



METROPOLIS
OF ATLANTA



December 2019



*The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
December 25*

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Fr. Steven Klund Parish Priest

Fr. Steven - Phone number 910-392-4455
Fr. Steven's Email: frsteven@stnicholaswilmington.org

CHURCH STAFF

Georgia Marmaras, Parish Office Administrator
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2019 PARISH COUNCIL

Officers

Evangelos Fragos, President
Daphne Snow, Vice President
Tina Bostic, Treasurer
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Members

Carl Baynard Emanuel Miliotis
Tony Saffo Nick Saffo
Lee King Cameron Calhoun
Dino Psilos

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Emanuel Miliotis, Chairman of the Council of Ministries

Religious Education... Mary Beth Miliotis & Courtney Malahias, Ministry Chairs

ADULT FOCUS

Bookstore/Library... Mary Ann Wall & Chrysanthé Lazarides
Book Study... Courtney Malahias
Orthodox Coffee Hour... Irene Voneiff

YOUTH FOCUS

Oratorical Festival... Kim Dandulakis
Youth Catechism... Mary Beth Miliotis & Courtney Malahias, Interim Chairs

Hellenic Culture... Kitsa Wiersteiner, Ministry Chair

Adult Greek Dance Group... Antonia Ioannou
Hellenic School... Anestis Logothetis, Acting Director
Nea Smyrni Dance Group... Zaharoula Katsikis
Special Activities... Kitsa Wiersteiner
Zoyra Dance Group... Katerina Katsikis
Melissakia Dance Group... Alexandros Theodoropoulos

Youth ... Fr. Steven Klund, Interim

GOYA... Father Steven Klund, Interim
HOPE/JOY... Sia Mayorga, Renée Karonis Psilos & Benjalee Pittman

Metropolis Strategic Planning... Koula Katsikis, Ministry Chair

Liturgical Life ... Dr. Michael Rallis, Ministry Chair

Acolytes... Doug Brown
Altar Care... Matthew Wickersham

Philoptochos... Maria Stasios, Chapter President

Irene Vogiatzis Vice President, Irene Voneiff, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer Barbara Reynolds; Recording Secretary, Angela Dentiste; Corresponding Secretary, Evyenia Karonis; Advisor, Debra Rallis

Communications - Technology Ministries...

Alexandros Theodoropoulos, Ministry Chair

Webmaster... Alexandros Theodoropoulos

Publications... Church Staff & Various Volunteers

Technology... Alexandros Theodoropoulos, Fr. Steven Klund

Media/Community Relations... Alexandros Theodoropoulos & Father Steven Klund

Parish Family Life... Volunteer Needed

Forever Young... Kay Skandalakis

LOVE... Jessica Lawler

Parish Family Night... Volunteer Needed

Outreach & Evangelism... Cameron Calhoun &

Daphne Snow, Ministry Chairs

Hospitality... Ed & Kathleen Mayorga

Parish Care... Constantina Stamatakis, Kay Skandalakis, Mary Frankos, Jim Stasios, John Whitley

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

Stewardship... Lee King, Melissa Kirkby, Ministry Chairs

Stewardship... Barbara Reynolds, Dino Psilos

IOCC... Angela Dentiste, Ministry Chair

OCF... Koula Fragos, Chapter President

OCF... Elisabeth Baynard, Faculty Advisor



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Fr. Steven Klund – Parish Priest



*"Meditate upon these things; give yourself wholly to them; that your progress may be evident to all."
- 1 Timothy 4:15*

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This has been a whirlwind of a Fall for us here at Saint Nicholas. Since my arrival, our staff, Parish Council and ministry leaders, have been working non-stop in preparation for what will undoubtedly be a momentous and memorable year for all. Looking ahead at all that is in store for us as a Church family, it is easy to become daunted or apprehensive. Preparations for our 75th Anniversary celebrations, the reworking of our entire approach to stewardship and parish ministries, security upgrades, large scale facility maintenance projects, and ultimately a potential campus expansion opportunity...It is understandable to feel much like what a young Saint Timothy was feeling as a fledgling disciple of Saint Paul as he was sent to carry out his teacher's work. But, let us examine what the wise Apostle said to his student when facing this enormous task.

Paul tells Timothy (*above*) to meditate on all of the blessings, instructions and Grace that he has received, and remain confident in them. If he does that, Paul promises Timothy that his progress will be made evident to all. The word "progress" in the original Greek is "prokopé," which literally means to "go forward" ("pro") by "cutting down" ("kopto"). In other words, the Biblical idea of "progress" is the advancement by chopping down whatever impedes one's growth. This is a bold and confident action. It is not something that can be done with timidity or reluctance. It is the explorer who boldly uses his machete to clear out the overgrown vegetation from his path, or the mighty army that confidently advances by tearing down any obstacles along the way. This is the kind of fervor we should all possess in the Church, knowing that when we put our faith in Christ and stay true to His teachings this is the sort of swift progress we can share in, even here in Wilmington.

The final connection I would like to draw is that this ancient concept of progress (by "cutting down"), was not simply used to speak about growth in general, but specifically about the quests of brave pioneers! There is no need to "cut down" obstacles on a path that is already worn and well-trodden. Rather, it is the unbeaten path, the road *not* traveled that allows for this type of progress. We at Saint Nicholas will take steps this year that *have never been taken before*! We will be bold enough to walk where others wouldn't dare, and we will find new, trailblazing opportunities to grow our ministry in ways that seemed too imposing or ambitious in decades past.

The work *is* considerable, there is no denying that. There will be those among us who may say that some things simply cannot be done. But calling to mind those blessed disciples, who at our Lord's Resurrection both worshipped Him *and doubted* (Matthew 28:17), we must be careful not to let the small doubts in the back of our minds derail us from the greater glories of our faith. I am confident that in spite of all that lay before us this year, the convictions of our faithful families, and the perfecting Grace of God will supply us in every task.

