

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Message from FR. GEORGIOS OIKONOMOU, PROTOPRESBYTER

**My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,
members of St. Nicholas Community!**

In a few days, with the grace of our Triune God, we will enter the Holy and Great Lent. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very blessed and solemn spiritual journey—one that, through our participation in the worship and life of the Church, will lead us to Holy Easter, the three-day Resurrection of our Lord and God, Jesus Christ.

I would like to dedicate today's article in St. Nicholas "Koinonia" to some of our parishioners who are very important—that is, to each and every one of you. You should know that all of you, as parishioners, are equally great and important. Just as all people are equal before God, His beloved children, so too are we all equal within the church community. The Apostle Paul, when speaking about the Church, teaches that it is the Body of Christ, and every person is an equal member of that Holy Body. Just as each part of the human body is valuable and necessary, so too does each believer perform a special and unique ministry in the Church.

In particular, I would like to reflect on some of our parishioners who remain silent, peaceful, and humble. They understand that the Church is a sacred sacrament; they come humbly, light their candle, pray, participate in worship, and return home, having received the blessing and comfort of Christ. They do not comment, gossip, or involve themselves in political matters. They do not lose the blessing they have just received by criticizing others or engaging in conflicts. Many of them endure pain and face great trials in life—mourning the loss of loved ones, battling illness, struggling for their children in times of danger—yet they participate in the suffering of the world with silent pain and heartfelt prayer. I would dare to say that the prayers of these individuals are heard by God, and we are deeply grateful for their prayers and their silent yet profoundly meaningful contribution to our community.

It is well known that our communities here in the United States rely on the generosity of their members. Volunteer giving and Stewardship is essential if our churches are to remain open. However, beyond financial donations, an even greater necessity is the generosity of the heart—love. Let us remember our Lord Jesus Christ, who praised the poor widow who gave only two small copper coins—an amount we might consider insignificant—yet it was all she had. It was her offering, not the large financial contributions, that the Lord commended. That is why, in our blessed community, we never judge or distinguish people based on the amount of their contribution. Besides, we know from our faith that after death, there is neither "rich" nor "poor," for it is the heavenly spiritual

treasures that hold true and eternal significance, not the earthly ones.

Christ Himself teaches us through His holy example that we should not separate people. His sacrifice was for all. He cares for everyone—even those who do not deserve it—sending the sun to shine on the entire world and the rain to fall as a blessing upon both the just and the unjust. He is the true and compassionate Father, as we were reminded in the Gospel reading on the second Sunday of the Triodion, the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Most importantly, all the faithful partake of His Body and Blood, uniting with Him and with one another. That is why attending church and participating in Holy Communion should be our first and highest priority. Those of us who are healthy and able should not let this opportunity go to waste.



There are also our beloved parishioners who, for practical reasons, cannot come to church. Some are in hospitals, senior living communities, or even in their homes without help or the strength to make the way. Let us not forget them. May we always keep them in our prayers, love, and care. A great source of comfort for many of them, as they often tell me when I visit, is the live streaming of services. They eagerly await the time and day when they can participate spiritually in common prayer and worship from where they are.

During this Holy and Great Lent, let us, along with our other ascetic spiritual struggles—fasting, repentance, prayer, and almsgiving—intensify our efforts to show love to these brothers and sisters and to every person in need. A phone call, a visit, or even a simple greeting card can make a difference. Let us not forget them in our prayers. And if, for any reason, we have distanced ourselves from someone, experienced misunderstandings, or harbored anger that has led to silence, there is always a bridge to reconciliation. That bridge is love and forgiveness. Just as Christ prayed on the Cross for the forgiveness of those who crucified Him, and just as He forgives our sins with infinite love, so too must we forgive those who have hurt or wronged us—and seek forgiveness from those we have wronged.

Wishing you a blessed and spiritually fruitful Lent!

**With paternal love in Christ,
Protopresbyter Georgios Oikonomou**

Koinonia

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF
AMERICA METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



Αγαπημένοι μου ενορίτες και ενορίτισσες του Αγίου Νικολάου!

Σελίγες ημέρες, με τη Χάρι του Τρισαγίου Θεού μας, εισερχόμαστε στην Αγία και Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή. Ήθελα με την ευκαιρία αυτή να ευχηθώ σε όλους ένα πολύ ευλογημένο και κατασκευτικό πνευματικό ταξίδι, το οποίο μέσα από τη συμμετοχή μας στη λατρεία και τη ζωή της εκκλησίας θα μας οδηγήσει στο Άγιο Πάσχα, την Τριήμερη Ανάσταση του Κυρίου και Θεού μας Ιησού Χριστού.

Το σημερινό άρθρο στην «Κοινωνία» του Αγίου Νικολάου θέλω να το αφιερώσω σε κάποιους ενορίτες μας πολύ σπουδαίους. Δηλαδή στον καθένα και την καθεμία από εσάς. Πρέπει να γνωρίζετε ότι όλοι οι ενορίτες είστε το ίδιο σπουδαίοι και σημαντικοί. Όπως ενώπιον του Θεού όλοι οι άνθρωποι είμαστε ισότιμοι, παιδιά δικά Του αγαπημένα, έτσι και μέσα στην εκκλησιαστική κοινότητα όλοι είμαστε ισότιμοι. Ο Απόστολος Παύλος μιλώντας για την Εκκλησία μας διδάσκει ότι είναι το Σώμα του Χριστού και κάθε πιστός είναι ισότιμο μέλος αυτού του Τιμίου Σώματος. Όπως στο ανθρώπινο σώμα κάθε μέλος είναι πολύτιμο και απαραίτητο έτσι και στην εκκλησία κάθε πιστός επιτελεί μία ιδιαίτερη και μοναδική λειτουργία.

Ιδιαίτερα, θα ήθελα να σταθώ σε κάποιους ενορίτες μας, που παραμένουν αφανείς, ήσυχoi, αθόρυβοι και ταπεινοί. Γνωρίζουν ότι η εκκλησία είναι ιερό μυστήριο, προσέρχονται ταπεινά, ανάβουν το κεράκι τους, προσεύχονται, μετέχουν στη λατρεία και επιστρέφουν στο σπίτι τους έχοντας λάβει την ευλογία και την παρηγοριά του Χριστού μας. Δεν σχολιάζουν, δεν κουτσομπολεύουν, δεν ανακατεύονται με πολιτικά θέματα, δεν χάνουν την ευλογία που μόλις έλαβαν κατακρίνοντας άλλους ή αντιδικώντας. Πολλές φορές οι ίδιοι πονούν και υποφέρουν από μεγάλες δοκιμασίες της ζωής, πενθώντας την απώλεια αγαπημένων δικών τους ανθρώπων, αντιμετωπίζοντας ασθένειες, αγωνιώντας για τα παιδιά τους που κινδυνεύουν, συμμετέχοντας με βουβό πόνο και καρδιακή προσευχή στον πόνο όλης της οικουμένης. Θα τολμήσω να πω ότι αυτών των ανθρώπων τις προσευχές ακούει ο Θεός και είμαστε ευγνώμονες για την προσευχή τους. Είμαστε ευγνώμονες για τη σιωπηλή αλλά τόσο ουσιαστική βοήθειά τους στην κοινότητα.

Είναι γνωστό ότι οι κοινότητές μας εδώ στην Αμερική στηρίζονται στη γενναιοδωρία των μελών τους. Είναι απαραίτητη αυτή η εθελοντική προσφορά, για να μπορούν οι εκκλησίες μας να μένουν ανοιχτές. Εκτός όμως από τη γενναιοδωρία του πορτοφολιού και της οικονομικής δωρεάς εξίσου και ακόμα περισσότερο απαραίτητη είναι η γενναιοδωρία της καρδιάς. Η αγάπη. Ας θυμηθούμε τον Χριστό μας, που επαίνεσε μια φτωχή χήρα, η οποία πρόσφερε μονάχα ένα δίλεπτο, ένα αστείο θα λέγαμε ποσό, ήταν όμως όλα όσα είχε. Αυτήν την προσφορά από το υστέρημα επαίνεσε ο Κύριος και όχι τις μεγάλες οικονομικές δωρεές από το περίσσειμα. Για αυτό και εδώ στην ευλογημένη κοινότητά μας ποτέ δεν κρίνουμε και δεν ξεχωρίζουμε τους

ανθρώπους από το μέγεθος της εισφοράς τους. Άλλωστε γνωρίζουμε από τη διδασκαλία της πίστης μας ότι μετά θάνατον δεν υπάρχει «πλούσιος ή πέννης» και ότι αληθινή και αιώνια σημασία έχουν οι ουράνιοι πνευματικοί θησαυροί και όχι οι επίγειοι.

Ο Χριστός μας διδάσκει ο Ίδιος ότι δεν πρέπει να ξεχωρίζουμε τους ανθρώπους με το άγιο παράδειγμά Του. Προσφέρεται σε όλους το ίδιο. Θυσιάστηκε για όλους. Μας φροντίζει όλους, ακόμα και αν δεν το αξίζουμε, στέλνει τον ήλιο να φωτίσει όλη τη γη και ρίχνει ως ευλογία τη βροχή σε πονηρούς και αγαθούς, σε δίκαιους και αδίκους. Είναι αληθινός πατέρας, σπλαγχνικός, όπως ακούσαμε στο Ευαγγέλιο τη δεύτερη Κυριακή του Τριωδίου, την Κυριακή του Ασώτου. Και το σπουδαιότερο από όλα, όλοι οι πιστοί κοινωνούμε το Σώμα και το Αίμα Του και ενωνόμαστε μαζί Του και αναμεταξύ μας. Για αυτό ο εκκλησιασμός μας και η μετοχή στη Θεία Κοινωνία πρέπει να είναι πρώτη και απόλυτη προτεραιότητα και όσοι είμαστε υγιείς και έχουμε τη δυνατότητα αυτή, ας μην την αφήνουμε αναξιοποίητη.

Υπάρχουν και αγαπημένοι ενορίτες μας, που δεν μπορούν να έρχονται στην εκκλησία για λόγους πρακτικούς. Βρίσκονται σε Νοσοκομεία, Μονάδες Υποστήριξης Ηλικιωμένων ή ακόμα και στα σπίτια τους χωρίς βοήθεια ή δυνάμεις να κάνουν αυτόν τον δρόμο. Ας μην τους ξεχνάμε. Να τους έχουμε πάντα στην προσευχή μας, την αγάπη μας και τη φροντίδα μας. Γλυκεία παρηγοριά για πολλούς από αυτούς, όπως μου λένε οι ίδιοι όταν τους επισκέπτομαι, είναι η ζωντανή μετάδοση των ιερών ακολουθιών. Περιμένουν την ώρα και την ημέρα, για να συμμετέχουν νοερά από εκεί που βρίσκονται στην κοινή προσευχή και λατρεία.

