



METROPOLIS
OF ATLANTA



January 2017



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

Fr. Jon Emanuelson
Parish Priest

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9AM – 2PM
Office Phone: 910-392-4444 Office Fax: 910-392-4905
Fr. Jon's Mobile Number: 910-685-0080

Office Email: office@stnicholaswilmington.org
Fr. Jon's Email: FrJon@stnicholaswilmington.org

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

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From the Desk of Father Jon

A Spiritual Bucket List

Let me say right up front that this list is **for ALL ages!** I want to start by thanking Stephanie Luther for coming to our Family Night on December 14th and sharing about the phenomenal service mission of Project Mexico. All in attendance came to know the blessing of serving God and the families in need. There are many Orthodox spiritual activities I could put on this list. The ones listed below have been in my heart to do for some time. May God bless us with the opportunity to serve Him for many years and in many capacities for the fields are already ripe for the harvest!

Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage (projectmexico.org)

This incredible missionary experience builds small homes for the poor in Rosarita, Mexico, south of San Diego, California. The participants also get time to minister to the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage. And here is the great part, we can join our sister church of St. Basil the Great for the July 21-27, 2017 build. All that is required is as follows:

1. The cost to the participant in a Project Mexico Home Building trip is \$540.00 USD per participant.
2. Participants under the age of 13 must be physically accompanied by their legal parent or guardian.
3. Group leaders must be 18 years of age or older.

Transportation to San Diego, California, renting a van, and having a current passport are all up to the participant. Meals and lodging are included. Spending money for extra souvenirs and food are up to you. If you want to go in 2017, please visit the website, download the application and send in a deposit of \$100.00 prior to January 31, 2017. You will also need to contact the team leader from St. Basil, Stephanie Luther, at Stephanie.luther96@gmail.com or 910-833-2143. This is a Pan-Orthodox mission under the Orthodox Assembly of Bishops.

OCF – Real Break (ocf.net/realbreak)

This is geared for college students to do something most worthy on Spring Break: serve the living God in our Orthodox Christian Church! And yes, like it sounds, this occurs on weeks when various universities schedule their spring break. The 2017 Real Break schedule is as follows:

Project Mexico	March 4-8, 2017
Alaska	March 11-18, 2017
Thessaloniki	March 10-18, 2017
Romania	March 10-18, 2017
Cleveland	March 13-16, 2017
Jerusalem	March 17-25, 2017
New Orleans	March 20-25, 2017

Each of these has fantastic opportunities to serve God. The cost and requirements vary according to location. Everyone I have spoken to that went on one of these has raved about the experience! Spaces are limited, so inquire soon.

OCMC – Mission Trip (ocmc.org)

The Orthodox Christian Mission Center specializes in arranging the experience of a lifetime. It is available to Orthodox adults of all ages! Being on mission team offers opportunities to teach, do outreach, youth work, build clinics and schools, and provide healthcare. True Story: There is a yiayia in Newport News, Virginia, who, after she lost her husband, God placed a desire in her heart to do mission work. She not only applied, but in her late 70's went to Africa! While there she worshipped and taught the local Orthodox, as well as those looking to join our church. She was most effective at teaching the women certain sewing and embroidery skills, that the women of the church multiplied!

There are mission trips for 2017 to Albania, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico and the United States. There are different costs and requirements for each mission trip and you may have to raise some funds. The missions vary in length of time as well, so plan ahead.

IOCC Internships (iocc.org)

The International Orthodox Christian Charities is known throughout the Orthodox world as one of the most

highly rated charitable organizations with almost 92% of the funds raised going directly to those in need! Angela Dentiste is our St. Nicholas IOCC representative. Please feel free to ask her about what IOCC does!

Please visit the website to see how you can volunteer locally or serve abroad. There are internships and careers available to Orthodox Christians. The reward of serving in this capacity are amazing.

Now, I believe the opportunities are here for everyone. Let's start planning today! I desire to participate in many mission trips. May God grant me restored health and strength to complete my spiritual bucket list!

Love always, Fr. Jon

Dear Faithful in Christ,
Below are listed all the services that will be offered to the glory of God
from our Lord's Nativity through Theophany.

Date	Time	Day	Service
12/23	8AM	Friday	Royal Hours for the Nativity
12/24	6PM	Saturday	Orthros/Liturgy for Saturday before Nativity
12/25	9AM	Sunday	Orthros/Liturgy for Nativity
1/1	8:30AM	Sunday	Orthros/Liturgy for St. Basil
1/5	8AM	Thursday	Royal Hours for Theophany
1/5	6PM	Thursday	Vespers-Liturgy+Blessing of Waters
1/6	8AM	Friday	Orthros/Liturgy for Theophany+Blessing
1/6	6PM	Friday	Great Vespers for St. John <i>in Myrtle Beach</i>
1/7	8AM	Saturday	Orthros/Liturgy for St. John
1/8	8:30AM	Sunday	Orthros/Liturgy Sunday after Theophany

Please join us for any and all services.

Christ is born! Glorify Him! Thanks be to God and all your prayers I am back serving our beloved St. Nicholas parish. I will be doing all the services for January 2017. I will be in the office some and doing pastoral visits. My strength is coming back. Please keep me in your prayers. I have one more surgery at the beginning of February. Fr. Regis will fill in for me for February, so I may recover. A big thank you to the Parish Council and all who stepped up during my health crisis. God bless you all.

Love, Fr. Jon Emanuelson

From the Parish Council President Barbara Reynolds

December was a very blessed and busy month for St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox church. We welcomed Fr. Jon back to church after his being out for over two months with a very serious illness. It was good to see both him and Presbytera Barbara back in church with us.

The Parish Council elections were held. Tina Bostic, Melissia Kirkby, Peter Malahias, Peter Manolukas, Barbara Reynolds, and Irene Sotiriou were elected to serve for the next two years. Evangelos Fragos, Manny Miliotis, Jack Poulos, Nick Saffo and Maria Stasios will continue to serve on the Parish Council as well.

The church got together on Saturday, December 3 to package meals at the Stop Hunger event. We collected over \$6300 and packaged over 23,000 meals. Stop Hunger Now packages and ships meals to feed people in need around the world.



