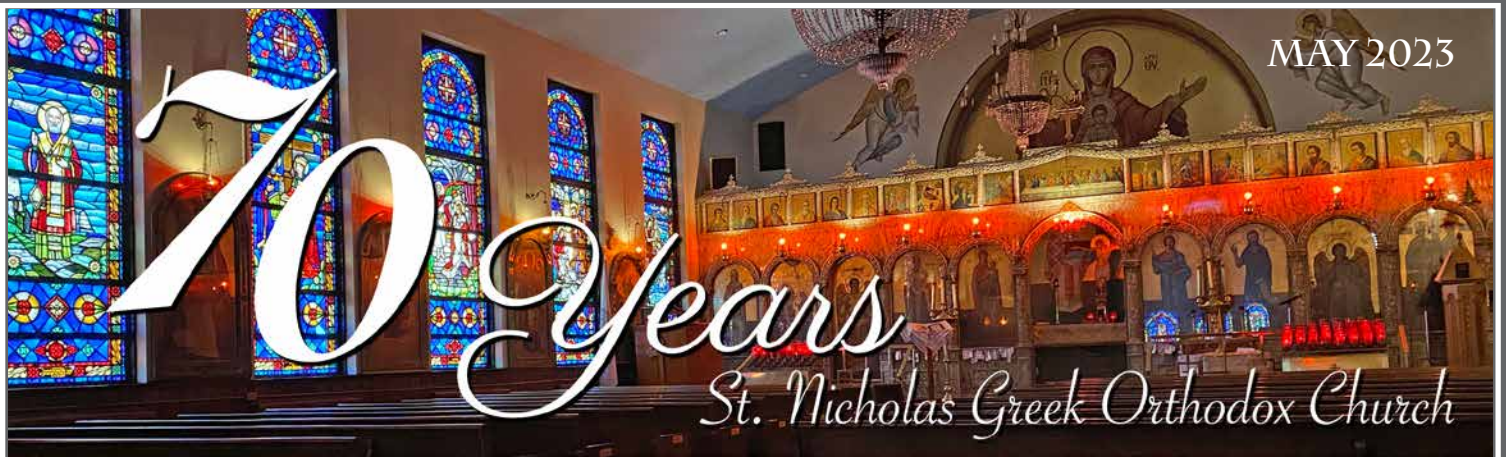


MAY 2023



Message from FR. GEORGIOS OIKONOMOU, PROTOPRESBYTER

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen!

After our spiritual preparation and common journey throughout the blessed and overwhelming period of the Triodion, which began on the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, continued with the Great Lent and culminated in the Holy and Great Week, we deserved to worship on Holy Easter, the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was all so beautiful, so great!

A hymn, which is now sung every Sunday in the church, exhorts us: " Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel". So, we are invited to worship God in church and not alone, to have the joy and fullness of the community, the spiritual family, the unity among us. The joy of Easter is exactly the joy of celebration, of unity, of meeting friends and loved ones. And it is true that people try to celebrate together by preparing family tables, often traveling long distances, striving to bridge their differences and forgive what separated them and be together again as loved ones, according to the command of the hymn: " Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection". If, therefore, we care so anxiously for the Easter table and meal with our dear friends and family, we ought not much more to be anxious lest we miss the spiritual table, which is the Divine Liturgy of the Resurrection, and where Christ Himself is the Host?

It is more than true that your participation in the worship of the church during this whole period touched me very much, gave me joy and strength. I thank you all sincerely, from the bottom of my heart.

Our community, however, had many other great blessings and joys in April. On the Saturday of Lazarus, we welcomed with great honor our archpastor, His Eminence Elpidophoros, the Archbishop of America, who celebrated the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, preached the divine word by delivering a great catechetical speech and honored us at the reception, which was prepared in his honor in our "Plateia". It was truly a great page in the history of our church, which celebrates its seventieth anniversary this year.

We were given the opportunity to ask for his blessings, chat, take beautiful pictures and express our respect and love to his face.

With these spiritual supplies we continue our journey in the season of the Pentecostarion. In this course we meet in May the Sundays of the Paralytic, the Samaritan Woman, the Blind, and the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. We also meet the Apodosis of Pascha, forty days after the Resurrection, on Wednesday May 24th and also the feast of the Holy Ascension, on Thursday May 25th. Also, Monday, May 29, is the established "Memorial Day", during which we offer prayers for the repose of our departed loved persons.

However, the same day has a special significance as the "unfortunate day", which was the Fall of Constantinople, on May 29, 1453. The queen of cities, our beloved Constantinople, fell into the hands of the Ottomans, and the Liturgy in the Hagia Sophia was halted in the middle. In recent years, in the context of extreme provocation, our beloved Hagia Sophia has been, turned into a mosque, flooding our hearts with pain and indignation. But the Easter we celebrated a few days ago taught us that after the Cross comes the Resurrection, and after the deepest darkness comes the Holy Light. So, we hope, we pray, and we expect that one day justice will be restored and that Liturgy that was left in the middle five hundred and seventy years ago will continue and Hagia Sophia will function freely as a temple of our sanctified faith. Amen.

Christ is Risen!

With love in Christ,
Protopresbyter Fr. Georgios Oikonomou



Kainonia

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF
AMERICA METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



Αγαπητοί μου αδελφοί,

Χριστός Ανέστη!

Ύστερα από την πνευματική μας προετοιμασία και κοινή πορεία σε όλη την ευλογημένη και κατανυκτική περίοδο του Τριωδίου, που ξεκίνησε την Κυριακή του Τελώνου και του Φαρισαίου, συνεχίστηκε με τη Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή και κορυφώθηκε την Αγία και Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα, αξιωθήκαμε να προσκυνήσουμε το Άγιο Πάσχα, τη Λαμπροφόρα Ανάσταση του Κυρίου μας. Ήταν όλα τόσο όμορφα, τόσο σπουδαία!

Ένας ύμνος, που ψάλλεται τώρα κάθε Κυριακή στην εκκλησία, όταν γίνεται η Μικρή Είσοδος στη Θεία Λειτουργία, μας προτρέπει: «ἐν ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεόν, Κύριον ἐκ πηγῶν Ἰσραὴλ». Προσκαλούμαστε λοιπόν να λατρεύουμε τον Θεό μέσα στην εκκλησία και όχι ο καθένας μόνος του, για να έχουμε τη χαρά και την πληρότητα της κοινότητας, της πνευματικής οικογένειας, της ενότητας μεταξύ μας. Η χαρά του Πάσχα είναι η χαρά της γιορτής, της ενότητας, της συνάντησης με φίλους και αγαπημένα πρόσωπα. Και είναι αλήθεια ότι προσπαθούν οι άνθρωποι φιλότιμα να γιορτάσουν όλοι μαζί ετοιμάζοντας οικογενειακά τραπέζια, ταξιδεύοντας πολλές φορές μεγάλες αποστάσεις, αγωνιζόμενοι να γεφυρώσουν τις διαφωνίες τους και να συγχωρέσουν όσα τους έχουν απομακρύνει και να είναι πάλι μαζί αγαπημένοι, σύμφωνα άλλωστε και με την προσταγή του ύμνου: «συγχωρήσωμεν πάντα τῇ Ἀναστάσει». Αν επομένως νοιαζόμαστε με τόση αγωνία για το τραπέζι και το φαγητό του Πάσχα με τους αγαπημένους μας φίλους και την οικογένεια, δεν οφείλουμε πολύ περισσότερο να αγωνιούμε μήπως χάσουμε το πνευματικό τραπέζι, που είναι η Θεία Λειτουργία της Ανάστασης και όπου οικοδεσπότης είναι ο Ίδιος ο Χριστός;

Είναι αλήθεια ότι η συμμετοχή σας στη λατρεία της εκκλησίας σε όλη αυτή την περίοδο με συγκίνησε πολύ, μου έδωσε χαρά και δύναμη. Σας ευχαριστώ όλους ειλικρινά, μέσα από την καρδιά μου.

Η κοινότητά μας, όμως, είχε και άλλες μεγάλες ευλογίες και χαρές τον Απρίλιο. Το Σάββατο του Λαζάρου υποδεχτήκαμε με κάθε τιμή τον ποιμενάρχη μας,

τον Σεβασμιώτατο Αρχιεπίσκοπο Αμερικής, κύριο Ελπιδοφόρο, ο οποίος τέλεσε την Αρχιερατική Θεία Λειτουργία, κήρυξε τον θείο λόγο εκφωνώντας έναν σπουδαίο κατηχητικό λόγο και μας τίμησε στη δεξίωση, που ετοιμάστηκε προς τιμήν του στην όμορφη «Πλατεία» μας. Ήταν πραγματικά μία σπουδαία σελίδα στην ιστορία της εκκλησίας μας, που γιορτάζει φέτος τα εβδομήντα χρόνια από την ίδρυσή της. Μας δόθηκε η ευκαιρία να πάρουμε την ευχή του, να κουβεντιάσουμε, να βγάλουμε φωτογραφίες και να εκφράσουμε τον σεβασμό και την αγάπη μας στο πρόσωπό του.

