

# ST. NICHOLAS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2024

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
4967 FOREST PARK AVENUE  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108

ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY LIFE CENTER  
12550 S. FORTY DRIVE  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63141



Proistamenos: Fr. Douglas Pappas  
(314) 974-4613

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Arbanas  
(314) 425-9641

Church/FLC Office: (314) 361-6924

Office Administrator: Lisa Danko  
Financial Secretary: Linda Nicozisin

Email: [stnicholas@sngoc.org](mailto:stnicholas@sngoc.org)

Website: [www.sngoc.org](http://www.sngoc.org)



We have an extended Spring this year. The weather got us off to an early start, with many of our flowers poking their heads out and blooming in February. Meanwhile the calendar has given us Pascha on May 5 -- almost as late as it can fall (May 8 is the latest date possible).

This means that all of April this year is a time of spiritual effort as we prepare ourselves for the Resurrection. The springtime flowers, young birds and even the sunnier days should be a foretaste for us of the sense of new life in Christ that we celebrate at Easter.

We need this encouragement because Lent is difficult work. We're called to struggle with our most deep-seated and selfish impulses through increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving, recognizing that none of this effort would bear fruit without God's mercy and help.

To help us in this difficult Lenten effort, the Church gives us another form of support – the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. We have this extra opportunity in the middle of the week to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, to give us strength on our journey and encouragement in our struggles.

It is called "Pre-sanctified" because the Eucharist is consecrated at the previous Divine Liturgy, rather than at this evening service. In keeping with the character of Lent, the service is more solemn than our Sunday worship, and the prayers are quite moving. It's customary to fast from all food and drink before receiving Communion – either all day, after breakfast or – at the very least – after lunch.

Our church has the wonderful custom of sharing a Lenten meal after the service, hosted each week by a different parish group. We pray that all our parishioners will take advantage of this beautiful way to deepen their Lenten experience and therefore heighten their joy in the Resurrection.

**St. Nicholas Servants**

**2024 PARISH COUNCIL**

Carol Kamburis- President  
 Helen Carey- Vice President  
 Deb Palazzola-Secretary  
 George Ellis, DDS-Treasurer  
 Christina Stamelos-Assistant Treasurer  
 Adonis Chakides  
 Niko Georges  
 Zac Holt  
 Marilyn Jemas  
 William Mastorakos, DDS, MS  
 Jim Rigas  
 Chris Sarantakis  
 Jim Sorbello  
 Kyle Thompson  
 Paul Xenakis

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Mark Vleisides, Chairperson 314-576-2898

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Bill Karides, Chairperson 314-422-1968  
 Tina Paradowski

**DANCE TROUPE**

Demi Holt

**ELECTION COMMITTEE**

Mark Vleisides, Chairperson  
 Liz Glynnias  
 Paul Leara  
 Pat Lekich  
 Demmie Nicozisin

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dan Tarlas, Chairperson 314-713-5500

**GREETERS COMMITTEE**

Lyndia Finer, Chairperson 314-960-3384

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

Elaine Coulson, Chair-[sgnoclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:sgnoclibrary@gmail.com)

**"THE NEXT 100"**

Dan Tarlas, Chairperson 314-713-5500

**ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS**

Gracie Livaditis 314-616-9557

**PHILOTOCHOS**

Christina Ginos, President 314-504-6988

**PHYSICAL FACILITIES - CHURCH**

Dino Pappas, Chairperson 314-707-8118  
 Jonathan Hartley  
 Tony Sorocko

**PHYSICAL FACILITIES – FLC**

Nick Tharenos, Chairperson 314-576-7011  
 Jonathan Hartley  
 Tony Sorocko

**PLANNED GIVING COMMITTEE**

Christina Anastas 314-647-4636  
 Basil Pappas 314-368-6026  
 Leon Spanos 314-966-5176  
 Chris Varvares 314-374-3647

**PRISON MINISTRY**

Clark Porter, Director 314-518-6747

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Peter Takes, Chairperson 314-503-0358  
 Amanuel Habtu  
 Deb Palazzola  
 Alexia Georges