We celebrated our beloved patron saint, St. Nicholas, in December with a Vespers service and meal and Orhros and Liturgy.



The children of our church put on a beautiful Christmas Pageant for the church

Our Youth went Christmas caroling and there were Christmas celebrations for the Forever Young and Philoptochos groups.

Most importantly we celebrated the birth of our Savior with beautiful church services on December 24 and 25th.

Liturgical Life

Dr. Michael Rallis

READERS, CHANTERS AND CHOIR SINGERS
A Gift and Duty

Compiled from:

<http://standrewlexington.org/choir/>, <http://www.stbarbarachurchnc.org/choir.html>,
<http://orthodoxinfo.com/praxis/dutiesofchoirsingers.aspx>, <http://www.antiochian.org/node/22680>

“The music of the Orthodox Church is Her evangelism, and the choir, Her primary evangelistic instrument. Sermons, church schools and Bible studies are important and good for Christian formation. But this is not how She draws near to the soul; it is through the depth of Her poetry as possessed in Her services. The fullness of Orthodox theology and preaching is expressed in hymnography. When sung within the context of worship, the words of Sts. Basil the Great, John Chrysostom, Ephrem the Syrian, John Damascene, and Romanos the Melodist give form to our experience with the visible and unseen worlds. After witnessing the beauty of Orthodox worship, the emissaries of Prince Vladimir returned from Constantinople to report, “We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth.”

This nearness [association] between heaven and earth, evoked in Orthodox worship, is not the musical “prettiness” found in the concert hall. Dostoevsky has said, “Beauty will save the world.” Through beauty, truth enters the heart and awakens our spiritual senses. It is the responsibility of the liturgical singers and chanters to convey, with all clarity and “sweetness,” the Beauty of God’s revelation to man, as extolled in the liturgical poetry of the Orthodox services. By not imposing the unique personalities of their individual voices or sounding forth above the company, the singers humbly strive to become one breath, one voice, allowing the redemptive words to take precedence over any necessity to be heard as separate singers. Thus, the liturgical voices are anonymously integrated into the rubrics of worship, so as not to disturb the prayer of the people but to carry their hearts, as it were, from earth to heaven. In this sense, Orthodox singing is prayer that assists the praying congregation. It is an aural icon which is both didactic (instructive) and pleasing (nourishment-giving) to the souls of the worshippers as they unite with the choir in the praise of the Holy Trinity.”

When we sing church hymns, we must be careful that we do not pronounce only the words with our tongues while our hearts wander elsewhere. - St. John Chrysostom

“Participating in divine worship services as a choir member is a sacred responsibility, not to be taken lightly. Choir members offer their God-given talents to the faith. It is a part of their stewardship – the giving of their time and talents. In Orthodox services, choir members represent and lead the laity, responding to the liturgical dialogue set by the priest. This places a sacred responsibility on them during our worship services. They are called to be knowledgeable not only of the hymns and responses, but also about the correct order of the worship services. The choir is entrusted to be a participating part of the worship service and lead the rest of the worshipers in song. Its members respond to that trust accordingly. Not all choir members are or need to be trained musicians, able to read music or have experience in singing with a group. However, with love and practice, all can grow in their knowledge of the music and create a sound that matches the beauty of our services and their surroundings – the music, the chanting, the icons, the vestments all strive to be as perfect and beautiful as possible as we offer up worship to God.”

On the Duties of a Choir Singer

Cursed is the man that doeth the work of the Lord carelessly. (Jer. 48:10)

You have begun to sing in the choir; therefore, you glorify the Lord in the image of the heavenly hosts, who ceaselessly sing praise to the glory of their Creator and Lord. How fortunate you are! But do you acknowledge the full sacredness and importance of this godly work, which incomparably more than any other work is worthy to be called godly work? If not, then it is not superfluous to remind you of the threatening and terrible words of the Prophet: Cursed is the man that doeth the work of the Lord carelessly (Jer. 48:10).

You see to what a terrible accountability those are liable who negligently and carelessly perform the work of serving God. The chanter (or singer) is the mouth of the Church, i.e., of the society of believers who are praying in church; while singing prayers and hymns, he pronounces them not only for himself, but in the name of all who are present in church, and as all who are praying pronounce their prayers through the mouths of the singers, these last also are the mouth of the Church. Chant unto our God (Ps. 46:7), the Holy Church invites them, but chant ye with understanding (Ps. 46:9). Consider and take heed: of Whom do you sing, to Whom do you pray, before Whom do you stand? You stand before the One before Whom the angelic ranks stand and walk with fear, covering their faces! You sing praises to the One of Whom all the heavenly powers ceaselessly proclaim: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth! Understand how high the work of the chanter is. Understand and admire the mercy of God, Who allows even earthly sinners to bring praise to Him!

This heavenly work is the work of an angel and not of a man having unclean lips, as the holy Prophet Isaiah expressed, having heard heavenly singing: Woe is me, for I am pricked to the heart; for being a man, and having unclean lips, I dwell in the midst of a people having unclean lips (Is. 6:5). And you, infirm, weak, and sinful, have been entrusted with such a great work. This talent which has been entrusted to you by the Lord, is a talent which you must bring forth and increase by employing it with understanding. With all humility and fear towards God say mentally to your soul: Behold, my soul, the Master entrusts thee with a talent: receive His gift with fear; and thou hast heard the condemnation of him who hid his talent, O my soul: hide not the word of God, but proclaim, sing of His glory, increase the gifts of grace entrusted to thee, and thou shalt enter into the joy of thy Lord (Stichera on Lord, I have cried and on Lauds, Great and Holy Tuesday).

The Lord is not slack concerning His promises (II Peter 3:9), (i.e., will not delay to fulfill them) to come again and exact an account from His slaves, whom He entrusted with His goods, His gifts and talents; take care, that you not hear the dreadful condemnation: Take from her My talent, which she didn't wish to bring forth with great labor, and cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness (cf. Matt. 25:28, 30).

