

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**

September 2026



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



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Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Σταυροῦ

Ἦχος α΄
Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου,
καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου,
νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι
κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος,
καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων,
διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Ἐξαποστειλάρια

Ἦχος β΄
Σταυρὸς ὁ φύλαξ πάσης τῆς οἰκουμένης·
Σταυρὸς ἡ ὠραιότης τῆς Ἐκκλησίας·
Σταυρὸς βασιλέων τὸ κραταίωμα·
Σταυρὸς πιστῶν τὸ στήριγμα·
Σταυρὸς Ἀγγέλων ἡ δόξα,
καὶ τῶν δαιμόνων τὸ τραῦμα.

Σταυρὸς ὑψοῦται σήμερον, καὶ κόσμος ἀγιάζεται·
ὁ γὰρ Πατρὶ συνεδρεῦον, καὶ Πνεύματι τῷ Ἁγίῳ,
ἐν τούτῳ χειρας ἀπλώσας, τὸν κόσμον ὅλον
εἵλκυσας, πρὸς σὴν Χριστὲ ἐπίγνωνσιν·
τοὺς οὖν εἰς σὲ πεποιθότας,
θείας ἀξίωσον δόξης.

Ἀντὶ τοῦ Τρισαγίου

Ἦχος β΄
Τὸν Σταυρόν σου προσκυνοῦμεν,
Δέσποτα, καὶ τὴν ἀγίαν σου ἀνάστασιν δοξάζομεν.

A polytikion for the Cross

Mode 1
Save, O Lord, Your people
and bless Your inheritance,
granting victory to the faithful
over the enemy,
and by Your Cross protecting
Your commonwealth.

Exaposteilaria

Mode 2
O Cross, you are the guardian of the whole world.
O Cross, you are the height of the Church's beauty.
O Cross, you are what strengthened the Emperors.
O Cross, the believers' firm support.
O Cross, the glory of Angels
and the defeat of the demons.

Exalted is Your Cross today,
and all the world is sanctified.
O Christ, who sit together
with the Father and the Spirit,
You stretched Your hands upon this Cross,
and thus You drew the whole wide world
to knowledge of You, O Savior.
Count worthy of divine glory those
who with faith obey You.

Instead of Holy God

Mode 2
We venerate Your Cross, O Master,
and we glorify Your Holy Resurrection.

Μ ἐ τῇ χάρι τῷ Θεοῦ, τὴν πρώτη Σεπτεμβρίου ἡ Ἐκκλησία μας εἰσέρχεται σὲ ἓνα Νέο Ἐκκλησιαστικὸ Ἔτος. Δὲν πρόκειται ἀπλῶς γιὰ μία ἀλλαγὴ στὸ ἡμερολόγιο, ἀλλὰ γιὰ μία νέα πνευματικὴ ἀρχή. Μία πρόσκληση νὰ ἐμπιστευθοῦμε καὶ πάλι τῇ ζωῇ μας στὸν Χριστό, τὸν Κύριο τοῦ χρόνου καὶ τῆς ἱστορίας.

Στὴν Ἐκκλησία, ὁ χρόνος δὲν εἶναι μία ἀπλὴ διαδοχὴ ἡμερῶν, μηνῶν καὶ ἐτῶν. Εἶναι δῶρο τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ καιρὸς σωτηρίας. Κάθε νέα ἡμέρα μᾶς προσφέρεται ὡς δυνατότητα μετανοίας, προσευχῆς, ἀγάπης καὶ πνευματικῆς προόδου. Τὸ Νέο Ἐκκλησιαστικὸ Ἔτος μᾶς καλεῖ νὰ ἀνανεώσουμε τὴ σχέση μας μετὰ τὸν Χριστό καὶ νὰ ἐξετάσουμε πῶς χρησιμοποιοῦμε τὶς ἡμέρες καὶ τὰ χαρίσματα ποὺ Ἐκεῖνος μᾶς ἐμπιστεύθηκε. Ἡ εὐλογία, ὅμως, τοῦ χρόνου δὲν εἶναι κάτι ἀφηρημένο. Γίνεται ἐμπειρία μέσα στὴ ζωντανὴ σχέση μας μετὰ τὸν Χριστό καί, κατ' ἐξοχήν, μέσα στὸ Μυστήριό τῆς Θείας Εὐχαριστίας. Ἐκεῖ ὁ χρόνος συναντᾷ τὴν αἰωνιότητα. Ἐκεῖ οἱ χαρές, οἱ δοκιμασίες, οἱ ἀγωνίες καὶ οἱ ἐλπίδες μας προσφέρονται στὸν Θεό καὶ μεταμορφώνονται ἀπὸ τὴ χάρι Του.

