

HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

METHEXIS



**The Monthly Bulletin of Holy Trinity - St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church of Staten Island**

December 2025



HOLY TRINITY * ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Protopresbyter
Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD

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Pastoral Assistant - Master Chanter: Achilleas Gantzoz
Building Maintenance: Zisis Bello

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Monday – Friday
10:00am - 3:00pm

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Pto – Julia Balasis Maring, President
Goya – Chrissy Kourmidakis, Anna Zeakis-Lyons, Directors
Gina Roussis, Assistant
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Hellenic Dancers – Stella Viris, Kevi Langis
Greek School – Stavroula Champaki, Teacher
Sunday School – Priscilla Panteleakis,
Julia Balasis Maring, Directors

ORGANIZATIONS

Ahepa – Socrates Dapias
Daughters of Penelope – Elena Morakis
Kritiki Filoxenia – Nikos Yasparakis
Pancyprians – Philip Phytides

INFO

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Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ἁγίου Νικολάου

Ἦχος δ΄

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος,
ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξε σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου,
ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια·
διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά,
τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε·
πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Κοντάκιον τοῦ Ἁγίου Νικολάου

Ἦχος γ΄

Ἐν τοῖς Μύροις Ἅγιε,
ἱεουργὸς ἀνεδείχθης· τοῦ Χριστοῦ γὰρ Ὅσιε,
τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον πληρώσας,
ἔθηκας τὴν ψυχὴν σου ὑπὲρ λαοῦ σου,
ἔσωσας τοὺς ἀθώους ἐκ τοῦ θανάτου· διὰ τοῦτο ἡγιάσθης,
ὥς μέγας μύστης Θεοῦ τῆς χάριτος.

Ὁ Οἶκος

Ἀνυμνήσωμεν νῦν τὸν Ἱεράρχην ἄσμασι,
τὸν ἐν Μύροις λαοὶ ποιμένα καὶ διδάσκαλον,
ἵνα ταῖς πρεσβείαις αὐτοῦ ἐλλαμφοῦμεν·
ἰδοὺ γὰρ ὦφθη ὅλος καθάριστος, ἀκήρατος πνεύματι,
Χριστῷ προσάγων θυσίαν ἄμωμον,
τὴν εὐλκρινῇ καὶ Θεῷ εὐπρόσδεκτον,
ὥς ἱερεὺς κεκαθαρμένος τῇ ψυχῇ καὶ τῇ σαρκί·
ὅθεν ὑπάρχει ἀληθῶς, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας προστάτης,
καὶ ὑπέρμαχος ταύτης,
ὥς μέγας μύστης Θεοῦ τῆς χάριτος.

Apolytikion for the Saint Nicholas

Mode 4

A rule of faith are you, and an icon of gentleness,
and a teacher of self-control.
And to your flock this was evident,
by the truth of your life and deeds.
You were humble and therefore you acquired exalted gifts,
treasure in heaven for being poor.
O Father and Hierarch St. Nicholas,
intercede with Christ our God,
and entreat Him to save our souls.

Κontakion for the Saint Nicholas

Mode 3

You became the minister of sacred mysteries in Myra,
holy father Nicholas. Fulfilling Christ's holy Gospel,
you laid down your very soul for your people,
and you saved those who were innocent from dying.
For this reason you were hallowed as a great mystic
of the divine grace of God.

Oikos

Let us now with songs extol the Hierarch,
O people, that shepherd and teacher in Myra,
so that by his intercession we may be illumined.
Behold, he appeared completely pure, incorrupt in spirit,
offering to Christ a blameless sacrifice,
sincere, acceptable to God,
as a priest purified in soul and body.
Therefore, he is truly the Church's protector
and her champion, as a great mystic
of the divine grace of God.

*«Δόξα ἐν ὑψίστοις Θεῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς εἰρήνη, ἐν ἀνθρώποις εὐδοκία»
(Λουκά β', 14)*

Πέρασαν στα αλήθεια 2025 χρόνια από τότε που ακούσθηκε για πρώτη φορά ο αγγελικός αυτός ύμνος της ειρήνης. Μια τεράστια στρατιά ουράνιων Αγγέλων έψαλλε στον κόσμο το χαρμόσυνο και σωτήριο μήνυμα της Γεννήσεως του Ιησού Χριστού. Στο πέραςμα όλων αυτών των χρόνων πολλοί ταλαιπωρημένοι άνθρωποι επιζήτησαν εναγωνίως την ειρήνη **«καὶ ὁδὸν εἰρήνης οὐκ ἔγνωσαν»** κατά τον ψαλμωδό, δεν βρήκαν δηλαδή δρόμο ειρήνης. Παρά τις προόδους του πολιτισμού και την έξαρση της τεχνολογίας, ο πόνος, η ανησυχία και η ανασφάλεια κυριαρχούν για εκατομμύρια ανθρώπους.

Σε πολλά μέρη της γης οι άνθρωποι αρνήθηκαν την ειρήνη του Χριστού και συνεχίζουν να ζουν μέσα στον φόβο και την αγωνία, γιατί δεν ξέρουν τι ακριβώς τους περιμένει όταν ξημερώσει. Ποιος άραγε μπορεί να τους δώσει άσυλο και προστασία; Μόνον η Εκκλησία, το μέγα μυστήριο του ζωντανού και αληθινού Θεού. Μάταια προσπαθούν να βρουν την ειρήνη με ομιλίες, με συνθήκες και με συνεδριάσεις εθνών. Και φυσικά η ειρήνη δεν έρχεται διότι την αναζητούν χωρίς τον Ιησού Χριστό που μας διαβεβαίωσε ότι Αυτός είναι η **«ὄντως Εἰρήνη»**.

