



METROPOLIS  
OF ATLANTA



*February 2018*



*Presentation of our Lord in the Temple  
February 2*

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[www.stnicholaswilmington.org](http://www.stnicholaswilmington.org)

## Rev. Fr. Jon Emanuelson Parish Priest

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### CHURCH STAFF

Stella McTaggart, Parish Office Administrator  
Georgia Marmaras, Administrative Assistant

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Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StNicholasWilmington

### 2018 PARISH COUNCIL

#### Officers

Barbara Reynolds, President  
Evangelos Fragos, Vice President  
Tina Bostic, Treasurer  
Peter Malahias, Assistant Treasurer  
Irene Sotiriou Vogiatzis, Secretary

#### Members

Carl Baynard	Emanuel Miliotis
Melissa Kirkby	Nick Saffo
Peter Manolukas	Daphne Snow

### PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

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, Constantina 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

God's Grace In  
Blessings Come Out

What do you want from your Church? There are as many answers to this question as there are people in Church. In truth, as we are supposed to worship Him in spirit and truth (Jn 4:23), we can use any lens we desire to focus on the answer to this question, but we would be better to use the lens of our Orthodox Church. Maybe an easier question might be, what do we want from our Lenten journey?

Perhaps your answer is – I want to draw closer to God! Now our Orthodox Church has a great journey for you. Preparing – There is great saying, “It is easier to prepare and prevent, than to repair and repent.” Of course, as Orthodox Christians it is good to repent regularly! The Church sets us on a course most wondrously in the weeks prior to Clean Monday, the beginning of Great Lent (this year these 4 Sundays are January 28 – February 19, 2018). This is the beginning of the Lenten Triodion period leading up the Great Fast.

Each of the Sunday gospels has a special message for all of us. The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, January 28, 2018 – Luke 18:10-14. You could say this is our lesson in disposition toward God. The publican is justified and his prayer, O God be gracious unto me, a sinner,” is one we should say often. Many times we can benefit from the sayings of the saints, elders and mothers of our Orthodox Church when seeking out to apply the Word of God to our daily lives. Let the following echo in the chambers of our heart!

*“The Fathers tell us that awareness of sinfulness is a great gift from God, greater than the sight of sublime visions. When we become aware of our inner darkness and see the infernal and repulsive form of sin, which leaves us feeling revolted, then divine Grace will bring us its own consolation.” --Elder Iosif of Vatopaidinos*

*“Become humble in spirit, so that you don't lose any of the good you've done. But if you cast off humility, you'll be numbered among those who've labored in vain.” -- St. Ephraim the Syrian*

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son, default name day for any of us who drifted away at one point, is Sunday, February 4, 2018. In Luke 15:11-32, the story of the Prodigal Son is the gospel of repentance and forgiveness. When we read this account out loud, it should go straight passed the mind and into the heart. The fathers know the value of repentance and speak of it often. Here below is one of the blessed sayings:

*“Had the Lord not suffered and died for our sins, who of us would know that sin is such a deadly poison? Had he not risen, who among us would have discovered what a terrible thing sin is or would have any hope? In that case, repentance would have been of no benefit, and forgiveness impossible. Repentance is linked to the Passion and forgiveness to the Resurrection, through God's grace. With repentance, the old self (of sin), dies and is taken to the grave. With forgiveness, the new self is born into a new life.” -- St. Nikolai Velimirovich*

The Sunday of the Last Judgment, February 11, 2018, is the sign post for faith in action! The gospel of Matthew, 25:31-46, directs us to a life that is pleasing to God and in good service to all. Looking to the least of our brethren and seeing Jesus is a great blessing. The infinitely good God of all gives us many opportunities to fulfill this gospel, let us be attentive! The fathers also direct us very beautifully on this gospel. May your eyes see, your ears hear and your mouth share the following words:

*“Prove to God in practice, that you've given yourself up to Him completely, that you accept, calmly and without complaint, whatever He sends, pleasant or otherwise, in the conviction that this has been al-*

*lowed by Divine Providence. Your sole concern should be the careful observation of God's Commandments, whatever the circumstances." -- St. Theophan the Recluse*

The last Sunday prior to the beginning of Great Lent is the Sunday of Forgiveness, February 18, 2018. In the gospel, our Lord Jesus teaches us, as part of the sermon on the mount, Matthew 6:14-21, about forgiveness being essential for our salvation. There was a saying on the wall of Randolph High School in Henrico County, Virginia, I believe to be at the heart of this gospel. It reads, "There is no love without forgiveness, and no forgiveness without love." God in His mercy, allows us to exercise the gospel in many different ways and circumstances. The fathers were excellent at highlighting the way (Jesus). Let us attend!