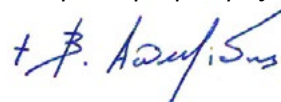
Κάθε Κυριακή, ἡ Ἐκκλησία μᾶς καλεῖ ὅχι ἀπλῶς νὰ παρακολουθήσουμε μία θρησκευτικὴ τελετὴ, ἀλλὰ νὰ γίνουμε πραγματικὰ Σῶμα Χριστοῦ. Νὰ ἀκούσουμε τὸν λόγο Του, νὰ προσευχηθοῦμε *«ὕπὲρ τῆς τοῦ κόσμου εἰρήνης»*, νὰ προσφέρουμε *«ἐαυτοὺς καὶ ἀλλήλους καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ζωὴν ἡμῶν»* καὶ νὰ πλησιάσουμε, μετὰ μετανοία καὶ κατάλληλη προετοιμασία, στὸ κοινὸ Ποτήριό τῆς ζωῆς. Ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία εἶναι ἡ καρδιὰ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας καὶ ἡ πηγὴ κάθε ἀληθινῆς ἐνοριακῆς ζωῆς. Ἀπὸ αὐτὴν πηγάζουν ἡ διακονία, ἡ κατήχησις, ἡ φιλανθρωπία, ἡ κοινωνία καὶ ἡ ἀδελφосὺνη μας. Γύρω ἀπὸ τὴν Ἁγία Τράπεζα ἡ ἐνορία γίνεται οἰκογένεια Θεοῦ, κοινότητα πίστεως καὶ τόπος παρουσίας τοῦ Ἀναστημένου Χριστοῦ.

Καθὼς ἀρχίζει μία νέα Ἐκκλησιαστικὴ χρονιά, ὥς θέσουμε ἓναν οὐσιαστικὸ πνευματικὸ στόχο. Νὰ δώσουμε ξανά στὴ Θεία Λειτουργία τὴν κεντρικὴ θέση ποὺ τῆς ἀνήκει στὴ ζωὴ μας. Ἄς ἐρχόμαστε στὸν Ναὸ ὅχι ἀπὸ συνήθεια ἢ ὑποχρέωση, ἀλλὰ μετὰ πίστη, προσδοκία καὶ εὐγνωμοσύνη. Ἄς φέρνουμε μαζί μας τὰ παιδιά καὶ τοὺς νέους μας, διδάσκοντάς τους, πρῶτα μετὰ τὸ παράδειγμά μας, ὅτι ἡ Κυριακὴ εἶναι ἡμέρα Κυρίου, ἡμέρα Ἀναστάσεως καὶ ἀνανεώσεως τῆς ψυχῆς.

Εὐχομαι ὁλόψυχα ὁ Κύριός μας Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς νὰ εὐλογήσῃ τὸ Νέο Ἐκκλησιαστικὸ Ἔτος, τὶς οἰκογένειές μας καὶ κάθε ἔργο τῆς Ἐνορίας μας. Εἴθε ὁ χρόνος ποὺ ἀνοίγεται μπροστὰ μας νὰ γίνῃ γιὰ ὅλους πραγματικὰ *«ἐνιαυτὸς Κυρίου δεκτός»*, μία πορεία πίστεως, ἀγάπης καὶ ζωντανῆς συμμετοχῆς στὴ Θεία Λειτουργία.

Εὐλογημένο καὶ πνευματικὰ καρποφόρο Νέο Ἐκκλησιαστικὸ Ἔτος!

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



Βασίλειος Γ. Αποστολίδης, Δρ.Μ
Γερατικός Προϊστάμενος



“To Proclaim the Acceptable Year of the Lord”

(Luke 4:19)



y the grace of God, on September 1st, the Church enters a New Ecclesiastical Year. This is not simply a change in the calendar. It is a new spiritual beginning, an invitation to entrust our lives once again to Christ, the Lord of time and history.

In the Church, time is not merely a succession of days, months, and years. It is a gift from God and an opportunity for salvation. Each new day is given to us as another opportunity for repentance, prayer, love, and spiritual growth. The beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year invites us to renew our relationship with Christ and to consider how we use the days, opportunities, and gifts that He has entrusted to us. The blessing of time, however, is not an abstract idea. It becomes a living experience through our relationship with Christ and, above all, through the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist. In the Divine Liturgy, time meets eternity. There, our joys, struggles, anxieties, and hopes are offered to God and transformed by His grace.

Every Sunday, the Church invites us not merely to attend a religious service, but to become truly the Body of Christ. We gather to hear His word, to pray ***“for the peace of the whole world,”*** and to offer ***“ourselves and one another and our whole life unto Christ our God.”*** With repentance and proper preparation, we are also called to approach the common Chalice and receive Christ, the true Bread of Life. The Divine Liturgy is the heart of the Church and the source of every authentic parish ministry. From the Eucharist flow our service, Christian education, charity, fellowship, and care for one another. Gathered around the Holy Altar, the Parish becomes the family of God, a community of faith and a place where the presence of the Risen Christ is experienced.

As we begin this new Ecclesiastical Year, let us make one essential spiritual commitment. To restore the Divine Liturgy to its rightful place at the center of our lives. Let us come to church not merely out of habit or obligation, but with faith, expectation, and gratitude. Let us bring our children and young people with us, teaching them first through our own example that Sunday is the Lord’s Day, a day of Resurrection and spiritual renewal.

I prayerfully wish that our Lord Jesus Christ will bless this New Ecclesiastical Year, our families, and every ministry of our Parish. May the time that opens before us become truly an ***“acceptable year of the Lord”***, a journey of faith, love, and living participation in the Divine Liturgy.

May the New Ecclesiastical Year be blessed and spiritually fruitful for all!