Με αυτά τα πνευματικά εφόδια συνεχίζουμε την πορεία μας στην περίοδο του Πεντηκοσταρίου. Σε αυτή την πορεία συναντάμε μέσα στον Μάιο τις Κυριακές του Παραλυτικού, της Σαμαρείτιδος, του Τυφλού και των Αγίων Πατέρων της Πρώτης Οικουμενικής Συνόδου. Συναντάμε επίσης την Απόδοση της γιορτής του Πάσχα, σαράντα μέρες μετά την Ανάσταση, την Τετάρτη 24 Μαΐου αλλά και τη Δεσποτική γιορτή της Αναλήψεως του Σωτήρος, την Πέμπτη 25 Μαΐου. Επίσης, τη Δευτέρα 29 Μαΐου, είναι η καθιερωμένη «Ημέρα Μνήμης», κατά την οποία αναπέμπουμε δεήσεις υπέρ αναπαύσεως των κεκοιμημένων αδελφών μας. Η ίδια ημέρα όμως έχει ιδιαίτερη σημασία για τη Ρωμηοσύνη και ολόκληρη την ανθρωπότητα ως η «αποφράς ημέρα», που έγινε η Άλωση της Πόλης, στις 29 Μαΐου 1453. Η Βασιλίδα των πόλεων, η αγαπημένη μας Κωνσταντινούπολη έπεσε στα χέρια των Οθωμανών. Και έμεινε στη μέση η Λειτουργία στην Αγία - Σοφία μας, η οποία μάλιστα τα τελευταία χρόνια στα πλαίσια μιας ακραίας προκλητικότητας μετατράπηκε σε τέμενος πλημμυρίζοντας πόνο και αγανάκτηση τις καρδιές μας. Όμως το Πάσχα που γιορτάσαμε πριν λίγες ημέρες μας δίδαξε ότι μετά τον Σταυρό ακολουθεί η Ανάσταση και μετά το πιο βαθύ σκοτάδι ακολουθεί το Άγιο Φως. Έτσι ελπίζουμε, προσευχόμαστε και περιμένουμε μια μέρα να αποκατασταθεί η δικαιοσύνη και να συνεχίσει εκείνη η Λειτουργία που απόμεινε στη μέση πριν πεντακόσια εβδομήντα χρόνια και η Αγία Σοφία να λειτουργήσει ελεύθερα ως ναός της αγιασμένης πίστης μας. Είθε.

Χριστός Ανέστη!

Με πατρική εν Χριστώ αγάπη,
Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος Γεώργιος Οικονόμου

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADRIENNE KOURTESIS
FOULA PARAGIOS

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

KOINONIA DEADLINE

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

ISSUE MONTH: JUNE 2023

SUBMISSIONS DUE: MAY 20th

Please email your article(s) to: vkotsatou@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

Our beloved parishioners and friends of our patron Saint Nicholas,

**CHRIST IS RISEN IN ALL OF OUR HEARTS
HEALTH - LOVE - BLESSINGS**

*Your Eminence,
Welcome to our community
Because we always have you in our hearts*

*Welcome to our community dear to all of us Your Eminence
Archbishop of America Elpidofore.
We are very honored and happy for the arrival of the Most Reverend
Archbishop of America, His Eminence Elpidophoros.
We give due respect and splendor as we owe to a prominent
personality of Orthodoxy.*

*Your Eminence,
Poor words to express the feelings of this unique day.
It is a huge and special honor that we feel as a community
of St. Nicholas of Baltimore to receive the visit of the
beacon of Hellenism and Orthodoxy.
You chose Lazarus Saturday to visit us on a day that,
together with Palm Sunday, has a unique place in the church year
as days of joy between Great Lent and the mourning of Holy Week.
We feel this joy and blessing in our hearts today because we are
proud of you and we admire you for the passion we see in your face
a supporter of justice, solidarity and love that our Christ taught and
your care for our fellow man.
Your rich scientific background and academic career, your innate
talent, your modern perception and your multifaceted and important
work as an enlightened Hierarch in matters of Orthodoxy are the best
omens for an even more hopeful period in the Holy Archdiocese of
America.
Your Eminence, a thousand congratulations for your wonderful
work.
Thank you so much for this day, for your blessed words and for your
wonderful gifts.
We humbly ask for your blessing and prayer for our community.*

**AXIOS!!!
AXIOS!!!
AXIOS!!!**

With regards and sincere love,

*Stamatia Ieromonahos
President of the Parish Council
St. Nicholas Church of Baltimore*

Αγαπημένοι μας ενορίτες και φίλοι του Αγίου Νικολάου,

**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ ΣΤΙΣ ΚΑΡΔΙΕΣ ΟΛΩΝ ΜΑΣ
ΥΓΕΙΑ -ΑΓΑΠΗ -ΕΥΛΟΓΙΑ**

*Σεβασμιότατε
Χίλια καλώς μας ήρθατε εἰς την κοινότητα μας
Γιατί πάντα σας έχουμε μέσα εἰς την καρδιά μας*

*Καλώς ήρθατε στην κοινότητα μας αγαπητέ σε όλους μας
Σεβασμιότατε Αρχιεπίσκοπε Αμερικής κ. Ελπιδοφόρε
Μεγάλη η τιμή και η χαρά μας για την ἔλευση του Σεβασμιότατου
Αρχιεπισκόπου Αμερικής κ. Ελπιδοφόρου.
Αποδίδουμε τον δέοντα σεβασμό και την λαμπρότητα ως
οφείλουμε σε μια εξέχουσα προσωπικότητα της
Ορθοδοξίας.*

*Σεβασμιότατε
Φτωχά τα λόγια για να εκφράσουν τα αισθήματα αυτής
της μοναδικής ημέρας .
Τεράστια και ιδιαίτερη η τιμή που νιώθουμε ως
κοινότητα Του Αγίου Νικολάου Βαλτιμόρης να
δεχτούμε την επίσκεψη του φάρου του Ελληνισμού και
της Ορθοδοξίας .*

*Διαλέξατε το Σάββατο του Λαζάρου να μας
επισκεφτείτε μια μέρα που έχει μαζί με την Κυριακή Των
Βαίων μοναδική θέση στο εκκλησιαστικό έτος ως μέρες χαράς
ανάμεσα στην Μεγάλη Σαρακοστή και τον θρήνο της Μεγάλης
Εβδομάδας.
Αυτήν την χαρά και την ευλογία νιώθουμε σήμερα στην
καρδιά μας γιατί σας καμαρώνουμε και σας θαυμάζουμε για το
πάθος που βλέπουμε στο πρόσωπο σας ως υποστηρικτής της
δικαιοσύνης, της αλληλεγγύης, της αγάπης που δίδαξε ο Χριστός
μας και της έννοιας σας για τον συνάνθρωπο μας.
Το πλούσιο επιστημονικό σας υπόβαθρο και η ακαδημαϊκή
πορεία, το έμφυτο ταλέντο σας, η σύγχρονη αντίληψη και
το πολύπλευρο και σημαντικό έργο σας ως ένας φωτισμένος
Ιεράρχης στα θέματα της Ορθοδοξίας είναι οι καλύτεροι οιωνοί
για μια ακόμη πιο ελπιδοφόρα περίοδο στην Ιερά Αρχιεπισκοπή
Αμερικής.
Σεβασμιότατε, χίλια συγχαρητήρια για το θεάρεστο έργο σας.
Σας υπέρ ευχαριστούμε για αυτήν εδώ την ημέρα, για τα
ευλογημένα λόγια σας και για τα υπέροχα δώρα σας.
Ταπεινά ζητούμε την ευλογία και την προσευχή σας για την
κοινότητα μας.*

**ΑΕΙΟΣ !!!
ΑΕΙΟΣ!!!
ΑΕΙΟΣ!!!**

Με αγάπη και εκτίμηση,

*Σταματία Ιερομονάχου
Πρόεδρος του Συμβουλίου
Αγίου Νικολάου Βαλτιμόρης*

First Visit by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

On Saturday, April 8th, St. Nicholas welcomed His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America on his first pastoral visit.



Eleni Kostalas-Lentis and her daughters, Despina & Georgia presented His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros with a specially made palm cross!



HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA



HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA



ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ Ο ΚΥΡΙΟΣ!

PATRIARCHAL ENCYCLICAL
FOR HOLY PASCHA

PROT. NO. 221

+ B A R T H O L O M E W

By God's Mercy

Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch

To the Plenitude of the Church:

May the Grace, Peace and Mercy of Christ Risen in Glory be with you All

* * *

Most honorable brother Hierarchs,
Dearly beloved children,

Having arrived with God's grace at the all-saving Resurrection of the Lord, through which the power of death was abolished and the gates of paradise were opened to the entire human race, we address to all of you our paschal greetings and heartfelt wishes, as we proclaim the cry "Christ is Risen" that gives joy to the world.

In all of its dimensions, the life of the Church is invigorated by the ineffable joy of the Resurrection. The "experience of resurrection" is witnessed in the labors of the Saints and Martyrs of our faith, as well as in the liturgical and sacramental life, the proclamation of the Gospel "to the ends of the earth", the devotion and spirituality of the faithful, their sacrificial love and Christian conduct, but also in their expectation of a world where "death will no longer exist, nor will there be mourning, wailing or suffering" (Rev. 21,4).

