

July 2, 2017 – 4th Sunday of Matthew

Commemorated today: Deposition of the Precious Robe of the Theotokos in the Blachernae Palace;
Juvenal the Protomartyr of American & Alaska; John Maximovitch, Archbishop of Shanghai & San Francisco;
Synaxis of all the Saints of Crete



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Website: www.stnickspgh.org

Email: church@stnickspgh.org

CHECK OUT THE UPDATED WEBSITE TODAY!

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Christopher Bender and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos

Father's Cell - 724-630-3483; Father's E-mail - frchbender@verizon.net

PROTOPSALTIS: Dr. Nick Giannoukakis

CHANTER: Steve Andrews

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Anna Kovalevska

ALTAR BOY CAPTAINS: Nicholas Hages & Andreas Paljug

Today's hymns: please see page 2

EPISTLE: Hebrews 9: 1-7 (not in book)

GOSPEL: Matthew 8: 5-13 (p. 70)

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL! Please join us as well for coffee & fellowship in the Fellowship Room following services, hosted and sponsored by the **PARISH COUNCIL**.



PLEASE HELP WITH THE SUMMER COFFEE HOURS! Volunteers (organizations and/or individual families) are requested to come forward and take responsibility for one or more of the Coffee Hours this summer. Please call Debbie to volunteer, 412-682-3866.
(The GOYA will resume serving in September.)

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FR. CHRISTOPHER will be away Thurs., June 29 – Fri., July 21. Please welcome our guest celebrants for the Sunday services: **Fr. Joseph Wargo on July 2nd & Fr. Sarantos Serviou on July 9th & 16th.**

In the event of a pastoral emergency, contact Dn. Robert Lykos, 412-736-2762.

Fr. Polycarp Rameas is available, in the event that a priest is required: 412-860-6739.



Please Notice This



NOTICE FOR ALL ORGANIZATIONS OF ST. NICHOLAS

To organize and prioritize the daily needs of St. Nicholas Cathedral, our maintenance staff has adopted a task-list system, prepared with their input, which allots time for routine, seasonal and unexpected needs of our facilities. Employees are required to submit a check list of tasks accomplished daily to the Office Manager who, in turn, confirms the work has been completed.

Any additional task that may be required of the maintenance staff must be scheduled through the Office Manager. EXAMPLES INCLUDE: running errands, emptying deliveries, setting up tables and chairs, taking something to storage, etc. The OM is responsible for all scheduling of help, including extra personnel needed for church functions.

All organizations are asked to adhere to this policy.

We have established a proven labor pool that must be respected and used efficiently.

SIXTY CLUB NEWS Please pay your 2017 dues - \$10, to Virginia Fekaris.

2017 dues for the **St. Nicholas Garden Club** can now be paid to Elaine Andrianos or Lillie Panagulias. Your \$10 dues help maintain the Forbes Avenue parklet, the trees, shrubs and annuals. **Thank you in advance!**

SPINACH (SPANAKOPITA) LOGS - ONLY \$9.00 PER LOG; GET YOURS TODAY!

A LIMITED NUMBER OF DELICIOUS **SPINACH (SPANAKOPITA) LOGS** are still available (**about 100**) from the Philoptochos. They make an excellent addition to your Memorial Day picnic or graduation party!

Please speak to Michelle Kotsagelos or any other Philoptochos Board member. *Hurry before they're all gone!*

JOIN US!! For GREEK DAY AT KENNYWOOD PARK! JULY 25, 2017

Gyros – Gyro Platters – Dolmathes – Rice Pilaf – Pastries – Greek Dancing
FUN & FELLOWSHIP!



For tickets, contact Presentation of Christ Church at 412-824-9188, email at

lkoutsavlis@ypapant.net Credit cards now accepted for phone orders.

Prices: Regular day pass: \$27; Seniors 55+: \$16; Seniors 70+: \$11.

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Orthros Gospel 3

Tone 4

SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY (SMALL ENTRANCE):

The first hymn chanted at the Small Entrance is the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 4 (p. 170 in the Divine Liturgy book).

The usual Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) chanted by the priest in Tone 2 follows:

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν
(ἢ ὁ ἐν Ἀγίοις θαυμαστός), ψάλλοντάς σοι Ἀλληλουῖα.

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.