Αυτή την Αγία και Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή ας προσπαθήσουμε μαζί με τους υπόλοιπους ασκητικούς πνευματικούς αγώνες, μαζί με τη νηστεία, τη μετάνοια, την προσευχή, την ελεημοσύνη, να φανερώσουμε εντονότερα το πρόσωπο της αγάπης και σε αυτούς τους αδελφούς μας και σε κάθε συνάνθρωπο που το έχει ανάγκη. Με ένα τηλεφώνημα, μία επίσκεψη, μία ευχετήρια κάρτα. Να μην τους ξεχνάμε στην προσευχή μας. Κι αν υπάρχουν λόγοι, για τους οποίους απομακρυνθήκαμε, παρεξηγηθήκαμε, θυμώσαμε και σταματήσαμε να μιλάμε μαζί τους, πάντα υπάρχει μια γέφυρα, για να βρεθούμε πάλι κοντά. Η γέφυρα αυτή είναι η αγάπη και η συγχώρεση. Όπως ο Χριστός μας προσευχήθηκε απάνω στον Σταυρό για τη συγχώρεση εκείνων που Τον σταύρωσαν, και όπως Εκείνος συγχωρεί με άπειρη αγάπη τις αμαρτίες μας, οφείλουμε και εμείς να συγχωρέσουμε εκείνους που μας λύπησαν ή μας αδικήσαν αλλά και να ζητήσουμε συγχώρεση οι ίδιοι από εκείνους, στους οποίους έχουμε φταίξει.

Καλή Σαρακοστή!

**Με εν Χριστώ αγάπη,
Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος Γεώργιος Οικονόμου**

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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IMPORTANT NOTICE:

KOINONIA DEADLINE

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

ISSUE MONTH: APRIL 2025

SUBMISSIONS DUE: MARCH 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

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Nicholas,

We wish you are well,

On March 7, Greece established itself as the pre-eminent island country and maritime power in the Aegean. The Dodecanese, after 638 years of slavery, were once again Greek. First came the pirates, then the Knights Hospitaller. More difficult years followed in 1522. Our islands were enslaved by the Turks. Persecutions, torture, child molestation... then the revolution of 1821 ensued. Greece longed for freedom! Greece became independent in 1830, but not our islands. Freedom would not come swiftly. In 1912 the Italians arrived. They promised us our freedom! We mistakenly believed them. In 1923 the Dodecanese are officially considered an Italian possession. In 1943 Italy loses and the Germans occupy the Dodecanese. Occupation, oppression and hunger.

In 1945, the Germans surrender our islands to the British allied forces. A year later their integration with Greece is decided. One by one our islands are being liberated. Finally on March 7, 1948, the official solemn ceremony takes place.

Let's remember the words of K. Tsaldari aimed at the Dodecanese people at the Integration ceremony on March 7, 1948: "Four thousand years... The Dodecanesians challenged the raids of all their oppressors. However, they did not succumb to their influence. On the contrary, they Hellenized many of them with their culture. Ancient Dorians and Ionians, the Dodecanesians were simultaneously fighters and sailors. The last adventure of the Dodecanese revealed more than any other time the strength and greatness of the Greek soul, with its unwavering resistance and unquenchable flame for Freedom.

I will close my thoughts with the words of Odysseus Elytis:
"Then he said and the sea was born... and in the middle of it he sowed small worlds... that the gods showed a lot of diligence and patience when they crafted this place. And they had to experiment quite a bit, even if they were gods, to make land, rocks and sea coexist in harmony. This is the Aegean... An integral part of Hellenism that for 6 thousand years, due to its geographical location and its physical configuration with hundreds of small and large islands Conquerors, robbers and pirates passed through. People did not get tired because the earth was small, but the sky was vast "to interpret the immensity alone..."

Zito the Dodecanese!
Zito the Great Greece!!!
Zito the Greek Nation!!!

With truly love and respect,
Stamatia Ieromonahos
President of the St. Nicholas Parish Council

Αγαπημένοι μας ενορίτες και φίλοι της εκκλησίας μας,

Ευχόμαστε να είσαστε πάντα καλά όλοι σας,

Ο Μάρτιος είναι ένας ιδιαίτερος μήνας με πολυσήμαντα γεγονότα για όλους τους απανταχού Έλληνες και την πατρίδα μας. Πορτάζουμε την Ενσωμάτωση της Δωδεκανήσου στις 7 του Μάρτη, Τον Ευαγγελισμό της Θεοτόκου και τον Εορτασμό της Ελληνικής Επανάστασης του 1821 στις 25 Μαρτίου.



Θα επιλέξω να σταθώ στην Ενσωμάτωση των νησιών μας με την Μητέρα Ελλάδα. Μόλις 77 χρόνια έχουν περάσει από τότε που οι Δωδεκανήσιοι ανέπνευσαν ελεύθερα. Λιγοστός σχετικά καιρός από την 7η Μαρτίου του 1948. Η 7η Μαρτίου, αποτελεί ορόσημο όχι μόνο στην ιστορία της Δωδεκανήσου, αλλά και όλης της Ελλάδος, εφόσον είναι η τελευταία εκκρεμότητα για τη σύσταση του Ελληνικού κράτους, όπως αυτό υφίσταται σήμερα.

Την 7η Μαρτίου η Ελλάδα εδραιώνεται ως η κατ' εξοχήν νησιωτική χώρα και θαλάσσια δύναμη στο Αιγαίο. Η Δωδεκάνησος έπειτα από 638 χρόνια σκλαβιάς ήταν και πάλι ελληνική. Πρώτοι ήρθαν οι πειρατές, μετά οι Ιωαννίτες ιππότες. Από το 1522 ήρθαν χρόνια πιο σκληρά. Τα νησιά μας σκλαβώθηκαν από τους Τούρκους. Διωγμοί, μαρτύρια, παιδομάζωμα... και ήρθε η επανάσταση του 1821. Η Ελλάδα ποθούσε τη λευτεριά! Η Ελλάδα έγινε ανεξάρτητη το 1830.

Όχι όμως τα νησάκια μας. Η λευτεριά αργούσε.. Το 1912 κατέφθασαν οι Ιταλοί. Μας υποσχέθηκαν τη λευτεριά μας! Και εμείς αδικώς τους πιστέψαμε. Το 1923 τα Δωδεκάνησα επίσημα θεωρούνται ως Ιταλική κτήση. Το 1943 η Ιταλία χάνει, οι Γερμανοί καταλαμβάνουν τα Δωδεκάνησα. Κατοχή, καταπίεση και πείνα..

Το 1945 οι Γερμανοί παραδίδουν τα νησιά μας στις αγγλικές συμμαχικές δυνάμεις. Ένα χρόνο αργότερα αποφασίζεται η ενσωμάτωσή τους με την Ελλάδα. Ένα - ένα τα νησάκια μας ελευθερώνονται. Και στις 7 Μαρτίου 1948 γίνεται η επίσημη πανηγυρική τελετή.

Ας θυμηθούμε τα λόγια του Κ. Τσαλδάρη για τους Δωδεκάνησους στην τελετή της Ενσωμάτωσης στις 7 Μαρτίου του 1948: «Τέσσαρες χιλιάδες χρόνια. Οι Δωδεκάνησιοι αντιμετώπισαν όλων των κατακτητών τας επιδρομάς. Δεν εδέχθησαν όμως κανενός εξ αυτών την επιρροήν. Αντιθέτως πολλούς τους εξελλήνισαν με τον πολιτισμό των. Παλαιοί Δωριείς και Ίωνες, οι Δωδεκάνησιοι υπήρξαν συγχρόνως μαχηταί και ναυτιλλόμενοι». Η τελευταία περιπέτεια της Δωδεκάνησου αποκάλυψε περισσότερο από κάθε άλλη φορά τη δύναμη και το μεγαλείο της ελληνικής ψυχής, με την άκαμπτη αντίσταση και την άσβεστη φλόγα της για την Ελευθερία.

Και θα κλείσω τις σκέψεις μου με τα λόγια του Οδυσσέα Ελύτη:
«Τότε είπε και γεννήθηκε η θάλασσα... Και στη μέση της έσπειρε κόσμους μικρούς... ότι οι θεοί επέδειξαν, περισηή επιμέλεια και υπομονή όταν φιλοτεχνούσαν αυτόν τον τόπο. Και αναγκάσθηκαν να κάνουν πολλές δοκιμές, κι ας ήταν θεοί, για να συνταιριάξουν τόσο καλά στεριά, βράχους και θάλασσα. Αυτό είναι το Αιγαίο.....Αναπόσπαστο τμήμα του ελληνισμού που για 6 χιλιάδες χρόνια, λόγω της γεωγραφικής του θέσης και της φυσικής του διαμόρφωσης με τις εκατοντάδες μικρά και μεγάλα νησιάΠέρασαν κατακτητές, ληστές και πειρατές. Οι άνθρωποι δεν κουράστηκαν γιατί η γη ήταν λίγη, μα ο ουρανός απέραντος «για να διαβάξει μόνος του την απεραντοσύνη.....»

Ζήτω η Δωδεκάνησος!
Ζήτω η Μεγάλη Ελλάδα!!!
Ζήτω το Ελληνικό Έθνος!!!

Με εκτίμηση και σεβασμό
Σταματία Ιερομονάχου
Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου Αγίου Νικολάου Βαλτιμόρης

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Courtesy of goarch.org



Reading

For more than one hundred years the Church of Christ was troubled by the persecution of the Iconoclasts of evil belief, beginning in the reign of Leo the Isaurian (717-741) and ending in the reign of Theophilus (829-842). After Theophilus's death, his widow the Empress Theodora (celebrated Feb. 11), together with the Patriarch Methodius (June 14), established Orthodoxy anew. This ever-memorable Queen venerated the icon of the Mother of God in the presence of the Patriarch Methodius and the other confessors and righteous

men, and openly cried out these holy words: "If anyone does not offer relative worship to the holy icons, not adoring them as though they were gods, but venerating them out of love as images of the archetype, let him be anathema." Then with common prayer and fasting during the whole first week of the Forty-day Fast, she asked God's forgiveness for her husband. After this, on the first Sunday of the Fast, she and her son, Michael the Emperor, made a procession with all the clergy and people and restored the holy icons, and again adorned the Church of Christ with them. This is the holy deed that all we the Orthodox commemorate today, and we call this radiant and venerable day the Sunday of Orthodoxy, that is, the triumph of true doctrine over heresy.

[Apolytikion of Sun. of Orthodoxy](#)

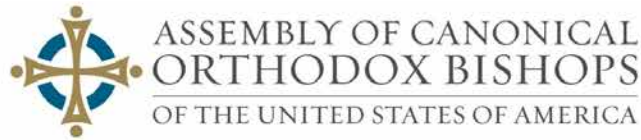
Second Tone

O Christ our God, begging forgiveness of our sins, we venerate Your Pure Image, O Good One. Of your own will you condescended to ascend upon the Cross in the flesh and deliver those You created from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, thankfully, we cry out, "When You came to save the world, Your filled all things with joy, O Our Savior."

[Kontakion of Sun. of Orthodoxy](#)

Plagal of the Fourth Tone

The indescribable word of God became defined when He became incarnate of You O Theotokos. He restored our soiled image to what it was of old by joining it to His divine beauty. We confess salvation, and recount it in word and deed.