In and through the Resurrection, everything lies in a state of motion toward perfection in the Kingdom of God. This eschatological drive has always provided Orthodox Christians in the world with dynamism and perspective. Despite the claims of the opposite, as a result of the eschatological orientation of its life, the Church never compromised with the presence of evil in all its expressions in the world. Nor did it deny the reality of pain and death. Nor again did it ignore the ambiguity of human affairs. And finally, it never considered the struggle for a more just world as something foreign to its mission.

Still though, the Church always knew that pain and the cross are not the ultimate reality. The experiential quintessence of the Christian life is the conviction that, through the Cross and through the “narrow gate”, we are led to the Resurrection. This faith is reflected in the fact that the core of church life, the Divine Eucharist, is essentially linked with the Resurrection of Christ. In the Orthodox tradition, as the late Metropolitan John of Pergamon emphasizes, the Divine Eucharist “is filled with joy and light ... because it is not grounded in the Cross and an idealization of passion, but in the Resurrection as the transcendence of the passion of the Cross”¹. The Holy Eucharist transports us to Golgotha not so that we may remain there, but so that we may be led through the Cross to the ever-radiant glory of the Kingdom of God. The Orthodox faith is the overcoming of the utopian salvation “without the Cross” and of the existential shipwreck of the Cross “without the Resurrection”.

Our participation in the Resurrection of Christ through the sacrament of the Church is on the one hand a tangible abolition of every utopianism and of the false paradise promising unimpeded self-indulgence, while at the same time a definitive transcendence of hopeless self-enslavement in supposed unsurpassable negativity, because the Cross of Christ gives birth to the Resurrection, to the “endless delight”, to “the enjoyment of eternal glory”. The annihilation of death through the Cross and Resurrection of our Savior elevates our life to its divine-human essence and its heavenly destiny.

In Christ, we know and live that the present life is not our entire life, that our biological death does not constitute an end or obliteration of our existence. The biological boundaries of life do not define its truth. After all, the sense that life is an irreversible “journey toward death” leads to existential impasses, to depression and nihilism, to indifference for what truly matters in life. Science, and financial or social progress are unable to offer an essential solution or outlet. Christians are “those who have hope” (1Thess. 4,13), who expect the coming Kingdom of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit as a final reality, as the fullness of life and knowledge, as the fulfilment of joy, not only for the coming generations but for the entire human race from the beginning to the end of the ages.

¹ See his *Eschatology and History: Works 1: Ecclesiological Studies* (Athens: Domos Books, 2016), 498.

This vision of history and eternity, the resurrectional nature of Orthodox faith, ethos and culture—namely, the unquestionable fact that the great miracle of Truth is only revealed “to those who venerate the mystery in faith”—is what we are called to witness today within a civilization that rejects the Transcendent and in the context of manifold reductions of the spiritual identity of human existence.

We give glory in chant, hymn and spiritual song to the Lord who rose from the dead and shines eternal life upon all. We participate with joy in “the feast that is common to all”. And we beseech the all-powerful, all-wise and all-merciful Maker and Redeemer of all to bring peace to the world and grant all His saving gifts to humankind, so that His all-honorable and majestic name may be glorified and blessed, now and always and to the ages of ages. Amen!

At the Phanar, Holy Pascha 2023
+ Bartholomew of Constantinople
Fervent supplicant for you all
to the Risen Lord

To be read after the Holy Gospel during the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Holy Pascha.

ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΙΚΗ ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΙΣ
ΕΠΙ ΤΩΙ ΑΓΙΩΙ ΠΑΣΧΑ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ. 221

† Β Α Ρ Θ Ο Λ Ο Μ Α Ι Ο Σ
ΕΛΕΩ ΘΕΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ
ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ - ΝΕΑΣ ΡΩΜΗΣ
ΚΑΙ ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ
ΠΑΝΤΙ ΤΩ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙ ΤΗΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ ΧΑΡΙΝ, ΕΙΡΗΝΗΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΟΣ
ΠΑΡΑ ΤΟΥ ΕΝΔΟΞΩΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΝΤΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ

* * *

Τιμιώτατοι ἀδελφοί Ἱεράρχαι,
Προσφιλέστατα τέκνα,

Φθάσαντες, χάριτι θεία, τήν πανσωστικήν Ανάστασιν τοῦ Κυρίου, δι' ἧς κατηργήθη τό κράτος τοῦ θανάτου καί ἠνεώχθησαν τῷ ἀδαμιαίῳ γένει αἱ πύλαι τοῦ Παραδείσου, ἀπευθύνομεν πᾶσιν ὑμῖν πασχαλίους προσρήσεις καί ἐγκάρδιον ἐόρτιον χαιρετισμόν, ἀναβοῶντες τό κοσμοχαρμόσουνον «Χριστός Ἀνέστη!».

Ἡ ζωή τῆς Ἐκκλησίας, εἰς ὅλας τάς πτυχάς της, δονεῖται ἀπό τήν ἀνεκλάλητον χαράν τῆς Αναστάσεως. «Πεῖραν ἀναστάσεως» μαρτυροῦν οἱ ἄθλοι τῶν Ἁγίων καί τῶν Μαρτύρων τῆς πίστεως, ἡ λατρευτική καί μυστηριακή ἐμπειρία, ἡ ἐξαγγελία τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου «ἕως ἐσχάτου τῆς γῆς», ἡ εὐσέβεια καί ἡ πνευματικότης τῶν πιστῶν, ἡ θυσιαστική ἀγάπη καί ἡ κατά Χριστόν ἀναστροφή αὐτῶν, ἡ προσδοκία ἑνός κόσμου, ἔνθα «ὁ θάνατος οὐκ ἔσται ἔτι, οὔτε πένθος οὔτε κραυγή οὔτε πόνος οὐκ ἔσται ἔτι»¹.

Ἐν τῇ Αναστάσει καί δι' αὐτῆς, τά πάντα εὐρίσκονται ἐν κινήσει πρὸς τήν τελειώσιν των ἐν τῇ Βασιλείᾳ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Αὐτή ἡ ἐσχατολογική ὁρμή ἔδιδε πάντοτε εἰς τήν Ὁρθόδοξον ἐγκόσμιον μαρτυρίαν δυναμισμόν καί προοπτικήν. Παρά τά περὶ τοῦ ἀντιθέτου θρυλούμενα, λόγῳ τοῦ ἐσχατολογικοῦ προσανατολισμοῦ τῆς ζωῆς της, ἡ

¹ Αποκ. κα', 5.

Ἐκκλησία ποτέ δέν ἐσυνθηκολόγησεν ἀπέναντι εἰς τήν παρουσίαν τοῦ κακοῦ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰς ὅλας τὰς μορφάς του, δέν ἀπώθησε τήν πραγματικότητα τοῦ πόνου καί τοῦ θανάτου, δέν ἠγνόησε τήν ἀμφισημίαν τῶν ἀνθρωπίνων πραγμάτων, ποτέ δέν ἐθεώρησε τόν ἀγῶνα δι' ἓνα δικαιότερον κόσμον ἀλλότριον πρὸς τήν ἀποστολήν της.

Ἐγνώριζεν ὅμως ὅτι ὁ πόνος καί ὁ σταυρός δέν εἶναι ἡ ἐσχάτη πραγματικότης. Ἡ βιωματική πεμπουσία τῆς χριστιανικῆς ζωῆς εἶναι ἡ βεβαιότης ὅτι διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ, διὰ τῆς «στενῆς πύλης», ὀδηγούμεθα εἰς τήν Ἀνάστασιν. Ἡ πίστις αὐτή ἀποτυπῶνται εἰς τό γεγονός ὅτι ὁ πυρήν τῆς ἐκκλησιαστικῆς ζωῆς, ἡ Θεία Εὐχαριστία, συνδέεται οὐσιωδῶς μέ τήν Ἀνάστασιν τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Εἰς τήν Ὁρθό-δοξον παράδοσιν, ὅπως τονίζει ὁ μακαριστός Μητροπολίτης Περγάμου Ἰωάννης, ἡ Θεία Εὐχαριστία «εἶναι γεμάτη χαρά καί φῶς», διότι «δέν ἔχει ὡς βάση τόν Σταυρόν καί μία ἐξιδανίκευση τοῦ πάθους, ἀλλά τήν Ἀνάστασιν ὡς ὑπέρβαση τοῦ πάθους τοῦ Σταυροῦ»². Ἡ Θεία Εὐχαριστία μᾶς μεταφέρει εἰς τόν Γολγοθᾶν ὄχι διὰ νά παραμείνωμεν ἐκεῖ, ἀλλά διὰ νά ὀδηγηθῶμεν, διὰ μέσου τοῦ Σταυροῦ, εἰς τήν ἀείφωτον δόξαν τῆς Βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ἡ Ὁρθόδοξος πίστις εἶναι ὑπέρβασις τῆς οὐτοπικῆς σωτηρίας «χωρίς Σταυρόν» καί τοῦ ὑπαρκτικοῦ ναυαγίου τοῦ σταυροῦ «χωρίς Ἀνάστασιν».

