mark 1:15, "The time has come," he said "The Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news." As we come to the end of Great Lent and await the light of the resurrection, we would like to thank everyone who opened their hearts and gave generously towards the flowers that will adorn the Kouvouklion and all remaining funds will go help those less fortunate. The decorating will take place on Good Friday morning at 9:00 and everyone is welcomed to come and help.

The Lenten Retreat "A Journey Through The Hymns Of Lent," which took place on Saturday, March 4th was an afternoon of reflection and fellowship enjoyed by all those that attended. We would like to thank Father Gregory Gilbert from Sts. Markella and Magalene, Kyriaki Kontoudis, Mia Atsidis, Costas Inn, Zoe Perdikakis and all who contributed and participated.

The Tsourekia Bake Sale on Palm Sunday, April 9th. Donation \$15.00. If you would like to place an order in advanced please call Evagelia Saliaris at 410-592-8345 or email norakefalas@gmail.com. Thank you to the families of Sun Bakery for their donation.

This year instead of our Annual Mothers Day Tea we will be hosting a Mothers Day Derby Brunch at the Sparrows Point Country Club. Saturday, May 6th at 12:00 noon. Donation \$35.00 for Adults and \$10.00 for children 12 and under /Cash Bar. Join us as we celebrate this special day and we encourage you to wear your favorite hat!

Philoptochos again will be awarded Scholarships on behalf of families in our community that have established them in memory of loved ones as well as our own. Applications are available in the church office and must be completed and returned no later than Sunday, April 30th. Scholarships will be awarded on Sunday, May 21st.

PHILOTOCHOS DONATIONS:

In Memory of Mary Orfanos:

Stephanie Lambrow
Leah and Roland Bark
Mr. And Mrs Michael Kefalas
Maria and John Georgakis
Wayne and Debra Sullivan and Family
Mr. And Mrs. Stefanos Siskos
Tina Law
Patty Kafallas / Maria and Evangelos Orfanos

We also had a very generous donation per the request of the Late Mrs. Despina Kaitis.
May her memory be eternal and may God grant her family many years of health and happiness.

*A notice will be mailed out for the up coming Philoptochos elections that will take place on Monday, May 1st. The Last General Meeting will be on Monday, May 8th.

Κατά Μάρκον 1:15 πεπλήρωται ὁ καιρὸς καὶ ἤγγικεν ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ· μετανοεῖτε καὶ πιστεύετε ἐν τῷ εὐαγγελίῳ. Ὅπως πλησιάζουμε στο τέλος της Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής και περιμένουμε το φως της Ανάστασης, θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε όλους όσους άνοιξαν την καρδιά τους και πρόσφεραν απλόχερα για την αγορά των ανθέων που θα διακοσμίσουν το Κουβούκλιο του Επιταφίου. Τα υπόλοιπα χρήματα θα κατατεθούν στο λογαριασμό για να βοηθήσουν τους λιγότερο τυχερούς. Τη Μεγάλη Παρασκευή το πρωί, στις 9:00, θα γίνει η διακόσμηση του Επιταφίου, όλοι είναι ευπρόσδεκτοι να έρθουν και να βοηθήσουν.

Η Πνευματική Περισυλλογή της Σαρακοστής "Ένα ταξίδι μέσω των Ύμνων της Σαρακοστής", που πραγματοποιήθηκε το Σάββατο, 4 Μαρτίου, ήταν ένα απόγευμα μελέτης και συντροφικότητας που απόλαυσαν όλοι όσοι συμμετείχαν. Θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Πατέρα Γρηγόριο Γκίλμπερτ από την Κοινότητα της Αγίας Μαγδαληνής και Μαρκέλλας, την κ. Κυριακή Κοντούδη, την κ. Ευθυμία Ατσίδη, το Εστιατόριο Costas Inn, τη κ. Ζωή Περγδικάκη και όλους όσοι συνέβαλαν και συμμετείχαν. Η πώληση τσουρεκιών έχει προγραμματιστεί για την Κυριακή των Βαΐων, Κυριακή 9 Απριλίου.. Δωρεά \$ 15,00. Αν θέλετε να δώσετε την παραγγελία σας από τώρα παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στην κ. Ευαγγελία Σαλιάρη στο 410-592-8345 ή στο email norakefalas@gmail.com. Ευχαριστούμε τις οικογένειες του Sun Bakery για τη δωρεά τους.