Sunday of Orthodoxy 2025

Encyclical

Dearly beloved faithful in Christ,

Each year on the first Sunday of Great Lent, the Sunday of Orthodoxy, we lift our voices and our hearts in joyful remembrance of the restoration of the holy icons to their rightful place in the life of the Church. Today, we celebrate triumphally and with humility the resulting Unity of the Orthodox Church manifested through this decision of the 7th Ecumenical Council that met in Nicaea in 787, under the aegis of Byzantine Empress Irene and, subsequently, the definitive Restoration of Holy Icons in Constantinople on the First Sunday of Great and Holy Lent in 843, henceforth known as Orthodoxy Sunday, under the patronage of the Byzantine Regent, Saint Theodora, and, the Ecumenical Patriarch, Saint Methodios the Confessor. Now, here in the United States of America, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops is tasked with preserving, manifesting, and promoting this same mystery of Unity exemplified and confessed with courage by the Saints so long ago. Thus, inspired by the same sense of joy, witness and responsibility “Assembly of Bishops Sunday” is now recognized throughout the country in conjunction with the Sunday of Orthodoxy.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul cries out across the ages with a message that still speaks to our hearts today: “I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10). This powerful pericope crossed with the example of restoration celebrated on the Sunday of Orthodoxy inspires us to always rise above division and to stand together in the unshakable love of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ. Indeed, the restoration of the holy icons is the restoration of unity through the victory of faith over fear, of salvation over condemnation, of a God incarnate over an unknown deity. Unity prevails when we all open up our hearts and minds in selfless love, transformed by grace in the mystery of Christ. Just as we venerate icons, we too become icons to one another, united in one body, that is the Church, just as the Saints of the 8th and 9th Centuries chose to stand firm, witnessing God’s glory. Thus, let us be challenged by Saint Paul’s words by being “united in the same mind and the same judgment.” Let us not harden our differences but rather embrace what unites us in Christ.

As we celebrate Assembly of Bishops Sunday – along with the Sunday of Orthodoxy – we encourage you all to learn about the Ministries of the Assembly as well as to support our sincere efforts for Orthodox Christian Unity through the steadfast and generous gifts of your time, talent, and treasure.

With Paternal love in Christ and prayers for a blessed Lenten journey, on the 9th of March, 2025.



† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America
Chair

and the members of the Executive Committee of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops
of the United States of America



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Office of the Chairman

Ἐγκύκλιος γιὰ τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας 2025

Τέικνα ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀγαπητά,

Κάθε χρόνο, τὴν πρώτη Κυριακὴ τῆς Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστῆς, τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, ὑψώνουμε τὶς φωνές καὶ τὶς καρδιές μας μὲ χαρὰ, ἐνθυμούμενοι τὴν ἀποκατάσταση τῶν ἱερῶν εἰκόνων στὴν πρέπουσα θέση τους μέσα στὴν Ἐκκλησία. Σήμερα ἐορτάζουμε θριαμβευτικά, ἀλλὰ συγχρόνως μὲ ταπείνωση, τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας, ἡ ὁποία ἐπιβεβαιώθηκε μὲ τὴν ἀπόφαση τῆς Ἐβδόμης Οἰκουμενικῆς Συνόδου, ποὺ συνεκλήθη στὴ Νίκαια τὸ ἔτος 787, ὑπὸ τὴν αἰγίδα τῆς Βυζαντινῆς Αὐτοκράτειρας Εἰρήνης τῆς Ἀθηναίας. Ἐν συνεχείᾳ, ἡ ὀριστικὴ ἀποκατάσταση τῶν ἱερῶν εἰκόνων ἔλαβε χώρα στὴν Κωνσταντινούπολη, κατὰ τὴν πρώτη Κυριακὴ τῆς Ἁγίας καὶ Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστῆς τοῦ ἔτους 843, ὑπὸ τὴν προστασία τῆς Ἁγίας Θεοδώρας καὶ τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριάρχου, Ἁγίου Μεθοδίου τοῦ Ὁμολογητοῦ.

Σήμερα, στὶς Ἠνωμένες Πολιτείες τῆς Ἀμερικῆς, ἡ Συνέλευση τῶν Κανονικῶν Ὁρθοδόξων Ἐπισκόπων ἔχει τὴν εὐθύνη τῆς διαφυλάξεως καὶ τῆς προαγωγῆς αὐτοῦ τοῦ μυστηρίου τῆς ἐνότητας, γιὰ τὸ ὁποῖο μαρτύρησαν μὲ θάρρος οἱ ἅγιοι διὰ τῶν αἰώνων. Μὲ τὸ ἴδιο πνεῦμα χαρᾶς, μαρτυρίας καὶ εὐθύνης, ἡ «Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐπισκοπικῆς Συνελεύσεως» ταυτίζεται μὲ τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας καὶ ἀναγνωρίζεται πλέον ἔτσι σὲ ὅλη τὴ χώρα.

Στὴν πρώτη ἐπιστολὴ πρὸς τοὺς Κορινθίους ὁ Ἀπόστολος Παῦλος ἀπευθύνει ἕνα μῆνυμα, τὸ ὁποῖο παραμένει πάντα ζωντανὸ καὶ ἐπίκαιρο: «Παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, διὰ τοῦ ὀνόματος τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἵνα τὸ αὐτὸ λέγητε πάντες, καὶ μὴ ἦ ἐν ὑμῖν σχίσματα, ἦτε δὲ κατηρτισμένοι ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ νοί καὶ ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ γνώμῃ» (1:10). Ἡ δυναμικὴ αὐτὴ περικοπὴ, συνδυασμένη μὲ τὸ γεγονός τῆς ἀποκαταστάσεως τῶν ἱερῶν εἰκόνων ποὺ ἐορτάζουμε τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, μᾶς καλεῖ νὰ ὑπερβούμε τὶς ὁποῖες διαφορές μας καὶ νὰ στεκόμαστε ἐνωμένοι μὲ ἀκλόνητη πίστη πρὸς τὸν Κύριο καὶ σωτῆρα ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστό.

Πράγματι, ἡ ἀποκατάσταση τῶν ἱερῶν εἰκόνων μᾶς προτρέπει νὰ ἀποκαταστήσουμε καὶ τὴν ἐνότητα, μὲ τὴ νίκη τῆς πίστεως ἐπάνω στὸ φόβο, τῆς σωτηρίας ἐπάνω στὴν καταστροφή, τοῦ ἐνανθρωπήσαντος Θεοῦ ἐπάνω στὸν ἀγνωστικισμό. Ἡ ἐνότητα θριαμβεύει ὅταν ἀνοίγουμε τὶς καρδιές μας καὶ τὸ νοῦ μας μὲ ἀνιδιοτελεῖ ἀγάπη, μεταμορφωμένοι διὰ τῆς χάριτος τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ὅπως ἀκριβῶς προσκυνούμε τὶς ἱερές εἰκόνες, ἔτσι γινόμαστε καὶ ἐμεῖς εἰκόνες ὁ ἕνας τοῦ ἄλλου, ἐνωμένοι σὲ ἕνα σῶμα, τὴν Μία Ἁγία Ἐκκλησία, ὅπως καὶ οἱ ἅγιοι τοῦ ὄγδου καὶ τοῦ ἐνάτου αἰῶνος στάθηκαν ἀπαρασάλευτοι καὶ ὁμολόγησαν μὲ θάρρος τὴν ὀρθόδοξη πίστη.

Ἐπομένως, ἡ προτροπὴ τοῦ ἀποστόλου Παύλου ἄς γίνῃ πρόσκληση πρὸς ὅλους μας: «ἵνα ἦτε κατηρτισμένοι ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ νοί καὶ ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ γνώμῃ». Ἄντὶ νὰ ἐπισημαίνουμε τὶς διαφορές μας, ἄς προβάλλουμε ὅτι μᾶς ἐνώνει ἐν Χριστῷ.

Γιορτάζοντας τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐπισκοπικῆς Συνελεύσεως ταυτοχρόνως μὲ τὴν Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, σᾶς προτρέπουμε νὰ ἐνημερωθεῖτε γιὰ τὶς διάφορες Διακονίες καὶ δραστηριότητες τῆς Συνελεύσεως καὶ νὰ στηρίξετε μὲ σταθερότητα καὶ γενναιοδωρία τὶς

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης καὶ εὐχῆς γιὰ μίᾳ εὐλογημένη πορεία κατὰ τὴν Ἁγία καὶ Μεγάλῃ Τεσσαρακοστῇ.

Κυριακὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, 9 Μαρτίου 2025,

+ ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος,
Πρόεδρος

καὶ τὰ μέλη τῆς Ἐκτελεστικῆς Ἐπιτροπῆς τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐπισκοπικῆς Συνελεύσεως
τῶν Ἠνωμένων Πολιτειῶν τῆς Ἀμερικῆς

Annunciation of the Theotokos

Courtesy of goarch.org



Reading

Six months after John the Forerunner's conception, the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth, a town of Galilee, unto Mary the Virgin, who had come forth from the Temple

a mature maiden (see Nov. 21). According to the tradition handed down by the Fathers, she had been betrothed to Joseph four months. On coming to Joseph's house, the Archangel declared: "Rejoice, thou Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." After some consideration, and turmoil of soul, and fear because of this greeting, the Virgin, when she had finally obtained full assurance concerning God's unsearchable condescension and the ineffable dispensation that was to take place through her, and believing that all things are possible to the Most High, answered in humility: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And at this, the Holy Spirit came upon her, and the power of the Most High overshadowed her all-blameless womb, and the Son and Word of God, Who existed before the ages, was conceived past speech and understanding, and became flesh in her immaculate body (Luke 1:26-38).

Bearing in her womb the Uncontainable One, the blessed Virgin went with haste from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea, where Zacharias had his dwelling;

for she desired to find Elizabeth her kinswoman and rejoice together with her, because, as she had learned from the Archangel, Elizabeth had conceived in her old age. Furthermore, she wished to tell her of the great things that the Mighty One had been well-pleased to bring to pass in her, and she greeted Elizabeth and drew nigh to her. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, she felt her six-month-old babe, Saint John the Baptist, prophesied of the dawning of the spiritual Sun. Immediately, the aged Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and recognized her as the Mother of her Lord, and with a great voice blessed her and the Fruit that she held within herself. The Virgin also, moved by a supernatural rejoicing in the spirit, glorified her God and Savior, saying: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour," and the rest, as the divine Luke hath recorded (1:39-55)

Apolytikion of Annunciation of the Theotokos

Fourth Tone

Today marks the crowning of our salvation and the revelation of the mystery before all ages. For the Son of God becomes the son of the Virgin, and Gabriel proclaims the grace. Wherefore, we also cry out with him, "Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you."

Kontakion of Annunciation of the Theotokos

Plagal of the Fourth Tone

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

THREE HIERARCHS/GREEK LETTERS CELEBRATION



On Sunday, February 2, 2025, over 350 Clergy and Faithful from throughout the Maryland and Northern Virginia Regions joined His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey at the Annual Metropolis of New Jersey Maryland/Northern Virginia Three Hierarchs/Greek Letters Celebration.

This beautiful event was hosted by the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Community in Baltimore at the Greektown Square & Event Center, “The Plateia.” Throughout the evening the attendees witnessed wonderful presentations of poetry, dialogues, monologues and traditional Greek Dance offered by the beloved Children of the area parish Greek afternoon Schools.

Fr. Georgios Oikonomou, the proistamenos of the St. Nicholas parish, served as the keynote speaker reflecting on the connection between St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian and St.

John Chrysostom, who through the use of their extensive knowledge of the Greek Language, were able to spread our faith and teach our theology to the faithful.

In his archpastoral address, His Eminence offered his warmest congratulations to all of the teachers and children of the Greek Schools, who performed so beautifully. His Eminence also offered his gratitude to all of the parents and grandparents for recognizing the importance of our children, our future generation, to study and learn our mother language. The Greek language is the language of the Holy Gospel and by learning our language we are able to understand more of our faith, growing closer to Christ, as well as to continue to promote the culture and traditions of our ancestors.