*"Those who strive will spiritually, who have begun the struggle in the arena of devotion, will have to withstand bravely the blows of their opponents, always retaining the hope of the glory that will be given with the heavenly crowns. / The grief and the tears of the Saints came from their profound love for God. The Saints experienced the presence of God all the time and this increased their joy accordingly. At the same time, however, they saw to the needs of others, grieving over those who'd sinned and helping them to start their repentance and reformation." --St. Basil the Great*

*"Love for God is begotten from true faith, because people who genuinely love God would never consent to abandon this faith. Grass is better able to withstand fire than the devil can bear the flame of love. Love is a better defense than a wall and is more resilient than a diamond. Love isn't human words and concepts, nor is it mere announcements and speeches, but rather it's tangible care expressed through works." -- St. Nektarios of Pentapolis*

May the one, true and living God help us to prepare for our journey with the whole armor of God!  
Love always, Fr. Jon

**God parent Sunday**  
**is a yearly tradition we hold this**  
**year on**  
**Sunday, February 11, 2018.**

**Please invite your Godparent to**  
**come with you to church this day**  
**and approach for**  
**Divine Communion**  
**WITH your Godparent/Godchild.**





## ***From the Parish Council President Barbara Reynolds***

The Spring General Assembly will be held on February 25 after Divine Liturgy. Two of the key items being covered are:

1. Status of the current construction, and discussion of future plans for St. Nicholas leading up to our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020
2. Approval of the 2018 Budget

The agenda for the meeting is included later in the newsletter.

We look forward to seeing all of you there. Please take the time to discuss your church's future with our parish. We value all of our parishioners and their views.

The Parish Council would like to offer our congratulations to all of our dancers and their leaders and families on the results of the recent Hellenic Dance Festival! The Zoyra group received the silver award and the Nea Smyrni group received the bronze award! Thank you St. Nicholas dancers for your hard work. We are so proud of you. We would like to give our special thanks to our Dance Group instructors, Zaharoula and Katerina Katsikis who gave countless hours, blood, sweat and tears to teach and lead our children in this endeavor. We would also like to recognize the time and support given by the parents of the dancers, the grandparents of the dancers and, of course, the beautiful children of St. Nicholas that participated.

February is a beautiful season in our church. Lent begins on February 18 at sundown. Stay tuned for all the special and beautiful church services starting in February leading up to Pascha.

May you all have a blessed Lent and Pascha season.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

February 19 - April 7: Great Lent

March 4: Oratorical Festival

March 9-10: GOYA Lock-in Retreat

**March 18:** Greek Independence Day Program

March 23 - 25: OCF Work Daze @ Diakonia Retreat Center

April 1: Palm Sunday

April 2 - 7: Holy Week

April 8: Holy Pascha, 12 noon Agape Vespers & Picnic

April 28: 3rd KIDZ Rally to get excited about

June 18 - 22, 2018: Vacation Church School



## ***Forever Young***

*Kay Skandalakis*

We will be having our Valentine's Day Luncheon in Japan on Tuesday, February 13. For our annual February luncheon we will be going next door to the church to Okami Japanese Steakhouse (614 S College Road.) Please be on time at 11:45AM. We will eat lunch and enjoy each other's company.

We had a wonderful turnout at our kickoff for 2018 at Chris's Restaurant. We were glad to see everyone at the luncheon.



Spotlight on

### ***Parish Care Ministry***

Our Church has a wonderful Ministry called the Parish Care Ministry.