Η ειρήνη είναι προϊόν του ουρανού. Είναι δώρο Θεού. Είναι καρπός του Αγίου Πνεύματος. Η αληθινή και μόνιμος ειρήνη δεν μπορεί να πραγματοποιηθεί μακριά από τον Θεό. Ειρήνη σημαίνει κοινωνία με τον ίδιο τον Χριστό. Ο άγιος Γρηγόριος Αρχιεπίσκοπος Θεσσαλονίκης ο Παλαμάς, μιλώντας για το κοσμοσωτήριο γεγονός της θείας Ενανθρωπήσεως μας προτρέπει **«Εἰρηνεύωμεν οὖν πρὸς τὸν Θεόν τὰ εὐάρεστα Αὐτῷ ποιοῦντες»**. Για να έχουμε δηλαδή ειρήνη, να κάνουμε αυτά που είναι εὐάρεστα στο Θεό. Γι' αυτό η ειρήνη όλου του κόσμου αρχίζει από την ειρήνη των δικών μας ψυχών. Υπάρχει ειρήνη μέσα στην ψυχή μας; υπάρχει ειρήνη μέσα στην οικογένεια; υπάρχει ειρήνη ανάμεσα στους συνανθρώπους;

Το λαμπερό αστέρι που ανατέλλει από το Σπήλαιο της Βηθλεέμ, καταυγάζει και φωτίζει τον σκοτισμένο κόσμο ως η μόνη και αδιάψευστη ελπίδα. Το μυστήριο της ενανθρωπήσεως του Χριστού διατηρεί στο ακέραιο την επικαιρότητά του. Η ειρήνη και η δικαιοσύνη παραμένουν πάντοτε τα επιθυμητά και ζητούμενα μέσα στον κόσμο της φθοράς και της πτώσεως.

Εύχομαι ολόψυχα στον καθένα ξεχωριστά, η **«πάντα νοδὴν ὑπερέχουσα»** ειρήνη του Θεού να έλθει στην καρδιά σας και σε όλο τον Κόσμο. Ας πάρουμε τη μεγάλη απόφαση τα φετινά Χριστούγεννα να πλησιάσουμε τον Σωτήρα Χριστό ώστε να βρούμε την πραγματική ειρήνη και ευτυχία που τόσο ανάγκη έχει ο καθένας μας. Ας τρέξουμε στη νοητή Βηθλεέμ, δηλαδή την Εκκλησία, να προσκυνήσουμε τον γεννηθέντα Κύριο, ψάλλοντας μαζί με τους Αγγέλους τον χαρμόσυνο ύμνο **«Δόξα ἐν ὑψίστοις Θεῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς εἰρήνη, ἐν ἀνθρώποις εὐδοκία»**.

Καλά και ευλογημένα Χριστούγεννα!

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



Βασίλειος Γ. Αποστολίδης, Δρ.Μ
Ίερατικός Προϊστάμενος

✠

«Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men»

(Luke 2,14)

It is a quiet truth that two thousand and twenty-five years have passed since this angelic hymn of peace was heard for the first time. A great host of heavenly angels sang to the world the joyful and saving message of Jesus Christ's Nativity. Over all these years, many suffering people have eagerly sought peace, yet they have not found *«the way of peace.»* as the Apostle says, meaning they have not discovered true peace. Despite advancements in civilization and the rise of technology, pain, unrest, and insecurity continue to afflict millions.

In many parts of the world, people have rejected the peace of Christ and still live in fear and anxiety because they do not know what awaits them at dawn. Who can offer them safety and protection? Only the Church, the great mystery of the living and true God. They vainly seek peace through speeches, treaties, and international meetings. However, peace does not come from seeking it without Jesus Christ, who assured us that He is *«indeed Peace.»*

Peace is a heavenly gift from God. It is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. True and lasting peace cannot be achieved apart from God. Peace means communion with Christ Himself. Saint Gregory, Archbishop of Thessaloniki, the Palamas, speaking about the world-saving event of the divine Incarnation, encourages us to *«Peace those who please God.»* In other words, to attain peace and do what pleases God. That is why the peace of the entire world begins with peace within our own souls. Is there peace within your soul? Is there peace in your family? Is there peace among fellow human beings?

The bright star that rises from the Cave of Bethlehem shines, illuminating the darkened world as the only undeniable hope. The mystery of Christ's incarnation remains relevant through the ages. Peace and justice remain the world's desired ideals, yet they are often elusive amid decay and decline.

I sincerely wish for each of you and your loved ones that the *«ever-present»* peace of God will enter your hearts and the hearts of the entire world. Let's make the big decision this Christmas to draw closer to the Savior, Christ, so we can find the true peace and happiness that we all desperately need. Let us run to the humble manger, to the Church, to worship the newborn Lord, singing with the Angels the joyful hymn, *«Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.»*

Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Reverend Protopresbyter

Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD
Presiding Priest

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

FEAST DAY OF OUR PATRON SAINT

Friday 5 7:00pm **St. Nicholas Great Vespers with Artoklasia**

FEAST DAY OF OUR PATRON SAINT

Saturday 6 **St. Nicholas the Wonderworker**
9:00am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday 7 **10th Sunday of Luke**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Wednesday 10 5:00pm **Small Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos – Bible Study**

Sunday 14 **11th Sunday of Luke**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Wednesday 17 7:00pm **Holy Unction**

Sunday 21 **Sunday before Nativity**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Wednesday 24 8:00am **Great Hours** - 10:00am **Christmas Vespers & the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil**

Thursday 25 **THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**
9:00am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday 28 **Sunday after Nativity**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Η ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ ΜΑΣ

Παρασκευή 5 7:00π.μ. Πανηγυρικός Έσπερινός μετ' άρτοκλασίας

Η ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ ΜΑΣ

Σάββατο 6 Αγίου Νικολάου Έπισκόπου Μύρων τοῦ θαυματουργοῦ
9:00π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 7 10^η Κυριακή Λουκᾶ
8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τετάρτη 10 5:00π.μ. Μικρὸς Παρακλητικὸς Κανόνας - Μελέτη Αγίας Γραφῆς

Κυριακή 14 11^η Κυριακή Λουκᾶ
8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τετάρτη 17 7:00μμ Ίερό Εὐχέλαιο

Κυριακή 21 Κυριακή πρό τῆς Χριστοῦ Γεννήσεως
8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τετάρτη 24 8:00 π.μ. Μεγάλες Ώρες - 10:00 π.μ. Έσπερινός Χριστουγέννων
καί ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία τοῦ Μεγάλου Βασιλείου