CATECHETICAL HOMILY
FOR THE OPENING
OF HOLY AND GREAT LENT

+ 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 AND PEACE
OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST,
TOGETHER WITH OUR PRAYER, BLESSING AND FORGIVENESS BE WITH ALL

* * *

Most honorable brother Hierarchs and blessed children in the Lord,

Once again, with the will and grace of God the giver of all good things, we are entering Holy and Great Lent, the blessed period of fasting and repentance, of spiritual vigilance and journey with the Lord, as He comes to His voluntary passion, in order to reach the veneration of His splendid Resurrection and become worthy of our own passage from earthly things to "that which no eyes have seen and no ears have heard and no human heart has ascended" (1 Cor. 2.9).

In the early Church, Holy and Great Lent was a period of preparation of catechumens, whose baptism took place during the Divine Liturgy of the Paschal Feast. This connection with baptism is also preserved by the comprehension and experience of Great Lent as the period par excellence of repentance that is described as "a renewal of baptism," "a second baptism," "a contract with God for a second life," in other words a regeneration of the gifts of baptism and promise to God for the beginning of a new way of life. The services and hymns of this season associate the spiritual struggle of the faithful with the expectation of the Lord's Pascha, whereby the forty-day fast radiates the fragrance of the paschal joy.

Holy and Great Lent is an opportunity to become conscious of the depth and wealth of our faith as "a personal encounter with Christ." It is rightly emphasized that Christianity is "extremely personal," without this implying that it is "individualistic." The faithful "encounter, recognize, and love one and the same Christ," who, "alone and only, revealed the true and perfect human person" (Nicholas Cabasilas). He invites all people—and each person individually—to salvation, so that the response of each may always be "grounded in the common faith" and "at the same time be unique."

We recall the words of St. Paul that "it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2.20). In this case, the words "in me," "me," and "for me" do not contradict the words "in us," "us," and "for us" with reference to our "common salvation."

Ever grateful for the heavenly gifts of his regeneration in Christ, the Apostle of freedom “makes what is shared his own,” as if the pre-eternal Word of God became incarnate, was crucified, and was resurrected “for him personally.”

Our experience of faith is “unique” and “profoundly personal” as a freedom given to us by Christ, as something that is at the same time “essentially ecclesiastical,” an experience “of common freedom.” This most genuine freedom in Christ is expressed as love and applied support to our concrete neighbor, as this is described in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10.30–37) and in the passage about the Last Judgment (Mt. 25.31–46), but also as respect and concern for the world and the eucharistic approach to creation. Freedom in Christ has a personal and holistic nature, which is especially revealed during Holy and Great Lent in its understanding of asceticism and fasting. Christian freedom, as existential authenticity and fullness, does not involve a gloomy asceticism, a life without grace and joy, “as if Christ never came.” Moreover, fasting is not only “abstinence from food,” but “renunciation of sin,” a struggle against egotism, a loving departure from the self to the brother in need, “a heart that burns for the sake of all creation.” The holistic nature of spirituality is sustained by the experience of Great Lent as a journey toward Pascha and as a foretaste of “the glorious freedom of God’s children” (Rom. 8.21).

We pray that our Savior Jesus Christ may render all of us worthy of walking the way of Holy and Great Lent with ascesis, repentance, forgiveness, prayer, and godly freedom. And we conclude with the words of our spiritual father, the late Metropolitan Meliton of Chalcedon, during the Divine Liturgy of Cheesefare Sunday in 1970 at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Athens: “As we enter Holy Lent, what awaits us at the end is vision, miracle, and the experience of the Resurrection, the foremost experience of the Orthodox Church. Let us proceed toward this vision and experience but not without having received and offered forgiveness, not with a fast purely from meat and oil, not with a sense of hypocrisy, but with divine freedom, in spirit and truth, in the spirit of truth, in the truth of the spirit.”

Holy and Great Lent 2025
✠ **BARTHOLOMEW of Constantinople**
Fervent supplicant for all before God

Αριθμ. Πρωτ.145

ΛΟΓΟΣ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΗΡΙΟΣ
ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΝΑΡΞΗ
ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΤΕΣΣΑΡΑΚΟΣΤΗΣ

+ Β Α Ρ Θ Ο Λ Ο Μ Α Ι Ο Σ

ΕΛΕΩι ΘΕΟΥ

ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ - ΝΕΑΣ ΡΩΜΗΣ

ΚΑΙ ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ

ΠΡΟΣ ΟΛΟ ΤΟ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ,

ΧΑΡΗ ΚΑΙ ΕΙΡΗΝΗ

ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΣΩΤΗΡΑ ΚΑΙ ΚΥΡΙΟ ΜΑΣ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟ,

ΑΠΟ ΕΜΑΣ ΔΕ ΕΥΧΗ, ΕΥΛΟΓΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΣΥΓΧΩΡΗΣΗ

* * *

Τιμώτατοι αδελφοί Ίεράρχες και τέκνα εν Κυρίω ευλογημένα,

Με την ευδοκία και τη χάρη του αγαθοδότη Θεού, εισερχόμαστε και πάλι στην Αγία και Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή, την ευλογημένη περίοδο νηστείας και μετανοίας, πνευματικής εγρήγορσης και συμπόρευσης με τον Κύριο που έρχεται προς τὸ ἐκούσιο πάθος, γιὰ νὰ φθάσουμε νὰ προσκυνήσουμε τὴν λαμπροφόρο Αὐτοῦ Ἀνάσταση καὶ νὰ ἀξιωθοῦμε με αὐτὴ καὶ ἐμεῖς ἀπὸ τὰ ἐπίγεια νὰ «διαβοῦμε» σὲ ἐκεῖνα «ποῦ ὀφθαλμὸς δὲν εἶδε καὶ αὐτὶ δὲν ἄκουσε καὶ ἀνθρώπινο μυαλὸ δὲν φαντάστηκε ποτέ» (Α΄ Κορ. β΄, 9).

Στὴν ἀρχαία Εκκλησία, ἡ Αγία καὶ Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή ἦταν περίοδος προετοιμασίας τῶν κατηχουμένων γιὰ τὸ βάπτισμα, τὸ ὁποῖον τελοῦνταν κατὰ τὴν Θεία Λειτουργία τῆς Ἀναστάσεως. Τὴν ἀναφορὰ πρὸς τὸ βάπτισμα διασώζει καὶ ἡ θεώρηση καὶ ἡ βίωση τῆς Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστῆς ὡς κατ' ἐξοχὴν καιροῦ μετανοίας, ἡ ὁποία χαρακτηρίζεται ὡς «ἀνάκλησις βαπτίσματος» καὶ ὡς «δεύτερον βάπτισμα», ὡς «συνθήκη πρὸς Θεὸν δευτέρου βίου», ἀναβίωση δηλαδὴ τῶν δωρεῶν τοῦ βαπτίσματος καὶ ὑπόσχεση πρὸς τὸν Θεὸ γιὰ ἔναρξη νέας πορείας ζωῆς. Οἱ ἀκολουθίες καὶ ἡ ὕμνολογία τῆς περιόδου συνδέουν αὐτὸν τὸν πνευματικὸ ἀγῶνα τῶν πιστῶν με τὴν προσδοκία τοῦ Πάσχα τοῦ Κυρίου, διὰ τῆς ὁποίας ἡ τεσσαρακονθήμερη νηστεία ἀναδίδει εὐωδία πασχαλινῆς χαρᾶς.

Ἡ Αγία καὶ Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή εἶναι εὐκαιρία συνειδητοποιήσεως τοῦ βάθους καὶ τοῦ πλούτου τῆς πίστεώς μας ὡς «προσωπικῆς συναντήσεως με τὸν Χριστό». Ὁρθὰ τονίζεται ὅτι ὁ Χριστιανισμὸς «εἶναι στὸ ἔπακρο προσωπικός», χωρὶς αὐτὸ νὰ σημαίνει ὅτι εἶναι «ἀτομοκεντρικός». Οἱ πιστοὶ «συναντοῦν, ἀναγνωρίζουν καὶ ἀγαποῦν τὸν ἕνα καὶ τὸν αὐτὸ Χριστό», ὁ ὁποῖος «πρῶτος καὶ μόνος ἔδειξε τὸν ἀληθινὸ καὶ τέλειο ἄνθρωπο» (Νικόλαος Καβάσιλας). Ἐκεῖνος καλεῖ στὴ σωτηρία ὅλους μᾶς καὶ τὸν κάθε ἄνθρωπο προσωπικά, ὥστε ἡ ἀνταπόκριση τοῦ καθενός, πάντοτε «ριζωμένη στὴν κοινὴ πίστη», νὰ εἶναι «ταυτόχρονα μοναδική».

Θυμόμαστε τὸν ὑπέροχο λόγο τοῦ Παύλου: «Δὲν ζῶ πιά ἐγώ, ζεῖ μέσα μου ὁ Χριστός· αὐτὸ ποῦ τῶρα ζῶ στὴ σάρκα μου, τὸ ζῶ με τὴν πίστη τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ ὁποῖος με ἀγάπησε καὶ παρέδωσε τὸν ἑαυτό του γιὰ χάρη μου» (Γαλ. β΄, 20). Ἐδῶ τὸ «μέσα μου»

τὸ «μέ» καὶ τὸ «γιά χάρημου» δὲν λέγονται σὲ ἀντιθέση πρὸς τὸ «μέσα μας», τὸ «ἐμᾶς» καὶ τὸ «γιά χάρη μας» τῆς «κοινῆς σωτηρίας». Ὁ Ἀπόστολος τῆς ἐλευθερίας, ἄκρως εὐγνώμων γιὰ τὰ οὐράνια ἀγαθὰ τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀναγεννήσεώς του, «αὐτὸ πού εἶναι κοινό, τὸ κάνει δικό του», λὲς καὶ ὁ προαιώνιος Λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἔγινε ἄνθρωπος, σταυρώθηκε καὶ ἀναστήθηκε ἀπὸ τοὺς νεκροὺς «προσωπικὰ γι' αὐτόν».

«Μοναδική» καὶ «βαθιὰ προσωπική» εἶναι ἡ βίωση τῆς πίστεώς μας ὡς ἐλευθερίας πού μᾶς χάρισε ὁ Χριστός, ἡ ὁποία εἶναι ἐν ταυτόχρονα καὶ «οὐσιαστικὰ ἐκκλησιαστική», ἐμπειρία «κοινῆς ἐλευθερίας». Αὐτὴ ἡ τόσο ἀληθινὴ ἐν Χριστῷ ἐλευθερία ἐκφράζεται ὡς ἀγάπη καὶ ὡς ἔμπρακτὴ συμπαράσταση πρὸς τὸν συγκεκριμένο πλησίον, ὅπως αὐτὴ περιγράφεται στὴν παραβολὴ τοῦ «Καλοῦ Σαμαρείτου» (Λουκ. ι', 30-37) καὶ στὴν περικοπὴ τῆς τελικῆς κρίσεως (Ματθ. κε', 31-46), ἀλλὰ καὶ ὡς σεβασμὸς καὶ μέριμνα γιὰ τὴν κτίση καὶ ὡς εὐχαριστιακὴ χρῆση τῆς. Ἡ ἐν Χριστῷ ἐλευθερία ἔχει προσωπικὸ καὶ ὀλιστικὸ χαρακτήρα, ὁ ὁποῖος ἀποκαλύπτεται ἰδιαίτερος κατὰ τὴν Ἁγία καὶ Μεγάλῃ Τεσσαρακοστῇ στὸν τρόπο τῆς κατανοήσεως τοῦ ἀσκητισμοῦ καὶ τῆς νηστείας. Δὲν γνωρίζει ἡ χριστιανικὴ ἐλευθερία, ὡς ὑπαρκτικὴ ἀυθεντικότητα καὶ πληρότητα, σκυθρωπὸ ἀσκητισμὸ, ζωὴ χωρὶς χάρη καὶ χαρὰ, «σὰν νὰ μὴν ἦρθε ποτὲ ὁ Χριστός». Καὶ ἡ νηστεία δὲν εἶναι μόνο «ἀποχὴ ἀπὸ τροφίμα», ἀλλ' «ἀμαρτημάτων ἀναχώρηση», ἀγώνας κατὰ τῆς φιλαυτίας, ἀγαπητικὴ ἔξοδος ἀπὸ τὸν ἑαυτό μας πρὸς τὸν ἀδελφὸ μας πού βρίσκεται στὴν ἀνάγκη, «καῦσις καρδίας ὑπὲρ πάσης τῆς κτίσεως». Ἡ ὀλιστικότητα τῆς πνευματικότητος τρέφεται ἀπὸ τὴν ἐμπειρία τῆς Μεγάλῃς Τεσσαρακοστῆς ὡς πορείας πρὸς τὸ Πάσχα καὶ ὡς πρόγευσης τῆς «ἐλευθερίας τῆς δόξας τῶν τέκνων τοῦ Θεοῦ (Ρωμ. η', 21).