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Fr. Doug Papulis  
 Fr. Michael Arbanas  
 Mary Ann Mastorakos, Chairperson  
 George Ellis, DDS  
 Teddy Hart  
 Rosie Hartley  
 Marilyn Jemas  
 Christina Stamelos

**CHURCH SCHOOL Director**

Lexie Dendrinelis- [sgnocchurchschool@gmail.com](mailto:sgnocchurchschool@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE**

Christina Stamelos 314-402-4996



**St. Nicholas Scholarship**

The St. Nicholas Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications for 2024

- Up to 5 recipients will be selected from qualified applicants for scholarships up to \$4,500
- Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or current college students presently attending or intending to attend 2-yr, 4-yr or graduate-level college program in anticipation of a degree.
- All applications, in their entirety, must be received in the Family Life Center Office online or by US Mail no later than:

**5:00 pm CDT, Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

**Late Applications will NOT be accepted for consideration**

Any questions may be directed to the church office during normal business hours at [ldanko@sngoc.org](mailto:ldanko@sngoc.org) or 314.361.6924

**AHEPA Scholarship Foundation**

The St. Louis AHEPA Scholarship Foundation, as of February 1, is now accepting applications for the 2024 Scholarship Awards.

\* Please email Basil Pappas ( [bdpappas@yahoo.com](mailto:bdpappas@yahoo.com) ) for an application.

\* Note: the application and all related data must be in the hands of the Foundation no later than **April 15, 2024**. \*There is no exception to this rule.

Please note:

Schools have been slow to provide transcripts, so do not wait until the last minute.



**We need your help!**



AHEPA Chapter #53 (including Chapter #395) is planning to honor former Queens and Maids at their 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Please contact

**Chris Anastas at 314.647.4636**

so we can honor you.





# *President's Message*

*April 2024*

Dear St. Nicholas Parish Family,

*“Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, present in all places and filling all things, the treasury of blessings and Giver of life: come and abide in us. Cleanse us from all impurity, and save our souls, O Gracious Lord.”*

As we continue our journey through Lent, let us turn to our Church, our spiritual home, to help us grow in faith. Holy Week encompasses both the Church’s most solemn observances and joyous feasts. Come experience the most sacred period of the liturgical year with your St. Nicholas parish family. Please refer to the complete list of services in this newsletter for opportunities to worship together.

The 2024 Fish Fry Fridays were a huge success with net profits over \$34,000 that directly support the Church operating budget. Special thanks to Helen Carey & Deb Palazzola, along with their committee, for their hard work and efforts. We are most appreciative for our volunteers, of all ages, for their helping hands. Our loyal patrons keep coming back because of our commitment to providing delicious food and excellent service.

Festival prep is in full swing! There are several volunteer opportunities throughout the spring and summer. All are welcome, no experience necessary, just show up – you won’t be disappointed! Save the dates for the Taste of the Greek Festival in July and the Labor Day Weekend Greek Festival. It takes all of us coming together to host the best ethnic food festivals in the area.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me any time.

May God continue to Bless all of us!

Best regards,

Carol Kamburis  
Parish Council President



## PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER – APRIL 2024

**First Day of Lent/Clean Monday: March 18th** - Philoptochos hosted this very special annual Lenten Luncheon, immediately following the Compline Service at the Family Life Center. Fellowship was enjoyed by all that attended the luncheon, as we began our Lenten journey as a Church family. Many thanks to Maria Kamburis and Mary Argyros for chairing and underwriting this event. The meal was delicious, as always! A special thanks to the Philoptochos Board that helped serve.

**Palm Sunday Brunch: April 28th** - Philoptochos is looking forward to hosting our Annual Palm Sunday Brunch. Please join us, with your family and friends, for a delicious brunch: Sautéed Lemon Fish, Gourmet Omelets, Poached Salmon, Assorted Pastries, Mimosas, and more. A special buffet is planned for the children. Please make your reservations as soon as possible, as all reservations must be made in advance! See the enclosed flyer for more details.