Ἡ μετοχή μας εἰς τήν Ἀνάστασιν τοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐν τῷ μυστηρίῳ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας εἶναι ἀφ' ἑνός ἔμπρακτος κατάργησις κάθε οὐτοπισμοῦ τῶν «εὐρυχώρων ὁδῶν» καί τῶν ψευδεπιγράφων παραδείσων ἀπροσκόπτου εὐδαιμονίας, ἐν ταῦτῳ δέ καί ὀριστική ὑπέρβασις τοῦ ἀπέλπιδος ἐγκλωβισμοῦ εἰς τήν δῆθεν ἀνυπέρβλητον ἀρνητικότητα, ἀφοῦ ὁ Σταυρός τοῦ Χριστοῦ κυφορεῖ τήν Ἀνάστασιν, τήν «ἄληκτον εὐφροσύνην», τῆς «αἰωνίου δόξης τήν ἀπόλαυσιν». Ἡ συντριβή τοῦ θανάτου διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ καί τῆς Ἀναστάσεως τοῦ Σωτῆρος ἀναφέρει τήν ζωὴν μας εἰς τήν θεανθρωπίνην οὐσίαν της καί εἰς τόν οὐράνιον προορισμόν της.

Ἐν Χριστῷ γνωρίζομεν καί βιοῦμεν ὅτι ὁ παρῶν βίος δέν εἶναι ὅλη ἡ ζωὴ μας, ὅτι ὁ βιολογικός θάνατος δέν ἀποτελεῖ τέλος καί ἐκμηδενισμόν τῆς ὑπάρξεώς μας. Δέν ὀρίζουν τὰ βιολογικά ὅρια τῆς ζωῆς τήν ἀλήθειάν της. Ἐξ ἄλλου, ἡ αἴσθησις ὅτι ἡ ζωὴ εἶναι ἀναπότρεπτος «πορεία πρὸς τόν θάνατον» ὀδηγεῖ εἰς ὑπαρξιακά ἀδιέξοδα, εἰς ἀπόγνωσιν καί μηδενισμόν, εἰς ἀδιαφορίαν διὰ τὰ οὐσιώδη τοῦ βίου. Ἡ ἐπιστήμη, ἡ οικονομική καί κοινωνική πρόοδος, ἀδυνατοῦν νά προσφέρουν

² «Ἐσχατολογία καί ἱστορία», Ἔργα Α'. Ἐκκλησιολογικά μελετήματα, ἐκδ. Δόμος, Αθήνα 2016, σ. 498.

οὐσιαστικήν λύσιν καί διέξοδον. Οἱ Χριστιανοί εἶναι οἱ «ἔχοντες ἐλπίδα»³, οἱ προσδοκῶντες τήν ἐρχομένην Βασιλείαν τοῦ Πατρὸς καί τοῦ Υἱοῦ καί τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος ὡς τήν τελικήν πραγματικότητα, ὡς πληρότητα ζωῆς καί γνώσεως, ὡς χαράν πεπληρωμένην, ὄχι μόνον διά τὰς ἐπερχομένας γενεάς, ἀλλά διά σύμπαν τό ἀνθρώπινον γένος ἀπ' ἀρχῆς καί ἄχρι τῆς συντελείας τοῦ αἰῶνος.

Αὐτήν τήν θέασιν τῆς ἱστορίας καί τῆς αἰωνιότητος, τόν ἀναστάσιμον χαρακτήρα τῆς πίστεως, τοῦ ἠθους καί τοῦ πολιτισμοῦ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, τό ἀδιαμφισβήτητον γεγονός ὅτι τό μέγα θαῦμα τῆς Ἀληθείας ἀποκαλύπτεται μόνον «τοῖς προσκυνούσιν ἐν πίστει τό μυστήριον», καλούμεθα νά μαρτυρῶμεν σήμερον εἰς ἓνα πολιτισμόν ἀπωθήσεως τοῦ Ὑπερβατικοῦ καί ποικίλων συρρικνώσεων τῆς πνευματικῆς ταυτότητος τῆς ἀνθρωπίνης ὑπάρξεως.

Δοξάζοντες ἐν ψαλμοῖς καί ὕμνοις καί ᾠδαῖς πνευματικαῖς τόν ἀναστάντα ἐκ νεκρῶν καί ἀνατείλαντα πᾶσι τήν αἰώνιον ζωὴν Κύριον καί μετέχοντες ἐν ἀγαλλιάσει τῆς «κοινῆς τῶν ὅλων πανηγύρεως», δεόμεθα τοῦ πανσθενοῦς, πανσόφου καί πανοικτίρμονος Ποιητοῦ καί Λυτρωτοῦ τοῦ παντός, ὅπως εἰρηνεύῃ τόν κόσμον, χαρίζηται δέ τῷ γένει τῶν ἀνθρώπων πάντα τά σωτηριώδη δωρήματα Αὐτοῦ, ἵνα ὑμνῆται καί εὐλογῆται τό πάντιμον καί μεγαλοπρεπές ὄνομά Του, νῦν καί ἀεί καί εἰς πάντας τούς αἰῶνας. Ἀμήν!

Φανάριον, Ἅγιον Πάσχα ,βκγ'
† Ὁ Κωνσταντινουπόλεως
διάπυρος πρὸς Χριστόν Ἀναστάντα
εὐχέτης πάντων ὑμῶν.

Ἀναγνωσθήτω ἐπ' ἐκκλησίας κατὰ τήν Θεῖαν Λειτουργίαν τῆς ἑορτῆς τοῦ Ἁγίου Πάσχα, μετὰ τό Ἱερόν Εὐαγγέλιον.

³ Βλ. Α' Θεσσ. δ', 13.



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 84/2023

Archiepiscopal Encyclical on Great and Holy Pascha

April 16, 2023

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

Who will roll away the stone for us? (Mark 16:3)

My beloved sisters and brothers in the Risen Lord,

We have finally arrived at the mystery of mysteries, and we approach the Tomb with the holy Myrrh-bearing Women. With them we ask: “Who will roll away the stone for us?” The guards have scattered, the garden is empty, and we have brought all our potions and ointments to complete His anointing for death. But He is the Anointed One — the Christ — and He has no need of any anointing. He has no need of the stone being rolled away in order to leave death behind. As the young man said to them when they went inside: “He is risen! He is not here!” So, then, why was the stone rolled away?

My beloved Christians, the stone is rolled away in every telling of the story, but not so that the Lord can emerge, but so that we might submerge. The tomb is opened so that we might enter and die to ourselves — to our egos and selfishness. And then we may say, as is chanted in the Paschal Liturgy: “Yesterday I was buried with you, O Christ; and today, I arise by Your Resurrection” (Ode 3). The tomb is our place of transformation. The tomb is the very center of our hearts, where we can fulfill the ancient saying: “If you die before you die, then you won’t die when you die.”



Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, let us not ask “who will roll away the stone for us?” Let us make the effort to roll it back ourselves! God will send His Angels to help us if we are struggling. But it is within the tomb of dying to ourselves, and dying to this world, that we are reborn in the Resurrection. The stone is heavy, laden with our sins and our heartbreaks, but God forgives all and asks us to do the same. Forgiveness is the power that lifts the stone and paves our way to love. There is a very real resurrection to be had in this life, which leads to life everlasting. The arising in our hearts of love, compassion, and mercy for everyone and everything is the sign that we are truly the children of the Resurrection. May this Pascha reveal to you this mystery of mysteries — this gateway to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ. 84/2023

Αρχιεπισκοπική ἐγκύκλιος γιὰ τὸ Ἅγιο Πάσχα.

16 Ἀπριλίου 2023

Πρὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Ἀρχιερεῖς, τοὺς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τοὺς Μοναχοὺς καὶ τὶς Μοναχές, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τοὺς Ἐντιμολογιωτάτους Ἄρχοντες τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, τὰ μέλη τῆς Ἡγεσίας τῶν 100, τὰ Ἡμερήσια καὶ Ἀπογευματινὰ Σχολεῖα, τὶς Φιλοπτώχους Ἀδελφότητες, τὴ Νεολαία, τὶς Ἑλληνορθόδοξες Ὄργανώσεις καὶ ὁλόκληρο τὸ Χριστεπώνυμο πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς.

«Τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον;» (Μάρκον 16:3).