Next, we hear the Apolytikion for the Robe of the Theotokos (Tone 8):

Θεοτόκε ἀειπάρθενε, τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἡ σκέπη, Ἐσθῆτα καὶ Ζώνην τοῦ ἀχράντου σου σώματος, κραταιὰν τῇ
πόλει σου περιβολὴν ἐδωρήσω, τῷ ἀσπόρῳ τόκῳ σου ἄφθαρτα διαμείναντα·
ἐπὶ σοὶ γὰρ καὶ φύσις καινοτομεῖται καὶ χρόνος· διὸ δυσωποῦμέν σε, εἰρήνην τῇ οἰκουμένην δωρήσασθαι, καὶ
ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ever-virgin Theotokos, the shelter of mankind, you have given to your City as a protective wall the clothing and
garment that you wore on your immaculate body. By your seedless childbirth, they have remained incorrupt. For
in you both nature and time are made new. Therefore we implore you,
grant peace to your commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls.

After that, the Apolytikion for the Patron saint of our church is chanted:

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν
πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἰεράρχα
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, we hear the Kontakion in Tone 4 of the Theotokos:

Περιβολὴν πᾶσι πιστοῖς ἀφθαρσίας, θεοχαρίτωτε Ἀγνὴ ἐδωρήσω, τὴν ἱερὰν Ἐσθῆτά σου, μεθ' ἧς τὸ ἱερόν, σῶμά σου
ἐσκέπασας, σκέπη θεῖα ἀνθρώπων· ἥσπερ τὴν κατὰθεσιν, ἐορτάζομεν πόθῳ,
καὶ ἐκβοῶντες κράζομεν πιστῶς· Χαῖρε Παρθένε, Χριστιανῶν τὸ καύχημα.

You have bestowed your sacred Garment, O Lady, to be a robe of incorruption, O pure one, for all the faithful, O divine
protection of mankind; for with it you had arrayed your most pure sacred body. Now with longing we observe the feast of
its bestowal, and in a loud voice we cry out with faith: Rejoice, O Virgin, the boast of Christians everywhere.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

EPISTLE: Hebrews 9: 1-7 (not in book)

GOSPEL: Matthew 8: 5-13 (p. 70)

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

2017 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex *(Just ask a member of Parish Council)*

Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. It is by offering our gifts back
of TIME, Talent and treasure to God that we will be able to continue to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church ministries.

If you have already submitted your 2017 Stewardship Commitment, **THANK YOU!** If not, please take the time to make
your financial Stewardship Commitment today and complete the talent portion of the card to enable
OUR Community to grow and carry on the mission of our faith.

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

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

ECCLESIASTICAL 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 Protopsaltis 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 ngni@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 Agraphtotis 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. Agraphtotis. 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).

YASOU!

Ypapanti Active Seniors Opportunities Unlimited

Join our Active Adults (50+)

**BUS TRIP TO ASSUMPTION GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH'S**

ANNUAL FESTIVAL IN ERIE, PA

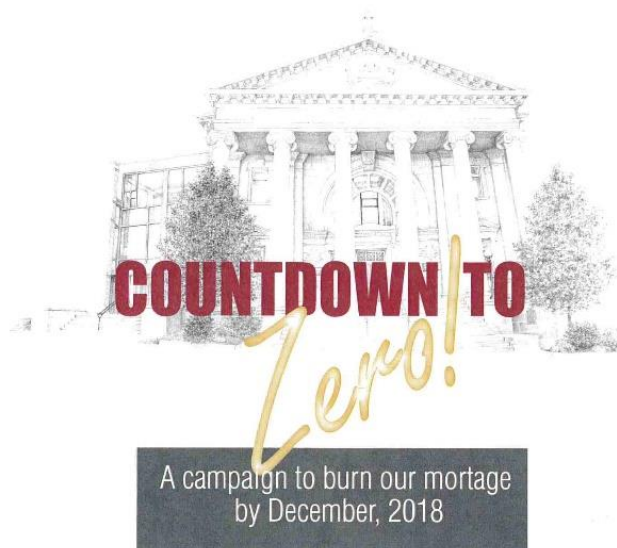
Bus leaves on July 8 from the Presentation of Christ in East Pittsburgh
at 8 a.m. returns at 8 p.m. with a few stops along the way!

Cost is \$50 per rider, with a few extra perks!
Guests age 21+ are welcome.
SEATING IS LIMITED!

