



METROPOLIS
OF ATLANTA



January 2018



The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
January 6

608 SOUTH COLLEGE ROAD • WILMINGTON NC 28403 • (910) 392-4444 • FAX (910) 392-4905

www.stnicholaswilmington.org

Rev. Fr. Jon Emanuelson Parish Priest

Fr. Jon's Mobile Number: 910-685-0080
Fr. Jon's Email: FrJon@stnicholaswilmington.org

CHURCH STAFF

Stella McTaggart, Parish Office Administrator
Georgia Marmaras, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8AM - 5 PM
Office Phone: 910-392-4444 Office Fax: 910-392-4905
Office Email: office@stnicholaswilmington.org

Church Website: www.stnicholaswilmington.org
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StNicholasWilmington

2018-PARISH COUNCIL

Members

Barbara Reynolds	Carl Baynard	Peter Manolukas
Tina Bostic	Evangelos Fragos	Emanuel Miliotis
Peter Malahias	Melissa Kirkby	Nick Saffo
Irene Sotiriou Vogiatzis		Daphne Snow

Emanuel Miliotis, Chairman of the Council of Ministries

Religious Education...Richard Reynolds, Ministry Chair
Adult Education...Richard Reynolds
Bookstore/Library...Mary Ann Wall
Oratorical Festival...Kim Dandulakis
Orthodox Coffee Hour...Irene Voneiff
Youth Catechism...Georgia Spiliotis
Vacation Church School...Diakonissa Stacie Fernandez

Hellenic Culture...Kitsa Wiersteiner, Ministry Chair
Hellenic School...Anestis Logothetis, Acting Director
Nea Smyrni Dance Group...Zaharoula Katsikis
Romiosini Dance Group...Zaharoula Katsikis
Special Activities...Kitsa Wiersteiner
Zoyra Dance Group...Katerina Katsikis

Youth Diakonia...Cameron Calhoun, Ministry Chair
GOYA...Joyce Patsalos, Alexia Porzio
HOPE/JOY...Sophia Brewer, Jaime Saffo, Renée Karonis Psilos

Metropolis Strategic Planning...Koula Katsikis

Liturgical Life... Dr. Michael Rallis, Ministry Chair
Acolytes...Doug Brown
Altar Care...Matthew Wickersham
Liturgical Music... Dr. Michael Rallis

OCF...Fr. Jon, Alexandros Theodoropoulos

Communications - Technology Ministries...
Alexandros Theodoropoulos, Ministry Chair
Webmaster...Alexandros Theodoropoulos
Publications...Church Staff & Various Volunteers
Technology...Alexandros Theodoropoulos
Media/Community Relations...Debra Rallis, Alexandros Theodoropoulos

Parish Family Life...**Volunteer Needed**
Parish Family Night...**Volunteer Needed**
Men's Group...Fr. Jon Emanuelson
Forever Young...Kay Skandalakis
LOVE...Pam Calhoun & Sia Mayorga

Outreach & Evangelism...Deacon Tom & Diakonissa Stacie Fernandez, Ministry Chairs
Hospitality...Ed & Kathleen Mayorga
Parish Care...Pat Poulos, Tina Stamatakis, Kay Skandalakis, Dr. Mary Frankos, Jim Stasios

Greek Festival...Nick Saffo, Lee King, Ministry Chairs

Philoptochos...Debra Rallis, Chapter President

Stewardship...John Whitley

IOCC...Angela Dentiste

From the Desk of Fr. Jon

Priest's Message – January 2018

Changing our Christian Culture back to Orthodoxy

Our modern secular humanist society would tell us, as Orthodox Christians, that it is taboo to speak about our beautiful faith in Jesus Christ with others. There are many of us that struggle with expressing ourselves when it comes to our beliefs. Rather than expose ourselves as true believers in the one true and living God, we choose to keep quiet oftentimes. In order to change our Christian culture back to being Orthodox on purpose, we should desire with all our strength and heart to be united to Christ! Let us attend!

Let the conversation begin!

The first thing we need to know about our Orthodox Faith is that it has never been easier to access the word of God, spiritual writings and subjects for our discussion. The conversation can begin with the daily readings. These are on your church calendar and can be sent to you and looked up on the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese daily reading app. Once we crack open the Orthodox Study Bible, the next step is to find an Orthodox friend or family member to connect with! Having someone to share your faith in Christ with can make a real difference. You can ask questions like:

What do you think this passage means? I need to ask Father Jon about this one?

How would you apply the word of God? How would you share this with friends and acquaintances?

St. Paul writes to Timothy about the word of God by saying, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

It is all about the living!

Being Orthodox, is all about living a life in Christ. Even our departed loved ones would agree and admonish us (see Luke 16:19-31)! And again, the technology of our times helps us start the conversation and compels us to continue following the Light, which is Christ. There are three favorite listserve of mine I can wholeheartedly recommend:

Coffee with Sister Vassa

Faith Encouraged Daily with Fr. Barnabas

Vimatarissa app

Coffee with Sister Vassa Laurin is usually a reflection of one of the daily readings which you may have to just read in the morning. It only takes 5 minutes to read the 3 paragraphs. The conversation we have about the reflection could last a lot longer.