**Grecian Kitchen Spring Order Form** – Treat your family and friends to home-made Grecian specialties for the Easter Holiday and summer! We are offering Koulouria, Baklava, Spanakopita, Tsoureki, Pastitsio, and more! Remember we sell our specialties year-round. Please fill out the order form in this month's newsletter and mail to Dianne Zotos, 1213 Hillcrest Field Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005.

**Kendra Gives Back Party: Friday, May 10th** – Join us for a Kendra Gives Back Party and enjoy sips, sweets and jewels. Friday, May 10th from 5pm to 8pm – Kendra Scott at Plaza Frontenac. 20% of the proceeds benefit St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society.

### Calendar of Events:

- 4/28 – Palm Sunday Brunch (St. Nicholas)
- 5/09 – Philoptochos General Meeting (FLC)
- 5/10 – Kendra Gives Back Event  
(Kendra Scott/Plaza Frontenac)





St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society  
Grecian Kitchen/Spring Sale

Treat your Family & Friends to Home-made  
Grecian Specialties for Easter!

To Place Your Order...

MAIL THE COMPLETED ORDER FORM BELOW WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO: ST. NICHOLAS PHILOPTOCHOS  
C/O DIANNE ZOTOS, 1238 HILLCREST FIELD DR, CHESTERFIELD, MO 63005 OR CALL 636.541.0708

Pick-up Date...April 26<sup>th</sup> (11:00 am – 3:00 pm)

ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY LIFE CENTER, 12550 SOUTH FORTY DRIVE, ST. LOUIS, MO 63141  
(IF YOU ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PICK UP ON APRIL 26TH, PLEASE NOTIFY DIANNE 636.541.0708)

Items...

**Pastitsio**.....\$50 (HALF PAN)  
GROUND BEEF, PASTA, & BECHAMEL CASSEROLE (READY TO BAKE)

**Spanakopita** ..... \$25 (12PC PAN)  
SAVORY SPINACH & CHEESE PIE (READY TO BAKE)

**Baklava** ..... \$30 (24PC PAN)  
GREEK FAVORITE (READY TO BAKE)

**Koulouria**.....\$10 PER DOZEN  
BRAIDED BUTTER COOKIES

**Tsoureki**.....\$25  
TRADITIONAL BRAIDED EASTER SWEET BREAD

“Hellenic Cuisine” Cookbook.....\$25

“OPA” Salad Dressing..... \$5

**Mail-in order form**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY STATE ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
PASTITSIO (HALF PAN)	\$50		
SPANAKOPITA (HALF PAN)	\$25		
BAKLAVA (HALF PAN)	\$30		
KOULOURLIA (DOZEN)	\$10		
TSOUREKI	\$25		
COOKBOOK	\$25		
OPA SALAD DRESSING	\$5		
		TOTAL	\$

MAIL COMPLETED FORM & CHECK PAYABLE TO: ST. NICHOLAS PHILOPTOCHOS  
C/O DIANNE ZOTOS, 1238 HILLCREST FIELD DR, CHESTERFIELD, MO 63005



# St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society

## Palm Sunday Brunch

### April 28, 2024

Immediately following Divine Liturgy

#### Traditional Palm Sunday Buffet

- Sautéed Lemon Fish
- Skordalia
- Grecian-Style Potatoes
- Mixed Green Salad
- Green Beans Almondine
- Bread

#### Gourmet Omelet Buffet

- Made to order omelets including feta cheese, cheddar cheese, onions, mushrooms, green peppers, and tomatoes
- Chilled Poached Salmon with dill sauce
- Spring Asparagus with lemon butter sauce
- Breakfast Pastries and Croissants
- Fresh Fruit

#### Children's Buffet

- Scrambled Eggs, French Toast Sticks, Fresh Fruit, & Treats
- Orange Juice & Milk

Mimosas

Dessert

Coffee Bar



#### **Advanced Reservations Required**

Traditional Palm Sunday Buffet	_____ @ \$35 per person
Gourmet Omelet Buffet	_____ @ \$35 per person
Children's Buffet	_____ @ \$12 per child (12 and under)
	\$ _____ Total