With Sincere Confidence in Christ,

Fr. Steven Klund
Parish Priest

Parish Council President
Evangelos Fragos

Seasons Greetings!

My fellow parishioners,

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! I trust that you ate a lot of turkey!

This December we commemorate the name day of our church, Saint Nicholas, our patron Saint. I want to remind everyone that we are in our 74th year of celebrating our church. As a parish I am thankful we share one heart in love, dedication, and commitment for our St. Nicholas.

I want to acknowledge the fact that we as a community are preparing for a year full of events in 2020 to honor St. Nicholas as we reach 75 years of service! I hope to see high levels of participation in all of our events. So, mark your calendars now!

Our ministries are continually working, planning a big year next year! Please take time to participate in as many events this year as you can. Please recognize the calendar of events as well as the save the dates to stay informed about these events and how to get involved! Between holiday parties, the New Years ever party, as well as the Theophany- Cross Dive, and many more events coming up I hope we can all make time in our busy schedules to support these ministries!

I want to congratulate again Vasili Vogiatzis and my daughter, Koula Fragos for receiving Archangel Michael awards this year! I for one see how involved these two are in our church, as well as a love they have for St. Nicholas. Congratulations!

I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!!

Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Evangelos Fragos
Parish Council President

Treasurer's Update**Tina Bostic**

October had many expenses for non-monthly items such as building insurance, wind hail, car insurance, etc. Additionally, \$10,000 was paid back from the operating account to the Money Market. Income for the month was much lower than usual. We are back in an overall deficit.

Operating Income/Expense			
	Income	Expenses	Variance
October	\$21,246.18	\$55,253.64	\$(34,007.46)
Year to Date	\$264,971.30	\$297,495.77	\$(32,524.47)

Financial items discussed during the General Assembly include the following:

Assets & Liabilities			
Bank Statements	Fall Assembly 11/2019	Spring Assembly 02/14/2019	Comments to differences
General Fund	\$29,137.22	\$10,499.92	
Money Market	\$403,005.68	\$277,116.81	Festival income
Festival Checking	\$12,692.80	\$52,528.57	Expenses/charity
Designated	\$57,823.45	\$53,407.59	
*Benevolent	\$13,048.53	\$10,747.69	Festival donation
*Building Fund	\$9,851.74	\$9,851.74	
*Memorial	\$26,764.34	\$25,269.07	
*Greek School	\$6,534.57	\$3,866.46	
*Designated Other	-\$326.24	-\$660.50	
*GOYA	\$1,950.51	\$4,333.50	
Total of all Accts	\$502,659.15	\$393,553.26	
Transfer to GF in 2019	\$10,000.00		
Transfer to GF in 2018	\$40,000.00		
Transfer to GF in 2017	\$10,000.00		

2019 Jan-Sep Budget Highlights -75% of the year	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income – received 71% of budgeted amount needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transferred \$20K from Festival to General Fund however paid back \$10K Goal is to payback the other \$10K from Festival Pascha was higher than expected Forever Young did very well raising \$ for the Panagia Panagiri w/very little expenses Stewardship at 65% for the year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stewardship budget provides the largest income to offset costs Overall Revenue received at 71.6% to budget Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total admin expenses higher than expected mainly d/t Fr's. new computer, copying and postage Building and Grounds on track overall (row 108) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in auto and building insurance as well as building/equipment repairs Church Commitments on track (row 113) Parish Resources (row 132) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saving on priest salary with Fr. Steven and less years of experience Programs underspending so far (row 206) Net is Negative \$5924.15 after you remove the Festival transfer 	

The 2020 draft budget was presented and updates will be made with a final budget to be presented in Feb. 2020 for approval.

Philoptochos
Enosis Chapter #5027
Maria Stasios

Philoptochos has had a busy start to the year! Our November meeting was a huge success and we enjoyed our guest speaker from A Safe Place, an organization that assists women and men who are fleeing from human trafficking. It was so enlightening and if you are interested in learning more or helping privately, please contact Angela Dentiste.

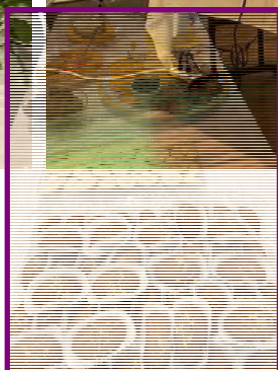
It takes many hands to do the good works of Philoptochos, and we are very thankful for the involvement of our entire community! For example, we provided Thanksgiving Baskets to over 20 families this year, touching over 130 people. This is the result of our community participation, and for that we give you all a heartfelt thank you.

If you have not yet become a member of Philoptochos, we invite you to complete a membership card. We meet every other month, the 2nd Monday, and our next general meeting is January 13 at 6:00 pm at the church. We hope to have a fulfilling activity in addition to our business meeting. If you don't drive at night but are interested, please let us know and we can coordinate rides.

We have several other projects in the works:

- Christmas Gifts for Disadvantaged Teens – If you are interested in helping, please contact Maria Stasios. “Adopted” gifts for these high school students are due back Dec 8th.
- Hospice Meals of Love – If you are interested in participating, please contact Irene Sotiriou. We started in Aug 2019 and are committed the 1st Thurs of the month through Aug 2020. We prepare and deliver meals for 25 family members of Hospice patients each month.
- Philoptochos Holiday Social – Dec 8, at Boca Bay Restaurant, 1:00 pm. See flyer for more information. In lieu of a gift exchange, we will take diapers to donate to the local Diaper Bank. If you can't come and would like to donate, please see any Philoptochos Board Member. Let us know if you need a ride.
- Vasilopita Auction – Save the Date for Jan 5 following Divine Liturgy. If you would like to bake a Vasilopita to auction, please contact Kitsa Wiersteiner or Irene Theophyllus. Proceeds benefit St. Basil's orphanage in NY and our parish's benevolent fund.