Reverend Protopresbyter

Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD
Presiding Priest

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday 6 **14th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 8 **THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**
9:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 13 **Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross**
8:30am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Monday 14 **THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**
8:30am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Thursday 17 **Saints Sophia, Faith, Hope and Love**
9:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 20 **Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross**
8:30am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday 26 **Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian**
9:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 27 **1st Sunday of Luke**
8:30am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή 6 14^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου
8:30π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τρίτη 8 ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
9:00π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 13 Κυριακή πρό τῆς Ὑψώσεως
8:30π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Δευτέρα 14 Η ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ
8:30π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Πέμπτη 17 Ἁγίων Σοφίας, Πίστεως, Ἐλπίδος καὶ Ἀγάπης
9:00π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 20 Κυριακή μετὰ τὴν Ὑψωσιν
8:30π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Σάββατο 26 Ἡ Μετάστασις τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἰωάννου τοῦ Θεολόγου
9:00π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 27 1^η Κυριακή Λουκᾶ
8:30π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

ORTHODOX STUDIES

Interpretation of the Divine Liturgy

Saint Nicholas Cavasilas

Dismissal

After the faithful take communion, they ask that the sanctification which they have received may remain with them, and that they will not betray the grace, nor lose the gift. The priest now calls them to thank God with zeal, for the Holy Communion. That is why he says: “Rise (orthēe)... let us worthily give thanks to the Lord”. Not therefore lying down or sitting, but raising soul and body to Him. The faithful then glorify God who is the origin and dispenser of every blessing, with words of Scripture: “Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time forth and forevermore” (Psalm 112[113]:2). After this hymn is chanted three times, the priest exits the altar, stands before the people, and says the final prayer: “Christ our true God...”. He thus asks the Lord to save us by His grace, since we have nothing to show worthy of salvation on our own. Hence, he commemorates as intercessors many Saints and especially His most Holy Mother.

Finally, the celebrant distributes the antidoron, which is bread that has been blessed as it comes from the original bread that was offered to God for the Holy Eucharist. The faithful take the antidoron reverently, kissing the right hand of the priest. For this hand, just moments ago, touched the all-holy Body of Christ, received sanctification from it, and transmits it to those who kiss it.

At this point the Divine Liturgy reaches its end, and the mystery of the Holy Eucharist is completed. Because the gifts we offered to God have been sanctified, they sanctified the priest and they imparted their sanctification to the rest of the fullness of the Church.

For all of this then, unto Christ our true God, is due all glory, honor, and worship, together with His unoriginated Father and His all-holy Spirit, both now and forever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.





ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΣΠΟΥΔΗ

Συνοπτική ανάλυση και ερμηνεία της Θείας Λειτουργίας

Αγίου Νικολάου Καβάσιλα

Απόλωση

Αφού κοινωνήσουν οι πιστοί, εύχονται να παραμείνει μέσα τους ο αγιασμός που έλαβαν, και να μην προδώσουν τη χάρη ούτε να χάσουν τη δωρεά. Ο ιερέας τους καλεί τώρα να ευχαριστήσουν με ζήλο το Θεό για τη θεία Μετάληψη. Γι' αυτό λέει: «Ὁρθοί· ἀξίως εὐχαριστήσωμεν τῷ Κυρίῳ.» Ὁχι δηλαδή ξαπλωμένοι ούτε καθισμένοι, αλλά υψώνοντας την ψυχή και το σώμα προς Αυτόν. Και οι πιστοί με λόγια της Γραφής δοξολογούν το Θεό, που είναι αίτιος και χορηγός όλων των αγαθών: «Εἴη τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου εὐλογημένον ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ ἕως τοῦ αἰῶνος.» (Ψαλμ. 112:2). Αφού ψάλλουν τρεις φορές αυτόν τον ύμνο, ο ιερέας βγαίνει από το Θυσιαστήριο, στέκεται μπροστά στο πλήθος και απευθύνει την τελευταία ευχή: «Χριστὸς ὁ ἀληθινὸς Θεὸς ἡμῶν. . . ». Ζητάει από τον Κύριο να μας σώσει με το έλεός Του, γιατί από τον εαυτό μας δεν έχουμε να επιδείξουμε τίποτε άξιο σωτηρίας. Γι' αυτό και ως πρεσβευτές μνημονεύει πολλούς αγίους και ιδιαίτερα την παναγία Του Μητέρα.

Τέλος, ο λειτουργός μοιράζει το αντίδωρο. Αυτό έχει αγιαστεί, καθώς προέρχεται από τον αρχικό άρτο, που προσφέραμε στο Θεό για την τέλεση της θείας Ευχαριστίας. Οι πιστοί παίρνουν με ευλάβεια το αντίδωρο, φιλώντας το δεξί χέρι του ιερέα. Γιατί αυτό το χέρι, μόλις πριν, άγγιξε το πανάγιο σώμα του Χριστού, δέχτηκε από εκείνο τον αγιασμό και τον μεταδίδει τώρα σε όσους το ασπάζονται.

Εδώ η θεία Λειτουργία φτάνει στο τέλος της και το μυστήριο της θείας Ευχαριστίας ολοκληρώνεται. Γιατί και τα δώρα, που προσφέραμε στο Θεό, αγιάστηκαν και τον ιερέα αγίασαν και στο υπόλοιπο πλήρωμα της Εκκλησίας μετέδωσαν τον αγιασμό.

Για όλα αυτά, λοιπόν, στο Χριστό, στον αληθινό Θεό μας, πρέπει κάθε δόξα, τιμή και προσκύνηση, μαζί με τον άναρχο Πατέρα Του και το πανάγιο Πνεύμα Του, τώρα και πάντοτε και στην ατέλειωτη αιωνιότητα. Αμήν.



