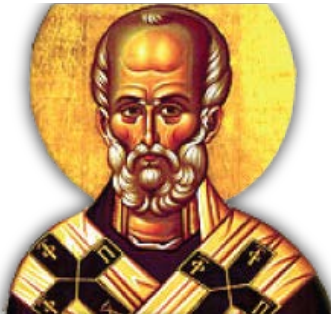


## DECEMBER 31, 2017–Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

Joseph the Betrothed of Mary, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord; Mother Melania of Rome, Martyr and Presbyter Sotikos of Rome, Patron Saint of Orphans.

Leavetaking of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.



### WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

VISIT [www.stnickspgh.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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: 2 Timothy 4: 5-8 (p. 125)**

**GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-8 (p. 125)**

**Hymns: See pg. 2**

**PLEASE JOIN US** for Coffee and Fellowship following services.

**On January 7,** there will be a 40 day memorial for George V. Copetas.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS:**

**TONIGHT:**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE Dinner-Dance 8 p.m.**

**Monday, January 1, 2018:**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY (Office Closed);**  
**Circumcision of Christ & St. Basil the Great,**  
Orthros, 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, January 2:**

GOYA Boys Basketball 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 3:**

GOYA Girls Basketball 7 p.m.

**Thursday, January 4:**

Living Orthodoxy 11 a.m.

**Friday, January 5:**

**THEOPHANY EVE,** Vespersal Divine Liturgy of  
St. Basil with Great Agiasmos 6 p.m.

**Saturday, January 6:**

**HOLY THEOPHANY,** Festal Orthros 8:30 a.m.,  
Divine Liturgy with Great Agiasmos, 10 a.m.;  
Greek School 10 A.M.

**Sunday, January 7:**

**SYNAXIS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST;**  
Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.  
Followed by 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.

**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 Melachinos at  
412-363-4609 or 412-400-4607  
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 22

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
419 S. Drexel Ave. St. Petersburg, PA 13213

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

### 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!**



#### PLEASE NOTE:

THE 2018 VASILOPITA FUNDRAISER, sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos Society of St. Nicholas Cathedral, will take place next **SUNDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>th</sup>**, after Divine Liturgy. As usual, a leader of each parish ministry and fraternal/regional organization is 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.

## DECEMBER 31, 2017–Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

Commemorating Joseph the Betrothed of Mary, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord;  
Mother Melania of Rome, Martyr and Presbyter Sotikos of Rome, Patron Saint of Orphans.

Leavetaking of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.

Tone 5

Orthros Gospel 8

### SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

*First to be chanted as the priest exits the Altar at the Small Entrance is the Christmas Apolytikion (Tone 4):*

Ἡ γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ, τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως, ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἄστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολὴν, Κύριε δόξα σοί.  
Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For thereby the worshipers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as the Dayspring from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

*Then, the following Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) in Tone 2 is chanted:*

Ἐκ γαστρὸς πρὸ ἑωσφόρου ἐγέννησά σε. Ὡμοσε Κύριος καὶ οὐ μεταμεληθήσεται. Σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλοῦῖα.  
I have begotten You from the womb before the morning star. The Lord swore and will not repent. You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia.

*After this, the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 5 is chanted, (See p. 171 in the Divine Liturgy books.), followed by the repetition of the Nativity hymn. Then we hear the Apolytikion for the Holy Fathers:*

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυὶδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυοφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθεῖς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.  
O Joseph, proclaim the wonders to David, the ancestor of God. You have seen a Virgin great with child; you have given glory with the shepherds; you have worshipped with the Magi; and you have been instructed through an Angel. Entreat Christ God to 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 Kontakion in Tone 4 for the Nativity of Christ (Dec. 25) is chanted:*

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερουσίον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἄστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι. δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.  
On this day the Virgin gives birth unto the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation,\* a newborn Child,\*the pre-eternal God.

EPISTLE: 2 timothy 4: 5-8 (p. 125)

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-8 (p. 125)

*After the Gospel reading, please 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 21<sup>st</sup>**

**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](mailto:goya.pastichiosale@gmail.com)  
**Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!**



# 2017 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>2017</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	299 (GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$139,323.63 (GOAL \$175,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$465.9



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### **From the Church School Desk**

*"You Are the Voice of Christ In a Changing World."*



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*



### **SIXTY CLUB NEWS**

For Sunday, December 24:  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS to ALL!!**

#### **Dates to remember:**

**January 14:** Slider Lunch "(Please let Virginia know if you are coming; we need to order food.)"

**February 17:** A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

**For Sunday, December 31:** HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL  
January 14, Slider Lunch.

**For Saturday, February 17:** "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM", Make your reservations through Virginia Fekaris (412-867-4804) or Alice Flocos (412-731-4282).

## **JOY, HOPE & LITTLE ANGELS**



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

***Join us on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>***

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](mailto:mvcoutris@gmail.com). ***We hope to see you there!***

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bagged Lunches for Homeless** – We will be teaming up with Philoptochos on **Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade), HOPE (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Little Angels (Toddler/Pre-K) programs and events, please provide your email address to Nikki Lykos ([nvlykos@gmail.com](mailto:nvlykos@gmail.com)).





## **COUNTDOWN to ZERO!**

*A campaign to retire the mortgage*

### **Spread the word!**

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

Pledges of \$210,000 have been received as of December 28, 2017.  
Payments and donations in the amount of \$120,000 have been made.

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

*As our year comes to an end, it is not too late to make your  
2017 donation to this all-important campaign.*

*All donations are to be made payable to St. Nicholas Cathedral Building Fund a  
501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

If you have not received your campaign packet in the mail, have any questions or simply  
wish to pledge/donate, please ask a committee member or call the office.

*Saint Nicholas wishes to thank those who have pledged to date*

**AND**

**the parishioners for the wonderful support  
it has received towards this most important campaign.**

Victor Bertolina  
John Frentzos  
Dean Panguilias

Vasili Copetas  
Jim Machin  
Gus Stamoolis

Taki Darakos  
Marcie McGuire  
Peter Tsudis

Alexandra Davides  
Sophia Panagis  
Tulla Velisaris