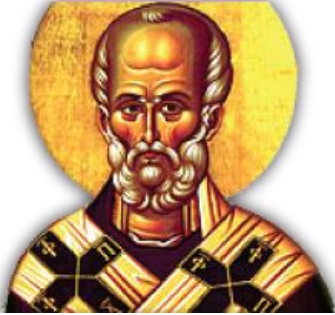


DECEMBER 17, 2017–Eleventh Sunday of Luke

The Holy Forefathers of Christ. The Holy Prophet Daniel, and the Three Holy Youths, Ananias, Azarias, and Misail. Hieromartyr Dionysios, Bishop of Aegina, the wonderworker, whose relics are enshrined on the Island of Zakynthos.



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

TO OUR VISITORS & GUESTS: 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.**

Epistle: Colossians 3: 4-11 (p. 112) Gospel: Luke: 14: 16-24 (p. 111) Hymns: See pg. 2

-- PLEASE JOIN US for coffee & fellowship after services, in honor of ARGIE STUART and sponsored by John & Sandy Contis and Family; Goerge & Sue Limberiou and Family; Jim & Kathy Seachrist and Family.

THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:

TODAY, December 17:

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT FOLLOWING LITURGY

GOYA Christmas Chocolate Sale deliveries today!

Monday, December 18:

GOYA Boys Basketball 7 p.m.-**ALL Are Welcome**
Parish Council Meeting 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20:

Adult Greek School: Beginners, 6:30 p.m., Advanced, 8 p.m.;
GOYA Girls Basketball-**ALL Are Welcome**, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 21:

Living Orthodoxy, 11 a.m.

Saturday, December 23:

NO Greek School TODAY

Sunday, December 24:

Sunday before the Nativity-CHRISTMAS EVE

Orthros 8:30 a.m.; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Savas, 10 a.m.;
Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Monday, December 25:

HOLY NATIVITY Orthros 8:30 a.m., Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.
(Office closed)

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral's Christmas Pageant

TODAY!!

Directors: Jenny DeMatteo, Kelly Gary & Aimee Walker – WELCOME EVERYONE!!



DECEMBER 17, 2017–Eleventh Sunday of Luke

The Holy Forefathers of Christ. The Holy Prophet Daniel, and the Three Holy Youths, Ananias, Azarias, and Misail. Hieromartyr Dionysios, Bishop of Aegina, the wonderworker, whose relics are enshrined on the Island of Zakynthos.

Tone 3

Orthros Gospel 6

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

First to be chanted as the priest exits the Altar at the Small Entrance is the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 3
(See p. 170 in the Divine Liturgy books.)

Then, the usual Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) in Tone 2 is chanted: Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι Ἀλληλούϊα. “Come let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us O Son of God, who arose from the dead. We sing to you, Alleluia.”

After this, the Resurrection Apolytikion is repeated. Then, the Apolytikion for the Holy Forefathers is heard:
Ἐν πίστει τοὺς Προπάτορας ἐδικαίωσας, τὴν ἐξ Ἐθνῶν δι' αὐτῶν προμνηστευσάμενος Ἐκκλησίαν. Καυχῶνται ἐν δόξῃ οἱ Ἅγιοι, οἱ ἐκ σπέρματος αὐτῶν, ὑπάρχει καρπὸς εὐκλεῆς, ἡ ἀσπόρος τεκοῦσά σε. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἰκεσίαις, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

You justified the forefathers in faith, and through them betrothed yourself aforetime to the Church taken from out of the Gentiles. The saints boast in glory. For from their seed, there exists a noble crop, who is she who without seed has given You birth. By their intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Then, we hear the Apolytikion for the patron saint of our Church:

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτίσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

The truth of things have revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Finally, the Preparatory Kontakion in Tone 4 for the Nativity of Christ (Dec. 25) is chanted:

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν. Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth ineffably to the pre-eternal Word. Dance for joy upon hearing this, all the world, and with the angels and the shepherds glorify Him whose will it was to be made manifest as a young Child, the pre-eternal God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Epistle: Colossians 3: 4-11 (p. 112) Gospel: Luke: 14: 16-24 (p. 111)

After the Gospel reading return to page 12 of the Divine Liturgy Book for the remainder of the Service.

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!



2017 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex

(Just ask a member of Parish Council)

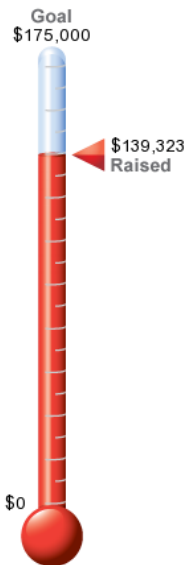
We recognize there were some errors with the statements that were sent out and we are trying to rectify these errors. Please contact the church office, with as much information as possible (check numbers, amounts, dates, etc.), to assist in verifying the problem has been corrected and updated statements can be reissued.