Faith Encouraged Daily with Fr. Barnabas Powell is also connected to one of the daily readings normally. You can receive his message each day on email in written or recorded format. Fr. Barnabas is great at giving us a thought provoking message which leads to more discussion. I like it because his message challenges us to really live our Orthodox Faith on purpose.

The Vimatarissa app is named after a famous icon of the Theotokos and Mother of God on Mt. Athos. This app delivers daily a saying or writing of the Saints and modern day elders and mothers of our Orthodox Church. Talk about living the Faith! These sayings are short and powerful. They will spur us on to share our living faith and discuss our living faith with others. Here below are a few of my favorites. Remember, we always strive to apply what we read and share to ourselves so we may draw closer to God.

We should pray to God every day, extensively, even when we're walking along the street, when we're working or when we go to bed to have a rest after a tiring day. We should glorify God for His mercy. Prayer and compunction are our weapons, the armor of the faithful against evil, which cannot breach it and causes it to leave empty-handed. – Elder Filotheos Zervakos

May the Holy Spirit not depart from you, from your heart. Souls are naturally inclined to see the beauty of the form of God. God's protection weakens our temptations and where there is fear of God, wisdom is granted. We must be people of grace and if others approach us, they must find rest. We should see them as better than ourselves, whatever the weaknesses they may exhibit. We shouldn't act harshly but should always bear in mind that others are heading to the same goal. Be indifferent to all obstacles. Let the only thing that concerns you in your thoughts be your Bridegroom. However great the harm others do to us, we must love them. Love is the only way we'll get to Paradise. – Elder Amfilotheos Makris

From the Parish Council President Barbara Reynolds

When you see Maria Stasios, please thank her for her years of service on the Parish Council. She is moving on to serve her Lord and her church in other facets of the church. She is also welcoming her third grandchild in 2018. Congratulations to Jimmie and Maria!

Please welcome new members Carl Baynard and Daphne Snow to the Parish Council. They will join Tina Bostic, Evangelos Fragos, Melissa Kirkby, Peter Malahias, Peter Manolukas, Manny Miliotis, Nick Saffo, Irene Sotiriou, and me on the Parish Council in 2018.

I wish you all a blessed nativity and happy and healthy 2018!

SAVE THE DATES

February 3, 2018: KIDZ Rally

February 3, 2018: Valentine's Dance

February 4, 2018: Oratorical Festival

February 18, 2018: Lent Begins

March 25, Greek Independence Day

June 18-22, 2018: Vacation Church School



Metropolis Strategic Planning *Koula Katsikis, Parish Champion*

What is Strategic Planning

Strategic planning is a process to define our direction (strategy) and allocate our resources to achieve our goals.

A Strategic Plan must answer four fundamental questions:

1. Why do we exist?
2. Where are we now?
3. Where do we want to be?
4. How will we get there?

The Metropolis Strategic Planning is excited to announce the following topics for the next official Faith Forums in Atlanta, Georgia the weekend of November 11, 2017 in conjunction with the Archangel Michael Awards Presentations:

- 1.1 Parish Strategic Planning
- 1.3 Risk Management
- 4.2 Orthodox Leadership Training
- Managing Difficult Conversations & Understanding Parish Finances
- 5.4 Programs For Our Seniors
- 8.1 Spiritual Growth Resources
- 9.1 Comprehensive Stewardship

Parishioners are invited to use the content found at www.atlstrategicplan.org/portal

To learn more about these goals visit the metropolis web site or contact me with any questions.

Family Life

The Family Life Ministry is an Orthodox Christian ministry dedicated to providing uplifting and diverse resources for dealing with life's daily joys and struggles in an Orthodox way through inspiring blog posts, informative podcasts, and creative ideas for adolescence, marriage and parenting. To learn more about this resource please go to www.familylifeministry.atlanta.goarch.org

And if you would like to lead this Ministry here at Church, please contact Fr. Jon.

Liturgical Life *Dr. Michael Rallis*

Here is another perspective on attendance at our Holy Orthodox Worship:

1. "As a harbor in the sea, shielded from winds and waves, provides complete safety to the ships that enter it, so also does God's house, as if wrenching those who enter it from the storms of worldly activity, allow them to stand quietly and safely and hear the word of God.
2. The church is the school of the virtues, the institute of the love of wisdom not only during services but also before and after them.
3. Enter upon its threshold and a kind of spiritual breeze blows upon your soul. This quietude instills fear of God and teaches love of wisdom; it awakens the mind and does not allow you to remember the present, but transports you from earth to heaven.
4. If it be so beneficial just to be here without a gathering, then what benefit does it bring those who are present here, and what loss do those who are absent suffer, when the prophets proclaim, when the apostles preach the gospel, when Christ stands in our midst, when the Father approves what takes place here, when the Holy Spirit imparts its joy?"

I believe that what the author is sharing with us, should be our own personal experience every time we enter our beautiful Church, dedicated to Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker. We should recognize his words, not only for their inspirational beauty, but also as being expressive of a common experience shared by each of us with each other and with the author. If we are not having this experience, we must search our hearts and minds and ask why not.

Here are the first few petitions from the Divine Liturgy
Deacon: Master, give the blessing.

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen

The people respond with Lord, have mercy, after each petition.