Εφέτος, αντί του Ετήσιου Τσαΐ μας για την Ημέρα της Μητέρας, θα εορτάσουμε την Ημέρα της Μητέρας με Brunch, το Σάββατο, 6 Μαΐου στις 12:00 το μεσημέρι, στο Country Club Sparrows Point. Δωρεά \$ 35.00 για ενήλικες και \$ 10.00 για παιδιά 12 ετών και κάτω / Cash Bar. Ελάτε μαζί μας να γιορτάσουμε αυτή την ξεχωριστή ημέρα, σας ενθαρρύνουμε να φορέσετε το αγαπημένο σας καπέλο!

Και πάλι η Φιλοπτώχος θα απονέμει υποτροφίες εκ μέρους οικογενειών της Κοινότητάς μας, που έχουν καθιερώσει στην μνήμη αγαπημένων συγγενών, καθώς και τη δική μας υποτροφία. Αιτήσεις είναι διαθέσιμες στο Γραφείο της Εκκλησίας και θα πρέπει να συμπληρωθούν και να επιστραφούν το αργότερο μέχρι την Κυριακή 30 Απριλίου. Οι Υποτροφίες θα χορηγηθούν την Κυριακή, 21 Μαΐου.

ΔΩΡΕΕΣ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΗΝ ΦΙΛΟΠΤΩΧΟ

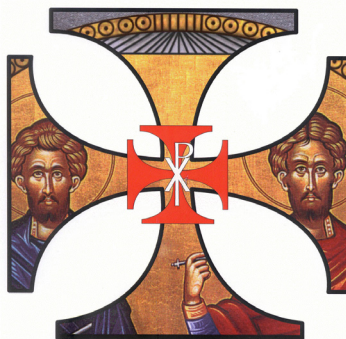
Εις μνήμη της Μαρίας Ορφανού:

Στέφανη Λάμπρου και Ρονάλντ Μπαρκ, Κοσ & Κα. Μιχαήλ Κεφάλας, Κοσ & Κα Ιωάννης Γιωργάκης. Γουέιν & Ντέμπρα Σάλλιβαν οικογενειακώς, Κοσ & Κα Στέφανος Σίσκος, Τίνα Λουου, Παναγιώτα Καφάλλα Μαρία & Ευάγγελος Ορφανός.

Επίσης λάβαμε μια γεναιόδωρη δωρεά από την Διαθήκη της αειμνήστου Δέσποινας Καίτη. Αιωνία της η μνήμη και ευχόμαστε όπως ο Κύριος χαρίζει υγεία, μακροζωία και ευτυχία στην οικογένειά της.

*Μια ανακοίνωση θα ταχυδρομηθεί για τις επερχόμενες εκλογές της Φιλοπτώχου, θα διεξαχθούν τη Δευτέρα 1η Μαΐου. Η τελευταία Γενική Συνέλευση θα είναι την Δευτέρα 8 Μαΐου.

PHILOTOCHOS



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

THE AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION (AHEPA)



LORD BALTIMORE CHAPTER #364

**2017 COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

is now available

Please contact the St. Nicholas
church office for an application - 410-633-5020

Applications must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2017.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:**

Michael Mavronis - mav1416@aol.com

DIAMONDS NEWS

Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

On Saturday morning, November 18, 2017, we plan to go to the Rainbow Dinner Theatre, in Paradise PA, to see a comedy show. For information please contact Rose Tsakalos at 410-282-2940. Price per person \$ 85.00. includes, transportation, Luncheon and the ticket for the Theatre. If you wish to attend, you need to give a deposit of \$ 20.00. More information to be announced at the meeting.