SAINT OF THE MONTH

SAINTS SOPHIA, FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE - September 17



These holy Martyrs dwelt in Italy in the reign of Hadrian (117-138). They came from a rich and devout family, and their mother Sophia brought them up in the Faith, Hope and Agape of the names she had given them.

Word of their admirable manner of life reached the Emperor who, hearing they were in Rome, sent soldiers to bring them before him. Considering their tender years, he was amazed at how steadfast in the faith Sophia's daughters were, and thinking it was only by supporting one another that they were able to hold their own against him, he put them to the question separately.

Faith, who was twelve years old, was brought in first. She boldly dismissed the tyrant's flatteries and deprecated his shameful deeds and vain plots against the Christians. The infuriated Emperor had her stripped, mercilessly beaten and her breasts torn off, whence milk not blood flowed forth. The other tortures she endured were to no avail, for she was protected by the power of God. When, at last, they came to strike off her head, Sophia encouraged her to accept with joy the death that would unite her to Christ.

Hope, who was ten years old, was brought in next. Confessing Christ as steadfastly as her sister, she was beaten and cast into a raging furnace, but its fire went out on touching her, in whom love of God burnt with a fiercer flame than material fire. After many other tortures, she too died by the sword, giving thanks to God.

Agape, the third of the sisters, was then summoned before the Emperor whom anger had maddened. She was only nine years old but of the same steadfast mind as her sisters. She was hung on a gallows and chained so tightly that her limbs were broken by the bonds. She was then thrown into a furnace, from which she was delivered by an angel, and finally, beheaded. **Sophia** rejoiced in spirit to see her daughters so gloriously making their way to the abodes of the righteous but, overwhelmed by earthly sorrow, she gave back her soul to God a few days later at their tomb.



Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΜΗΝΑ

ΑΓΙΕΣ ΣΟΦΙΑ, ΠΙΣΤΙΣ, ΕΛΠΙΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΓΑΠΗ - 17 Σεπτεμβρίου

Οι Αγίες Πίστη, Ελπίδα και Αγάπη έζησαν στην Ιταλία κατά τη βασιλεία του αυτοκράτορα Αδριανού (117–138). Κατάγονταν από πλούσια και ευσεβή οικογένεια και η μητέρα τους, η Σοφία, τις ανέθρεψε στην πίστη, την ελπίδα και την αγάπη, σύμφωνα και με τα ονόματα που τους είχε δώσει.

Η φήμη για τον ενάρετο βίο τους έφτασε μέχρι τον αυτοκράτορα, ο οποίος, πληροφορούμενος ότι βρίσκονταν στη Ρώμη, έστειλε στρατιώτες να τις οδηγήσουν μπροστά του. Βλέποντας τη νεαρή τους ηλικία, θαύμασε το πόσο σταθερές παρέμεναν στην πίστη τους. Νομίζοντας ότι μόνο επειδή στηρίζονταν η μία στην άλλη μπορούσαν να αντισταθούν, αποφάσισε να τις εξετάσει ξεχωριστά.

Πρώτη οδηγήθηκε μπροστά του η **Πίστη**, η οποία ήταν δώδεκα ετών. Με θάρρος απέρριψε τις κολακειές του τυράννου και στηλίτευσε τις αναιδέις πράξεις του και τις μάταιες προσπάθειές του εναντίον των Χριστιανών. Ο εξοργισμένος αυτοκράτορας διέταξε να την γδύσουν και να τη μαστιγώσουν ανελέητα, ενώ διέταξε να της κόψουν τους μαστούς. Όμως, αντί για αίμα, από τις πληγές έτρεξε γάλα. Υπέμεινε και άλλα βασανιστήρια, τα οποία όμως στάθηκαν μάταια, καθώς προστατευόταν από τη δύναμη του Θεού. Όταν, τέλος, αποφασίστηκε να της κόψουν το κεφάλι, η μητέρα της, η Σοφία, την ενθάρρυνε να δεχθεί με χαρά τον θάνατο, ο οποίος θα την ένωνε με τον Χριστό.

Έπειτα οδηγήθηκε μπροστά στον αυτοκράτορα η **Ελπίδα**, ηλικίας δέκα ετών. Ομολόγησε και εκείνη με την ίδια σταθερότητα τον Χριστό. Τη μαστίγωσαν και την έριξαν σε πυρακτωμένο καμίνι, όμως η φωτιά έσβησε μόλις την άγγιξε, καθώς η αγάπη της για τον Θεό έκαιγε μέσα της με φλόγα ισχυρότερη από κάθε υλική φωτιά. Μετά από πολλά ακόμη βασανιστήρια, παρέδωσε και εκείνη την ψυχή της στον Θεό διά ξίφους, ευχαριστώντας Τον.

Τρίτη παρουσιάστηκε η **Αγάπη**, η οποία ήταν μόλις εννέα ετών, αλλά είχε το ίδιο ακλόνητο φρόνημα με τις αδελφές της. Ο αυτοκράτορας, κυριευμένος από οργή, διέταξε να την κρεμάσουν και να τη δέσουν τόσο σφιχτά, ώστε τα μέλη της να συνθλίβονται από τα δεσμά. Στη συνέχεια την έριξαν σε καμίνι, από το οποίο όμως την ελευθέρωσε Άγγελος του Θεού. Τελικά, υπέστη και εκείνη τον θάνατο διά αποκεφαλισμού.

