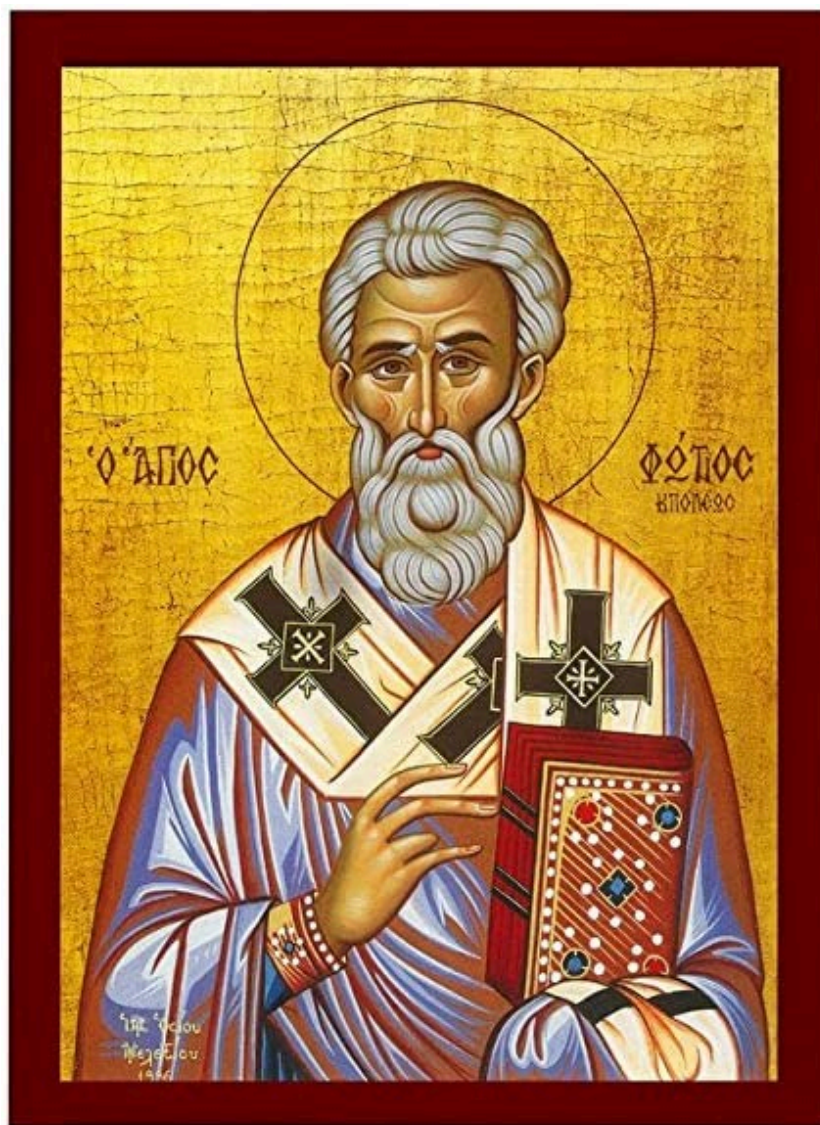


Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church



The Voice

**Feb.
2023**





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Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

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Deli

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 Cruz

Meetings

Parish Council

3rd Tuesday
 7:00 PM

Philoptochos

2nd Saturday
 10:00 AM

Bible Study

Every 2nd & 4th
 Wednesday
 10:30 AM

Addiction

Support

Every 2nd & 4th
 Monday 7PM

Senior Woman's

Group

1st Monday each
 month 10am.

On the Web

stnicholasfp.com

Facebook

[Facebook.com/
 stnicholasfp/
 posts](https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasfp/)

YouTube

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Πρόσχωμεν - Let Us Be Attentive

Dear Friends,

The new calendar year has brought a new slate of Parish Council officers. We thank those who have completed their terms of office and welcome President Gregory Demko, Vice Presidents Kathy Beasley and Bill Woulas, Treasurer Sharon Colonis, Assistant Treasurer Crystal Monocandilos, and Secretary Steve Hantzarides. Together with the other six elected members of the Parish Council, I am hopeful for a good year beginning with our Annual Greek Festival on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of this month. I hope to see you all there.