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀναστάντι,

Φθάσαμε στὸ μυστήριον τῶν μυστηρίων καὶ πλησιάζουμε μὲ παρρησία στὸ μνημεῖο μαζί μὲ τὶς μυροφόρες. Καὶ διερωτώμαστε μαζί τους: «Τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον;» Οἱ φύλακες ἐξαφανίσθηκαν, ὁ κῆπος εἶναι ἄδειος καὶ ἐμεῖς προσφέρουμε μῦρον καὶ ἀρώματα γιὰ νὰ ἀλείψουμε τὸν πολυτίμητο νεκρὸ. Ἀλλὰ αὐτὸς εἶναι ὁ Ἕνας ὁ ἥδη κεχρισμένος, ὁ Χριστός, καὶ δὲν ἔχει τὴν ἀνάγκη τῆς δικῆς μας προσφορᾶς! Δὲν χρειάζεται κἂν νὰ μετακινηθεῖ ὁ λίθος γιὰ νὰ βγεῖ ἀπὸ τὸν τάφο. Ὅμως ὁ ἄγγελος ἐκείνη τὴν ἡμέρα εἶπε στὶς γυναῖκες πὺ ἐφθασαν στὸ μνημεῖο: «Οὐκ ἔστιν ὧδε ἄλλ' ἠγέρθη!» Τότε γιατί μετακινήθηκε ὁ μέγας λίθος;

Ἀγαπητοὶ μου χριστιανοί, στὰ γεγονότα τῆς ἀναστάσεως ὁ λίθος μετακινήθηκε ὄχι γιὰ τὸν ἀναστάντα Κύριο ἀλλὰ γιὰ ἐμᾶς, γιὰ νὰ μπορέσουμε νὰ συναναστηθοῦμε κι ἐμεῖς μαζί του. Ὁ τάφος ἄνοιξε γιὰ νὰ εἰσέλθουμε σὲ αὐτὸν θάπτοντας τὸν ἄνθρωπο τῆς ἁμαρτίας καὶ τοῦ ἐγωῖσμοῦ. Καὶ ἄς ψάλουμε μαζί μὲ τὸν ψαλμωδὸ στὴν πασχαλινὴ



Λειτουργία: «Χθές συνεθαπτόμην σοι, Χριστέ, συνεγείρομαι σήμερον ἀναστάντι σοι» (Κανόνας τῆς Ἀναστάσεως, ὠδή γ'). Ὁ τάφος εἶναι τὸ Θαβώρ τῆς μεταμορφώσεώς μας. Ὁ τάφος εἶναι τὸ κέντρο τῆς καρδιάς μας, ὅπου ἐκκληρώνεται τὸ ρητὸ τῆς νηπτικῆς σοφίας: «Ἄν πεθάνεις πρὶν πεθάνεις, δὲ θὰ πεθάνεις ὅταν πεθάνεις»!

Ἔτσι, λοιπόν, ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί, ἄς μὴ ἀναρωτηθοῦμε «Τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον». Ἄς κάνουμε κάθε προσπάθεια γιὰ νὰ τὸν μετακινήσουμε μὲ τις δυνάμεις μας! Ὁ Θεὸς θὰ μᾶς βοηθήσει στὸν ἀγώνα αὐτόν! Καὶ νὰ εἴμαστε σίγουροι ὅτι στὸν τάφο θάβουμε τὸν κακὸ ἑαυτό μας, θάβουμε τὰ ἐγκόσμια, γιὰ νὰ ἀναγεννηθοῦμε μὲ τὴν ἀνάσταση τοῦ Χριστοῦ! Ὁ λίθος εἶναι ἀσήκωτος ἐξαιτίας τῶν θλίψεων καὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μας, ἀλλὰ ὁ Θεὸς μᾶς συγχωρεῖ κατὰ πάντα καὶ μᾶς ζητᾷ νὰ πράξουμε τὸ ἴδιο γιὰ τοὺς συνανθρώπους μας. Ἡ συγχώρηση εἶναι ἡ δύναμη ποὺ μετακινεῖ τὸν λίθο τῆς ἁμαρτίας καὶ στρώνει τὸ δρόμο τῆς ἀγάπης. Αὐτὴ ἐξάλλου εἶναι καὶ ἡ πραγματικὴ ἀνάσταση στὴ ζωὴ αὐτῇ, ποὺ ὀδηγεῖ στὴν αἰώνια ζωὴ. Ἄς ἀναστηθοῦν στὴν καρδιά μας ἡ ἀγάπη, ἡ συγχώρηση καὶ ἡ φιλανθρωπία γιὰ ὅλους, καὶ ἄς γίνουμε ἔτσι γνήσια τέκνα τῆς Ἀναστάσεως. Ἄς γίνει αὐτὸ τὸ Πάσχα γιὰ ὅλους μας τὸ μυστήριον τῶν μυστηρίων, ἡ πύλη πρὸς τὴν αἰώνια ζωὴ διὰ μέσῳ τοῦ ἀναστάντος Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη!

† Ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος

† Ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος

HOLY ASCENSION - MAY 25

Courtesy of the Orthodox Archdiocese of America

www.goarch.org

The Lord Jesus passed forty days on earth after His Resurrection from the dead, appearing continually in various places to His disciples, with whom He also spoke, ate, and drank, thereby further demonstrating His Resurrection. On this Thursday, the fortieth day after Pascha, He appeared again in Jerusalem. After He had first spoken to the disciples about many things, He gave them His last commandment, that is, that they go forth and proclaim His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. But He also commanded them that for the present, they were not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait there together until they receive power from on high, when the Holy Spirit would come upon them.

Saying these things, He led them to the Mount of Olives, and raising His hands, He blessed them; and saying again the words of the Father's blessing, He was parted from them and taken up. Immediately a cloud of light, a proof of His majesty, received Him. Sitting thereon as though on a royal chariot, He was taken up into Heaven, and after a short time was concealed from the sight of the disciples, who remained where they were with their eyes fixed on Him. At this point, two Angels in the form of men in white raiment appeared to them and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus, Who is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven" (Acts 1:11). These words, in a complete and concise manner, declare what is taught in the Symbol of Faith concerning the Son and Word of God. Therefore, having so fulfilled all His dispensation for us, our Lord Jesus Christ ascended in glory into Heaven, and sat at the right hand of God the Father. As for His sacred disciples, they returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem, rejoicing because Christ had promised to send them the Holy Spirit.

It should be noted that the Mount of Olives is a Sabbath's day journey from Jerusalem, that is, the distance a Jew was permitted to walk on the day of the Sabbath. Ecumenius writes, "A Sabbath day's journey is one mile in length, as Clement says in his fifth Stromatis; it is two thousand cubits, as the Interpretation of the Acts states." They draw this conclusion from the fact that, while they were in the wilderness, the Israelites of old kept within this distance from the Holy Tabernacle, whither they walked on the Sabbath day to worship God.



Apolytikion of Holy Ascension Fourth Tone

O Christ our God, You ascended in Glory and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Your blessing assured them that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Kontakion of Holy Ascension Plagal Of The Second Tone

O Christ our God, upon fulfilling Your dispensation for our sake, You ascended in Glory, uniting the earthly with the heavenly. You were never separate but remained inseparable, and cried out to those who love You, "I am with you and no one is against you."

ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ - ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΗ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

ΙΕΡΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ

ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΒΑΛΤΙΜΟΡΗΣ

μελέτη
της Βίβλου
Bible study

Κάθε Δευτέρα

6:45-7:30μ.μ.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Filippou Family Members

Nicholas Filippou

In Memory of George Roros

Ms. Kiki Roros

In Memory of Zoe Maltas

Kelly Lintzeris

In Memory of Kalliopi Paros

Kelly Lintzeris

In Memory of Perdika Stroumbis

Mr. & Mrs. Georgios Kornias

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Klosteridis

Mrs. Helen Pikounis

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Apostolis Venetis

Demetrios & Kiki Venetis

In Memory of Konstantoula

✠ ***George Bakoulas***

Demetrios & Kiki Venetis

In Memory of Linda Skandalis

Mr. George Skandalis

In Memory of Konstantinos Forakis

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of John Lallas

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Demetrios Cossis

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Anastasia Christ

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Stergios Trintis

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Savvas, Maria, Anthie,

& Hariklia Georgas

Ms. Maria Salpeas

In Memory of Manolis Koukoulas

Ms. Anthi Koukoulas

A monetary donation was sent to Saint Nicholas by the following parishioners to honor Maria Salpeas' Retirement

Judge & Mrs. John C. Themelis & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Koukides & Family

Mrs. Rose Minas

Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Galiatsatos

Mrs. Chrisoula Foniadakis



PHILOPTOCHOS

Xristos Anesti! Christ has Risen!

Hebrews 12:20-21 Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the tomb of Christ and all those that donated for the flowers. May God grant you and your families many years of health! The remaining funds after the flowers were paid go to help those in need. For Easter we supplied 6 families with food and helped other families with utilities. Rest assured that your donations to Philoptochos are used 100% for our philanthropic missions.

The generosity of an anonymous donor for the Tsourekia allowed us to replenish the Aporon Funds that are used for utilities, burials, mortgages, etc. We are extremely grateful and wish that family health and happiness in their home!

Philoptochos Elections will take place on Monday, May 8th at the Plateia at 6:00 p.m. A notice has been mailed out informing the members of the eligibility requirements to run for the board and the rules and regulations for voting. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Please note that our Annual Mother's Day event has been changed to Saturday, May 20th at 1:00 p.m. at Jimmy's Famous Seafood. For tickets or information please contact Patty Micklos at 443-310-7277 of any Philoptochos board member.

Sunday, May 21st Philoptochos will be awarding Scholarships on behalf of families that honor the memory of their loved ones. Congratulations to all our students that are graduating this year and continuing their studies!

Our last General Meeting will take place on Monday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Plateia. Join us and bring a friend.

DONATIONS:

In Memory of Michael and Elpida Harris:

From Tina Harris

In Memory of Ioannis and Amalia Hatzikosmas and Manasis and Parisia Vasiliou:

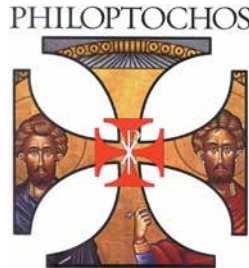
From Frank and Irene Vasiliou

Donation for The Food Account: From Mrs. Eleni Pikounis

Χρήστος Ανέστη! Χριστός Ανέστη!