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.
For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

What I see in these first petitions, otherwise known as the Litany of Peace, is the faithful praying together that the

Church, the “calm harbor”, and those in it, first experience the harbor’s shielding from winds and waves, and that we be wrenched from the storms of worldly activity, before we move on to hear the voice of the Apostle’s preaching the gospel, and experience Christ standing in our midst, along with the Father and Holy Spirit, otherwise known as a Theophany.

We are to experience a Theophany during every Divine Liturgy, if I understand the author correctly. But this is prepared for by first experiencing the peaceful calm of the harbor, and by first having our hearts and minds uplifted from the Earthly to the Heavenly. Just as athletes warm up their muscles before competition, we must prepare our hearts and minds for the full experience of Trinitarian worship, of doing Liturgy. We should not be passive spectators, but essential participants.

Next the author expresses an unusual idea; that the Church is always teaching us, inspiring us, and lifting us from Earth to Heaven, both before and after the Divine Services. This Spiritual Breeze and quietude is always radiating within the church, available to all who chose to partake. There is grace in being early or in staying late, in silence, or chanting psalms or hymns, allowing ourselves to be washed over by the breeze of the Holy Spirit, experiencing the fear of God and love of wisdom, not as a subject taught and memorized in school, but as an essential inner experience of our self. So many things are able to happen if we allow ourselves a few quiet minutes within the church, by arriving before the service starts, or staying a while after, or by doing both.

Finally, the author, having expressed the attributes of individual experience of peace and spiritual enlightenment within the church, hints at the awesome exponential multiplication of Grace when the local Body gathers to worship together, and to live the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. And laments those not present, not as disobedient, nor as sinners, nor as worthy of our disdain or derision, but as brothers and sisters who have suffered loss by their absence. This is an expression of the selfless love of the author for all of us, and not of passing judgment.

I would enjoy feedback on this article.

mgrallis@aol.com

also: there are bonus points for identifying the author quoted in this reflection. Let me know, if you have a guess, or figure it out.

Oratorical Festival

Kim Dandulakis

Dear Saint Nicholas Parents and Youth,

Introduced in 1983, the **St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival** provides our teenagers the opportunity to write and talk about their faith. The Oratorical Festival

Program begins at the parish level and is divided into Junior and Senior Divisions:

Junior Division for students in grades 7–9

Senior Division for student in grades 10–12

The top speakers in the Junior and Senior Divisions advance to the district level. Two finalists in each district division represent the district at the Metropolis level. The top speaker in each Metropolis Division is then selected to participate in the Archdiocese Finals, which is hosted by a different metropolis each year.

All eighteen finalists at the Archdiocese Finals participate in a weekend of activities, the highlight of which is the delivery of their speeches on Saturday morning. The Oratorical Festival Scholarship Fund provides college scholarships to the top speakers. Currently, the top three speakers of each division receive college scholarships of \$2,000, \$1,500 and \$1,000. Last year, an Honorable Mention speaker was awarded \$500.

In addition, each senior and junior division first, second, and third place finalist in each category at the parish, district, metropolis, and national levels of competition is eligible to receive a Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College. This scholarship has been amended to provide awards ranging from \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year.

The 2018 Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival topics for Junior and Senior levels are now available. Copies of the topics can be found on line at: <https://www.goarch.org/-/2018-st-john-chrysostom-oratorical-festival-topics?inheritRedirect=true>

Copies are also available from Sunday School Teachers and on the table in our Hellenic Center.

Participation in the Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is an excellent accomplishment to list on College Applications!

There is also **an Elementary Division for students in grades 4–6**. This allows our younger children to participate as well. There is no judging at this level. Children are encouraged to work with their Sunday School Teachers to come up with a suitable topic. Topics may include: Jesus, Prayer, Icons, Saint’s and name days.

Our **parish** level competition will take place the first Sunday in February 2018 - February 4. This should give everyone enough time to prepare their speech. Any questions regarding our parish Oratorical Festival please feel free to contact me.

Kim Dandulakis

Oratorical Festival Chairperson

Forever Young*Kay Skandalakis*

We met and had our Christmas luncheon on a beautiful, crisp winter day overlooking the golf course @ Beau Rivage. We had approximately 40 members join us. We had a wonderful lunch catered by Sue Lawler. We had food, fun, and fellowship. We had a gift exchange which was a big hit. Thank you to Alexandros for making our day even brighter as we sang the "Greek Kalanda" accompanied by his playing of the guitar. We thank Fr. Jon and Fr. Regis for joining us.

We hope everyone had a great day to begin ringing in the Christmas season.

We look forward to seeing you all on Jan 9th @ 11:45 AM at Chris's restaurant. This will be our first meeting of the 2018 new year.

Look forward to seeing you all in January as we start up our 2018 year. Anyone 55 and older is welcome to join us! And, I want to wish everyone a happy & healthy New Year!!

**Hellenic School***Anestis Logothetis*

The Greek School is progressing well with classes for youngsters and adults. The last class of the year was December 15 which we celebrated with a pizza party. School will begin again on the 19th of January.