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form with check payable to: **St. Nicholas Philoptochos**  
c/o Sandra Kamburis, 1211 Bedford Falls Ct, Ballwin, MO 63021

All reservations must be made in advance by **Monday, April 22nd**. **No walk-ins**. Please list on the back of this stub who you wish to be seated with and we will do our best to accommodate. Advanced pre-paid reservation tickets can be picked up on Sundays starting April 7.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra at [skamburis@hotmail.com](mailto:skamburis@hotmail.com) or 314.952.9958

# ST. NICHOLAS EASTER LAMB ROAST

May 5, 2024

1:00 pm

**St. Nicholas Family Life Center**

*following AGAPE Service at Family Life Center*

Adults \$35

Children 12 & under \$12

Traditional Easter Feast

Special menu, treats & Easter egg hunt for the children  
*(please bring your own baskets)*

**\*Reservations must be made in advance, no walk-ins\***

**Please complete form below & send with check payable to:**

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**

c/o Lauren Murphy Rowe

623 Claymont Estates Drive

Chesterfield, MO 63017

636.675.1606

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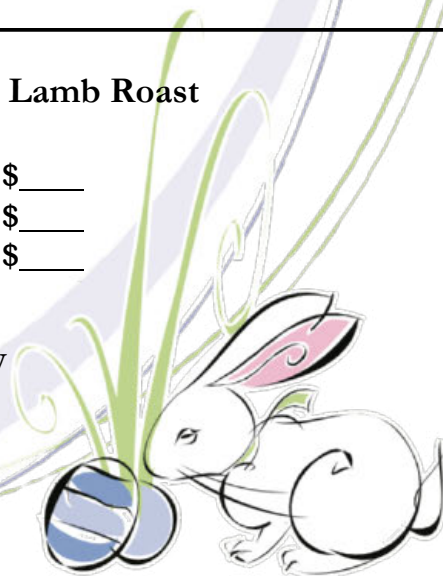
Please reserve the following for the St. Nicholas Easter Lamb Roast

___ Adult(s) at \$35 each	\$ ___
___ Children 12 & under at \$12 each	\$ ___
___ Total guests	Total \$ ___

Please seat me with the \_\_\_\_\_ party

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



# 2024 Holy Week & Easter Schedule of Services

## **Saturday, April 27: Saturday of Lazarus**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church

## **Sunday, April 28: Palm Sunday**

8:15 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church  
7 pm Bridegroom Service at Family Life Center Chapel

## **Monday, April 29: Holy Monday**

7 pm Bridegroom Service at Family Life Center Chapel

## **Tuesday, April 30: Holy Tuesday**

7 pm Bridegroom Service at Family Life Center Chapel

## **Wednesday, May 1: Holy Wednesday**

1:30 pm Holy Unction (Sacrament of Healing) at Family Life Center Chapel  
7 pm Holy Unction at Church

## **Thursday, May 2: Holy Thursday**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Family Life Center Chapel  
6:30 pm Service of the 12 Passion Gospels at Church

## **Friday, May 3: Good Friday**

10 am The Royal Hours at Church  
1:30 pm The Descent from the Cross at Church  
7 pm The Lamentations at Church

## **Saturday, May 4: Holy Saturday**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church  
11 pm Canon of the Resurrection at Church

## **Sunday, May 5: Easter**

Midnight Resurrection Service & Liturgy at Church  
Noon Agape Service at Family Life Center Chapel



# 2024 Lent and Holy Week Donations

Jonquils for Sunday of the Cross- *Jim and Teddy Hart in Memory of Mary Varvares*  
 Palm Tree Plants for Palm Sunday-  
 Palm Sunday Crosses-- *Ron and Elaine Been in memory of Nick and Katherine Georgen*  
 Palm Sunday Icon Flower Arrangement-  
 Lilies for Epitaphion-  
 Hydrangeas for Holy Week and Easter-  
 Herrtismoi (Friday night) Candles-*Sophia Chronopoulos and Family*  
*in memory of Christos and Nota Chronopoulos*