Δεόμενοι στὸ Σωτῆρα μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, νὰ ἀξιώσει ὅλους μας νὰ διάγουμε μὲ ἀσκησι, μὲ μετάνοια, μὲ συγχωρητικότητα, μὲ προσευχὴ καὶ μὲ ἔνθετη ἐλευθερία τὸν δόλιχο τῆς Ἁγίας καὶ Μεγάλῃς Τεσσαρακοστῆς, κατακλείουμε μὲ τοὺς λόγους τοῦ πνευματικοῦ μας πατέρα μακαριστοῦ Μητροπολίτου Χαλκηδόνος Μελίτωνα, κατὰ τὴ Θεία Λειτουργία τῆς Κυριακῆς τῆς Τυρινῆς τοῦ ἔτους 1970 στὸν Μητροπολιτικὸ Ναὸ Ἀθηνῶν: «Εἰσερχόμαστε στὴν Ἁγία Τεσσαρακοστὴ καὶ στὸ βάθος μᾶς ἀναμένει τὸ ὄραμα, τὸ θαῦμα καὶ τὸ βίωμα τῆς Ἀναστάσεως, τὸ κατ' ἐξοχὴν βίωμα τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας. Ἄς πορευθοῦμε πρὸς αὐτὸ τὸ ὄραμα καὶ βίωμα, ὄχι ἀσυγχώρητοι, ὄχι χωρὶς νὰ συγχωροῦμε τοὺς ἄλλους, ὄχι μὲ ἀπλὴ νηστεία ἀπὸ κρέας καὶ λάδι, ὄχι μὲ ὑποκρισία, ἀλλὰ μὲ θεϊκὴ ἐλευθερία, μὲ πνεῦμα καὶ ἀλήθεια, μὲ τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς ἀλήθειας, μὲ τὴν ἀλήθεια τοῦ πνεύματος».

Ἁγία καὶ Μεγάλῃ Τεσσαρακοστῇ 2025
† Ὁ Κωνσταντινουπόλεως
διάπυρος πρὸς Θεὸ εὐχέτης ὄλων σας

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN APOSTOLOS OF NJ VISIT



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey



Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

**Orthros,
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, and
Doxology for the
Remembrance of the Greek Revolution**

**Sunday, March 30, 2025
9:00 A.M.**

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
520 S. Ponca Street
Baltimore, MD 21224**



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey



Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

**Vesperal Divine Liturgy of
St. Basil the Great**

**Thursday, April 17, 2025
9:00 A.M.**

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
520 S. Ponca Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21224**

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Maria Salpeas

Mr. & Mrs. George Georgas
Ms. Sophie Chrissomallis
Mr. Perry Likakis
Mr. & Mrs. James Maurakis and Family
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ferenc
Ms. Eva Lallas
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Venetis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Giakoumakis
Ms. Helen Pikounis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Syropoulos
Ms. Popi Philippou
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Cornias
Ms. Olga Georgalas
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Stakias
Ms. Anna Dimidis
Mr. George Hrisafinas &
Mrs. Emily Syropoulos
Mr. Chris Angelopoulos
Ms. Despina Glykiadis

In Memory of Paraskevi Mimaros

Ms. Soulla Kapetanakos
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Syropoulos
Mr. George Hrisafinas &
Mrs. Emily Syropoulos

In Memory of Anastasia Sarioglou

Mr. Fotios Savopoulos
Ms. Renee Cockerham
Ms. Nektaria Kougioumtzidis
Mr. Steve Lazarides
Mr. Antonios Athanasiou
Mr. George Chrisovergis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Mandilaras
Mr. Takis Papadopoulos and Family
Mr. Pete Sarioglou and Family
Ms. Christina Rologas
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Giakoumakis
Ms. Georgia Rogers
Ms. Calliopi Cornias
Mr. Nick Cornias
Ms. Popi Philippou

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis
Ms. Melli Hazarides
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Loizou
Mr. George Hrisafinas &
Mrs. Emily Syropoulos

In Memory of

Stavroula (Voula) Christakou

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Joiner
Mr. George Chrisovergis
Ms. Eva Lallas
Ms. Voula Stamas

In Memory of Andrew Eliades

Ms. Mary Antonas
Mr. Chris Papavasiliou
Mr. Chris Angelopoulos

In Memory of Lambrini Galiatsatou

Mr. & Mrs. John Stamas

In Memory of

Dionisia (Soula) Giannakoulis

Ms. Eva Lallas
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Venetis
Ms. Anastasia Hatziefthimiou
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Syropoulos
Ms. Popi Philippou

In Memory of George Katsimpiris

Mrs. Nichola Katsimpiris Wallace

In Memory of Irene Giorgakis

Ms. Popi Philippou

In Memory of Kalliopi T. Cornias

Ms. Calliopi Cornias
Mr. Nick Cornias
Ms. Roza Cornias
Ms. Eve Stamatakis
Mr. Lambros Stamatakis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moniodis
Ms. Anastasia Koulatsos & Family
Mr. Pete Roros & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Spiros Klosteridis
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Klosteridis
Mrs. Despina Forakis
Mrs. Stella Karais
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Bouloubasis
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Atsidis
Ms. Despina Cornias
Ms. Anna Dimidis
Ms. Elizabeth Rossman

In Memory of Sophia Atsidi

Ms. Despina Cornias
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moniodis

In Memory of Ioannis Argetakis

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moniodis

In Memory of Ioannis Minas

Ms. Despina Glykiadis
Mr. Chris Angelopoulos

In Memory of Michael Cornias

Ms. Fotini Cornias

In Memory of Anastasios Angelopoulos

Mr. Chris Angelopoulos

In Memory of Paraskevi Angelopoulos

Mr. Chris Angelopoulos

In Memory of Mavroudis Angelopoulos

Mr. Chris Angelopoulos



DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

FLOWER DONATIONS - LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2025 (EASTER SUNDAY April 20, 2025)

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR TABLE – VASES

MARCH 9	1 ST SUNDAY OF LENT – SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY
MARCH 16	2 ND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 23	3 RD SUNDAY OF LENT- THE VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – Daffodils
MARCH 30	4 TH SUNDAY OF LENT
APRIL 2	5 TH SUNDAY OF LENT
APRIL 13	PALM SUNDAY (red flowers)
APRIL 17	HOLY THURSDAY
APRIL 19	HOLY SATURDAY (spring flowers)

SALUTATIONS FLOWERS FOR THEOTOKOS

MARCH 7	1 ST SALUTATIONS ICON – PROSKINITARI – WALL ICON
MARCH 14	2 ND SALUTATIONS ICON – PROSKINITARI – WALL ICON
MARCH 21	3 RD SALUTATIONS ICON – PROSKINITARI – WALL ICON
MARCH 28	4 TH SALUTATIONS HYMN ICON – PROSKINITARI – WALL ICON
APRIL 4	SALUTATIONS & AKATHISTOS HYMN – PROSKINITARI – WALL ICON
APRIL 13	PALM SUNDAY PALMS
APRIL 13	PALM SUNDAY MORNING FLOWER DECORATIONS (various greens & yellow flowers)
APRIL 13	PALM SUNDAY ICON ((MORNING) – PROSKINITARI (yellow flowers)
APRIL 13	NYMPHIOS ICON (EVENING) – (purple flowers)
APRIL 17	HOLY THURSDAY – WREATH FOR THE CROWN – (burgundy roses)
APRIL 17	HOLY THURSDAY – WREATH FOR BASE OF THE CROSS (burgundy roses)
APRIL 17	HOLY THURSDAY – PROSKINITARI – (burgundy roses)
APRIL 19	HOLY SATURDAY -- RESURRECTION ICON -- WHITE ROSES

INCENSE FOR LENT AND FOR HOLY WEEK

HOLY WEDNESDAY UNCTION SUPPLIES: 1 bottle of olive oil, flour, q-tips (1000)
GOOD FRIDAY – Sheet – Rose petals
HOLY SATURDAY LAUREL & BAY LEAVES
DECORATION OF THE ICONOSTASION

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
5 DAY VOTIVE LIGHTS – 50 CASES PURPLE
5 DAY VOTINE LIGHTS – 50 CASES WHITE

Saturday of Lazarus breakfast
Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Eggs
Epitafios Flowers

*In order to select your
donation(s), please
contact the church office
(410) 633-5020
Thank you.*

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

*For flower and other item donations, please contact the church office -
410-633-5020. Thank you for your support.*

*Για Δωρεές ανθέων και άλλων αντικειμένων για την Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή, την Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα και το Πάσχα παρακαλείστε να επικοινωνήσετε με το Κοινοτικό Γραφείο,
410-633-5020. Σας ευχαριστούμε για την υποστήριξή σας.*

GREEK SCHOOL

Με αφορμή την καθιέρωση της 9 Φεβρουαρίου ως παγκόσμια ημέρα για την Ελληνική Γλώσσα, κληθήκαμε να απαντήσουμε στο ερώτημα «Γιατί διδάσκω ελληνικά;». Όσο απλή και αν ακούγεται αυτή η ερώτηση, η απάντηση της είναι κάτι περισσότερο από μερικές λέξεις. Κοιτάζοντας τα παιδιά του ελληνικού σχολείου καταλαβαίνεις ότι όταν κάνεις μάθημα μαζί τους δεν πρέπει να έχεις ως μόνο σκοπό σου να μάθουν να γράφουν και να μιλούν σωστά ελληνικά.



Για τους έλληνες του εξωτερικού, για εμάς και για τα παιδιά μας, η ελληνική γλώσσα είναι συναίσθημα, η πατρίδα μας, η Ελλάδα μας, είναι η φιλοσοφία, είναι η ιστορία, είναι ο πολιτισμός είναι η θρησκεία μας. Πιο απλά, είναι τρόπος που ζούμε ο τρόπος που θέλουμε, όσο είναι εφικτό, να ζουν και τα παιδιά μας.

Όλοι γνωρίζουμε τι έχει προσφέρει η Ελλάδα στην παγκόσμια κοινότητα, ως πολίτες του κόσμου όμως πρέπει να γνωρίζουμε τις ρίζες μας και να δημιουργούμε τις κατάλληλες προϋποθέσεις ώστε οι αξίες, τα ήθη και τα έθιμα μας να μην χαθούν μέσα στην πολυπολιτισμικότητα της χώρας που ζούμε. Ας μην είμαστε περήφανοι μόνο για το ένδοξο παρελθόν μας, ας είμαστε περήφανοι για τον τρόπο που ζούμε τη ζωή μας!!!