The St. Valentine's Dance which the Greek School and the local chapter of AHEPA has been organizing annually will take place again on Saturday, February 3. Paschalis Orchestra will be performing and there will be plenty of dancing, Greek and European. Delicious food will be served along with many Greek delicacies. There will also be a raffle with interesting prizes. Put February 3 on your calendar and plan to come for a fun evening. The dance will help raise money for the Greek School and for the charitable activities of AHEPA.

Hellenic Culture*Kitsa Wiersteiner*

Please join us after Divine Liturgy for the Three Hierarchs presentation on Sunday January 28th in the Hellenic Center. Our speaker will be Deacon Tom Fernandez. We look forward to seeing you there for this special event. XPONIA ΠΟΛΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΛΗ XPONIA!!!

Bookstore

Bookstore Briefings

Despite the bare walls and the veneer of dust, exciting things are afoot at our St. Nicholas Bookstore/Library! New inventory is being added, with special emphasis on featured authors within the growing Orthodox publishing community; fresh voices and titles, as well as venerable writers that have stood the test of time. Christmas gift

ideas are available now, ranging from beautifully crafted cards and icons, to children's and young adult titles. And, of course, the inimitable Orthodox Study Bible is a perfect gift for all! Until our bookstore is ready for perusal, we'll bring the portable bookstore to you on a cart during fellowship hour after Liturgy during the holiday season. Please come see our display, and shop from our fine offerings!

Sincerely,
Rick, Mary Ann, and Chrysanthé

Dance Groups

Zaharoula Katsikis & Katerina Katsikis

HDF Bake Sale

Our St Nicholas Dance Groups would like to thank everyone for your support and generosity with our fundraising bake sale and coffee hour events. Your support directly assists with registration expenses for our youth to participate in this year's Hellenic Dance Festival sponsored by our Metropolis. Thank you!



Adult Catechism

Fr. Jon Emanuelson

Everyone is invited to join our new Catechism Class Thursday evenings. This class is for both those who are interested in learning about the Greek Orthodox Faith AND for those looking to strengthen their knowledge and understanding. Classes will resume on Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 7PM. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Jon.

Philoptochos
Enosis Chapter #5027
Debra Rallis



Thank you to our wonderful St Nicholas community for sponsoring 50 Christmas stockings thru Nourish NC



Philoptochos Sponsored 10 New Hanover County High School Youth for Christmas.

<p>Οι Τρεις Μεγάλοι Φωστῆρες εἶπαν:</p> <p>Τρία πράγματα εἶναι ἀπαραίτητα στον ἀνθρώπο: παιδεία, ἐργασία καὶ υγεία</p>	<p>St. Nicholas Hellenic School Event</p> 
	<p>You are cordially invited to join us for the celebration of the Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters Day on Sunday - January 28, 2018 in the Hellenic Center immediately following Liturgy.</p> <p>Guest Speaker will be Deacon Tom Fernandez.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you all then!</p>

Philoptochos

Enosis Chapter #5027

Debra Rallis

Many thanks to our Philoptochos treasurer, Irene Voneiff and her husband, George for hosting a beautiful Christmas luncheon! It was special this year as our youth serenaded us with their beautiful angelic voices!

Thank you to all our parishioners who donated stockings for NourishNC and to the New Hanover homeless teens. God bless you all for bringing joy and happiness to those in need.

Please note that our annual ***Vasilopita*** celebration will take place on Sunday January 21, 2018.

Many blessings to our St Nicholas community for a Happy, Healthy New Year!



Youth Catechism

Georgia Spiliotis

Χαρούμενα Χριστούγεννα και το Νέον Έτος 2018.
The Sunday School extends the following wishes to our Church Family:

May your heart and home be Christmas blessed and may your New Year to be the very best!!

As another year embraces the St. Nicholas Community, let us encourage and teach the children to grow

As beloved children of God who were made to love and be loved.

Community News

STAFFED NURSERY

During Divine Liturgies each Sunday throughout the year we have a staffed Nursery with Attendant available for the use of our youngest members from birth to age 5. If your child needs a wiggle break or a place to listen to the Divine Liturgy in a different environment, please feel free to use this provided service.

CONSTRUCTION

Restrooms

Temporarily, all women are asked to use the new Men's Facilities. You will see a sign on the door identifying Women's Bathroom. Men are asked to use the facilities outside of church on Narthex side. Thank you.

Meetings

Please be aware the FIRE ALARM is disabled (test mode) during the hours 6:30AM – 8:30PM because of the construction work causing the fire alarm transmitting to the fire department. If you have a meeting at the church during those hours you will be responsible for walking around the church before and after your meeting to make sure all is secure since the alarm WILL NOT be transmitting to the fire department. (If the alarm goes off, please silence the alarm AFTER confirming there is no fire.) Thank you for your help. Please let us know if you have any questions about this procedure by contacting the office.

HANDICAP PARKING

Please be considerate of our members and only park in designated handicap parking spaces if you display a handicap placard.

AHEPA

Cape Fear Chapter No. 408

Thank you to the AHEPA Brothers that helped December 18, 2017 at our annual Christmas dinner for the residents of the AHEPA 408 Apartments!