Κατά τους Εβραίους 12:20-21 «Τώρα, ο Θεός της ειρήνης, που μέσω του αίματος της αιώνιας διαθήκης επανέφερε από τους νεκρούς τον Κύριό μας Ιησού, αυτόν τον μεγάλο Ποιμένα των προβάτων, είθε να σας εξοπλίσει με κάθε τι καλό για να κάνετε το θέλημά του, και είθε να εργαστεί μέσα μας ό,τι είναι ευάρεστο σε αυτόν, μέσω του Ιησού Χριστού, στον οποίο ας είναι δόξα στους αιώνες των αιώνων». Αμήν

Ευχαριστούμε όλους όσους βοήθησαν στον στολισμό του τάφου του Χριστού και όλους όσους πρόσφεραν για τα λουλούδια. Ο Θεός να χαρίζει σε εσάς και τις οικογένειές σας πολλά χρόνια με υγεία! Τα υπόλοιπα κεφάλαια μετά την πληρωμή των λουλουδιών πηγαίνουν για βοήθεια σε όσους έχουν ανάγκη. Για το Πάσχα εφοδιάσαμε 6 οικογένειες με τρόφιμα και βοηθήσαμε άλλες οικογένειες με τα κοινόχρηστα έξοδά τους. Να είστε βέβαιοι ότι οι δωρεές σας προς τον Φιλόπτωχο χρησιμοποιούνται 100% για τις φιλανθρωπικές μας αποστολές.



Η γενναιοδωρία ενός ανώνυμου δωρητή για τα Tsourekia μας επέτρεψε να αναπληρώσουμε τα Ταμεία Απόρων που χρησιμοποιούνται για κοινόχρηστα έξοδα, ταφές, υποθήκες κ.λπ. Είμαστε εξαιρετικά ευγνώμονες και ευχόμαστε υγεία και ευτυχία στην οικογένεια στο σπίτι τους!

Οι Εκλογές της Φιλόπτωχου θα διεξαχθούν τη Δευτέρα 8 Μαΐου στην Πλατεία στις 6:00 μ.μ. Έχει αποσταλεί ταχυδρομική ειδοποίηση που ενημερώνει τα μέλη για τις προϋποθέσεις επιλογής τους για να μπορέσουν να υποβάλουν υποψηφιότητα στο διοικητικό συμβούλιο και τους κανόνες και τους κανονισμούς ψηφοφορίας. Αν έχετε οποιοδήποτε απορίες, παρακαλούμε επικοινωνήστε μαζί μας.

Λάβετε υπόψη ότι η ετήσια εκδήλωση για την Ημέρα της Μητέρας άλλαξε και θα γίνει το Σάββατο 20 Μαΐου στις 1:00 μ.μ. στο Jimmy's Famous Seafood. Για εισιτήρια ή πληροφορίες, παρακαλούμε επικοινωνήστε με την Patty Micklos στο 443-310-7277 ή οποιοδήποτε μέλος του διοικητικού συμβουλίου της Φιλοπτώχου.

Την Κυριακή 21 Μαΐου ο Φιλόπτωχος θα απονεμίει Υποτροφίες εκ μέρους οικογενειών που τιμούν τη μνήμη των αγαπημένων τους προσώπων. Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους τους μαθητές μας που αποφοιτούν φέτος και συνεχίζουν τις σπουδές τους!

Η τελευταία μας Γενική Συνέλευση θα πραγματοποιηθεί τη Δευτέρα 22 Μαΐου στις 6:00 μ.μ. στην Πλατεία. Ελάτε να μας τιμήσετε με την παρουσία σας και φέρτε έναν φίλο.

Δωρεές:

Στη μνήμη του Μιχαήλ και της Ελπίδας Χάρις: Από την Τίνα Χάρις

Στη μνήμη του Ιωάννη και της Αμαλίας Χατζηκοσμά και του Μανάση και της Παρισίας Βασιλείου: Από τον Φράγκο και την Ειρήνη Βασιλείου

Δωρεά για το The Food Account: από την κα Ελένη Πικούνη

RECOGNITION OF TWO NEW SAINTS

On Wednesday, April 26, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate registered Elder Gerasimos Mikragiannanitis and Ecumenical Patriarch Jeremiah I in the list of saints of the Orthodox Church.



Jeremiah I was born in Zitsa in Epirus, and was elected Metropolitan of Sofia around the year 1513. Although he had a limited education, he was well-liked and had a gift for administration. Jeremiah was elected Ecumenical Patriarch by the Holy Synod in 1522.

Two years later while he was traveling, some clergy in Constantinople deposed Jeremiah and uncanonically elected Ioannikios of Sozopol as Ecumenical Patriarch. With the help of the Patriarchs of Antioch and Alexandria, Jeremiah succeeded in overturning the election coup and Ioannikios was deposed by two Synods. Jeremiah was officially restored in 1525, and was enthusiastically received by the clergy and people of Constantinople, gaining great influence from then on.

During his time, the former Cell of Stavronikita was assigned to Patriarch Jeremiah and it was elevated to “Stavronikita Monastery”, thus becoming the twentieth monastery of Mount Athos. Following the invitation of the community, Patriarch Jeremiah was personally involved in the reconstruction of the Monastery, of which he emerged as a benefactor and which he declared Stavropegic in 1544.

During his Patriarchate he managed to save many churches, which were threatened with demolition by the Turks. In 1537 Jeremiah obtained a decree by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, stopping the conversion of churches in Constantinople into mosques.

In 1538 Jeremiah donated part of his property to the Patriarchate. In 1546 he fell ill, abdicated the Throne, and became a Great Schema monk named John. He fell asleep in the Lord on January 13, 1546.

The annual commemoration of our Holy Father Ecumenical Patriarch Jeremiah I is January 13th.

Elder Gerasimos was born in 1905 in Droviani. From a young age, the saint had a zeal for letters. Eventually the saint cultivated the thought of becoming a monk and went to Mount Athos in 1923, becoming a novice in the Hermitage of Saint Anna. In the desolate, arid, sharp, and barren location, he found absolute spiritual joy and fulfillment of his life’s dream. He devoted himself undividedly to the asceticism of the spiritual life and to the study of the sacred ecclesiastical texts. In 1924, the saint received the monastic tonsure, taking the name “Gerasimos”.



Elder Gerasimos, among other things, was famous for his hospitality, which he also inspired in others. His ascetic and withdrawn life in no way affected his sociability. The lay visitors who came to him always left benefited and charmed, as his speech was always careful. Prudent in his responses, he systematically avoided untimely discussions and chatter; he always sought silence, which he considered “the mother of wise concepts”. In addition to the laity, the visitors were often clergymen or even monks, who came with the same purpose: to listen to the elder, to benefit spiritually and to learn from his virtuous life.

During his lifetime, he was a librarian and head of the order of services in the kyriakon of the Hermitage of Saint Anna, compiling and publishing a catalog of manuscript codices of the library of the kyriakon of the Skete. In this capacity he helped many scholars in finding and obtaining copies of the manuscripts, and he himself wrote valuable studies and articles.

The saint was once blessed with a vision of Christ “shining, brighter than the sun”, along with the imprints of the nails and the wound in His side. The symbols of the Passion were of great significance. It was at this time that the saint was given the gift of hymn-writing, which he previously did not possess, similar to the lives of St. Symeon the New Theologian and St. Romanos the Melodist.

St. Gerasimos Mikragiannanitis was a hymnographer, meaning most of his work was immediately used in the liturgical life of the Church. But he also considered the hymnography itself an extension of prayer, communion with God and the saints: “I have the saint in front of me. That’s why I don’t want to communicate with anyone. Hymnography, this spiritual work, is a union of the soul with God; it is a wondrous prayer; it is a meditation of the nous; it is a secret theoria; it is a mystery, which is not interpreted and is not externalized with words. Hymnography is the highest philosophy. It does not express itself in words. One has to try it to feel it.”

St. Gerasimos fell asleep in the Lord on December 7, 1991. His rich hymnographic work is estimated at more than 2,000 sacred services.

The annual commemoration of the Venerable Gerasimos Mikragiannanitis is December 7th.



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ST. NICHOLAS BILINGUAL EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Hello BEEC Friends and Families,

The Saint Nicholas Bilingual Early Education Center provides a safe, nurturing, home away from home learning center. We accept children from 6 weeks till 5 years of age. BEEC is hiring full-time certified Preschool/ Two's teachers at the Center. If you or anyone you know is interested, please call the Center at 410-633-5020 extension 4 or message us on Facebook.

In April, we celebrated Easter with a visit from the Easter bunny and an egg hunt. The children enjoyed searching and finding the eggs that our Easter bunny left for them. We also celebrated our 6-year anniversary and hosted a luncheon for our BEEC family.



This month the children will also learn about the life cycle of a butterfly. We will have live caterpillars in our classrooms and they will teach us about the miracle of metamorphosis. The children will then release the butterflies into the wild.

