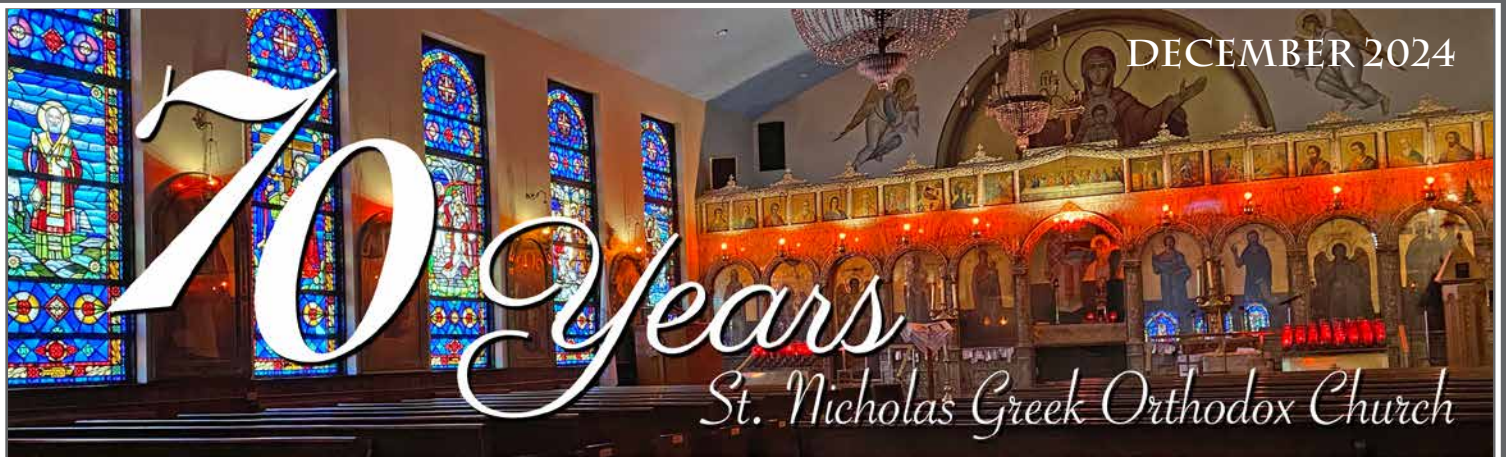


DECEMBER 2024



Message from FR. GEORGIOS OIKONOMOU, PROTOPRESBYTER

My beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ, parishioners of St. Nicholas,

It was early December, two years ago, when I began my ministry as the priest of this blessed community. I thank and praise God for the privilege of being among you—a member of this beautiful community with its rich history, your brother in Christ, and also your spiritual father. As I have now completed two years of service, I feel it is fitting to reflect briefly on my experiences and ministry with you.

This reflection, however, will not center on me. In the Orthodox Church and tradition, the work we do is never our own; it is the work of Christ. Boasting of our accomplishments is meaningless, for the Church is not ours to claim—it is the vineyard of God. He is the Good Shepherd, and we are His sheep. He is the captain of the spiritual ship we sail, and we entrust our lives into His hands. Christ, the Great High Priest, is the one who administers the sacraments, blesses, and sanctifies. How, then, could we ever claim to do great work? That would be foolish arrogance and empty pride. Let us always remember the Lord's words: "Without me, you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

As faithful members of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, we humbly return the gifts God has given us and become humble laborers in His vineyard. For this reason, I cannot recount my own works but instead choose to acknowledge and honor yours—the remarkable efforts you have undertaken for the glory of God.

Foremost among these is your unwavering commitment to preserving and promoting our Orthodox faith and Hellenic heritage. Through your love, care, dedication, and volunteerism, you continue the sacred work entrusted to you by your ancestors. By protecting and honoring the holy traditions, your church and community stand as a vibrant testimony of Orthodoxy and Hellenism in the heart of America. You have resisted the allure of other religious traditions, remained steadfast in the faith of your Holy Baptism and Chrismation, and held fast to the memory of your homeland. Above all, you prioritize our Triune God and our beloved Greece.

You love the Church deeply. You uphold its sacraments and traditions—the churching of infants at forty days, baptisms, weddings, funeral services, and memorials. You invite the priest into your homes for the blessings after the feast of Theophany or other house blessings, and you participate in the Holy Eucharist with reverence. You take care of the Church's needs by donating sacred vestments and vessels.

You embody Christ's command to love the poor. This is evident in the quiet yet profound work of the Philoptochos Society in our community of St. Nicholas. Through the House of Philoxenia, food donations for families in need, outreach to the sick and grieving, assistance with bills, and support for the ministries of the Metropolis and Archdiocese, your love is made manifest.



You cherish the Greek language. This is demonstrated in our exceptional Greek School, one of the finest in the Diaspora. In the Greek School our children learn the Greek language, traditions, and history while forming lasting friendships and deepening their love for the Church.

You care deeply for your children, nurturing their future by instilling a love for our faith. This commitment is reflected in the flourishing ministries of GOYA, Sunday School, the Hellenic Golden Coins, and the children's roles in the sanctuary. These efforts will bear fruit. The seeds you plant now will ensure that the next generation loves the Church and carries on this blessed work. We pray that some of these children will enroll one day at the Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School Of Theology, become priests, presvyteres, psaltes, Parish Council members and Presidents, and help elevate our community ever higher—continuing to serve as a living witness of Orthodoxy and Hellenism while embracing all who seek the Truth.

With these reflections, I have attempted to focus, as the saying goes, on "the glass half full." Of course, there are shortcomings, mistakes, and much room for growth in every aspect of our ministry. This serves as a reminder of our human frailty and the Lord's words that without Him, we can do nothing.

As we approach the final days of 2024 and look forward to the new year, 2025, and the years ahead, let us pray from the depths of our hearts. May God, through the intercessions of our beloved Saint Nicholas—whose feast day we will soon celebrate—bless our community, protect the world, and grant peace to all.

Wishing all of you a Good & Blessed Christmas!

With paternal love in Christ,

Fr. Georgios Oikonomou

Protopresbyter

Kainonia

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF
AMERICA METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



Αγαπητοί μου αδελφοί εν Χριστώ,
ενορίτες και ενορίτισσες του Αγίου Νικολάου!

Ήταν αρχές Δεκέμβρη πάλι, πριν δύο χρόνια, όταν ξεκινούσα τη νέα διακονία μου ως ο ιερέας αυτής της ευλογημένης κοινότητας. Ευχαριστώ και δοξάζω τον Θεό, που με αξιώνει να βρίσκομαι μαζί σας, μέλος της όμορφης αυτής κοινότητας με την σπουδαία ιστορία, αδελφός σας εν Χριστώ, αλλά και πατέρας πνευματικός. Συμπληρώνοντας λοιπόν τα δύο χρόνια θα ήθελα να κάνω έναν μικρό απολογισμό της εμπειρίας και της διακονίας μου στα πρόσωπά σας.

Αυτός ο απολογισμός, ωστόσο, δεν θα αναφέρεται στο δικό μου πρόσωπο. Γιατί στην Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία και παράδοση το έργο που επιτελούμε δεν είναι δικό μας. Είναι έργο του Χριστού μας. Δεν έχει κανένα νόημα να υπερηφανευόμαστε και να λέμε ότι τάχα έχουμε κάνει σπουδαία πράγματα. Η Εκκλησία είναι ο αμπελώνας του Θεού. Είναι η δική του ποιμνη, Εκείνος είναι ο Ποιμένας ο Καλός και εμείς τα πρόβατα. Είναι το νοερό καράβι, που κυβερνά Εκείνος, και εμείς εμπιστευόμαστε το πνευματικό ταξίδι της ζωής μας στα δικά Του χέρια. Ο Χριστός μας είναι Εκείνος, που ως ο Μέγας Αρχιερέας τελεί τα ιερά μυστήρια και είναι πάντοτε αοράτως παρών, ευλογώντας και αγιάζοντας. Πως θα τολμούσαμε εμείς να πούμε ότι κάνουμε έργα σπουδαία; Αυτό θα ήταν ανόητη αλαζονεία και δίχως νόημα υπερηφάνεια. Ας θυμηθούμε ότι ο Κύριος είπε: «χωρίς εμού ου δύνασθε ποιείν ουδέν» (Ιω. 15, 5).

Όλοι εμείς, τα πιστά μέλη της Μίας, Αγίας, Καθολικής και Αποστολικής Εκκλησίας ξαναπροσφέρουμε ταπεινά τα χαρίσματα, που Εκείνος μας χάρισε και γινόμαστε ταπεινοί εργάτες του δικού Του αμπελώνα. Δεν μπορώ λοιπόν να κάνω απολογισμό και να αναφερθώ σε δικό μου έργο, καθώς είμαι ένας ταπεινός και ανάξιος δούλος Του. Μπορώ όμως να μιλήσω για το δικό σας έργο. Και να απαρτημώσω όσα σπουδαία επιτελείτε και είναι προς δόξαν Θεού.

Το σπουδαιότερο από όλα είναι ότι με την αγάπη, τη μέριμνα, τη φροντίδα, την αγωνία, την προσπάθεια, την εθελοντική προσφορά και ακόμα περισσότερο με την πίστη των προγόνων μας και φυλάσσοντας τα ιερά και τα όσια που παραλάβατε η εκκλησία και η κοινότητά μας συνεχίζει την πορεία της δίνοντας μία συγκλονιστική μαρτυρία Ορθοδοξίας και Ελληνισμού στην καρδιά της Αμερικής. Δεν γοητευτήκατε από άλλες θρησκευτικές παραδόσεις, δεν αρνηθήκατε το Άγιο Βάπτισμα και το Άγιο Μύρο που λάβατε, δεν λησμονήσατε την πατρίδα. Αλλά τα έχετε και τα δύο, πρώτα τον Τριαδικό Θεό μας και ύστερα την Ελλάδα μας, σε πρώτη προτεραιότητα.

Αγαπάτε τον εκκλησιασμό. Τελείτε τα πατροπαράδοτα έθιμα και ιερά μυστήρια, τον εκκλησιασμό των νηπίων στις σαράντα μέρες, τις Βαφτίσεις, τους Γάμους, και επίσης τις εξόδιους ακολουθίες και τα ιερά μνημόσυνα. Προσκαλείτε με ευλάβεια στο σπίτι σας τον ιερέα για να τελήσει τον Αγιασμό των Φώτων ή σε άλλη περίοδο του έτους ή το Ιερό Ευχέλαιο. Αγαπάτε την ευπρέπεια του ναού και προσφέρετε ό,τι χρειάζεται η εκκλησία μας στολίζοντας τις εικόνες και δωρίζοντας ιερά άμφια και σκεύη.

Αγαπάτε τους φτωχούς. Και αυτό αποδεικνύεται από το θεάρεστο και ευλογημένο έργο που επιτελεί με διακριτικό τρόπο η Φιλόπτωχος της κοινότητας του Αγίου Νικολάου. Με το σπίτι της Φιλοξενίας, με τρόφιμα σε οικογένειες που τα χρειάζονται, με τη μέριμνα να επικοινωνούν πάντα με όσους ασθενούν ή πενθούν, βοηθώντας για την πληρωμή λογαριασμών αλλά και ενισχύοντας διακονίες των Φιλοπτώχων Αδελφοτήτων της Μητρόπολης και της Αρχιεπισκοπής.

Αγαπάτε την ελληνική γλώσσα. Αυτό φανερώνεται από το Ελληνικό μας Σχολείο, ένα από τα καλύτερα σχολεία της ομογένειας. Το σχολείο αυτό, που διδάσκει την ελληνική γλώσσα, την ελληνική παράδοση, την ελληνική ιστορία. Και τα παιδιά μαθαίνοντας όλα αυτά χτίζουν παράλληλα φιλίες πολύτιμες αλλά και αγαπούν τον χώρο της εκκλησίας θεωρώντας τον σπίτι τους.

