

# THE WONDERWORKER

MARCH AND APRIL 2026

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## Entering the School of Repentance Together

Beloved in Christ,

As we enter the sacred season of Great and Holy Lent, we are given a precious gift: time set apart for repentance, renewal, and drawing nearer to Christ. Lent is not simply a period we observe privately at home; it is a journey we undertake together, as the Body of Christ, gathered in prayer, worship, and learning. The Church, in her wisdom, offers us a rich tapestry of services and classes designed to guide and strengthen us along this path.

Many of us are accustomed to attending Sunday Divine Liturgy, but during Lent, the Church opens many more doors for spiritual growth. The Presanctified Liturgies, the Great Compline, the Akathist Hymn, and the solemn and beautiful services of Holy Week are not additions to our faith—they are expressions of its fullness. These services quiet our hearts, teach our souls, and help us rediscover what truly matters.

The hymns and prayers of Lent speak directly to the heart. In the Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian, which we repeat throughout Lent, we ask God to take from us the spirit of pride, idle talk, and judgment, and to grant us humility, patience, and love. This prayer alone, when prayed attentively, can reshape the way we see ourselves and others.

Likewise, in the Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete, we hear the story of salvation and are invited to see our own lives reflected in it. We are reminded that repentance is not about shame, but about hope. It is the doorway back to God.

In addition to the services, our Lenten classes offer us the opportunity to deepen our understanding of the faith. Learning more about prayer, Scripture, and the spiritual life helps us live more intentionally as Orthodox Christians. When we understand why we do what we do, our participation becomes more meaningful, and our faith becomes more alive.

It is important to remember that Lent is not about “giving something up” as an end in itself. Rather, we make space—space for prayer, space for repentance, space for Christ. The services and classes of Lent help us fill that space with what truly nourishes the soul.

Your presence matters. When you come to these services, you are not only helping yourself—you are strengthening the entire parish family. Your prayers strengthen your neighbor. Your presence encourages others. Together, we become what the Church is meant to be: a community of repentance, healing, and transformation.

I encourage each of you to make a commitment this Lent. Choose at least one additional service each week. Attend the classes that are offered. Come and experience the beauty, the stillness, and the healing that the Church provides.

Lent passes quickly, but the grace we receive during this time can bear fruit for a lifetime. May this Lent be for each of us a true journey toward Christ. May it be a time of repentance filled with hope, a time of prayer filled with peace, and a time of renewal filled with joy.

With paternal love in Christ,  
Fr. Luke



## GREAT LENT SCHEDULE

2026

**Mondays: Great Compline 6 pm,**  
Bible Study 7:30 pm (Zoom and In-Person)

Tuesdays: Women's Book Study, *The Journey Back to Christ*  
8:00 pm via Zoom

**Wednesdays: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6 pm,**  
Intro to Orthodoxy 7:30 pm (Zoom and In-Person)

**Fridays: Salutations to the Theotokos, 6 pm**  
Book Study, *Our Thoughts Determine our Lives*  
7:30 pm (Zoom and In-Person)

O Lord and Master of my life!  
Take from me the spirit of sloth,  
faint-heartedness, lust of power, and idle talk.  
But give rather the spirit of chastity,  
humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.  
Yea, Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors  
and not to judge my brother,  
for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.



## ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

10301 S. Kolmar Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Telephone: 708-636-5460

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



### *Schedule of Services for Triodion and Great and Holy Lent 2026*

#### **Triodion**

- February 14, 2026: The First Saturday of the Souls (Orthros and Divine Liturgy 8:30 am)  
February 21, 2026: The Second Saturday of the Souls (Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 am)

#### **Great & Holy Lent**

- February 22, 2026: Forgiveness Vespers, 6 pm at Holy Trinity, Schiller Park  
February 23, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Lenten Koulouma and Bible Study  
February 25, 2026: Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
February 27, 2026: 1st Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm, Book Study  
February 28, 2026: Third Saturday of the Souls (Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 am)  
March 1, 2026: Sunday of Orthodoxy, (Orthros 8:00 am, Liturgy 9:15 am),  
Great Vespers, 6:30 pm (Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, Chicago)  
March 2, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Bible Study  
March 4, 2026: Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
March 6, 2026: 2nd Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm, Book Study  
March 9, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Bible Study  
March 11, 2026: Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
March 13, 2026: 3rd Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm, Parish Oratorical Festival  
March 16, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Bible Study  
March 18, 2026: Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
March 20, 2026: 4th Salutations to the Theotokos 6 pm, Book Study  
March 23, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Bible Study  
March 25, 2026: Annunciation of the Theotokos (Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 am)  
Great Compline, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
March 27, 2026: Akathist to the Theotokos 6 pm, Book Study  
March 30, 2026: Great Compline, 6 pm, Bible Study  
April 1, 2026: Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts, 6 pm, Intro to Orthodoxy  
April 3, 2026: Small Compline 6:00 pm, Book Study  
April 4, 2026: Saturday of Lazarus, Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 am

