

ST. NICHOLAS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2025

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

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



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

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

Church/FLC Office: (314) 361-6924

Office Administrator: Lisa Danko
Financial Secretary: Linda Nicozisin

Email: stnicholas@sngoc.org
Website: www.sngoc.org



LET US PRAY FOR THE CATECHUMENS

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... Matthew 28:19

Many Orthodox parishes – ours included – have been blessed in the last couple of years with more and more people drawn to the Orthodox Christian faith. And it is our job of our whole parish to welcome them, help them experience the Faith through both worship and fellowship, and make a path for them to join us in our walk with Christ.

This is the Great Commission (Mt 28:19-20) that the Lord gave to His disciples after His Resurrection just before He ascended to Heaven. And it is the calling that inspires several changes that our long-time parishioners may notice in the weeks ahead.

First, we will restore to the Divine Liturgy the ancient petitions for the Catechumens (those who are studying the Orthodox Christian Faith). Praying for them reminds us that part of our calling as the Church is to bring more and more people to the love, joy and strength that comes only with Christ, and it shows them that our whole community cares about them in their spiritual journey.

Soon we also will begin a special, quarterly service during the Liturgy to accept people formally into the ranks of catechumens. These will be people who have visited our parish and decided over time to commit to a formal program of preparation to be received into the Orthodox Church, either by Baptism or (if they are already baptized) Chrismation.

To help them along this path, we will begin a year-long cycle of catechetical classes to expose the catechumens to every aspect of the Orthodox Church. We will begin this month with a four-session unit on Worship, and other sessions will focus on Church teaching, the Bible, Church history and Orthodox spirituality. The catechumens' preparation will normally include all these units – along with, of course, regular worship and fasting.

Finally, Chrismation will be performed during the Divine Liturgy, so the newly received Orthodox Christians will be able to receive Holy Communion with the rest of the Faithful present. Becoming an Orthodox Christian is never a purely private matter – a new member becomes a part of the Body of Christ – the Church – and his or her presence affects the whole community.

Our community has historically been very welcoming to guests, and these changes in our prayers reflect the kind of hospitality that we are used to showing in other ways. And they express an important idea: welcoming strangers is the work of all Orthodox Christians, especially visitors to our beautiful church. May we all live up to this important calling.



St. Nicholas Servants

2025 PARISH COUNCIL

Carol Kamburis, President
 Helen Carey, Vice-President
 Deb Palazzola, Secretary
 Christina Stamelos, Treasurer
 Zac Holt, Assistant Treasurer
 Adonis Chakides
 Niko Georges
 Marilynn Jemas
 Pat Lekich
 William Mastorakos, DDS, MS
 Jim Rigas
 Chris Sarantakis
 Nick Scarpino
 Jim Sorbello
 Paul Xenakis

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mark Vleisides, Chairperson 314-576-2898

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Bill Karides, Chairperson 314-422-1968
 Tina Paradowski

DANCE TROUPE

Demi Holt

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Mark Vleisides, Chairperson
 Liz Glynnias
 Paul Leara
 Demmie Nicozisin

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Tarlas, Chairperson 314-713-5500

GREETERS COMMITTEE

Lyndia Finer, Chairperson 314-960-3384

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Elaine Coulson, Chair-sgnoclibrary@gmail.com
 Weston Haldeman
 Georgiana Grant

“THE NEXT 100”

Dan Tarlas, Chairperson 314-713-5500

ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS

Gracie Livaditis 314-616-9557

PHILOTOCHOS

Christina Ginos, President 314-504-6988

PHYSICAL FACILITIES - CHURCH

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

PHYSICAL FACILITIES – FLC

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

PLANNED GIVING COMMITTEE

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

PRISON MINISTRY

Clark Porter, Director 314-518-6747

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Fr. Doug Papulis
 Fr. Michael Arbanas
 Mary Ann Mastorakos, Chairperson
 Teddy Hart
 Rosie Hartley
 Marilynn Jemas
 Christina Stamelos

CHURCH SCHOOL Director

Lexie Dendrinelis- sgnocchurchschool@gmail.com
 Tania Scarpino

WEBSITE

Christina Stamelos 314-402-4996



Please mark your calendar for the
Parish General Assembly Meeting

Sunday, March 9, 2025
St. Nicholas Church
 (following Divine Liturgy)

We need your participation.
YOU are the
St. Nicholas Family!



See you there!