Michelle Abuel
Director of BEEC



Δίγλωσσος Βρεφονηπιακός Σταθμός Αγίου Νικολάου,

Το Δίγλωσσο Κέντρο Πρόωρης Εκπαίδευσης του Αγίου Νικολάου παρέχει ένα ασφαλές, περιποιητικό, κέντρο εκμάθησης μακριά από το σπίτι. Δεχόμαστε παιδιά από 6 εβδομάδων έως 5 ετών. Ο ΒΕΕC προσλαμβάνει πιστοποιημένους δασκάλους Προσχολικής Αγωγής στο Κέντρο πλήρους απασχόλησης. Εάν ενδιαφέρεστε εσείς ή κάποιος που γνωρίζετε, καλέστε το Κέντρο στο 410-633-5020 επέκταση 4 ή στείλτε μας μήνυμα στο Facebook.

Τον Απρίλιο, γιορτάσαμε το Πάσχα με μια επίσκεψη από το λαγουδάκι του Πάσχα και ένα κυνήγι αυγών. Τα παιδιά χάρηκαν ψάχνοντας και βρίσκοντας τα αυγά που τους άφησε το πασχαλινό μας κουνελάκι. Πορτάσαμε επίσης την 6η επέτειό μας και διοργανώσαμε ένα γεύμα για την οικογένειά του Σταθμού μας.

Αυτό το μήνα τα παιδιά θα μάθουν και για τον κύκλο ζωής μιας πεταλούδας. Θα έχουμε ζωντανές κάμπιες στις τάξεις μας και θα μας μάθουν για το θαύμα της μεταμόρφωσης. Στη συνέχεια, τα παιδιά θα απελευθερώσουν τις πεταλούδες στη φύση.

Michelle Abuel
Υποδιευθύντρια του ΒΕΕC



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We are excited to announce that Lord Baltimore AHEPA Chapter’s annual golf tournament is on Monday, May 22, 2023 at Mountain Branch Golf Course in Fallston, MD. Proceeds from the tournament are used to distribute scholarships to deserving local students and to help our community. There are many ways to support the tournament from volunteering on the day of the event, to spreading the word about the tournament, to seeking potential golfers, to being a sponsor, or playing as a golfer. Please offer your time, talent, or treasure to make the tournament a success.

Visit www.golfahepa.com for more information and registration!!!

If you have any questions, you may send an email message to info@golfahepa.com.

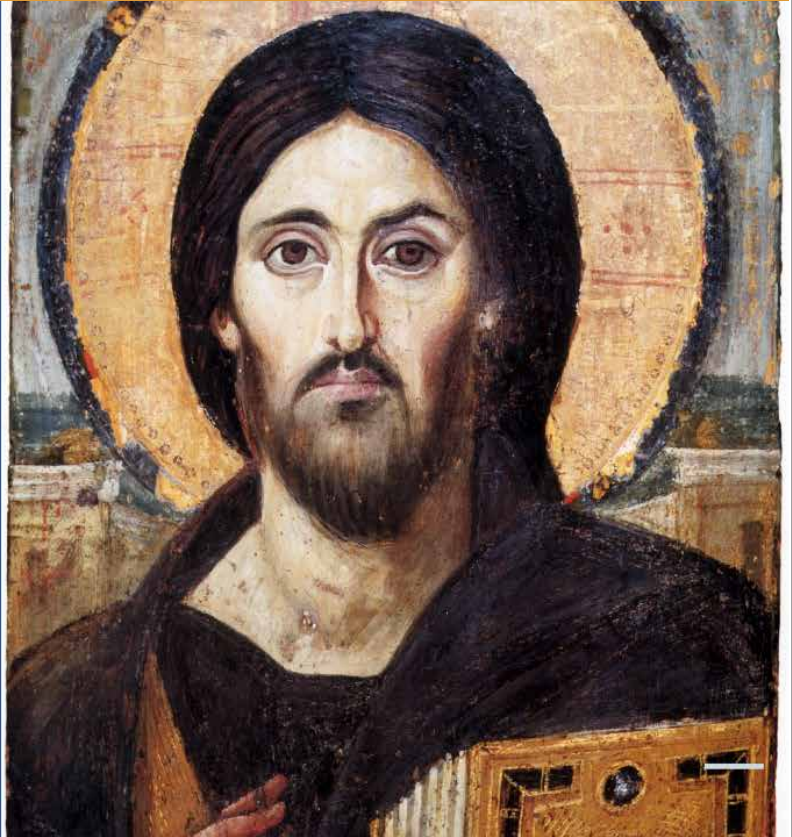
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Κάθε Τετάρτη

6:05 – 6:20



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- Website: <https://greekfolkfestival.com>
- Youtube: [@st.nicholasgreekorthodoxch294](https://www.youtube.com/@st.nicholasgreekorthodoxch294)
- Youtube: [@fr.georgiosoikonomou](https://www.youtube.com/@fr.georgiosoikonomou)
- Facebook: SaintNicholasBaltimore
- Blog: saintnicholasmd.blogspot.com



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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:

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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.

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Δωρεά που σχεδιάζω _____ Παρακαλώ στείλτε μου πληροφορίες σχετικά με τον τρόπο που μπορώ να δωρίσω.

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Name of Spouse / Όνομα συζύγου	Date of Birth / Ημερομ. Γεννήσεως
Occupation / Επάγγελμα	
Occupation / Επάγγελμα (Spouse)	
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Mobile Phone / Κινητό τηλέφωνο	Mobile Phone / Κινητό τηλέφωνο (Spouse)
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Email Address of Spouse / Ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση συζύγου	
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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 ή κατεβάστε την εφαρμογή GivePlus mobile. Εάν έχετε απορίες, επικοινωνήστε με το Γραφείο της Εκκλησίας στο τηλέφωνο 410-633-5020.



100 CENTENNIAL 1922-2022 PILGRIMAGE

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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 Ascelpion



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Don't forget weddings, baptisms, engagements, graduations, memorials*

- \$400 - Full Page - 6" x 9"
- \$200 - Half Page - 6" x 4.5"
- \$125 - Quarter Page - 3" x 4.5"

- \$600 - Back Cover
- \$600 - Inside Front Cover
- \$500 - Inside Back Cover

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 5th

Completed forms and ads must be received by 5/5/23 or placement cannot be guaranteed in the ad book

(Jpg or pdf format, Minimum resolution - 150 ppi)

Artwork to saintnicholasfestival@gmail.com

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Submission date: _____ / _____ / 2023

NOTE: Please e-mail an electronic version of your ad to saintnicholasfestival@gmail.com by **Friday, May 5**. Ads that do not fit the measurements above will be resized. No bleed edge required. Please check box at top of form if same ad as 2022.

PAYMENT: Please send your form and check made out to: **St. Nicholas Greek Folk Festival 2023 Ad Book**, 520 South Ponca Street, Baltimore, MD 21224. For payment questions please contact Sophia Paros at 443-910-5338 or use **Vanco's easy online payment option:**



NOTICES

Board of Directors

John Pentikis, President
Pericles Likakis, Vice-President
Savvas Spanos, Treasurer
Louis Kanaras, Corresp. Secretary
Michael Mavronis, Recording Sec.

Committee Chairs

Stanley Souranis, Mike Mavronis,
Scholarship
Nick Forakis, Housing
Anthony Trintis, Membership
Dimitri "Jim" Loukas, Bylaws
Michael Mavronis, Historian
George Stakias, Veteran Coordinator

LORD BALTIMORE Chapter No. 364 Order of AHEPA Capital District 3



Board of Governors

Pericles Likakis - Chairman
Nick Forakis
Dimitri "Jim" Loukas
Michael Mavronis
Steve Roros
Stanley Souranis
George Stakias
Emmanuel Theoharis
Anthony Trintis

BOG Advisors

John Pentikis

March 1, 2023

Past Presidents

*John Fanglis, 1949-51
*Costas Michaels, 1951-52
*Andrew A. Papaminas, 1952-54
*George Kortses, 1954-55
*Herbert L. Bent, 1955-56
*John Morekas, 1956-57
*George Peters, 1957-58
*Manuel Kajanghi, 1958-59
*Peter J. Moralis, 1959-60
*Andrew Lygoumenos, 1960-61
*Charles Tsakalis, 1961-62
Peter J. Morekas, 1962-63
John Vardavas, Sr., 1963-64
*Andrew A. Papaminas, 1964-65
*Hercules Barberis, 1965-67
*Peter J. Moralis, 1967-70
Gabriel Pantelides, 1970-72
*Basilios Trintis, 1972-73
*George Demetrides, 1973-77
Frank Tselepis, 1977-80
*James Kapianges, 1980-84
*Michael Athas, 1984-91
*Nicholas A. Trintis, 1991-92
*Spencer Vavas, 1992-93
*James Andrew, 1993-95
*Panagiotis A. Saliaris, 1995-96
Nicholas J. Filpidis, 1996-98
Michael P. Mavronis, 1998-2000
*Peter H. Christ, Jr., 2000-01
*Deno Yenias, 2001-02
*Spencer Vavas, 2002-03
Gus Zissimos, 2003-04
*Nicholas Trintis 2004-05
Steve Mavronis, 2005-08
George Stakias, 2008-09
*Nicholas A. Trintis 2009-2010
Nicholas Forakis 2010-2012
*George Frangos 2012-2013
Louis Kanaras 2013-2016
Michael P. Mavronis 2016-2018
Nicholas J. Filpidis, 2018-2019
Dimitri "Jim" Loukas, 2019-2020
Pericles Likakis, 2020-2022
John Pentikis, 2022-


* denotes deceased

The Lord Baltimore Order of AHEPA is pleased to announce that scholarship applications are available. We kindly request that the applications be placed in a location within the church where interested students can pick one up.