Our St. Nicholas parish, like all the other Greek Orthodox parishes in the USA, is chartered and operates under the Uniform Parish Regulations (UPR) set forth by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. They are further elaborated upon by the metropolis of Atlanta and our local hierarch, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios. These regulations set forth responsibilities and rights of parishioners, parish councils, priests, and governing bodies such as the Clergy-Laity Congress, both at the metropolis and national levels.

Parishioners are those who have been “baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church.” To be in good standing, one is expected to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox faith, attend the Divine Liturgy, participate in the sacraments, respect ecclesiastical authority, and contribute to and be a witness to the Orthodox faith and traditions. This applies to those who are 18 years of age and older.

I bring this to your attention because it is not a surprise that many young adult parishioners are not in good standing as required by the UPR.

It becomes necessary for me to instruct and guide those seeking to sponsor a wedding or baptism that those responsibilities must be fulfilled before they can receive a letter confirming that they are in good standing. This can be disappointing to those who are unprepared.

I urge parents to speak with their children, both younger and older, and set an example of stewardship and witness to our Orthodox faith so that when they are ready to receive the Church’s blessing there will be no impediment.

I realize that many young people have fallen away from this church and others alike. This is not limited to the Orthodox faith.

Our mission statement says that we will “proclaim the Gospel of Christ; teach and spread the Orthodox Christian faith; and energize, cultivate and guide the life of the Church according to the Orthodox Christian faith and sacred tradition.”

Let us begin this in our own homes.

Respectfully,
+Father John

Stewardship

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By now you should have received your end of year recap listing your donations made to St. Nicholas for yearend 2022. Please review to ensure it is in line with your records. Do not hesitate to contact the church office with any discrepancy. While you are reviewing it, have you fulfilled your pledge to St. Nicholas? The budgeted Stewardship amount for 2022 was \$191,000; the total pledged is \$174,525. If possible, perhaps your pledge could be increased for 2023. Would you miss an additional \$5.00 a week towards stewardship? If 150 stewards increased their weekly giving by \$5.00 that would be an increase of \$39,000 which means we would have surpassed our budgeted amount!

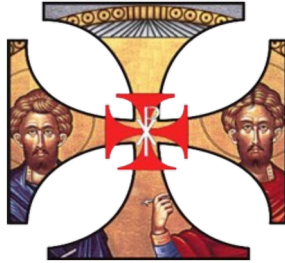
The planning of our Greek Festival is underway. We are all asked to plan how we can best work towards a successful festival by volunteering our time and talent to one of the many areas where many hands are needed. Attend the festival meetings and you will be sure to find the area best suited for you. Talk with Bill Woulas, our Festival Chair, with your ideas or suggestions; be involved as a generous steward of your time and talent.

May our Lord provide us with the resources necessary to make our 2023 Greek Festival the most successful one of all.

***“I will give to the Lord the thanks due to
His righteousness and I will sing praise
to the name of the Lord, the Most High”
(Psalm 7:17)***

With Love in Christ,

Sharon Colonis
Stewardship Chair



Philoptochos

Dear Parishioners:

There will not be a monthly meeting in February because the Philoptochos Ladies will be helping out with the Festival to make it a success. This year the Festival will take place on February 17th, 18th and 19th. Come and enjoy the fun and the festivities as well as Greek dancing and good food.

The Philoptochos is responsible for the evening Lenten meals following the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5. Joan Mihalakos and Helen Fiorentinos will be going around asking for 2 volunteers for each Lenten meal.

Don't forget Sharon Colonis is still collecting dues which are \$30. You can send your check made out to Philoptochos to the church office.

The next Philoptochos meeting will be March 11th at 10 a.m. in the Church Hall. Hostesses: Connie Mitchell, Marijo Svojse and Sharon Colonis.

See you at the Festival!!

Stacey Louka,
Vice President



GraceWay Village presentation to the Philoptochos



Letter from Festival Chairman

Dear Friends,

With the Festival around the corner, we are trying to cut down on the expenses as much as possible. Mr. Dimitrios Diamantopoulos has graciously contributed many food items and supplies and marketing support for the festival.