Thank you,
Rose Tsakalos - President
410-282-2940

Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

Το Σάββατο, 18 Νοεμβρίου, 2017, προγραμματίζουμε ταξίδι στην Πενσυλβάνια, στο Rainbow Dinner Theatre, να παρακολουθήσουμε τη ξεκαρδιστική κωμωδία. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες επικοινωνήστε με Κ. Ρόζα Τσακάλου (410-282-2940). Κατά γενική απαίτηση τούτο το ταξίδι θα γίνει Σάββατο πρωί για να μπορέσουν να έλθουν και οι εργαζόμενοι. Στοιχίζει \$ 85.00 το άτομο. Συμπεριλαμβάνει το Λεωφορείο, το γεύμα, και το εισιτήριο του Θεάτρου. Αν επιθυμείτε να συμμετέχετε σας παρακαλούμε να δώσετε μια μικρή προκαταβολή \$ 20.00 για να κλείσετε τη θέση σας, περισσότερες λεπτομέρειες στη συνεδρίαση.

Σας ευχαριστώ,
Ρόζα Τσακάλου Πρόεδρος
410-282-2940



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GET INVOLVED



ELEFThERIA

SCHOLARSHIP 2017

Awards held at the **26th Hermes Expo Awards Dinner** on **Wednesday, April 26, 2017** at the **Concordville Inn, PA**

APPLICATION DUE DATE: **APRIL 15, 2017**

APPLY NOW

HERMESEXPO.COM/SCHOLARSHIP

For more Information

☎ 610-202-3614 ✉ aphrodite@hermesexpo.com



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26th



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HELLENIC NEWS OF AMERICA HERMES EXPO & MAGAF

Present for a 3rd Year the: “ELEFThERIA Scholarship Awards”

Eligibility: High School Seniors and College students.

Application Due Date: April 15, 2017

Rules: Submit an essay on the following topic:

“The principles of our contemporary Western civilization are based on the principles of Hellenic and Roman civilization, and Christianity. What principles of Western civilization are due exclusively to Greek civilization, what exclusively to the Roman civilization and/or both?”

“Οι αρχές του συγχρόνου Δυτικού Πολιτισμού μας βασίζονται στις αρχές του Ελληνικού και Ρωμαϊκού Πολιτισμού και στον Χριστιανισμό. Ποιες αρχές του Δυτικού Πολιτισμού οφείλονται αποκλειστικά στον Ελληνικό Πολιτισμό, ποιες αποκλειστικά στον Ρωμαϊκό Πολιτισμό ή και στους δύο;”

Presentation: Awards held at the Hermes Expo Awards Dinner at the Concordville Inn, Concordville, PA on **Wednesday, April 26, 2017 @4-8 PM**

Application found here: hermesexpo.com/scholarship – fill out where going to school and what grades are etc.

E-mail application and letter to Aphrodite@hellenicnews.com

Committee: Professor Christos Evangeliou, Dr. Dimitris Faller, Dr. Costas Fountzoulas, Dimitris Hios, Professor Michael Kirifidis, Professor John Lambris, Dr. Dean C. Lomis, Chris Mavris-Morgan, Professor Aristotelis Michopoulos, Honorable Aris Melissaratos, Professor Dimitri Monos, Dr. Maria Papageorgiou, Dr. Konstadinos Plestis, Alex Karas, George Karas, Aphrodite Kotrotsios, Paul Kotrotsios, Vasilis Mataragas.