Πέμπτη 25 Η ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ ΗΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ
9:00π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 28 Κυριακή μετά την Χριστοῦ Γέννησιν
8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

1	Δ	Ναούμ προφ., Φιλαρέτου οσίου, Θεοκλήτου, Ανανίου	
2	Τ	+ Πορφυρίου Κausοκαλυβίτου , Αββακούμ προφ., Μυρόπης	
3	Τ	Σοφονίου προφ. Αγγελή νεομ. του εν Χίω	
4	Π	+ Βαρβάρας μεγαλομάρτυρος , Ι. Δαμασκηνού	
5	Π	+ Σάββα οσίου του ηγιασμένου	
6	Σ	+ Αγ. Νικολάου αρχιεπ. Μύρων της Λυκίας	
7	Κ	+ Ι΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ . Αμβροσίου Μεδιολάνων, Γερασίμου Ευβοίας	
8	Δ	Σωσθένους, Απολλώ, Τυχικού αποστόλ. Παταπίου οσ.	
9	Τ	+ Σύλληψις Θεοτόκου από την Αγ. Άννα	
10	Τ	Μηνά Καλλικελάδου, Ερμογένους Ευγράφου μαρτύρων	
11	Π	Δανιήλ και Λουκά νέου των Στυλιτών	
12	Π	+ Σπυρίδωνος επισκ. Τριφυθούντος	
13	Σ	Ευστρατίου, Αυξεντίου και Ορέστου μάρτ	
14	Κ	+ ΙΑ΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ . Θύρσου, Φιλήμονος, Απολλωνίου μαρτύρων	
15	Δ	+ Ελευθερίου ιερομάρτυρος και μητρός Ανθίας	
16	Τ	Αγγαίου προφ. Θεοφανούς, Μοδέστου	
17	Τ	+ Διονυσίου Ζακύνθου , Δανιήλ προφήτου	
18	Π	Σεβαστιανού και των συν αυτό μαρτ.	
19	Π	Βονιφατίου Ταρσού, Ευτυχίου μάρτ. Θεσσαλονίκης	
20	Σ	+ Ιγνατίου Θεοφόρου , Φιλογονίου	
21	Κ	+ ΠΡΟ ΤΗΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΕΩΣ . Θεμιστοκλέους μ., Ιουλιανής	
22	Δ	Αναστασίας φαρμακολυτριάς, Θεοδότης & 3 παίδων αυτής	
23	Τ	Των εν Κρήτη 10 μαρτύρων	
24	Τ	+ Ευγενίας οσιομάρτυρος, Υακίνθου, Θεοκλείου μαρτ.	
25	Π	+ Η ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ	
26	Π	+ Σύναξις Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου	
27	Σ	+ Στεφάνου Πρωτομάρτυρος , Θεοδώρου ομολογ.	
28	Κ	+ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΝ . Των εν Νικομηδεία 20.000 μαρτύρων	
29	Δ	Των 14.000 αναιρεθέντων νηπίων	
30	Τ	Ανυσίας οσιομάρτυρος, Φιλεταίρου	
31	Τ	Μελάνης οσίας της Ρωμαίας, Ζωτικού του ορφανοτρόφου	
ΗΜ	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ	ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ	ΗΧΟΣ - ΕΩΘΙΝΟΝ
4	Γαλ. γ΄,23-29; δ΄,1-5	Μρκ. ε΄,24-34	—
6	Εβρ. ιγ΄,17-21	Λκ. στ΄,17-23	—
7	Εφεσ. ε΄,8-19	Λκ. ιγ΄,10 -17	α΄ / Δ΄
12	Εφεσ. ε΄,8-19	Ιωάν. ι΄,9-16	—
14	Κολ. γ΄,4 -11	Λκ. ιδ΄,16-24	β΄ / Ε΄
21	Εβρ. ια΄,9-10; 32-40	Μτθ. α΄,1-25	γ΄ / ΣΤ΄
25	Γαλ. δ΄,4-7	Μτθ. β΄,1-12	—
26	Εβρ. β΄,11-18	Μτθ. β΄,13-23	—
27	Πράξ. στ΄,8-15; ζ΄,1-5,47-60	Μτθ. ιβ΄,15-21	—
28	Γαλ. α΄,11-19	Μτθ. β΄,13 -23	δ΄ / Ζ΄



SAINTS OF THE MONTH

1	M	Naoum, Philaret, Theokletos, Ananias
2	T	+ Porfyrios Kafsokalivitis the Righetous , Proph. Habbakum
3	W	Prophet Sophonius, Angelo of Chios
4	T	+ Barbara the Great Martyr , John Damascene
5	F	+ Savvas the Sanctified
6	S	+ Nicholas Archbishop of Myra in Lycia
7	S	+ 10th SUN OF LUKE . Ambrose of Milan, Gerasimos of Evia
8	M	Sosthenis, Apollos, Tychikos the Apostles
9	T	+ Conception of Theotokos by St. Anna
10	W	Menas, Ermogenes, Eugrafus the Martyr
11	T	Daniel and Luke the Stylites
12	F	+ Spyridon of Trimythous
13	S	Eustratius, Auxentius and Orestus the Martyrs
14	S	+ 11th SUN OF LUKE . Thyrsos, Philemon, Apollonios the Martyrs
15	M	+ Hieromartyr Eleftherios and his mother Anthia
16	T	Prophet Haggai, Theophanes, Modestus
17	W	+ Dionysios of Zakynthos , Daniel the Prophet
18	T	Sebastian and his company, Michael the Confessor
19	F	Boniface of Tarsus, Eutychios the Martyr of Thssaloniki
20	S	+ Ignatius the Godbearer , Philogonos
21	S	+ SUN BEFORE THE NATIVITY . Martyr Themistokles, Juliana
22	M	Anastasia the Great Martyr, Theodoti and her 3 children
23	T	The 10 Martyrs of Crete
24	W	+ Eugenia the Righteous Martyr and her companions
25	T	+ BIRTH OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST
26	F	+ Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos
27	S	+ Stephen the First Martyr , Theodore the Confessor
28	S	+ SUN AFTER THE NATIVITY . The 20.000 Martyrs of Nicomedia
29	M	The 14.000 children killed by Herod
30	T	Anysia the Righteous, Phileteros
31	W	Melanie the Righteous of Rome, Zotikos