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>2017</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	216 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$139,323.63 (GOAL \$175,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$645.02



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From the Church School Desk:

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



TODAY, the Church School children will present "The ABC's of Christmas"
Christmas Pageant, under the direction of Jenny DeMatteo, Kelly Gary and Aimee Walker.
Break a leg Mary, Joseph and the rest of the cast!

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church School is preparing for their Holiday Outreach Project. We are looking for hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, etc. for **FOCUS' Project Bundle-up** to decorate the Christmas Tree in the Fellowship Room. Thanks in advance for your warm winter accessories and teaching the children the gift of giving.

On behalf of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral Church School staff, teachers and students have a Merry Christmas!
Yours in Christ, *Miss Michelle*

JOY, HOPE & LITTLE ANGELS



OUR ANNUAL JOY, HOPE and LITTLE ANGELS New Year's Party is HERE!

Join us on Sunday, January 7th

at the home of Peter and Carol Tsudis immediately after church (approximately 1 p.m.)

For more information or to kindly R.S.V.P., please call, text or email Maria Velisaris Coutris at 412-915-7838 or mvcoutris@gmail.com. ***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).

LAST CALL FOR PARISH **DIRECTORY INFO**

Please submit your information to be included in the updated parish directory as soon as possible!

Even if your contact information has not changed, please submit a form with your name on it so that we know your information in the current directory is accurate!

Also, please consider sponsoring the directory to help Philoptochos offset the cost of printing. *Thank you!*

PROJECT BUNDLE UP



WE ARE LOOKING FOR HATS,
MITTENS, SCARVES & GLOVES FOR
FOCUS' PROJECT BUNDLE UP!

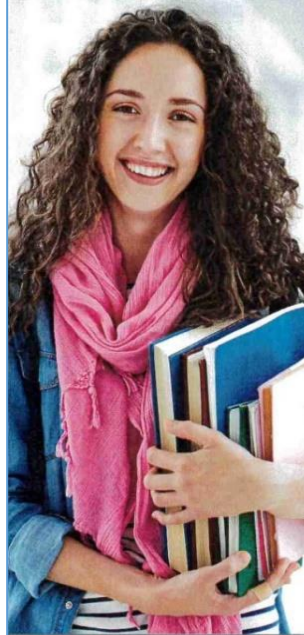
\$250,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

20 Awards of \$10,000 each

based on academic merit and financial need—two of which are allocated to **Music and Arts Majors**

20 Awards of \$2,500 each

based solely on academic achievement



The 2017/2018 scholarship application is available and can be completed online!

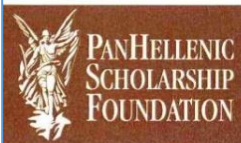
Applications from eligible college students accepted through **January 31, 2018**.

The application and qualification criteria, requirements, and guidelines are available at **www.panhellenicsf.org**.

If you are an undergraduate of Hellenic descent, we encourage you to apply for the scholarship awards!

For any questions or inquiries:
Please email

pkorbakes@panhellenicsf.org
or call our office at (312) 357-6432



PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue • Suite 600
Chicago • Illinois 60602 USA

312.357.6432
312.357.0527
panhellenicsf.org
info@panhellenicsf.org



Mark your Calendars!

Our **Food Festival Cooking Schedule** is out!

A couple hours of your time, anytime, especially on the weekend, is a **HUGE** help! It takes a large quantity of our food to satisfy the appetite of over 28,000 people during a 7-day period. After 57 years, our reputation is out!



SIXTY CLUB **NEWS**

“Slider Meeting” on January 14 after Liturgy in the small hall, please join us as we have many decisions to make. Let Virginia know if you plan to attend, so we have enough food.

“A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM”

Saturday, February 17, 2 p.m. at the O'Reilly.
Money will not be due until January 28, but make your reservations **NOW** in case we need more tickets. This hilarious comedy should be popular—our seats are in the first eight rows. Contact Virginia (412-687-4804) or Alice Flocos (412-731-4282)

MUSIC MINISTRY AT THE CATHEDRAL

You are cordially invited!

Come and learn Byzantine chant from a world-class instructor, or join our choir and learn to sing the unique and beautiful arrangements composed by our founding choir director!

Our Cathedral is graced by two music ministries grounded in tradition that we hope you will consider participating in:

The first is rooted at the Analogion (the Chanter Bookstand). Our Analogion Ministry, blessed by the volunteer service of Dr. Nick Giannoukakis, invites and welcomes anyone with some musical ability, especially the younger generation, to join and learn the beautiful and 1200 year-old tradition of Byzantine hymnology and chant. Those who faithfully adhere to the ministry will not only have an opportunity to grow musically, but more importantly, will solidify their understanding of Greek, gain an appreciation for the structure of the services, and a better insight into our Orthodox faith and its theology through a comprehension of the hymns. With the exception of the summer months (June-August), the Ministry will focus on the Sunday Orthros and the occasional Vespers, in addition to the evening services of Lent and Holy Week. Between June and early September, the Ministry will also focus on the Holy and Divine Liturgy.