HELLENIC CULTURE CAMP

Grades 1-8 in Fall of 2025

St. Nicholas
 Family Life Center
 August 4-8
 9 am - 4 pm
 (drop off at 8:30)

Fun Activities include:
 Orthodox Faith
 Greek Cooking
 Geography/Mythology
 Greek Dancing
 Greek Language
 Arts & Crafts
 Sports & Games
 Field Trip to Vetta Sports

\$150 for first child
 \$100 for each
 additional child
 (Financial Assistance
 Available)

*For questions / to volunteer
 please contact:*
 Tania Scarpino 314.255.3262
helleniccamp@gmail.com





To my St. Nicholas Parish Family,

It is an honor to be re-elected as your Parish Council President. The St. Nicholas community continues to be among the greatest blessings in my life. Together with Father Doug, Father Michael, the newly appointed Parish Council, and the entire parish family – we are starting the New Year with enthusiasm to serve the parish, nurture meaningful ministries, grow our stewardship and push St. Nicholas Church into the future.

“See our Church as it could be” ...Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed. We are calling on you, the faithful stewards of St. Nicholas to offer back by supporting the operations and ministries of the parish. Please ensure that your 2024 pledge commitments have been fulfilled and complete your 2025 Stewardship Pledge Form.

The Friday Fish Frys start next month and will be held on March 14, 21 and 28 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Family Life Center. Be involved by volunteering, attending and spreading the word to family and friends. Please refer to the flyer in the newsletter and weekly e-blasts for more details.

The Festival Steering Committee has started planning the Taste of the Greek Festival (July 19 & 20) and the Labor Day Weekend Greek Festival (August 30, August 31, & September 1). Look for volunteer opportunities in the upcoming months for baking and prep. It takes all of us coming together to host the best and largest ethnic festival in the Midwest.

“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much” – Helen Keller

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













May God continue to Bless our wonderful St. Nicholas Family!

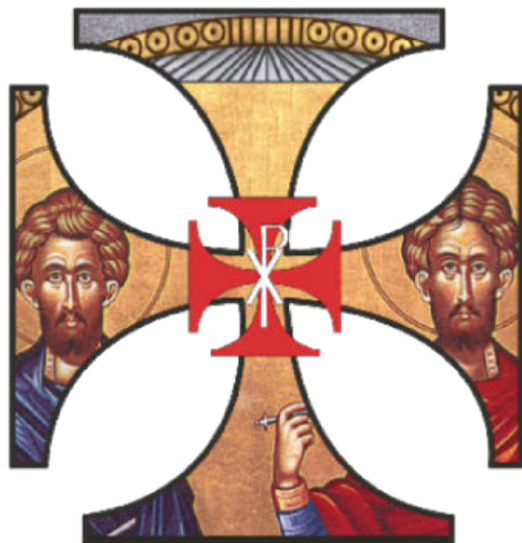
Best regards,

Carol Kamburis
Parish Council President

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2025

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 9th		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week FEBRUARY 16th		The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 23rd FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 2nd FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 9th		<i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 16th		ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent MARCH 23rd		VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent MARCH 30th		ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 6th		ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 13th GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 18th		GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND YESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 20th NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!



St. Nicholas Philoptochos
Invites you to celebrate the
beginning of the Lenten period

Clean Monday
“Kathari Theftera”
Annual Lenten Luncheon

Monday, March 3rd
11:00 a.m. Compline Service
Complimentary Luncheon to follow
St. Nicholas Family Life Center



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS



- Carol Kamburis, President
- Helen Y. Carey, Vice-President
- Deb Palazzola, Secretary
- Christina Stamelos, Treasurer
- Zac Holt, Assistant Treasurer
- Adonis Chakides
- Niko Georges
- Marilynn Jemas
- Pat Lekich
- William Mastorakos, DDS, MS
- Jim Rigas
- Chris Sarantakis
- Nick Scarpino
- Jim Sorbello
- Paul Xenakis