You may want to establish a scholarship endowment and help participate in the organization that allocates 100% of the proceeds to the “ELEFThERIA Scholarship Awards” via MAGAF. Last year we raised and distributed \$22,500. Interested to establish an endowment fund for you and your family, join in and help in any way you can, please contact Aphrodite@hellenicnews.com

Please forward this information to someone else in our community. Thank you
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COMMUNITY NEWS

GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER

WEDDING RECEPTIONS • ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES
NEW YEAR'S EVE • COMPANY GATHERINGS • CLASS OR FAMILY REUNIONS
RETIREMENT PARTIES • BUSINESS MEETINGS



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News and Events

The Greektown Square & Event Center (Plateia) is excited to report that we now have a website!
Please visit us at greektownsquare.com and let us know what you think.
Email us at info@greektownsquare.com

The Plateia Committee continues to make great strides. Improvements continue to be made. Event bookings are increasing within as well as outside of our community. To keep up with this momentum, our Marketing Committee needs your help in developing our grass roots outreach program. Please consider volunteering your services. We thank you for your continued faith and support.

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Contact Solon at 443-791-7141

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER (PLATEIA) is establishing a list of Business Partners that it can refer clients to for weddings and other event services. If you, your family members or friends are in these lines of business and would like to have clients referred to you, let us know. We will include your business name on our website, include you on Facebook features and provide clients with your business name and contact information during bookings of the facility. In exchange, we ask that you do the same to help us market the Plateia and to offer our clients promo pricing or other benefits you deem appropriate. The list of businesses includes the following:

ENTERTAINMENT

MAGICIANS
DISC JOCKEYS
BANDS
SOLOISTS
JUGGLERS
BALLOON ARTISTS
FACE PAINTERS
PHOTOBOOTH OPERATORS

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES
OFFICIANTS
PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
WEDDING PLANNERS
VALET PARKING

FOOD AND DÉCOR SUPPORT

RENTAL FURNITURE/DECOR
FLORISTS
DECORATORS
BAKERIES
LIMO COMPANIES

MARKETING SUPPORT:

Now that the Plateia is being marketed to the greater Baltimore area, we are receiving many internet inquiries. Therefore, all parishioners and friends of St. Nicholas who have either sponsored or attended events at the Plateia could help us tremendously if reviews were posted on the following internet sites:

- Our website at www.greectownsquare.com - Send us Testimonials – (use the “Contact Us” tab). If you want to include your picture with the testimonial as others have, then send us your testimonial using the Plateia’s email address at info@greectownsquare.com and attach the picture.
- Review us on our Facebook page at www.greectownsquare.com
- Review us on www.Weddingwire.com
- Review us on www.theknot.com

Also, please “Like” us on Facebook and ask your family, your Facebook friends and others to do the same. This will help us expand our client base and keep everyone informed of our news releases as well as past and future events.





Everyone had a wonderful time at the
2017 GOYA



2017 PLEDGES-\$137,250.00 / Payments-\$94,495.00 / Balance-\$42,755.00

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 MRS AMARANTIDIS PARTHENA
 MR/MRS ANASTASIADES DEMOS &
 MR/MRS ANGELOS JOHN & IRENE
 MRS APESOS ANTIGONE
 MR/MRS ARGYRAKIS DESPINA
 MR/MRS ATSALIS GUS
 MR/MRS BATES SAM
 MRS BISBIKIS HELEN
 MRS CHRISOMALLIS SOPHIE
 MRS CHRISTAKOU STAVROULA
 MRS CORNIAS CLARA
 MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE A. &
 MR/MRS DEMETRIOS LOUIZOS &
 MR/MRS DOUSKAS NIKOLAS
 MR/MRS FAKAS JAMES
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 MR/MRS FORAKIS MICHAEL
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 COL/MRS GAVRILIS JOHN &
 MS GEORGAS ANTHIE
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 MR/MRS SOULIKAS GEORGE &
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 MR/MRS TSAKALOS ROSE
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 MS VATAKIS TESSIE
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 MR/MRS YIANAKIS STEVE &