Η **Σοφία** χαιρόταν πνευματικά βλέποντας τις θυγατέρες της να πορεύονται με δόξα προς τα σκηνώματα των δικαίων. Ωστόσο, συντετριμμένη από τον επίγειο πόνο του αποχωρισμού, παρέδωσε και εκείνη την ψυχή της στον Θεό λίγες ημέρες αργότερα, επάνω στον τάφο των θυγατέρων της.



CENTENNIAL SURVEY

Dear Parish Family,

As we settle back in after a wonderful summer, I want to share where things stand with our Centennial and ask, once again, for your voice.

In 2027, our Parish turns one hundred. Earlier this year we formed a Centennial Committee, with the blessing of Father Vasileios and the full support of our Parish Council, to help shape a year that honors those who built this spiritual home through faith and sacrifice, celebrates who we have become, and leaves something lasting for those who follow.

A celebration this important should be shaped by the whole Parish, not by a committee alone. Our short survey takes about five minutes. There are no wrong answers. We ask only that you answer with our whole Parish and its future in mind. It will remain open through September 27, and every response between now and then helps us plan well.

[Add Your Voice](#)

Scan or tap the QR code below to take the survey



Your voice will help shape our next hundred years. Thank you for being part of it.

With gratitude,
Nestor Makarigakis
First Vice President, Parish Council Executive Board
Chairman, Centennial Committee

HOLY TRINITY * ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

CENTENNIAL SURVEY

ADD YOUR VOICE



SCAN OR TAP

Every response helps us plan well

Please complete the survey by **September 27**

PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners,

As the summer season begins to wind down, we look forward to the start of another busy and exciting year here at our parish. We hope that you and your families have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer and have had the opportunity to spend time with family, friends, and our parish community.

As we look ahead, we are excited to welcome everyone to one of the most anticipated events of the year, our **Annual Greek Festival, September 11th, 12th, and 13th**. Each year, our festival brings our parish family and the surrounding community together to celebrate our Greek Orthodox faith, culture, traditions, and heritage.

The success of our festival is truly a reflection of our parishioners and the wonderful spirit of our community. We ask everyone to consider volunteering and giving some of your time to help make this year's festival a success. There are many ways to participate, from preparing food and working in the kitchen to serving our guests, helping with setup and cleanup, or assisting wherever needed. **Every helping hand makes a difference.**

We especially encourage everyone to get involved this year. Even a few hours of your time can make a tremendous difference. **Please sign up, bring a family member or friend, and join us in making our festival a success.** We need everyone's help and together, we can make it our best festival yet!

Beyond the food, music, and celebration, our festival is a wonderful opportunity to welcome others into our parish, strengthen our friendships, and share the faith, traditions, and hospitality that are at the heart of our community.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank all of our parishioners for your continued support, generosity, and dedication. It is through your commitment and involvement that we are able to continue these important traditions and keep our parish strong.

We look forward to coming together once again and making this year's Greek Festival a memorable celebration for our parish, our families, and our community.

May God bless you and your families, and we hope to see you all at the festival!

In Christ,
Spyro Lazaretos
President



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

GREEK FESTIVAL

OF STATEN ISLAND

2026

SEPTEMBER

11TH 6-11 PM

12TH 2-11 PM

13TH 2-9 PM

GREEK LIVE MUSIC

KIDDIE RIDES

GREEK FOOD + PASTRIES

HELLENIC DANCERS

1641 RICHMOND AVE
STATEN ISLAND, NY

Admission \$2.00 * Children under 5 ADMITTED FREE * ATM on site

LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Dear Philoptochos Sisters and fellow parishioners,

We would like to welcome everyone back from a sun-filled summer as we start our new ecclesiastical year of ministries. We are very excited about our scheduled ministries, starting off with our:

***“Welcome Back Meeting”
Sunday, September 27th, 2026
All are welcomed!***

The meeting will follow liturgy.
We are striving to increase our membership
to serve our community better,
so please bring your friends or family with you.

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

- 9/5** Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen
Thank you to our Soup Kitchen crew Chris Charitis, Cathy Alikakos, Chris Moscoso, and Pete Christofilakes for their devotion on August 1st. Even though it is the summer months, our Soup Kitchen crew do not take a vacation from serving the unfortunate. They prepared tuna salad, green bean salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, bread, Cheetos, and chocolate pudding serving 75 meals on site plus takeouts. A special Happy Birthday celebration was held for Cathy Alikakos. Nothing stops Cathy from volunteering! Bravo!
Χρόνια πολλά Cathy!
- 9/6** Tray for Hellenic College/Holy Cross
- 9/11, 12, 13** Festival
Please support our community by volunteering your time, in any way that you can, to make our Festival a success. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office at 718-494-0658 or email info@htsngoc.org. Thank you!
- 9/25** Project Hospitality
- 9/27** Welcome Back Meeting (after liturgy)



Save the Date
Sunday, October 4th, after Liturgy
Rise Against Hunger

In memory of George Karidis

Please join us as we assemble 10,000 meals to help underserved people worldwide achieve food security and resilience fueled by a global movement of volunteers and partners. George's wishes, in lieu of flowers, were for people to donate to our **"Feed the Hungry"** Program. We could not think of a worthier cause to memorialize George than feeding 10,000 unfortunate people worldwide.

We need 40 volunteers to complete this mission. If interested, please contact Dee Sidiropoulos (917)669-0586, or sign up at the Philoptochos table during coffee hour.