We are excited to participate in our parish's Dec 5-6 celebration of St. Nicholas Day, and we wish each of you a very merry and blessed nativity season and joyous and healthy new year!





STEWARDSHIP*Melissa Kirkby, Lee King, Barbara Reynolds, Dino Psilos****Thank you to all who have pledged their support for 2019!***

Adamopoulos, Pallas	Jeffries, Phillip & Irene	Poulos,Koula & Argiro	Wall,Mary Ann
Alexoudis, Fr. Regis	Kaprantzas,Chris & Helen	Proimos,Evangelos & Anna	Weatherly,Edwin
Alrabadi Nijad & Rabadi, Ellen	Karonis,Yiannis & Evyenia	Psilos,Dino & Karonis,René	Whitley,John & Elaine
Anagnost,Christos	Katris,Angelo & Anastasia	Psilos,Marianne	Wickersham,Donald
Andrews,Chris	Katsikis, Basile & Koula	Rallis,Michael Dr.& Debra	Wiersteiner,Samuel & Kyriaki
Andrews,Louis & Roula	Kefalas,Thalia	Reynolds,Richard & Barbara	Xanthos,John & Negin
Argyropoulos, George &	King,Lee & Doris	Ronner,Thomas & Connie	Zezefellis,Effie
Kassab, Kathy	Kirkby,Matthew & Melissa	Routoulas, Panagiota	
Batounis,John &Nancy	Klund,Fr. Steven & Pres. Nicole	Rowell,Robert & Cathy	
Batounis, Nicholas & Sylvia	Koklanaris, Emmonuel Lam-	Saffo,Avery	
Batuyios, Bill & Elaine	bra,Dr.	Saffo,Dea	
Batuyios, James Louis	Kratsa,Caleb & Anita	Saffo,Doky & Despina	
Batuyios, Louis & Nadine	Krmeta, Paul	Saffo,Marika & Marian	
Batuyios, Michael & Kippy	Lazarides,Chrysanthé	Saffo,Nick & Tia	
Batuyios, Nicholas	Lazaridis,Nick & Eleni	Saffo,Perry	
Baynard,Carl & Elisabeth	Lionikis,Emmanuel&Athanasia	Saffo, Peter & Argiro	
Bostic,Michael & Tina	Logothetis,Anestis & Constance	Saffo, Peter & Kim	
Brewer,Nevin & Saffo,Sophia	Loizides,Michael & Lola	Saffo,Tony & Jamie	
Brown,Doug & Argie	Louca,Michael	Simotas,Spiros & Giannoula	
Bryan,John R	Macris,Spiro	Simpson,Angelique & Louis	
Calhoun,Cameron & Pam	Maggio,Ralph & Evelyn	Skandalakis,Kay Saffo	
Chantiles,Stavros,GYSGT	Malahias,Peter & Courtney	Skinner,Deborah A	
Cranidiotis,Christopher	Manolukas,Peter Dr. & Joan	Skinner,Pat	
Dandulakis,Gregory & Kim	Maraveyias,Nick & Jennifer	Sljaka,Sophie	
Demas,Ron Dr. &Sherry	Markatos,Aristea	Sljaka, Mary Tomica	
Dentiste,Angela	Marmaras,Georgia	Snow,David & Daphne	
Desimone,Louise	Maroudis, Xenophon & Mary	Souflas,Thomas	
Diakogiannis, Iffie	Mayorga,Aspasia	Spiliotis,Georgia	
Diakogiannis, Jon	Mayorga,Edward & Kathleen	Stasios,James & Maria	
Dimopoulos,George	McGowan,Calvin & Diane	Steele,Gregory	
Dimopoulos,Maria	McTaggart,Stella	Stephanou,George & Margaret	
Dimopoulos,Peter & Kathy	Melts, Martha	Stephens,Ronald & Vicky	
Dimopoulos,Vasilios	Michalidis,Basilios & Rebecca	Steyer,Joseph & Kommatea-	
Dodge,Nick & Kristie	Miliotis,Dorothy	Steyer,Lisa,Dr.	
Etters,Peter & Christina	Miliotis,Emanuel & Mary Beth	Theodoropoulos, Alexandros &	
Flowers,Larry & Helen	Moe,David & Argie	Pappamihel, Eleni	
Fragos,Evangelos & Olympia	Papakidis.Maria	Theophilos,Renee	
Fragos, Eliana	Papalitskas,William & Anastasia	Tracy,Ernest & Sophia	
Fragos,Koula	Papanicolaou,Lambros & Niki	Triantafilloulos,Konstantinos &	
Franck,John& Argie	Papanikolaou,Efstratios & San-	Deborah	
Galantis,Jeannie	dra	Tsingelis,Chris & Angie	
Gallaher, Pat & Marisa	Pappamihel,Ruth	Vassilaros,Betty	
Gianoplus,Anastasios & Mary	Patsalos, Jim & Anna	Vassilaros,Toula	
Gill, Timothy & Tina	Patsalos, Nick & Joyce	Vavalette, Mary Ann	
Hale,Pamela Mavros	Peklaris,Alesander & Yvonne	Vines,Jason & Betsy	
Harrill,Graham & Stephanie	Pinkston,Anne Bakalis	Violagis,Thomas & Nota	
Harris, Benjamin& Efthimiou,	Poulin,Philippe & Mary Victoria	Vogiatzis,Vasilios & Sotiri-	
Barbara	Mavrolas	ou,Irene	
Houck,Diana& Jeff	Poulos,Dena	Vogiatzis, Anastasios	
Ioannou,Yiannis & Antonia	Poulos,John & Athena	Voneiff,George & Irene	

HOPE/JOY

Renée Karonis Psilos, Benjalee Pittman, Sia Mayorga

Our first annual HOPE/JOY advent retreat led by Fr. Steven was absolutely wonderful! The kids had a blast learning about how our decisions effect others. The children enjoyed a delicious breakfast followed by an intense game of manhunt with flashlights in the church. An unforgettable event! One child said they didn't like the event...they LOVED IT!!!