NEW! 2017 CHURCH PARKING PERMITS

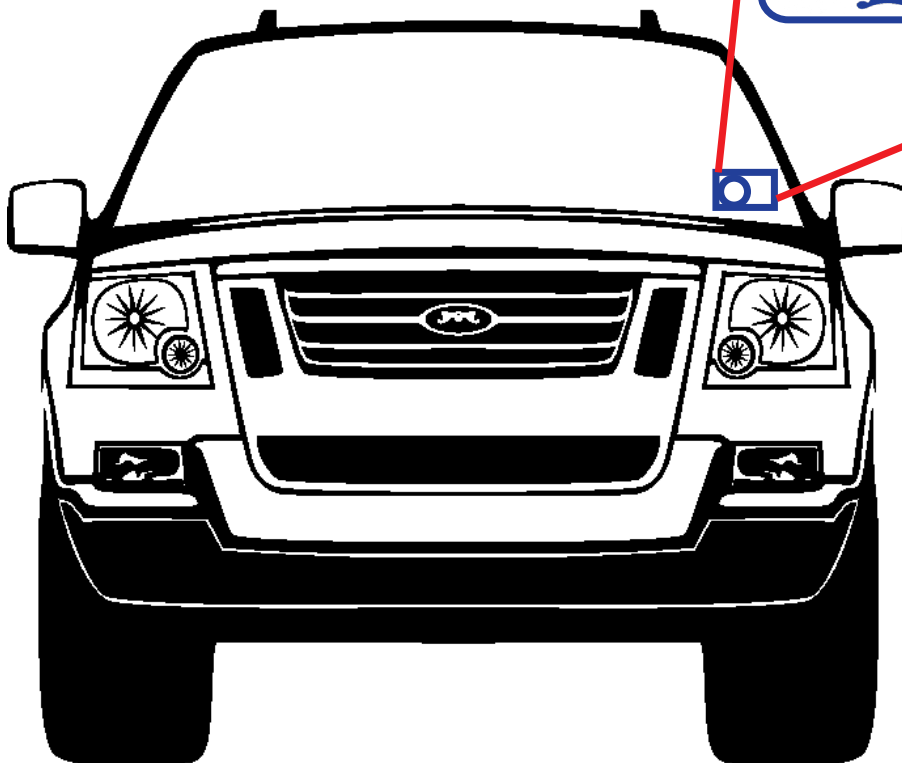
How do I obtain a parking permit?

- Submit your 2017 stewardship card and receive one permit for each of your vehicles

Where do I place my new parking permit?

- Lower left corner of driver's side windshield

If you do not have a parking permit sticker displayed on your car's windshield, your vehicle may be towed according to the parking lot signs.



NO
COMMERCIAL
VEHICLES

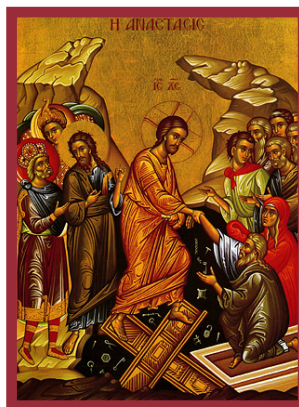
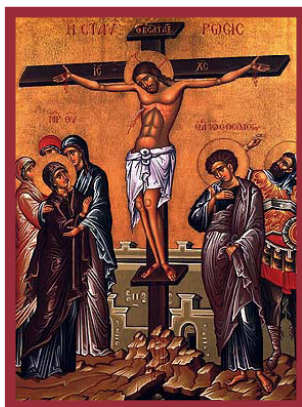
LITURGICAL PROGRAM

May the Lord our God give everyone the courage and strength to continue the Great Fasting period of the Church with a humble heart, a clear conscience, and the knowledge of why we are going through this spiritual challenge. The Holy Fasting period continues to be more conservative. No Meat or Dairy products are consumed until the day of Pascha. We wish everyone a Lenten journey filled with spiritual endeavors.

