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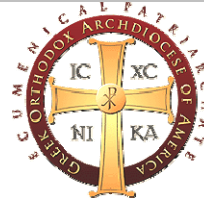
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Message from Father Jimmy

The icon of St. Demetrios shows him defeating an evil gladiator, but in reality it was a disciple of St. Demetrios, Nestor, who miraculously defeated Lyaaios in the gladiator ring. The church, in essence, gives credit of the miracle to St. Demetrios even though he did not actually fight the battle. One of the major virtues that we must pursue is humility. In the long run, God knows everything. What we are called is to serve Him.

The Church, which is the vehicle of salvation, must provide ways for one to better the soul. As a hospital has doctors and medicine, as a school has teachers and books, so the church has

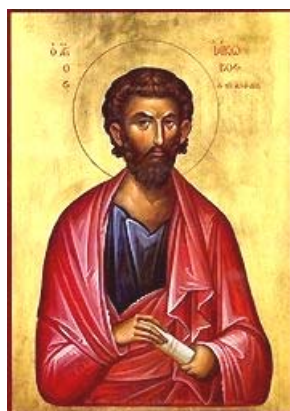
clergy, scripture, icons, and the sacraments. In a hospital are patients, in a school are students, and in a church are parishioners.

The church is a place where we should receive love and respect. The church is not here, however, to feed egos and control issues. When we do that, we negate that which the church pursues, which is to save souls. Without humility and obedience, we cannot gain virtue. Where jealousy and vain ambition exists, there is disorder. (James 13:17) In God's house, the focus, when one comes in the doors, is not personal opinions of how one thinks

The church should be or a desire to be in charge, but a question of how can I serve God and my fellow man. This is where true leadership lies. The parishioners of every congregation give a personality to the parish. The characteristics of a community should be representative of the fruits of the spirit which is joy, peace and love.

As we cultivate a personality as a congregation that is still relatively young, let us remember St. Demetrios who defeated evil through whom he taught and loved, and let that be the mission of our church.

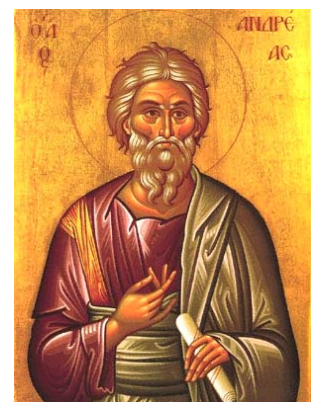
At A Glance: Fall 2009 Feast Days *(stories on page 2)*



ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE
October 23



**SAINTS COSMAS & DAMIANOS,
THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES,
AND THEIR MOTHER THEODOTA**
November 1



**ST. ANDREW,
THE FIRST CALLED APOSTLE**
November 30

"Let us commit ourselves, and one another, and our whole life unto Christ our God."

-Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Parish Council

Chris Felton, *President*

Don Meador, *Vice President*

George Tzavaras, *Secretary*

Daniel Cook, *Treasurer*

Bud Baer

Anna Besal

Kerry Caramanis

George Demergis

Michael Loizides

Marshia Maestas

Arthur Melton

Ginny Passaris

Eddie Redfearn

Andrew Wickard

Ev Zervoudakis

Contact Parish Council members through Niki in the church office, by e-mail at sngocvb621@cox.net, or by clicking on the "Parish Council" link on our website:

www.stnicksgoc.org

2009-2010 Youth Event Calendar

It's a new ecclesiastical year, which means a new year of events for the youth of St. Nicholas! Below is a list of planned events, including dates, times, locations, and coordinator contacts.

October 27, 2009, 6:30pm: Hunt Club Haunted Hay Ride (13-18 year olds), St. Nicholas Social Hall (Pete Mantzouranis 416-0810) Pete Mantzouranis 416-0810

October 25, 2009, 5:00pm: Family Night
St. Nicholas Social Hall (Pot luck sign up, Toni King)

November 20, 2009, 6:00pm: Girls Youth Ice Skating, 31st Street (RSVP to efz@mac.com)

December 11, 2009, 6:30pm: Youth Christmas Lights & Planet Pizza (RSVP to efz@mac.com)

December 19, 2009, 11:00am: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal & Santa visit
St. Nicholas Social Hall (Donna Samaras)

December 20, 2009, 5:00pm: Christmas Pageant, St. Nicholas Social Hall (Donna Samaras)

January 2010 (exact date to be announced), 6:30pm: Youth Pinboys Bowling (RSVP to efz@mac.com)