Thanks to Brother Father Jon Emanuelson for offering the blessing prior to the meal. Thanks to Brother Chris Tsingelis and his wife, Angela, for donating, preparing and delivering the traditional turkey, dressing, mashed potato & green bean meal, and the delicious desserts, which everyone enjoyed! Thanks to the children of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church's Dance Troupe & their parents for their help serving the meals and for singing Christmas Carols in English & Greek during our event. Thanks to Courtney Malahias' elementary school students, who hand-made Christmas Cards for all the residents. Thanks, too, to Courtney for posting photos (including this one) of last night's dinner on Facebook. Thanks to our friend and honorary Brother, Frank Bua, for coming and taking pictures of the residents, staff & volunteers during the dinner.

Everyone in attendance played a part in making our Christmas dinner a memorable event. Thank you very much!

Happy New Year!

Jim Stasios
for the Officers and Directors, Cape Fear Chapter No. 408
Wilmington, NC

FOR SALE

We have various "Greek Market" items for sale including Greek coffee, olive oil, olives, cookies, beans, and orzo. See Sandra Papanikolaou or Irene Sotiriou to purchase. All checks to be made out to St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church with the memo stating: "GREEK MARKET-PLACE."

DONATION REQUESTS
TIME, TALENT, OR TREASURE

Calling all Bakers in our St. Nicholas community to bake *prosforo and artoclasia*. Share your Love for the Lord in this heartfelt ministry. Remember, the bread we make for our spiritual home becomes the body of our Lord. We are excited to have you join Pres. Barbara and the rest of a team. Please contact Pres. Barbara for more information. We are in need of some Commandaria wine for the altar. It is available for purchases at Greek stores in Raleigh or online. Please see Fr. Jon if you would like to donate.

THANK YOUChristmas Decorating

Thank you to all of the community members who decorated our Church and Hall so beautifully for the Name Day of our Patron Saint Nicholas and for the Advent & Christmas Seasons.

To our tireless volunteers we say THANK YOU!!!

CONGRATULATIONS

For all the people celebrating their birth, anniversary and name day in the month of January, may you have many happy and healthy years ahead to enjoy God's many blessings!!!

Congratulations to Neil Gregory who was baptized on 12/9/2017. Godparent is Richard Eugene Reynolds.

Congratulations to Iakovos Stephanou, son of Eli George Stephanou. Godparent is Jonny O. Martinez.

PLEASE PRAY

Please pray for those who are ill, recovering, and/or homebound: Angelo Angeledes, Evelyn Angeledes, Shelby Biancaniello (daughter of Sue Lawler), Bobby Bobon (brother of Sue Lawler), Stavros Chantiles, Sherry Demas, Nicholas Devoles, Constantine Dukas, Sue Fokakis (Autumn Care), George Fokakis (Morningside), Demitra George, Maria Karafas, Nick Karloutsos (Silver Stream), Dan Kirkby (brother of Matthew), Nikolaos Kotsinis, Olga Mancuso, Calvin McGowan, Mary Compos Marmaras (Autumn Care); Eleni Mitsis (mother of Effie Davis), Dino Poulos (brother of Koula), George Poulos (son of Kou-

la Poulos), Pat Skinner-Darby, Charity Skinner-Darby (daughter of Pat), Tom Souflas, Helen Vurnakes; Vasilios Vogiatzis, MaryAnn Wall

Please contact the church office to add/remove someone from the list.

***Please contact the church office to add/remove someone from this list.*

SYMPATHIES

John Stamboulos (January 17, 1939 – November 23, 2017)

John Stamboulos was born on January 17, 1939 in Samos, Greece to Antonios and Aphrodite Stamboulos. He moved to Athens, Greece at age 17 with his family. John was the youngest of 8 children, 1 brother and 6 sisters. When he was 7 years old, John began attending church and since then always made sure he attended church every Sunday. He was very religious and had a passion for our Greek Orthodox religion. He was a cantor in church in Greece and America. He moved to America in 1968 with his wife, Olympia Stamboulos and young son. John was a painter until he retired and moved to the Wilmington area to be near his children and grandchildren.

John is survived by his wife, Olympia Stamboulos; children: Antonios Stamboulos, Aphrodite Efstathiadis and her husband, Steve and their children Vasili and Ioanna; brother Dimitrios, sisters Annetta, Margherita, Eleni and Vaso.

John Stamboulos was one of the kindest, loving, and caring husband and father anyone could have asked for. His joy in this life was his grandchildren and they loved him and pray for him every night. We will miss you so much daddy, love Antonios and Aphrodite.

ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΑΥΤΟΥ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ... ETERNAL BE HIS MEMORY!!

On December 10, 2017, we held a 5-year Memorial for *Eleni Vogiatzis*, wife of Anastasios Vogiatzis of Southport, and mother of Ioannis John Vogiatzis and wife Barbara of Southport and Vasilios Bill Vogiatzis and wife Irene of Wilmington, grandmother of Eleni, Tasos, Peter and George Vogiatzis. *Μακαρία η Όδός - Blessed be the Way! Αιώνια της η μνήμη - Everlasting be her memory!*

On December 17, 2017 we held a 40 day memorial service in honor of *Mrs. Joan Anthony Andrews Brunetti* wife of Valerio Brunetti, and sister to Andrew Anthony Andrews. ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΑΥΤΗΣ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ... ETERNAL BE HER MEMORY!!



Christ is Born!
Glorify Him!