I would like to thank him for all that he is doing. His help is invaluable.

I would like to ask all of you for anything you can donate towards the Festival. No matter what the size is, it will be greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers and I am looking forward to making this Festival as successful as possible.

Thank you all,

Bill Woulas

There is nothing colder than a Christian who does not seek to save others.

- St. John Chrysostom

To say that God turns away from the sinful is like saying that the sun hides from the blind.

- St Anthony the Great

Pleasures are transient, honors are immortal.

- Diogenes

God is love - but love acquired by torturous repentance and fear of God.

- St Sophrony

A time is coming when people will go mad, and when they see someone who is not mad, they will attack him, saying, "You are mad; you are not like us."

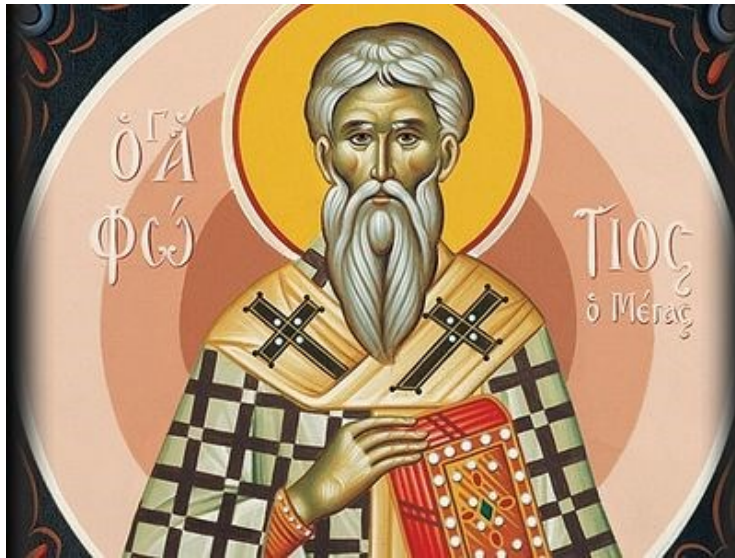
- St Anthony the Great

Let's say, for example, someone has a particular passion. He acknowledges the fact, he struggles to cast it off, he repents and he becomes humble. His inner disposition and struggle to break the bad habit are known to God, Who provides assistance. On the other hand, how can God give His Grace to one who does not make any effort to change; but - instead - continues to sin? God's Grace does not come to someone who is in a false spiritual state, because this would not be helpful to that person. If it were helpful; then God would have given His Grace to the devil himself.

- St. Paisios the Athonite

Old Russian saying;
The church is near, but it's icy out;
the bar is far, but I'll walk carefully.

**Photios
Patriarch of
Constantinople
(February 6)**



As for the thrice-blessed Photius, the great and most resplendent Father and teacher of the Church, the Confessor of the Faith and Equal to the Apostles, he lived during the years of the emperors Michael (the son of Theophilus), Basil the Macedonian, and Leo his son. He was the son of pious parents, Sergius and Irene, who suffered for the Faith under the Iconoclast Emperor Theophilus; he was also a nephew of Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople. He was born in Constantinople, where he excelled in the foremost imperial ministries, while ever practicing a virtuous and godly life. An upright and honorable man of singular learning and erudition, he was raised to the apostolic, ecumenical, and patriarchal throne of Constantinople in the year 857.

The many struggles that this thrice-blessed one undertook for the Orthodox Faith against the Manichaeans, the Iconoclasts, and other heretics, and the attacks and assaults that he endured from Nicholas I, the haughty and ambitious Pope of Rome, and the great persecutions and distresses he suffered, are beyond number. Contending against the Latin error of the filioque, that is, the doctrine that the Holy Spirit proceeds from both the Father and the Son, he demonstrated clearly with his *Mystagogy on the Holy Spirit* how the filioque destroys the unity and equality of the Trinity. He has left us many theological writings, panegyric homilies, and epistles, including one to Boris, the Sovereign of Bulgaria, in which he set forth for him the history and teachings of the Seven Ecumenical Councils. Having tended the Church of Christ in holiness and in an evangelical manner, and with fervent zeal having rooted out all the tares of every alien teaching, he departed to the Lord in the Monastery of the Armenians on February 6, 891.