February 12, 2010, 7:00pm: Acolytes, St. Nicholas Social Hall (Lynn Edwards)

March 27, 2010, 9:30am: Lazarus Saturday Palm Folding, Bagel Communion Breakfast
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

April 30, 2010, 6:30pm: Girls Youth Jewelry Making, St. Nicholas Social Hall (RSVP to efz@mac.com)

May 21, 2010, 7pm: Youth Baking, St. Nicholas Social Hall

June 25, 2010: Youth End of the Year Party, Folk Dancing, Entire families invited to enjoy dancing (RSVP to efz@mac.com)
St. Nicholas Social Hall

From the Cover: *Lives of the Saints*

October 23: James the Apostle, son of Alphaeus

The holy Apostle James was one of the Twelve, and preached Christ to many nations, and finally suffered death by crucifixion.

November 1: Saints Cosmas and Damianos The Holy Unmercenaries & Their Mother Theodota

These Saints were from Asia (that is, Asia Minor). After the death of their father, their Christ-loving mother Theodota reared them in piety and in all manner of virtue, and had them instructed in every science, especially that of medicine. This became their vocation, and they went about healing every illness and malady, bestowing healing freely on both men and beasts alike; because of this, they are called "Unmercenaries." And thus, having completed the course of their life, they reposed in peace.

November 30: St. Andrew, The First Called Apostle

This Saint was from Bethsaida of Galilee; he was the son of Jonas and the brother of Peter, the chief of the Apostles. He had first been a disciple of John the Baptist; afterwards, on hearing the Baptist's witness concerning Jesus, when he pointed Him out with his finger and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1.29,36), he straightway followed Christ, and became His first disciple; wherefore he is called the First-called of the Apostles. After the Ascension of the Saviour, he preached in various lands; and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he died in Patras of Achaia, where he was crucified on a cross in the shape of an "X," the first letter of "Christ" in Greek; this cross is also the symbol of Saint Andrew.

For now is the time to labour for the Lord, for salvation is found in the day of affliction: for it is written: 'In your patience gain ye your souls' (Luke 21:19)

-Abba Isidore of Skete

The Men of St. Nicholas

Thank You

For making the
8th Annual
St. Nicholas Charity
Golf Tournament

to benefit St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
and Local Charities

A HUGE SUCCESS!

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Beautification Project



*If you would like to contribute to the
Altar Beautification Fund, please make checks payable to
"St. Nicholas Beautification Fund"
and mail to the church office.*

Religious Education Update

Sunday School classes sit together with their teachers in reserved pews at the front of the church each Sunday. Father Jimmy will give a sermon to our students each Sunday, after the Gospel reading. Church will begin at 10 a.m., so please make every effort to be in church promptly to worship God and learn together. After Holy Communion, the students and teachers will go to their classrooms for the week's lesson.

Youth Sunday is the 3rd Sunday of every month. The youth of our community sit in the front pews as usual but will sing with the choir starting at 10:00 a.m. sharp and ending at 10:15 a.m. The older children (middle and high school ages) will assist the parish council members by collecting the offerings tray. These older children will also stay in church for the whole service to listen to the sermon at the end of the Holy Liturgy. Therefore, they will not be attending their regularly scheduled Sunday school lessons.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 22, 2009!

Suggested Offertory Prayer
Adapted from the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

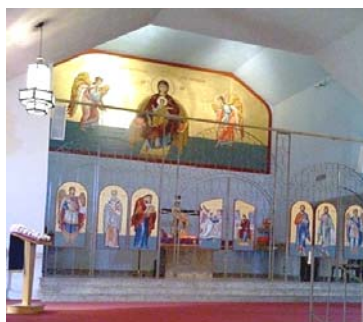
Priest [*or People Together*]: O Lord our God, You created us and brought us into this life. You showed us the way to salvation and have granted us the revelation of the heavenly mysteries. Accept our Stewardship Offering as an acceptable sacrifice and in return send down upon us the grace of your Holy Spirit. Look down on us, O Lord, and accept our Stewardship Commitment as You accepted the gifts of Abel, the offerings of Noah, the burnt offerings of Abraham, the priestly sacrifices of Moses and Aaron and the peace offerings of Samuel. Accept also now, in your goodness, O Lord, these gifts from the hands of us sinners, making us worthy of the reward of the faithful and wise stewards on the fearful day of Your just judgment.

For You are the God of mercy, love and salvation and we glorify You, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Journey to Consecration: Beautification Project Photo Update



Icons completed and installed.



Platytera completed.



Today.

FYI: Father Jimmy's sermons are available on our website at www.stnicksgoc.org, or by e-mail!