All members of the Community are welcome to join. By helping those Parishioners in need - especially those in our Forever Young group - we show our fellow church members we care, love, and appreciate them.

Make a difference! Join today!

Contact Fr. Jon or the office for more information.

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## ***GOYA***

*Alexia Porzio & Joyce Patsalos*

Over the next few weeks look for GOYAns in the Hellenic Center after church selling the "2018 Attractions Dining & Value" Books. By using the coupons in this book you could save over \$6,000 at local restaurants and stores!! If you would like to purchase a book outside of Fellowship Hour, please contact Alexia at [aporzio@ec.rr.com](mailto:aporzio@ec.rr.com) to reserve a copy. These books are on sale for \$25 each and all proceeds will help support our GOYA program.



## **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](http://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](http://www.familylifeministry.atlanta.goarch.org)

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

### ***Oratorical Festival***

*Kim Dandulakis, Oratorical Festival Chairperson*

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 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 SUNDAY, MARCH 4.** Any questions regarding our parish Oratorical Festival please feel free to contact me.



**HOPE/JOY***Renée Karonis Psilos, Sophia Brewer & Jaime Saffo*

Happy New Year! In December we collected money for NourishNC in hopes of providing 20 students with stockings full of necessities and treats. We were able to reach our goal with money leftover for another event. Thank you to everyone who donated to help our local children. The children decorated sugar cookies as a thank you for their donation. This was a huge success! Hope to see everyone at our rescheduled "Mom's Night Out" !!



HOPE K-2nd GRADES

JOY 3rd - 6th GRADES

COME JOIN US!

**Reschedule Mom's Night Out****February 6 • 6:30 PM @ Cruz • 7205 Wrightsville Ave.****[www.liveeatsurf.com/cruz/](http://www.liveeatsurf.com/cruz/)****RSVP to Renée @ [rkaronis@hotmail.com](mailto:rkaronis@hotmail.com)****Stewardship***John Whitley***Looking for Inspiration**

Where do you look for inspiration? Who are your role models?

My role models include my grandfather, my father-in-law, and my nuno. All three of these men have passed on to their reward, but their memory lives and inspires my daily life. I often ask myself how my grandfather would approach a situation? Or I ask, what would my father-in-law do?

We have many other role models to look to for inspiration. There are several saints named John that I look to for inspiration. There are other saints as well. I am particularly inspired by the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste.

As a retired engineer, I also look to the business community for inspiration. One of my favorite business leaders is Warren Buffett. Warren Buffett is often called the Oracle of Omaha. He is often called the most successful investor of all time.

Warren Buffett's company Berkshire Hathaway hold an

impressive portfolio of American companies. The twelve largest holdings in his portfolio include Wells Fargo, Kraft Heinz, Apple, Bank of America, Coca-Cola, American Express, Phillips 66, IBM, U.S. Bancorp, Moody's, Charter Communications, and Davita.

I recently watched an HBO documentary on Warren Buffett. In this documentary I was impressed by another Warren Buffett portfolio, the portfolio of charities Warren Buffett has supported. Some, but by no means all, of the charities Warren Buffett has supported include, Animal Rescue Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Girls Inc., Glide, Howard G. Buffett Foundation, James Redford Institute for Transplant Awareness, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Music Rising, NoVo Foundation, Sherwood Foundation, Smile Train, Sunshine Lady Foundation, and Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation.

When I considered the HBO documentary I asked myself the question, if a successful business leader places such emphasis on charitable giving, shouldn't I make giving a personal priority as well?

Charitable giving is not limited to Warren Buffett. The list of philanthropic business leaders includes Bill and Melinda Gates, Michael Bloomberg, George Soros, and Andrew Carnegie.



To me, living a successful life involves a personal commitment of time, talent, and treasure, not just to the church, but to Pan-Orthodox charities (International Orthodox Christian Charities, Orthodox Christian Mission Center, Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, and Orthodox Christian Fellowship), and to the community as well.