The great labor of a chanter consists in this, that all the strengths which have been given to him from the Lord's talents he unremittently applies to the glorification of God. Sing to the glory of the name of God, sing not only with lips and voice, but sing with heart, sing with mind, soul, will, desire, zeal—with all your being. This is what it means to chant with understanding. The singing of the chanter passes over to the hearts of those who are praying; if the singing proceeds from the heart, it meets the heart of the listener and so influences him that it is able to rouse him to prayer, to incite reverence even in those minutes when the heart itself is distracted and hard. Often it happens that those who enter the church without any eagerness toward prayer, from compulsion or from propriety, begin to pray fervently and tearfully, and leave the church in quite another frame of mind, in a spirit of tender feeling and repentance. Such a revival is produced in them by the magnificent service and fine singing. And conversely, often it happens that those who enter the church with the intention to pray from the soul, to pour out before the Lord their sorrowful soul, when they hear scattered, careless singing and reading, themselves little by little become distracted, and instead of profit they find harm, they receive no consolation and, having been tempted by the conduct of the singers, involuntarily fall into the sin of condemnation. And as the Lord says about those who cause temptation: Woe to that man by whom the offence cometh; it would be better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea (cf. Matt. 18:6,7 and Luke 17:1,2). If such is the terrible judgment of the Lord against everyone who shall offend one of these little ones (Matt. 18:6 and Mark 9:42), i.e., those who believe, then do not chanters, and generally all those of a clerical office who cause temptation, deserve an even more terrible punishment, who by their vocation ought to serve as a good example for others, and not as a temptation?

And so fear lest through tempting behavior on the cliros, through careless singing and dispersed conduct, you pour the poison of temptation into the hearts of those who are praying, and so be subjected to the punishment promised to those who tempt! Fear to do the work of the Lord carelessly, in order not to hear that curse which is threatened accordingly! Strive with all your strength to concentrate attentively on the words which you pronounce; pronounce them in such a manner that they come from the depth of your soul, which is singing together with your lips. Then the sounds of the vivifying current of your hymn will pour into the souls of those who hear them, and these souls, being raised from the earthly to the heavenly, having laid aside all earthly care, will receive the King of Glory Who is borne in triumph by the Angelic Hosts. Will you believe my words if I tell you from the narratives of the Holy Fathers that not only the human soul can be softened and moved by good spiritual singing, but even animals, those speechless creatures, somehow instinctively bow before it? Have you ever chanced to read the life of the Athonite monk St. John Kukuzelis? There are mentioned the following two events from the life of this great singer. Once he was pasturing the monastery's herds of sheep and goats. (Having entered one of the Athonite desert monasteries, John hid his position in the imperial court, calling himself a simple shepherd, and thus was sent to pasture the monastery's herds in the desert.) While sitting near his flocks at pasture, John began to sing the divine songs he had formerly sung in the imperial choir. His melodious voice flowed in the open desert, and John surrendered his whole soul to the singing, resting in the thought that he was alone in the desert and no one was hearing him. Meanwhile, his sheep and goats left off grazing and surrounded their singing shepherd: as if holding their breath, they stood motionless before him, directing their eyes to him as though fascinated by his angelic singing [1]. Behold deeply spiritual singing, coming forth from the depths of the soul and conscious mind! It is able not only to inspire the rational soul and lift it towards its Creator, but to touch even speechless and irrational animals. Once, according to custom, John

sang the Akathist to the Mother of God together with other singers on the right cliros. After the vigil he sat down in a stall (a monks seat) in front of the icon before which they sang the Akathist, and being weary he slumbered lightly. Suddenly a gentle, sweet voice woke him with the words: Rejoice, O John! John jumped up; before him stood the Mother of God in the radiance of heavenly light. Sing and do not cease singing, she continued, and for this I will not forsake you! At these words the Mother of God placed in Johns hand a gold coin and became invisible.

Do you see of what great honors those zealous singers are thought worthy while still here on earth, who not only with their lips, but also with heart and mind sing of the Lord and His Most Pure Mother! Indeed, how will we avoid the just judgment of God for our listlessness and laziness and negligence, on account of which we willfully turn even the greatest gifts of God into our own property, which we dispose of as we want, according to our evil will and sinful habits. What a wonderful and great gift—the gift of a voice and the ability to sing! They were given to us for this, that with them we might both glorify the Lord ourselves, and incite others to do the same. And how often we turn these talents to our harm: becoming proud of them, we abase our neighbors who don't have them, we are idle in using them properly to the glory of God, and when we do, we do not use them in a fitting manner, nor as is required by the majesty of these gifts. May the Lord therefore give thee understanding (II Tim 2:7) to apprehend the height of your vocation in the office of singer in the chorus of the Heavenly King. Bring the gift as a sacrifice to its Giver, for what hast thou that thou didst not receive? (I Cor. 4:7). Are not all our talents and abilities from the all-generous God, and will He not require from us an account of their use?

Having arrived at the cliros and stood in your place, first of all cross yourself and bring to remembrance that you have come before the invisible face of the King of Glory, Whom at this very moment, as always and ceaselessly, all the heavenly hosts glorify, and that presently your feeble and insignificant voice must join this celestial praise. Impress this upon your consciousness, turn mentally to yourself and say to yourself, i.e., to all the powers of your soul: mind, thoughts, heart, will, zeal, and the rest: Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, and let us weep before the Lord Who made us! (Ps. 94:6).

The Lord will protect the good free-will actions of your heart, will give you His grace, will renew your powers, and, as the perfume of sweet-smelling incense, your singing will ascend before the Altar of the Most High. For strengthening and consolation remember more frequently the most sweet words of the Mother of God to her wonderful singer John: Sing and do not cease singing, and for this I will not forsake you! Believe and hope that the Most Holy Mother of God will not abandon you either in this extremely difficult world, nor in the future blessedness, where she will vouchsafe crowns of glory unto those who sing hymns of praise to her. Amen.

The Ministry of Church Singers

The following article is taken from the newsletter PSALM: Pan-Orthodox Society for the Advancement of Liturgical Music, Spring 1996, written by His Grace Bishop BASIL.