Αγαπάτε τα παιδιά. Αγωνιάτε για το μέλλον τους και φροντίζετε να παρέχετε σε αυτά ό,τι σπουδαιότερο και πολυτιμότερο, την αγάπη για την πίστη μας. Ως καρπός αυτής της αγωνίας λειτουργούν υποδειγματικά η GOYA, το Κατηχητικό Σχολείο, Τα «Ελληνικά Χρυσά Φλουριά», η διακονία των παιδιών μέσα στο ιερό. Η προσπάθειά σας αυτή δεν θα πάει χαμένη. Τα παιδιά θα αγαπήσουν την εκκλησία και όταν έρθει η ώρα θα αναλάβουν τα ηνία. Προσευχόμαστε και ελπίζουμε κάποια από αυτά τα παιδιά μεγαλώνοντας να σπουδάσουν στη Θεολογική Σχολή του Τιμίου Σταυρού στη Βοστώνη, να γίνουν ιερείς ή πρεσβύτερες, ψάλτες, αγιογράφοι, μέλη του Ενοριακού Συμβουλίου και να βοηθήσουν στη συνέχιση αυτού του ευλογημένου έργου οδηγώντας την κοινότητα όλο και ψηλότερα. Για να είναι πάντα μία ζωντανή μαρτυρία Ορθοδοξίας και Ελλάδας αγκαλιάζοντας ανεξαιρέτα κάθε άνθρωπο καλής προαίρεσης, που αναζητά την Αλήθεια.

Με αυτές τις σκέψεις, που μοιράστηκα, ως απολογισμό όσων έζησα αυτά τα δύο χρόνια μαζί σας προσπάθησα να δω, όπως λένε ειδικοί επιστήμονες «το ποτήρι μισογεμάτο και όχι μισοάδειο». Ασφαλώς υπάρχουν παραλείψεις, γίνονται λάθη και υπάρχει περιθώριο μεγάλης βελτίωσης σε όλους τους τομείς της διακονίας μας. Αυτό μας υπενθυμίζει την ανθρώπινη φύση και αδυναμία μας και τα λόγια του Χριστού, που αναφέραμε στην αρχή του άρθρου μας, ότι χωρίς Εκείνον δεν μπορούμε να κάνουμε τίποτα.

Βαδίζοντας στον τελευταίο μήνα του 2024 και οραματιζόμενοι το νέο έτος 2025 και τα επόμενα χρόνια ας προσευχηθούμε από τα βάθη της καρδιάς μας ζητώντας από τον Θεό διά πρεσβειών του Αγίου μας Νικολάου, του οποίου θα εορτάσουμε σε λίγες μέρες την ιερά πανήγυρη, να ευλογεί την κοινότητά μας, να προστατεύει όλο τον κόσμο και να φέρει την ειρήνη.

Καλά και Ευλογημένα Χριστούγεννα!

Με εν Χριστώ αγάπη,

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος Γεώργιος Οικονόμου

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PROTOPRESBYTER FR. GEORGIOS OIKONOMOU, PASTOR Tel: 410-633-5020 • Fax: 410-633-4352 • Cell: 443-422-4548

CHURCH SECRETARY

PARASKEVI (VOULA) KOTSATOU
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
AMALIA SYROPOULOS-KOSTRIVAS

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KATINA YIANAKIS, CHRISTINE ZERVOS

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FOTEINI ARGIROPOULOS - POC

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HISTORIAN - ELLIE FILIPPOU AND MARIANTHI DINIOTIS
SERGEANT AT ARMS - LOUKAS OIKONOMOU

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DIRECTORS
PHAEDRA AVGERINOS 10TH
NIKKI CANNING AND ROSE KOSTAKIS,
PRE-KINDERGARTEN
YANA KARABELAS, KINDERGARTEN

PENNY GERAPETRITIS & VASILIKI FONIADIKI, 1ST & 2ND
JENNA STAKIAS, 3RD & 4TH
STAVROULA SAKELAKIS 5TH
KALLIOPI CORNIAS & FLORA GIACOUMAKIS, 6TH
ELENI PIKOUNIS 7TH
MARIA FILIPPOU. 8TH & 9TH

AFTERNOON GREEK SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL - STAMATIA IEROMONAHOS
PRE-K - MARIA GOURGOULIATOU, MARIA KAZAZI
KINDERGARTEN - MARIA GOURGOULIATOU
1ST GRADE - ELENI DEMETRIOU
2ND GRADE - DESPINA CHATZAKOU LARENTZOS
3RD & 4TH GRADE - PARASKEVI KOTSATOU ARGETAKIS
5TH & 6TH GRADE - KELLY PEROS VASILEIADES
A1 ELLINOMATHEIA COORDINATOR -
KELLY PEROS VASILEIADES
A2, B1, B2 ELLINOMATHEIA COORDINATOR -
YVYVONI GALETAKI
C1, C2 ELLINOMATHEIA COORDINATOR -
ELINA PAPADIMA TSAPAKIDIS

GREEK SCHOOL P.T.A.

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YAL

FOULA PARAGIOS

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

IRENE VASILAKOPOULOS, CHAIRPERSON
ADRIENNE KOURTESIS

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

KOINONIA DEADLINE

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

ISSUE MONTH: JANUARY 2025

SUBMISSIONS DUE: DECEMBER 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,

December is a special month. We celebrate the lives of many Saints who are the embodiment of humility, love and forgiveness while preparing to celebrate the Holy Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ on December 25.

Christmas is a celebration of unconditional Love, Giving and Caring. We rise to the occasion to offer our fellow human beings emotional as well as material goods. We are called upon to lend them a helping hand while seeking self-improvement. We conduct these deeds without expecting anything in return.

After all, even the poor shepherds on the night of His Birth offered solace to the Newborn Divine Infant. They were not expecting anything in return.

From our childhood, we have beautiful memories of celebrating Christmas. This period is very special to all of us. On Christmas, it is important to teach our children the true meaning of this holiday. Let us sing carols, a joyful event, which semantically carries with it the hope of a better future. By praising the birth of Christ, children are filled with joy, energy and anticipation for tomorrow. Like the shining star of Bethlehem, which with its radiant light, announced to the whole world the birth of Christ, we can also say that children, with the serenading of triangles and psalms, reflect the birth of joy and hope.

Remember, the true meaning of these Holy Days is for us to humbly pass through Jesus' Manger and worship with reverence, kindling in our souls the flame of His eternal love. Let's absorb the brightest of lights in our hearts so that the magic of Christmas can touch us.

Finally, I would like to thank all our parishioners who graciously offer their time and enrich our church with their love, desire and pride. May God and the Grace of St. Nicholas look after us. I am personally grateful to each and every one of you.

May we all be well and enjoy the Christmas holidays!

With love and appreciation,
Stamatia Ieromonahos
President of Saint Nicholas Church Baltimore
Parish Council

Αγαπητοί μας ενορίτες,

Ο Δεκέμβριος είναι ένας ξεχωριστός μήνας. Γιορτάζουμε τον Βίο πολλών Αγίων που είναι παραδείγματα ταπεινοφροσύνης, αγάπης και συγχώρεσης ενώ παράλληλα προετοιμαζόμαστε για να γιορτάσουμε την Αγία Γέννησή Του Κυρίου Ιησού Χριστού στις 25 Δεκεμβρίου.

Τα Χριστούγεννα είναι μια γιορτή ανιδιοτελής Αγάπης, Προσφοράς και Φροντίδας. Καλούμαστε να προσφέρουμε στους συνανθρώπους μας συναισθηματικά, αλλά και υλικά αγαθά, να τους ανακουφίσουμε από τις δυσκολίες, να βελτιωθούμε και οι ίδιοι ως προσωπικότητες, χωρίς να περιμένουμε κάποιο αντάλλαγμα.



Εξάλλου, και οι φτωχοί βοσκοί το βράδυ της γέννησης προσέφεραν τη φροντίδα τους στο νεογέννητο Θείο Βρέφος, χωρίς να περιμένουν ανταμοιβή.

Από τα παιδικά μας χρόνια έχουμε όμορφες αναμνήσεις από τον εορτασμό των Χριστουγέννων. Αυτή η περίοδος είναι πολύ ξεχωριστή για όλους μας. Τα Χριστούγεννα είναι σημαντικό να διδάξουμε στα παιδιά μας το πραγματικό νόημα των Χριστουγέννων. Ας τραγουδήσουμε τα κάλαντα, ένα χαρμόσυνο γεγονός, το οποίο σημασιολογικά φέρει μαζί την ελπίδα ενός καλύτερου μέλλοντος. Τα παιδιά υμνώντας τη γέννηση του Χριστού γεμίζουν χαρά, ενέργεια και προσμονή για το αύριο. Όπως το λαμπερό αστέρι της Βηθλεέμ, που με το φως του ανήγγειλε σε όλο τον κόσμο τη γέννηση του Χριστού, θα μπορούσαμε να πούμε πως και τα παιδιά, με τον θόρυβο των τριγώνων και τους ψαλμούς, μεταδίδουν μέχρι και σήμερα τη γέννηση της χαράς και ελπίδας.

Θυμηθείτε το πραγματικό νόημα αυτών των Αγίων ημερών είναι να περάσουμε και εμείς ταπεινά από τη Φάτνη του Ιησού και να προσκυνήσουμε με ευλάβεια, ανάβοντας στη ψυχή μας τη φλόγα της αιώνιας αγάπης Του. Ας βάλουμε τα πιο φωτεινά φώτα στην καρδιά μας για να μας αγγίξει η μαγεία των Χριστουγέννων.

Τέλος, θα ήθελα να ευχαριστήσω όλους τους ενορίτες μας που αφιλοκερδώς προσφέρουν στην εκκλησία μας με αγάπη, όρεξη και υπερηφάνεια. Ο Θεός και η Χάρη του Αγίου Νικολάου μας να μας σκεπάζει. Προσωπικά είμαι ευγνώμων για όλους και τον καθένα σας προσωπικά.

Να είμαστε καλά να περάσουμε χαρούμενα τις γιορτές των Χριστουγέννων!

Με εκτίμηση και αγάπη
Σταματία Ιερομονάχου
Πρόεδρος Συμβουλίου
Αγίου Νικολάου Βαλτιμόρης

The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Flesh

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



As the story is told by the Apostles, the Roman Empire was powerful. The Romans had conquered much of the then known world. Judea and Samaria, what we know today as Israel, were included in their conquests. Emperor Augustus ordered that a census be taken in all his lands. He needed to know how many people lived in the empire so he could tax them. Everyone had to go to the town of their family's origin to register for the census. This meant that Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem. They were descendants of King David and Bethlehem was the City of David.

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth and it was a great distance from Bethlehem. It was about 100 miles over very rugged roads. Moreover, Mary was expecting the baby

Now, that night the shepherds were out in the fields guarding their sheep. Suddenly, there was a bright light which startled the shepherds. The light was so bright that it turned the night into daylight. Of course, the shepherds were frightened. Nothing such as this had ever happened. Soon an angel appeared and calmed them. The angel said:

“Fear not for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior; which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:11-12).

Then a larger group of angels appeared. They praised and glorified God and sang, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men” (Luke 2:14). When the angels finished singing, they disappeared and the light began to fade. It became dimmer and dimmer until it was dark again. The shepherds were awed. They didn't know what to do. Finally, they decided to leave their flocks of sheep and go to Bethlehem. They decided that they wanted to see for themselves what the angels had told them. When they got to Bethlehem, they found Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus. They fell to their knees and adored Jesus.

Some Wise Men came from the East for they knew of the coming of Jesus. They had seen a star that told them that a new king had been born to the Jews. They followed the star and were looking for the child. At this time the governor of Judea was King Herod. He was a wicked man and was feared and hated by the people. When Herod heard about the Wise Men looking for the child, he invited them to his palace. Herod asked the Wise Men to find the child so that he, too, could worship Him. But Herod was lying. He did not want anyone to take his place. The Wise Men went on to look for Jesus. The Star led them to Jesus and Mary. When the

Introduction

The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus is one of the most joyful days of the Orthodox Church. It ranks next to the greatest holiday, the Resurrection of Jesus. The Feast of the Birth of Jesus is also known as the “Incarnation of Christ.” This means that Jesus became a man and came into the world to save us. We also refer to this joyous feast as Christmas.