"Love is patient, love is kind." 1 Corinthians 13:4

PLEASE NOTE: All correspondence regarding Ladies Philoptochos Society can be made through our new Philoptochos email: philoptochos@htsngoc.org

Conveying the blessings and love of Fr. Vasileios,

Faithfully,
Dee Sidiropoulos, President



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2026–2027 Sunday School Year!

We are excited to welcome all of our Sunday School students and families for what we pray will be a blessed and successful year of learning, faith, and fellowship. Our mission is to help our children grow in their relationship with Christ while learning and embracing the rich traditions, teachings, and beauty of our Holy Greek Orthodox faith.

Registration is now open!

We encourage all families to register online by visiting our parish website:

www.htsngoc.org

Please note a few important updates for this year:

- We will **no longer be offering a Preschool class.**
- We are excited to **expand our program to include High School students in Grades 9–12.**
- In keeping with the guidance of the **Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America**, all students are expected to attend the **Divine Liturgy with their families.** Sunday School will begin **after Holy Communion** and will conclude at approximately **12:15 p.m.**

After Holy Communion, students will meet their Sunday School teachers on the **left side of the church.** Students will look for the pew designated for their grade level, where their teacher will meet them and bring them to their classroom. Parents will remain in the Divine Liturgy while students attend Sunday School.

Our **first day of Sunday School will be Sunday, September 27th**, which will also be our **Back-to-School Agiasmo**, as we ask God to bless our students, families, teachers, and the year ahead.

We look forward to welcoming back our returning students, meeting new families, and growing together in faith and fellowship. May God bless each of you with a joyful, meaningful, and spiritually enriching school year.

With the love and blessings of Father Vasileios

In Christ,
Katie Nuzzo
Sunday School Director



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

Sunday School

Registration

NOW OPEN

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 27TH



SCAN OR TAP
FOR REGISTRATION



OR AFTER CHURCH SERVICES
SEPTEMBER 6TH, 13TH AND 20TH IN THE LOBBY



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

		1	Ecclesiastical New Year	2	Martyr Mammias 
6	14th Sunday of Matthew	7	Theotokos' Nativity Forefeast	8	The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary 
Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM					
13	Sunday before Holy Cross	14	The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross 	15	Nikitas the Great Martyr
Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM		Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM			
20	Sunday after Holy Cross	21	Apodosis of the Holy Cross	22	Hieromartyr Phocas 
Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM					
27	1st Sunday of Luke	28	Chariton the Confessor	29	Cyriacus the Anchorite
Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Back to School Agiasmos				30 Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop of Armenia 	



Thursday

Friday

Saturday

3 Hieromartyr Anthimus	4 Hieromartyr Babylas	5 Holy Prophet Zacharias, Father of the Venerable Forerunner
Executive Board Meeting 8:00 PM		
10 Menodora, Metrodora, & Nymphodora the Martyrs	11 Theodora of Alexandria	12 Apodosis of Nativity of the Theotokos
17 Martyrs Sophia, Pistis, Elpis & Agape	18 Eumenius the Wonderworker	19 Saturday after Holy Cross
Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Parish Council Meeting 8:00 PM		
24 The Commemoration of the Miracle of the Theotoko	25 Euphrosyne of Alexandria	26 The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian
		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)



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)



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)



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)



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

Greek School

Registration

NOW OPEN

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 27TH

SCAN OR TAP FOR REGISTRATION
OR AFTER CHURCH SERVICES
SEPTEMBER 6TH, 13TH AND 20TH IN THE LOBBY

Upcoming Events



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

PRESENTS

FALL BASKETBALL INTRAMURALS

CO-ED • 2026

AGE DIVISIONS

2nd-4th
GRADE

5th-7th
GRADE

8th-10th
GRADE

\$200
PER PLAYER • REGISTRATION FEE

FREE PLAYING T-SHIRT FOR ALL PLAYERS

▶ SPOTS ARE LIMITED — NO WALK-INS

DATES COMING SOON
TRYOUTS • REGULAR SEASON • PLAYOFFS • CHAMPIONSHIP
ALL DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED — STAY TUNED!

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY • CONTACT US FOR DETAILS

REGISTRATION BY ADVANCE SIGN-UP ONLY

QUESTIONS, REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIPS
YOUTHDIRECTOR@HTSNGOC.ORG

STEWARDSHIP LIST 2026



(as of August 13, 2026)

Father Vasileios and
Presvytera Elisavet Apostolidis
Kevin and Cleo Adams
Cathy Alicakos
Orestis Anastasiou
Kenneth and Denise Andolino
Steve and Markella Andreakos
Nestor and Lori Andrianos
Greg and Maria Angelides
John and Emily Antonopoulos
Spiro and Cheryl Antypas
Nikolaos Apostolidis
George and Nikoletta
Apostolopoulos
Panagiota Arfanis
Konstantinos and Susan Arvanites
Michael Arvanites
Stefanos Aspiotis
Chris Bakakos
Christina Bartelotti
Emanuel and Anna Belibasakis
Hazis and Zhanetta Bello
Dimitrios Bentevis
Steve and Cheryl Bontales
James Borovilas
Andrew Brennan
Melissa Brennan
Kyriakos Cambos
Edna Cardinale
John and Christine Charitis
Demetra Christofilakes
Anneta Colon
Carlos Colon
Donna Colonna
Kay Constantine
Fay Corinotis