Dr. Giannoukakis, who was distinguished and tonsured as Protosaltis by Metropolitan Maximos in 1998, and noted to be among the "who is who" of Byzantine Chanters in a historical compendium published in Greece in 1994, is also the only chanter in our Metropolis to hold a certificate and diploma in Byzantine Music from a Greek Music Conservatory. Dr. Giannoukakis, personally-trained by renowned and respected Greek chanters (Constantin Lagouros, Georgios Syrkas, Emmanuel Hatzimarkos), offers music to the highest possible standards of the Great Church of Christ (the Ecumenical Patriarchate) and has successfully trained young and old individuals for more than 25 years. To learn more, and to consider participating, contact Dr. Giannoukakis at ngn1@andrew.cmu.edu or at ngianni@pitt.edu. All educational materials are complimentary.

The second is rooted in the rich polyphonic innovations of the late Rudolph Agraphiotis who in the early 1900s, first composed the lyrical Liturgy conducted in our church to this day. Some of the choir members are among those who came together to constitute the first choir directed by Mr. Agraphiotis. Today, the choir is in the very capable hands of Mr. Steve Andrews who directs it as another of our Cathedral's volunteers. The choir can be heard during the Divine Liturgy for most of the year's Sunday services as well as at the services for Holy Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The Choir invites and welcomes anyone with some musical ability, especially the younger generation, to join. To learn more, and to consider participating, contact Mr. Steve Andrews at beyondfromwithin@comcast.net. Why not join both ministries? As it is written: "He who delights in the Lord, and walks in the Light will not stumble" (From the Doxastikon of the Orthros of the 5th Sunday of Lent).

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Christ is born! Glorify Him!



**PLEASE HELP US decorate OUR BELOVED CATHEDRAL
with beautiful poinsettias for the Nativity Season.**

If you wish, please list the names of your loved ones to be remembered in the Proskomidi (*Preparation of the Gifts*) at every Divine Liturgy through Christmas.

For the Health of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Name & Address: _____

Suggested donation: \$20 OR MORE, payable to S.N.G.O.C. (memo: Poinsettias) and include form.

-All names need to be submitted NO LATER than December 17, 2017-

Place in the Sunday offering tray or mail to: 419 S. Dithridge St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213



COUNTDOWN TO *Zero!*

A campaign to burn our mortgage
by April 15, 2019

**Show your support by donating
and *TOGETHER*
we can reach our goal!**

St. Nicholas Cathedral thanks you for your support.

COUNTDOWN to ZERO!

*A campaign to retire the mortgage
Spread the word!*



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

Pledges of \$140,900 have been received as of December 3, 2017. Payments and donations in the amount of \$48,200 have been made.

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

A **Countdown to Zero** table has been set up in the outer lobby, outside The Cathedral Room today. If you have not received your campaign packet in the mail, have any questions or simply wish to pledge/donate, please stop by the table.

***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
and for the wonderful support given by our parishioners
towards this, our Cathedral's most important campaign!**

GOYA NEWS

Thanks to everybody that helped with the:

- ❖ **St. Nicholas Bazaar**
- ❖ **Pastitsio Sale**
- ❖ **Sarri's Candy Sale**
- ❖ **Focus Angels**

***Please mark your calendar's for the GOYA Christmas Party being held on
December 28th at 6 p.m. at the Paljug Residence.***

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 Melacrinou either after church or email at
goya.pastichiosale@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES



A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Foster Love Project placement bag drive! Thanks to your generosity, we collected more than 40 bags and \$255 in monetary donations, which will support local children in foster care!

- ♦ **Vasilopita and Spanakopita** – Pick some up today after church! They are \$9 each and make wonderful holiday gifts and great appetizers for holiday parties! There are limited quantities left so pick yours up today!
- ♦ **Food Bank** – The Food Bank supports several of our parishioners and continues to need your support! You can donate by making a check payable to the “St. Nicholas Philoptochos Food Bank” or through United Way by designating the St. Nicholas Food Bank (#3288) through your employers United Way contribution. Questions: contact Elaine Andrianos at 412-731-4334 or Denise Daugherty at 412-508-1326.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all Friends and Faithful Stewards of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral!

It is with pride and pleasure that we, your staff, get to work with and serve the Lord with you in this wonderful community of Christians!

Enjoy your families at this wonderful time of year!
-Your St. Nicholas Lay Staff

***NEW YEARS EVE
CELEBRATION***

DECEMBER 31, 2017

*Join us to celebrate
the New Year!*

\$45 per person
\$15 for children (under 12)
\$25 Dance only

INCLUDES:

- ♦ *Buffet Dinner*
- ♦ *Champagne Toast at Midnight*
- ♦ *Full, cash bar*
- ♦ *Continental Breakfast*
- ♦ *Entertainment by PANIGIRI*

*Cocktails at 8 p.m.
Buffet dinner at 9 p.m.
Dance only at 10:30 p.m.*

R.S.V.P. to Joanne Melacrinos at
412-563-4609 or 412-400-4607
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 22

*ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK
ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL
419 S. Dithridge St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213*



**Happy
New
Year!**