The Beautiful Poinsettias for 2017 were Donated by:

Fr Regis Alexoudis & Family

In Memory of John & Mary Alexoudis

John & Kathleen Anagnost

In Memory of Vasili & Sophia Anagnost

In Memory of Peter & Dorothy Jewell

Andrews Family

In Memory of Anthony & Argendo and

Simeone & Anthoula

In Memory of Joan Andrews Brunetti & Andrew Andrews

Badi & Kamilia Batshon

In Honor of Our Families Overseas in Jordan

Michael, Tina, Niko & Lucas Bostic

In Memory of Theotoki & Panagiota Mavroidis

Cameron & Pam Calhoun & Family

In Memory of Leon Calhoun

In Memory of Gus & Poppy Theo

Cameron Calhoun

In Honor of Pam Calhoun

In Honor of My Nouna, Irene Vogiatzis

Christopher, Lauren & Evan Cranidiotis

In Memory of Peter & Gregory Cranidiotis

Peter, Kathy, Vasili, Maria & George

Dimopoulos

In Memory of Panagiotis Lymperakis

In Memory of Vasilios Dimopoulos

Karen Moskogianis & Tom Driscoll

In Memory of Driscoll, Moskogianis & Stathis Families

Fr Jon & Pres. Barbara Emanuelson & Family

In Memory of Margaret & Stanley Passaris

Larry and Helen Flowers

In Honor of Jim & Maria Stasios

In Memory of Evelyn & Christos Stasios

In Memory of Jerry Barkas, Peter & Angela Barkas

In Memory of Artemis & Nicholas Koutroulias

In Memory of Theofanis & Lauren Nixon

Evangelos & Olympia Fragos

*In Honor of our children – Yianni, Koula, Eliana, George
& Alexander*

In Memory of Our Parents, John & Koula Fragos

Dr. Mary Andrew Frankos

In Memory of Andrew E. Frank

In Memory of Irene X. Frankos

Patrick & Marisa Gallaher & Dorothy Manolukas

In Memory of George Manolukas

The Gill Family

In Honor of my mother, Mable Demis

John, Betsy, Garrett & Grant Grinnell

In Memory of Debbie & Manuel Tzouvelekas

In Memory of Betty & John Robert Grinnell, Sr.