As we continue in our Orthodox Christian life, let us consider the words of St. Paul, Whatever you do work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men. - Colossians 3:23

### ***Dance Groups***

*Zaharoula Katsikis & Katerina Katsikis*

Hello all,

Wow! What an amazing weekend we had in Orlando for this years Hellenic Dance Festival! Our wonderful Zoyra Dancers walked away with the Silver medal in one of the toughest dance categories I've seen in years; and our brand new Nea Smyrni dance group walked away with the Bronze medal in there very first competition! On behalf of Katerina and myself, we just want to thank everyone in our St Nicholas community for giving us so much support through the years. You all have made it possible for us to continue to build and grow this dance program and for that we are so very thankful. We'd also like to thank the parents of these dancers, for sacrificing their time and giving us the privilege of working with their children!

We also want to thank Father Jon for attending this weekend with us and being there to calm any pre-performance jitters we all had!

And most importantly, we want to thank all these wonderful youths. Each day we get to spend with you all have made both mine and Katerina's lives so much more full. I've said this before, but I'll say it again- out of everything I've done in my life, you all are my most favorite accomplishment!

In Christ's Service

*Zaharoula Katsikis*

### ***Youth Catechism***

*Georgia Spiliotis*

As Lent draws near, the Sunday School the Sunday School teachers will begin the talking, exposing, and preparing the children for Great Lent. Lent is a spiritual journey of great importance to the Orthodox child. The Sunday School will endeavor to explain the significance of this journey and why we all should participate in the services.

Please remember: Sunday of Orthodoxy, the Sunday School children should bring icons to participate in the 'Triumph of Orthodoxy' the procession of icons in the Church. Parents & Children - Mark the Date - Sunday, February 25.

## **Significance of Great Lent**

It is when a Christian participates fully in preparing himself to praise and glorify his God as Lord & Savior.

It is like a "workshop" where:

- The character of the faithful is spirituality uplifted and strengthened
- His life is redirected to the principles and ideals of the Gospel
- Where faith culminates in deep conviction of life
- Where apathy and disinterest turn into vigorous activities of faith and good works
- Where an individual prepares himself to reach for, accept, and attain the calling of his Savior
- Where an individual improves the standards of faith and morals in his Christian life.

### ***Adult Catechism***

*Fr. Jon Emanuelson*

Everyone is invited to join our 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Jon.





***Philoptochos***  
*Enosis Chapter #5027*  
*Debra Rallis*

Thank you to Kitsa for organizing our Annual Vasilopita and all the ladies who helped her. A special thanks to those that baked Vasilopita and to those who purchased them. The proceeds will be divided between St. Basil's Academy and our Benevolent Fund.



With the beginning of the New Year, we would like to invite and encourage all ladies of the community to join our local Philoptochos chapter. The first \$25.00 of your stewardship goes to the Metropolis(\$10) and National(\$15) Philoptochos to meet our philanthropic obligations.

Our mission is to help our fellow parishioners, our local Wilmington community and support national and international projects as encouraged by the National Philoptochos Society.

General Meeting Sunday February 18 following Divine Liturgy  
***Brunch will be served in the GOYA room***  
 Guest Speaker : Dr. Peter Manolukas  
 Topic: Early Detection of Heart Disease in Woman and Prevention

This is a perfect opportunity for all ladies to pay their 2018 membership! Hope you can join us!



***Hellenic School***  
*Anestis Logothetis*

The whole Community is invited to our Annual Valentine's Dinner Dance at the Hellenic Center on Saturday, February 3. The Paschalis Band will entertain us with Greek and American music for dancing and listening. Come and enjoy good food, good fellowship and lots of fun. The tickets are \$35 bought in advance and \$40 bought at the door, for students \$15 and for kids in Greek school and under 12 will be free. There will also be a cash bar and a raffle with all sorts of Greek goodies and gift cards. The dance starts at 7 pm and will be over by midnight. Any profits from the dance will go to support the Greek School and the local AHEPA Chapter charities.

Greek School classes have started for 2018. We meet on

Fridays at 5 pm and have classes for youngsters and adults. There will be a celebration for the feast of Three Hierarchs on Sunday January 28 after Divine Liturgy in the Hellenic Center. Deacon Tom will be the speaker.