A Morning Prayer

All-holy Trinity, both in success and in disappointment, help me to be modest and prayerful. Teach me to think of the joy and well-being of others and to put my ego aside. Help me to hide my own pain and heartache. Grant me the things that make me patient, forgiving, and understanding that I may profit from the sufferings You alone can allow. Rather than a disposition of irritability and suspicion, fill my heart with Your grace and mercy that I might join in the spreading of Your love. All this I humbly ask by the prayers of the Theotokos. Amen.

SAVE THE DATE

Final air schedules and pricing in December

Pilgrimage to Constantinople, Smyrna, Cappadocia and Greece

Lead by Father Mark Leondis - frmarko@saintmarkboca.net

and Father John Mamangakis - Mamangakis@aol.com

Limited Spots - Email to reserve

September 21 - October 4, 2023

15 Days/13 Nights



For More Information Contact:
Fr. Mark Leondis - 561.994.4822
office@saintmarkboca.net



Tour planning by Cloud Tours, Inc.
Reservations via attached form only.
718-721-3808 (Stephen)
stephen@cloudtours.com

SITES WE WILL VISIT

CONASTANTINOPLE: Visit Constantinople, the heart of Orthodoxy and the 17th century Greek Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate. Celebrate Divine Liturgy at St. George Cathedral with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. Learn about St. George and venerate the Holy Relics of Sts Gregory, the Theologian, John Chrysostom, Euphemia, Solomon and Theophano. Attend a private audience with His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. Visit the important sites for the Greek Orthodox in Constantinople: Hagia Sophia, Baloukli Monastery and Halki, home of the renowned Patriarchal School of Theology. Visit the Grand Bazaars.

CAPPADOCIA: A geological wonderland sculpted by erosion into a lunar landscape! The Christians carved out caves and later, churches that were decorated with coned ceilings, graceful columns and impressive frescoes. Labyrinthine underground cities grew carved from the soft volcanic stone where Christians hid in the caves and underground cities to avoid persecution. Visit Zelve Valley, the Goreme open air museum with its world famous Dark Church, the incredible underground city of Kaymakli, and the old Greek Sinnassos with the Church of Constantine & Eleni, Church of Hagia Kriaki and Guzelyurt/Gelveri (Karvali) with the Church of St. Gregory the Theologian. Visit the Church of St. Dimitrios in Gulsehir (Aravissos/Zoropassos) and the Church of St. John and ancient Aravissos.

SMYRNI: Visit the city of Smyrni (Izmir). Smyrni was once the center of a large and prosperous Greek population which was forced to leave Turkey or where thousands were slayed in the 1920's. Visit the old Greek neighborhood of Smyrni. Visit the most well preserved ancient Greco-Roman city of Ephesus. It will truly amaze you! Visit the Arcadian Way, the Marble Road, the Great Theater, and the Library of Celsus, St. John's Basilica and the Shrine of Virgin Mary. St. John came here with the Virgin Mary and wrote his Gospel. See this ancient city come to life!

GREECE: Visit Kalambaka and attend Liturgy at the Meteora Monasteries. You will receive a very warm welcome at the Monasteries and venerate relics and icons usually not brought forth. Take a day trip to the island of Aegina including a visit to the Holy Trinity Monastery to venerate the relics of St. Nektarios and the colorful sea-side village of Perdika. Visit the famous Corinth Canal.

PRICES & INCLUSIONS TO BE ADVISED

- * Round trip transatlantic international air
- * All private arrival & departure transfers with English speaking escort
- * First class accommodation: 3 nts. Constantinople, 3 nts. Cappadocia, 2nts Smyrni, 4 nts. Athens and 1 nt. Kalambaka
- * All hotel tax, service fees, daily breakfast. Dinners to be advised
- * Eleven days of private sightseeing in air-conditioned motor coach with English speaking Greek Orthodox guide
- Entrance fees included as per itinerary
- * Private audience with H.A.H. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (subject to confirmation)
- * Ferries to Halki & Aegina





Grief, I've learned, is really just love. It's all the love you want to give, but cannot. All that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in that hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go.