Biblical Story

The story of the Nativity of Christ is beautifully told in the Holy Scriptures. The story is found in Matthew 1:18-25 and in Luke 2:1-20. No matter how often the Birth of Jesus is told, we realize that it is an important event.

and it was almost time for her to give birth. Bethlehem was a small town and there were many descendants of David who had come to register for the census. By the time Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem there was no place for them to stay. Joseph tried very hard to find a place to sleep that evening. There was no room at the inn. Finally, Joseph found a cave-like place where they could rest. This place was used by shepherds to protect their sheep in stormy weather. It was here that Mary gave birth to Jesus. The baby was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in the straw in the manger.

Men found Jesus, they fell to their knees and worshipped Him. They gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Wise Men left but did not return to Herod. They had a dream that warned them that Herod wanted to harm Jesus. Instead, they returned to their native country by a different route.

Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Nativity tells the story of Christ's birth from the Scriptures. It also shows that all creation is taking part in Christ's birth. The angels give thanks with their song; the heavens give the star; the Wise Men give their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The poor, humble shepherds give their praise and amazement; the earth gives the cave, and humanity gives the Virgin.

This Holy Icon is an icon with many scenes. First, it stresses the importance of the Theotokos, the Mother of Jesus. She is placed in the center and is the largest figure in the icon. In this icon, she is kneeling with crossed arms, looking at the Christ child. The three stars, denoting her virginity before, during, and after the Nativity, are on her garments. The Christ Child, in the center of the icon, is in swaddling clothes and is lying in the manger. In the background is the dark cave where He was born. In the cave are an ox and a donkey guarding the newborn Babe. Even though the Gospels say nothing of the cave, this information is from Holy Tradition. Neither do the Gospels speak of the ox and the donkey, but all icons of the Nativity include these animals. Including the animals in the icon fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah 1:3, "The ox knows his master, and the donkey his master's crib; but Israel does not know me, and the people have not regarded me." The long ray of light from the star points directly to the cave. This ray comes from the star and travels to all parts of the world. It teaches that this bright star is an astronomical happening, and is a messenger from heaven announcing the birth of Jesus.

On the left hand side of the icon is another scene. The Wise Men, who were led by the star, are riding horses to bring their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus. The Wise Men are of various ages. One is without a beard. In those days, young

men did not wear beards. The other Wise Man has long hair and a long beard, which indicates that he is much older. These details teach that regardless of age and appearance, the Good News was given to each and everyone.

Opposite the Wise Men is the scene with the humble shepherds. An angel proclaims the glad tidings. A young shepherd plays a reed instrument. This scene reveals that the music of the humans was added to the hymn of the angels. Across from the shepherd's scene is the heavenly choir of angels. They are giving glory to God. The angels serve two purposes in the Nativity of Christ. They give glory to God and announce the good news to all mankind.

The background shows a very rugged terrain. This is not a true representation of the land in this area. Joseph could not find room in Bethlehem, so they went outside of Bethlehem to a cave. This rocky mountain formation only serves as a background for the event.

In the lower part of the icon are two more scenes. In the right hand corner are the two women Joseph brought to take care of the Christ child. They are bathing Him just as any baby is bathed. The humanity of Jesus is clearly shown in this setting.

Opposite the bathing of Jesus scene sits a sad and worried Joseph. He is not part of the central group the Christ Child and the Theotokos. Joseph is not the natural father. Joseph is troubled and despondent. There is an old man talking to Joseph. The old man is Satan. Satan can appear in many forms. Here he is as an old man who is tempting Joseph and disturbing him. Satan is telling Joseph that virgin birth is impossible. He's telling Joseph that he's a fool if he believes this. This story comes to us from Holy Tradition. The sad Joseph shows us not only his personal predicament but the dilemma of all mankind the difficulty of accepting that which is "beyond words or reason."

The tree, which is in the middle of the lower part of the icon, is a symbol of the Tree of Jesse. This tree refers to Isaiah 11:1-2, "But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall

rest upon Him." King David was often mentioned as the son of Jesse and Jesus was from the House of David.

The Holy Icon of the Nativity reminds one to praise and glorify the Birth of Christ. The celebration of Christmas each year serves to remind each and everyone of us that Christ came for you and me.

The Orthodox Celebration of the Feast of the Nativity

As with Pascha, or Easter, the Feast of the Nativity begins with a period of preparation. It is preceded by a fast corresponding to Lent and lasting for forty days. The fast begins on November 15.

On the Sundays immediately before December 25, special commemorations emphasize the link between the Old Covenant and the New. On December 20 the Forefeast of the Nativity is commemorated, and the daily liturgical texts are directed toward the Feast itself. On Christmas Eve, services include the Great or Royal Hours, the Great Vespers, and the Liturgy of Saint Basil.

On Christmas Day the service commemorates the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, the adoration of the Shepherds, and the arrival of the Wise Men with their gifts. The service held on this day is the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom.

The days following Christmas are associated with the Theotokos and Joseph. December 26 is the Synaxis of the Mother of God, and the first Sunday after the Feast commemorates "Joseph the Betrothed." December 29 commemorates the Massacre of the Innocents, and January 1 the Circumcision of our Lord. The Nativity season concludes on December 31, but the spirit of the festival extends to the celebration of Theophany (Epiphany), the feast commemorating the Baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River. ■



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 371/2024

**Archepiscopal Encyclical for the Feast of the Archangels
Feast of the Synaxis of the Holy Archangels**

November 10, 2024

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:

And there was no one who stood with me against them, except Michael, your prince.
(Daniel 10:21)

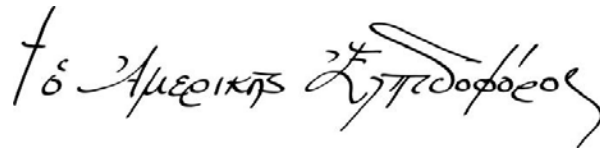
Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the visions of the Prophet Daniel, Archangel Michael is revealed as a powerful force for good and protection against every possible evil. If you look through the Holy Scriptures, you will read of Angels appearing in all manner of places — sometimes in numbers that even defy the imagination. But we should always bear in mind that “Angel” means “messenger,” someone who is delivering to us an important communication from the Heavenly Realm.

Every year, on November 8, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Holy Angels — all Nine Ranks of them, who are led by their Chief Commanders, Michael and Gabriel. At the same time, we take time to remember Saint Michael’s Home, our Archdiocesan Institution that cares for the elderly. Archangel Michael is considered the residents’ special protector and guardian, who stands with them in this life and the next.

This year, let us all consider a donation — of any size — to Saint Michael’s Home in order to support the generation that came before us. Holy Scripture speaks of a moment when Archangel Michael was the only one to take a stand and make a defense. But the message is clear, all of us can take our place with the Holy Archangel to become an impenetrable wall of support and prayer for our aged. And in doing so, we will contribute to the construction of the new walls that will house and protect our elderly at the new Saint Michael’s Home.

With paternal love in Christ,



+ ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ
ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ.: 371/2024

Αρχιεπισκοπική Έγκύκλιος για την έορτή των παμμεγίστων Ταξιαρχών.

10 Νοεμβρίου 2024

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

«Καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν εἷς ἀντεχόμενος μετ' ἐμοῦ περὶ τούτων, ἀλλ' ἢ Μιχαὴλ ὁ ἄρχων ὑμῶν.»
(Δανιήλ 10:21).

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

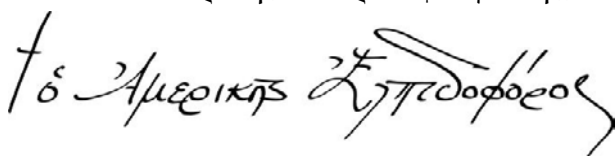
Στὸ ὄραμα τοῦ προφήτου Δανιήλ, ὁ ἀρχάγγελος Μιχαὴλ ἀποκαλύπτεται ὡς ἰσχυρὸς παράγων ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ ὑπερασπιστῆς ἐναντίον παντὸς κακοῦ. Ἀνατρέχοντας τὴν Ἁγία Γραφή διαβάζουμε ὅτι οἱ ἄγγελοι ἐμφανίζονται σὲ ποικίλα μέρη καὶ σὲ ἀριθμούς, πὺ πολλὰς φορὰς ξεπερνοῦν τὴ φαντασία μας. Ὅμως ὀφείλουμε πάντοτε νὰ ἔχουμε κατὰ νοῦ ὅτι «ἄγγελος» σημαίνει «ἀγγελιοφόρος», κάποιος δηλαδὴ πὺ μᾶς φέρνει ἕνα σπουδαῖο μήνυμα ἀπὸ τὴ Βασιλεία τῶν Οὐρανῶν.

Κάθε ἔτος ἐορτάζουμε τὴ Σύναξη τῶν παμμεγίστων Ταξιαρχῶν μὲ τὰ ἑννέα τάγματά τους, στὰ ὁποῖα ἐπικεφαλεῖς εἶναι οἱ ἀρχιστράτηγοι Μιχαὴλ καὶ Γαβριήλ. Σὲ μιὰ τέτοια ἡμέρα, ἂς ἀφιερῶσουμε λίγο ἀπὸ τὸ χρόνο μας γιὰ νὰ θυμηθοῦμε τὰ

σπουδαῖα ἔργα ποὺ ἐπιτελοῦνται στὸν οἶκο εὐγηρίας «Ἅγιος Μιχαήλ», τὸ ἴδρυμα τῆς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς μας γιὰ τὴ φροντίδα τῶν ἡλικιωμένων. Ὁ ἀρχάγγελος Μιχαήλ θεωρεῖται ὁ κραταῖος προστάτης καὶ φύλακας ἐκείνων ποὺ διαμένουν στὸ ἴδρυμά μας αὐτὸ καὶ συμπαρίσταται σὲ αὐτοὺς τόσο σὲ αὐτὴ ὅσο καὶ στὴν ἄλλη ζωὴ.

Αὐτὴ τὴ χρονιά, ἄς σκεφτοῦμε ὅλοι νὰ κάνουμε μία δωρεά, ὁποιοῦδήποτε ὕψους, πρὸς τὸν οἶκο εὐγηρίας «Ἅγιος Μιχαήλ», προκειμένου νὰ στηρίξουμε τὶς γενεές ποὺ προηγήθηκαν πρὶν ἀπὸ ἐμᾶς. Ἡ Ἁγία Γραφή ἀναφέρει τὸ περιστατικό, ὅπου ὁ ἀρχάγγελος Μιχαήλ στάθηκε ὡς ὁ μοναδικὸς ὑπερασπιστής. Ὅμως τὸ μήνυμα εἶναι ξεκάθαρο, διότι ὅλοι μας μπορούμε νὰ πάρουμε θέση ὑπεράσπισης μαζί μὲ τὸν ἅγιο ἀρχάγγελο, καὶ νὰ γίνουμε ἓνα ἀδιαπέραστο τεῖχος προστασίας, στήριξης καὶ προσευχῆς γιὰ τοὺς ἡλικιωμένους μας. Μὲ αὐτὸ τὸν τρόπο, θὰ συμβάλουμε γιὰ τὴν κατασκευὴ τῶν νέων δομῶν ποὺ θὰ στεγάσουν καὶ θὰ προστεύσουν τοὺς ἡλικιωμένους μας στὸ καινούργιο κτίριο τοῦ «Ἁγίου Μιχαήλ».

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης,



† ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 392/2024

Archebiscopal Encyclical for National Philoptochos Sunday

November 17, 2024

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:

Go, and do likewise. (*Luke 10:37*)

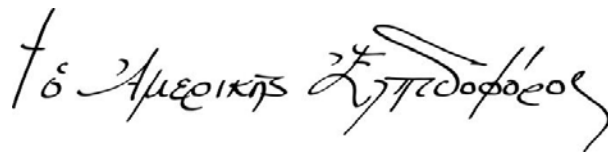
Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

On this National Philoptochos Sunday, when we remember the parable of the “Good Samaritan” that was read last Sunday, let us take inspiration from the final words that the Lord addresses to the lawyer who was trying to best Him in an argument. “Go, and do likewise,” the Lord said to him, and to all of us. Be merciful! Show compassion! And this is the essence of what it means to be part of Philoptochos.

Our National Philoptochos Societies, with tens of thousands of sisters who labor with love on behalf of others, have learned this lesson well from our Lord and Savior. The core value of their various ministries is to follow the example of the Samaritan and to extend God’s mercy and compassion to anyone who is in need.