***Hellenic Culture***  
*Kitsa Wiersteiner*

Congratulations to our dancers and directors. Zoyra won the silver medal and our new group - Nea Smyrni - won the bronze at the Hellenic Dance Festival in Orlando, FL during the Martin Luther King Weekend. Please join us on Sunday, February 11 during Fellowship Hour when we will recognize the dancers and directors - Zaharoula and Katerina Katsikis - and all the other volunteers. We will have a presentation of medals during Fellowship Hour.

## **Greek Festival**

*Nick Saffo, Lee King, Ministry Co-Chairs*

OPA! Greek Festival 2018 (May 18-20) is being planned by our wonderful volunteers already! As we have done in previous years, we would like to select a worthy charity to donate part of our proceeds to this year. Please see the Charity Application Form in this newsletter. All applications are due by February 15, 2018 to any member of the Festival Committee.

## **Adult Greek Bible Study**

*Fr. Jon Emanuelson*

Fridays beginning in February we will host Greek Bible Study for parents of youth during the Hellenic School. This is open to ANYONE who would like to attend. Bring your Orthodox Study Bible and meeting in the Hellenic Center at 5PM. Fr. Jon will supply the Greek Text.

## **Community News**

### HANDICAP PARKING

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



### 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 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.

### 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 Baker's 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 always 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.

### CONGRATULATIONS

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

Congratulations to the Kratsa family on the birth of their third daughter—Helena Angela Kratsa—born December 16, 2017. Anita is doing well. Caleb and the girls are happy & healthy.



May Helena have a long life blessed with hope, faith and love.



Congratulations to Lee King on his Chrismation to the Greek Orthodox Church on December 17, 2017. As the Chrismation took place during Divine Liturgy all those who attended are so pleased to have been part of this experience. His Godfather is Nick Saffo. God grant him many years.

Congratulations to the new 2018 Parish Council on their election being confirmed by the Metropolis.

Please congratulate Alexandra Miliotis when you see her. She has been accepted to the School of Nursing at UNCW She is 1 of only 50 seats offered per semester. **Bravo!!!**

Congratulations to Maria Katris (Zoyra) and Henry King (Nea Smyrni) for being voted as the 2018 Spirit Cup winners. Attributes of these children are based on scripture *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness"* - Galatians 5:22 Congratulations to these wonderful souls who were selected by the Youth Dancers themselves.



Maria Katris and Henry King, Spirit Cup Winners 2018



Swearing in of Parish Council, January 7, 2018

### PLEASE PRAY

Please pray for those who are ill, recovering, and/or homebound: Evelyn Angeledes, Angelo 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, Ed Mayorga, Calvin McGowan, Mary Compos Marmaras (Autumn Care); Eleni Mitsis (mother of Effie Davis), Pat Skinner-Darby, Charity Skinner-Darby (daughter of Pat), Tom Souflas, Helen Vurnakes; Vasilios Vogiatzis *Please contact the church office to add/remove someone from the list.*

### SYMPATHIES

On December 31, 2017 we held a 40 day memorial for John Stamboulos. Μακαρία η Όδος - Blessed be the Way! Αιώνία του ή μνήμη - Everlasting be his memory!

Our sympathies to Anastasia Katris and her family for the passing away of her Mother in Nestani, Peleponisos, Greece on January 14, 2018. ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΑΥΤΗΣ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ... Everlasting be her memory!

On January 21 we held a memorial for Despina and Nicholas Kehris, Mother and Father of Lambra Koklanaris. ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΑΥΤΟΥΣ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ..Eternal be their memory!





**CONGRATULATIONS!**





**REVISED DATE**  
Saturday, February 24, 2018

**DATE:**

**TIME:** 11:00 AM

**PLACE:** Blue Water Grill Waterfront  
Wrightsville Beach, NC

Lunch Reception Immediately Following  
at the Bluewater Grill  
4 Months

**RECEPTION SOLD OUT!**  
To be put on the waitlist for tickets  
please call the church office.

**Epiphany,  
"Ta Foti" or Theophania"**  
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

The only thing that has changed is the date!  
February 24, 2018

If you cannot attend the rescheduled luncheon, please contact the Church Office or the Committee Chairman, Evangelos Fragos for a refund. Thank you!