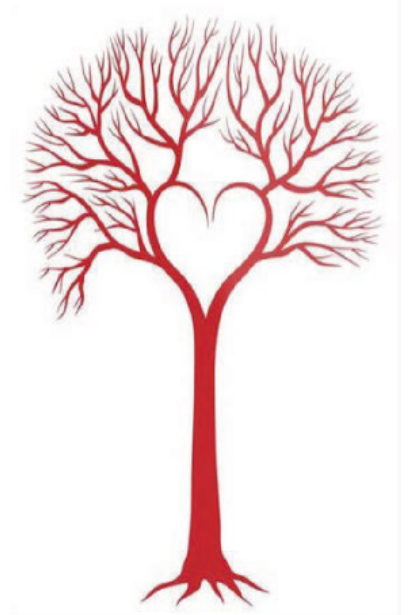
Philoptochos Corner February 2025

2025 Membership Drive: As we begin the New Year, 2025, with hope, faith and renewed enthusiasm toward the Philoptochos mission to minister to the underprivileged, we want to invite women of all ages to join the St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society. Being a member of Philoptochos means being a part of something greater than yourself, it means making the world a better place. It is our tradition of philanthropy, our living and practicing Orthodox faith, which enables and encourages us to serve with compassion, dignity and respect. It is now the time to Invite you to offer your talents to our mission. It is now the time to Embrace your ideas of compassion for our fellow man. It is now the time to Involve yourself by offering your talents and ideas for the betterment of our community. Come join us! When making your 2025 pledge, please consider the following: \$21.00 of each pledge is used to fulfill yearly commitments to the National & Metropolis Philoptochos. The balance of your pledge supports our local chapter of St. Nicholas Philoptochos. Please mail checks payable to: St. Nicholas Philoptochos to 4967 Forest Park Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108. Stewardship is due no later than March 1, 2025.

Vasilopita “Celebration”: The Ladies of St. Nicholas Philoptochos remain steadfast in continuing our mission and ministries. Our annual Vasilopita Sunday was held on Sunday, January 12th. Special thanks to Dianne Zotos for chairing our annual celebration and to Christina Ginos for preparing the delicious Vasilopita breads along with her wonderful committee of dedicated women! The word Vasilopita is a compound Greek word which means the sweet ‘bread of Basil’. The Vasilopita tradition is one of the most beautiful and inspiring traditions and customs of the Greek Orthodox Church. It is this annual family observance, together with many other traditions of our Church, which joins our Orthodox Faith and heritage with the history of the Christian religion itself. Proceeds benefit Saint Basil Academy in Garrison, NY. The Saint Basil Academy is a national not-for-profit philanthropic center of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America which provides love, shelter, food, education, protection and a home for her orphans, children of chronically ill or destitute parents or children from broken homes.

Pre-Lenten Luncheon & Bake Sale: February 2nd – Join us for lunch after Divine Liturgy. Dine-in with your family/friends to celebrate Godparent-Godchild Sunday or carry out for Sunday dinner. All proceeds benefit the mission of St. Nicholas Philoptochos.

First Day of Lent/Clean Monday: March 3rd - We invite you to celebrate the beginning of the Lenten period at our annual Lenten Luncheon immediately following the Compline Service at the Family Life Center.





FISH FRY

Greek Style

Fridays: March 14, March 21, March 28

4:00pm - 7:00pm



St. Nicholas Family Life Center

12550 S. Forty Drive, St. Louis, MO 63141

On The Menu:

Fried & Baked Fish, Spanakopita,
Greek Mac-n-Cheese, Dessert and more!

Open to the Public - Free Parking - Free Admission - Come join us!



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



Faith in Healing - The St. Dimitrie Program's Holistic Approach to Recovery

"In the vibrant heart of Cluj, Romania, the St. Dimitrie Program - led by the Orthodox Christian Mission Center's Floyd Frantz - has been providing addiction treatment for over two decades. Working with the local Church, this program offers counseling and addiction education services using a holistic approach, underpinned by the belief that addiction recovery involves the whole person—mind, body, and spirit.

As an addiction treatment specialist and co-founder of the National Anti-Drug Program of the Orthodox Church of Romania, Frantz has been instrumental in shaping this work, utilizing an approach that integrates the rich tradition of Orthodox spirituality to impact those seeking recovery. Frantz has an

academic background in psychology, with extensive professional experience in both residential and outpatient addiction counseling. He has over 40 years of active involvement and volunteer work in community-based programs in the prison system, the court system, hospitals and residential programs specializing in alcoholism and addiction treatment.

This year, as Metropolitan Andrei blessed the program's offices, the event was a testament to the Church's support for these life-transforming services. The annual blessing draws attention to the deep connection between faith and recovery, reinforcing the Orthodox Church's healing role. As we reflect on this mission, we are reminded of St. Isaac the Syrian's words: "If it goes beyond being a bad habit, then only God can help them."

