

# Welcome Visitors!

Please fill out the form on the notepads in the pews and put it in our collection tray so we may welcome you to our Parish. Please note, Holy Communion is reserved for prepared Orthodox Christians. Visitors are welcome to receive the Antidoro (Blessed Bread), which is distributed at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

**Creed:** English  
**Psaltis:** Zannis Res, George Smyrnis  
**Choir:** Dr. Jon Wardner  
**Prosforo:** Diane Geczi

## Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Constantine Evangelinos, Toni Kovalcheck, Angelica Stageman, Katina Eleni Hoffman, Helen Camp, Bridget Smith, Rosaleen Baldwin, Brian Melzian, Leo Ortino, Paul Contos, Larry Gregg, Sophia Kappas, Janet Christ, Evan Arhangelos, Katerina Stavros, Katherine Sakaly Brown, Nick & Mary Prepouses, Pamela Kiningham, Panagiota Zarkadoulas, Christian, Nikki Afendulis, Angela Anagnos Koustoumbardis, Katina Retakes, Natalie Arhangelos, Andriana Banos, Kim Petras, Maria Konstantine, Gus Fernimos, Christine Kerry, Kara Kontos, Anna Chapekis, Andrew Green, Robert Coffin, Kelly Pessnell, Evelyn Commings, Helen Damascus Cazepis, Rick Dekeon, Terrance Lucas, Brian Brubaker, Judy Ickes, Nicholas Contaxes, Luke Varkas, David Rakovich, Erica Arnold, Joseph Hochendoner, Katina Apostolous Kendall, Christina Preszlowski.

## Reminders—Church Etiquette

*It is important for everyone to follow the direction of the ushers.*

**No one is to enter the church when** 1) the priest is facing the people, 2) censuring, 3) preaching, 4) when the Epistle and Gospel are being read. Please make every effort to arrive ON TIME.

**Talking During Services** It is inappropriate to greet people and converse with them during services. Not only is it disrespectful towards God, it is rude towards others who are trying to worship.

**Young Children** If a child is restless, take him or her quickly and quietly out of the church to settle them down, then return to the Liturgy. Please, modest clothing for both men and women. No sport attire or anything with slogans of any kind or clothing that is revealing is permitted.

## Vespers

We will be carpooling to St. John the Baptist GOC on Fri., January 6 for Great Vespers at 7:00 p.m. We will meet in the parking lot at 5:45 p.m.

## Stewardship

It is our duty and responsibility as Orthodox Christians to support our St. Nicholas parish and its ministries. The only proper, responsible and appropriate way in which we can function is when each of us participates in stewardship. Our stewardship must cover all our operational costs. Our festival income has only been used to help reduce our mortgage. It is improper to think that our festival should support our church.

To all the families that have offered their stewardship in full, thank you for your diligent and faithful work. To those who have made their stewardship pledge and have a balance to pay, thank you, and we hope you are able to finish the balance by the end of the year. To those who have not yet pledged, we need your support as soon as possible. It is not our neighbor's responsibility to support our portion of the work. Each individual is responsible for helping to carry a part of load.

At the parish council meeting this past Thursday, we were informed that our mortgage now stands at \$499,000. That's great news! However, there are still nearly 150 families who have not pledged this year (who have in the past) and about 25% of those who did pledge this year still need to fulfill that pledge. Please, let's get that commitment to our faith and community completed as soon as possible. Thank you!

## House Blessings

Fr. Nick will begin house blessings Mon., Jan. 9th. Please call the church office to schedule a visit.

**Prosforo and Fellowship Hour** sponsors needed for Jan. 22, 29. Call the office if you are interested.

## Church School

The Coin Collection for St. Basil has begun and will continue through Jan. Students are asked to participate by collecting change and putting it in the designated box in their classroom. The money collected will go to St. Basil Academy which serves children in need.

# Parish News & Events!

## GOYA News

Jan. 8: GOYA brunch! Purchase your tickets in advance from the church office to eliminate long lines at the door.

Jan. 14: Retreat 10:00 a.m. The theme is Sanctity of Life, Body and Marriage. Sign up today with Demetra Mitropoulos-Rundus at dm-r@hotmail.com.

Jan. 15: 4:00 p.m. Bible Study, meeting, potluck dinner.

## Philoptochos

We have extra spanakopita's and a limited amount of baklava left over. Please see Diane Geczi. We will cut the Vasilopita next Sun., Jan. 8.

## AHEPA NEWS

The **Panhellenic Scholarship Foundation** is offering scholarships to college undergraduates. Go to [www.panhellenicscholarship.org](http://www.panhellenicscholarship.org) for more information.

## Compass

Beginning with the February issue, the Compass goes on-line and you will be able to download it from our website. This transition will help save the church a few thousand dollars in postage. If you are able to view the Compass on-line, please contact the office so we can remove you from our mailing list. Otherwise, we will continue to mail the Compass to your home. Remember, going paperless is another way we can reduce our costs.

## Flower Committee

Thank you to the following St. Nicholas parishioners for the decoration of the icons on Christmas:

Betty Lardas: the Nativity icon in the narthex and Jack Fry for the Royal Doors. Also, to the following donors for the decoration of the Iconostasis and the St. Nicholas icon in the narthex: Gordon and Thelma Steers, Gail Altenburg, Marina Christos, Maria Marcu, Sophia Grias-Radwanski, Helen Evangelides, and Nicholas and Helen Stamos. If you are interested in donating funds for the purchase of flowers for the icons on Theophany, please contact Lambrini Lagos or the church office.