Contact **Alla Henkel** to be added to the e-mail list: ahenkel@cox.net

What's Cookin' at St. Nicholas?

The Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church is in the process of compiling a cookbook. This cookbook will be as unique as our church. We are a multi-ethnic congregation, and being aware of this fact, we desire to have everyone represented. Please give us recipes from your kitchens so that we can include them.

Our book will have the following categories: appetizers & beverages, breads, desserts, meats, poultry and seafood, salads, sauces and soups, ecclesiastical and Lenten foods, and fun foods.

The title of the cookbook will be **FROM THE KITCHENS OF THE SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH COMMUNITY**, and all proceeds will benefit the church.

Please give your written recipes to **Margaret Passaris** on Sundays after Divine Liturgy in the social hall or e-mail them to margaretcp@verizon.net. If you have any questions, please call Margaret at 497-1303.

Please submit in the following format: title of recipe, ingredients in 2 columns, instructions in paragraph form and name of the contributor. Please be as concise as possible.

St. Nicholas Vespers Scheduled

Mark your calendars for **December 5, 2009**. Plan to attend our St. Nicholas nameday vesper service and reception. This is the feast day of our beloved St. Nicholas Church. It is a time that the church is honored and respected.

Usually the church is filled with its immediate family and extended family members. We ask you honor all the Nicholas' in the community. Traditionally, anyone named Nicholas contributes to the reception by preparing a favorite dish or displaying beautiful flowers. This year Philoptochos as well as all the other ministries-- youth, choir, men's group, and Sunday school, will sponsor the reception. A sign- up sheet will be circulated Sundays after Divine Liturgy. Contact **Ev Zervoudakis**; she will be coordinating this event. You will truly enjoy this evening, be there at 6:00pm.

VBC 2009: "Gadget's Garage!"

This year's Vacation Bible Camp was a roaring success!

Congratulations to **Louisa Cook**, **Flo Blankenship**, and all the volunteers and teenagers who came together this past August to organize the best Vacation Bible Camp ever! This year's theme was "**Gadget's Garage**."

Topics of discussion throughout the week included "Mighty Wonder," "A Water Wonder," "A Growing Wonder," "A Glowing Wonder," and "A Risen Wonder."

More than 60 children participated in this year's event. Thank you to all who participated, and who helped this week-long event so successful!

"Saints Alive" Teaches Kids

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America has set up a special section of their website specifically for kids to learn and grow in our Orthodox Faith. There are interactive games, puzzles, and more at

<http://games.goarch.org/>

St. Nicholas Welcomes New Members!

The following have become members of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church during 2009. If you haven't had the chance to introduce yourself, please look for them at coffee hour and get to know them!

Christos & Angela Loukoumis & Family

Despina Huck

Joy Varney & Family

Nicholas & Kathryn Yamodis

Derrick & Joanna Buesen

Dennis & Helen Kampanis

Nicholas Jaqua

Phyllis Mihalas

Vassilis & Christine Kalatzis & Family

Alice Mataragas

Michael & Maria Georgiou

Alexcia Caudilo

Kalliope Doukas

Michael & Hrisavgi Kappas

Dr. Lambros & Zaharoula Viennas

Timothy & Jill Drosinos

Welcome to the St. Nicholas family.
May God grant you all many years!



St. Nicholas Steward in Motion

For more than 25 years, **Anna Besal** has been an active member of the community of Saint Nicholas. She has served in many capacities on the parish council and with the Ladies Philoptochos Society. As a member of the parish council, she has taken on the role of operating church windows, a computer-based program which manages the church records and gives timely information about Saint Nicholas.



As a Philoptochos member, she served as president from 1997 to 1999. She was publicity chairman in 1989, treasurer from 1993 to 1997, Epitaphion chairman from 1993 to 2007, board member from 1997 to 2000, pastichio chairman for the bake sale, prosforo maker, and a host of behind the scenes coordinator.

She has raised two lovely daughters, **Kathy** and **Barbara**, whom we watched grow up at Saint Nicholas. Kathy is a graduate of James Madison University and EVMS. Barbara is a graduate of William and Mary.

When Anna is not volunteering at Saint Nicholas, she enjoys crocheting, quilting, gardening, and is a volunteer for Lee's Friends. Her spiritual commitment to God and the family of Saint Nicholas truly makes her a steward in motion.

To our St. Nicholas GOC Family

To better serve our St. Nicholas Family, Father asks that all business matters be discussed on any day of the week except Sunday, our day of rest. Father looks forward to having coffee with all of you on Sundays.