Maria Coussoule
Pamela Crivera
Mary Cuccia
Michael and Joy Cummings
Aikaterini Darios
Irene Della Croce
Matthew Della Croce
James Demetriades
Philip Denis
Robert Denis
Dimitri Dimitriou
Konstantinos and Corinne
Dimitropoulos
Christopher and Stephanie
Dontis
Nicholas and Vicky Dontis
Georgia Doukas
Alexandra Doyle
John and Florendia Doyle
John Doyle Jr.
Paraskevi Dragazis
Paula Drakontis
Edward and Julia Dunphy
Vernon and Maria Dutton
Andrew and Stacey Economos
Dyala Sophia Eid
Martha Eid
Justin and Katrina Fama
Peter Fikias
Thomas and Panagiota Fiorella
Joseph Fountis
Kimon and Maria Frantzeskakis
Argyrios and Olga Gerazounis
Vincent and Linda Gerecitano
John and Corinne Giris
Anastasios Gofas

Alexander Grammenos
Socrates and Katerina
Grammenos
Peter A. Gregor
Petros and Eirini Gregoriou
Despina Grigos
Pauline Grillos
Sabrina Grivas
Gloria Haramis
George and Stephanie Haros
Alexandra Hondros
Frank and Christine Iemmiti
John and Arhontoula
Ikonomou
Demetrios and Joanna
Iliopoulos
Virginia Itsines
Paul Jannace
Irene Joris
Elias and Cathy Kalaizes
George E. Kalaizes
Barbara Kallinikos
Maria Kalogiros
Peter and Gloria Kanakos
Theodore Kanellis
Bertha Kapetanakis
Lori Karelas
Panagiota Karidis
Alexandra Kasidonis
Michael Kasidonis
Alexios and Susan Katsanos
George Katsoris Jr.
Michael and Debbie Katsoris
Christina Kenwood
Alexandra Khlyustova
Andreas and Vivian Kokkinos

Diane Kolaitis
 Vasili and Koula Koukounis
 Dimitrios and Vivian Koulouris
 Mary N. Kusas
 John and Maria Lago
 Dimitrios and Paraskevi Langis
 Dimitrios Lellos
 Toulia Lellos
 George S. and Panagiota Leunes
 Helen Leventakis
 Andrew Litos
 Angela LoBasso
 Emily Loukas
 Jerry and Anna Macris
 Nestor and Katy Makarigakis
 Yiannis Mallas
 George Malliotakis
 John Manos
 Vasiliki Manousogiannakis
 John Marangos
 Nicholas Mardikos
 Nikki Ann Mardikos
 Christos Marinakis
 Michael and Julia Maring
 Nelson Marun Jr.
 Kathy Massimillo
 Emmanuel and Tina
 Padas-Mavroudis
 Effie Melahrinakis
 Alexandros and Ariana Messaris
 John and Eva Michael
 Konstantinos and Anastasia Michos
 Steven and Sophia Mirones
 George Mitsogiorgakis
 Stefanos Mitsogiorgakis
 George Mitsopoulos
 Harry and Mary Monioudis
 Ierotheos and Eleni Moraitis
 Elaina Morakis
 Christine Moscoso

Mary Mousmoutis
 Nicholas Mousmoutis
 Thomas and Theoni Napoli
 John and Chrissy Napolitano
 Erin Ndrilo
 Konstantinos and Alina
 Nevradakis
 Katie Nuzzo
 John and Lola Palividas
 Dennis and Irene Panagos
 Peter Panagos
 Nicholas Papas
 George Papasmiris
 Katherine Pappas
 Tasia Pavalis
 Kostas and Katina Paxis
 William and Constance Peist
 Philip and Penny Phytides
 Evangelia Platis
 Markos and Anita Platis
 John and Cathy Plevritis
 Jane Rassias
 Peter and Helen Rassias
 Effie Realmuto
 Voula Reveliotis
 Louis and Estelle Ricciardi
 Donald and Linda Ritchie
 George and Eugenia Roussis
 Nicholas and Christiana Roussis
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 Anthony Ruggiero
 Kathy Scuteri
 Katherine Seremetis
 Jim and Dee Sidiropoulos
 Annie Sigalos
 Chris and Mary Spirocostas
 Carol Spithogiannis
 John and Kyriaki Stamos
 Stephen Stark Sr.
 Michael Stratis

Nick Striftobola
 Cindy Stucchio
 Nick and Angela Tamborra
 Georgiana Telegadis
 del Busto
 Maria Thomas
 Dimitra Tountas
 Nikolaos and Christina
 Tountas
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 Evangelia Vassiliou
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 George Veres
 Mary Veros
 David and Stella Viris
 Angie Viscione
 Alex and Lisa Vlastakis
 Emmanuel and Stella
 Vlastakis
 Stella Vlastakis
 Thomas and Kaliopi
 Vlastakis
 Vincent and Fotiny
 Whiteaker
 Niki Yiannoulatos
 Maria Zachariades
 George Zalanitis
 Emanuel and Irene
 Zoumboulis





ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLD TRADE CENTER MEMORIAL

On Sunday, September 6th, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we will celebrate a Memorial Service for all the World Trade Center victims. We call on all parishioners to come together on this day to pray for those who lost their lives on September 11th, 2001. May their memory be eternal.

GREEK FESTIVAL - September 11th, 12th and 13th

September is here, and so is our Greek Festival! We have been working hard to make this a great event and fundraiser once again. Our success is guaranteed by having our many volunteers and the attendance of our fellow Staten Islanders. Please contact the church office to volunteer your time if you haven't already done so. Working together, having fun and helping our Church, creates the best memories!