Before the end of 2024, Metropolitan Teofan granted Floyd Frantz the Moldovan Cross, the highest distinction of the Metropolis of Moldova and Bukovina. It was a sign of gratitude for his support in creating an addiction treatment community center in the Romanian city of Iasi and in the training of addiction counselors in the eparchy. To learn more about Floyd Frantz and the recognition he recently received for his work with the St. Dimitrie Program, please read the full article below.

https://basilica.ro/en/floyd-frantz-addiction-treatment-specialist-says-romanian-orthodox-culture-helps-addiction-recovery/

As Always, please feel free to contact Rosie Hartley 618-447-9688 if you have any questions, would like to be part of the Mission Team St. Louis, or if you would like to help our missionaries.

Thank you for your continued support!

Scrapbooking & Project Day

Saturday, February 8, 2025

10am-10pm

Come as early as you'd like, stay as late as you'd like, come and go as you please.



\$25



Traditional & online scrapbooking, sewing, card making, quilting, jewelry making, knitting, needle pointing, crocheting - all projects welcome!

This is just the space to get them done (or started)

Wi-Fi & power sources available.

Proceeds benefit St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

At St. Nicholas Family Life Center

Philoptochos Room

12550 South Outer 40 Dr. 63141

For reservations & questions contact Steph McPherron at scdemos@yahoo.com or 314-640-0989

Cash or checks payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church to be paid the day of.



Save the Date~ Sunday, May 18th, 2025

All are invited to join the

Centennial Festivities of

Sts. Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Church, Swansea IL

Saturday, May 17th: 5pm Great Vespers and Reception

Sunday, May 18th: 10am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Reception

5pm Gala Dinner at the Regency

Conference Center, O'Fallon, IL~

further details and ticket info TBA



AHEPA Scholarship Foundation

The St. Louis *AHEPA Scholarship Foundation* is now accepting Scholarship Applications

Please email Basil Pappas
bdpappas@yahoo.com
for an application.

The application is due no later than
April 15, 2025.

There are **no exceptions** to this date.

Also, typically we cannot access Google Docs, so please send all information in **PDF format**.

Please note:

Schools are not particularly speedy with sending transcripts, so do not wait until the last minute. Same is true for recommendations.



St. Nicholas Scholarship

The St. Nicholas Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications for 2025

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

5:00 pm CDT, Thursday, May 15, 2025

Late applications will NOT be accepted for Consideration

Any questions may be directed to the Church Office during normal business hours at 314.361.6924

New Year's Day Brunch



Parishioner Spotlight

Weston, Jessica and Elijah Haldeman,



Our spotlight this month is on Weston and Jessica Haldeman and their son Elijah (3). Weston was born in Colorado, whereas Jessica was born in Wisconsin. They met in Iowa and moved to St. Louis in 2016. The Haldeman family came to St. Nicholas about 4 years ago, from non-Orthodox backgrounds, but looking for a community working together for Christ's True Church.

Weston works as a perfumer in Fenton and frequents the Men's Fellowship on Wednesday mornings, while Jessica is a project manager for a company based out of Mississippi. They can be easily spotted in the back of the parish due to Weston being 6'8" and the excited toddler energy. When not at Church, the family enjoys cooking, making music and trying out new movies.



Young Adult League
GREATER SAINT LOUIS

18-35 YEARS OLD?
JOIN TODAY!



Already a **Member?**
Stay in the loop!

 @valstlouis

 stlouisval@gmail.com



Submit topics for
future **discussions!**



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

*Please join us 10 am Tuesdays, February 4 & 18
at the Family Life Center*

Cherubs and Parents Play Date

Calling all St. Nicholas parents and littles (under the age of Kindergarten) for a time to play and spiritual growth! Please join us for the upcoming play date:

When: Saturday, February 1 at 9:30 am

Where:

St. Nicholas Family Life Center
12550 South 40 Drive
St. Louis, MO 63141



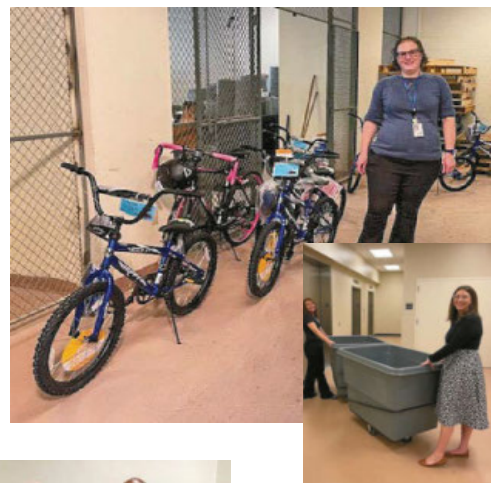
To RSVP or if you have questions,
please contact:

Gracie Livaditis at 314.616.9557
or Dino Livaditis at 314.223.6435

St. Nicholas Prison Ministry 2024 Highlights

Thank you St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church!