We ask all business inquiries be conducted during business hours or scheduled appointments. To make an appointment with Father Jimmy, call the Church secretary, Niki, during office hours (10am to 3pm. Monday through Friday).

The phone number for the church is 422-5600. You may also e-mail Father Jimmy at frjimmy@stnicksgoc.org.

GET THERE EARLY!

THE PHILOPTOCHOS ANNUAL

BAKE SALE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

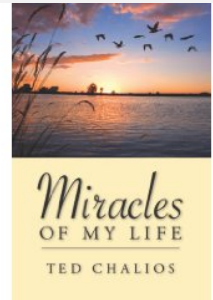
9:00am – 5:00pm

St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church
Fellowship Hall

Bookmark



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox
Church Bookstore



Copies of *Miracles of My Life* by St. Nicholas' own **Teddy Chalios** are available at the Church Bookstore for \$16.00.

There are still copies of the New Testament Orthodox Study Bible (and the version including the Psalms) at a reduced price.

Icons written by the hand of Sister Akylina may be ordered from the bookstore. Sister Akylina is **Margaret and Stanley Passaris's** granddaughter, and serves her sisterhood at the Nativity at the Theotokos Monastery, in Saxonburg, PA.

Of course, there are prayer ropes, wicks, charcoal, incense, CDs and DVDs available. A limited number of woven bookmarks featuring Orthodox icons will be arriving from Turkey and available in time for Christmas!

These items make wonderful birthday, nameday, holiday, wedding and baptismal gifts.

Special items may also be ordered through the Church Bookstore!

The St. Nicholas Annual Community Picnic

Sunday, October 11, 2009

(immediately following Divine Liturgy)

Great Neck Park, Shelter #5

Bring a side dish, appetizer, or dessert. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information, contact **Eleni** and **Brian Babcock**
450-3009 or 450-4108

Food. Fun. Family. Fellowship.



Looking for fellowship, spiritual development, and ways to better serve our parish? Introduce a friend, relative, or neighbor to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church!



St. Nicholas Church Staff

Niki Minadakis
Parish Secretary

Diane Blischak
Choir Director

Leslie Ullom
Church School Director

Bill Zelms
Sexton



Join the St. Nicholas Group on Facebook!

From Niki's Desk nikiminadakis@stnicholasvabeach.org

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR PLANNING SERVICES:

When planning any services-**memorials or churchings**-you must contact the priest/church office **two weeks** prior to the date so we may make proper preparations. For **weddings and baptisms**, **several months** are necessary for validation and securing proper certificates and registration from the Archdiocese.

Church divorces must be

filed and validated by the Archdiocese prior to scheduling the wedding date (approx 3-4 months).

Unless you are expecting a call from the Lord, please turn your cell phone off during the Divine Liturgy.

HOSPITAL VISITS:

Federal privacy guidelines will not allow the hospitals to inform us of patients by religious affiliation. Therefore, when parishioners of St. Nicholas are admitted into a

hospital, and they wish to have a priest visit them, it is imperative that a family member contact our church office immediately so we may minister to their loved ones.

After receiving communion, out of respect, please do not leave the church until the antidoron (blessed bread) has been distributed.

To become a member of St. Nicholas, please complete a registration form. To become a voting member, please remember to also submit your pledge card.

Blessed Events *Compiled by Marshia Maestas*

Baptisms and Chrismatons

Theodoros, son of **Christos** and **Angela Dourdoumis**, June 28, 2009.
Godparents: **Maria** and **Rocco Caputo**.

Weddings

Sophia Zambas and **Jesse Wassler**, June 27, 2009
Koumbara: **Viola Myers**

May God grant you all Many Years!



Memory Eternal

Constantine (Gus) Stambolis father of **Harriet Rushley** September 29, 2009

May his memory be eternal.



Luke Henkel and **Peter Pavlow** stick together on a Youth Group trip to the Petting Zoo in May 2009

The youth event calendar for 2009-2010 is on page 2. The parish event calendar is on Page 7.

AXIOS!

Two members of our St. Nicholas family have been promoted to Captain in the United States Navy.

Both have worked at Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (NATO) in Norfolk since 2007, and both have been members of St. Nicholas for a couple of years or more.

Congratulations to **Dave Culler**, a former F-18 squadron Commanding Office and F-18 pilot, and **Andrew Wickard**, a Navy logistician and member of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Parish Council, on your recent promotions!

It is both a joy and an honor having you and your families worshipping with us at St. Nicholas.

May God grant you and your families many years.