We would appreciate if the Sunday bulletin could announce the arrival of the scholarship applications as well as directing interested students to our website, <http://ahepa364.org>. Here students can find more information on the application process as well as download an application.

Our Chapter appreciates your help in notifying students at your church about the scholarships. We look forward to honoring deserving students by presenting them with scholarships at Saint Nicholas Church on AHEPA Day, May 21st.

Respectfully,


John Pentikis
President
Lord Baltimore Order of AHEPA

Lord Baltimore AHEPA
P.O. Box 12068, Baltimore, Maryland 21281-9998
www.AHEPA364.org

NOTICES

**THE ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
CELEBRATES ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY WITH**

ALKISTIS PROTOPSALTI DIMITRIS MPASIS

MAY 6, 2023

7:30pm

BALTIMORE

**KRAUSHAAR
AUDITORIUM**

at Goucher College
1021 Delaney Valley Rd., Towson, MD 21204

Achilleas Waster: Musical Director
Nikos Katsikis: Bouzouki

 **SYN-PHONIA
ENTERTAINMENT INC.**
Executive Producer

TICKETS: www.goucher.universitytickets.com

BOX OFFICE: 410-337-6000

INFO: 410-790-7542, 410-633-5020

\$60, \$75, \$95

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Nationwide in the US

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 or download the GivePlus mobile app.

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! FESTIVAL - JUNE 8-11

PREPARATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY FOR THE 2023 ST. NICHOLAS FESTIVAL. MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL EVENT. THERE WILL BE A WIDE VARIETY OF VOLUNTEER OPTIONS FOR EVERYONE. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH THE OFFICE (410-633-5020) OR SOFIA (240-375-5464) TO SIGN UP!

CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR FESTIVAL MEETING NOTICES!



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!*



St. Nicholas Greek School PTA
2022-2023 Fundraiser
KARELLAS CAFÉ



Karellas Café has generously offered to donate 10% of all their Proceeds during Greek School hours for either Dining in or Carry Out orders. All you have to do is mention you are there for Greek School. Please consider supporting our St. Nicholas Greek School Fundraiser and enjoy your coffees, desserts, appetizers, or dinners.

Thank you in advance for all your Support throughout the School Year.
St. Nicholas Greek School PTA

- Where: Karellas Café
426 S. Newkirk St. Baltimore, MD 21224
- When: Every Mondays & Wednesdays
- Time: 4:00PM- 8:00PM
- Phone #: 443-520-3030

NOTICE:



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

Thank you for your cooperation.

A photograph of a wine bottle being poured into a glass. The background is blurred, showing people at an event. The text is overlaid on a dark red banner at the bottom of the image.

Saint Nicholas Greek School
Wine Fundraiser
Celebrating 70 Years
White and Red Wines from Greece
1 for \$20
2 for \$40 with box
Place order: stnicholaspta520@gmail.com

FINANCIALS

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Consolidated Operational Profit and Loss

	2021 Actual	2022 Annual Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Approved Annual Budget	2023 Q1 Actual
Net Church/Greek School Operations (excl. Ministry)	\$ (66,796)	\$ (208,119)	\$ (192,203)	\$ (239,690)	\$ (116,142)
Net Festival	\$ 51,214	\$ 145,000	\$ 159,551	\$ 167,188	\$ -
Net Learning Center (Operational and Grants)	\$ (84,812)	\$ 239,534	\$ 215,743	\$ 166,821	\$ 52,439
Net Plateia Operating	\$ (170,138)	\$ 20,632	\$ (4,850)	\$ 8,065	\$ (19,538)
Plateia Mortgage Principal Payments (from Operational funds)	\$ (10,216)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4815 Eastern Ave Principal Mortgage Payments	\$ (6,613)	\$ (6,600)	\$ (6,807)	\$ (6,860)	\$ (1,765)
PPP Loans (Both 1st and 2nd Draws fully forgiven)	\$ 90,567	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$ (196,795)	\$ 190,447	\$ 171,435	\$ 95,525	\$ (85,006)

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Church and Greek School January - March 2023

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget
Income			
4000 Stewardship	54,621.00	70,160.00	(15,539.00)
4010 Greek School Registration	6,390.00	945.00	5,445.00
4020 Sales - Candles	20,838.00	20,980.00	(142.00)
Other Income	17,042.60	30,615.00	(13,572.40)
Total Income	98,891.60	122,700.00	(23,808.40)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	16,349.78	13,605.00	2,744.78
Gross Profit	82,541.82	109,095.00	(26,553.18)
Expenses			
Total CAPITAL COSTS (CHURCH)	7,809.39	3,595.00	4,214.39
Total GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	66,239.28	66,608.75	(369.47)
Total OCCUPANCY COSTS	28,950.10	19,493.00	9,457.10
Total PAYROLL EXPENSES	95,685.19	77,398.00	18,287.19
Total YOUTH AND EDUCATIONAL	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	198,683.96	167,094.75	31,589.21
Net Operating Income	(116,142.14)	(57,999.75)	(58,142.39)
4815 Eastern AVE Mortgage Principal Payments	\$ 1,764.85		
OVERALL CHURCH SURPLUS (LOSS) (Operating and Mortgage)	(\$117,906.99)		

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Learning Center

January - March 2023

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget	
Income				
4011 Learning Center Income	272,153.25	302,722.00	(30,568.75)	
Total 4011 Learning Center Income	272,153.25	302,722.00	(30,568.75)	89.90%
Total Income	272,153.25	302,722.00	(30,568.75)	
Gross Profit	272,153.25	302,722.00	(30,568.75)	
Expenses				
LEARNING CENTER				
Total Payroll Expense (L.C.)	180,427.23	216,538.00	(36,110.77)	83.32%
Total Food and Classroom Supplies (L.C.)	8,334.49	29,180.00	(20,845.51)	28.56%
Total Admin and Office Expenses (L.C.)	10,599.27	23,375.00	(12,775.73)	45.34%
Total Occupancy Expenses/Cap Improvements (L.C.)	20,353.37	14,808.00	5,545.37	137.45%
Total LEARNING CENTER	219,714.36	283,901.00	(64,186.64)	
Total Expenses	219,714.36	283,901.00	(64,186.64)	
Net Operating Income	52,438.89	18,821.00	33,617.89	278.62%
Other Revenue				
State and Local Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Other Revenue	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Net Other Revenue	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Budget vs. Actuals: Plateia

January - March 2023

	Actual	Budget	over (under) Budget
Income			
4140 Plateia Income (Onsite)	41,309.00	93,150.00	(51,841.00)
Total Income	41,309.00	93,150.00	(51,841.00)
Cost of Goods Sold			
COST OF GOODS SOLD			
Total Plateia CGS Expenses	12,814.81	17,875.00	(5,060.19)
Total COST OF GOODS SOLD	12,814.81	17,875.00	(5,060.19)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	12,814.81	17,875.00	(5,060.19)
Gross Profit	28,494.19	75,275.00	(46,780.81)
Expenses			
PLATEIA EXPENSES			
Total Occupancy Expenses (Plateia)	38,416.30	29,275.00	9,141.30
Total Payroll Expenses (Plateia)	2,763.92	5,532.00	(2,768.08)
Total Admin Expenses (Plateia)	3,692.63	5,715.00	(2,022.37)
Total Bus Dev/Marketing Expenses (Plateia)	3,159.00	4,365.00	(1,206.00)
Total PLATEIA EXPENSES	48,031.85	44,887.00	3,144.85
Total Expenses	48,031.85	44,887.00	3,144.85
Net Operating Income	(19,537.66)	30,388.00	(49,925.66)

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Earmarked Transactions: Statement of Cash Flows

January - March 2023

CASH RECEIVED

Votive Candles		833
Dodecanese Event		6,705
Greek School		1,090
Other Earmarked Contributions		6,596
Total Cash Received	\$	15,224

CASH DISBURSED

Church Kitchen Improvements		43,359
Dodecanese Event		1,183
Votive Candles		6,650
Greek School		10
Other Earmarked Disbursements		19,006
Total Cash Disbursed	\$	70,208

NET EARMARKED CASH FLOW

	\$	(54,984)
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LITURGICAL CALENDAR - MAY

- Sunday, May 7: Sunday of the Paralytic:
Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
- Sunday, May 14: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman:
Orthros: 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
- Sunday, May 21: Sunday of the Blind Man: Sts. Constantine & Helen
Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
- Tuesday, May 23: Apodosis of Pascha:
Orthros and Divine Liturgy, 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm
- Thursday, May 25: Feast of Ascension:
Orthros: 8:45 am Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am
- Sunday, May 28: Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Council
Orthros: 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am
- Monday, May 29: Memorial Day at the Oak Lawn Cemetery:
Service will begin at 10:00 am.
This will be a group Memorial Service for all the departed loved ones
in Christ. May their souls rest in peace and may their memory be
Eternal.



Bible Study session with Father Georgios on Monday nights from 6:45 to 7:30 pm