- Provided 12 new beds to probationers and their children
- Provided 10 new air conditioners during summer months
- Donated \$3000 to purchase meat for the probation office food pantry
- Took 45 children to see their incarcerated parents
- Provided carryalls and bags for the home probationers
- Donated over \$500 to the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry
- Provided all dorm supplies to 4 freshmen college students
- Provided furniture, televisions, and appliances to furnish apartments for the newly released
- Provided new shoes and clothing to newly released clients
- Provided over 300 Christmas coats for children
- Provided over 200 bikes to children for the holidays
- Adopted nearly 300 children for the annual toy drive
- Provided 82 turkeys and sides for the Christmas holiday.



2025 Stewardship

Pledges through January 23, 2025

Please remember to fill out your pledge form for 2025.

Leadership St. Nicholas

A minimum financial commitment of \$10,000 per year for 10 consecutive years.



Leadership 2025

- *Efthim, Andrew
- Efthim, Frank and Carol
- *Galakatos, Andrew
- *Galakatos, Gregory and JoAnn
- *Grayson, William and Diana
- James, George and Georgia
- *Kalomas, Dean
- Kaminski, Glen and Kimberly
- *Millonas, Dean and Michelle
- *Pulos, Jason and Barbara
- *Sewall, David
- Stavrides, Pete and Teresa
- *Tarlal, George and Kimberly

*Fullfilled 10 year Leadership committment

Super Stewards 2025

- Arbanas, Fr. Michael and Caroline
- Bude, George
- Demos, James and Theresa
- Efthim, Janet
- Ferretti, Michael and Georgia
- Ferretti, Peter and Tonya
- Fitzmaurice, Sean and Vasiliki
- Ginos, Thomas & Christina
- Hart, James and Theodora
- Jemas, Noel and Marilyn
- Kazanas, Dan and Anne
- Koch, John and Mary Anne
- Leara, Paul and Helen
- Martin, Jason and Claire
- Mastorakos, Mary
- Mastorakos, William and Christa
- McPherron, Colin and Stephanie
- Mitchell, Bill and Charlene
- Panopoulos, Dimitrios and Cathy
- Papulis, Fr. Doug & Presv. Christina
- Salas, Sakis and Cathy

- Tarlal, Dan and Andrea
- Tsikalas, Demetrios and Jackie
- Vellios, William
- Vleisides, Mark and Renee
- *Anonymous

St. Nicholas Super Steward

A minimum commitment of 5% of household income or \$5,000.



2025 Stewards

Pledges Through January 23, 2025

Al-Bussairi, Stephanie
 Alexander, Stacey
 Anastas, Christina
 Angelos, Vasso
 Angelos, George
 Angelos, Steve
 Antonakos, James
 Antonopoulos, Konstantinos & Georgia
 Antonopoulos, Michael
 Appel, Michael & Patricia
 Athanasiadis, Christos and Penelope
 Been, Rodney and Elaine
 Bouyoukos, Nick
 Boyher, Logan and Kristen
 Branford, Tyler
 Brown, Jim and Anna
 Buckalew, Philip and Irene
 Burch, Robert and Cindy
 Camene, Timothy and Christine
 Cassimatis, Nicholas and Susan
 Catalano, John
 Catsavis, Gus
 Ceno, Mihallaq & Monika
 Charles, Harry
 Chirco, Sergio and Dimitra
 Chrissos, George and Anna
 Chronis, George and Jessica
 Cluck, Sophia
 Corona, Stephany
 Danko, Lisa
 Davis, John and Mimi
 Davis, Alexander
 DelaRoche, Lydia and William
 Denos, Ellis & Karla
 Doran, Michael
 Efthim, Richard and Dena
 Efthim, Stephanie
 Fettel, Linda
 Fakonas, Anastassios and Christina
 Fandos, Alice
 Finer, Lyndia and Barry
 Fleshman, Ronald and Dorothy
 Foster, Anthony and Effie
 Fournier, Michael and Pamela
 Francis, William and Voula
 Fryrear, Jim and Stacie
 Gaddis, Nicholas and Heather
 Galakatos, George and Priscilla
 Galakatos, Krys
 Gallagher, Sean and Stephanie
 Georges, Niko and Alexia
 Georges, Anthony and Sonja
 Georges, Helen
 Germanos, John E.
 Germanos, Elias
 Ghirmazion, Yohana
 Gibson, Parker and Kaleigh
 Ginos, Nicholas and Kathleen
 Ginos, Naso
 Glioumas, George and Stephanie