Let us support them in their service to our fellow brothers and sisters, knowing that they fulfill a great need in the world. They have taken the word of the Lord to heart. And although we might not be able to be in the trenches with them, we can offer them the resources they require to “go and do likewise.” In this way, we join with them, with the Samaritan of the Gospel, and with our Lord Himself in the redemption of the world.

With paternal love in Christ,



† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ.: 392/2024

**Αρχιεπισκοπική Έγκύκλιος για την Κυριακή τῆς Ἐθνικῆς Φιλοπτώχου
Ἀδελφότητος.**

17 Νοεμβρίου 2024

Πρὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Ἀρχιερεῖς, τοὺς
Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τὶς Πρεσβυτέρες καὶ τὶς Διακόνισσες,
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
Αρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς.

«Πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποιεὶ ὁμοίως» (Λουκᾶ 10:37).

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Ἡ σημερινὴ Κυριακὴ εἶναι ἀφιερωμένη στὴν Ἐθνικὴ μας Φιλόπτωχο
Ἀδελφότητα καί, εὐκαιρίας δοθείσης, ἄς ξαναθυμηθοῦμε τὴν παροβολὴ τοῦ
«Καλοῦ Σαμαρείτη», ἡ ὁποία διαβάστηκε τὴν περασμένη Κυριακὴ. Σὲ αὐτὴ
τὴν παραβολή, ὁ Κύριος ἀπευθύνεται πρὸς κάποιον νομικό, ὁ ὁποῖος τὸν ρωτᾷ
γιὰ τὴ σωτηρία, λέγοντάς του (καὶ μέσω αὐτοῦ σὲ ὅλους ἐμᾶς): «πορεύου καὶ
σὺ καὶ ποιεὶ ὁμοίως»! Γίνετε οἰκτίρμονες καὶ ἐλεήμονες! Αὐτὸ ἀκριβῶς εἶναι τὸ
νόημα τοῦ νὰ εἶσαι μέλος τῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος.

Τὰ κατὰ τόπους τμήματα τῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητας, μὲ χιλιάδες μέλη, ἀδελφές μας ποὺ ἐργάζονται καὶ διακονοῦν μὲ ἀγάπη ἀνιδιοτελῶς πρὸς τὸν πλησίον, ἔχουν μαθητεύσει ἄριστα στὰ πόδια τοῦ Κυρίου μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ὁ κεντρικὸς σκοπὸς τῶν διακονιῶν αὐτῶν εἶναι νὰ μιμηθοῦν τὸ παράδειγμα τοῦ «Καλοῦ Σαμαρείτη», δείχνοντας τὸ ἔλεος τοῦ Θεοῦ, συμπονώντας ὅποιον ἔχει ἀνάγκη.

Ἄς τὶς στηρίξουμε, λοιπόν, στὴ διακονία τους πρὸς τὸν πλησίον, γνωρίζοντας ὅτι καλύπτουν ἓνα μεγάλο κενὸ στὴν κοινωνία μας. Ἐχουν βάλει τὸ λόγο τοῦ Κυρίου στὴν καρδιά τους καὶ τὸν κάνουν πράξη. Ἀκόμη καὶ ἂν δὲν μπορούμε νὰ εἴμαστε μαζί μὲ αὐτὲς στὴν πρώτη γραμμὴ, μπορούμε νὰ προσφέρουμε τὸν ὀβολό μας πρὸς ἐνίσχυσή τους, ὥστε νὰ ἔχουν τοὺς ἀναγκαίους πόρους γιὰ νὰ «πορευθοῦν καὶ νὰ ποιήσουν ὁμοίως». Μὲ αὐτὸ τὸν τρόπο συμπράττουμε μαζί τους, ὅπως καὶ μὲ τὸ Σαμαρείτη τῆς εὐαγγελικῆς περικοπῆς, καθὼς καὶ μὲ τὸν ἴδιο τὸν Χριστὸ στὸ ἔργο τῆς σωτηρίας τοῦ κόσμου.

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης,



+ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 399/2024

**Archeepiscopal Encyclical for Archon Sunday
The Feast of Saint Andrew the First-Called Disciple**

November 30, 2024

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 Sacred Archdiocese of America:

Their sound has gone forth unto all the earth, and the words unto the ends of the oikoumene.

(Psalm 18:4, LXX)

Beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,


By unanimous decision of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Sacred Archdiocese of America, the honorable and most esteemed Order of Saint Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, is to be recognized yearly for the Feast of their Celestial Patron, Saint Andrew the Apostle and First-Called Disciple of the Lord. This year, the commendation of our beloved Order of Archons will occur on Sunday, December 1, with the reading of this first-ever Encyclical.

The Order of Saint Andrew is a venerable organization dedicated to the defense and protection of our Venerable Ecumenical Patriarchate; but it is also so

much more. The Archons represent the interests of the Mother Church and our Archdiocese in all manner of public and private forums. A visit to their website (<https://archons.org>) would reveal an incredible number of initiatives that impact the Church in America in positive, Christ-affirming ways. The Archons exercise a worldwide reach that extends to Greece and the Eparchies of the Ecumenical Throne to promote religious freedom around the globe, and recognize virtuous, humanitarian leadership through the annual Athenagoras Human Rights Award. Indeed, their voices are heard throughout the oikoumene!

Many of our parishes have members who are Archons, an office (*offikion*) that is personally approved and bestowed by His All-Holiness himself. On this Sunday, when we take time to show our respect and esteem for the Archons of our Church who are the Members of the Order of Saint Andrew, let us resolve to stand with them in their spiritual phalanx in defense of the Holy Great Church of Christ. We are all sons and daughters of the Mother Church of Constantinople, and we express our gratitude and appreciation to Her brave and devoted Archons for all that they accomplish on Her behalf. May they enjoy many years of health and spiritual prosperity!

With paternal love in Christ,



† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ
ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ.: 399/2024

Αρχιεπισκοπική Έγκύκλιος για την Κυριακή τῶν Ἀρχόντων.

30 Νοεμβρίου 2024

Πρὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Ἀρχιερεῖς, τοὺς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τὶς Πρεσβυτέρους καὶ τὶς Διακόνισσες, τοὺς Μοναχοὺς καὶ τὶς Μοναχές, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τοὺς Ἐντιμολογιωτάτους Ἀρχοντες 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.

«Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης τὰ ῥήματα αὐτῶν» (Ψαλμὸς 18:4).

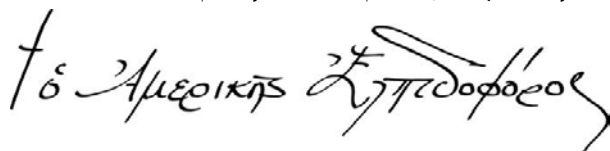
Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Μὲ ὁμόφωνη ἀπόφαση τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἐπαρχιακῆς Συνόδου τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς μας, τὸ ἐξαιρετικὸ Τάγμα τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀνδρέα τῶν Ἀρχόντων τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, ἀναγνωρίζεται καὶ τιμᾶται ἐτησίως κοντὰ στὴν ἐορτὴ τοῦ προστάτου του, Ἁγίου Ἀνδρέα τοῦ Πρωτοκλήτου, ἀποστόλου καὶ μαθητοῦ τοῦ Κυρίου μας. Αὐτὸ τὸ ἔτος, ἡ ἐπαινετὴ ἀναγνώριση τοῦ προσφιλοῦς Τάγματος τῶν Ἀρχόντων πραγματοποιεῖται σήμερα, Κυριακὴ 1 Δεκεμβρίου ἑ.ἑ, μὲ τὴν ἐξαπόλυση τῆς παρούσης πρώτης ἐγκυκλίου.

Τὸ Τάγμα τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀνδρέα εἶναι βέβαια ἕνας ἀξιοσέβαστος ὀργανισμός, ἀφιερωμένος στὴν προστασία τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου, ὅμως οἱ δράσεις του ἐπεκτείνονται καὶ σὲ πολλοὺς ἄλλους τομεῖς. Οἱ ἄρχοντες προστατεύουν τὰ συμφέροντα τῆς Μητρὸς Ἐκκλησίας καὶ τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς μας, μὲ κάθε τρόπο, σὲ ὅλους τοὺς δημοσίους ἢ ἰδιωτικούς ὀργανισμούς. Μία ἀπλὴ ἐπίσκεψή σας στὴν ἰστοσελίδα τους (<https://archons.org>) ἀποκαλύπτει ἕναν ἀπίστευτο ἀριθμὸ ἀπὸ πρωτοβουλίες καὶ δράσεις ποὺ ἔχουν θετικὸ ἀντίκτυπο γιὰ τὴν Ἐκκλησία μας στὴν Ἀμερική καὶ γιὰ τὴ διάδοση τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου. Οἱ Ἄρχοντες ἀσκοῦν παγκόσμια ἐπιρροή, ποὺ ἐπεκτείνεται τόσο στὴν Ἑλλάδα, ὅσο καὶ σὲ ὅλες τὶς ἐπαρχίες τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Θρόνου, γιὰ τὴν προώθηση τῆς θρησκευτικῆς ἐλευθερίας, ἀναγνωρίζοντας καὶ τιμώντας ἐνάρετους ἡγέτες ποὺ προωθοῦν τὰ ἀνθρώπινα δικαιώματα, μέσῳ τοῦ ἐτήσιου βραβείου ἀνθρωπίνων δικαιωμάτων «Πατριάρχης Ἀθηναγόρας». Πράγματι, «εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης ἐξῆλθον τὰ ῥήματα αὐτῶν»!

Πολλές κοινότητές μας ἔχουν μέλη ποὺ εἶναι Ἄρχοντες. «Ἄρχων» εἶναι ἕνα ὄφφικιο ἢ ἀξίωμα, τὸ ὁποῖο ἐγκρίνεται προσωπικὰ ἀπὸ τὸν ἴδιον τὸν Παναγιώτατο Οἰκουμενικὸ Πατριάρχη. Αὐτὴ τὴν Κυριακή, κατὰ τὴν ὁποία τιμοῦμε καὶ ἀναγνωρίζουμε τὰ μέλη τοῦ Τάγματος τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀνδρέα, δηλαδὴ τοὺς Ἄρχοντες τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας, ἄς δεσμευθοῦμε νὰ στρατευθοῦμε μαζί τους γιὰ τὴν υπεράσπιση τῶν δικαιωμάτων τῆς Μεγάλης τοῦ Χριστοῦ Ἐκκλησίας. Εἴμαστε ὅλοι μας τέκνα τῆς Μητρὸς Ἐκκλησίας τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως, καὶ ἐκφράζουμε τὴν ἐκτίμηση καὶ τὴν εὐγνωμοσύνη μας πρὸς τοὺς ἐξαιρετικούς καὶ ἀφοσιωμένους Ἄρχοντες, γιὰ ὅλα ὅσα ἐπιτυγχάνουν ἐκ μέρους της. Εὐχομαί νὰ ζήσουν ἔτη πολλά, μὲ υἰεία καὶ πνευματικὴ εὐημερία.