Contact Deborah Grysiak for info and reservations at 412-371-2465.

www.facebook.com/PresentationOfChrist/

www.ypapanti.net



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

St. Nicholas Cathedral thanks you for your support.

Your Blessings Fathers and my Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are reaching out to you to contribute in any way that your love allows to our fund-raising efforts to build a new Monastery for you and for your children. We are living in a time where we are witnessing an increase in Christian suffering and persecution throughout the world. From the Orthodox Church's early history, monastics have come to the aid of the Church in times of persecution.

We call upon you to help create a spiritual haven in our region as many Orthodox have done so in other parts of the country; a place for you and your families to come in times of personal pain and suffering; a place to share our faith, the love of our Christ, and fellowship.

What does it mean to make an offering to build a monastery?

You will become a builder of a monastery before Christ.....

Throughout the centuries, there were builders of monasteries who because of their great faith in God and love of Orthodoxy, created treasures for themselves and their family members in the Kingdom of Heaven.

"...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:18

You will benefit the souls of your departed loved ones.....

Contemporary Church Fathers tell us how much help the departed seek!since they see that the help of the living greatly assists them to find rest, they yearn, seek, and long for someone to commemorate them.

You will benefit yourself, relatives, and friends through the ceaseless, daily prayers of the Monastery.....

- *For physical and spiritual well-being to endure personal trials and afflictions.*
- *For your work that it progresses in a spirit of harmony and godliness*
- *For those nearing the end of their life - that they find salvation and counseling through the sacrament of the church, confession.*

You will benefit those who come after you.....

- *Women dedicating themselves to Christ and a life of prayer will continue the precedence of hospitality and missionizing to pilgrims.*
- *People seeking refuge from a world that has created spiritual illness and imbalance in their daily lives.*
- *Young adults, pressured to undertake a path that can lead to physical and spiritual damage. They will find encouragement to counteract the problems they face and see modeled an alternative Christian lifestyle which is quickly disappearing in our present-day society.*

As long as the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery exists, with the last breath of the last monastic, you will be commemorated – both those who are living and those who have fallen asleep.

Monasteries will always remain eternal as the Orthodox Church is eternal.

May our Most Holy Theotokos intercede for you before Her Son our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ and may She pour upon you all Her love and protection.

My love in Christ to you and to your families, Gerontissa Theophano and my Sisterhood

Gerontissa Theophano

Contract for the Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery 2017 Dinner Banquet Program Ads

Dear Friends, the 2017 Dinner Banquet Committee (Adelfotita) for the Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery is soliciting ads for the 2017 Dinner Banquet Program Souvenir Book. The Dinner Banquet is scheduled for Sat, Sept.9th.

The program book will be 8 1/2" X 11" in glossy, vibrant, high resolution, full color, with the prices as follows:

Full Page Ad: \$500.00

Half Page Ad: \$300.00

Quarter Page Ad: \$200.00

Please indicate the wording of your advertisement in the space provided below, attach a business card or printed advertisement to this form, or email a digital copy of your advertisement to irenelampros@verizon.net (preferred for ads that include pictures or images). All hardcopy advertisements and payments should be sent to Irene Lampros at ATTN: Dinner Banquet Ads, 1468 West Gore Road, Erie PA 16509; **MEMO LINE: Dinner Banquet Ads.** If you have any questions, please call Irene Lampros at 440-813-3462 or by email at irenelampros@verizon.net.

Deadline for Ads and Payment is July 10, 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make your tax deductible check payable to: **Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery**

Thank you for your support!

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017 - ***"All Generations Will Call Me Blessed"***

4th Annual Dinner Banquet in Memory of Gerontissa Taxiarchia – An evening of fundraising to help build a new monastery

Please help the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery build new facilities with a donation to help with this year's fundraising dinner.

Donations of any size will be humbly and gratefully accepted and will be recognized on an insert in the program book at the dinner.

Your financial support will honor the Panagia and bring spiritual benefit. Together we can help to build a new monastery "brick by

brick"! The following sponsorship levels will be specially recognized:

Level 1 - \$500 - \$1499 Level 2 - \$1,500 - \$2,999 Level 3 - \$3,000 and higher.

Thank you for your generous donation!

Name & Address _____ Donation amount \$ _____

Name to appear in the Dinner Banquet Program Book on September 9th. _____

Monetary donations can be made payable to:

Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery, 121 St. Elias Ln., Saxonburg, PA 16056 Attn: Dinner Banquet Sponsorship