December Issue

Deadline for the December 2009 issue of the **Parish Newsletter** is **November 8, 2009**. E-mail your article, editorial comments or digital pictures to **Ev Zervoudakis** at **efz1@verizon.net**.

Due to space limitations, the Parish Newsletter editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions. All submissions become the property of the Newsletter.

October 2009

4 Sunday

-2nd Sunday of Luke

6 Tuesday

-St. Thomas

Orthros 8:30am,

Liturgy 9:30am

-Golf Tournament 11:30am

-Golf Tournament Dinner 5pm

8 Thursday

-Parish Council Meeting 6pm

11 Sunday

-Sunday of 7th Ecumenical Council

-St. Nicholas Church Picnic Shelter 5, Great Neck Park
(Following Divine Liturgy)

13 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm

18 Sunday

-St. Luke the Evangelist

-Youth Sunday

20 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm



ST. DEMETRIOS
October 26

21 Wednesday

-General Assembly Meeting
7:00pm

23 Friday

-St. James the Apostle
Orthros 8:30am
Liturgy 9:30am

25 Sunday

-6th Sunday of Luke

26 Monday

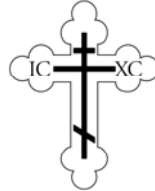
-St. Demetrios

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30am

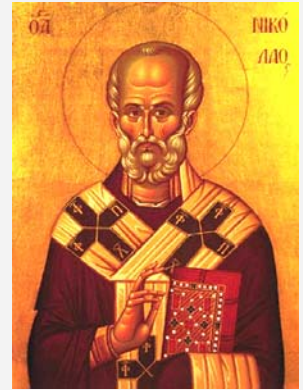
27 Tuesday

-Bible Study, 6:30pm



Stay up to date on events at St. Nicholas by clicking on the Church Calendar on our website:

www.stnicksgoc.org



Meetings

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

Monthly

Men's Group

Every 1st Monday
6:00 pm

Parish Council

Every 2nd Thursday
6:00 pm

Philoptochos

Every 3rd Thursday
7:00 pm
(unless otherwise noted)

Weekly

Bible Study

Tuesdays 6:30pm

Coffee Hour

Sundays Following
Divine Liturgy

Visit our website:

www.stnicksgoc.org

November 2009

1 Sunday

-5th Sunday of Luke

3 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm

8 Sunday

-7th Sunday of Luke

9 Monday

-Saint Nektarios

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30am

10 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm

12 Thursday

-Parish Council Mtg. 6:00pm

15 Sunday

-8th Sunday of Luke

-Youth Sunday

16 Monday

-Matthew the Evangelist

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30am

17 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm

20 Friday

-Philoptochos Bake Sale

22 Sunday

-9th Sunday of Luke

24 Tuesday

-Bible Study 6:30pm

25 Wednesday

-St. Katherine

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30 am

26 Thursday

Thanksgiving

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30 am

29 Sunday

-13th Sunday of Luke

30 Monday

-Saint Andrew

Orthros 8:30am

Liturgy 9:30 am



ST. NEKTARIOS

November 6

December 2009_____

St. Nicholas Name Day Family Gala

Saturday, December 12, 2009!
Watch the bulletin for details!

A complete list of Feast Days and the Saints of the day can be found by logging onto
www.goarch.org/calendar

"We will soon see, Lord, which of us two will win the contest: You, Who ever gives me good gifts, or I, who will never cease distributing them to the poor. For I know well there is nothing of mine that is not owing to Your mercy, which upholds my life."
(Prayer of St. John the Merciful)

ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23451

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stnicksgoc.org

Address Forwarding Requested

St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox
Church



Phone
(757) 422-5600
Fax
(757) 422-5722

*Please join us for coffee
hour every Sunday
following Divine Liturgy!*

Metropolitan +EVANGELOS Visits St. Nicholas



Church Bulletin Board

Let Us Attend!

The St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Fall **General Assembly Meeting** is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 7:00pm in the Fr. George and Evangeline Paulson Fellowship Hall.

Please plan to attend!

Kid's Korner Returns

Children have their own special place during coffee hour following Divine Liturgy on Sundays, full of fun activities, snacks, and fellowship.

If you'd like to help with supervising or providing refreshments for Kids Korner at St. Nicholas, contact **Diane Bernier!**

Save Your Receipts!

St. Nicholas is taking part in the Farm Fresh Register Tape Program this year to earn equipment and supplies for our church. Please save all your Farm Fresh Register Tapes and place them in the marked box in the Narthex or mail them to the church office. This is a very easy way to raise money for our church.