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης,



+ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Lydia Filipidis

Mr. Harry Tsakalos
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Tomecek
Mr. & Mrs. Marion Szymanski
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moniodis
Ms. Connie Tsakiris
Ms. Kelly Avgerinos
Ms. Georgia Avgerinos
Ms. Kiki Vavakas
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Deborja
Mr. & Mrs. Andronikos Argetakis
Mr. & Mrs. Stergios Gatanas
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Hondroulis
Mr. & Mrs. Dudley Alt
Mr. & Mrs. John Lovera
Mr. & Mrs. John Stavrinoudis
Mr. & Mrs. George Kornias
Mr. John Avgerinos
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Syropoulos
Mr. George Hrisafinas &
Mrs. Emily Syropoulos

In Memory of Emmanuel Pikounis

Ms. Helen Pikounis

In Memory of Nicholaos Hatziminas

Mr. & Mrs. John Smoudianis

In Memory of Mary Serafis

Ms. Anastasia Hatziefthimiou

In Memory of Maria Chrissomallis

Ms. Roza Cornias
Mr. & Mrs. Elias Kapetanakos
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Farantos
Ms. Connie Tsakiris
Mr. & Mrs. George Kornias
Ms. Stella Plagianakos
Mr. Vasilis Plagianakos

In Memory of Lambrini Galiatsatos

Mr. Michael & Mrs. Katina Klosterides
Samuel Shoham

In Memory of George Katsimpiris

Mrs. Nichola Katsimpiris Wallace

In memory of Sevasti (Sylvia) Cornias

Ms. Roza Cornias
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Yianakis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Stavlas
Ms. Despina Glykiadis
Ms. Soulla Kapetanakos





GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

THANKSGIVING 2024

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

As we gather together in celebration of the beautiful and unique holiday of our great nation, Thanksgiving, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of this wonderful day in light of all that our almighty God has bestowed upon us. Truly, as we gather around our Thanksgiving tables and offer up expressions of thanks and appreciation for our beloved family members, friends, and loved ones, we must not overlook or neglect to express our gratitude to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for all of His heavenly blessings upon us. This expression of our thanks to our Lord should not be limited to mere reflection or words but should be accompanied with our active participation in living our Orthodox Faith, through our participation in the Holy Sacraments, through our love for our fellow man, and through our acts of charity and philanthropy to all those in need.

Therefore, my beloved in the Lord, I implore you, that as we celebrate this amazing holiday, enjoying the delicious food and the wonderful fellowship, that we remember to reflect on the many gifts that God has blessed us with. Our true appreciation of His love for us is a rich blessing that allows us to continue to grow closer to Him and to continue to follow the path which He has laid for us, which leads to salvation.

Wishing all of you, your families and all the faithful people of our sacred Metropolis a most blessed, healthy and Happy Thanksgiving filled with His blessings from above, I remain,

With Paternal Love and Blessings

Met. Apostolos of NJ

† APOSTOLOS

Metropolitan of New Jersey

215 East Grove Street, Westfield, NJ, 07090-1656 • Tel: (908) 301-0500 • Fax: (908) 301-1397
Web: www.nj.goarch.org • E-mail: metropolis@nj.goarch.org



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



***His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey***

*Cordially Invites all of the clergy and
the beloved faithful to the*

**ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING &
OPEN HOUSE**

on

Friday, December 20, 2024
6:00 - 9:00pm

At the

*Metropolis Headquarters
215 E. Grove Street
Westfield, NJ 07090*



New Date & Location

10th Anniversary Gala
in Honor of the Episcopal Ordination of
His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey



Monday, January 13, 2025
The Venetian | Garfield, New Jersey



A JOURNEY OF FAITH
To Thessaloniki, Mt. Athos and Constantinople
Led by His Eminence Apostolos of New Jersey
February 21-March 3, 2025: 11 Days / 9 Nights



Thessaloniki & Mt. Athos: See the most important religious sites in Northern Greece. Visit Greece's second largest city, Thessaloniki. Attend Liturgy at the Cathedral of St. Demetrios, visit the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Souroti to venerate the grave of St. Paissios and visit the awe inspiring Meteora Monasteries. Men will depart for the Holy Mountain for two nights and the women will enjoy a visit to Ormylia Monastery and a visit to a museum in Thessaloniki.

Constantinople: Visit the important Greek Orthodox sites: the Ecumenical Patriarchate and St George Cathedral, Agia Sophia, Panagia Vlacherna where the "Te Ypermahou" was first chanted, Chora and Baloukli Monastery - Zoodochos Peghe. Also, visit the Underground Cisterns. Shop at the exciting Grand Bazaar! Enjoy a birthday banquet for His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew as well as a private audience with the Patriarch (subject to confirmation).

SPACE IS LIMITED and on a FIRST-COME BASIS

RATE: Per person double occupancy \$4700* & single occupancy \$5635*

*Rates include the air tax/fuel of approximately \$475 which is not guaranteed until ticketing a month prior to departure. Rate above reflects a 4% check discount which does not apply if payment is made any other way. Due to Aegean Airlines group reservations policy, the air fare between Thessaloniki and Istanbul is not guaranteed and may be subject to fare increases depending on when you make your reservation to join the group. An air supplement may apply.

Deposit of \$800 due by November 20, 2024 or late booking fee of \$50 per person will apply.

YOUR TOUR WILL INCLUDE:

- *Round-trip airfare on Turkish Airlines: EWR / IST / Thessaloniki & IST / EWR & Aegean Airlines: Thessaloniki / ATH / IST
- *Private arrival and departure transfers in a deluxe air conditioned motorcoach with English speaking escort
- *7 1/2 days of private sightseeing for men & 6 days for the women. All entrance fees are included.
- *Women: 6 nts first class hotel in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees.
- *Men: 4 nts first class accommodation in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees & 2 nts accommodation on the Holy Mountain including meals and transportation on the Holy Mountain & roundtrip private ferries
- *All: 3 nts first class accommodation in Constantinople at the Divan Istanbul Hotel or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes & service fees.
- *1 welcome dinner in Thessaloniki, 1 dinner in Constantinople & a banquet for His. All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
- *Private audience with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (subject to confirmation)

Cloud Tours Inc. 37-21 78th Street Jackson Heights, NY 11372
Tel: 718-721-3808 Fax: 718-795-4356 Email: stephen@cloudtours.com



**A JOURNEY OF FAITH
TO THESSALONIKI, MT. ATHOS & CONSTANTINOPLE
Led by His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey
February 21 – March 3, 2025: 11 Days / 9 Nights**

I am requesting services for _____ people. **The exact name on the passport (s) is/are:**

Address: _____
 Daytime Tel: _____ Evening Tel: _____ Cell: _____
 Email: _____ Special Requests: Meals (Diabetic, vegetarian etc.): _____
Rooming with: _____ Wheelchair: Yes ___ No ___ Star Alliance number: _____

SELECT BETWEEN OPTIONS I, II:

OPTION I: Select either double or single occupancy inclusive of air: JFK / IST / Thessaloniki & Thessaloniki / IST & IST / EWR
 Per person double occupancy \$4700* x 2 \$ _____
 Single occupancy \$5635 * x 1 \$ _____

***Air tax/fuel of approximately \$475 is include in the above prices and not guaranteed until ticketed and subject to change**

OPTION II: LAND ONLY: Select either double or single occupancy. (Transatlantic flights not included. Flights Thessaloniki to IST via Athens are included).

Land only rate per person double occupancy \$3875* x 2 \$ _____
 Land only rate single occupancy \$4810* x 1 \$ _____

Departure/Arrival transfers may not be included in Land Only rates

ALL OPTIONS: Please add: Gratuities per person (not optional) \$ 185 x \$ _____
 Delivery of documents (not optional) \$ 30 x 1 \$ 30.00

***Rates reflect a 4% check discount which does not apply if payment is made in any other way. Due to Aegean Airlines group reservations policy, the air fare between Thessaloniki and Istanbul is not guaranteed and may be subject to fare increases depending on when you make your reservation to join the group. An air supplement may apply.**

TRAVEL PROTECTION IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING TRAVEL PROTECTION VISIT THE BELOW LINK FOR PLANS AND PREMIUMS
www.travelexinsurance.com/index.aspx?location=32-0603&go=bp

Travel protection is recommended. If you pay for it with your deposit, pre-existing medical conditions are covered
Please mail this reservation form, a copy of your passport and a deposit of \$800 per person payable to Cloud Tours Inc.
 SPACE IS LIMITED! RESERVE NOW! DEADLINE: November 20, 2024 or late booking fee, \$50 applies

TOUR INCLUDES:

- *Round-trip airfare on Turkish Airlines: EWR / IST / Thessaloniki & IST / EWR & Aegean Airlines: Thessaloniki / ATH / IST
- *Private arrival and departure transfers in a deluxe air conditioned motorcoach with English speaking escort
- *7 1/2 days of private sightseeing for men & 6 days for the women. All entrance fees as per itinerary are included.
- *Women: 6 nts first class hotel in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees.
- *Men: 4 nts first class accommodation in Thessaloniki at the Electra Palace or similar including daily breakfast, all taxes and service fees & 2 nts accommodation on the Holy Mountain including meals and transportation on the Holy Mountain & roundtrip private ferries
- *All: 3 nts first class accommodation in Constantinople at the Divan Istanbul Hotel or similar includ. daily breakfast, all taxes & service fees.
- *1 welcome dinner in Thessaloniki, 1 dinner in Constantinople & a banquet for His. All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
- *Private audience with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (subject to confirmation)

CONDITIONS: Confirmation is subject to receipt of deposit with reservation form no later than Nov. 22 to guarantee your seat. Deposits received Nov. 23 and later are subject to a \$50 late booking fee & applicable air surcharges. Final balance due Dec, 27, 2024. **Air taxes / fuel surcharges are not guaranteed unless ticketed. Ticketing must occur for the group at the same time.** A minimum of 25 people required or additional costs will apply. **Cancellation fees:** Once deposit is received, an administration fee of \$200 per person applies in cases of all cancellations. Additional fees for cancellations received between Nov 23, 2024-Jan 2, 2025, \$800 per person and between Jan 3- Jan 21, 75% of the tour price and between Jan 22, 2025 to day of departure, non-refundable. No refund for no-shows or unused portions of tour. Additional cancellation fees may be imposed by suppliers subject to date of cancellation. Should the group cancel for any reason, including political strife, Cloud Tours reserves the right to charge \$150 per person administration fee, **Travel protection is recommended & must be paid with deposit to waive the pre-existing medical conditions exclusion. Travel protection is nonrefundable. You may request a copy of the Description of Coverage, prior to purchase, which includes the terms, conditions, limitations, and exclusions.** This plan provides insurance coverage for your trip that applies only during the covered trip. You may have coverage from other sources that provides you with similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon your other coverages. You may wish to compare the terms of this policy with your existing life, health, home and automobile policies. If you have any questions about your current coverage, call your insurer, insurance agent or broker. The purchase of this plan is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service offered to you by your travel retailer". Cloud Tours reserves the right to deny service to any person based upon its discretion and/or the particular needs or circumstances of a given group.

**CLOUD TOURS INC. 37-21 78th Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372
 Tel: 718 721 3808 Fax: 718 795 4356 Email: stephen@cloudtours.com**



Poinsettias for the Church

Please help us to decorate our beautiful church for the upcoming Christmas season by donating \$25.00 toward the purchase of a poinsettia plant.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Quantity (# _____) \$ _____

Deadline - December 18th



Thank you for your support!

*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.*

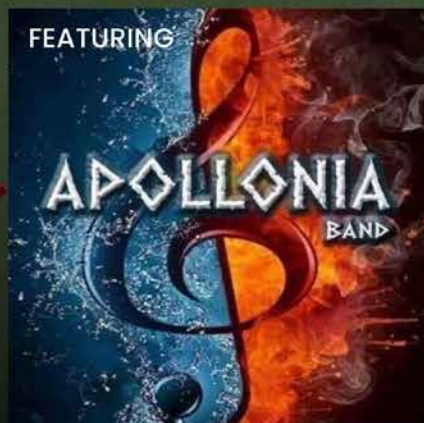

*Send your resume at vkotsatou@stnicholasmd.org
Kindly contact the church office at 410-633-5020*

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





2024
ST. NICHOLAS
**NAME DAY
DANCE**
DECEMBER 7



ADULTS \$75 | UNDER 18 \$50

Includes Dinner and Cash Bar

Greektown Square
& Event Center

For More Information
• **410-633-5020**

PHILOPTOCHOS

The celebration of our Patron Saints Kosmas and Damain took place with an Artoclasia on November 3rd, and a meeting and dinner on November 4th. We would like to Thank Mrs. Fotini Gerapetrides for her donation and wish her and her family many years of health. The collection of nonperishable food items collected went to the Johns Hopkins Food Pantry and we are grateful for everyone's donations. Philoptochos continues to help those in need and during the holidays we reach out and supply food baskets to help bring a warm meal to those families. This month we had seven families in need of food and assisted in rent, utilities, and personal items to include premature baby clothing for the helping up mission for a total of \$2,142.61. If you know of anyone that will need assistance for Christmas, please contact Nora Kefalas 410-979-6656 or Evagelia Saliaris 410-592-8345. All information is strictly confidential.