Pamela Hale & Family

In Memory of Harry E. Hale

In Memory of Ted & Mary Mavros

Yiannaki, Antonia, Helena, Dino

& Demetri Ioannou

In memory of Nota Dukas

Christos & Eleni Kaprantzas

*In Honor of Our Grandchildren, Anna, Chris, Konstadino
& Chris Andrew*

The Karonis Family

In Memory of our Angel, Annette Anastasia Karonis

Zaharoula & Katerina Katsikis

In Honor of Dena Poulos

Lee & Doris King

In Memory of John Kazantzides

In Honor of Ruth Kazantzides

In Honor of Don & Linda King

Matthew & Melissa Kirkby

In Memory of Victor & Ethel Melts

Dr. Emmanuel & Lambra Koklanaris

In Honor of our Children & Grandchildren

Emmanuel & Athanasia Lionikis

In Memory of James & Marianne Sampanes

*In Memory of Rev. Manousos & Presvytera Katherine Li-
onikis*

Mr & Mrs Anestis Logothetis

In Memory of Parents – Leonidas & Chrisoula

Michael & Theodora Loizides

In Memory of Stavros, Efrosini & Nick Pantazis

Spiro Macris

In Memory of Georgia Macris

In Memory of James & Fani Macris

John T Manolukas

In Memory of Nik Manolukas

Dr Peter & Joan Manolukas

In Memory of George P. Manolukas

Georgia & Mary Marmaras

In Memory of Basil Marmaras

In Honor of Christopher Kettleman & Sophia Rontogiannis

Ed & Kathleen Mayorga

In Honor of Sia Mayorga & Family

Sayed, Gabriel & Zoe Mayorga

In Honor of Ed and Kathleen Mayorga

Calvin & Diane McGowan

In Memory of Argiro Aretakis

Dorothy Miliotis

In Memory of Pantelis Miliotis

Emanuel Miliotis

In Honor of Mary Marmaras

Nanette Musselwhite

In Memory of James E. Wall

Lambros & Niki Papanicolaou

In Memory of Marianthi & Vasilis

Ruth Pappamihel

In Memory of Louis Pappamihel

Anna & James Patsalos

In Memory of Xaralambia Papaioannou

In Honor of Nick, Joyce, Anna & Chris Patsalos

Anne Bakalis Pinkston

In Memory of Nick Bakalis

Dena Poulos

In Memory of Panteli, Zanis & Koula Poulos

In Memory of Ekaterini & Angelis Haralambous

Koula Poulos

In Memory of Theodore Poulos

Michael & Debra Rallis

In Memory of Nicholas Bakalis and George & Dalton Rallis

Rick & Barbara Reynolds

In Memory of Our Parents

Doky & Despina Saffo

In Memory of Our Parents Argiro, Vassilios, Nick, Sophia & Brother Louie

Marian Saffo

In Memory of Matthew Z. Saffo

In Memory of Stelios G. Raptis

In Honor of Marika R. Saffo

Nick & Tia Saffo and Family

In Memory of Elias Tripodis

Tony, Jamie, Ayden and Michael Saffo

In Honor of Des and Doky Saffo

Rena Schaefer & Children

In Memory of Robert Stephen Schaefer

Joanne Simotas

In Memory of My Father and All Our Deceased Relatives

Daphne & David Snow & Family

In Memory of Georgia Meimaridis & Robert, Betty & Matthew Snow

Kay Skandalakis

In Memory of Bill and Angeline Saffo

Thomas Souflas and All Your Family

In Memory of Linda Souflas

Jim & Maria Stasios

In Memory of Victor & Ethel Melts and Evelyn & Christos Stasios

George and Peggy Stephanou

In Memory of Eli and Ruth Stephanou

Ron and Vicky Stephens

In Memory of Milton Melts

In Honor of Martha Melts

Joseph & Lisa Steyer

In Memory of Joseph & Mary Steyer

Lisa Kommatea- Steyer

In Memory of Alexandros & Athena Komateas

The Theodoropoulos Family

In Memory of Louis Pappamihel & Annivas Theodoropoulos

Theophilos Family

In Memory of Plato Theophilos

In Memory of Helen & Nikolas Psillas

In Memory of Patula & Stavros Theophilos

Ernest & Sophia Tracy

In Memory of John and Koula Fragos

Stella Vallianos

In Memory of Maria & Themistocles, Spiros & Rodomante

Mary Ann Vavalette & Nicolas Elfter

In Memory of Anna & Nicholas Elfter

Vasilios, Irene and Panayioti Vogiatzis

In Memory of Peter & Spyridoula Sotiriou

In Memory of Eleni Vogiatzis

In Memory of Mary Vourdaris

Irene Voneiff

In Memory of My Aunt, Victoria Karafas Glaros

Mary Ann Wall

In Honor of My Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

John & Elaine Whitley and Family & Christina Dameron

In Memory of Andrew & Mary Saparilas

Sam & Kitsa Wiersteiner

In Memory of Elizabeth & Richard Wiersteiner & Conrad Wiersteiner

In Memory of Kleanthis and Gesthemani Adamides and George Adamides

Zoyra, Romiosini & Nea Smyrni Dancers

In Memory of Nota Dukas

Treasurer's Report

Stewardship as of Nov. 2017	
Pledged	\$231,175.84
Full Year Goal	\$277,306.31
Variance pledged to goal	\$(46,130.47)
Percentage pledged to goal	83%
Amt. Received	\$247,946.38
Percentage received to goal	89%
Variance received from goal	\$29,359.93

We have received 83% of our stewardship goal so far and need \$29,359.93 to meet the goal. As a reminder, stewardship funds support the various expenses for the running of the church (priest and clergy salary, building utilities, insurance, Sunday school, youth programs, charities, etc.).

Our year to date expenses are exceeding our income.

Operating Income/Expense			
General Fund	Income	Expenses	Variance
Jan	\$26,532.87	\$25,582.12	\$950.75
Feb	\$27,247.13	\$24,072.13	\$3,175.00
Mar	\$17,677.60	\$30,455.36	\$(12,777.76)
Apr	\$26,588.62	\$26,154.53	\$434.09
May	\$21,976.46	\$31,219.49	\$(9,243.03)
Jun	\$30,056.80	\$32,077.69	\$(2,020.89)
Jul	\$40,420.06	\$28,341.11	\$12,078.95
Aug	\$15,972.31	\$24,470.78	\$(8,498.47)
Sep	\$52,523.97	\$21,699.97	\$30,824.00
Oct	\$25,535.74	\$44,521.06	\$(18,985.32)
Nov	\$20,143.30	\$28,508.46	\$(8,365.16)
YTD	\$304,674.86	\$317,102.70	\$(12,427.84)

Home Blessings

During the days following the Feast of the Theophany, it is customary for Fr. Jon to visit the homes of his parishioners for the traditional Theophany Home Blessing starting January 7-31.

Call the Church today to schedule your Home Blessing. Anytime all family members are available for the blessing is the right time to schedule.

910-392-4444



Church Photo Directory

Come after church to get your photo taken by our fantastic photographer—Zaharoula Katsikis. She will be taking photos until 1:30PM on Sundays January 21 and January 28.

SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 7, 2018 IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY!



It is by offering our blessings back to God that He will be able to continue His forgiving, healing, liberating, empowering, transfiguring, loving ministry through the Church. For God, Infinite though He is, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, to continue His saving work in the world today.

Fr. Anthony M. Coniaris

\$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

We are pleased to share with you that the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation will once again offer **\$250,000** in scholarship awards to exceptional Greek American undergraduates. Our NEW electronic application is currently available on our website, and the deadline to apply is **Wednesday, January 31, 2018**. The scholarships will be distributed at our Awards Ceremony and Gala, which will be held on **Saturday, June 16, 2018**.

<http://www.panhellenicsf.org/apply/>



DATE: Saturday, January 6, 2018

TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: Blue Water Grill Waterfront
Wrightsville Beach, NC

**Lunch Reception Immediately Following
at the Bluewater Grill**

4 Marina Street

Wrightsville Beach, NC

Children 5 & Under Free

Youth: \$10

Adults: \$15

Divers: \$15

Epiphany,
"Ta Fota" or "Theofania"
Commemorates Christ's Baptism.