We look forward to seeing everyone in December for Christmas Caroling to our Shut-Ins.



Hellenic Culture

Kitsa Wiersteiner

Please join us on, Sunday, December 8th and Sunday December 15th during coffee hour, the youth Dance Groups will have a Bake Sale Fundraiser. All proceeds will go towards registration costs for our St. Nicholas Dancers at Hellenic Dance Festival on January 17 - 20 in Orlando, Florida. Please support our youth dancers by purchasing delicious baked goods for your upcoming holiday parties, teacher's gifts or quiet family gatherings.

Another fundraiser for HDF is Christmas Caroling, which will take place on Sunday, December 22, from 4 - 8 PM. If you would like to have the Caroler's visit your home, please sign the sheet which will be available in the Hellenic Center or contact the church at 910-392-4444 to be added to the list. Invite your family and friends to enjoy a wonderful selection of heart warming holiday music. Thank you in advance for your support.

Policies for the Safety of Youth & Children

Stella McTaggart

December 1, 2019 is the first day in the Metropolis of Atlanta where only CERTIFIED YOUTH WORKERS can participate in a Youth Ministry and/or event. **Thank you** to all of our parishioners who have taken time to complete this process during our first Open Enrollment period. We have over 50 Certified Youth Workers.

Look in the December 1, 2019 Weekly Worship Guide and our weekly e-mails for more information about the Policies for the Safety of Youth and Children and the complete list of Youth Workers. A wonderful online resource for any questions about the policies can be found at www.goarch.org/safety.

If you are interested in participating in Youth Ministry and/or Events from now until August 31, 2020 our next Open Registration will begin January 1, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact me at youth-safety@stnicholaswilmington.org.

To report any incident which violates the Policies for the Safety of Youth and Children please see the enclosed form or contact a CERTIFIED YOUTH WORKER/ SUPERVISOR.

"The harvest is so great, but the workers are so few. [38] So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send out more workers for his fields." Matthew 9:37-38

Hellenic School

Anestis Logothetis

We had a very nice OXI Day Celebration on Sunday November 27 with Dr. Anagnost as the speaker. He gave a very inspiring presentation on what it means to be Greek. OXI Day is celebrated every year in Greece and Greek Communities all over the World to commemorate the 28 October 1940. This the date Greece told the Italian invaders "NO" OXI when they sought to occupy Greece. The Greek army then proceeded in defeating the Italians and throwing them back into Albania. In addition to Dr. Anagnost, students recited patriotic poems and youngsters danced Greek dances. Chris's restaurant prepared a delicious lunch.

Greek School takes place every Friday from 4-6 pm. There are classes for youngsters as well as for adults. We encourage parents who want their kids to learn Greek to get in touch with Kitsa or Anesti. We also welcome adults who want to learn Greek or want to improve their Greek. The Greek language is part of our heritage.

Forever Young*Kay Skandalakis*

We had a wonderful turnout for our November get-together. We had over 30 people at Chris's restaurant. We hope to see this trend continue. New faces are always welcome to join each month.

For our December event please see the flyer later in this newsletter for details. Dec 10 at 11:45 AM at Beau Rivage Christmas Social. Each person needs to bring a wrapped gift not to exceed \$10 for a gift exchange. If you are unsure how to get to Beau Rivage be at the church at 11:15 AM and you can follow Fr. Steven or carpool.

We wish you a blessed holiday season!

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.

75TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

In Preparations for our 75th Anniversary, we are calling for all our parishioners who have photos/newspaper clippings/articles/memorabilia/etc. from our parish's history to please submit them to the Church office. We are trying to create a visual history of the parish to display in our church, as well as for inclusion in our 75th Anniversary commemorative album. Please bring in whatever you can.

CONGRATULATIONS

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

Congratulations to Victoria and Michael Vasilos for the baptism of their daughter Isabella Anastasia on November 2, 2019. Να σας ζήσει! May your child live a healthy and long life in Christ.

Congratulations to Christopher & Shannon Gallagher on their marriage on November 2, 2019. May they live a long and prosperous life together blessed in Christ.

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AWARDS***Congratulations to Vasilios Vogiatzis & Koula Fragos***

On Sunday, Saint Nicholas honored two of our own. Mr. Bill Vogiatzis & Ms. Koula Fragos were awarded the Metropolis of Atlanta Archangel Michael Award this year for their exceptional service and devotion to the Orthodox Church. We are truly blessed to have such exemplary stewards at St. Nicholas, and we chant "Axioi" to them both!

**PLEASE PRAY**

Please pray for those who are ill, recovering, and/or homebound:

Konstantina Alimaras (sister to Stacey Papalitskas), Angelo Angeledes, Bobby Bobon (brother of Sue Lawler), Stavros Chantiles, Anthony Constandy (father of Elisabeth Baynard), Sherry Demas, Nicholas & Margie Devoles, Constantine Dukas, Sue Fokakis (Autumn Care), Demitra George, Mary Gianoplus, George Kanes (brother-in-law of Barbara Harris), Nick Karloutsos (Silver Stream), Emanuel Koklanaris, Llambr Koklanaris, Nikolaos Kotsinis, Olga Mancuso, Calvin McGowan, Mary Compos Marmaras (Cypress Pointe), Dorothy Manolukas, Maria Padgett-Velaetis, Irene Voneiff, Anne Bakalis Pinkston, Dorothy Radomsky, Peter W. Saffo, Joanna Skandalakis, Pat Skinner, Tom Souflas, Peggy Stephanou, Vasilios Vogiatzis, Mary Ann Wall

MEMORIALS

If you need to have a Memorial for a loved one or an Artoclasia for the health of your family contact the church office or Fr. Steven at least 2 weeks in advance. We want to make sure we can have all of the correct information in place for your commemoration. Thank you.



