

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 10, 2014



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
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[www.st-nicholas.info](http://www.st-nicholas.info)

Rev. Anthony Savas

Rev. Michael State

Very Rev. Spencer T. Kezios, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Vasilios Thanos, Retired

## *Matins Gospel Reading*

*Ninth Orthros Gospel*

*The Reading is from John 20:19-31*

**On** the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to Him: "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

## *Epistle Reading:*

*The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17*

**BRETHREN**, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder. I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what

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sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

*Gospel Reading: 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew*

*The Reading is from Matthew 14:22-34*

*At that time*, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 am Orthros

9:45 am Memorials

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

## Memorials for August 10, 2014

Alexis Alexander

Kyriacos Hatzikostas

Sofia Kyprianou

Brian Nahmoulis

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## Memorials for August 17, 2014

Haralambos Pappas

Steve Zoumadakis

## **GROUPS SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR**

August 10<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School

August 17<sup>th</sup> - Basketball League

August 24<sup>th</sup> - Stewardship Committee

August 31<sup>st</sup> - YAL

September 7<sup>th</sup> - Dance Groups

September 14<sup>th</sup> - Choir

September 21<sup>st</sup> - JOY/GOYA

September 28<sup>th</sup> - Bowling League

October 5<sup>th</sup> - St. Nicholas School

October 12<sup>th</sup> - Festival Committee

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### *Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode*

*From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.*

### *Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Grave Mode*

*Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Thy disciples Thy glory as each one could endure. Shine forth Thou on us, who are sinners all, Thy light ever-unending, through the prayers of the Theotokos. Light-bestower, glory be to Thee.*

### *Apolytikion - Hymn of Saint Nicholas*

*A model of faith and the image of gentleness, the example of your life has shown you forth to your sheep-fold to be a master of temperance. You obtained thus through being lowly, gifts from on high, and riches through poverty. Nicholas, our Father and our Hierarch, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.*

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## *Seasonal Kontakion in the Grave Mode*

*You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.*

## *Feasts and Saints Commemorated*

*Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>      9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew*

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Chitus of Athens, Bishop of Rome; Hippolytus the Martyr of Rome; Laurence the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Rome - This Saint, who was born in Spain, was the Archdeacon of the Church of Rome, caring for the sacred vessels of the Church and distributing money to the needy. About the year 257, a harsh persecution was raised up against the Christians by Valerian. Pope Sixtus, who was from Athens, was commanded to worship the idols, and refused; before his martyrdom by beheading, he committed to Laurence all the sacred vessels of the Church. When Laurence was arrested and brought before the Prefect, he was questioned concerning the treasures of the Church; he asked for three days' time to prepare them. He then proceeded to gather all the poor and needy, and presented them to the Prefect and said, "Behold the treasures of the Church." The Prefect became enraged at this and gave command that Laurence be racked, then scourged with scorpions (a whip furnished with sharp iron points - compare II Chron. 10:11), then stretched out on a red-hot iron grill. But the courageous athlete of Christ endured without groaning. After he had been burned on one side, he said, "My body is done on one side; turn me over on the other." And when this had taken place, the Martyr said to the tyrants, "My flesh is now well done, you may taste of it." And when he had said this, and had prayed for his slayers in imitation of Christ, he gave up his spirit on August 10, 258.

*Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Monday after Pentecost*

Euplus the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Cantania; Our Holy Father Niphonus, Patriarch of Constantinople; Commemoration of St. Spyridon's Miracle in Corfu against the Turkish invasion of 1716; Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;

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*Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday after Pentecost*

The Holy Martyrs Photius and Anicetus of Nicomedia; Soldier-martyrs of Crete; Sergios & Stephen the Monks; Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

*Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday after Pentecost*

Apodosis of the Transfiguration; Maximus the Confessor; Our Righteous Fathers Sergius, Stephanus, Castor and Palamonus; Dorotheus, Abba of Gaza; Tikhon of Zadonsk

*Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Thursday after Pentecost*

Forefeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary; The Holy Prophet Michaias (Micah); Holy Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Apameia; Holy New Martyr Symeon of Trapezoundos (1653)

*Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Friday after Pentecost*

The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

*Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Saturday after Pentecost*

Translation of the Image of Our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ; Diomedes the Physician & Martyr of Tarsus; Timothy of Euripus, founder of the Monastery of Pentele; Nicodemus the New Martyr of Meteora; Gerasimos the New Ascetic of Cephalonia ; Holy Monk Penteles; Afterfeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

*Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>      10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew*

Myron the Martyr of Cyzicus; Straton, Philip, Eutylian, & Cyprian the Martyrs of Nicomedeia; Afterfeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

## *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

*Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>*

9:00 am Orthros; 9:45 am Memorials

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

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*Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>*

6:30 pm Paraklesis Service (Church)

7:00 pm Trisagion for Nomiki Karaiskos (Bastian & Perrott Mortuary)

*Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>*

10:00 am Funeral Service for Nomiki Karaiskos (Church)

*Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>*

7:30 pm Paraklesis Service (Church)

*Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>*

6:30 pm Basketball - Open Gym

7:00 pm Vespers for the Dormition of the Theotokos at **ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY in LONG BEACH**

*Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> Dormition of the Theotokos*

8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal for Nomiki Kolettis & Anirban Banerjee

Church Office will be closing following Divine Liturgy

*Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>*

3:30 pm Wedding of Nomiki Kolettis & Anirban Banerjee

## GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM

Dear Parents,

St. Nicholas Greek School is now enrolling for the Fall session. Attached find the registration form for your use. You may also get the registration form from the church office or at the Greek School table in the ballroom after church. We ask that all forms and payment be submitted by August 20<sup>th</sup>. The Fall session will be 12 weeks. The fee for each session is \$180 per child. The first class will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5pm-6pm or 6:30pm-7:30pm. The time of the class

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will depend on your child's proficiency level. More information will be forthcoming, after registration forms have been submitted.

We are looking forward to an exciting year. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Nikki Chrysiliou at [nc1012@me.com](mailto:nc1012@me.com).

## GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

STUDENT'S NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S GRADE AND AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS' NAMES : \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER : \_\_\_\_\_

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

CHECK THE COURSE YOU WISH TO ENROLL YOUR CHILD

FALL PROGRAM ( REGISTRATION DUE BY August 20, 2014)

(12 Sessions once, a week. Starts 9/5/14)

Cost of the courses

\$15 per session (prepaid during registration of each program)

12 sessions: \$180

SELECT THE LEVEL THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR CHILD 'S GREEK LANGUAGE

Beginning

Intermediate

Advanced

PARENT SIGNATURE : \_\_\_\_\_

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# SAVE the DATE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2014



SAINT

NICHOLAS

PHILOPTOCHOS PRESENTS:

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Dionysus  
Festival of Food & Wine

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St. Nicholas Ballroom, Northridge

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## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE...

Jesus' disciples and Christian Orthodox Stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love of God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus Christ for guidance in living as Christian Orthodox stewards.

Thank you for your continuing financial support of our St. Nicholas Church. As a reminder please send in your 2014 pledge form to the church office so our parish council can continue to plan the budget for 2014.

*Jim Alex*

*Stewardship Chairman*

## St. Nicholas Bowling League

On Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, our bowling season will begin. There will be a meeting in the lounge at Matador Bowl at 7:15pm that night, prior to bowling. We have a lot to discuss at that meeting and we encourage everyone to attend.

This year we expanded to 14 teams, and we have a few spots available. If you wish to be a new bowler and join in on the fun and fellowship, please contact **Gus Sapon at: 805 579-8846.**





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818-886-6751      [www.stnicholaseducation.com](http://www.stnicholaseducation.com)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we find ourselves in the midst of the fasting period which precedes the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, our minds and hearts often turn to what troubles the mind and what pains the heart. Though suffering is not the entirety of the Christian experience, it certainly plays a key role in how our souls are sharpened, how our resolve is exercised and how our character is built.

Jesus Christ suffered on the Cross. Mary, His mother suffered as she endured the Cross. The Disciples suffered and were martyred for the sake of the Cross. Though our lives follow the same pattern, it is the Cross and glory which defines us; not the suffering or the anguish.

As we participate in the Paraklesis services, we are called to identify the origin and purpose of our suffering. Where do we hurt? Why do we hurt? What hurt have we caused in others? Panagia removes these points of suffering from us through her tender prayers and intercessions before Christ. The pain I feel is mostly physical, following what turned out to be a pretty serious accident. I didn't think my fall was so bad at first, but reality soon set in to reveal what would be the next three months of my life. I have spent numerous hours in prayer and contemplation searching for a reason for my fall. What lessons must I take from it? What message is being sent? Why this suffering and why now?

The answers to my questions are found in this season. In these days. While praising His mother. And worshiping His goodness. "Most Holy Theotokos Save Us." We repeat it over and over again. The Theotokos does not save us from damnation. She does not, and cannot offer salvation. But her prayers, above all others' are heard and answered. When we invite her into our most intimate and vulnerable spaces – where we hurt and where we suffer – our pains become her pains. Our anxieties, weaknesses, deficits, holes and wounds become her own, just as any good mother suffers the ills of her children.

Through her prayers, and quite honestly, through your prayers also, I see the light at the end of my own tunnel. I have less than a month, God willing, until I can take my first steps using my left leg. I know there are days of pain, setbacks and less-than-

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patient behavior ahead of me. I thank you for the strength and support you have offered and for the kindness you have displayed. For me, the loving face of the Theotokos smiling upon me has been personified through each of you, beloved in the Lord, praying and interceding. Thank you.

We all suffer. We all feel pain. We all hurt. The Theotokos wraps that pain in the loving embrace of her heart and offers it as prayer to her Son and our God. That is how she saves us.

With Much Love in Christ,

*Fr. Anthony*