Palm Sunday Bay Leaves-  
 Levane-Incense-  
 Palm Sunday Greenery-  
 Altar Candles for Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday- *Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Holy Monday-*Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Holy Tuesday-*Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Holy Wednesday-*Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Holy Thursday-*Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Good Friday- *Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*  
 Holy Saturday-*Sophia Chronopoulos & Family*



Flowers for the Icon of the Bridegroom (Nymphios)-  
 Cotton Balls, Flour & Olive Oil for Holy Wednesday Holy Unction--*The Kamburis Family*  
*in memory of Tharinos and Kyriaki Patakas*

Holy Thursday Icon Flower Arrangement for Divine Liturgy-  
 Holy Thursday Icon Flower Arrangement for Service for 12 Passion Gospels-  
 Holy Thursday 12 Gospel Candles- *Mary Jane Thomas in memory of the Siromas family*



Holy Thursday Service Wreath-  
 Holy Thursday Service Candles for Cross-  
 Good Friday Sheet for Body of Christ-  
 Good Friday Icon Flower Arrangement for Royal Hours-  
 Good Friday Icon Flower Arrangement for The Descent from the Cross-  
 Good Friday Icon Flower Arrangement for The Lamentations (Epitaphion)-  
 Good Friday Epitaphion Candles (four)- *George and JoAnn Glikos in memory of Chris and Despina Zeris*  
*John and Despina Glikos and Eugenia Zeris*

Good Friday Epitaphion Candles (four)-  
 Good Friday White Carnations-  
 Anthonero (Rosewater)-*Rosie Hartley in memory of her parents*  
 Holy Saturday Icon Flower Arrangement for Divine Liturgy -  
 Holy Saturday Resurrection Candles for Priests (one candle)-*Bill, Linda & Katerina Nicozisin*  
*in memory of Frank & Rose Zirbas and Gus Nicozisin*  
 Holy Saturday Resurrection Candles for Priests (one candle)-*Bill, Linda & Katerina Nicozisin*  
*in memory of Frank & Rose Zirbas and Gus Nicozisin*

Holy Saturday Icon Flower Arrangement for Resurrection Service-  
 Holy Saturday Floral Cross for Resurrection Service-  
 Holy Saturday Resurrection Banner-*Mary Jane Thomas*  
 Agape Service Icon Flower Arrangement-  
 Olive Oil (for votive lights)-*The Kamburis Family*



Twelve Palm Tree Plants-  
 Resurrection Meal Donations-  
 Easter Eggs-  
 Additional Donations-



Dear St. Nicholas Family & Friends

We are gearing up for our Annual Labor Day Festival and Taste of the Festival in July. We need your continued support with volunteering your services, even if its only for an hour or two. Last year we had a great response from our young adults – many thanks for their help! We hope you can join us again in continuing to learn the skills of our parents and grandparents.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Festival Food Team with questions regarding the schedule.

Thanks,  
Chris Anastas, Teddy Hart, Peggy Pierroutsakos & Dianne Zotos  
Festival Food Team

April –  
Monday, April 8 at 8:00 a.m. – St. Nicholas – Koulouria for Philoptochos Ministries  
Friday, April 12 at 8:00 a.m. – St. Nicholas – Tsoureki for Easter  
Monday, April 29 at 9:30 a.m. – St. Nicholas – Easter Eggs

May –  
Monday, May 13 at 8:00 a.m. – St. Nicholas – Spanakopita Assembly  
Monday, May 20 at 8:00 a.m. – St. Nicholas – Galaktoboureko, Baklava Sundaes & Leftover Spanakopita Assembly

*Teddy Hart – 314.914.7711, Peggy Pierroutsakos – 636.795.5894 or Dianne Zotos – 636.541.0708*  
**Your Festival Food Team**