**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**  
**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Saturday, April 4: 8:30 AM—Lazarus Saturday—Orthros/Liturgy

Sunday, April 5: 8:00 AM—Palm Sunday—Orthros/Liturgy  
6:00 PM—Bridegroom Service

Monday, April 6: 6:00 PM—Bridegroom Service

Tuesday, April 7: 6:00 PM—Bridegroom Service

Wednesday, April 8: 3:00 PM—Holy Unction Service  
6:00 PM—Bridegroom Service with Holy Unction

Thursday, April 9: 9:00 AM—Vespereal Liturgy of Saint Basil  
6:00 PM—Passion Service with the 12 Gospels

Friday, April 10: 9:00 AM—Royal Hours  
3:00 PM—Apokathelosis-Taking down from the  
Cross  
7:00 PM—Lamentations Service

Saturday, April 11: 9:00 AM—Vespereal Liturgy of Saint Basil  
11:00 PM—Pre-Resurrection Service  
12:00 Midnight—Resurrection Service

Sunday, April 12 10:30 AM—Holy Pascha Agape Service

Wednesday, April 15: 9:30 AM—Liturgy & Seniors' Luncheon

Friday, April 17: Ζωοδοχου Πηγης—Life Giving Font Service at  
St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansasville, WI

Sunday, April 19: 8: AM—Sunday of Thomas—Orthros/Liturgy

Please make every effort to attend as many of our  
Liturgical Service as possible. *God Bless You!*

# Parish Registry

## January

### Memorials

4 months - Maryjean Huber  
20 years - Christ Lamnatos  
29 years - Athena Lamnatos  
39 years - Helen Fanuris  
55 Year - Pauline Sallas  
6 months - Peter Kioussis

33 years- Konstandina Verros  
35 years- Konstandinos Verros  
42 years = George Kioussis  
48 years - Maria Kioussis  
2 years - Fr. Stephen Bithos  
40 Day - Anna Toscas  
40 Day - Panagiotis Aggelopoulos

### Chrismation

Ethan Henke

### 40-Day Blessing

Nicolette Feeney  
Alexandra Papp



## February

### Memorials

Saturday of the Souls  
54 years - Panteleimon Danos  
One Year - (Anastasia) Tasia Platipodis  
Six Month - Olga Maragos  
Seven years - George Maragos

### Funerals

Katherine Coules  
Costantin (Gust) Economou  
Peter Jerry Glikis

**Congratulations to our newly sworn in Parish Council.  
May God continue to strengthen our council for many more years.**



Join us for a  
*Women's Book Study*

THE ROAD BACK  
TO CHRIST:

Via Zoom Every  
**Tuesday Night**

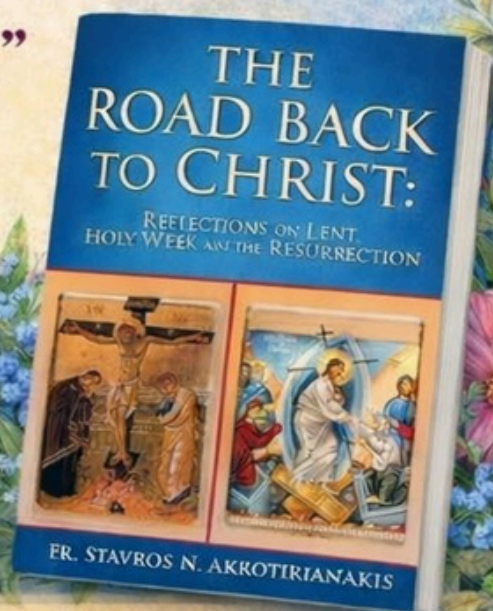
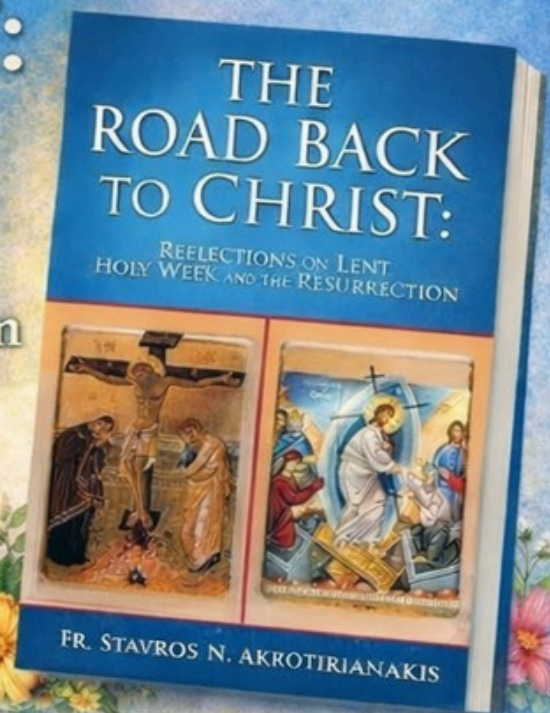
Beginning February 24 at 8:00 pm