Glynias, Stefan and Elizabeth
 Golfin, Byron and Carolyn
 Gordon, LaDonna
 Guenther, Alexandra and Andrew
 Haldeman, Weston and Jessica
 Hartley, Jonathan
 Hartman, Jeffrey and Polly
 Hartman, Paige
 Hedgecock, Dianne
 Heine, Betty
 Herbig, Nicole and Michael
 Hinni, Aaron and Kathy
 Hoffman, John and Candice
 Hunnius, Janet
 Jackson, William
 James, Lisa
 Johnson, Duane and Katherine
 Kacso, Claudiu and Simona
 Kaftantzis, Dimitrios and Roussa
 Kallaos, Tom and Mersine
 Kamburis, Michael and Maria
 Kamburis, Sandra
 Kantis, Maria
 Kappas, Nicholas & Michele
 Karakas, Achilles and Dorothea
 Kastaris, Euripides
 Kastaris, Harriet
 Katsaras, Nicholas
 Katsoulis, Sue
 Kavadas, Jimmy and Brenda
 Kazanas, Maria
 Kazanas III, Dan
 Keleta, Shewit
 Ketchmark, Steve and Stavra
 King, Ordie
 Konczak, Leopold and Cynthia
 Kondis, Nick and Jamie
 Koskolos, Nick and Helen
 Lambos, Basile and Aristeia
 Lampros, Susan
 Lappas, George
 Lee, Andre and Brigitte
 Lekich, David and Patricia
 Leontsinis, Patricia
 Livaditis, Terry and Kathy
 Lockwood, Dale and Andrea
 Maddux, Michael and Susan
 Mager, David and Marika
 Manolis, Christina
 Mastorakos, Mary Ann
 Mattern, Derick
 Mavromatis, Peter and Katheryn
 Meyer, David and Carol
 Mezines, Chris and Mary
 Mezines, Sam and Maureen
 Millonas, William and Claudia
 Mitchell, Roger and Deborah
 Modde, Ben and Michelle
 Muckler, Robert and Mary
 Murphy, Benjamin and Betsy

Nakis, Emmanuel and Gina
 Nichoalds, Joe and Helen
 Nicozisin, William and Linda
 Nicozisin, Demetra
 Nicozisin, Katerina
 Nipper, Matt and Cathy
 O'Hara, Thomas and Mary
 Orf, Roland and Cynthia
 Otso, Carl and Nancy
 Palazzola, Joseph and Deborah
 Panopoulos, Elias and Catherine
 Papadopoulos, Pete and Estelle
 Papagianis, Christos
 Pappas, Michael and Jenny
 Pappas, Stephen and Carol
 Pappas, George
 Paslidis, Alexandra
 Patakas, Gus
 Perkins, Nicholas
 Perkins, Frieda
 Peterson, Anastasia
 Pliakos, George
 Politis, Demetrios and Julann
 Politis, Louis and Theone
 Politis, Peter and Megan
 Porter, Clark
 Psaris, Dianna
 Psaris, Nicholas
 Redman, Joseph and Dominica
 Reichert, Valerie
 Riethmann, Elizabeth
 Rigas, Jim and Donna
 Roeber, Maria
 Rowe, Daniel and Lauren
 Russon, John and Gina
 Salas, Olga
 Scarpino, Nicholas & Tania
 Schriedel, Jesse and Kristina
 Sears, Katherine
 Sevastianos, Noel and Evangelia
 Sheridan, Robert and Georgine
 Shisko, William and Fotina

