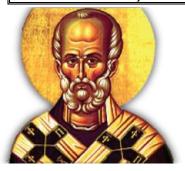
JANUARY 7, 2018–Sunday after Theophany

Synaxis of the Honorable and Glorious Prophet, the Forerunner and Baptist John



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

VISIT www.stnickspgh.org TODAY for news and updates about our parish!

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Christopher Bender and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos Father's Cell & Email: 724-630-3483; frchbender@verizon.net

PROTOPSALTIS: Dr. Nick Giannoukakis CHANTER & CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews ORGANIST: Igor Kraevsky ALTAR BOY CAPTAINS: Andreas Paljug & Jacob Kefalos Questions about our Parish? Email Debbie Sandherr, Office Mgr. at church@stnickspgh.org SERVICE SCHEDULE: Winter schedule (Current) Sept.-June, 8:30 a.m. Orthros & 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy;

summer schedule July & August 8 a.m. Orthros & 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

<u>TO OUR VISITORS & GUESTS:</u> We welcome you to worship today, whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are so pleased to have you with us! Although Holy Communion and other Sacraments are offered only to baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians in good standing with the church, all are invited to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The Antidoron is not sacramental, but is reminiscent of the agape feast that followed worship in the ancient Christian Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning, please join us in the Church hall for fellowship and refreshments. Please sign our visitor's book at the back of the church before you leave today, and leave an email address if you want to receive news & announcements from St. Nicholas.

For EPISTLE (Acts 19: 1-8) and GOSPEL (John 1: 29-34), as well as HYMNS, see p. 2_

TODAY'S MEMORIAL SERVICE is being chanted for the repose of the soul of the servant of God, **GEORGE V. COPETAS** (40 days). May God grant him eternal rest and comfort to his family.

PLEASE JOIN US for coffee and fellowship following services in the Crystal Room (small hall), sponsored by the family of George V. Copetas.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

TODAY: Parish Council Affirmation of Office AND Cutting of Vasilopita

Parish Council Officers Election Mtg. 12:30 p.m.; Children's Party, Tsudis Residence 1 p.m.

Tuesday, January 9: GOYA Boys Basketball 7 p.m. GOYA Girls Basketball 7 p.m. Thursday, January 11: Living Orthodoxy 11 a.m.

January 12 -- 14: GOYA Basketball Tournament – Holy Cross Church, Mt. Lebanon

Saturday, January 13: Greek School 10 a.m.

Sunday, January 14: Leavetaking of Theophany, Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

JOY, HOPE & LITTLE ANGELS







OUR ANNUAL New Year's Party is TODAY! Join us at the home

of Peter & Carol Tsudis
 after church (approx. 1 p.m.)
 We hope to see you there!

 Bagged Lunches for Homeless – We will be teaming up with Philoptochos on Friday, February 2nd at 6 p.m. to make bagged lunches for the homeless. There will also be dinner and an activity for the kids that evening. Details to follow.

Are you on our email list? – If you would like to receive emails about JOY (3rd-6th grade), HOPE (K-2nd grade) and Little Angels (Toddler/Pre-K) programs and events, please provide your email address to Nikki Lykos (nvlykos@gmail.com).

PLEASE NOTE:

THE 2018 VASILOPITA FUNDRAISER, sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos Society of St. Nicholas Cathedral, will take place **TODAY**, after Divine Liturgy.

As usual, a leader of each parish ministry and fraternal/regional organization will be invited to come forward to receive a piece of "St. Basil's Bread," followed by the rest of the congregation. All donations will benefit the children of St. Basil's Academy.

FOOD FESTIVAL COOKING SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY, 2018

We are getting ready to kick-off our 2018 food festival cooking on **Monday, January 15** with **Kourambiethes.** Join the fun and festivities! Some of you might even have the day off! A few hours of your time will help a **HUGE** amount! Pop in! Pop out! While volunteering, you can park in the Church Lot with your name, cell phone number and the word "cooking" displayed on a piece of paper on your dashboard!