**WINNING THE GREAT RACE OF FAITH**  
**KIDZ RALLY**

SATURDAY, February 3, 2018  
8:45 AM until 12:30 PM

For: PRE-K-3+ through 8th graders & ANY FRIENDS  
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
608 S. College Road  
Wilmington, North Carolina

Please return this form to Presbyteria Barbara or Diakonissa Stacie Fernandez, or the Church Office Any questions, please contact:  
St. Nicholas Church Office at 910-392-4444 or Diakonissa Stacie at 910-622-3515

KIDZ RALLY OCTOBER 2018 Registration Form

Child's Name	Birth Date	Grade	Allergies/Medical Concerns	Friend/Guest? Write yes or no

Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else we should know about your child(ren)? \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SNACK & DRINK!**





St. Nicholas Hellenic School

Local AHEPA Chapter #408

## VALENTINE'S Dinner and Dance

Featuring: PASCHALIS GREEK BAND

Buffet Dinner ~ Cash Bar

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018

Minimum Donation:

Adults ~ \$35 pre-sale

Adults ~ \$40 at the door

Students ~ \$15

Children 12 and under free

St. Nicholas Hellenic Center

608 S. College Road ~ Wilmington, NC

7:00 P.M.

Sitter will be available

For further information and reservations contact:

Nick Lazaridis ~ 910.799.8774 or [nvlazaridis@gmail.com](mailto:nvlazaridis@gmail.com)

Anestis Logothetis ~ 910.399.1904 or [anestislogothetis@gmail.com](mailto:anestislogothetis@gmail.com)

Church Office ~ 910.392.4444



Raffle with Greek Cookies and Prizes

Raffle Tickets \$2 each



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta

## Hellenic Dance Festival

Presentation of Medals  
&

Recognition

Join us as we celebrate participating  
Youth Dancers and Directors



Sunday, February 11, 2018  
Immediately following Liturgy  
in the Hellenic Center

Coffee Hour will be sponsored by the dance groups.



The Metropolis goal is to bring Orthodox families together through dance, music  
and fellowship to perpetuate our rich Hellenic Orthodox tradition.

The Hellenic Dance Festival, based on the vision and dream of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, began in 2000. Traveling from city to city throughout our Metropolis, the Hellenic Dance Festival has grown into a true family event. Held on the MLK Jr. weekend, it allows for participants to travel and join together as brothers and sisters in Christ. Our religion, our Greek language, and our culture help us maintain our identity as Hellenes. The need for our communities to perpetuate our culture, along with the philosophy of ancient Greece and the Olympic spirit of "a healthy mind in a healthy body" were instrumental in the vision by His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios to establish this Hellenic Dance Festival for the youth and families of our Metropolis.



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
Festival Charity Application

Must be returned to St. Nicholas by: February 15, 2018

Charity Name	Note:
must have local chapter	

List benefits provided to Wilmington residents	Community Benefits
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	
Approximately how many people in Wilmington receive benefits from your charity each year? -	
What is your Charity Navigator Rating? -	
%age of funds going to programs? -	
Would members of your organization be willing to volunteer to work at the festival? -	

NOTE: Charity must conform to Greek Orthodox Church values and theology

# EASTER LILY OFFERING

\$10 Each  
Please make checks  
payable to:  
**St. Nicholas Philoptochos**



If returning by Mail:  
**St Nicholas Philoptochos**  
**608 S. College Road**  
**Wilmington, NC 28403**

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Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Flowers \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
One flower each per person or couple.

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for submittals is Sunday, March 18th



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
Fall General Assembly Meeting  
February 25, 2018

**Agenda**

- Opening Prayer
- Election of Chairman
- Determination of Quorum
- Minutes from Fall 2017 GA
- Spiritual Reflection
- President's Report
- Ministry Team Reports
  - Stewardship
  - Festival
- Treasurer's Report
  - Status of Accounts
  - 2018 Budget confirmation
  - Audit Committee Nomination
- Closing Prayer

THIS IS THE OFFICIAL MAILING OF THE AGENDA FOR NOTIFICATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AS REQUIRED.