D	EPISTLE	GOSPEL	TONE - EOTHINON
4	Gal.3:23-29; 4:1-5	Mark 5:24-34	—
6	Heb. 13:17 - 21	Luke 6:17 – 23	—
7	Eph. 5:8 -19	Luke 13:10 -17	1st / 4th
12	Eph. 5:8 -19	John 10:9 -16	—
14	Col. 3:4 -11	Luke 14:16 -24	2nd / 5th
21	Heb. 11:9-10; 32-40	Matt. 1:1-25	3rd / 6th
25	Gal. 4:4 - 7	Matt. 2:1 -12	—
26	Heb. 2:11 -18	Matt. 2:13 -23	—
27	Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-54-60	Matt. 12:15 -21	—
28	Gal.1:11 -19	Matt. 2:13 -23	4th / 7th

ORTHODOX STUDIES

St. Nicholas Bishop of Myra

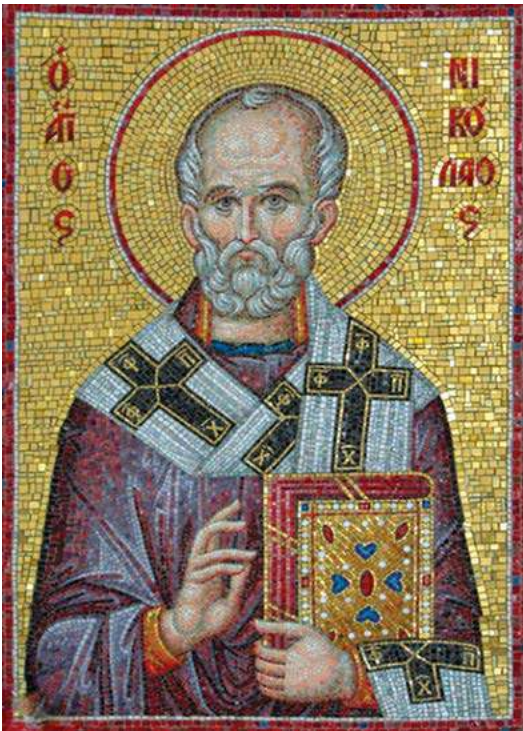
Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in Lycia, the Wonderworker, was born around 275 AD in Patara, Lycia (part of the Antalya Province in modern-day Turkey), to devout parents, Theophanes and Nona, who dedicated him to God from birth. From a young age, he embraced a life of piety and fasting. Educated by his uncle, the Bishop of Patara, Nicholas not only developed a deep love for the Scriptures but also pursued intense prayer, asceticism, and devotion to

God. His spiritual maturity and wisdom were evident even early on, making him a model of piety among those who knew him.

After being ordained a priest, Nicholas became known for his charity, distributing his inheritance to the poor and often performing good deeds in secret. He regarded himself merely as a steward of the gifts God had granted him, believing that the wealth he possessed rightfully belonged to those in need. His humility and generosity were rooted in a deep sense of responsibility to love God and neighbor.

Following the death of his parents, Nicholas sought a life of solitude, but God had other plans—calling him to serve the people. He was eventually chosen as Bishop of Myra, a city in Asia Minor. As a bishop, Nicholas was known for his mercy, wisdom, and fearless defense of the Christian faith and his flock. During the persecution of Christians under Emperor Diocletian, he was imprisoned but continued to encourage and inspire the faithful even from behind bars.

Nicholas's defense of truth was further demonstrated at the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea (325 AD), where, in a moment of righteous indignation, he struck the heretic Arius for his blasphemies—Arius having falsely taught that Christ was not fully God. Though Nicholas was initially removed from the council for this act, he was reinstated after





Christ and the Theotokos appeared in a vision to several of the other fathers, affirming his zeal for the faith.

One of the most famous stories of St. Nicholas involves his rescue of a poor man's three daughters from being sold into slavery. In response to the man's desperate situation, Nicholas came in the night and secretly left a bag of gold to provide a dowry for one of the daughters. He repeated this act of charity twice more, each time ensuring the man would not know the source of the aid. On the third night, the man discovered Nicholas as he was leaving the bag of gold and fell to his knees, overwhelmed by gratitude and shame. Realizing that he had nearly sold his daughters into slavery, he asked Nicholas for forgiveness—not only for his desperate plan but also for trying to uncover the identity of his benefactor, whom he now recognized as a true man of God. This story not only highlights Nicholas's compassion but also serves as the origin of Santa Claus, symbolizing the saint's role as a joyful giver of secret gifts.

Even after his death on December 6, 343 AD, St. Nicholas continued to be venerated for his miraculous intercessions. His relics were transferred to Bari, Italy, in 1087 after

Myra fell to Saracen invaders, and are known to exude myrrh, a fragrant oil associated with miracles. His popularity spread throughout both the Christian East and West, establishing him as the patron saint of sailors, travelers, the suffering, the poor, and other groups in need of protection. In Western Christianity, he is also regarded as the patron of children. Throughout his life, Nicholas's compassion and courage made him a steadfast protector and advocate for those in need.

Saint Nicholas is credited with working numerous miracles, both for those who called upon him and for those in desperate situations. He has saved sailors from shipwrecks, rescued a city from famine, and freed the wrongly accused. On more than one occasion, he saved people from drowning and guided ships safely back to shore. He also appeared in visions to offer aid, such as instructing an Italian merchant to deliver grain to the starving people of Myra. These miracles further solidified Nicholas's status as a source of hope and aid for the faithful.

St. Nicholas is remembered annually on December 6, commemorating his passing into eternal life. His legacy of humility, charity, and unwavering faith remains a model of Christian virtue, inspiring believers around the world to imitate his example of Christ-like love, compassion, generosity, and prayer. Truly, this great saint was a genuine and caring pastor, a zealous defender of the faith, and a pillar of the Church.