There are few ministries of the Church that require the devotion and the dedication that church singing does. You who lead the singing as well as you who follow the leader are precious gifts to your parishes. You are as important to the parish as is the holy table itself. As there can be no liturgy without the holy table, there can be no liturgy without you. This is not to compliment you or increase your pride, but rather to put a little fear and awe in you, so you know what your responsibilities are. Church singing is not a hobby. Being a choir director is not something one does for personal fulfillment. It is first and foremost a duty, a duty of those to whom God has given musical talents. It is sinful, in my opinion, for someone not to sing who has been given the gift to sing. Sinful! You join the angels, and do that which the angels do perpetually. That's not an interest, avocation, or a hobby; it is a duty. Angels were created to serve and to praise, and you have been given voices for that same purpose.

I love to remind our church singers of the fact that we physically jump into something that goes on perpetually. We jump in and join with the angels for a couple of hours, and then we jump back out. The liturgy does not begin with "Blessed is the Kingdom" and your "Amen," and it doesn't end with "Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers" and your "Amen." Those phrases only define the time that we participate in the liturgy which goes on perpetually before the throne of God. We've been told that singers should listen to each other for a good blend. The tenors should listen to each other, and then the tenors should listen to the sopranos. The sopranos ought to listen to the altos, etc., etc. That's fine for the street. For the church singer it is not the tenor, alto,

or soprano who stands next to you we need to listen to, but the angels who lead us in our singing. Those are the voices we need to hear and with which we blend our voices. What can sound beautiful to us can sound like cacophony at the throne of God, if we are not singing with the angels.

St. John Chrysostom tells us that while the priesthood is something that takes place here on earth, and is an ordinance established here on earth, yet it is something that is super-heaven, because the priest and the deacon do that which angels dare not do. The angels stand in awe, not at the priest or bishop or deacon, but at what they've been permitted to do by God's grace. If John Chrysostom wrote a book on choirs, as he did on the priesthood, I'm sure he would say that while being a choir member, cantor, or reader is something earthly, it is also something heavenly. That the angels stand there, perhaps not in awe, but at least with a little bit of jealousy, because you who are flesh and blood have been called upon to serve in the same ministry that they have been created for.

It's a holiness. It's not your ministry. It's a ministry that belongs to the Church, and you respond to the call as well as recognize that the gift which you specifically fulfill in the church was, traditionally, and in some sense still is, an ordained ministry. The choir was not some club that existed in Church for those with some particular musical talent. To be a church singer was an ordained office within the Church. Canon 15, from the Council of Nicea, the Council of the 4th century, makes its point clear that only canonical singers should be appointed for that kind of ministry in the Church. That means "one set apart" for that particular ministry. Today we might call them Readers. While I'm not saying that every choir member must be a tonsured Reader, I do say that if we fulfill at least the spirit, if not the law of the Canon, that each choir member ought to see his/her participation in the choir as seriously as the ordained clergy take their ministry. I don't know any priest who thinks that he can say on some Sunday, "I don't want to serve because I want to sit with my wife," or, "I don't feel like serving today," or, "I'm angry, one of the altar boys offended me, so I don't want to serve this morning."

As seriously as the ordained clergy need to take their ordination, so you ought to as church singers. Canonically, they are an order of the Church, to begin with. I'm not proposing that we fulfill the letter of the law by having you all ordained, but I think we ought to at least incarnate the spirit of the law, which implies a great responsibility, a great sense of duty and a privilege that is given to him or her as a church singer. This, then, should create in all of us, whether or not we are ordained clergy, a real sense of humility. We should give thanks that God has been pleased to call us who were created from the dust of this earth to participate in the heavenly liturgy and to offer up praises with His angels to join the perpetual hymn of "Holy, holy, holy."

We jump in and we jump out. Some of us jump in on time and some of us jump in a little bit late. In my opinion, being in church for that first "Amen" is a sign, an indication of one's humility. And where humility is, indeed, a virtue, its opposite is a sin. The sin is not disturbing other people. The other people in the church are not the object of our worship. It is rude, but not necessarily sinful, to disturb other people. But it is sinful to be presumptuous and prideful that one can jump in and sing with thousands of archangels and ten-thousands of angels at one's own whim. "This Sunday I feel like singing, and next Sunday I won't sing. I want to sit with my wife." Leave that Hallmark—card kind of sentimentality for restaurants, concerts, and cinemas. You sing with angels, that's secondary to sitting with any husband or wife or children. We stand before the throne of God, and when we realize that, every other consideration, all of our own personal likes and dislikes, become secondary. I'm giving my opinion now, and hopefully it humbles all of us. It's a humiliation, that in its end, should be something that elevates us, that exalts us, something that gives us wing.

Now, I would like to share with you some of the writings of the Fathers of the Church, and some homilies on the canons about chanting in Church.

The choir leads the congregation in prayer. The invitation to prayer is put out by the deacon or archdeacon. The deacon invites prayer, but the choir leads the congregation in the prayer itself. First I will share the words of St. Meletios the Confessor. He says: "Prayer with musical chants and melodies, loudly voiced tumult and shouting is heard by men; but before God our Maker, the prayer which proceeds from a man's conscience and God-imbued intellect stands before God as a welcome guest, while the former is cast out."

There are choirs which make "loudly voiced tumult and shouting." Yet I do not wish to imply, and I know that St. Meletios does not imply, that aesthetic beauty is the only criterion for chanting. ... You and your choir need be as aesthetically perfect as you are able. God not only expects, but He accepts only our best. If your best sounds like "a loudly voiced tumult and shouting." but it is indeed your best, then God hears you, and St.

George does too.

Here is a quote from St. Anatoloy Zertsaley of Optina, written to a new choir member: "The fact that you have started to chant is not important. The roosters out on the farm sing like anything. They will drown you out right away. But you are not a rooster, and you are not a hen. You have to remember that your singing should not be like that of a rooster, but like that of angels, that is done, with humility, fear, ardent love, and self-reproach. Such is true and God-pleasing chanting. But the vainglorious kind, designed to please not God but men, is worse than those of roosters. And this is precisely what you did not specify for me, that is, whom did you come closer to in imitating, when you chant, the angels or a hen?"