Sponsored by  
**St. Nicholas Greek  
Orthodox Church**

Please purchase  
*"The Road Back to Christ"*  
available in our bookstore  
or on Amazon.

Login info will be sent  
before the first session.

Beginning February 24 at 8:00 pm

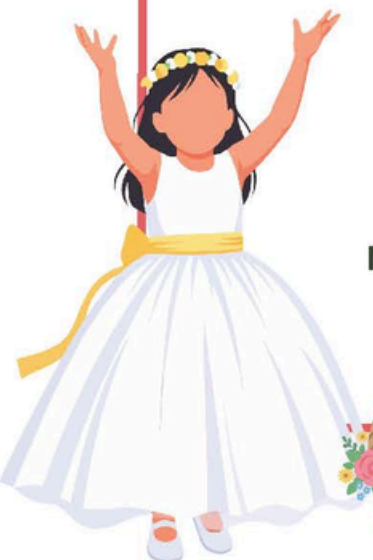




# **Come be a Myrofora! (Myrrh-Bearing Women)**

All girls of our Parish are  
invited  
to serve as a Myrofora for  
the Lamentations Service  
on  
Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and the  
Resurrection Service  
on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

For more information,  
please contact:  
[mariannahristakos88@yahoo.com](mailto:mariannahristakos88@yahoo.com)  
[magdamelackrinos@gmail.com](mailto:magdamelackrinos@gmail.com)



**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**  
*Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha Donations*

Jonquils for the Sunday of the Holy Cross	<b>Donated</b>
Flowers for the 1st Salutations of the Theotokos	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the 2nd Salutations of the Theotokos	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the 3rd Salutations of the Theotokos	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the 4th Salutations of the Theotokos	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the icon of the Annunciation of the Theotokos	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the Akathist Hymn of the Theotokos	<b>Donated</b>
Flowers for the icon of St. Lazarus	\$ 175.00
Palms & Bay Leaves for Palm Sunday	\$ 650.00
Flowers for the icon of Palm Sunday	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the Nymphios icon – Palm Sunday Evening	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the Nymphios icon – Holy Monday Evening	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the Nymphios icon – Holy Tuesday Evening	\$ 175.00
Flowers for the Icon of the Last Supper – Holy Wednesday Evening	\$ 175.00
Floral Wreath for the Stavromeno (Cross)	<b>Donated</b>
Floral arrangement at the foot of the Stavromeno (Cross)	<b>Donated</b>
Three (3) Candles for the Cross – Holy Thursday Evening	<b>Donated</b>
Twelve Candles for the Gospel Readings – Holy Thursday Evening	<b>Donated</b>
Roses for the Icon of Panagia – Holy Thursday Evening	<b>Donated</b>
Flowers for the Kouvouklion/Epitaphios – Good Friday	<b>Donated</b>
Winding Cloth	<b>Donated</b>
White Rose Petals – Good Friday/Holy Saturday Morning	\$ 400.00
Rosewater – Good Friday Evening	<b>Donated</b>
Thirty (30) Lily Plants – price per plant	\$ 40.00
Flowers for the icon of the Resurrection	\$ 175.00
Incense for Holy Week	<b>Donated</b>
150 lbs Beeswax Lambathes/Candles	\$1350.00

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR SELECTION  
 THANK YOU AND WE WISH YOU A BLESSED LENT AND KALI ANASTASI

**On Sunday, January 25, we welcomed Alexandra and Nicolette on their churching/40 Day Blessing in the midst of the church community!  
Our St. Nicholas family is growing!**



**AXIOS to our newest Orthodox Christian of St. Nicholas! Welcome to our faith and community Ethan Henke!**





Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!  
Χριστὸς ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!

"It is the day of Resurrection; let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another. Let us say, O brethren, even to those that hate us: Let us forgive all things on the Resurrection; and thus let us cry: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He has trampled down death, and on those in the tombs He has bestowed life."