Shisko, Louis
 Smith, William and Caitlin
 Smith, Cassandra and Ryan
 Sorbello, James Jr. and Carmen
 Sorbello, Catherine
 Sorocko, Tony
 Souris, John and Hariklia
 Souris, Kosmas and Despina
 Spanos, Leon and Johanna
 Spanos, Christina
 Stamelos, Christina
 Stavro, Mark and Jackie
 Stevens, George & Lauren
 Storgion, Steven and Michelle
 Stricker, Jerry and Sophia
 Takes, Peter and Alexandra
 Tanurchis, John
 Teferi, Emmanuel
 Tharenos, Nick and Becky
 Thavorides, Anne
 Thavorides, Nick
 Thavorides, Tom and Vicki
 Theodore, George
 Theodorou, Argyrios and Evangelia
 Tovrea, Perry and Maria
 Tschlis, Penny
 Tschlis, George
 Tsoubanos, Nicholas and Kristina
 Tuttle, William and Athena
 Vahey, Joanna
 Varsam, Nick and Portia
 Vellios, Sophia
 Vlahiotis, Antonios
 Wessel, Craig and Kathryn
 Whaley, Daphne
 Woodrome, Chris and Nicole
 Zaman, Anthony and Karen
 Zotos, George & Dianne
 Zotos, Diane
 Zotos, Magdalene
 Zotos, Katherine
 Zuko, Stavri and Marika



February is Stewardship Awareness Month

YOU MAY NEVER KNOW THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF YOUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE FOR ST. NICHOLAS. BUT, REST ASSURED, YOU DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Take a minute to fill out the 2025 St. Nicholas Stewardship Pledge form on the next page and mail to St. Nicholas, 4967 Forest Park Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108 Or, go to SNGOC.org (click giving) and fill out the form online.

The continued mission and purpose of our church depends on all of us.



St. Nicholas 2025 Stewardship Pledge Form

Complete form and return to:
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
4967 Forest Park Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.361.6924

For budget planning purposes, please complete by March 1, 2025

Last Name *	First Name *	Middle Initial	Spouse's Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email *	Phone *	Envelope #	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Select Stewardship Offering. *

* required field

- Steward — A good faith pledge in accordance with your means and ability
- Super Steward — Annual minimum contribution of \$5,000 or 5% of household income
- Leadership St. Nicholas — Annual minimum commitment of \$10,000 or more for 10 consecutive years

Payment Schedule *

- WEEKLY MONTHLY QUARTERLY ONE-TIME OTHER
- \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Total 2025 Pledge Amount: *

Note—An average of \$2,400 per family is needed to balance the budget.

\$

Amount to be paid in full by December 31, 2025

Payment Method *

- Check made payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
- I will set up a one-time or recurring gift via www.sngoc.org/donate-now
- Set up my one-time or recurring gift using my existing bank or credit card information on file
- Set up my one-time or recurring gift using new bank or credit card information provided below
- Stock transfer (contact the church office)

Bank Withdrawal (ACH / EFT)

- Checking
- Savings

Routing #

Account #

Credit / Debit Card

- Visa
- Master Card
- Discover
- American Express

Name on card

Card #

Exp date CVV

Signature*

Please notify the church office throughout the year of any changes to name, address, phone number, or email address, in order to keep our records current.

Dear St. Nicholas Parish Family,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2025: As of January 14 our current loan amount is \$463,231.31. Our monthly mortgage payment is \$25,500

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

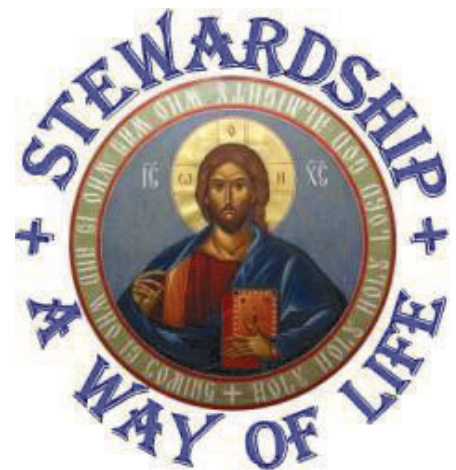
Sincerely,

Carol Kamburis, President

Ways to Give: Qualified Charitable Distributions

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

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



If you have questions or would like to donate appreciated securities, mutual funds, or make QCDs, please contact Sakis Salas at 636-866-6193. We also recommend that you consult your Financial/Tax Advisors for additional information

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

CHURCH FUND

In Memory of Christine Lemakis

- Anthony & Sandra Kardis
- Cecelia Kanellakes
- Cindy Lienau
- Dawn M Wilson
- Dianne & Steve Morton
- Ellie Laird
- Jeanine C Heller
- Karen Az-Bori
- Kimkuly & Ron Fremmel
- Mary Angelides
- Noel & Angie Sevastianos
- Ron & Elaine Been