Η τελευταία Κυριακή του Φεβρουαρίου ήταν αφιερωμένη στη νεολαία μας και στις οικογένειές τους! Ένα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ και ένα ακόμα μεγαλύτερο μπράβο σε όλους! Ένας Μάρτιος γεμάτος Ελλάδα, ένας Απρίλιος και Μάιος γεμάτος θρησκεία και ένα καλοκαίρι γεμάτο μπλε μας περιμένουν, ας τους ζήσουμε όπως τους αξίζει!!!

Με αγάπη,
Παρασκευή Κοτσάτου Αργετάκη
Δασκάλα της Γ' και Δ' τάξης

*Join us for the Saint Nicholas Greek School
INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION!
Monday, March 24th | 5:30 p.m. | Church social hall*

On the occasion of the 9th of February as a World Day for the Greek Language, we were called upon to answer the question “why I teach Greek?”. As simple as this question sounds, the answer is more than a few words. Looking at the children of the Greek school you understand that when you take a lesson with them you should not have your only purpose to teach them to write and speak Greek properly.

For Greeks abroad, for us and for our children, the Greek language is a feeling, our homeland, our Greece, it is philosophy, it is history, it is culture, it is our religion. Simply put, it is a way to live the way we want, as far as possible, to live our children.

We all know what Greece has offered to the world community, but as citizens of the world we need to know our roots and create the right conditions for our values and customs not lost in the multiculturalism of the country we live in. Let us not only be proud of our glorious past; let us also be proud of the way we live our lives now!

The last Sunday of February was dedicated to our youth and their families! A big thank you and an even bigger thumbs up to everyone! A March full of Greece, an April and May full of religion and a summer full of blue are waiting for us, let's live them as they deserve it !!!

With love,
Paraskevi Kotsatou Argetakis

ST NICHOLAS EXAMINATION CENTER



Εξεταστικό κέντρο Αγίου Νικολάου Βαλτιμόρης

Επίπεδα	Ημερομηνίες	Εξετάσεις
A1 (για παιδιά 8-12)	Τρίτη 20 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
A1 (για εφήβους και ενηλίκους)	Τρίτη 20 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
A2	Τρίτη 20 Μαΐου 2025 (μεσημέρι)	γραπτές*
B2	Τετάρτη 21 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
Γ1	Τετάρτη 21 Μαΐου 2025 (απόγευμα)	γραπτές*
B1	Πέμπτη 22 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
Γ2	Πέμπτη 22 Μαΐου 2025 (απόγευμα)	γραπτές*
Εγγραφές	Από 1 Φεβρουαρίου έως 20 Μαρτίου 2025	

* Οι προφορικές εξετάσεις προτείνεται να διεξάγονται αμέσως μετά τις γραπτές.

Θα θέλαμε να σας ενημερώσουμε ότι οι εγγραφές για τις εξετάσεις της Ελληνομάθειας ξεκινάνε στις 1 Φεβρουαρίου έως 20 Μαρτίου.

Για τυχόν απορίες επικοινωνήστε μαζί μας στο email Ellinomatheia@stnicholasmd.org

Με εκτίμηση,

Υβόννη Γαλετάκη & Ελίνα Τσαπακίδη – Παπαδήμα

Saint Nicholas Examination center

Επίπεδα	Ημερομηνίες	Εξετάσεις
A1 (για παιδιά 8-12)	Τρίτη 20 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
A1 (για εφήβους και ενηλίκους)	Τρίτη 20 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
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Γ1	Τετάρτη 21 Μαΐου 2025 (απόγευμα)	γραπτές*
B1	Πέμπτη 22 Μαΐου 2025 (πρωί)	γραπτές*
Γ2	Πέμπτη 22 Μαΐου 2025 (απόγευμα)	γραπτές*
Εγγραφές	Από 1 Φεβρουαρίου έως 20 Μαρτίου 2025	

* Οι προφορικές εξετάσεις προτείνεται να διεξάγονται αμέσως μετά τις γραπτές.



We would like to inform you that registrations for the Greek exams start on February 1st until March 20th.

For any questions contact us by email Ellinomatheia@stnicholasmd.org

Sincerely,

Yvonne Galetaki & Elina Tsapakidis – Papadima

HELLENIC GOLDEN COINS

On behalf of Fr. Georgios Oikonomou and Stamatia Ieromonahos and the Parish Council and our entire church ministries, we extend our heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS to our Hellenic Golden Coins Dance Troupe for a successful weekend at the 2025 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Dance Festival (MDF) that was held in Philadelphia, PA February 15 & 16.

Bravo to all the young people from the various parishes who worked hard to make this MDF a success. A special Thank you goes out to the hard working instructors, Foula Paragios and Vasiliou Philippou who go above and beyond to teach our young dancers the various dances they perform. And to the families of our dedicated dancers for their support of their children to continue to keep alive the traditions that make them proud of their Greek heritage.

It's not just a weekend for competing...but also a weekend of fellowship that helps our youth to get to meet and share their Greek culture with other kids their age from various churches in our Metropolis and it helps to establish lifelong friendships. And now...we present to you our HGC Dancers.

Our St. Nicholas Hellenic Golden Coins Dance Troupe are WINNERS!!!!

Junior Group: FIRST PLACE

Best Costume Award, Best Choral Award, Best Folk Expression Award

Senior Group: SECOND PLACE



We would like to thank our Father Giorgios Oikonomou and our parish council for their guidance and support and everyone who participated in our fundraisers. With the grace of God, we had two very successful fundraisers. With the money raised we purchased 20 New handmade Kefalonia costumes from Greece, we registered 30 kids for the Metropolis of New Jersey's Music and Dance Festival (MDF) and for the first time Hellenic Gold Coin's History we participated in the Metropolis of Atlanta's Hellenic Dance Festival (HDF) in North Carolina, where our seniors won a silver medal and the "Folk expression" award for their amazing Kefalonia set. Our kids worked very hard to learn dances from four different regions (Kefalonia, Thrace, Crete, and Rhodes) and perform them at competitions; their love of their culture is very apparent. Thank you to our parents that nurture their kids' love of their culture and bring them to us every week for practice and sacrifice your weekends to attend events. We would also like to give a very special thank you to the Lord Baltimore #364 AHEPA and the Diagoras Rhodian Society of Maryland who sponsored several dancers for MDF. In addition to their sponsorship, Diagoras also loaned us several of their handmade Rhodian costumes that were used in our performance. Finally, thank you to Mr. George Xrisafinas, who donates his time and talent help us with alterations and refurbishing of our older costumes. These wonderful achievements would not be possible without that support of our St. Nicholas community!

Thank you,
Vasili Philippou and Foula Paragios



PHILOPTOCHOS

Matthew 6:16-18 “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen, and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

As the Easter Lent begins let us all come together in prayer, almsgiving and look forward to the services of Holy Week and the celebration of the resurrection.

Please join us on Clean Monday immediately after church for a Lenten potluck dinner hosted by Philoptochos. Everyone is welcome. Due to services our next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 4th at 6:00 p.m. Lenten snacks will follow! Come share in fellowship. Sunday of Orthodoxy will be our memorial service for our members who are no longer with us. May their memory be eternal!

The Philoptochos Easter mailing will soon go out if you do not receive it, please let any board member know. Scholarship applications are available in the church office for those students that are continuing their education.

Fundraiser for Philoxenia House Project Hope on Friday, April 25th at Bordy Vineyard. Donation \$65.00 Food Catered by Jimmy's Seafood and Music by Apollonia. For information or tickets please contact Patty Micklos 443-310-7277 or Christine Zervos 410-627-0202 The philanthropic mission of this home is to serve those in need at a time where hope is what these families are seeking.

Philoptochos (friend of the poor) without your donations and fundraisers the mission of Philoptochos would not be possible. Helping with burials, utilities, medical supplies, thirty-two coats for children or just giving someone food to feed their children would not be possible. We are extremely grateful to our supporters. May God return your generosity and bless your families with health!

Kali Sarakosti!

Ματθαίος 6: 16-18 «Και όταν νηστεύετε, να μη γίνεστε σαν τους υποκριτές, σκυθρωποί· επειδή, αφήνουν άπλυτα τα πρόσωπά τους, για να φανούν στους ανθρώπους ότι νηστεύουν· σας διαβεβαιώνω ότι, έχουν ήδη τον μισθό τους. Εσύ, όμως, όταν νηστεύεις, λούσε το κεφάλι σου, και πλύνε το πρόσωπό σου· για να μη φανείς στους ανθρώπους ότι νηστεύεις, αλλά στον Πατέρα σου που είναι στον κρυφό χώρο· και ο Πατέρας σου που βλέπει στον κρυφό χώρο, θα σου ανταποδώσει στα φανερά ».

PHILOPTOCHOS



Καθώς αρχίζει η Νηστεία του Πάσχα, ας «συναντηθούμε» όλοι στην προσευχή, την ελεημοσύνη και ας έχουμε το βλέμμα μας στραμμένο στις όμορφες ακολουθίες της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας και τον εορτασμό της Ανάστασης.

Ελάτε μαζί μας την Καθαρή Δευτέρα αμέσως μετά την εκκλησία για ένα δείπνο Lenten Potluck. Όλοι είναι ευπρόσδεκτοι. Λόγω των λειτουργιών της εκκλησίας μας, η επόμενη γενική συνέλευση θα γίνει την Τρίτη 4 Μαρτίου στις 6:00 μ.μ. Νηστίσιμα σνακ θα προσφερθούν! Ελάτε να μοιραστούμε την ομορφιά της συντροφικότητας. Την Κυριακή της Ορθοδοξίας θα είναι η μνημόσυνο για τα μέλη της Φιλοπτώχου που δεν είναι πλέον κοντά μας. Είθε η μνήμη τους να είναι αιώνια!

Η πασχαλινή αλληλογραφία της Φιλοπτώχου θα βγει σύντομα, αν δεν τη λάβετε ενημερώστε οποιοδήποτε μέλος του διοικητικού συμβουλίου γνωρίζετε. Οι αιτήσεις υποτροφιών είναι διαθέσιμες στο γραφείο της εκκλησίας για εκείνους τους φοιτητές που συνεχίζουν την εκπαίδευσή τους.

Με σκοπό την συλλογή κεφαλαίων για την ανακαίνιση του σπιτιού της Φιλοξενίας, η Φιλόπτωχος θα πραγματοποιήσει εκδήλωση την Παρασκευή 25 Απριλίου στο Bordy Vineyard. Δωρεά \$ 65.00 Τα θαλασσινά ήταν μια ευγενική δωρεά από το Jimmy's Famous Seafood και η μουσική από την Απολλώνια. Για πληροφορίες ή εισιτήρια, επικοινωνήστε με την Πάτι Μικλός 443-310-7277 ή την Χριστίνα Ζερβού 410-627-0202. Η φιλανθρωπική αποστολή αυτού του σπιτιού είναι να εξυπηρετήσει όσους έχουν ανάγκη σε μια εποχή όπου η ελπίδα είναι αυτό που αναζητούν οι οικογένειες.

Η Φιλόπτωχος (φίλη των φτωχών) χωρίς τις δωρεές και τις προσπάθειες για συλλογή χρημάτων σας, δεν θα ήταν δυνατό να επιτελέσει τους σκοπούς της. Η βοήθεια σε ταφές, επιχειρήσεις κοινής ωφέλειας, ιατρικές προμήθειες, τριάντα δύο παλτά για παιδιά ή απλά να η προμήθεια φαγητού δεν θα ήταν δυνατά. Είμαστε εξαιρετικά ευγνώμονες στους υποστηρικτές μας. Είθε ο Θεός να επιστρέψει τη γενναιοδωρία σας και να ευλογεί τις οικογένειές σας με την υγεία!