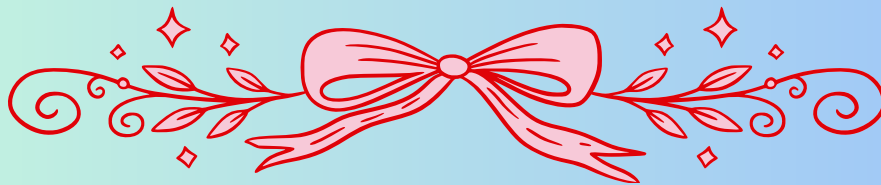
(Doxastikon of Great and Holy Pascha)

**Our Spring Parish Assembly is scheduled for  
Sunday, March 22nd, 2026 immediately after Liturgy.**

According to our by-laws, to participate (vote) in the Parish Assembly:

To participate, your 2025 stewardship pledge must be paid in full and your 2026 stewardship pledge must have been submitted ten days prior to the Parish Assembly

We encourage all stewards to attend our Parish Assembly, since there are important issues being discussed. Please remember that a quorum consists of 10% of the total number of stewards.



**We Need YOU!**



**Join us Saturday March 7  
11:30 am - 1:15 pm (Aurora, IL)**

**Contact Peter Dakuras to volunteer  
[pgd1586@live.com](mailto:pgd1586@live.com)**



## Time to Order Your Easter Goodies!

Scan this QR Code with your phone ---->



**Website:**

[stnicholasps.square.site/dial-a-baklava](http://stnicholasps.square.site/dial-a-baklava)

*This year, we are strongly encouraging everyone to place orders through our online store. Online ordering allows us to receive your order immediately and helps with the preparation and fulfillment process. Otherwise you may pre-pay over the phone:*

**708-636-7874**

Or pick up and order form at coffee hour

**Pick-up Date:**

*Community Center*

**Saturday, April 4th, 2026**

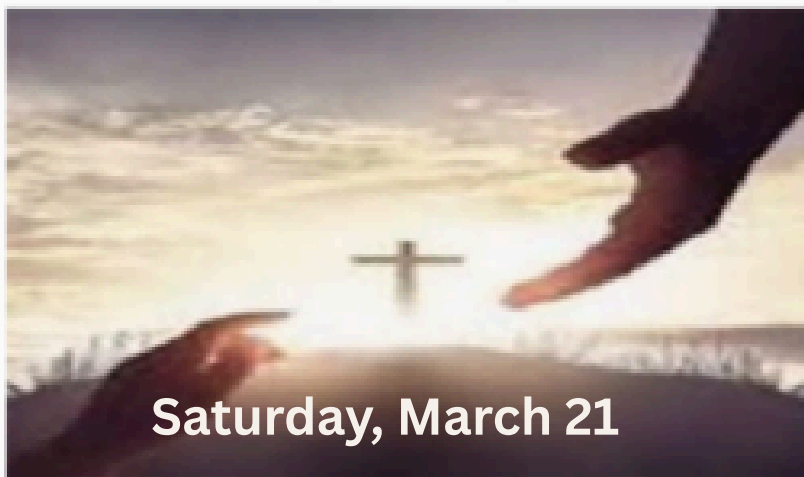
9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m.

## Complimentary Bus Transportation

### *Lenten Retreat 2026*

to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

528 W. 77th Ave., Schererville, Indiana 46375



**Saturday, March 21**

*"Repentance as an Occasion for Joy"*

9am to 2pm

**Saturday, March 21**

**Bus Leaves from**

**St. Nicholas Greek**

**Orthodox Church**

10301 S. Kolmar - Oak Lawn, IL

**at 8:0am**

(Arrive no later than 7:45)

**Returning 3pm**

**For Reservations call:**

Sophia Kopanitsanos

**708-361-2894**

**R.S.V.P**

No later than March 12



*Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord*

# *Palm Sunday Luncheon*

## *April 5th, 2026*

Hosted by: *The St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos Society*

Join us for an enjoyable luncheon with your family and friends following the Divine Liturgy celebrating our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem

Reservation & Payment must be received by Sunday, March 29th

Please call: 708-636-7874

Email: [stnicklps@gmail.com](mailto:stnicklps@gmail.com)

or register at Coffee Fellowship on Sundays.