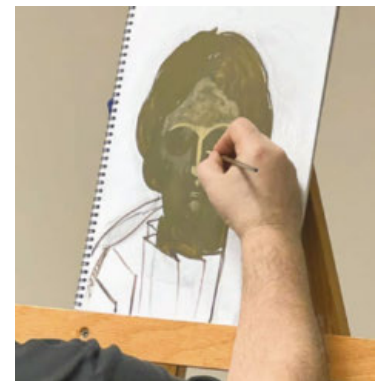
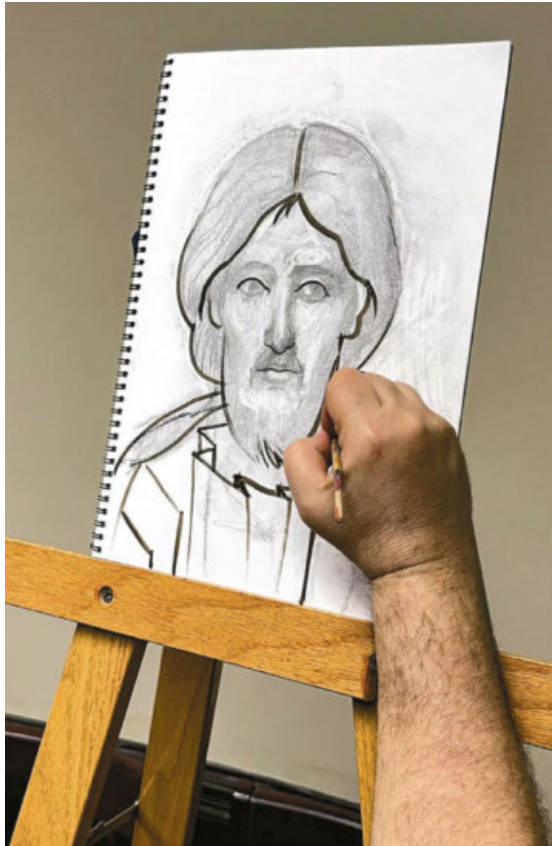


# St. Nicholas 2024





# Rip Kastaris, Iconographer, demonstrates writing of Icons to St. Nicholas Sunday School





# ***St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival***

## ***Come join the Festival!***

***Preparations have just begun  
so there's still time!***

***Entries are open to Students of St. Nicholas  
Grades 7 through 12***

***A way to express your God-given talents, enrich your faith  
and share your Orthodox perspective in  
in the following areas:***

***Speech***

***Essay***

***Poetry***

***Iconography***

***Vocal Solo***

***Vocal Chant***

***Festival presentations take place***

***Sunday, April 14***

***Please contact John Davis for further information:***

***sngocchurchschool@gmail.com***



## Orthodox Young Adults

Please join us for an Orthodox Young Adults (for ages after college-30's) night of fellowship, discussion and faith on **Tuesday, April 9 at 7 pm via Zoom.**

We will be meeting via Zoom on the second Tuesday of every month.

For the Zoom link and for any questions, please contact:  
**Gracie Livaditis at [glivaditis251@gmail.com](mailto:glivaditis251@gmail.com)**

### Everyone is welcome!



The Women's Faith Group meets monthly (excluding July and August) to learn about the Orthodox Christian Faith and how to live the Faith throughout one's life. Scripture and various books authored by Orthodox Christians are read and discussed for enrichment, enlightenment, and encouragement to live a Christ-like life. "being transformed from glory to glory" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

*Please join us 10 am Tuesdays, April 2 and 16, 2024  
at the Family Life Center*



**Saturday of Lazarus, April 27th  
Annual Pancake Breakfast  
Following Divine Liturgy  
St. Nicholas Philoptochos Room  
Complimentary for all**





"The Orthodox Mission Team of St. Louis works to nurture an awareness within our local churches of the need to evangelize, catechize, and support missionary efforts and programs globally."