Καλή Σαρακοστή!



ST. NICHOLAS BILINGUAL EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

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 part-time and full-time teachers and aides at the Center.** If you or anyone you know is interested, please call the Center at 410-633-5020 extension 4 or email us at beec@stnicholasmd.org

This past month, our BEEC children celebrated Valentine's Day and made mailboxes to exchange lovely cards with one another. The children also enjoyed spirit week this month!

BEEC is looking forward to March. We will be learning about Dr. Seuss, Greek Independence Day, and so much more. We will also be celebrating Greek Independence Day by marching in the parade this year. We have a fun month of events planned at the BEEC and we can't wait to share them with you next month!

Το δίγλωσσο Κέντρο Πρώτης Εκπαίδευσης του Αγίου Νικολάου παρέχει ένα ασφαλές και γεμάτο φροντίδα, «σπίτι» μακριά από το σπίτι. Δεχόμαστε παιδιά από 6 εβδομάδων έως 5 ετών. **Το BEEC προσλαμβάνει καθηγητές μερικής και πλήρους απασχόλησης και βοηθούς.** Εάν εσείς ή κάποιος που γνωρίζετε ενδιαφέρεται, καλέστε το κέντρο στο 410-633-5020 Extension 4 ή στείλτε μας email στο beec@stnicholasmd.org

Τον περασμένο μήνα, τα παιδιά μας γιόρτασαν την Ημέρα του Αγίου Βαλεντίνου και έκαναν γραμματοκιβώτια για να ανταλλάξουν υπέροχες κάρτες μεταξύ τους. Τα παιδιά απολάμβαναν επίσης την Εβδομάδα Πνεύματος αυτό το μήνα!

Το BEEC ανυπομονεί για το Μάρτιο. Θα μάθουμε για τον Δρ. Seuss, την Ημέρα της Ελληνικής Επανάστασης και πολλά άλλα. Θα γιορτάσουμε επίσης την Ημέρα της Ελληνικής Επανάστασης με τη συμμετοχή μας στην παρέλαση και φέτος. Έχουμε ένα διασκεδαστικό μήνα εκδηλώσεων που σχεδιάζονται στο BEEC και δεν μπορούμε να περιμένουμε να τα μοιραστούμε μαζί σας τον επόμενο μήνα!



YOUTH SUNDAY RECOGNITION AWARD

St. Nicholas Youth Sunday Recognition Award

This certificate is proudly presented to

in recognition of their dedication, faith, and commitment to the youth ministry of St. Nicholas Church. Your efforts and example inspire our community and strengthen our shared journey in Christ.

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16

Presented on this day of Youth Sunday February 23, 2025
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Baltimore

Protopresbyter Georgios Oikonomou
Presiding Priest

Stamatia Ieromonahos
Parish Council President



Discover

Two Inspiring New Books for Parents!

By Protopresbyter Georgios Oikonomou, PhD



For Parents Who DON'T Know Everything!

"Strengthen Your Family Bonds Through Faith"

Q&A: In the Light of Orthodox Christian Teaching
Volume 1: Children's Questions
Volume 2: Teens Questions

Embark on a Journey of Faith and Wisdom

Parenthood is full of questions, both easy and deep. These books provide invaluable wisdom, thoughtful reflections, and answers grounded in Orthodox Christian teachings. Crafted to strengthen the bonds between parents and children, these guides emphasize love, patience, and heartfelt conversations.

Inside These Books

- Encouragement for navigating parenting with compassion and understanding.
- Focus on building stronger family connections through faith.
- Wisdom for embracing life's challenges with grace.

Order Your Copy Today!

Scan - n - Order
Vol. a



Scan - n - Order
Vol. b



Join the Journey of Parenting with Faith and Love

JOB OPPORTUNITY



*The Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Nicholas
is searching for a
Cantor (Psaltis) and a Sexton (Neokoros)
for a full-time position
for Sundays at the Divine Liturgy and every other
sacred service including weddings, baptisms, funerals
all religious services and orthodox holidays.*

*Send your resume at vkotsatou@stnicholasmd.org
Kindly contact the church office at 410-633-5020*

*Paraskevi(Voula) Kotsatou Argetakis
Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
520 S. Ponca St., Baltimore, MD 21224
410-633-5020*





St. Nicholas eGiving Stewardship

One Less Thing
to think about



eGiving Benefits

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

How it Works

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

Thank you for your generosity!

Give yourself *One Less Thing* to think about
stnicholasmd.org/give
Or download the mobile app!

VANCO



STEWARDSHIP

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE CARD ΚΑΡΤΑ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ

“YOUR OWN FROM YOUR OWN: SEE OUR CHURCH AS IT COULD BE”

“ΤΑ ΣΑ ΕΚ ΤΩΝ ΣΩΝ: ΟΡΑΜΑΤΙΖΟΜΑΣΤΕ ΤΗΝ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΤΟΣΟ ΥΨΗΛΑ....ΟΣΟ
ΕΚΕΙ ΠΟΥ ΜΠΟΡΕΙ ΝΑ ΦΤΑΣΕΙ”

2025 SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CONFIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD
2025 ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ –ΚΑΡΤΑ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΗΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ

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

\$ _____ (Weekly / Monthly / Quarterly / Yearly)
\$ _____ (Εβδομαδιαίως / Μηνιαίως / Ανά Τρίμηνο / Ετησίως)
TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGE FOR 2025 :\$ _____
Συνολικό ποσό προσφοράς για το 2025:\$ _____

Come and See God work through your talents, skills, and experience, as well as your financial support.

Your offering to Christ and His Church can do as much as you empower it to do.

We give to Christ and His Church not according to our means but according to our love for Him.

Γίνετε μάρτυρες του έργου του Θεού! Δώστε από το ταλέντο με το οποίο σας έχει προικίσει,
με τις ικανότητες, τις εμπειρίες, την οικονομική σας ευχέρεια. Η προσφορά μας στον Χριστό και την
Εκκλησία Του ας βασιστεί στην αγάπη μας προς Αυτόν, όχι στην οικονομική μας δυνατότητα.

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

Print Full Name/ Γράψτε με κεφαλαία γράμματα το επίθετό σας _____

Signature/ Υπογραφή _____

Date/ Ημερομηνία _____

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

Introducing Auto Pay Set It and Forget It!

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

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



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

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

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

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE



2:00 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025
ON EASTERN AVE. IN BALTIMORE'S GREEKTOWN

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

HONORING OUR ANCESTORS'
SACRIFICES TO PRESERVE THE IDEALS
OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY



*Parade Grand Marshal
Nicholas Prevas*

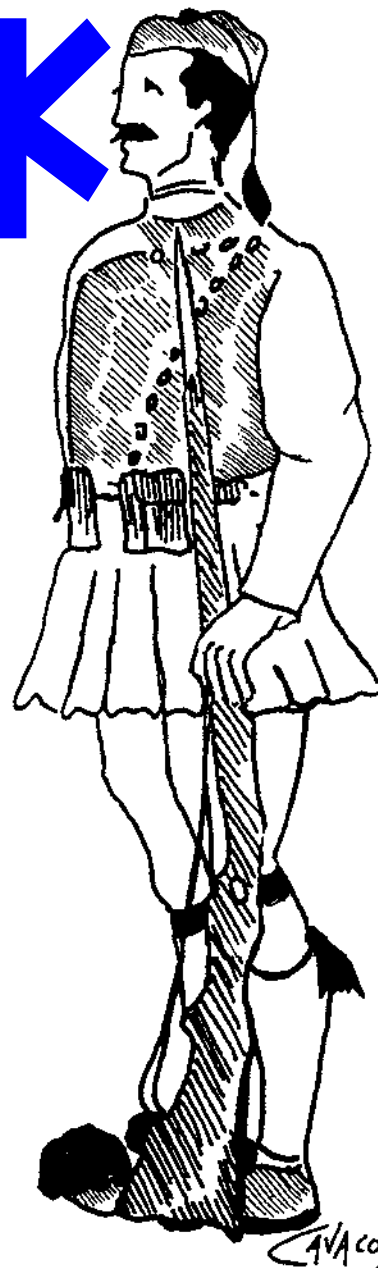
*Music Performed by the
Hellenic Philharmonic
Society of New York*

FOR INFORMATION

PARADE HOTLINE: 443-267-4735

www.greekparade.com

 /greekparade  @greekparade



THE UNITED CHIAN SOCIETIES



THE UNITED CHIAN SOCIETIES OF BALTIMORE ANNUAL TEA

MARCH
SATURDAY **22** AT 2:00 PM

GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER
700 QUAIL ST, BALTIMORE, MD 21224

PLEASE CONSIDER
BRINGING A FRIEND,
DESSERT AND/OR
DOOR PRIZE!

\$15 ADMISSION



THE UNITED CHIAN SOCIETIES OF BALTIMORE ANNUAL GLENDI FEATURING GEORGE FLORADIS DINNER INCLUDED ~ CASH BAR

FRIDAY **25** 2025
DOORS OPEN AT 8:00PM

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH
520 S. PONCA STREET 21224

\$55 ~ 13 YRS & OVER
\$30 ~ 6 TO 12 YRS
FREE ~ 5 & UNDER

FOR TICKETS CALL OR TEXT
KIKI 410-952-3679
ANGELA 410-812-3287



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

ST. NICHOLAS DIAMONDS



St. Nicholas
DIAMONDS



**Philadelphia
Flower Show**

Saturday,
March 8, 2025

CANCELED

For more information please contact
Sofia Xouris
240-375-5464

Thank you for your support!

St. Nicholas



St. Nicholas



St. Nicholas
DIAMONDS

**Day Trip
LANCASTER, PA**

Saturday, September 20, 2025



SIGHT & SOUND
EXPERIENCE
NOAH
30th ANNIVERSARY
LIVE ON STAGE

Seats are limited
Price \$190.00
Includes bus, lunch, and show ticket

For more information please contact
Sofia Xouris | 240-375-5464

Thank you for your support!

HONORING
MICHAEL ATHAS
& DENO YENIAS



LORD BALTIMORE AHEPA

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ANNUAL GOLF DAY

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOLARSHIP AND
BENEVOLENT FUNDS

MOUNTAIN BRANCH
1827 MOUNTAIN RD
JOPPA, MD 21085

COST: \$175 PER PLAYER
\$600 PER FOURSOME

REGISTRATION 8:00 AM
SHOTGUN START 9:00 AM



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**FOUR DAYS OF NON-STOP GREEK FOOD,
MUSIC, DANCING & FUN!**



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK FOLK FESTIVAL

THU FRI SAT SUN

JUNE 12, 13, 14, 15

Thursday 5-10 pm | Friday & Saturday Noon-10pm | Sunday Noon-10pm

GreekTown Square & Events Center

701 Ponca Street / Baltimore, MD 21224

KIDS' ZONE FEATURING ARTS & CRAFTS	REGIONAL GREEK DANCE TROUPE PERFORMANCES	GREEK BEER GREEK WINES	EAT, DRINK, & DANCE UNDER THE STARS
FUN FOR ALL FREE ADMISSION	HOMEMADE DESSERTS BAKLAVA LOUKOUMADES	FIRE ROASTED LAMB SOUVLAKI & GYRO	... AND MUCH MORE

GreekFolkFestival.com

Free Admission & Parking 410-633-5020

SUMMER CAMP



CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD



Maryland

Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd,
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

June 15 - 21, 2025

Early Bird: \$625
Register by April 30,
2025
\$675 Regular Tuition

Virginia

Camp Piankatank
1586 Stampers Bay Rd
Hartfield, VA 23071

July 6-12, 2025

\$650 Tuition

New Jersey


Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd,
Sandyston, NJ 07826

July 13 - 19, 2025

\$750 Tuition

REGISTER HERE!