A SEPARATE MAILING OF THE AGENDA WILL NOT BE CREATED IN AN EFFORT TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR FINANCIAL ASSETS.

AN ELECTRONIC COPY WILL BE EMAILED VIA OUR LISTSERV SERVICE IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018.

## February 2018

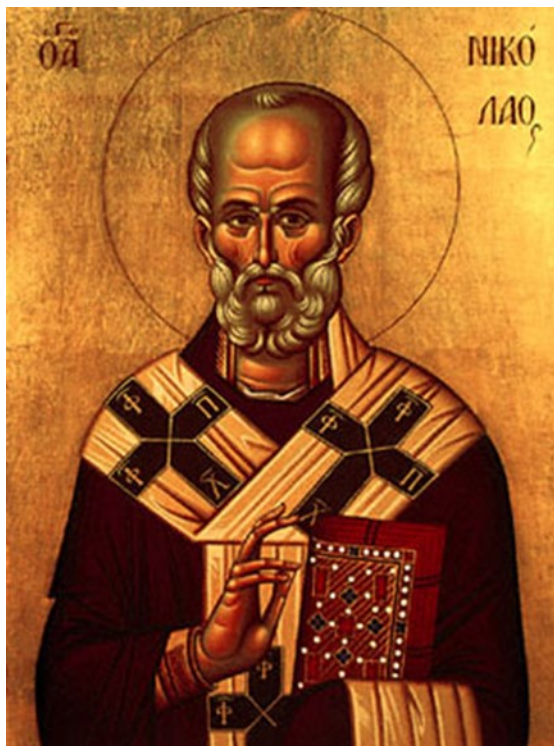
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6PM Great Vespers  7PM Philoptochos Board Meeting  7PM Catechism class	2 <i>Presentation of our Lord in the Temple</i> 8AM Orthros/Liturgy  5PM Hellenic School  5PM Greek Bible Study	3 8:45AM KIDZ Rally  6PM Great Vespers  7PM Valentine's Dance
4 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy	5	6 6:30PM HOPE/JOY event  7PM Parish Council Meeting	7 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour	8 7PM Catechism class	9 5PM Hellenic School  5PM Greek Bible Study	10 <i>St. Haralambos the Great</i>  8AM Orthros/Liturgy
11 <i>Meat fare Sunday</i> <b>Godparent Sunday</b>  8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy  HDF Medal Presentation (after Liturgy)	12 6:30PM Philoptochos Board Meeting	13 11:45AM Forever Young @ Okami	14 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour	15 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE  7PM Catechism class	16 5PM Hellenic School  5PM Greek Bible Study	17 <i>Saturday of Souls</i> 8AM Orthros/Liturgy  11AM Baptism  6PM Great Vespers
18 <i>Mission Sunday</i> <i>Cheese fare Sunday</i> <i>Forgiveness Sunday</i>  8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy  Philoptochos General Meeting (after Liturgy)  5PM Vespers & Community Soup Dinner	19 <i>First Monday of Lent</i>  7PM Great Compline	20 7PM Great Compline	21 9AM PreSanctified Liturgy  10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour  7PM Great Compline	22 7PM Great Compline	23 5PM Hellenic School  5PM Greek Bible Study  7PM Salutations to the Theotokos	24 <i>Saturday of Souls</i>  8AM Orthros/Liturgy  OCF Retreat in Raleigh, NC  11AM CROSS DIVE EVENT
Great Lent						
25 <i>Sunday of Orthodoxy</i> <u>Procession of Icons</u> 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy  General Assembly (after Liturgy)	26 7PM Great Compline	27 7PM COM Leaders Meeting	28 10:30AM Orthodox Coffee Hour  5:30PM PreSanctified Liturgy	For the most current version of our Parish Calendar, please visit us online at: http:// <a href="http://www.stnicholaswilmington.org/ParishCalendar.html">www.stnicholaswilmington.org/ParishCalendar.html</a>		
Great Lent						

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

608 S. College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



**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.