St. Simon the founder of Simones Petras Monastery on Mt. Athos says that "at the church services we should chant with solemnity and devoutness, and not with disorderly vociferation." And St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain counsels us, saying, "The psalmody which takes place in the church is an entreaty to God. Now he who makes an entreaty and prays must be in a state of humility and contrition. Whereas an unduly loud voice manifests audacity and irreverence. One of the techniques that many chanters and choirs use is attempting to interpret to the congregation what the text means. Very loud at one point and very soft at another point, then slow, then fast. That is as artificial as controlling the emotions of those who stand in our churches by dimming the lights or turning them on bright. Your task is to sing, not to interpret. The Holy Spirit is the One who will lead us into the knowledge of all truth, not the choir director or the chanter. Again, he who prays must be in a state of humility of contrition."

According to Saint Nikodemos, a sign of humility and contrition is that one does not chant or pray with an "unduly loud voice" interpreting the text. He says, "Chanters should psalmodize in a reverent and orderly manner, with fear of God and piety and contrition."

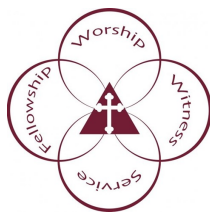
"Pray gently and calmly. Sing with understanding and rhythm. Then you will soar like a young eagle, high in the heavens," wrote St. Evagrius.

"He, the church singer, should chant without hurrying and without dragging, and he should pronounce the words clearly and distinctly. He should chant simply and reverently in a monotone, without expressing his feelings by modulations and changes of voice. Let us leave the holy prayers to act on the listeners by their own spiritual power. The desire to convey to the bystanders one's own feelings is a sign of vanity and pride."

St. Ignatius Brianchaninov continues, "The singing should be begun and ended all together. Moreover, the hands should not be waved in a distracting manner." You should not do in the choir loft or the choir area, that which you would not do in the sanctuary. "The hands should not be waved in a distracting manner, and on no account should there be any moving around. The members should go in order quietly, one after the other, without pushing or hurrying one another."

St. Elias the Presbyter counsels us, saying, "When through continuous prayer the words of the psalms and hymns are brought down into the heart, then the heart like good soil begins to produce by itself, various flowers: roses, the vision of the incorporeal realities; lilies, the luminosity of corporeal realities; and violets, the many judgments of God, difficult to understand." There are the gifts, the graces that come to the church singer who sings with humility and contrition, who leaves aside his or her own personality and idiosyncrasies.

If indeed we are singing with the angels, listening to their voices and melodizing with them, then we know that the responsibility for conveying the import of the text does not rest upon our shoulders at all. That is not to say that we can mumble. The Fathers that we have heard say that we should chant with understanding, distinctly and clearly. But we do that because we wish to show respect to the text, not because we are trying to tell the congregation what the hymn is about. We are not there in positions of teachers, the Church says. We show respect to the text, not to the hearer. Our first concern is the text, the holiness of the words themselves. And if we do that the hearers will hear. They will be given all the tools necessary to understand the mysteries which are encompassed in the holiness of the text. And yes, the words are holy. And the sheets of paper that have music on them are holy, just as holy as a paper icon. Words have power. And "The Word" is the title given to the Son of God Himself. The words and the music both have power. They have a holiness. The spoken word is a gift given to us, and given to none of God's other creatures. And it is a gift that we must perfect, the gift of speech, the gift of communication, and the gift of music. It is a gift that we perfect and offer back to God as a spotless sacrifice and a pure offering, to our God who gave us the gift of words and music to begin with.

Treasurer's Report*Tina Bostic*

Data through November 2016:

Operating Income/Expenses			
	Income	Expenses	Variance
Nov	\$27,877.00	\$39,380.86	\$(11,503.86)
YTD	\$321,711.12	\$304,020.66	\$17,690.46

Stewardship			
	stewardship received	stewardship goal	Variance
Nov	\$19,783.86	\$21,847.36	\$(2,063.50)
YTD	\$255,869.05	\$240,320.96	\$15,548.09

Thank you to all who have contributed to St. Nicholas. We are closing out the year and should be able to meet our Stewardship goal of \$262,168.32.

We have received over 50 stewardship commitment cards for 2017 and want to continue to encourage all to mail them back to the church.

Stewardship*Debra Rallis*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
Offer Your Time, Talents and Treasure

Many thanks to our Stewardship speakers this year: Nicholas Patitsas, Maria Fernandez and Tia Saffo! We are grateful to you for the beautiful, inspiring words you shared with your St. Nicholas family!

Thank you to our parishioners who have turned in their 2017 Stewardship Commitment forms.

Sharing your Time & Talent is a wonderful gift of love to your church. It doesn't matter if it's daily, weekly, monthly or annually. It takes an entire congregation to fulfill Christ's ministry!

To get engaged in ministry life, please complete a Time & Talent form and submit it to the office.

"....let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ, Our God..."

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Forever Young*Stella Vallianos*

A wonderful time was had by all at the Annual Christmas Social hosted by Kay Skandalakis, in memory of her mother, Angeline Saffo.

**HOPE/JOY**

*Joyce Patsalos, Sophia Brewer,
Jaime Saffo & Renée Karonis Psilos*

Joy/Hope would like to thank everyone that donated to our Salvation Army Angel Tree project this year. With your donations, we sponsored several children and provided them clothes, shoes, books, and gifts on their wish list, hopefully making their Christmas merrier and bright! We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

LOVE*Angelique Skandalakis and Kay Skandalakis*

I hope all of our LOVE families had a Merry Christmas and a happy new year! This month we will be having a mom's lunch out on January 21st at 1PM. The restaurant has not been determined yet, but I will notify everyone closer to the date. If you have a child that is up to age 5 and you are not a member of LOVE (Living Orthodoxy Very Early), please e-mail me at skandalakis20@gmail.com and I will add you to our list. We would love to see this group grow! February we will take the kids painting, so stay tuned for more information about that.

Speaking of growing, LOVE will need a new advisor for 2017-2018. After I get married in June (yay), Mia and I will be moving to Georgia to be with my husband. There can even be co-chairs for LOVE, which would be nice. If you are interested in heading up LOVE, please e-mail me at the address above.

Thank you all for being a part of this great group!

Hellenic School*Anestis Logothetis*

The Greek School children and adults finished classes on December 16 and will start again on January 6, 2017. The classes range from kindergarten all the way to kids in middle school as well as to adults.