## St. Nicholas' Strategic Planning

All parishioners have an opportunity to participate in our Strategic Planning process by completing a Parish Assessment and Planning Survey. This anonymous survey will provide us with your feedback about how the church is meeting your needs, and help with planning for our future. Available in paper format and on line through the end of January.

## Events this Week

Mon., Jan. 2	Office closed
Thurs., Jan. 5	9:00 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy Eve of Theophany
Fri., Jan. 6	9:00 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy Theophany
Sat., Jan. 7	9:00 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy St. John the Baptist 10:00 a.m. Mosaic Project

## 75th Anniversary Commemorative Album & Souvenir are here!

The album is a nostalgic 750-page pictorial and written history of St. Nicholas, featuring the evolution of our various ministries and activities over the past 75 years. The cost is \$45.00. Please stop by the church office and pick up your book from Penny Bekiares or Helen Garris today.

Also, commemorative souvenirs from our 75th Anniversary are now available for \$20 at the bookstore.

## Bookstore Notes

Happy New Year! Come browse our church bookstore. We have a wide selection of books on all aspects of the Greek Orthodox faith, history, as well as Greek cookbooks and many titles for children: The Greek Fathers: Their Lives and Writings; Prayer for a Child; The Name Day Book; and a beautiful book on the Theotokos for children. Also, we have several different prayer books and bibles, for adults and children. We also carry, The Greeks Of Newport, New Hampshire, by our very own Helen Stamos. Also, browse our large selection of icons, home altar goods, greeting cards for all occasions, and other gift items.

**The 2011 Parish directories and 2012 Parish calendars** have arrived! Please pick up a copy (one per family) in the hall by the office.

**White lawn crosses**, made by a St. Nicholas family, are available for \$7. All proceeds benefit our church. Drop off your check in the office if you are interested.

## Saint Nicholas Ushers

We are in need of ushers. With 4 rotating groups, you serve once every 4 weeks! Couples are welcome! Email [webmaster@stnickaa.org](mailto:webmaster@stnickaa.org) if you are interested. The ushering calendar runs Jan.- Dec. Visit our website at <http://www.stnickaa.org> for more information.

✠ **Wisdom from the Church Fathers** ✠

He who without separation and corruption  
Was born ineffably as the Word of the Father,  
Who is God from God in the changeless Godhead,  
Undergoes circumcision in the flesh.  
He who is above the law  
Delivers all from the curse of the law  
By becoming Himself under the law  
And giving us blessings from on high.  
Therefore we praise His infinitely gracious condescension,  
We sing His praises,  
And we glorify Him with thanksgiving,  
Entreating Him that our souls may be saved.

**Orthros of the Feast of Our Lord's Circumcision**, Translation  
from "The Winter Pascha" by Fr. Thomas Hopko SVS Press



**SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

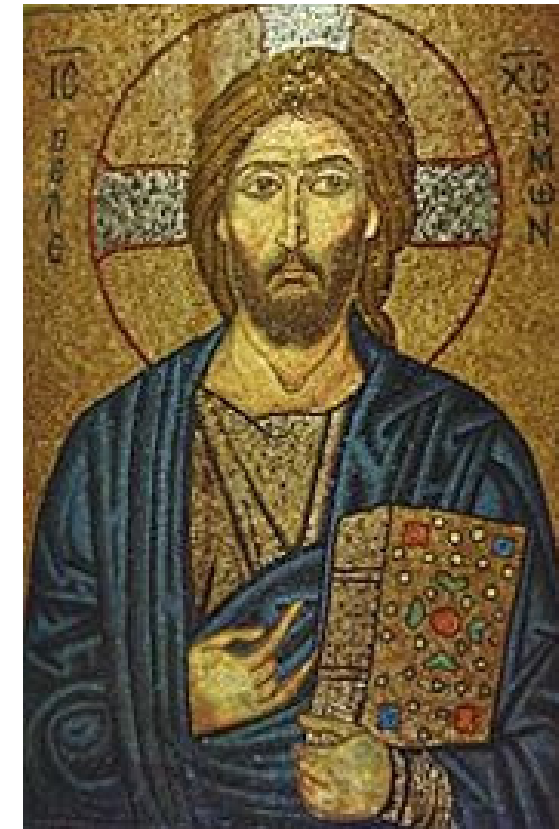
**Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.**

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3109 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103  
Web: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org) E-Mail: [frnick@stnickaa.org](mailto:frnick@stnickaa.org)  
Proistamenos: Father Nicolaos H. Kotsis ( [frnick@stnickaa.org](mailto:frnick@stnickaa.org) )  
Church office: 734/332-8200 Home: 734/677-7891 Cell: 734/604-3214

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [www.stnickaa.org](http://www.stnickaa.org)**  
Submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to:  
[secretary@stnickaa.org](mailto:secretary@stnickaa.org) by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to publication.

# St. Basil the Great Circumcision of Christ



**Saints and Feasts Commemorated today:**

Gregory, Bishop of Nanzianzos, Father of Gregory the Theologian  
Peter the New Martyr of the Peloponnesos  
Theodotos the Martyr  
Righteous Theodosios of Triglia  
Emmelia, Mother of Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Makrina,  
and Peter of Sebaste  
Telemachos the Martyr  
Fulgentius, Bishop of Ruspe  
Basil the Martyr of Ankyra