RICHMOND AVENUE STREET CO-NAMING CEREMONY

We are honored to share that on **September 12 at 1:00 PM**, a special street co-naming ceremony will take place in front of our church, where **Richmond Avenue will be co-named in honor** of George A. Karidis. It is especially meaningful that this tribute will take place during our church festival, a place and tradition that held so many cherished memories for him and for his family. We warmly invite our church community, family and friends to join us as we celebrate his life, legacy and the lasting impact he had on those around him. We hope you can be there to share this very special moment.

HOLY CROSS DAY

On Monday, September 14th, we will celebrate the Liturgy in honor of the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Orthros begins at 8:30am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00am. Please bring your Vasiliko to the church by Friday, September 11th to decorate our church and tray for the Feast Day procession.

FATHER AND PRESVYTERA MACRIS MEMORIAL

On Sunday, September 20th, we will celebrate a memorial service for the memory of our former Pastor, Rev. Spyridon Macris along with his Presvytera Anne Macris. We ask that you pray for their memories to be eternal.

BACK TO SCHOOL AGIASMOS

On Sunday, September 27th, we invite ALL the children of our Parish to attend Liturgy and to receive the blessing of Agiasmo. Father Vasileios looks forward to welcoming all our children back as they begin their new school year.



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

9/11

**WE REMEMBER WE PRAY
NEVER AGAIN**



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

Back to School Agiasmos

September 27th

*We invite all the children of our Parish to attend
the Liturgy and receive the blessing of Agiasmos.
Fr. Vasileios looks forward to welcoming all our children
back as they begin their New School Year.*

*Surprise gift
for all children*

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Presvytera Elisavet



OTIA

A TRADITIONAL PONTIAN TREAT

Otia are a traditional sweet from Pontus, named after their distinctive ear-like shape. Their name comes from the Pontian Greek word otin, meaning “ear.” Traditionally, otia were known as a “sweet of joy,” prepared and shared at weddings, baptisms, feast days, and other happy occasions in the historic Greek homelands of Pontus. More than a simple dessert, they were part of the hospitality, celebration, and family life of the Pontian people. September is also a month of joy for our parish community as we come together for our Greek Festival, making it the perfect time to share this festive traditional treat! There is even a playful Pontian expression connected with their name. When children were being a little too mischievous, their elders would say: «Κάθκα καλά, θα σύρω τ’ ωτίας!» “Behave yourself, or I’ll pull your ears!” So, in the same playful spirit, we are gently pulling your ear today... to share Presvytera’s recipe for Otia!

Tips:

Otia are wonderful with Greek coffee, drizzled with honey, enjoyed with chocolate-hazelnut spread, or served alongside something sweet or savory. But the truth is... they are delicious all on their own!

Ingredients

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1½ cups sugar
- 2 tablespoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 tablespoons butter, softened or melted
- 5 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 5 cups all-purpose flour
- Sunflower or other neutral oil, for frying

Preparation

- Beat the eggs and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the yogurt and butter and mix well.
- Combine the baking soda and vinegar, then add to the mixture with the baking powder and flour. Mix into a soft dough.
- On a floured surface, roll out the dough and cut into small diamond shapes.
- Make a small slit in the center of each diamond and pull one end through to create the traditional otia shape.
- Fry in hot oil in batches until golden on both sides.
- Transfer to a plate lined with paper towels to absorb excess oil.

FAITH IN ACTION



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

Scan and visit
our Website



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

Light a Candle



Memorial Donation



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Stewardship



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COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Join us every Sunday after Divine Liturgy



- September 6th Parish Council
September 13th Ladies Philoptochos
September 20th Youth Ministries
September 27th AHEPA

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

*Σημείωση... Οι ημέρες Νηστείας είναι με **έντονα γράμματα***

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

We hope to see all our members and future members at the Greek Festival.

Our first meeting will be held on Thursday, **September 24, 2026 at 7 pm**,
(refreshments at 6:30pm) at the **Community Center Lobby**.

Diana Kolaitis
Corresponding Secretary

AHEPA

Yia sas Everyone!

We hope your summer was safe and fun. AHEPA is hoping to attract more members for the fall so we are inviting you to our **next meeting on October 8, 8 pm** at the **Katsoris Center**. We also hope to meet you at our church festival beginning on Sept 11-13. Come and see what are plans are for the year and meet our members. We are looking forward to meeting you.

Socrates Dapias-President
Harry Monioudis- Vice-President
George Roussis-Secretary
Petros Gregoriou-Treasurer

Members
John Antonopoulos, Achilleas Siozos, Vassilis Vrakas,
Nikos Roussis, Tony Tannousis, John Doyle, Andreas
Kokkinos, Yiannis Ikononou, George Karavitis

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Mental, spiritual participation, meeting, contact and communication

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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.

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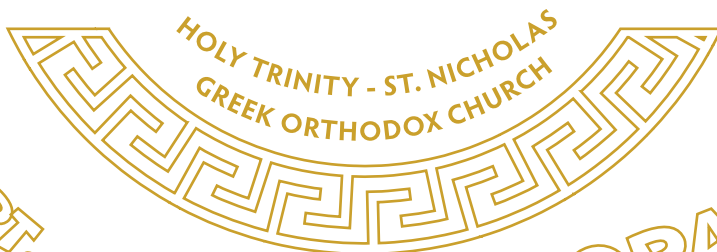
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