On December 20 the older Greek School kids sang Greek Carols for the residents of the AHEPA HOUSE during their Christmas Dinner. The meal was prepared by Chris's Restaurant and hosted by the local AHEPA chapter. It was a very festive occasion and greatly appreciated by the residents.

For the Three Hierarchs Day on to be celebrated on January 29, the speaker will be George Stephanou. We all know George who has been a recent member of our community and he is also a chanter and a member of the choir.

The Greek School/AHEPA St. Valentine's Dance will take place on Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Hellenic Center. The well liked Paschalis orchestra will be playing again Greek and American dance music. These dances have been a lot of fun and the people who have attended in the past had a wonderful time. There will be good food, good wine, good desserts and good fellowship. There will also be a raffle with all sorts of goodies. By attending the Dance you will not only enjoy yourselves but you will also help the Greek School

and the AHEPA charitable activities. We hope that the Greek Community will support us as it has done it in the past.

Community News**BOOK REVIEW**

*The Ascetic Lives of Mothers,
a Prayer Book for Orthodox Moms*

By Annalisa Boyd

Review by Debra Rallis

Motherhood is a marathon we run. There are good running days and bad running days. With the Lord as our focus, we press on with perseverance the race set before us!

This prayer book offers a wide selection of prayers mothers can use to intercede for our families. There are morning, midday, and evening prayers. There are prayers seeking "the Virtues" There are prayers for the sick, confession prayers, prayers of blessing and thanksgiving. There are prayers that track the stages of motherhood from first-time mothers to prayers of a grandmother.

The following prayers are examples of the beautiful prayers you will find in this lovely book:

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, who came into this world not to be served but to serve and to give Your life as a ransom for many: Help me, I beseech You, in my ministry of caring for the children You have given me. Enable me to be patient in tribulations, to instruct with a meek and gentle spirit, to reprimand with inner tranquility and a sober mind, and to serve in humility of heart with love. May I thus live in You alone, by You alone, and for You alone, showing forth Your virtues and leading my family on the path of Your saving commandments, that we may glorify You, together with Your unoriginate Father and Your all-holy and life-giving Spirit, both in this world and that which is to come. Amen.

Dearest Lord Jesus, show me how to be a loving mother to my children. You know the desire of my heart is to mother my children in a way that will draw them to You. Forgive my shortcomings and help me not to sink into despair, but to rise up in faith with the knowledge that Your holy power is strong enough to sustain me and guide me to be the mother my children need. Help me to be slow to speak, quick to listen, and quick to forgive my chil-

dren of their faults. Grant me Your vision for my children that I may know how to train, encourage, and pray for them. For You are holy, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



We need to be gentle with ourselves, dear mothers, and embrace the life of joy, sorrow, repentance and humility we are called to as mothers and followers of Christ.



Volunteers pictured during SHN Event.

STOP HUNGER NOW

Co-Chairs Jimmie Stasios and Irene Sotiriou

Dear Fellow SHN Parishioners:

Thank you for your personal, financial contributions for our Parish's STOP HUNGER NOW fundraising campaign. Together with the Ladies Philoptochos' \$1,000 donation, DaVita HealthCare Partner's Foundation's \$1,000 Grant, and \$470 from a matching site sponsored by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, we exceeded our goal of packaging 20,000 meals. Total funds collected during our campaign were \$7,785, so we exceeded our original goal of \$5,888.16!

With your help and support we packaged in excess of 23,500 meals during the December 3rd SHN meal-packaging event!. Thank you very much for your help and support.



Co-Chairs Presenting Check to SHN Representative



Volunteers of all ages came to help at the Annual Stop Hunger Now Event hosted by St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church on December 3, 2016.

WITH GRATITUDE*Annual Sunday School Christmas Program*

Thank you so much to all of the volunteers who donated their time, treasure & talent to make this year's Sunday School Christmas Program a wonderful event. And thank you to all of the Parents, Actors, and Guests who braved Wilmington "Rush Hour" traffic to make it to the festive evening.



Griffin Ronner with Santa

The Program could not have taken place without everyone; however, we would especially like to say **THANK YOU** to a few volunteers whose contributions were extraordinary. To Kay Skandalakis who not only set up, cleaned up, and was an overall support to all, she also made sure everyone was served their food at the delicious dinner after the Christmas Play. To Alexandros Theodoropoulos whose expertise with the sound system let all our children's voices be heard. To Courtney Malahias who made sure the Man in the Red Suit was ready for a night of list checking and

more! To Fr. Jon who blessed our event and reminded us that our Lord is ever present for every gift from above. And finally to Renée Karonis Psilos and Stella McTaggart for bringing "Something Big" to our little stage.

Humanity Now

Jennifer Maraveyas visited us on November 27 to share the film "4.1 Miles" (www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000004674545/41-miles.html) with us and to tell us about the work that a small team from Wilmington is doing in Greece to help with the terrible refugee situation there. We passed a second tray on Sunday, December 11 to support this team, Humanity Now. Jennifer will be traveling to Greece in January with several other women to help the refugees where help is most needed. Every dollar donated will go directly to help the refugees. They pay their own way to Greece and their expenses. Their efforts also support Greece as goods to help the refugees are purchased there. Thus their efforts support the refugees that have risked their lives to gain freedom and Greece who is bearing the biggest burden of the refugee situation. Thank you to all of those who donated and if you would still like to, please donate cash or write a check to Jennifer Maraveyas.

Christmas 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!!

Parish Council

We would like to thank Debra Rallis for her eight years of service on the Parish Council!! Thank you Debbie for all of your hard work to grow and strengthen our Community!

Philoptochos*Enosis Chapter #5027**Tia Saffo*

Christ is Born! Glorify Him! We had a lovely time at our Christmas Social on December 17. Thank you, to all those who supported our diaper drive and the Diaper Bank of North Carolina.

Thank you to everyone who also supported our Christmas gift drive for homeless teens. We were able to provide 6 families (a total of 16 children) much needed clothing and toiletry supplies. Thank you for the outpouring of love for these children.

*Gifts for Homeless Teens
in pictures.*



Philoptochos has started our 2017 membership drive. Please see a board member after church to get a yellow pledge card. From your dues, we pay \$22 per member to National and Metropolis level Philoptochos, but any amount that you give us over \$22, goes directly to support our charitable work here at St Nicholas.