No tickets will be sold at the door. If you are unable to dine with us, you may place your pre-order

### ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT

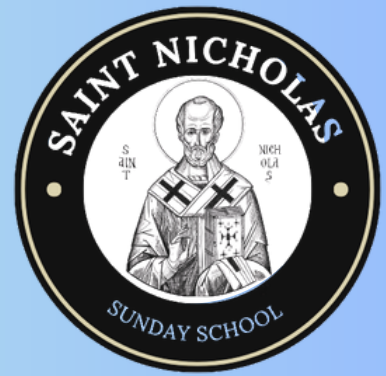
Reservation & Payment by March 29, 2026

Name _____
( ) _____
Phone _____
eMail _____

	Price	¢	Total
Adult Meal:	\$35.00	_____	\$ _____
Child Meal: (12 and under)	\$15.00	_____	\$ _____
TOTAL.....			\$ _____
Payment:	Check # _____	Cash _____	14
Check "X" box if this is a carry-out order.			<input type="checkbox"/>
Carry outs are pre-order only			

*Carry-out orders will not be available until  
after the conclusion of Liturgy: Approx. 11:15*

# Saint Nicholas Sunday Church School



## **Sunday School News**

As we continue our sacred journey through Great Lent, our Sunday School classrooms are filled with thoughtful discussion, joyful learning, and beautiful preparation for the Feast of Feasts – Holy Pascha.

## **Lenten Retreat & Palm Cross Making**

We look forward to our Lenten Retreat on Friday, April 3, beginning at 1:00 p.m. This special afternoon will allow our children to pause, reflect, and grow in their understanding of this holy season. Following the retreat, families are warmly invited to participate in the meaningful tradition of making Palm Crosses together. What a beautiful way to bring generations together in service to the Church as we prepare for Palm Sunday! Moments like these strengthen our parish family and help our children experience Lent not only as something we talk about – but something we live.

## **Oratorical Festival – March 13**

On March 13th, our parish will host the annual Oratorical Festival. We are especially excited this year to introduce a non-competitive Elementary Division! Our younger participants will present their reflections at the conclusion of the Senior Division presenters. This new addition allows our elementary students to build confidence, grow in their faith understanding, and share their voices in a supportive and joyful setting. We are so proud of all of our participants who dedicate time and heart to proclaiming their faith.

## **What We're Learning**

In our classrooms, students are exploring:

- Simple ways to bring Lent into our homes
- Old Testament and New Testament stories
- The lives of the Saints
- The Divine Liturgy
- The Sundays of Lent
- Church Doctrine

Sunday School serves as a bridge between church and home. What is taught on Sunday blossoms throughout the week when families continue the conversation. We encourage you to ask your children and grandchildren what they learned in Sunday School. They will be delighted to share! These small conversations plant seeds that grow into lasting faith.

## **“Christos Anesti!”**

We are already teaching our students the Paschal hymn, “Christos Anesti.” And guess what? Even the littlest ones know it! Please sing it at home with them to practice – in both Greek and English. It is perfectly alright if it is not Pascha yet... because Christ is Risen every day !If you need a copy of the hymn, just ask. We are happy to provide one.

As we continue this blessed Lenten journey, may our homes be filled with prayer, song, learning, and love. Thank you for partnering with us as we nurture the faith of our children.

**Have a blessed and spiritually fruitful Lent!**

**Our Sunday School students proudly displayed their icons on  
The Sunday of Orthodoxy, when we joyfully commemorate the restoration of holy icons to  
the life of the Church.**



# Cooking CLASSES



# The Ladies Philoptochos Hosted Their First Paint and Sip IT WAS FUN FOR ALL



ST. NICHOLAS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS  
Hosts our First  
*Paint & Sip*

Start the New Year with an evening of creativity, conversation, and fellowship.

Our ladies group invites women of all ages to a Paint & Sip Night, a relaxed and welcoming time to connect, unwind, and meet new people.

Join us for guided painting, wine, light refreshments, and uplifting conversation in a warm, encouraging setting. No painting experience is needed—just come as you are.

Friday, February 6th 6:30 PM Limited seating

\$20 Donation  
Reserve by January 25th  
Email reservation to [zoeskopec@aol.com](mailto:zoeskopec@aol.com)



Our professional artist, Michael, is the godson and nephew of Zoe Skopec. Thank you, Michael for sharing your talent with us. Your instruction was inspiring, engaging, and truly elevated the experience. We are so grateful for the time and care you put into teaching this class. Everyone had a fun time learning how to create their masterpieces.



# Focus on Philoptochos



Hopefully spring will be here in the near future.

To date, Philoptochos has been very busy and will continue at the same pace. We celebrated the annual Vasilopita by preparing a cake version which we hope you all enjoyed just 3 days after the City Wide Vasilopita at St. Andrews on a very rainy and cold night. Thank you to Sophia Kopanitsanos for organizing the bus trip which was enjoyed by all 5 south side chapters.

We hosted a very large crowd at our Cooking Class & Luncheon, 120 to be exact. Chairlady Cherie Cachampis did an exceptional job organizing the demonstrations, recipe books, decorations, pastry and luncheon preparations. We received many compliments. Bravo to Cherie and all her helpers, too many to mention all in this article.