In Memory of Nick Zias

- Dina Zias

In Memory of Helen Pappademos

- Thomas Dafnides

In Memory of Mary T. Harris

- Craig Jesenick

NEXT 100 CAMPAIGN

In Memory of Christine Lemakis

- Christina A. Anastas
- Demetra Nicozisin
- Demetrios Politis
- Frances Demetre
- Jim & Theresa Demos
- Michael & Georgia Ferretti
- Nickolas Betta
- Renee Tompras Bogdanos
- Steve & Carol Betta
- The Kamburis Family
- Theodore & Helen Demos
- Tina Spanos & Zoe

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

In Memory of Christine Lemakis

- Elizabeth Ulrich
- Kristin Beddoe
- Lisa Ulrich
- Steve & Carol Pappas
- Vasiliki Fitzmaurice

SCHOLARSHIP

In Memory of Christine Lemakis

- Lee & Rosie Hartley
- Susan Lampros

In Memory of Despina Pashos

- Lee & Rosie Hartley

St. Nicholas Restoration Fund

In Memory of Despina Pashos

- John & Michelle Nicholas



FUNERAL

Leo Pashos fell asleep in the Lord on January 14. His funeral was January 20.

† May his memory be eternal

MEMORIALS

- † 40 day memorial for Christina Lemakis January 19
- † 1 year memorial for Βασιλικη, Billie Stavrides December 15
- † 1 year memorial for Andrew George Papay, PhD January 12
- † 1 year memorial for Dino Benos January 19
- † 3 year memorial for Κωνσταντινος, Constantine Stavrides December 15
- † 3 year memorial for Ryan Xenakis January 19
- † 4 year memorial for Harry Lemakis January 19
- † 5 year memorial for Helen Xenakis January 19
- † 7 year memorial for Alison Miller January 19
- † 13 year memorial for Gladys Benos January 19
- † 24 year memorial for Γιοργος, George Stavrides December 15
- † 24 year memorial for Vasiliki Papay January 12
- † 29 year memorial for Athena Lemakis January 19
- † 35 year memorial for George Koronis December 15
- † 78 year memorial for Peter Lemakis January 19

BAPTISMS

Tia Nicole, daughter of Lauren and George Stevens was baptized on December 28. Her Godfather is Peter Politis. Congratulations!

Semira Muna White, daughter of Shewitt Keleta and Terron White was baptized on January 18. Her Godmother is Yohana Ghirmazion. Congratulations!

Tyler Branford was baptized on January 19. His Sponsor is Alexandra Paslidis. Congratulations!

February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9:30 am Cherubs at FLC 10:30 am Adult Choir Practice at FLC 6 pm Young Adult League at FLC
2 <i>Presentation of Our Lord</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Godparent-Godchild Sunday Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour Philoptochos Pre-Lenten Luncheon/Bake Sale 1 PM St. John Chrysostom ICON Class at Assumption GOC 5 pm GOYA, Jr. GOYA at FLC	3	4 10:00 am <i>Women's Faith Group</i> Family Life Center	5 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom	6	7	8 10:00 am Scrapbooking/ & Project Day At FLC 10:30 am Adult Choir Practice at FLC
9 <i>Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Stewardship Awareness Sunday Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour	10	11 7 pm via Zoom Young Adult League	12 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom	13	14	15 10:30 am Adult Choir Practice at FLC GOYA Ski Trip
16 <i>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour 1 PM St. John Chrysostom ICON Class at Assumption GOC Goya Ski Trip	17 Goya Ski Trip	18 10:00 am <i>Women's Faith Group</i> Family Life Center	19 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom	20	21	22 <i>Saturday of the Souls</i> 9:30 am Divine Liturgy Family Life Center Chapel 10:30 am Adult Choir Practice at FLC
23 <i>Judgement (Meatfare) Sunday</i> 8:15 Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Church Sunday School Fellowship Coffee Hour Meatfare Sunday Luncheon Sale	24	25	26 7 am Men's Fellowship Family Life Center/Zoom	27	28	

Thank you for supporting St. Nicholas



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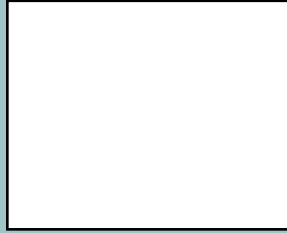
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 With many years of health & happiness

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