AHEPA Delegation Visits Brussels

His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, visited the Metropolis of Brussels on the occasion of the Archdiocese's 50th Anniversary celebration, November 9th & 10th, 2019.

The Order of AHEPA and its Brussels Chapter, European Eagle Chapter No. A610, financially supported the anniversary events. At the request of Supreme President, George Horiates, Jim Stasios, Supreme Secretary, lead an AHEPA delegation to Brussels. In addition to Stasios, Supreme Treasurer, Savas Tsivicos; Past Supreme President Andy Zachariades; Past Supreme President, Carl Hollister and Supreme Governor, Phanos Pitiris were also members of the AHEPA delegation.

While in Brussels, the AHEPA delegation visited Evangelos Meimarakis, Member of the European Parliament and head of the "*Nea Dimokratia*" delegation at the EU. In addition, they visited Stravos Hatziyiannis, Cyprus' Permanent Representative to the EU.

Stasios & Tsivicos initiated 5 new members in to the Brussels Chapter and Initiated 10 new members into a new Chapter, Oranje Eagle, Chapter No. A616, in Amsterdam, in the Netherlands.

The delegation attended Patriarchal Esperinos (Vespers) on November 9th and a reception hosted by the Orthodox Archdiocese of Belgium and the Exarchate of the Netherlands and Luxemburg at the Brussels Academy Palace.

On Sunday, November 10th, the delegation attended the Patriarchal Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel. The delegation was invited to a private Archon reception honoring His All Holiness, Patriarch Bartholomew, prior to the 50th Anniversary Gala that evening, which has held in the Steigenberger Hotel's Grand Ballroom. There, over 450 attendees heard remarks by His All Holiness and Metropolitan Athenagoras regarding the 50 year history of the Metropolis. Metropolitan Athenagoras welcomed the Archons and the AHEPA Delegation from the United States, He thanked the AHEPA for their contribution towards their 50th Anniversary celebration.





Please join us
for some holiday cheer
for Christmas day
will soon be here!

St. Nicholas Forever Young

Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Beau Rivage Golf & Resort Banquets

649 Rivage Promenade ~ Wilmington, NC

Take College Road or Carolina Beach Road towards Carolina Beach.

Roughly 2 miles past Monkey Junction

Turn right on to Beau Rivage Drive

Turn left on to Rivage Promenade

The large white building is the venue.

(Elevator is available for those unable to climb the stairs.)

Lunch will be served promptly at Noon

Followed by an afternoon of fellowship and gift exchange.

Please bring a wrapped gift for the gift exchange.

(Maximum Value \$10)



Letter from Archbishop Elpidophoros of America Regarding New Youth Safety Policies

September 5, 2019

Dear Faithful of the Archdiocese of America,

The beginning of the new Ecclesiastical New Year is a time of hope and diaconia. A time when we ask ourselves and ask the Lord, “how can I best serve my family, my Lord and His Great Church”.

I am writing as Archbishop to bring to your attention an important matter that is and must be an urgent concern for all of us who work with children in every aspect of the Archdiocese, in every Metropolis and in every parish and youth ministry.

This letter is to call each of us to action, and to encourage us as our clergy, our lay leaders and our fellow parishioners to mobilize to serve our children and youth. The Archdiocese has distributed a new set of procedures and requirements intended to improve safety for the children in all our Church programs. Youth Safety is our top priority and greatest duty in our family of Orthodox Christians. As we all inherently know, protecting our children and our future requires hard work and diligence.

The new requirements demand that every single person who works with youth in any way in your Parish, your Metropolis and your Archdiocese move rapidly into compliance.

This month of September begins the process of all clergy and all youth workers registering with the designated Youth Protection Parish Administrator at your Church community and being trained by on-line courses, as well as passing a criminal background check. Under this new mandate of our Church, unless a worker completes this process by the end of this year, he or she cannot be allowed to work with parish youth. Many religious and charitable institutions, including some of our own parishes, have been doing training and background checks for years. Now in this new Ecclesiastical New Year, we join them in better training and screening our youth workers and educators to identify and protect our children against all forms of abuse.

There are two obvious first steps for this month of September, naming a Parish Administrator and gathering a completely inclusive list of both paid and volunteer workers whose efforts include contact with children. Anyone who does anything that involves contact with children will have to be registered, trained, and screened by the end of the year, with no exceptions.

Many of you who receive this letter are leaders of various ministries and programs. You are in the best positions to begin compiling lists of people in your ministry who have contact with children and youth. We are relying on your commitment to get this done. Please be aware that the Holy Metropolises and the Direct Archdiocesan District will be sending your Church leadership all that is needed to comply under these Policies for the Safety of Children and Youth.

Thank you for being part of this effort and for working with your Hierarchs, your priest and your parish leadership. May our Lord bless and protect you, your family and your Church family as we begin this Ecclesiastical New Year.