On November 22nd, His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey celebrated the Divine Liturgy of the Feast of Saint Iakovos Tsalikis of Evia, the new Patron Saint of our Metropolis. We had the privilege and honor to attend. A reception was held following the Liturgy where The Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos presented His Eminence with the Icon of St. Iakovos. It was truly a day of spiritual enlightenment, emotions, and fellowship. We humbly thank His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos and the Metropolis of New Jersey for allowing us to be part of the special day and their warm hospitality! In closing, thank you to all those who joined us on this pilgrimage and May Saint Iakovos Tsalikis of Evia intercede and Bless all of us!

The next General meeting is on Monday, December 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Please join us and bring a friend. On Tuesday, December 17th is our Christmas Cheer 6:00-9:00 p.m. at The Greektown Square and Event Center. Donation \$35.00 includes Appetizers and Desserts. Wine may be purchased by glass or bottle. For information or tickets please contact Zoe Perdikakis 410-908-1556 or Panagiota Koutsantonis 410-979-8034.

As Christians we help throughout the year, whether giving a plate of food to a neighbor, calling to check on and console someone who is struggling, or just listening to someone that needs to talk. In some small way we are all Philoptochos. During the Holidays it is even more important that we think and reach out to those in need. Acts 20:35 "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak", remembering the words of the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive!"

May the birth of our savior Jesus Christ bring warmth, love, happiness, and health in your homes! Wishing a Blessed Merry Christmas to all!

DONATIONS:

Mrs. Sula Kapetanakos
Anonymous Donation
Anonymous Donation
Mrs. Eleni Pikounis
Mrs. Joanna Forakis

PHILOPTOCHOS



Με Αρτοκλασία πραγματοποιήθηκε ο εορτασμός των Πολιούχων μας Αγίων Κοσμά και Δαμιανού στις 3 Νοεμβρίου, 2024 και με συνάντηση με γεύμα, στις 4 Νοεμβρίου, 2024. Θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε την κυρία Φωτεινή Γεραπετρίτη για τη δωρεά της και ευχόμαστε στην ίδια και στην οικογένειά της, να έχουν πολλά χρόνια γεμάτα υγεία. Τα τρόφιμα μακράς διάρκειας που συλλέχθηκαν πήγαν στο Johns Hopkins Food Pantry και είμαστε ευγνώμονες για δωρεές όλων. Η Φιλόπτωχος συνεχίζει να βοηθά όσους έχουν ανάγκη και τις γιορτές. Απευθυνθείτε και προσφέρετε καλάθια τροφίμων για να βοηθήσετε με ένα ζεστό γεύμα τις οικογένειες που το έχουν ανάγκη. Αυτό το μήνα είχαμε επτά οικογένειες που έχουν ανάγκη από φαγητό και βοήθεια σε ενόικιο, υπηρεσίες κοινήρ ωφέλειας και προσωπικά είδη καθώς και ρούχα πρόωρων μωρών. Το κόστος αυτής της υποστηρικτικής δράσης ανήλθε στα \$2.142,61. Αν γνωρίζετε κάποιον ή κάποιους που θα χρειαστούν βοήθεια για τα Χριστούγεννα, επικοινωνήστε με τη Νόρα Κεφάλα στο 410-979-6656 ή την Ευαγγελία Σαλιάρη στο 410-592-8345. Όλες οι πληροφορίες είναι αυστηρά εμπιστευτικές.

Στις 22 Νοεμβρίου, ο Σεβασμιώτατος Μητροπολίτης Νιου Τζέρσεϋ κ.κ. Απόστολος εόρτασε τη Θεία Λειτουργία της Εορτής του Αγίου Ιάκωβου Τσαλική Ευβοίας, του νέου Πολιούχου της Μητροπόλεώς μας. Είχαμε το προνόμιο και την τιμή να παρευρεθούμε. Μετά την Λειτουργία ακολούθησε δεξίωση όπου η Φιλόπτωχος της Μητροπόλεως Νιου Τζέρσεϋ, παρέδωσε στον Σεβασμιώτατο την Εικόνα του Αγίου Ιάκωβου. Ήταν πραγματικά μια ημέρα πνευματικής φώτισης, συναισθημάτων και συναναστροφής. Ευχαριστούμε ταπεινά τον Σεβασμιώτατο Μητροπολίτη κ.κ. Απόστολο και τη Μητρόπολη του Νιου Τζέρσεϋ που μας επέτρεψαν να είμαστε μέρος της ξεχωριστής αυτής ημέρας καθώς και για τη ζεστή φιλοξενία τους! Κλείνοντας, ευχαριστούμε με τη σειρά μας, όλους όσους συμμετείχαν σε αυτό το προσκύνημα και είθε ο Άγιος Ιάκωβος Τσαλικής Ευβοίας να φροντίζει και να ευλογεί όλους μας!

Η επόμενη Γενική Συνέλευση είναι τη Δευτέρα 2 Δεκεμβρίου στις 6:00 μ.μ. Ελάτε μαζί μας και φέρτε και έναν φίλο. Την Τρίτη 17 Δεκεμβρίου είναι η Χριστουγεννιάτικη Συνάντησή μας στις 6:00-9:00 μ.μ., στην Πλατεία, The Greektown Square. Η δωρεά για την εκδήλωση είναι \$35,00 και περιλαμβάνει ορεκτικά και επιδόρπια. Το κρασί μπορεί να αγοραστεί σε ποτήρι ή μπουκάλι. Για πληροφορίες ή εισιτήρια επικοινωνήστε με τη Ζωή Περδικάκη 410-908-1556 ή την Παναγιώτα Κουτσαντώνη 410-979-8034.

Είμαστε βέβαιοι ότι ως Χριστιανοί βοηθάμε όλο το χρόνο, είτε δίνοντας ένα πιάτο φαγητό σε έναν γείτονα, είτε καλώντας και φροντίζοντας κάποιον που δυσκολεύεται ή απλώς με το να ακούμε όποιον έχει ανάγκη κάποιον να του συμπαρασταθεί. Κατά κάποιο τρόπο είμαστε όλοι Φιλόπτωχος. Κατά τη διάρκεια των εορτών είναι ακόμη πιο σημαντικό να σκεφτόμαστε και να προσεγγίζουμε όσους έχουν ανάγκη. Πράξεις 20:35 «Σε ό,τι έκανα, σας έδειξα με αυτό το είδος σκληρής δουλειάς ότι πρέπει να βοηθήσουμε τους αδύναμους», ενθουσιώμενοι τα λόγια του ίδιου του Κυρίου Ιησού που είπε: «Αυτό είναι πιο ευλογημένο, να δίνεις παρά να παίρνεις!».

Είθε η γέννηση του γλυκού μας Ιησού Χριστού να φέρει ζεστασιά, αγάπη, ευτυχία και υγεία στα σπίτια σας! Ευχόμαστε Καλά Χριστούγεννα σε όλους!

ΔΩΡΕΕΣ:

Σούλα Καπετανάκος
Ανώνυμη Δωρεά
Ανώνυμη Δωρεά
Ελένη Πικούνη
Ιωάννα Φοράκη

*Help Saint Nicholas GOYA
support our
Philoptochos and the Philoxenia House*

Philoxenia House opened its doors in 2002 to provide a home away from home for patients and their families seeking medical attention in Baltimore. To date it has housed 172 families, offering shelter and warm hospitality to families during their most difficult days. The ladies of our Philoptochos work tirelessly and with great passion to preserve the mission of the Philoxenia House. They are currently working on the next phase of the home which includes covering an outdoor stairway, adding an elevator, and expanding to add additional housing to accommodate more families.

Please make a donation to help them in this mission.

Venmo:

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH @ StNicks GOYA

Check: payable to Saint Nicholas GOYA

Note "Philoxenia House" in memo
section of Venmo or check

Saint Nicholas GOYA ~ Annual Vasilopita Sale



Vasilopita \$20 Each ~ Your Purchase Benefits St. Nicholas GOYA

Quantity: _____ Total: \$ _____

Place your order by **FRIDAY, December 20, 2024**

Email orders to stnicholasgoyabalto@gmail.com or emilysyrop@yahoo.com

Cash, Checks, or Venmo accepted at time of order

Please make checks payable: St. Nicholas GOYA and in memo area add...vasilopita

Venmo: @StNicksGOYA

For any additional information contact Emily Syropoulos @443-462-1292



GREEK SCHOOL

December has arrived and we are all getting ready to enjoy the approaching Holy Days by celebrating the Divine Birth of our Christ!

The children of the 3rd and 4th grade decorated our classroom and between their lessons they enjoyed our conversations about the days that have passed but also about their plans for the days to come!



The coming month is full of events and activities for the people of our Community, the Church and of course for all the children of our Greek School! The culmination of these will be December 18th! Our children will sing carols in the neighborhood like every year and will return to our school for the Christmas Celebration!!! After all, our purpose is, in addition to grammar and spelling, for the children to learn the customs of our country so that they keep our Greece alive in their hearts!

Merry Christmas everyone!!!


Ο Δεκέμβριος έφτασε και όλοι ετοιμαζόμαστε να χαρούμε τις Άγιες Μέρεις που πλησιάζουν γιορτάζοντας την Θεία Γέννηση του Χριστού μας!

Τα παιδιά της Τρίτης και της Τετάρτης τάξης στόλισαν την τάξη μας και ανάμεσα στα μαθήματα τους απολάμβαναν τις συζητήσεις μας για τις μέρες που πέρασαν αλλά και για τα σχέδιά τους τις μέρες που θα έρθουν!

Ο μήνας που μας έρχεται είναι γεμάτος από εκδηλώσεις και δραστηριότητες για τους ανθρώπους της Κοινότητας μας, την Εκκλησία και φυσικά για όλα τα παιδιά του Ελληνικού μας Σχολείου! Αποκορύφωμα αυτών θα είναι η 18η Δεκεμβρίου! Τα παιδιά μας θα πουν τα κάλαντα στη γειτονιά όπως κάθε χρόνο και θα επιστρέψουν στο σχολείο μας για την γιορτή των Χριστουγέννων!!! Σκοπός μας είναι άλλωστε, εκτός από γραμματική και ορθογραφία, τα παιδιά να μαθαίνουν τα ήθη και τα έθιμα του τόπου μας ώστε να κρατούν την Ελλάδα μας ζωντανή στις καρδούλες τους!

Καλα Χριστούγεννα σε όλους!!!





ST. NICHOLAS
DIAMONDS

Invites you to a

CHRISTMAS

Luncheon party

Saturday | 11 | January
1:00PM | | 2025

Greektown Square & Event Center
700 Quail St, Baltimore, MD 21224

Tickets: \$45

MENU:

2 Lamb Chops

Crab Cake

with

Roasted Vegetables

Roasted Potatoes

ST. NICHOLAS DIAMONDS

St. Nicholas



**Day Trip
LANCASTER, PA**

Saturday, September 20, 2025



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!

St. Nicholas



PHS

Philadelphia Flower Show

**Saturday,
March 8, 2025**

Seats are limited

Price \$90.00

Includes bus and show ticket

For more information please contact

Sofia Xouris

240-375-5464

Thank you for your support!



NOW HIRING *TEACHERS AND AIDES!* 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. If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to contact the center at 410-633-5020 extension 4 or message us on Facebook.

November was full of fun activities in BEEC. We learned about giving, appreciation, culture, season, and more. BEEC had a thanksgiving feast with families and teachers. BEEC Parents participated in a Potluck which gave everyone the opportunity to try different traditional dishes from each family. We enjoyed our meal together and enjoyed each other's company. BEEC wants to thank the families and teachers who supported our Thanksgiving feast.

BEEC will participate in Toys for Tots to put a smile on less fortunate children on Christmas Day. This coming December, BEEC is inviting BEEC families and teachers to join us to meet Santa Claus on December 20, 2024, 3 pm – 5 pm in the St. Nicholas Church Hall. BEEC's Preschool class will also be performing 2 holiday songs. We can't wait to see what January will have in store for us!

Happy Holidays to all!!!