Sunday, April 2	Fifth Sunday of Lent: Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
Monday, April 3	Compline Service : 7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 5	Presanctified Liturgy: 8:45 am
Saturday, April 8	Saturday of Lazarus: Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am.
Sunday, April 9	Palm Sunday: Orthros: 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy: 10:00am.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday Evening: April 9	The Bridegroom Service: 7:00 pm. (NO MEMORIALS)
Holy Monday Evening: April 10	The Bridegroom Service: 7:00 pm.
Holy Tuesday Evening: April 11	The Bridegroom Service (Kassiani Troparion): 7:00pm
Holy Wednesday Morning April 12	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy: 9:00 am.
Holy Wednesday Evening: April 12	Holy Unction Service: 6:00 pm.
Holy Thursday Morning: April 13	Divine Liturgy commemorating the Last Supper* The Service will begin at 6:00 am. (Working People)
Holy Thursday Evening: April 13	The Reading of the Twelve Gospels: 7:00 pm.
Holy Friday Morning: April 14	The Royal Hours: 9:00 am.
Holy Friday Afternoon: April 14	Apokathelosis Service: 2:00 pm.
Holy Friday Evening: April 14	The Lamentations Service: 7:00 pm.
Holy Saturday Morning: April 15	Vesper Liturgy of St. Basil (First Resurrection) Services will begin at 7:30 am.
Holy Saturday Evening: April 15	Resurrection Service: 11:00 pm. Pascha Vigil 12:00 Midnight: Outside service: 1:00 am. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Sunday of Holy Pascha: April 16	The Agape Vespers: Holy Pascha 11:00 am. (NO MEMORIALS)
Tuesday, April 18	Bright Tuesday: Sts. Rafael, Nicholas and Irene: Orthros- 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Friday, April 21	Bright Friday: Theotokos of the Life Giving Fountain: Orthros- 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday, April 23	Sunday of St. Thomas: Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy w10:00 am (NO MEMORIALS)
Sunday, April 30	Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women: Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 2nd: Maryland Independence Day Parade Celebration at 2 p.m.
Sunday, April 2nd: GOYA Executive Board Meeting immediately at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.
Monday, April 3rd: GOYA Monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 4th: Choir Rehearsal at 7p.m.
Thursday, April 6th: GOYA and Community Palm Making
Friday, April 7th: Choir Rehearsal at 7p.m.
Saturday, April 8th: Lazarus Saturday and Community Easter Breakfast
Sunday, April 9th: Palm Sunday and Tsourekia Bake Sale by Philoptochos
Monday, April 10th-Friday, April 14th: Greek School Closed and All Youth Activities Cancelled in Observation of Holy Week.
Monday, April 17th: Greek School Closed for Renewal Monday
Saturday, April 22nd: GOYA Away Basketball Tournament Sponsored by St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Falls Church, Va.
Wednesday, April 26th - Bible Study with Fr. Michael at 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 29th: GOYA Away Basketball Tournament Sponsored by St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
Saturday, April 29th: The Annual Pan Chian Society Tea.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 1st: Greek School May Day Celebration
Monday, May 1st: GOYA Monthly Meeting at 6 p.m.
Monday, May 1st: Ladies Philoptochos General Elections at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 2nd: Parish Council Executive Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 4th: GOYA Tournament Banner Making
Friday, May 5th: GOYA Tournament Set-Up
Saturday, May 6th-Sunday, May 7th: GOYA Home Tournament
Friday, May 5th: Ladies Philoptochos Concert to Benefit the Philoxenia House.
Saturday, May 6th: Ladies Philoptochos Mother's Day Derby Brunch
Monday, May 8th: Ladies Philoptochos Last General Meeting at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 9th: Diamonds Monthly meeting at 1 p.m.
Tuesday, May 9th: Parish Council Monthly meeting at 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 10th: Bible Study with Father Michael at 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 13th-Sunday, May 14th: GOYA Away Basketball Tournament Sponsored by Ss. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church of Annapolis
Friday, May 19th: Tentative: Rhodian Society Bingo
Saturday, May 20th: Tentative: Greek School End of Year Trip
Sunday, May 21st: Sunday School Graduation, and Diamonds' Memorial for Patron Saint and Scholarship Sunday.
Wednesday, May 24th - Bible Study with Fr. Michael at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 28th: Greek School 6thGrade Graduates Presented to the Congregation.
Monday, May 31- Memorial Day service at Oak Lawn Cemetery at 10:00 a.m.