Kourambiethes	Monday, January 15	
Souzoukakia	Sat., Sun. & Mon., Jan. 20, 21, 22 and possibly Tues., Jan. 23	
Baklava	Fri., Sat., Sun. & Mon., Jan. 26, 27, 28, 29	



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Tone 6

Orthros Gospel 9

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY:

The first hymn chanted at the Small Entrance is the Festal Apolytikion for Theophany in Tone 1:

Έν Ἰορδάνη βαπτιζομένου σου Κύριε, ή τῆς Τριάδος ἐφανερώθη προσκύνησις· τοῦ γὰρ Γεννήτορος ή φωνὴ προσεμαρτύρει σοι, ἀγαπητόν σε Υίὸν ὀνομάζουσα· καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐν εἴδει περιστερᾶς, ἐβεβαίου τοῦ λόγου τὸ ἀσφαλές. Ὁ ἐπιφανεὶς Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τὸν κόσμον φωτίσας δόξα σοι.

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You.

The usual Entrance Hymn for Sundays is then chanted by the Priest followed by the Resurrection hymn of the week in Tone 6 (p. 172). After the Theophany hymn is repeated, we hear the hymn for St. John the Baptist:

Μνήμη Δικαίου μέτ' ἐγκωμίων, σοὶ δὲ ἀρκέσει ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Κυρίου Πρόδρομε· ἀνεδείχθης γὰρ ὄντως καὶ Προφητῶν σεβασμιώτερος, ὅτι καὶ ἐν ῥείθροις βαπτίσαι κατηξιώθης τὸν κηρυττόμενον. Ὅθεν τῆς ἀληθείας ὑπεραθλήσας, χαίρων εὐηγγελίσω καὶ τοῖς ἐν Ἅδη, Θεὸν φανερωθέντα ἐν σαρκί, τὸν αἴροντα τὴν ἀμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ παρέχοντα ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος. The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you suffices the testimony of the Lord, O Forerunner. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the river the One whom they proclaimed. Therefore, when for the truth you had contested, rejoicing, to those in Hades you preached the Gospel, that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sin of the world, and grants to us the great mercy.

The Hymn for our Patron, St. Nicholas, is heard next, as usual, followed by the Kontakion for Theophany: Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον τῆ οἰκουμένῃ, καὶ τὸ φῶς σου Κύριε, ἐσημειώθη ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ἐν ἐπιγνώσει ὑμνοῦντάς σε. Ἦλθες ἐφάνης τὸ Φῶς τὸ ἀπρόσιτον.

You appeared today to us on earth, O Master, and Your light was signed on us who cry aloud to You and say with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable.

Instead of the usual Trisagion, we hear the baptismal version associated with the great feastdays of the Lord: Θσοι εἰς Χριστὸν ἐβαπτίσθητε, Χριστὸν ἐνεδύσασθε. Ἀλληλούϊα. You who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia.

Apostolic Reading (Acts 19: 1-8): In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the kingdom of God.

Gospel Reading (John 1: 29-34): At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

The Philoptochos Board Invites You To

Mimosas & Membership Sunday, January 21st During Coffee Hour

Join us to celebrate our wonderful organization and our amazing women as we kick off our 2018 membership drive.

Bring your membership donation to receive your complimentary mimosa!

PASTITSIO SALE

GOYA has made and are selling Pastitsio pans frozen and ready to cook, 9 X12 pans of Greek deliciousness! To place an order, contact Alea Melacrinos either after church or email at goya.pastichiosale@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!



2018 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex

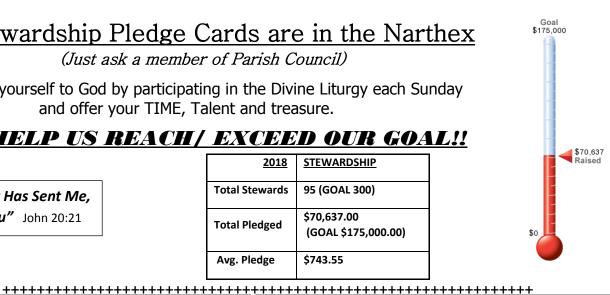
(Just ask a member of Parish Council)

Re-dedicate yourself to God by participating in the Divine Liturgy each Sunday and offer your TIME, Talent and treasure.

HELP US REACH/ EXCEED OUR GOAL!!

"As the Father Has Sent Me, So I Send You" John 20:21

<u>2018</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	95 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$70,637.00 (GOAL \$175,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$743.55



From the Church School Desk

"You Are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World."

The St. Nicholas Church School teachers, staff and students want to wish our GOYANs (and Church School students) Good Luck at the GOYA Basketball Tournament at Holy Cross (Pittsburgh, PA) next weekend! Church School students in grades 7th–12th have the opportunity to learn more about their faith and participate in the

St. Nicholas Oratorical Festival that will be held in March **2018**. For more information, please contact Chairman Eve Elsen at 412-580-9415 or eve.m.elsen@gmail.com. And thanks for sharing your children with us every Sunday.