Το Δίγλωσσο Κέντρο Πρόωρης Εκπαίδευσης του Αγίου Νικολάου παρέχει ένα ασφαλές κέντρο εκμάθησης και φροντίδας μακριά από το σπίτι. Δεχόμαστε παιδιά από 6 εβδομάδων έως 5 ετών. Αυτήν τη στιγμή έχουμε ανοικτές θέσεις για παιδιά ηλικίας 3-5 ετών στην προσχολική μας αίθουσα. Εάν έχετε οποιοσδήποτε ερωτήσεις, μη διστάσετε να επικοινωνήσετε με την διευθυντρια, Tyshanna, στο 410-633-5020 επέκταση 4.

Ο Νοέμβριος ήταν γεμάτος διασκεδαστικές δραστηριότητες για το Δίγλωσσο Κέντρο Πρόωρης Εκπαίδευσης (BEEC). Μάθαμε για την προσφορά, την εκτίμηση, τον πολιτισμό, την εποχή και πολλά περισσότερα. Ο BEEC είχε μια γιορτή για την Ημέρα των Ευχαριστιών στην οποία συμμετείχαν οι οικογένειες και οι δάσκαλοι. Οι γονείς του BEEC σε ένα Potluck, είχαν την ευκαιρία να δοκιμάσουν διαφορετικά παραδοσιακά πιάτα από κάθε οικογένεια. Απολαύσαμε το δικό μας γεύμα μαζί απολαμβάνοντας επίσης, ο ένας την παρέα του άλλου. Ο BEEC θέλει να ευχαριστήσει τις οικογένειες και τους δασκάλους που υποστήριξαν τη γιορτή των Ευχαριστιών μας.

Ο BEEC θα συμμετάσχει για ακόμα μία χρονιά στο Toys for Tots, με σκοπό να χαρίσει χαμόγελα στα λιγότερο τυχερά παιδιά, την ημέρα των Χριστουγέννων. Αυτό τον Δεκέμβριο, ο BEEC προσκαλεί τις οικογένειες και τους δασκάλους του σταθμού μας, να έρθουν μαζί μας για να συναντήσουμε τον Άγιο Βασίλη, στις 20 Δεκεμβρίου 2024, 3 μ.μ. – 5 μ.μ. στην Αίθουσα της Εκκλησίας του Αγίου Νικολάου. Η προσχολική τάξη του σταθμού μας θα παρουσιάσει σε όλους 2 εορταστικά τραγούδια.

Ανυπομονούμε να δούμε τι μας επιφυλάσσει ο Ιανουάριος!



Save the Date

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey



Music & Dance Festival
Philadelphia: February 14-16, 2025

*President's Day Weekend (February 14 – 16, 2025) at the
Sheraton Hotel - Downtown Philadelphia.*

Categories include:

- Greek Folk Dancing
(JOY, GOYA and Young Adult Groups)*
- &*
- Parish Youth and Young Adult Liturgical Choirs*

Registration Packets will be coming shortly



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



MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE CARD ΚΑΡΤΑ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ

“WELL DONE GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANT”

“ΕΥ, ΔΟΥΛΕ ΑΓΑΘΕ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΕ”

2024 SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CONFIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD
2024 ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ -ΚΑΡΤΑ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΗΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ ΜΕΛΩΝ

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

\$ _____ (Weekly / Monthly / Quarterly / Yearly)
\$ _____ (Εβδομαδιαίως / Μηνιαίως / Ανά Τρίμηνο / Ετησίως)

TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGE FOR 2024 :\$ _____
Συνολικό ποσό προσφοράς για το 2024 :\$ _____

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 / Ιλιούθουσα	
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 τριμήνο 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.



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
Includes setup, cleanup, paper goods
\$200

Coffee Service Only
Includes setup, cleanup, paper goods
\$120


Fruit Tray
\$40

Spanakopita
100 pieces
\$75

Tyropita
100 pieces
\$75

Tray of Cheese, Olives & Crackers
\$100

Sandwiches
Tuna, Shrimp or Chicken
\$2 per piece


Greektown Square & Event Center

700 S. Quail Street | Baltimore, MD 21224
tel: 410-633-5020 tel: 410-633-3131 | fax: 410-631-2706
email: info@greektownsquare.com

Greek Dishes For Pick Up
Sponsored by
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Pre-orders required Wednesday prior | Cooked or frozen

Dolmades
1/2 Tray (50 pieces)
\$50

Spanakopites
35 square pieces
\$40

Tiropites
35 square pieces
\$40

Pastitsio
1/2 Tray
\$55

Mousaka
1/2 Tray
\$60

Lamb Shank w/ Orzo
5 Orders
\$100


Greektown Square & Event Center

700 S. Quail Street | Baltimore, MD 21224
tel: 410-633-5020 tel: 410-633-3131 | fax: 410-631-2706
email: info@greektownsquare.com

Makaria Menu
Sponsored by
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Appetizer Choices
Cheese Pies (included)
Spinach Pies (included)
Fried Calamari (add \$2.00/pp)

Choices of salad (1)
Garden Salad, Greek Salad, Village Salad, Caesar Salad

Choices of Entree
Choice of two sides, Roll & Butter (included)

31pp
Flounder (broiled/fried)
Shrimp Creole
Cod Fish (broiled/fried)

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, Kritcharakie(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


Greektown Square & Event Center

700 S. Quail Street | Baltimore, MD 21224
tel: 410-633-5020 tel: 410-633-3131 | fax: 410-631-2706
email: info@greektownsquare.com

STEWARDSHIP FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Contribution Type	Transaction Place	Pledged	Received	Outstanding	Report Date:	12-02-24
With Pledge Card	Office	\$97,300	\$95,836	\$1,464	Number Of Family Contributions	425
Without Pledge Card	Office/Vanco	--	\$167,419	--	Number Of Individual Contributions	469
Total	--	--	\$263,255	--	--	

Agapios, Diamantis
 Agapios, Maria
 Ahepa Lord Baltimore #364
 Akalestos, Emmanuel & Kaiti
 Alafassos, Spiro & Penny
 Alevrogiannis, Argie
 Alexandrou, Constantina
 Alexandrou, Niki
 Amann, Mary & Franz
 Anastasiades, Demos & Nancy
 Angelopoulos, Chris
 Angelos, John & Irene
 Angelos, Mark & Kalliope
 Angelou, Maria
 Anonymous, Anonymous
 Apesos, Antigoni
 Aravidis, Nickolas & Smaragda
 Arbulu, Sophia
 Argetakis, Andronikos & Paraskevi
 Argetakis, Angeliki
 Argetakis, George & Kelly
 Argirakis, Pantelis & Despina
 Argiropoulos, William & Fotini
 Argyrakis, Despina
 Arnas, Kiriakos & Deana
 Aronis, Konstatinos & Moragiannis, Vasiliki
 Asmar-, Oliver & Nikoletos, Anna
 Athanasiou, Antonios & Penny
 Athos, Janet
 Atsalis, Gus & Kalliope
 Atsalis, Maria
 Atsidis, Ioannis & Efthimia
 Avgerinos, Despina
 Avgerinos, George & Phaedra
 Avgerinos, Vasilios & Sophia
 Bakalis, John
 Balatsoukas, Konstantina
 Balomas, Patricia
 Barkas, Maria & Fotini
 Basil, George & Angie
 Belios, Peter & Vergos, Karen
 Bisbikis, Pete & Eleni
 Bisiotis, Dimitrios & Fotini
 Black, Mark
 Bonolis, Catherine
 Bouloubasis, Nicholas
 Bournias, Lambrini
 Bournousouzis, Panagiota
 Bouyoukas, John
 Britzolakis, Georgios & Eugenia
 Canning, Nicole
 Cardiges, Nicholas
 Cejpek, Peter & Foula
 Chagetas, Angela
 Chalkias, Ioannis & Sofia
 Chamberlis, John
 Charalambopoulos, Charalambos & Aspasia
 Chrissomallis, Metaxia
 Chrissomallis, Sophie
 Christ, Philip & Marinam
 Christakou, Stavroula
 Comminos, Georgio
 Conway, Rose
 Cook, Harry
 Cornias, Arezina
 Cornias, Despina
 Cornias, Fotini
 Cornias, Kalliopi
 Cornias, Larry
 Cornias, Mark & Kiriaki
 Cornias, Nicholas

Cossis, Milton & Amalia
 Curtis, John
 Dardamanis, Eva
 Dargakis, Ioannis
 Dendrinis, Evangelia
 Diacogiannis, Michael
 Diakantonis, Nickolaos & Agathi
 Dimidis, Anna
 Diniotis, Anastasia
 Douskas, Konstantinos
 Douskas, Nicolas & Dimitra
 Douskas, Vasiliki
 Efthimiou, Giannoula
 Eliopoulos, Anna
 Eliou, Ernest & Lilian
 Fakas, James & Novalasia
 Fakas, Vasilios
 Fantis, Flora
 Fantis, Penelope
 Filipidis, Effie
 Filipidis, James
 Filipidis, Nicholas
 Filippakis, Filippos
 Filippou, Jason & Maria
 Filippou, Nicholas
 Forakis, George
 Forakis, Michael & Alexandra
 Forakis, Nicholas & Athena
 Forakis, Stamati & Despina
 Fotinos, Aikaterini
 Fotinos, James
 Fotinos, Michael
 Foukas, Pavlos & Andromahi
 Fragakis, Aikaterini
 Frangakis, Sofoula
 Frangos, Constantine
 Frangos, John & Katerina
 Friedlander, Amy
 Galiatsatos, Gerasimos
 Gargiulo, Angela
 Gavrilis, John & Patricia
 Gavrilis, Nick
 Gazonas, George
 Georgakakou, Vasiliki & Chandar, Bharath
 Georgalas, Michael & Hrisovalantou
 Georgas, George
 Georgas, Savas & Kyra
 Georgiadis, Diogenis & Nektaria
 Gerapetrites, Panagiota
 Gialamas, Joanna
 Giannakoulis, George
 Giannakoulis, Konstantinos
 Giannas, Stylianos & Maria
 Giannopoulos, Ilias
 Giannopoulos, Vasilios
 Giordani, Greg
 Giorgakis, Antonios
 Giorgakis, Vasilios
 Glava, Kiki
 Glykiadis, Despina
 Glytsis, Filippos & Papakanaki, Georgia
 Gourgoulis, Demetrios
 Gyftopoulos, Sofia
 Halikias, Anastasia
 Halikias, Anna
 Halkias, Fotini
 Handakas, Paul & Dorothy
 Harris, Athena
 Hatziefthimiou, Anastasia
 Hatzigeorgalis, Antonios
 Hatzigeorgalis, Nicholaos

Hatzinicolos, Nick & Olga
 Home, Funeral
 Hondroulis, Emmanuel & Maria
 Houvardas, Minas
 Hristopoulos, Yianni
 Ieromonahos, Dimitrios & Maria
 Ieromonahos, Panteles & Stamatia
 Iliadis, Mary
 Johns, Aspasia
 Kaikis, Andreas
 Kaikis, Clemis & Maria
 Kaitis, Angela
 Kaliakoudas, Sofia
 Kaminaris, Demetrios & Michelle
 Kanellopoulos, Fotis
 Kapetanakos, Elias & Stephanie
 Kapetanakos, Soulla
 Kaputsos, Marshall
 Karabelas, Ioanna
 Karabelas, Pete & Helen
 Karaflos, Athanasios
 Karagiannis, Carla
 Karagiannis, Maria
 Karagiannopoulos Smelser, Eleni
 Karamihalis, George
 Karamihalis, Theologos
 Karanikolis, Nick & Chrysanthi
 Karavedas, Viola
 Karellas, Eugenia
 Karousos, George & Markella
 Karoutsos, George & Alexandra
 Kastanakis, Michael & Nikki
 Kastellorizios, Konstantinos & Maria
 Kastellorizios, Lisa (Evangelia)
 Katsaros, Emanuel
 Katsaros, Michael & Sophia
 Katsas, Stavros & Evangelia
 Kattavenos, Michael & Stamatia
 Kefalas, Mike & Nora
 Kerr, Travis & Maria
 Killias, Savas & Sophia
 Kimos, Elaine
 Klosterides, Michael
 Klosteridis, Michael & Klosteridis, Eleni
 Kolaitis, Dimitrios
 Koliadis, Emmanuel & Zenovia
 Koliofotis, Evangelos & Athina
 Kolotos, Dora
 Konstantinou, John & Mary
 Kontogeorgakis, Christos
 Kontoudis, Konstantinos & Kyriaki
 Kornias, Christos & Irene
 Kornias, George & Maria
 Korologos, John & Angeliki
 Korologos, Louis & Anastasia
 Korologos, Spiros & Tsambika
 Korologos, Triantafillos
 Kosmas, Demetrios & Denise
 Kosmas, Sam & Lerakis, Marianna
 Kostos, John
 Koukides, Georgios
 Koukides, Harry & Stella
 Koukides, John
 Koukides, Konstantinos & Styliani
 Koulatos, Anastasia
 Koulatos, Dionisios & Margo
 Koumoudis, Sotiris & Vasiliki
 Kouroupis, Steve
 Kourtesis, Michael & Adrienne
 Koutelis, Adamantios
 Koutsantonis, Demetrios