ORTHODOX STUDIES

Τα ιερά λείψανα του Αγίου Νικολάου και οι «ιστορικές περιπέτειες» αυτών

Το τίμιο λείψανο του Αγίου Νικολάου, μετά την κοίμησή του, μεταφέρθηκε με τα χέρια Επισκόπων και, με τιμητική πομπή, τοποθετήθηκε σε ειδικό μνημείο-σαρκοφάγο στον ναό των Μύρων της Λυκίας. Από το λείψανο του Αγίου ανέβλυζε μύρο, το οποίο εθεράπευε ψυχικές και σωματικές ασθένειες. Γράφει χαρακτηριστικά ο Κωνσταντίνος ο Πορφυρογέννητος (10ος αιώνας) στο «Περί θεμάτων» έργο του: «Είτα των Λυκίων πόλιν, την μυρίπνουν τε και τρισόλβιον, εν ήπερ ο μέγας Νικόλαος, ο του Θεού θεράπων, αναβλύζει τα μύρα κατά το της πόλεως όνομα».

Το έτος 1087 μ.Χ., επί αυτοκράτορος Αλεξίου Κομνηνού (1081-1118 μ.Χ.), η επαρχία της Λυκίας και η πόλη των Μύρων δεινοπαθούν από τους Αγαρηνούς. Γι' αυτό και οι μοναχοί, που διακονούσαν στο προσκύνημα του Αγίου, φαίνεται να συναινούν υπό το κράτος του φόβου στην πρόταση «εμπόρων» από το Μπάρι της Ιταλίας, που στην πραγματικότητα ήσαν Λατίνοι κληρικοί, να πραγματοποιήσουν την ανακομιδή των ιερών λειψάνων που τελικά εκλάπησαν και μετακομίστησαν στο Μπάρι. Το έτος 1100, οι Βενετιάνοι που συμμετείχαν στην Α' Σταυροφορία, υπό την αρχηγία του υιού του Δόγη της Βενετίας, Ιωάννου Vitale Michiel και του Enrico Contarini, Επισκόπου του Castello της Βενετίας, προσάραξαν σκόπιμα στις ακτές της Λυκίας, για να συλλήσουν τα εναπομείναντα ιερά λείψανα του Θωμα-

τουργού Αγίου των Μύρων που οι «έμποροι» του Μπάρι είχαν λόγω βιασύνης παραμελήσει να συλλήσουν. Τα πήραν μαζί στο ένοπλο προσκύνημα στους Αγίους Τόπους και τα μετέφεραν τελικά στην Βενετία, όπου τα εναπέθεσαν στο Ναό του Αγίου Νικολάου στη νήσο Λίντο.

Από το Μπάρι και τη Βενετία αποτμήματα των ιερών λειψάνων έχουν μετακομισθεί σε διάφορες χώρες και ναούς.

Αποτμήματα των ιερών λειψάνων του Αγίου Νικολάου φυλάσσονται στην Ιερά Μονή Αγίου Νικολάου Βάθειας, στην πόλη Ρίμινι της Ιταλίας, στη Γερμανία, στο Μητροπολιτικό Μουσείο Νέας Υόρκης, το Αρχαιολογικό Μουσείο της Αττάλειας, και αλλαχού.

Πηγή: Αποστολική Διακονία



Ο τάφος του Αγίου Νικολάου στα Μύρα της Λυκίας



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

ΙΕΡΟΝ ΕΥΧΕΛΑΙΟΝ HOLY UNCTION

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 17
7:00P.M.

Ἄσθενεῖ τις ἐν ὑμῖν; προσκαλεσάσθω τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς ἐκκλησίας,
καὶ προσευξάσθωσαν ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἀλείψαντες αὐτὸν ἐλαίῳ
ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι τοῦ Κυρίου (1άκ. 5,14)

*Is anyone among you sick?
Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them
and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord (Jam.5:14)*

PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners,

December is a blessed and joyful month for our parish, filled with opportunities for worship, fellowship, and celebration.

Feast Day of St. Nicholas

We joyfully prepare to honor our Patron Saint, St. Nicholas.

- **Great Vespers:** Friday, December 5th at 7:00 PM
- **Orthros & Divine Liturgy:** Saturday, December 6th at 9:00 AM

We encourage all parishioners to join us in prayer and thanksgiving on this special feast.

Annual Holiday Cocktail Party

The Parish Council warmly invites you to our **Annual Holiday Cocktail Party** on **Saturday, December 6th at 7:30 PM** at **The Colonnade Restaurant**, 2001 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island.

Enjoy an elegant evening featuring:

- Cocktails
- Buffet dinner
- Music
- 50/50 raffle

Cost: \$99 per person

RSVP: Please contact Pauline Thaten at **917-932-4076** or purchase your ticket using the QR code.

Parish Council Elections

Parish Council elections will take place on **Sunday, December 14th**.

We encourage all Stewards in good standing to take part in this important process.

50/50 Mega Raffle

Our 50/50 Mega Raffle is underway!

Tickets may be purchased from any Parish Council member, by contacting the church office, or by visiting our parish website.

The winning ticket will be drawn on **Sunday, December 21st** during coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy.

Season's Greetings

On behalf of the Parish Council, I extend heartfelt wishes for a **Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year** to you and your families.