## 'Oli Otya' - Hello from Uganda!

His Grace SILVESTER, Bishop of Jinja and Eastern Uganda, blessed and opened in February two health facilities in his diocese that were supported with OCMC grants. His Grace was joined at the blessing and opening of the St. Spyridon Medical Center in Namutumba and the pharmacy in Jinja City, by the Diocese's Vicar General Fr. Chrysostom Koolya and members of the Diocese Health Department. His Grace urged the health workers to always add prayers to their operations because our Lord and God, is the Physician of our souls and bodies who cures all infirmities of the flesh.



The support of these two health facilities is part of the more than \$1 million OCMC has distributed in grants to assist local churches throughout the world over the past year. Join OCMC in assisting the Church care for the whole person—spiritual and physical—and providing a vibrant living witness of the Faith to the ends of the earth.

*As always, please feel free to contact Rosie Hartley, 618-447-9688, if you have any questions, would like to be part of the Mission Team St. Louis, or if you would like to help our missionaries. Thank you for your continued support!*

# MEMORIAL DONATIONS

## CHURCH FUND

*In Memory of Mary Vlahoplus*

Robert and Georgia Sheridan

*In Memory of Andrew Papay, PhD*

Kari M Simmons

*In Memory of*

*Nicholas Anastasios Scambilis*

Samantha Maylor

*In Memory of*

*Euthimios Panopoulos*

Georgia Panopoulos and Kyle Bruer

Euthimia, Kostantina and Anastasia

## CHURCH FUND (continued)

*In Memory of Nicholas Reynolds*

Jim and Carmen Sorbello

## THE NEXT 100

*In Memory of*

*Orthodox G and Sophia Chrissos*

George and Anna Chrissos

## ST. NICHOLAS ENDOWMENT FUND

*In Memory of*

*Orthodox G and Sophia Chrissos*

George and Anna Chrissos



## PARISH LIFE

### MEMORIALS

†	40 day memorial for Andrew George Papay, MD.	on February 25
†	3 year memorial for Sally Cobb	on March 10
†	6 year memorial for Jim Sorbello, Sr.	on March 10
†	7 year memorial for Catherine Dokos	on February 25
†	7 year memorial for Lucan Reynolds	on March 10
†	16 year memorial for Doris Sorbello	on March 10
†	20 year memorial for George Dokos	on February 25
†	24 year memorial for Harry Anastas	on February 25
†	25 year memorial for Mary Rupi	on March 10
†	35 year memorial for Sam Sorbello	on March 10
†	51 year memorial for Gus Rupi	on March 10

### 40 DAY BLESSINGS

Adelyn Grace, daughter of Amber and Kevin Menos was blessed and churched on March 17. Congratulations!

### BAPTISM

Michael John, son of Michael Germanos and Vanessa Lawrence was baptized on February 25. His Godfather is John Germanos. Congratulations!

Kailun Zhang, daughter of Fengyu and Fan Zhang was baptized on March 10. Her Godfather is George Pappas. Congratulations!

Noah Ali Al-Bussairi, son of Stephanie and Ali Al-Bussairi was baptized on March 10. His Godmother is Kristina Schriedel. Congratulations!

### WEDDING

Michael and Katie King were married on Saturday, February 10, 2024. Their Orthodox Sponsor is Athena King. Congratulations!

Dear St. Nicholas Parish Family,

In an effort to communicate the status of our loan for the St. Nicholas Family Life Center & renovations to St. Nicholas Church, below is a condensed timeline to recap the past 20 years.

1999: Purchased 10 acres in Town & Country for \$2,500,000

2003: Retired the land loan for a total of \$3,200,000

2010: First St. Nicholas Capital Campaign raised \$4,000,000 in pledges and construction began on the St. Nicholas Family Life Center as well as the renovations at St. Nicholas at Forest Park

Total cost to complete construction of the St. Nicholas Family Life Center and major renovations to St. Nicholas Church on Forest Park of \$8,500,000

2012: Signed loan documents for \$5,855,024

2015: Refinanced to a lower 3% interest municipal bond loan of \$5,273,184

2020: Extended our current municipal bond loan for 5 years at the same 3% interest rate and continuing the same amortization schedule

2024: As of March 5 our current loan amount is \$1,223,785.99 Our monthly mortgage payment is \$25,500

We have made significant strides towards paying off our debt. Thank you for your continued love and dedication to our Parish.