A week later we sponsored our Paint & Sip evening which was most enjoyable. The attendees very proudly took their paintings home with smiles on their faces. Thank you to Zoe Skopec for organizing the fun evening.

We also sponsored Clean Monday Dinner to begin our Lenten Journey and wish everyone a spiritual season. Thank you to Tasia Dakuras and Connie Petrohelos for chairing the dinner. It was delicious.

We will have a free bus to transport those attending the Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 21st at St. George Church in Schererville, In. Make your reservation by calling Sophia Kopanitsanos at 708-361-2894 as soon as possible. Thank you to Hellenic Foundation for paying for the bus.

The ladies are preparing the special treats we will offer for the Easter Dial-A-Baklava. Please send in your orders before March 28th so we can be prepared. If you would like to help, call Georgia Sarlas 708-528-2585 for dates & times. We would love to have your help.

Please save these dates:

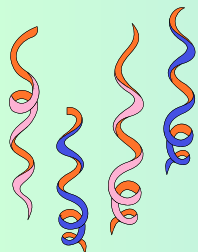
- Friday, March 13, Oratorical Festival after Salutations Service. Help support our youth.
- Saturday, April 4, Dial-A-Baklava Pickup
- Sunday, April 5, Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon
- Wednesday, April 15, Senior Citizens Luncheon for South Side Churches. RSVP by April 8th

Wishing you all a wonderful Pascha, Georgia Sarlas, President

P.S. Check out the photos this month from our events.



Enjoying the afternoon in fellowship at our Apokreatiko Luncheon/Glendi. It was a great way to celebrate with our parish family before we go through the Lenten season together!



# Our kids bagging groceries for Project Hope!

Our children teaching our parish that it is our responsibility to take care of others!



## H ♥ PE

Humanitarian Outreach & Philanthropic Engagement

### DONATION CHECKLIST

#### Non-Perishable Items

CARBOHYDRATES	CANNED ITEMS	CONDIMENTS
Pasta 16 oz	Chicken 5 oz	Fruit Jams 18 oz
Rice 2 lbs	Tuna 5 oz	Granola Bars 12 ct
Lentils 16 oz	Salmon 5 oz	Apple Sauce 24 oz
Instant Potatoes	Turkey 5 oz	Pudding 4 pk
Graham Crackers	Beans 15.5 oz	Pasta Sauce 24 oz
Crackers 7 oz	Corn 15.25 oz	Nuts
Cereal 8.9 oz	Soup-low sodium 19 oz	Cooking Oils
Oatmeal 18 oz	Chili	Powdered Milk
		Peanut Butter 16.3 oz
		Dried herbs/Spices

Please include 12-15 of the non-perishable items

3-4 items per category

Do not overstuff the bags if you are using double paper bags

Separate into multiple bags or place in canvas bags to avoid ripping.

GREAT ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA  
METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO



# GET READY FOR... JR. OLYMPICS



**MAY 23, 2026**

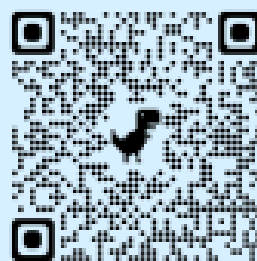
**ST. CONSTANTINE & HELEN**

**AGES 7 - 18**

THE JUNIOR OLYMPICS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO DATES BACK TO 1981 AND HAS GROWN INTO THE LARGEST SINGLE GATHERING OF YOUTH IN THE METROPOLIS. THIS PROGRAM AVERAGES OVER 35 PARISHES AND 2,000 PARTICIPANTS EACH YEAR! CONSISTING OF SPORTING, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL EVENTS. HELP US REPRESENT ST. NICHOLAS THIS YEAR!

## **EVENT LIST**

- BASKETBALL
- SOCCER
- VOLLEYBALL
- TRACK & FIELD
- SWIMMING
- CO-ED SOFTBALL
- CHESS
- CHECKERS
- BACKGAMMON
- TENNIS
- TABLE TENNIS
- BOWLING



**SCAN TO REGISTER**

## **JOIN US FOR OPEN GYMS DURING COFFEE HOUR**

- MARCH 1
- MARCH 15
- MARCH 29
- APRIL 5
- APRIL 19
- APRIL 26
- MAY 17



CONTACT LEANNA PITSOULAKIS AT LEEPITS16@GMAIL.COM WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN COACHING!

# STEWARDSHIP 2026 - RISE UP AND BUILD

## Nehemiah 2:18

### Building Up The Body of Christ



# Stewardship Commitment Card 2026

## Information

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent Children's names and birthdates:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

May we include your contact information in the parish directory?

yes  no *If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:*

\_\_\_\_\_

May we add you to our parish email list?

yes  no



## treasure

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church the following amount:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the year 2026.