Please remember that our Vasilopita Live Auction is Sunday, January 8. If you are able to bake a Vasilopita cake or bread for our event, please bring it wrapped and/or decorated. We greatly appreciated all your support to make this event a success. Proceeds will support our parish benevolent fund and the St Basil's Academy. A special thank you to Louis Batuyios who is once again our auctioneer.

Wishing you all a very Happy, Healthy New Year!

FOR SALE

We have 5 lb. boxes of frozen Gyro Meat available for sale. They are \$25. To purchase, contact Doug or Argie Brown at 910-233-8816.

We have Greek beer and wine for sale. A case of Mythos Beer (24 bottles) is \$36. Various bottled wines are \$12 and the larger bottles are \$20. Please see Angelique Skandalakis or a Parish Council member to purchase. All checks to be made out to St Nicholas Greek Festival with the memo stating "TAVERN."

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."

***NEW

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE GREEK COOKBOOK

Our local Daughters of Penelope Chapter still has copies of their famous Greek Cookbook, "A Greek Feast", available for purchase. They are only \$10.00 and will make a great gift for family, friends, neighbors and/or co-workers for any occasion. As many of you already know this cookbook has an invaluable collection of Greek recipes and it was also a favorite project of our late parishioner Georgia Macris. The cookbooks are available for purchase in the St. Nicholas Parish Bookstore. Thank you for your consideration.

MAINTENANCE

If anyone sees any maintenance items needing repair at the church please contact Angelique in the office so that we may have the items repaired. Additionally if anyone has the talent or capacity to make any repairs, please leave your name and contact information with Angelique. Thank you.

DONATION REQUESTS
TIME, TALENT, OR TREASURE

We are in need of some Prosforo for Services & Liturgies. If you would like to make some, please bring it to Angelique in the office. Thank you.

We are in need of incense for the altar. If you would like to donate some, please contact our church office.

We are in need of some Commandaria wine for the altar. It is available for purchases at Greek stores in Raleigh, Charlotte, or online. Please see our church office if you would like to donate some.

We are looking for a handyman (or woman) to volunteer to help with minor repairs around the church.

We are accepting donations as we continue to improve our Hellenic Center. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Please donate all weekly coupons from newspapers & ads to the Hellenic Center. These coupons will be used to help our parishioners save money on products. For more information, please see Benjalee Pittman.

We are looking for volunteers to host coffee hour. If you are interested in hosting coffee hour please contact Angelique Skandalakis in our church office. For the weeks when we do not have a volunteer, we will still have coffee and juice.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please continue to pray for those who are ill, recovering, and/or homebound: Presbyter Barbara and Fr. Jon Emanuelson, Bobby Bobon (Brother of Sue Lawler), Stavros Chantiles, Sophia Copes, Sherry Demas, Nicholas Devoles, Constantine Dukas, Sue Fokakis (Silver Stream), George Fokakis (Pacifica nursing home), Demitra George, Nick Karloutsos (Silver Stream), Angelos Katris, Dan Kirkby (brother of Matthew), Nikolaos Kotsinis, Manny Lionikis, Olga Mancuso, John Manolukas, Calvin McGowan, John Petrolis, Stamati Poulos (nephew of Olympia Fragos), Claire Skarpentzos, Pat Skinner-Darby, Charity Skinner-Darby (daughter of Pat), Tom Souflas, John & Olympia Stamboulis, Vasilios Vogiatzis.

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

Congratulations

For all the people celebrating their birthday, anniversary, and name day in the month of January, may you have many happy years. Many Happy Years!

We offer our congratulations to Aimee and Josh Tracy on the birth of their daughter, Elena Sophia, on December 14. Proud grandparents are Sophie Fragos Tracy and Ernie Tracy. Να σας ζήσει!

Sympathies and Memorials

On November 27 we held a one year memorial for Eftemia Vallas, sister of Thalia Kefalas. May her memory be eternal!

On December 4 we held a memorial for John (4 years) and Mary (3 years) Alexoudis, parents of Fr. Regis John Alexoudis. May their memories be eternal!

On December 11 we held a 4 year memorial for Eleni Vogiatzis, wife of Anastasios and mother of Yiannis and Vasilios. May her memory be eternal.



Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

The Beautiful Poinsettias seen in Church during Advent through Theophany were donated by:

Rev. Fr Regis John Alexoudis & Family

In Memory of John & Mary Alexoudis

John & Kathleen Anagnost

In Memory of Vasili & Sophia Anagnost

In Memory of Peter & Dorothy Gelczis Jewell

Louis and Roula Andrews

*In Memory of our Parents: Simeon, Anthoula,
Andoni and Argentou*

Evelyn & Angelo Angeledes

In Memory of the Angeledes & Apostolides Families

Nadine and Louis Batuyios & Family

In Memory of Grandparents Batuyios & Frimenko

Michael, Tina, Niko & Lucas Bostic

In Memory of Theotoki & Panagiota Mavroidis

Gregory & Kim Dandulakis & Family

In Honor of Maria Dandulakis

Iffie & son John Diakogiannis

In Memory of Zacharias Diakogiannis

In Memory of Iordanis Stefanidis

Pete and Kathy Dimopoulos and Family

*In Memory of Panagiotis Lymperakis &
Maria & Vasilios Dimopoulos*

Helen and Larry Flowers

In Honor of Fr Jon & Presvytera Barbara

In Memory of Evelyn & Chris Stasios

In Memory of Jerry Barkas

In Memory of Artemis & Nicholas Koutroulia

Argie and John Franck

In Memory of Patricia & Robert Franck

Evangelos & Olympia Fragos

In Memory of John & Koula Fragos

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

Isaac, Soteria, Eleni & Helen Georgiadis

In Memory of Paul Georgiadis

The Gill Family

In Honor of my mother, Mable Demis

John and Betsy Grinnell

In Memory of Debra Stupenos Tzouvelekas

In Memory of John Robert Grinnell, Sr.