Spyro Lazaretos
President



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



St. NICHOLAS Feast Day

ON SATURDAY **DECEMBER 6TH** WE CELEBRATE
THE FEAST DAY OF OUR PATRON SAINT NICHOLAS
BISHOP OF MYRA THE WONDERWORKER

THE LITURGICAL SERVICES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS

Friday Dec 5TH

7:00PM GREAT VESPERS WITH ARTOKLASIA

Saturday Dec 6TH

09:00AM ORTHROS OF SAINT NICHOLAS

10:00AM FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY

ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL





HOLY TRINITY • ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



To buy your tickets
call the office (718) 494-0658
or scan here



HOLY TRINITY • ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

Holiday Cocktail Party

Celebrating
St Nicholas

December 6th
7:30 - 11:30 pm

Open bar Buffet Music

\$99 per ticket

The Colonnade - Restaurant
2001 Hylan Blvd
Staten Island, NY

50/50 Raffle

Please contact Pauline Tharen (917) 932-4076
for questions and RSVP by Dec 4th
or scan here for your ticket



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Presbytera Elisavet

Ingredients for Melomakarona:

2 cups oil	1/2 teaspoon cloves
1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup orange juice	6 cups flour
1 cup brandy	2 cups semolina
1 teaspoon cinnamon	

Ingredients for the syrup:

3 cups sugar	1 orange cut in half
2 cups water	1 cinnamon stick
1 cup honey	



Preparation for melomakarona

Preheat the oven to 350°F in fan-forced mode. Pour all the ingredients except the flour and semolina into a large bowl and mix with a hand whisk. In a second bowl, mix the flour with the semolina. Add the mixture with the solids to the mixture with the liquid ingredients slowly and mix very gently with your hands, for a very short time. Take a piece the size of a walnut and shape the melomakarona into a uniform shape. Lightly press their surface with a fork and make patterns and holes and bake for about 20-25 minutes until they become crispy and take on a nice color.

Preparation for syrup

We make it first so that it has time to cool: In a saucepan, put the water, sugar, cut orange and cinnamon stick. Place on the heat, let it boil for 1 minute and remove. Pour in the honey and let the syrup cool. Syrup the melomakarona. Pour the hot melomakarona into the cold syrup and leave for 10-15 seconds.

Serving

Strain and sprinkle with honey and walnuts.

Tips

The dough for the melomakarona does not require much work because it will release its oil and they will not become crispy.

Melomakarona origin story

Most people believe that the word macaroni is an Italian word, but it has ancient Greek origins. The word “macaroni” in turn comes from the ancient Greek word “makaria” or “makaria” which was none other than the psychopita, that is, a piece of bread, in the shape of the modern melomakarono, which was offered after the funeral. The macaria or makaria were later bathed in honey syrup and were called: honey + makaria = melomakarona. Melomakarona were established as a dessert of the Twelfth Day (December 25 until January 6). The reason was that with the birth of Christ an old world gave way to a new sweet life, which is why the “makaria” were sprinkled with honey.

LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY



Dear Philoptochos Members and fellow parishioners,

As we begin this season of giving, I want to thank all who attended and supported our “Men Who Cook” October 25th, 2025. The Chefs outdid themselves this year and without them we would not be able to have this event. It was a tremendous success for our “Feed the Hungry” program. Congratulations to our Cook-Off winners. God Bless you all and thank you!!

Please note the following are our events for the month of December:

12/5 Vespers for St. Nicholas (coffee & refreshments)

We look forward to seeing everyone at vespers for St. Nicholas in celebration of our church's Name Day. Ladies Philoptochos wishes everyone Hronia Polla!

12/6 Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen

Thank you to our Soup Kitchen crew for their devotion on November 1st. The crew cooked and served 166 people with the following meal: Baked Salmon, asparagus, mashed potatoes, fresh green mixed salad, bread/butter and pudding w/raisins on top. A job well done!!

12/7 Philoptochos Monthly Tray

****Vasilopita from Agia Skepi: Pre-order and pre-pay for your Vasilopitas now until **Sunday, December 7th, 2025******

12/10 Philoptochos Christmas Outing

Wednesday, December 10th, 2025 (6:30 pm-10:00 pm)

DeLuca's Italian Restaurant

7324 Amboy Road

Cost: \$65/pp

If interested, please contact Irene Panagos (718) 288-7366



12/21 Hand Out Vasilopita

Pick up for Vasilopita is Sunday, December 21st after liturgy until 1:00 pm (refrigerating your bread will keep it fresh until New Year's Day. Any questions, contact Penny Karidis (917)626-4943 or Dee Sidiropoulos (917)669-0586)

12/25 Christmas

12/26 Project Hospitality

Please mark your calendars:

1/14 Our next monthly meeting is on Tuesday, the 14th in the lobby of the Katsoris Hellenic Center, with refreshments starting at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:00 pm. It would be a special blessing to see you all there!

Come and continue the kindness and make a difference in the world.

1/15 Please remember our upcoming "Annual Vasilopita Tea Party" which assists St. Basil's Academy. We ask for your love and support in this endeavor.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!

Conveying the blessings and love of Fr. Vasileios,
Faithfully,
Dee Sidiropoulos, President

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

	1 	2  GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM	3  GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM
7  Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM	8 	9  GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM	10  Paraklesis Service - Orthodox Study 5:00 PM GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM
14  Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM Parish Council Elections 12:30 PM	15 	16  GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM	17  GOBL Basketball League 6:00 PM Holy Unction 7:00 PM
21  Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Christmas Pegeant 12:00 PM	22 	23 	24  Great Hours 8:00 AM Christmas Vespers & Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
28 Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM	29	30	31



Thursday

Friday

Saturday

4



GOBL Basketball League
6:00 PM
Executive Board Meeting
8:00 PM

5



St. Nicholas Great Vespers
7:00 PM

6



Orthros 9:00 AM
Liturgy 10:00 AM



Strict Fast: Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.
Αυστηρή νηστεία: Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, το λάδι, το κρασί, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Red)

11



GOBL Basketball League
6:00 PM

12



GOYA
7:30 PM

13



Wine & Oil: Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Κρασί & Λάδι: Το κρασί και το λάδι επιτρέπονται. Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Purple)

18



GOBL Basketball League
6:00 PM
Parish Council Meeting
8:00 PM

19



JOY 6:00 PM
Jr GOYA 7:00 PM
GOYA 7:30 PM

20



Fish, oil and wine are allowed: Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs. **Τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί επιτρέπονται:** Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα αυγά και τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα. (Blue)

25

Orthros 9:00 AM
Liturgy 10:00 AM

26

Office Closed

27



Dairy Allowed: Dairy, fish, eggs, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat.

Επιτρέπονται γαλακτοκομικά: Επιτρέπονται τα γαλακτοκομικά, τα αυγά, τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί. Αποφύγετε το κρέας. (Orange)

No Symbol Fast Free: All Foods Allowed.