## online giving

Use our convenient online giving option to make a convenient one-time or periodic gift to the church to fulfill your stewardship commitment here: [www.ourgiving.com](http://www.ourgiving.com)

online giving site scan the QR code below.



## gift of appreciated stock

I would like to speak with someone about making a gift of appreciated stock to the church.

## planned giving

I would like to speak with someone about how to remember the church in my will, trust, or estate plan.

## time & talent

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓).

Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

### EDUCATION

- Bible Study
- Adult Religious Education
- Intro to Orthodoxy
- Publications
- Speakers
- Bookstore
- Library

### LITURGICAL

- Sanctuary & Altar Care
- Altar boys / Acolytes
- Baking Prosfora
- Choir
- Reader
- Greeter/Usher

### YOUTH

- Church School Teacher
- Church School Administration
- Youth Leader
- Vacation Church School
- Camp Counselor

### MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

- Campus Ministry
- Welcome Team
- New Member Events
- Outreach
- Stewardship
- Sunday Fellowship / Coffee
- Visitation - Hospital
- Visitation - Shut-ins
- Feed the Hungry
- Prison Ministry
- Grief Bereavement Group
- Disaster Relief Projects
- Blood Drives
- Project Mexico
- Int'l Orth Christian Charities
- OCMC Mission Center
- Seniors Ministry
- Couples Ministry
- Singles Ministry
- Military Ministry

### BUILDING & GROUNDS

- Garden & Landscape
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Clean-up
- Interior Repairs
- Exterior Repairs
- Roofing
- Hall Rentals

### ADMINISTRATION

- Fiscal Mgt / Review
- By-Laws
- Development / Fundraising
- Office help
- Computer / Technical
- Data Entry

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Web site & E-mail
- Bulletin & Newsletter
- Public Relations

Any other talents or information on items listed above:

\_\_\_\_\_

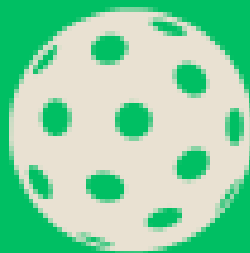
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# PICKLEBALL SUNDAY



**MARCH  
22ND**

**ALL ARE  
WELCOME**



**NO  
EXPERIENCE  
NECESSARY**

**ST. NICHOLAS GYM**

Open gym begins after  
fellowship concludes

**QUESTIONS?**  
CONTACT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
LEANNA PITSOULAKIS  
LEEPITS18@GMAIL.COM

# Papagalos



Birthday wishes to our lovely cousin and  
godsister, Carol Patsavas.

May your day be filled with love, joy and  
happiness! **Love, Your Favorite Cousins,  
Diane Kontos and Kathy Roupas**

\*\*\*\*

Bob Smith will be 75 years young this April!  
Thank God for all our years together!

**Love you Bob, Sue**

\*\*\*\*

We wish our son-in-law, Rick Repking, a very  
Happy Birthday in March.

**Love, Anna & Nick Paramboukas**

\*\*\*\*

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated to  
our Philoptochos Winter Wear Drive this year.

Your generosity has helped many of our  
neighbors keep warm this winter.

**Love, St. Nicholas Philoptochos**

\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to my wonderful husband.

**Love, Anna Paramboukas**

\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday to Gus Kamberos. Sending you  
lots of love and best wishes. Love your brothers,

**Lou and Ato and mom, Christine.**

\*\*\*\*

**Please submit your chats to  
chicagokathy@msn.com All chats are  
accepted on a first come basis and must  
be signed. Next chats will be for  
May/June**



Happy birthday to my beautiful daughter,  
Leanna Pitsoulakis. You are one of life's greatest  
blessings, and we thank God every day for you.  
May your year be filled with joy, love, and all the  
happiness your heart can hold.

**Love, mom and dad, Dianne and Paul**

\*\*\*\*

A very special thank you to our presenters who  
worked very hard to prepare their family recipes  
for our guests and to our dedicated volunteers,  
who are not only the most amazing people on the  
planet, but the very reason we were able to put  
our Cooking Class together and make it  
successful. We are grateful for your dedication  
and in the many ways you continue to strengthen  
Philoptochos.

**Cooking Class Chairperson, Cherie Cachampis**

\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to our St. Nicholas Philoptochos  
Sisters who celebrate in March.

They are Elaine Alexander, Angie Christou  
and Deborah Hristakos.