Yours in the service of this Great Archdiocese,
† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church's Certified Youth Workers*

Fr. Steven Klund

Fr. Regis Alexoudis

Argiro Brown

Demetri Brown

Cameron Calhoun

Pam Calhoun

Kim Dandulakis

Patricia D'Orazio

Aphrodite Efstathiadis

Christina Etters

Koula Fragos

Tina Gill

Barbara Harris

Yanna Hernandez

Antonia Ioannou

Eleni Kaprantzas

Evyania Karonis

Koula Katsikis

Katerina Katsikis

Zaharoula Katsikis

Doris King

Lee King

Melissa Kirkby

Anita Kratsa

Jessica Lawler

Emmanuel Lionikis

Athanasia Lionikis

Anestis Logothetis

Courtney Malahias

Georgia Marmaras

Sia Mayorga

Diane McGowan

Pauline McHugh

Thomas McHugh

Lea McHugh

Stella McTaggart

Alexandra Miliotis

MaryBeth Miliotis

Manny Miliotis

Stacey Papalitskas

Eleni Pappamihel

Joyce Patsalos

Anastasia Perk

Fred Perk

Alexia Porzio

Danielle Poulos

Marianne Psilos

Debra Rallis

Michael Rallis

Tia Saffo

Cassie Snow

Jim Stasios

Irene Voneiff

Joseph Weatherly

John Whitley

Helen Whitley

Matthew Wickersham

Kitsa Wiersteiner

If you would like to become a CERTIFIED YOUTH WORKER in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, please contact our Youth Safety Administrator - Stella McTaggart - at youthsafety@stnicholaswilmington.org

EXCLUSIVE ELIGIBILITY OF YOUTH WORKERS AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2019

Only Youth Workers and participating Children and/or Youth are eligible to participate in Youth Ministry Programs and Events.

There will be no exceptions.

Both Non-Youth Workers and Youth Work Support Staff are strictly prohibited from being alone with Children or Youth without a Youth Worker present.

**This list is current as of December 2, 2019. This list will be revised as additional Youth Workers are certified.*

Policies for the Safety of Children & Youth • Notice of Concern

Individual(s) of Concern: _____

Date of occurrence: _____ Time of occurrence: _____

Type of Concern:

- ☐ Inappropriate behavior with a Child or Youth
- ☐ Policy violation with a Child or Youth
- ☐ Possible risk of abuse
- ☐ Other concern

Use this Form to report
any suspicious or
inappropriate behavior/
conduct, policy
violations or suspected
abuse.

Describe the situation: What happened, where it happened, when it happened, who was involved, who was present, who was notified? Attach additional sheets if needed.

If reported to the State, what was their recommendation about investigating? Attach additional sheets if needed.

Has this situation ever occurred previously? Attach additional sheets if needed.

What action was taken? How the situation was handled, who was involved, who was questioned, were police or other authorities called? Attach additional sheets if needed.

What is the follow-up plan? Does anyone else need to be notified? Will the situation need monitoring? Would you like someone to call you to discuss this situation? Attach additional sheets if needed.

Submitted by: (Please print): _____

Telephone number: _____

Location and address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Date: _____

Once completed, please keep a copy for your Youth Ministry Program or Event files and forward to your local Metropolis/District Vicar Youth and Young Adult Ministries Department.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call:



Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline
 1-800-4-A-Child
 1-800-422-4453



National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
 1-800-273-8255

Important Update Concerning Youth Safety Policies

<https://atlmetropolis.org/news/youth-safety-2019>

More questions about the New Policies?

Youth Safety Compliance Officer

Fr. Earl Cantos 480-440-2277
youthsafety@goarch.org
www.goarch.org/safety

Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Steven Christoforou 646-519-6780
schristoforou@goarch.org

Metropolis of Atlanta

Monica Gjerde 404-634-9345 ex 5
youth@atlmetropolis.org
<https://atlmetropolis.org/policies-for-the-safety-of-youth-and-children>

District Vicar

Fr. Vasileios Tsourlis 704-334-4771 extension 101
frvasileios@htgo.org

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Fr. Steven Klund 910-392-4455
frsteven@stnicholaswilmington.org

Youth Safety Administrator

Stella McTaggart
youthsafety@stnicholassafety.org

Policies for the Safety of Youth & Children

<https://www.goarch.org/safety>



My brothers and sisters, I know that all of you want to serve God. The Holy Spirit has given gifts to all of you for everyone's advantage. To one He gives the gift to speak with divine wisdom, to another He gives exceptional power of faith. To one He gives the power to work miracles, to another the power to heal sickness. All these gifts come from God. They are different, but each one is very important.

The Christian community is like the human body: the body is one unit, but it is made of many parts. The leg is different from the hand, and the eye is different from the ear. But they belong to the same body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," and the head cannot say to the legs, "I do not need you." All the parts of the body are important and none of them is useless.

The Christian community is like this, too. All of you together form the body of Christ, and you are part of Him, each of you separately.

1 Corinthians 12

Join thousands of teens across the nation & **#ShareOrthodoxy!**

2020 ORATORICAL FESTIVAL



EXPLORE a deeper knowledge of your Orthodox faith
THINK critically about current issues
SPEAK to a gentle and loving audience

**Share Your
FAITH**

Junior Division for Grades 7-9
Senior Division for Grades 10-12

AWARDS - The Chrysostom Scholarship for Hellenic College
The 2020 finalists are eligible to receive a Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College.
This scholarship provides awards ranging from \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year.

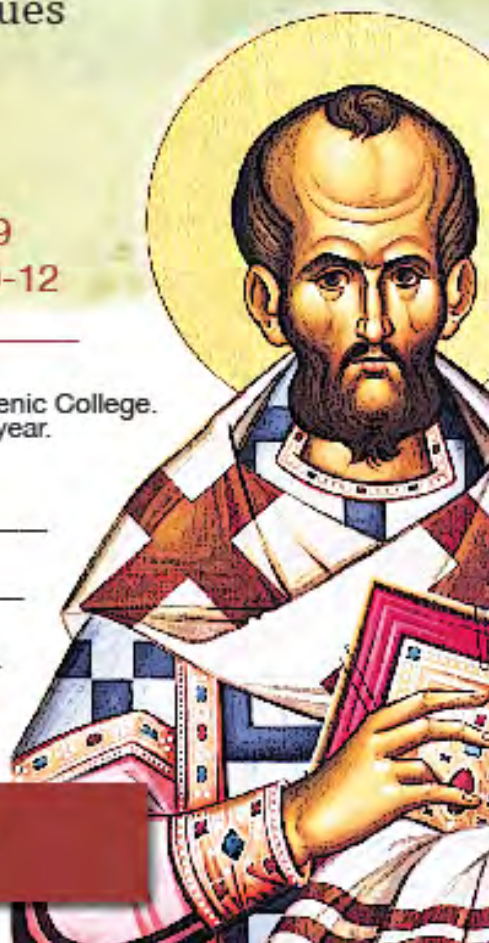
Parish Festival Date _____

Parish Chairperson _____

Contact Information _____

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a Ministry of the Department of Religious Education from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