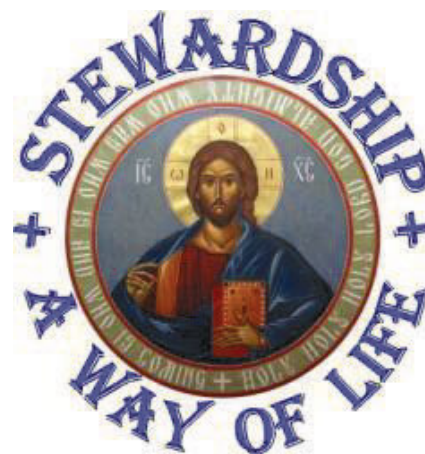
Sincerely,

Carol Kamburis, President

## Ways to Give: Qualified Charitable Distributions

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows individuals who are 70½ years old or older to donate up to \$100,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions.

- It's a smart way for individuals who don't/can't tax benefits from their charitable donations.
- QCDs are not included in taxable income.
- QCDs satisfy RMDs without increasing adjusted gross income, thus lowering or eliminating Social Security benefit taxation, Medicare premiums, alternative minimum tax, 3.8% investment surtax and medical expense deductions, or being bumped to a higher marginal tax bracket.



If you have questions or would like to donate appreciated securities, mutual funds, or make QCDs, please contact the church office. We also recommend that you consult your Financial/Tax Advisors for additional information



# April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 10 am Women's Faith Group Family Life Center	<b>3</b> 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6 pm Divine Liturgy Family Life Center Chapel Dinner to Follow Hosted by Women's Philoptochos	<b>4</b> 10 am Kafenio Family Life Center	<b>5</b> <i>Salutations Service</i> 7 pm Family Life Center Chapel	<b>6</b> 10:30 am Choir Practice at Family Life Center
<b>7</b> <i>Sunday of the Holy Cross</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church <i>Veneration of the Holy Cross</i> with procession by <i>Sunday School</i> Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour 5 pm GOYA at FLC	<b>8</b> 8 am Koulouria St. Nicholas Church	<b>9</b> 7 pm Orthodox Young Adults via Zoom	<b>10</b> 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6 pm Divine Liturgy Family Life Center Chapel Dinner to Follow Hosted by Men's Fellowship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <i>Salutations Service</i> 7 pm Family Life Center Chapel 8 am Tsoureki St. Nicholas Church	<b>13</b> 10:30 am Choir Practice at Family Life Center
<b>14</b> <i>Sunday of St. John Climacus</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Youth Leadership Sunday St. Nicholas Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour 5 pm Jr. GOYA	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10 am Women's Faith Group Family Life Center	<b>17</b> 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> 6 pm Divine Liturgy Family Life Center Chapel Dinner to Follow Hosted by St. Nicholas Youth	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <i>Akathist Service</i> 6:30 pm Family Life Center Chapel	<b>20</b> 10:30 am Choir Practice at Family Life Center
<b>21</b> <i>St. Mary of Egypt</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour	<b>22</b> 9 am Palm Sunday Setup St. Nicholas Church	<b>23</b> 9 am Palm Sunday Setup St. Nicholas Church	<b>24</b> 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom 9 am Palm Sunday Setup St. Nicholas Church	<b>25</b> 9 am Palm Sunday Kitchen Prep St. Nicholas Church	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <i>Saturday of Lazarus</i> 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church 9 am Palm Sunday-Final Prep at St. Nicholas Annual Pancake Breakfast following Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas
<b>28</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Sunday School Palm Sunday Brunch at Church <i>Bridegroom Service</i> 7 pm at the FLC	<b>29</b> <i>Holy Monday</i> <i>Bridegroom Service</i> 7 pm Family Life Center Chapel 9:30 am Dying Easter Eggs St. Nicholas Church	<b>30</b> <i>Holy Tuesday</i> <i>Bridegroom Service</i> 7 pm Family Life Center Chapel				

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