Χωρίς σύμβολο: **Κατάλυσις εις πάντα:** Επιτρέπονται όλα τα τρόφιμα (Yellow)



YOUTH MINISTRIES



JOY

All 3rd to 5th graders are invited to join JOY. We meet every first and third Friday of every month, 6-7pm. Together we build friendships through the activities that strengthen our Greek Orthodox identity. JOY kids learned about the symbols of our church, and all about personal prayers, creating their own prayer jars.

Contact us at: joy@htsngoc.org



GOYA

All 8th through 12th graders are invited to join GOYA every Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. During the month of November, GOYAns donated sweets for the Men Who Cook, and volunteered during the PTO Fall Festival. This year's new board members were elected, and are as follows:

President- Nikki Kournidakis

Vice President- Peter Roussis

Treasurer- Vicki Roussis

Corresponding Secretaries- Paige Tsihlis, Arianna Lyons

Recording Secretary- Panagiota Langis



Contact us at: goya@htsngoc.org

JUNIOR GOYA

All 6th and 7th graders are invited to join Junior GOYA. **We meet every first and third Friday of the month, 7-8 pm.** Together they lead their own meetings as they plan activities that strengthen their Greek Orthodox identity. Junior GOYAns held their first fundraiser of the year, a Greek candy sale. Thank you to all those that supported.

Contact us at: jr.goya@htsngoc.org





SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School has been having a wonderful year so far, and we hope everyone enjoyed a warm and joyful Thanksgiving with their families. We also want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all the families who attended **Grandparents Sunday**. It was a beautiful day filled with love, and it was truly special to see our children surrounded by their families.

December Events

- December 14th – Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy, our children will sing in the lobby. Afterward, we will offer craft-making activities and host a bake sale. Please come support our children and programs.

- December 21st – Christmas Pageant

We invite everyone to attend our Christmas Pageant following the Divine Liturgy.

Call for Volunteers

As our programs continue to grow, we warmly welcome volunteers to help with events, crafts, and classroom support. If you feel called to lend a hand, please email us at sundayschool@htsngoc.org.

We would love to have you involved.

We wish everyone a very **Blessed Merry Christmas**
and a **Happy and Healthy New Year!**

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

- Luke 2:11



GREEK SCHOOL

Η εκπαιδευτική μας ύλη για τον μήνα Δεκέμβριο:

Kindergarten

VOCABULARY: Farm animals, The letters Γγ, Δδ.

NUMBERS: 1-10

1ST Grade

VOCABULARY: The name ‘Αννα’, ‘Ηρακλής’, ‘Ελένη’.

LETTERS: Νν, Ηη, Εε.

NUMBERS: 10-50

2nd Grade

VOCABULARY: The words ‘έλα, μήλο, μέλι, λεμόνι.

LETTERS: Αλ, Οο, Ιι

4th Grade

DUBLE LETTERS: στ, αυ και ευ.

6th Grade

LETTERS: Diphthongs ‘αυ’, ‘ευ’, and ‘ου’.

GRAMMAR: Forming questions (Ερωτήσεις)

Adverbs of Place (Τοπικά Επιρρήματα – που είναι; /πάνω, κάτω από...)

8th Grade

VOCABULARY: Where do you live? Where are you from? (πού μένεις; / από πού είσαι;)

Προσωπικές πληροφορίες / Προσωπικά στοιχεία.

GRAMMAR: Ουσιαστικά, καταλήξεις ουσιαστικών – Αρσενικό/Θηλυκό/Ουδέτερο.

Ουσιαστικά Ονομαστική – Αρσενικό/Θηλυκό/Ουδέτερο.

Με αφορμή τα Χριστούγεννα, οι μαθητές μας θα τραγουδήσουν Χριστουγεννιάτικα κάλαντα, θα εξαντλήσουν την δημιουργικότητά τους, θα νιώσουν αυτοπεποίθηση και θα ανακαλύψουν τα ταλέντα τους δημιουργώντας όμορφες Χριστουγεννιάτικες κατασκευές που μόνο χαρά προσφέρουν στα παιδιά μας.

Αυτά τα Χριστούγεννα, ας γίνουμε πάλι παιδιά, ας αφεθούμε στη γλυκιά μελωδία των Χριστουγέννων και ας πιστέψουμε στη μαγεία που ο καθένας μας μπορεί να δημιουργήσει. Ίσως τότε η μαγεία μας να φωτίσει τον κόσμο ολόκληρο.

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευλογημένη Νέα Χρονιά!

Η δασκάλα
Σταυρούλα Χαμπάκη

HELLENIC DANCERS



Calling all youth!

Please join us every Sunday, after church for dance practice. Learn traditional folk dances from all parts of Greece. Our robust program, consisting of three youth groups, aims to pass on our rich cultural legacy of music and dance to our children. Through traditional Greek folk dancing, our children learn the language, history, and cultural traditions of all regions of Greece. It is important to us that they enjoy it, and we hope their love of Greek dancing becomes a part of who they are, so they can pass it on to their children.

Little Dancers – Kindergarten to 3rd Grade (Sunday Practice 12pm – 12:30pm)

Junior Hellenic Dancers – 4th – 8th Grade (Sunday Practice 12pm – 12:30pm)

Hellenic Dancers – High School (Sunday Practice 12:30pm – 1:30pm)

Adult Hellenic Dancing

Have you ever been to a dance or wedding and wish you knew how to dance all those dances that are not kalamatiano? Come and learn them! Join us to learn traditional folk dances from all parts of Greece. New members of all skill levels are always welcomed and encouraged to attend. Our goal is to bring our community together through dance and music as we express our love of Greek dancing and our Greek heritage.

Practices: Last Friday of each month at 8 pm.

- For December we will meet on Friday, December 19th due to the upcoming holiday.

Contact us at: hellenicdancers@htsngoc.org

Co-Directors
Stella Viris, Kevi Langis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The GOARCH Department of Religious Education (DRE) announced a new collaboration with the Saint Nicholas Tele-Santa Program to present a new seasonal series: the Kids Nativity Series, a special holiday initiative designed to bring the true meaning of Christmas into the hearts and homes of children and families everywhere.