Find the topics, rules, guidelines, and prize information at
www.goarch.org/oratorical





SWEET *Very Sweet* FOOD

Dance Groups Bake Sale

FUNDRAISER

Sunday December 8th & December 15th
During Coffee Hour
St. Nicholas Hellenic Center

All proceeds will go towards
Registration Costs
for our St. Nicholas Dancers at



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta
Hellenic Dance Festival




Invite your family & friends to enjoy a wonderful selection of heart-warming holiday music!
This is a fundraiser for HDF.
All donations are welcome.

Sign-up sheet available in the Hellenic Center
 or contact the Church office at: 910-392-4444
 to be added to the list.

Σας ευχομαστε
 Καλες Βορτες!

Sign up for
Christmas Caroling

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22ND
 Between 4 pm & 8 pm

Presented by the
St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church
Youth Groups

THE HEROIC RETURN OF FAMILY NIGHT!

FAMILY ASSEMBLE!

OCT 3 • NOV 7 • DEC 5 • JAN 2
FROM 6-8 PM | DINNER PROVIDED

JOIN US ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FOR OUR PARISH "FAMILY NIGHTS." THESE EVENINGS WILL RUN PROMPTLY FROM 6-8PM AND INCLUDE WORSHIP, FAMILY MEALS, AND FUN ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS FOR ALL AGES!

Celebrate with US!!!!

Chapter Therma Ikarian Brotherhood



Featuring - DJ John from Charlotte

Heavy Hors D'oeuvres, Music, Dancing, Raffle Prizes

Tuesday ~ December 31, 2019

Doors open at 8:30 p.m.

St. Nicholas Hellenic Center

For more information contact:

Kay Skandalakis (910) 762-1161 OR Koula Fragos (910) 530-4612

Seating will be limited so get your tickets early!

Advanced Ticket Sales will end on Dec 19th (Firm - no exceptions)

Presale Prices: Adults ~ \$25

Students (age 13 - 20) ~ \$20

Kids (age 12 and under) ~ \$10

Prices at the door: Adults ~ \$30

Students (age 13 - 20) ~ \$25

Kids (age 6-12) ~ \$15

Ages 5 and under FREE!!

Join us as we celebrate together!



****Beer, Wine and Soft Drinks will be sold at the BAR!****

Tickets go on sale November 24TH



Save the Dates

December 31 - 8:30 PM Ikarian sponsored New Years Eve Celebration

January 5: Theophany and Vasilopita Sunday

January 17 - 20: Hellenic Dance Festival in Orlando, Florida



June 15-19: Vacation Church School

JOIN THE FUN!

Home Blessings

During the days following the Feast of the Theophany, it is customary for Fr. Steven to visit the homes of his parishioners for the traditional Theophany Home Blessing.

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





Featuring a Special 75th Anniversary Honoring of
ALL THOSE BAPTIZED AT SAINT NICHOLAS
Please submit your name, date of service, and ONE photo from your baptism to:
FRAGOS.KOULA@GMAIL.COM



EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

20 ——— WILMINGTON, NC ——— 20

SATURDAY JANUARY 11, 2020

BLUEWATER WATERFRONT GRILL

4 Marina Street Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480

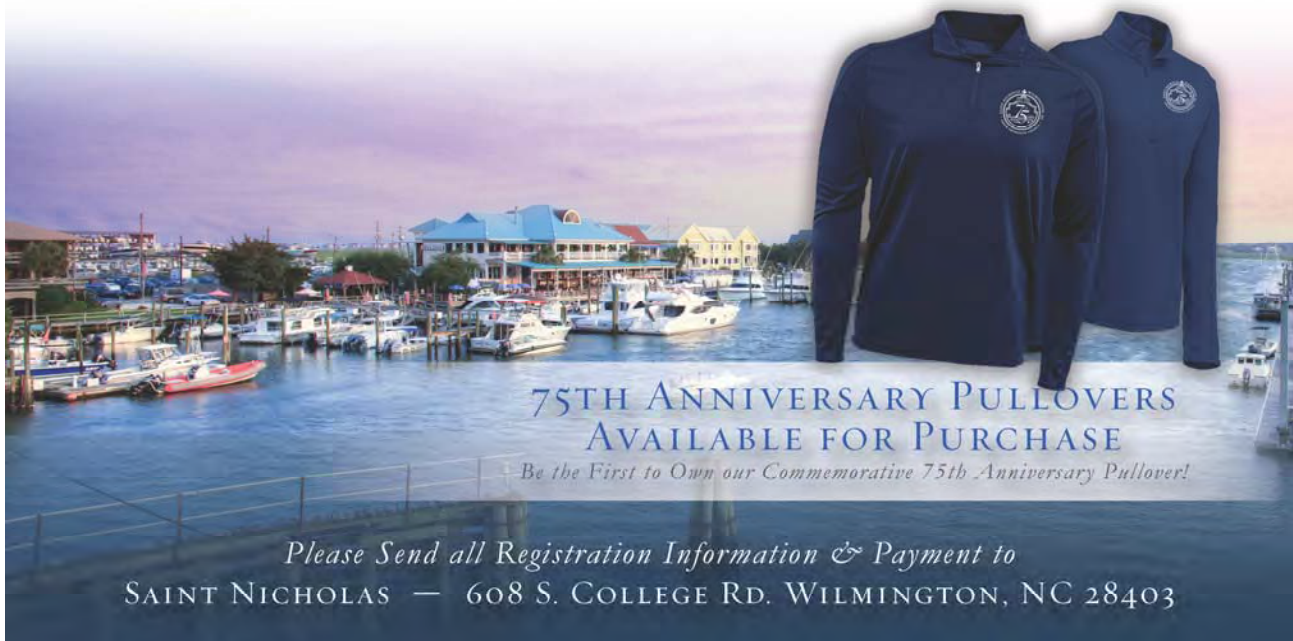
PROCESSION & CROSS DIVE EVENT – 11:00 AM
LUNCH RECEPTION (UPSTAIRS) – 11:30 AM

*Choice of Chicken Marsala, Seasonal Primavera,
or Popcorn Shrimp Plate with Fries (for kids).*