**Love, The St. Nicholas Philoptochos**

\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to our Philoptochos Sisters who  
celebrate in April. They are

Angie Koutsis, Georgia Danos,  
Janet Loukos, Sharon Gans, Georgia Stoes and  
Deborah Zuganelis.

**Love, The St. Nicholas Philoptochos**

\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to two of my  
Godsons, Dr. Peter Savas and Patrick Savas.

**Love, Nouna Georgia Sarlas**

Watching your  
child pick up  
45 Easter eggs in  
less than a minute  
when it takes hours  
for them to clean  
their room!!!





# Community News

**PALM MAKING:** We NEED your HELP!! We need over 600 palms made, so join us on Friday, April 3 at 5:00pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Your help is appreciated.

**GLENDI:** Thank you to all you worked so hard to put together our Glendi and also thank you to all who attended. A fun and fabulous time was had by all.

**MYROFORES:** See our flyer to serve as a Myrofora for the Lamentations Service. They represent the myrrh bearing women who anointed the body of Christ in the Tomb.

**HEY COLLEGE STUDENTS!** Can you send us your school address? If you are home, send a message as well!

- Name
- College name and address
- Email and Phone number:

Parents, if they don't see this message, can you send it in for them! We want to stay in touch!!

Email us at: [saintnicholasoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintnicholasoffice@gmail.com)

**PLEDGES:** If you have not pledged in 2025 or have not completed your pledge, we encourage you to send us your payment soon. We thank all of our committed Stewards for their love and support of our beloved St. Nicholas Parish. We have also made on-line giving available on our church website. <http://www.stnicholasil.org> for one-time and periodic giving. **DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE YOUR 2026 PLEDGE FORMS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEW YEAR.**

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SUPER BOWL WINNERS:**

1st Quarter & Reverse  
\$500 - Peter & Denise Coules  
\$250 - George Vamvakas

2nd Quarter & Reverse  
\$500 - Evan, Luke & Anna Repking  
\$250 - Nicholas Lamnatos

3rd Quarter & Reverse  
\$500 - Maria Stamas  
\$250 - Lanie Brosseau & Maddie Coules

Final Score  
\$2000 - Nicki McDonald

Final Score Reverse  
\$500 - Jim Vranas

**THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE:** Please see our list in the Wonderworker for Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha Donations. Your generosity ensures our parish will be a beautiful, prayerful space for this sacred season, helping the community enter into the solemnity and joy of Easter.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The S.O.N. Bookstore, located in the foyer of our Community Center stands for "Store of Orthodox Nourishment."

**JR. OLYMPICS SIGN UP:** Come be a part of the St. Nicholas team. See our flyer for signup. We NEED coaches.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY:** Don't forget, our General Assembly will take place on March 22 right after Liturgy. See our flyer for more information.



# Church Staff



- Parish Priest/Editor: Fr. Luke Melackrinos
- Parish Council President: George Vranas
- Vice President: Georgia Christakes
- Treasurer: George Manasses
- Asst. Treasurer: Ted Dimiropoulos
- Secretary: Tracey Fiffles-Nusko
- Parish Council Members:
  - George Antonopoulos Nick Pappas
  - James Antonopoulos James Patsavas
  - Tom Baffes Tom Pavlick
  - Peter Coules Paul Pitsoulakis
  - Joseph Marchione Rick Repking

- Philoptochos President: Georgia Sarlas
- Sunday School Directors: Presvytera Pearlann Bithos  
Helen Apostolopoulos
- Church Secretary: Presvytera Pearlann Bithos
- Chanter: Louis Anast
- Choir Director: George Panagopoulos
- Church Organist: Rosemary DeSanto
- Missions & Evangelism Director: Fr. Luke
- HOPE/JOY Advisor: Paula Giaouris George
- HOPE/JOY Advisor: Tina Repking
- S.O.N. Bookstore: Dianne Pitsoulakis
- Athletic Director: Leanna Pitsoulakis





## St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

10301 South Kolmar, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Phone: 708-636-5460

Fr. Luke Melackrinos, Protopresbyter, Proistamenos

**Email:** [saintnicholasoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintnicholasoffice@gmail.com)

**Website:** <http://www.stnicholasil.org/>

Following are the names on **Social Media** for parishioners to follow:

**Facebook:** *Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church*

**Facebook:** *Saint Nicholas Oak Lawn Greekfest*

(for all information/ updates on festival)

**Instagram:** *saintnicholasoaklawn*

St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society

**Facebook:** *St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos Society*

**Email:** [stnicklps@gmail.com](mailto:stnicklps@gmail.com)

Phone: 708-636-7874

**Digital Chant Stand:** Of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

This has all the services in both English and Greek to follow along.

Download the app available for Android phones on

Google Play or on the App Store for Apple phones