Parents can request a phone call with Saint Nicholas; calls will take place between **December 6** and **December 24**. To book a call, visit <http://www.stnicholas-tele-santa.com/>

Families participating in the Saint Nicholas Tele-Santa Program can use the Kids Nativity Series alongside their scheduled calls from “Saint Nicholas.” Parents are encouraged to read the Nativity themed stories with their children before the call.

Each story will be available in both English and Greek and can be accessed here: <http://www.goarch.org/departments/religious/sermons/kids/nativity>



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Join us every Sunday after Divine Liturgy



Join us!

December 7th Kritiki Filoxenia

December 14th PanCyprians

December 21st Parish Council

December 28th AHEPA

*Please note... all Fasting days are in **bold***

Σημείωση... Οι ημέρες Νηστείας είναι με έντονα γράμματα

STEWARDSHIP LIST 2025



(as of November 14, 2025)

Rev. Vasileios and Presvytera
Elisavet Apostolidis
Rev. Nicholas and Presvytera
Patricia Petropoulakos
Kevin and Cleo Adams
George and Sophia Alexander
Cathy Alicakos
Michael and Roseanna Anagnostos
Ken and Denise Andolino
Steve and Markella Andreakos
Nestor and Lori Andrianos
Sotirios Anemodouras
Greg and Maria Angelides
John and Emily Antonopoulos
Spiro and Cheryl Antypas
George and Niki Apostolopoulos
Panagiota Arfanis
Konstantinos and Susan Arvanites
Michael Arvanites
Stefanos Aspiotis
Steven and Debbie Ballaro
Emanuel and Anna Belibasakis
Hazis and Zhanetta Bello
Steve and Cheryl Bontales
Christine Borovilas
John and Anita Borovilas
Steve Boutsikakis
Joan Breen
Dominick Breen
Andrew Brennan
Melissa Brennan
Kyriakos Cambos
Edna Cardinale
John and Christine Charitis
Demetra Christofilakes
Carlos Colon
Anneta Colon
Donna Colonna
Konstantinos Constantellis
Marios and Maryanne Constantellis
Kay Constantine
Fay Corinotis
Maria Coussoule
Pamela Crivera

Mary Cuccia
Emily Cummings
Michael and Joy Cummings
Aikaterini Darios
Irene Della Croce
Michael Della Croce
Nicole Della Croce
James Demetriades
Philip Denis
Demetrius and Angela Dermanis
Anthony Devito
Dimitri Dimitriou
Konstantinos Dimitropoulos
Christopher and Stephanie Dontis
Nicholas and Vicky Dontis
Georgia Doukas
Alexandra Doyle
John Doyle Jr.
John and Florendia Dragazis Doyle
Paraskevi Dragazis
Paula Drakontis
Edward and Julia Dunphy
Vernon and Maria Dutton
Andrew and Stacey Economos
Dyala Sophia Eid
Elias and Evangelia Etimos
Justin and Katrina Fama
Peter Fikias
Stella Fiore
Christopher and Alexa Francese
Kimon and Mary Frantzeskakis
Alexis Gaugi-Clemente
Argyrios and Olga Gerazounis
Vincent and Linda Gerecitano
Patricia Germano
John and Corinne Girgis
Socrates and Katerina Grammenos
Peter A. Gregor
Phoebe Gregor
George Gregoriou
Petros and Eirini Gregoriou
Despina Grigos
Pauline Grillos
Steven and Georgia Guagenti

Gloria Haramis
George and Stephanie Haros
Alexandra Hondros
Frank and Christine Iemmiti
Yiannis and Arhontoula Ikonomou
Akis Iliopoulos
Virginia Itsines
Paul and Maryann Jannace
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DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

On **November 16, 2025** we celebrated the **96th Anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope.**

It is difficult to sum up 96 years. The story spans over nine decades, with members living through the Great Depression, World War II, Korean War, Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam War, Civil Rights Movement, Space Exploration, Technological advancements, and ever changing political and social events just to name a few.

We've come a long way from where most of the population received news through written documents and radio, to television, and to receiving news as it happens, in real time through mobile devices.

The one thing that has not changed is the core values of the Daughters of Penelope, which is to encourage and promote loyalty to the United States of America or to another country in which a Chapter exists. Encouraging the interest of our members in promoting philanthropy, social and civic responsibility in their respective communities. Cultivating the ideals and traditions of Hellenism and promoting educational opportunities while fostering the purposes and ideals of the AHEPA Family.

We pay tribute to our Founder, Alexandra Apostolidis, and the charter members of EOS #1 for having the foresight for a need and a purpose for the Daughters of Penelope.

Upcoming Callicolone chapter events: December meeting:

Thursday December 4, 2025, 7 pm, Community Center Lobby. We will discuss our Valentines Day Fundraiser, scheduled for February 1, 2026.

Save the date, Valentine's Day dinner, Sunday February 1, 2026 at Angelina's Ristorante.

Wishing all a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026!



AHEPA

Yia sas Fellow Parishioners!

Due to a conflicting date with Ladies Philoptochos, we re-scheduled the date for our fasolada to **December 14th** after the liturgy.

There is no charge but any donations you generously make will go to the AHEPA annual Scholarship Fund.

We thank you for your continued support.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 11 at 8PM at the Katsoris Church Center.**

We would like to welcome our new members for 2025.
Ron Dutton, Christos Gregoriou, Andreas Kokkinos , John Doyle.

Socrates Dapias - President
AHEPA Chapter 349



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Mental, spiritual participation, meeting, contact and communication

The Monthly Bilingual Bulletin of Holy Trinity-St Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church of Staten Island.

Our mission is to reach out to all members of the Community by providing useful information
about the ecclesiastical, spiritual, and cultural life of the entire Parish.

Editorial Director

Rev. Protopresbyter Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD

Layout Design

GREEN Studio

METHEXIS is also available online at:

The next deadline for submitting news to **METHEXIS** is

December 10, 2025

Submissions can be emailed to:

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