ADULTS – \$20 | DIVERS – \$20 | YOUTH \$12
Children 4 and under are Free

All GOYANs are Welcomed to Dive
**DIVERS MUST REGISTER BY
MONDAY, JANUARY 6**

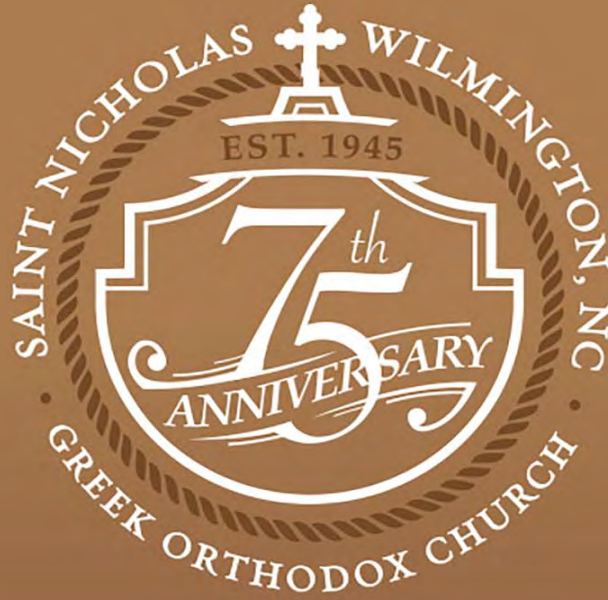
*Registration includes Lunch &
a Free 75th Anniversary Pullover*



**75TH ANNIVERSARY PULLOVERS
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

Be the First to Own our Commemorative 75th Anniversary Pullover!

Please Send all Registration Information & Payment to
SAINT NICHOLAS — 608 S. COLLEGE RD. WILMINGTON, NC 28403



Save the Date!

SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

75TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

"75 Years Established & Committed in Christ"

– Proverbs 16:3

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020

7:00 pm – Cocktail Reception

8:00 pm – Dinner & Dancing

THE HOTEL BALLAST

301 North Water Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

Maria Stasios
(910) 233-4011

- Inquiries -

Koula Katsikis
(910) 297-3141

Δεκέμβριος 2019 • December 2019

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 8:45AM Orthros & 10AM Divine Liturgy No Sunday School TODAY 11:15AM 40 Day Memorial Philoptochos Poinsettias order form DUE 12:00 PM Cross Dive meeting	2 7PM Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Pre-Election Meeting 7PM Parish Council Dinner at Johnny Luke's	3 6:30 PM Adult Dancing 6:30 PM City Invocation	4 <i>St. Barbara the Great Martyr</i> 9:30AM Divine Liturgy 10AM Synaxis Orthodox Discussion Group	5 6PM Hierarchal Vespers St. Nicholas the Wonderworker <i>6:30PM New St. Nicholas Icon Unveiling</i> 7:00 PM Philoptochos Sponsored Complimentary Reception	6 <i>St. Nicholas the Wonderworker</i> 9AM Orthros/ 10AM Divine Liturgy 4PM Greek School 7PM Basketball Practice	7 9AM Prosforo Baking Day (GOYA Invited)
8 <i>11th Sunday of Luke</i> 8:45AM Orthros & 10 AM Divine Liturgy 11AM Sunday School Youth Dance Fund-raising Bake Sale 1PM Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon at Boca Bay	9 <i>Conception of the Theotokos</i> 9:30AM Divine Liturgy 7PM Choir Rehearsal	10 11:45AM Forever Young Christmas Social Beau Rivage 6:30 PM Adult Dancing	11 10AM Synaxis Orthodox Discussion Group 5:30PM Zoyra Dance Practice	12 <i>St. Spyridon the Wonderworker</i> 9:30AM Divine Liturgy	13 4PM Greek School	14
15 <i>St. Elefterios</i> 8:45AM Orthros & 10AM Divine Liturgy 11AM Sunday School 12:30 Youth Dance Practice 1PM HOPE/JOY Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins	16 Newsletter Articles due to office 7PM Choir Rehearsal	17 <i>Daniel the Prophet & Three Youths</i> 9:30AM Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM Adult Dancing 7PM Festival Meeting	18 10AM Synaxis Orthodox Discussion Group 5:30PM Zoyra Dance Practice	19	20 NO GREEK SCHOOL TODAY	21 All Day Fellowship Hall Reserved
22 8:45AM Orthros & 10AM Divine Liturgy 11AM Sunday School 12:30 Youth Dance Practice 3PM Youth Dance Christmas Caroling Fundraiser	23 9AM Zoyra Dance Practice 7PM Choir Rehearsal	24 <i>Eve of the Nativity of our Lord</i> 9AM Royal Hours 6PM Vesporal Liturgy	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 9AM Othros 10AM Divine Liturgy	26	27 Winter Youth Rally (Atlanta Metropolis Event) Dec 27-30, 2019 NO GREEK SCHOOL TODAY	28
29 8:45AM Orthros & 10AM Divine Liturgy NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY	30 7PM Choir Rehearsal	31 8:30PM New Years Eve Dance Hosted by Chapter Therma Icarian Club				