The Blessing of the Waters
is symbolized by the throwing
of a cross into the sea by a priest,
while swimmers brave the
chilly waters to retrieve it.



Are you an Active GOYA member of your Parish?
Do you want to dive for the cross?
Call today for more information: (910) 392-4444

2018 Cross Dive & Theophany Celebration Registration and Event Information



608 S. College Road
Wilmington, NC 28403
www.stnicholaswilmington.org
(910) 392-4444
office@stnicholaswilmington.org



January 2018

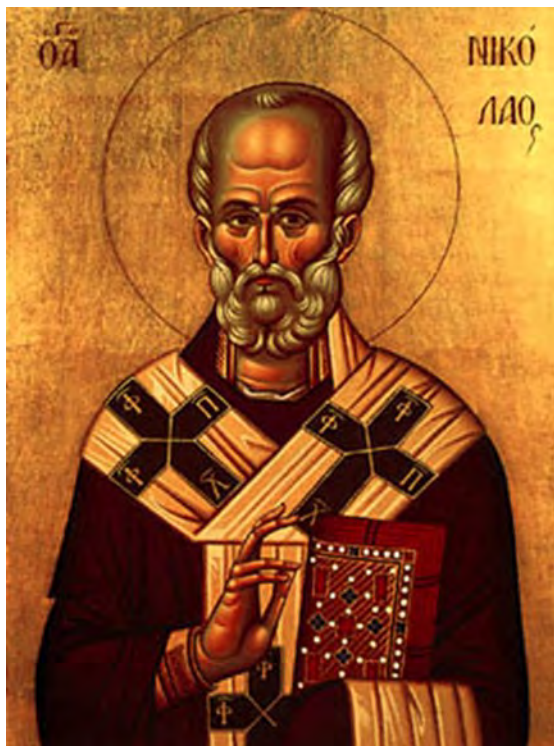
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 <u>New Year's Eve</u> 8:30AM Orthros/ Liturgy Memorial 40 Days John Stamboulos New Year's Eve Dance</p> <p>No Sunday School</p>	<p>1 <u>New Year's Day</u> 8:00AM Circumcision of Christ/St. Basil+New Year Doxology</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour</p>	<p>4 7PM Catechism Class</p>	<p>5 <u>Eve of Theophany</u> 8AM Royal Hours 9:30AM Vesp- poral Liturgy of St. Basil & Blessing of the Waters 5PM Youth Dance Practice</p>	<p>6 <u>Theophany</u> 7:30AM Orthros/Liturgy + Bless- ing of the Waters 11:00AM St. Nicholas Youth Cross Dive 6:00PM Great Vespers/ Synaxis of St John @Myrtle Beach SC</p>
<p>7 <u>Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner</u> 8:30 AM Orthros/ Liturgy Stewardship Sunday 12PM Youth Dance Practice <i>Home Blessings Start Today 1/7-31</i></p>	<p>8 5PM Youth Dance Practice</p>	<p>9 11:45AM Forever Young @ Chris' Restuarant 5PM YouthDance Practice 7PM Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour 5PM Youth Dance Practice</p>	<p>11 7PM Catechism Class</p>	<p>12 Hellenic Dance Festival Orlando , Fla.</p>	<p>13 Hellenic Dance Festival Orlando, Fla.</p>
<p>14 8:30AM Orthros / Liturgy Hellenic Dance Festival - Orlando, Fla.</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Sub- missions Due <i>Hellenic Dance Festival Ends</i></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 <u>St. Anthony the Great</u> 10:30 AM Or- thodox Coffee Hour 6:30PM Adult Greek Dance</p>	<p>18 7PM Cate- chism Class</p>	<p>19 5PM Hellenic School</p>	<p>20 7AM Men's Group Bible Study Breakfast 8:30AM Church Safety Seminar 6PM Great Vespers</p>
<p>21 8:30AM Orthros/Liturgy 11:30AM Vasilopita Luncheon 11:30 AM Photo Directory makeup photos</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 10:30AM Or- thodox Coffee Hour 6:30PM Adult Greek Dance</p>	<p>25 7PM Catech- ism Class</p>	<p>26 5PM Hellenic School</p>	<p>27 6PM Great Vespers</p>
<p>28 8:30AM Orthros/Liturgy 11:30AM Three Hierarchs Event 11:30AM Photo Di- rectory makeup pho- tos</p>	<p>29 6:00PM Great Vespers @St. Basil's</p>	<p>30 <u>Holy Three Hier- archs</u> 9:00AM 9th hour Liturgy @ St. Basil's 7PM COM Ministry Leaders Meeting</p>	<p>31 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour <i>Home Bless- ings End</i></p>	<p>For the most current version of our Parish Calendar, please visit us online at: http://www.stnicholaswilmington.org/ ParishCalendar.html</p>		

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

608 S. College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403

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ST. NICHOLAS

**GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
MISSION**

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church is dedicated to the continuation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's ministry of salvation through the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel; through Baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and through loving service to God and mankind.

VISION

The community will provide a loving, caring and welcoming environment where all belong and grow in the faith through worship, service, witness and fellowship.