Yours in Christ, Miss Michelle

Annual Vlahokerasiotiki Makaronada

Dinner & Dance - Sat., February 10th

Adults - \$30

Children 12/under - \$10

Children 3/under - free

Dance only (after 8:30 p.m.) - \$10 Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner served at 7 p.m. For reservations, call or email Jamie Zonghetti 412-897-2475 or jamiezonghetti@gmail.com

Make checks payable to "Manthyrea Educational Society" and mail to Jamie Zonghetti,

6089 Great Dane, Bethel Park, PA 15102-Please join us!

Early Christian Melodic Recitation to Melismatic Masterpieces:

A Musical Voyage through 1200 Years of Byzantine Chant

A concert of original melodies in Greek and periodic adaptations in Arabic and in recent English will be presented together with a brief historical and musicological overview. Presented by the Byzantine Choir of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Sunday, January 21, 2018 at 4 p.m.

St. Paul Cathedral, 108 N. Dithridge St., Pgh, 15213 Open to the public

SIXTY CLUB NEWS

REMINDER: Jan. 14: SPECIAL, IMPORTANT

MEETING! After Liturgy, please come directly to the Crystal Room for "Snack, Coffee & Business." The faster we make decisions, the more quickly we can get home to cheer our

COME HAVE SOME LAUGHS: A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM-Saturday, Feb. 17, 2 p.m. at the O'Reilly—5 seats left. \$33 due January 28. Contact Virginia at 412-687-4804 or Alice Flocos at 412-731-4282. This will probably be the last week to extra seats so please don't wait to make reservations!

St. Anthony, Clairton-Winter Celebration 2018

We invite all brothers and sisters to join us on Tuesday, January 16, Wednesday, January 17, and Sunday, January 21, 2018 for a winter celebration of one of the tristate area's oldest churches - St. Anthony in Clairton, PA. St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, which belongs to our Metropolis, served as the center of Hellenism and Orthodoxy for the earliest Greek immigrants in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Today, it remains a regional historical landmark and is celebrated twice a year, on its feast week in January and once in the summer. All proceeds go towards the maintenance of this unique historical landmark of Orthodoxy and the earliest Greek presence in the tristate area. The festal services begin with a 7 p.m. Panegyric Vespers on the 16th of January. The next day, Sunday the 17th, a festive Orthros at 9 a.m. will lead into the Divine Liturgy. Light refreshments will be served

following these services. Then, the festal week will be highlighted on Sunday, January 21st with a 9 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy followed by a hearty winter meal with traditional Greek overtones. We look forward to welcome everyone to a wonderful fellowship celebrating the Saint who is known as the "Teacher of the Desert" as well as to honor a memorial to the earliest immigrants of our region and their labors of love to their faith and traditions.

Directions to St. Anthony, 424 Miller Avenue, Clairton, PA 15025: Join Route 51 South. Continue on Route 51 South past Century III Mall, past Bowser Car lot and just past the Route 43 overpass. Within less than 100 yards, make a left on Worthington Ave. Stay on Worthington Ave. until the T-intersection at Desiderio. Make a left on Desiderio, within less than 50 yards make a right onto St. Clair Ave. (Rite-Aid will be across this waypoint). Continue past two lights. The third light is at the intersection of St. Clair & Miller Ave. Make a left on Miller Ave. St. Anthony is on the right just past the high school.



COUNTDOWN to ZERO!

A campaign to retire the mortgage

It's A Happy New Year For Saint Nicholas!

Thanks to our parishioners, *The Countdown to Zero Capital Campaign* is well on its way to reducing the mortgage to zero by December of 2018!

\$250,000 in pledges have been received to date!

Payments and donations of \$163,000 have been made towards these pledges

All pledge payments and donations received will immediately be applied towards the reduction of the principal.

Acknowledge a loved one, both passed and present, a family, a life milestone, such as a birth, christening, wedding or graduation by donating a paver.

If you have not received your campaign packet in the mail, or if you have any questions or simply wish to pledge/donate, please stop by the Countdown To Zero table following services.

Come and take a look at how the pavers are being filled in to reflect the pledges received.

Saint Nicholas wishes to thank all who have pledged to date for the wonderful support it has received!