 <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd>

 908-301-0500



SPONSOR A COFFEE HOUR

We have resumed the Coffee Hour following the Divine Liturgy on Sundays. Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour in memory of a loved one, for the health of your family, or in honor of our St. Nicholas Church. Please call the office at **410-633-5020** to schedule.

Thank you for your support!

HELP US GROW THROUGH E-GIVING



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

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

By giving electronically, you can:

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

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

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



NOTICE:

All organizations must review their upcoming events with 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.

✝ **Sunday Coffee Hour**

Sponsored by

St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church



Coffee & Assorted Cookies - \$200

Includes setup, cleanup, paper goods

Coffee Service Only - \$120

Includes setup, cleanup, paper goods

Fruit Tray - \$40

Spanakopita - \$75

100 pieces

Tyropita - \$75

100 pieces

Tray of Cheese, Olives & Crackers - \$100

Sandwiches - \$2 per piece

Tuna, Shrimp or Chicken

For orders please call 410-633-5020 or visit the
St Nicholas Office at 520 Ponca St



✝ Makaria Menu

Sponsored by
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Appetizer Choices

- Cheese Pies (*included*)
- Spinach Pies (*included*)
- Fried Calamari (*add \$2.00pp*)



Choices of salad (1)

Garden Salad, Greek Salad, Village Salad, Caesar Salad

Choices of Entree (1)

Roll & Butter (*included*)

Package #1 - \$31pp

- Salmon (broiled/grilled)
- Shrimp Creole
- Shrimp Orzo
- Cod Fish (broiled/fried)

Package #2 - \$39pp

- Two (2) Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes
- Choice of Fish and One (1) Jumbo Lump Crab Cake

Sides (2 choices)

Greek Style Lemon Potatoes, Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, Kritharaki(orzo), white rice, fresh cut vegetables, string beans Greek style

Beverages (items included)

Red or White Wine, Coffee and Tea, Sodas,
Water
Also available - Paximadia

Bar Options

Mixed Drinks \$6
Domestic Beer \$6
Imported Beer \$6
Mixed Drinks and Beer Available at Per Drink Charge \$10

tel church: 410-633-5020
tel venue: 410-633-3131

STEWARDSHIP FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

STEWARDSHIP FISCAL YEAR 2025						
Contribution Type	Transaction Location	Pledged	Received	Outstanding	Report Date:	02-28-2025
Pledged	Office	\$40,345.00	\$24,325.00	-\$16,020.00	Number Of Family Contributions	140
Not Pledged	Office/Vanco	--	\$70,053.00	--	Number of Individual Contributions	171
TOTAL	--	--	\$95378.00	--		--

Agapios, Maria
 Alourdas, Nick
 Amann, Mary & Franz
 Angelopoulos, Chris
 Angelos, John & Irene
 Angelos, Mark & Kalliope
 Aravidis, Nickolas & Smaragda
 Argyrakis, Despina
 Athanasiou, Antonios & Penny
 Atsalis, Gus & Kalliope
 Atsidis, Ioannis & Efthimia
 Basil, George & Angie
 Black, Mark
 Bonolis, Catherine
 Canning, Nicole
 Cardiges, Nicholas
 Chagetas, Angela
 Chionis, Antonios
 Chrissomallis, Sophie
 Christ, Philip & Marinam
 Cook, Harry
 Cornias, Arezina
 Cornias, Despina
 Cornias, Fotini
 Cornias, John
 Cornias, Larry
 Cornias, Mark & Kiriaki
 Cornias, Nicholas
 Cossis, Milton & Amalia
 Dardamanis, Eva
 Diniotis, Anastasia
 Eleftheriou, John
 Eliopoulos, Anna
 Eliou, Ernest & Lilian
 Fakas, James & Valasia
 Filipidis, James
 Filippakis, Filippos
 Forakis, Michael & Alexandra
 Forakis, Stamati & Despina
 Fotinos, Aikaterini
 Foukas, Pavlos & Andromahi
 Frangos, John & Katerina
 Gargiulo, Angela
 Georgakakou, Vasiliki & Chandar, Bharath
 Georgalas, Michael & Hrisovalantou
 Georgalas, Olga
 Gerapetrites, Panagiota
 Giannakoulis, George & Amy
 Giannas, Stylianos & Maria
 Glykiadis, Despina
 Gray, Jamison
 Harris, Athena
 Hatzigeorgalis, Antonios
 Hatzigeorgalis, Nicholas
 Hiotis, Michael & Hiotis, Despina
 Ieromonahos, Pantelis & Stamatia
 Kafouros, Demetrios
 Kalambihis, Maria

Kaliakoudas, Sofia
 Kaminaris, Demetrios & Michelle
 Kapetanakos, Elias & Stephanie
 Kaputsos, Irene
 Karaflos, Nektarios
 Karagiannis, Maria
 Kazamias, Voula
 Klosterides, Michael
 Klosteridis, Michael & Klosteridis, Eleni
 Klosteridis, Spiros & Paraskevi
 Koliadis, Zinovia
 Komninos, Emmanuel
 Komninos, Joanna
 Kontoudis, Konstantinos & Kyriaki
 Korologos, Louis & Anastasia
 Koukides, Georgios
 Koukides, Harry & Stella
 Koumoudis, Kyriakos
 Koumoudis, Sotiris & Vasiliki
 Kouroupis, Steve
 Kourtesis, Michael & Adrienne
 Kovios, Panagiotis & Christine
 Kron, Christopher & Alexa
 Lallas, Eva
 Ledakis, Panagiotis
 Lentis, Minas & Kostalas, Eleni
 Loizou, Chris & Doxia
 Lykos, Konstantinos
 Mastromanolis, Manuel
 Mastrovasilis, Michael & Lisa Kastellorizios
 Mavronis, Nicholas
 Mavroulis, Photis & Eva
 Micklos, Christine
 Millett, Earl & Alex, Elizabeth
 Millon, Edwards & Florence
 Milonas, Kimon
 Mimaros, Paraskevi
 Minas, Rose
 Moniodis, Michael & Effie
 Myaris, John & Sofia
 Nickoles, Josh
 Nistazos, George & Despina
 Nistazos, Nickolas & Alena
 Nychis, George & Angeliki
 Nychis, Vasilios & Evangelia
 O'Drudy, Leo & Tricia
 Oikonomou, Fr. Georgios
 Orfanos, Anthony & Regina
 Orfanos, Michael
 Pandelidis, Demetrios & Elisavet
 Papadopoulou, Anastasios & Marianthi
 Papalexopoulos, Christianna
 Papavasiliou, Dimitris
 Papavasiliou, Virginia
 Paragios, Ioannis & Popi
 Parthemos, Antonia & Mitchem, Jos
 Parthemos, Kalliope
 Parthemos, Konstantinos & Angelika

Patras, Leonard
 Peach, Antonia
 Petrinolis, Irene
 Petropoulos, Dimitrios
 Philippou, Philip
 Pikounis, Adrew
 Polikandriotis, Kostas & Hariklia
 Polikandriotis, Maria
 Polychronis, Aristides & Virginia
 Prassinis, Demetrios & Carol
 Protopapas, George & Sofia
 Protopapas, Nicholas
 Quintero, Dennis & Rita
 Redmiles, Sophia
 Roberts, Brian & Maria
 Roros, Dimitrios & Poli
 Roussos, Anthony & Laura
 Roxanis, Dean & Soula
 Roxanis, John
 Roxanis, Steven
 Samaras, Peter
 Sarioglou, Anastasia
 Sarioglou, Nikolaos
 Sarlanis, Kiriako
 Sazaklis, Antonios
 Sfakianoudis, Kon/Nos & Angela
 Sfakianoudis, Vasilis & LEMONIA
 Sgouros, Shirley
 Sigambris, Irene
 Skandalis, George
 Skevofilax, Emmanuel
 Stakias, Dimitrios & Joanne
 Stamatopoulos, Nicolas
 Stamidis, Anastasios & Angela
 Stamoulis, George & Maria
 Stewart, John & Rita
 Tasker, Dale & Kalomira
 Tetteris, Rhodea
 Themelis, John & Renee
 Triantafilos, Costas & Mary
 Trintis, Thorina
 Tsakalos, Jeanette
 Tsamos, Michael & Christina
 Tserkis, George
 Tsiromis, Evdokia
 Tzavaris, Stelianos & Theodosia
 United Chian Society Of Baltimore
 Vasilakopoulos, Irene
 Vasilios, Frank & Irene
 Vatakis, Tessie
 Venetis, Dimitrios & Kiki
 Verenakis, Maria
 Vergos, John
 Vonakis, George & Irene
 Vonakis, Joseph
 Xouri, Sofia
 Yianakis, Steve & Katina

ST. NICHOLAS MAILING LIST

To subscribe to the St. Nicholas mailing list, please follow these steps:

- 1) Open your Email client and create a new message.
- 2) Enter stnicholasbaltimore@listserv.goarch.org as the To address. If this address does not work, you may need to use **STserv@stnicholasbaltimore@listserv.goarch.org**. Older list serve accounts were configured with the STserv address.
- 3) Enter **"subscribe" stnicholasbaltimore** in the body of your message where *stnicholasbaltimore* is the name of the list you are subscribing to.
- 4) Leave the subject of the message blank. If your mail program requires text in the subject field, enter random characters.
- 5) Send the email; you will receive a confirmation if you successfully subscribed.



LITURGICAL CALENDAR - MARCH

Saturday, March 1:	Second Saturday of the Souls: Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy	9:00 am
Sunday, March 2:	Forgiveness Sunday: Orthros: 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy:	9:45 am
Monday, March 3:	Clean Monday, Great Compline Service	6:00 pm
Wednesday, March 5:	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	7:00 pm
Friday, March 7:	First Salutations to the Theotokos	7:00 pm
Saturday, March 8:	Third Saturday of the Souls: The Commemoration of the Miracle of Kollyva wrought by Saint Theodore the Tyro Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy	9:00 am
Sunday, March 9:	Sunday of Orthodoxy (First Sunday of Lent): Orthros: 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy:	9:45 am
Friday, March 14:	Second Salutations to the Theotokos	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 16:	Second Sunday of Lent (St. Gregory Palamas) Orthros 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy	9:45 am
Monday, March 17:	Great Compline Service	6:00 pm
Wednesday, March 19:	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	7:00 pm
Friday, March 21:	Third Salutations to the Theotokos	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 23:	Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Holy Cross: Orthros 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy	9:45 am
Monday, March 24:	Great Vesper Service: <i>At the Annunciation Cathedral</i>	7:00 pm
Tuesday, March 25:	Feast Day of the Annunciation: Greek Independence Day: Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy <i>This service for the Annunciation, Feast Day will be held at St. Nicholas</i>	9:30 am
Wednesday, March 26:	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	7:00 pm
Friday, March 28:	Fourth Salutations to the Theotokos	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 30:	Sunday of St. John Climacus, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Doxology for the Remembrance of the Greek Revolution Orthros: 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy:	9:45 am