STEWARDSHIP FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Contribution Type	Transaction Place	Pledged	Received	Outstanding	Report Date:	12-02-24
With Pledge Card	Office	\$97,300	\$95,836	\$1,464	Number Of Family Contributions	425
Without Pledge Card	Office/Vanco	--	\$167,419	--	Number Of Individual Contributions	469
Total	--	--	\$263,255	--	--	

Koutsantonis, George
 Koutsantonis, John
 Kovios, Panagiotis & Christine
 Kron, Christopher & Alexa
 Lagadinis, Katerina
 Laiakis, Dimitrios & Anastasia
 Lallas, Eva
 Lambrow, Stephanie
 Larentzos, James & Despina
 Laskarides, Demetrios
 Laskaridis, Nikolaos
 Lentis, Minas & Kostalas, Eleni
 Lerakis, Dimitra
 Lericos, Irene
 Lessis, Ioannis & Kalliopi
 Lioreisis, Stacey
 Luebben, Paraskevi
 Lykos, Fotis & Maria
 Makris, John
 Mamalis, Konstantinos
 Manolitsis, Ismini
 Maragos, Petros & Lambrini
 Marianos, Vasilios
 Mastromanolis, Manuel
 Mavrikos, Lambrini
 Mavrodontis, Zaharias & Voula
 Mavromoustakos, Tsampika
 Mavronis, Michael & Kleopatra
 Mavronis, Nicholas
 Mavroulis, Photis & Eva
 Mehani, Bledar & Nathanaili, Irina
 Micklos, Angelos & Panagiota
 Micklos, Christine
 Mihail, Nikolaos & Lee Ann
 Miller, Emmanuel
 Millett, Earl & Alex, Elizabeth
 Milonas, Kimon
 Mimaros, Stavros & Maria
 Minadakis, Antonios & Agapi
 Minas, Rose
 Moniodis, Michael & Effie
 Moniodis, Michael & Flora
 Moskonas, Vasiliki
 Moskos, Thomas & Tampa
 Myaris, John & Sofia
 Nezis, Nikolaos & Hariklia
 Nistazos, George & Despina
 Nistazos, Nickolas & Alena
 Nychis, George & Angeliki
 Nychis, Vasilios & Evangelia
 O'Drudy, Leo & Tricia
 Ohno, William & Maria
 Oikonomou, Fr. Georgios
 Orfanidis, Vasilina
 Orfanos, Michael
 Palas, John & Katina
 Panagodimos, Panagiotis
 Pandelidis, Demetrios & Elisavet
 Pantelides, Joanne
 Papadimitriou, Ermion
 Papadimitriou, George
 Papadopoulou, Anastasios & Marianthi
 Papadopoulou, Efstathios & Kalliopi
 Papalexopoulos, Christianna
 Papatheakis, Matthew
 Papavasiliou, Lucas & Renee
 Papavasiliou, Virginia
 Paragios, Ioannis & Popi
 Paralys, Kon/Nos & Anna
 Paros, Mary
 Parthemos, Antonia & Mitchem, Jos
 Parthemos, Kalliope
 Parthemos, Konstantinos & Angelika
 Pasiadis, Giorgos & Vicky Mouhtouris
 Paterakis, Chuck & Olga
 Pateris, John
 Pateris, Nicanor
 Patras, Nikos & Kelly
 Patras, Stephen
 Patrikios, Aikaterine & Jissri, Mike
 Peach, Antonia
 Pentikis, Anthony
 Petrinolis, Irene
 Petropoulos, Konstantinos
 Philippou, Kalliopi
 Philippou, Philip
 Pikounis, Adrew
 Pikounis, Eleni
 Pikounis, George & Vasiliki
 Pikounis, John & Despina
 Pikounis, Kalliope
 Pirovolikos, Michael & Eirini
 Polikandriotis, Maria
 Polikandriotis, Nicholas
 Politis, Minas & Sophia
 Polychronis, Aristides & Virginia
 Posluszny, Jeffrey & Daphne
 Poulimenakos, Eleni
 Prassinis, Demetrios & Carol
 Protopapas, Emmanuel & Kalliopi
 Protopapas, George & Sofia
 Protopapas, Nicholas
 Psichis, Dula
 Pulianas, Despina
 Qirjako, Spiro & Bona
 Quintero, Dennis & Rita
 Redmiles, Sophia
 Reese, Kalyopi & John
 Reppas, Paraskevi
 Reppas, Soterios & Elia
 Rigopoulos, Mary Ann
 Riley, Nicholas
 Roberts, Brian & Maria
 Rologas, Christina
 Roros, Arieta
 Roros, Dimitrios & Polly
 Roros, John & Angeliki
 Roros, Kyriaki
 Roros, Nikoletta
 Roros, Stavros
 Roussos, Anthony & Laura
 Roxanis, Dean & Soula
 Roxanis, John
 Roxanis, Steven
 Sakellis, George & Penelope
 Sakellis, Michael & Kalliope
 Sakpazis, Ioannis & Maria
 Saliaris, Panagiotis
 Salpeas, Maria
 Santoro, Chris & Chrissie
 Sarantakos, Yiota
 Sarioglou, Kerassa
 Sarioglou, Nikolaos
 Sarlanis, Kiriako
 Sarris, Mihalia
 Sazaklis, Antonios
 Schaefer, Stephanie
 Serafis, Mary
 Sfakianoudis, John & Angeliki
 Sfriou, Antonia
 Sisamis, Ioannis & Pothiti
 Siskos, Stefanos & Dina
 Skandalis, George
 Skevofilax, Emmanuel
 Skordalos, Kostantinos
 Skordalos, Vasilios & Sandy
 Smoudianis, John & Stamatine
 Sotirchos, Elias & Yiouli Ktena
 Souranis, Maritsa
 Souranis, Michael & Spyridoula
 Souranis, Paraskevi
 Spencer, Eric & Donna
 Stakias, Dimitrios & Joanne
 Stakias, George & Mary
 Stakias, Michael & Lemonia
 Stakias, Stelios & Tina
 Stamatopoulos, Nicolas
 Stamides, Sofia
 Stamidis, Anastasios & Angela
 Stamidis, Chrisoula
 Stamidis, Gefsie
 Stamoulis, Kyriakos & Jessica
 Stavlas, Jerry & Kalliope
 Stewart, John & Rita
 Syropoulos, Amalia
 Syropoulos, Nicholas & Angeliki
 Tampakakis, Emmanuel
 Tasker, Dale & Kalomira
 Tetteris, Rhodrea
 Themelis, John & Renee
 Theoharis, Emmanuel & Maria
 Topouzoglou, Anastasios & Patricia
 Triantafillos, Costas & Mary
 Trintis, Thorina
 Tripoulas, Marilena
 Tsakalos, Jeanette
 Tsamouras, Constantine & Moshoula
 Tsamos, George & Demetra
 Tsamos, John & Nikolette
 Tsamos, Michael & Christina
 Tsapakidis, Nikolaos
 Tsapakidis, Theoharis & Papadimas, Evangelia
 Tsapalas, Dimitris
 Tsapalas, Stefanos
 Tsapalas, Theodore & Pamela
 Tserkis, Vasilios
 Tspouras, Ilias & Renia
 Tsironis, Evdokia
 United Chian Society Of Baltimore
 Valilis, Evangelia
 Valilis, Panagiotis
 Vasilakopoulos, Anastasia
 Vasilakopoulos, Irene
 Vasiliades, Antonios & Sofia
 Vasiliades, Minus & Kelly
 Vasilios, Frank & Irene
 Vatakis, Tessie
 Vavakas, Kiki
 Venetis, Dimitrios & Kiki
 Verenakis, Maria
 Vergos, George
 Vergos, John
 Vergos, Stephanie
 Vizaniaris, Evangeline
 Voulgarakis, Harry
 Vourgarakis, Harry
 Weglein, Elizabeth
 Xouri, Sofia
 Yeakim, Dionysios & Angela
 Yianakis, Steve & Katina
 Zdziera, Steve & Nitsa
 Zervos, Christine

STEWARDSHIP FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Contribution Type	Transaction Place	Pledged	Received	Outstanding	Report Date:	12-2-24
With Pledge Card	Office	\$14,025	\$5,510	\$1,464	Number Of Family Contributions	58
Without Pledge Card	Office/Vanco	--	\$11,617	--	Number Of Individual Contributions	65
Total	--	--	\$17,127	--	--	

Alourdass, Nick	Millett, Earl & Alex, Elizabeth
Amann, Mary & Franz	O'Drudy, Leo & Tricia
Angelopoulos, Chris	Oikonomou, Fr. Georgios
Angelos, Mark & Kalliope	Papadopoulos, Anastasios & Marianthi
Black, Mark	Papalexopoulos, Christianna
Bonolis, Catherine	Papavasiliou, Virginia
Canning, Nicole	Paragios, Ioannis & Popi
Cardiges, Nicholas	Parthemos, Antonia & Mitchem, Jos
Chionis, Antonios	Peach, Antonia
Cook, Harry	Philippou, Philip
Cornias, John	Pikounis, Adrew
Cornias, Larry	Polikandriotis, Kostas & Hariklia
Cossis, Milton & Amalia	Polychronis, Aristides & Virginia
Gargiulo, Angela	Prassinias, Demetrios & Carol
Georgakakou, Vasiliki & Chandar, Bharath	Samaras, Peter
Georgalas, Michael & Hrisovalantou	Sarioglou, Anastasia
Harris, Athena	Sarioglou, Nikolaos
Ieromonahos, Pantelis & Stamatia	Sarlanis, Kiriako
Kafouros, Demetrios	Sazaklis, Antonios
Kalambihis, Maria	Skandalis, George
Kaminaris, Demetrios & Michelle	Stamidis, Anastasios & Angela
Kapetanakos, Elias & Stephanie	Stamoulis, George & Maria
Karaflos, Nektarios	Stewart, John & Rita
Koumoudis, Sotiris & Vasiliki	Themelis, John & Renee
Kouroupis, Steve	Tserkis, George
Kourtesis, Michael & Adrienne	Vasilakopoulos, Irene
Kron, Christopher & Alexa	
Lallas, Eva	
Ledakis, Panagiotis	
Lentis, Minas & Kostalas, Eleni	
Loizou, Chris & Doxia	
Lykos, Konstantinos	

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 - DECEMBER

Sunday, December 1:	14th Sunday of Luke: Orthros: 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am
Wednesday, December 4:	St. Barbara the Great Martyr: Divine Liturgy: 9:00 am
Thursday, December 5:	St. Nicholas Name Day: Great Vesper Service 7:00 pm
Friday, December 6:	St. Nicholas Name Day: Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 09:45 am
Sunday, December 8:	10th Sunday of Luke: Orthros: 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am
Monday, December 9:	The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos, Orthros: 9:00 am
Thursday, December 12:	Spyridon the Wonderworker of Trymithous: Divine Liturgy: 9:00 am
Sunday, December 15:	11th Sunday of Luke: Eleutherios the Holy Martyr: Orthros: 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am
Sunday, December 22:	Sunday before the Nativity: Orthros: 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am
Monday, December 23:	The Sacrament of Holy Unction: 6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 24:	TBA
Christmas Eve Service	TBA
Wednesday, December 25:	TBA
Sunday, December 29:	Sunday after the Nativity: Orthros: 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy: 9:45 am



The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