In Memory of Elizabeth Kline Grinnell

Pamela Hale

*In Memory of Harry Hale, Teddy &
Mary Mavros*

Tony & Maro Karafas

In Memory of George, Angeliki & Olga Karafas

Joanne Kares

In Memory of Evelyn Stasios

In Memory of Helen & Chris Kares

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

Matthew & Melissa Kirkby

In Memory of Victor & Ethel Melts

Dr. Emmanuel & Lambryne Koklanaris

In Honor of our Children & Grandchildren

Mike & Theodora Loizides

In Memory of Stavros, Efrosini & Nick Pantazis

Spiro Macris & Mary Macris Swansbrough

*In Memory of Georgia Macris, James,
Fani & Billy Macris*

In Memory of John Macris

Ed & Kathleen Mayorga

In Honor of Sia Mayorga & Family



Sayed, Gabriel & Zoe Mayorga

In Honor of Ed and Kathleen Mayorga

In Memory of Themos Sapounas

Nanette L. Musselwhite

In Memory of James E. Wall

Maria Papakidis

In Memory of Harry Papakidis

In Memory of Theresa Gabriele

In Memory of Saverio Gabriele

Lambros & Niki Papanicolaou

In Memory of Marianthi Lazos & Vasili Papanicolaou

Stella Pappas & Penny Wright

In Memory of Nicholas Futris

Bette Parrett

In Memory of Harry Fronista

Demetrios & Anna Patsalos

In Honor of Nick Patsalos & Family

Dena Poulos

*In Memory of Panteli, Zanis & Koula Poulos & Ekaterini
& Angelis Haralambous*

Koula K. Poulos & Argie

In Memory of Elizabeth & Stamatis Koutsouflaki

Michael & Debra Rallis

In Memory of Nicholas Bakalis and

George & Dalton Rallis

Doky & Despina Saffo

In Memory of Elias Tripodes

Marian Saffo

In Memory of Matthew Z. Saffo

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 and Bob Schaefer

In Memory of Our Deceased Family Members

Daphne & David Snow & Family

In Memory of Georgia Meimaridis &

Robert, Elizabeth and Matthew Snow

In Honor of George Meimaridis

Kay Skandalakis, Angelique, Mia & Joanna

In Memory of Bill and Angeline Saffo

Thomas Souflas and Family

In Memory of Linda Souflas

Steve & Constantina Stamatakis

In Memory of Michael & Maria Stamatakis

Jim & Maria Stasios

In Memory of Victor and Ethel Melts &

Evelyn and 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

The Theodoropoulos Family

In Memory of Louis Pappamihel &

Annivas Theodoropoulos

Renee Theophilos & Family

In Memory of Plato Theophilos

In Memory of Helen Psillas

The Tracy Family

In Memory of John and Koula Fragos

Stella Vallianos

In Memory of Maria and Themistocles &

Spyros and Rodomanthe

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 Parents – Steven & Irene Karafas

Mary Ann Wall

*In Honor of My Children, Grandchildren & Great Grand-
children*

Sam & Kitsa Wiersteiner

In Memory of Elizabeth & Richard Wiersteiner,

*Conrad Wiersteiner, Kleanthis and Gesthemani Adamides
and George Adamides*

Zoyra & Romiosini Dancers

In Memory of Nota Dukas



Please Join us...

Pan-Ikarian Brotherhood

Chapter Therma #10

Scholarship Pastitsio Luncheon

(Pastitsio, Greek Style Green Beans, Salad, Roll, Drinks - Penne Pasta for Kids)

When:

Sunday ~ January 22, 2017

Immediately Following Liturgy

Where:

St. Nicholas Hellenic Center

Tickets:

\$10.00 per plate

\$5.00 Children 2 - 12 and free for 2 & under

All proceeds benefit the Ikarian Scholarship fund

Also watch video prepared by parishioners highlighting
the Church at 2nd & Orange 1900 - 1980s

For additional information contact Vangelis Tragos or Peter Malafias



Vacation Church School FUN!

Parents of

Elementary Students

Save The Date:

June 19-23, 2017

9-12 noon each day

For more information
contact Fr. Jon or Stella

McTaggart

**Learn the Divine Liturgy of
Saint John Chrysostom
during your
Summer Vacation**

Calling ALL Volunteers

to donate their TIME

We need YOUR help!

This include

High School Students,

Forever Young Members &

anyone else.

Please come to an information meeting on

January 11, 2016, 12 noon at Church

Vacation Church School



Parish Calendar January 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Circumcision of Christ</i> <i>New Year's Day</i> 8:30AM Orthros/Liturgy +New Year Doxology	2 <div>FAST</div>	3 <div>FAST</div> 11AM Forever Young 7PM Parish Council meeting	4 <div>FAST</div> 10AM Women's Bible Study	5 <i>Eve of Theophany</i> 8AM Royal Hours 6PM Vespers/Liturgy +Blessing of Waters	6 <div>FAST</div> <i>Theophany</i> 8AM Orthros/Liturgy +Blessing of Waters 5PM Hellenic School 6PM Great Vespers in Myrtle Beach	7 <i>Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner</i> 8AM Orthros/Liturgy
8 <i>Sunday after Theophany</i> <i>Fastlopita Sunday</i> 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy	9 6PM Philoptochos board meeting	10	11 10AM Women's Bible Study 12PM VCS volunteer information meeting	12	13 5PM Hellenic School	14
15 <i>12th Sunday of Luke</i> 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day-office closed</i>	17	18 10AM Women's Bible Study 6PM Parish Family Night	19	20 5PM Hellenic School	21
22 <i>14th Sunday of Luke</i> 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy	23	24	25 10AM Women's Bible Study 6PM Parish Family Night	26	27 5PM Hellenic School	28 3PM Hope/Joy bowling
29 <i>Sunday of the Canaanite</i> 8:30AM Orthros 10AM Liturgy 12PM Three Hierarchs Presentation 6PM St. Basil the Great Feast Day at SBTG	30 <i>Holy Three Hierarchs</i> 9AM 9th Hour/Liturgy at St. Basil	31 7PM CoM meeting				Fasting: + Strict fast X Wine/oil Allowed Fish Allowed <div>FAST</div> <div>FAST</div> Fast Free

For a complete and up-to-date version of our Parish Calendar, please visit us online at:

<http://www.stnicholaswilmington.org/ParishCalendar.html>

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

608 S. College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403

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