— Jamie Anderson

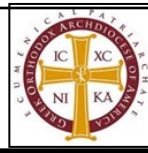
Yes, English can be weird.
It can be understood through tough
thorough thought, though.

David Burge





February

**Sunday, February 5****Publican and Pharisee**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Memorial: Alexander Yeats (40 days)

Monday, February 6**St. Photios the Great**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Tuesday, February 7

Senior Ladies Group - 10:00 AM

Paraclesis - 6:00 PM

Catechism - 7:00 PM

Sunday, February 12**Prodigal Son**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Souper Bowl - GOYA - 12 Noon

Monday, February 13

Addiction Support Group - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, February 14

Wedding: Christina & Jeff Greenberg - 2:00 PM

Paraclesis - 6:00 PM

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, February 17, 18, 19
Greek Festival - Volunteers needed.

**Saturday, February 18****Saturday of Souls**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Sunday, February 19**Meatfare Sunday**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Tuesday, February 21**Paraclesis - 6:00 PM**

Parish Council Meeting - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, February 22

Bible Study - 10:30 AM

Saturday, February 25**Saturday of Souls**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Youth trip to Monastery

Sunday, February 26**Cheesefare Sunday**

Orthros - 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Monday, February 27**Great Lent Begins**

Canon St. Andrew - 6:00 PM

Addiction Support Group - 7:00 PM

All services are televised live on
FaceBook at
facebook.com/stnicholasfp/posts and on
YouTube at
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
Ft Pierce, FL

Parishioner Happenings

Baptisms and Blessings



40 Day Blessing for
Alexander Krebeck,
son of Alexis and Kent



40 Day Blessing for
Leonora Foreman,
daughter of
Shannon and Paige



Baptism of
Tracie Anna Miner - Oathout



Jeffrey Nicholas Greenberg
was baptized.



With
Deepest
Sympathy...

Alexander Yeats, husband of Jeannie, passed away.
Evelyn Mavricos, wife of Marius, passed away.
May their memory be eternal.

Youth Activities

On Saturday January 7th all South Florida churches gathered in West Palm Beach for the blessing of the waters. After lunch the youth gathered for paintball.



Our youth once again served the hungry at GraceWay Village on Sunday January 15th. Volunteers will be sought for the next event in March. Notices will be sent confirming the date in advance.



Upcoming events include the Souper Bowl on Sunday February 12th, a fundraiser for IOCC and the underfed of the Treasure Coast.

We have been practicing our dancing for the Annual Greek Festival on February 17-19 and plan a visit to a monastery in Ocala on Saturday February 25th.



March promises to be a busy month as well with Sleep Out America and the St John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival on the schedule.

We encourage the participation of all our young people in different age appropriate events. Please call Betty Cruz if you have any questions.



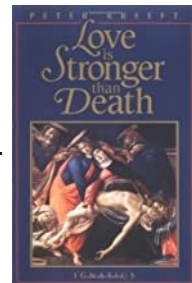
ST NICHOLAS LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

Some of the books reviewed here can be found in the St. Nicholas Bookstore or in our church library. Please let Fr. John know if you would like new titles to be added.

Book Review

Love is Stronger than Death

By Peter Kreeft



The author questions the meaning of death. This book is relevant to people of all religions though it is written from a Christian perspective.

“Kreeft envisions five succeeding faces of death, first as an enemy, then stranger, friend, mother and finally as lover.”

This book was not written to placate or gently reassure the reader to accept the ultimate destination which we all face. Rather, it confronts squarely the meaning of death in a world in which nothing is more certain than death itself.

“The more you love life, the more you refuse to accept death. No one with honesty and blood, no one who loves life, can simply “accept death””. Kreeft seeks truth. He explores the meaning of life and death. “Truth is not comfortable, but it is life, not death.”

“We do not hear God when we are busy speaking. God shows up only when we shut up.”

This is a sensitive subject because people fear thinking about death more than death itself. “Death is the test of faith.”

If for no other reason, read this since you will eventually encounter it firsthand.

Strongly recommended!

Book Review

RETURN *Repentance and confession: Return to God and to His Church*

By Archimandrite Nektarios Antonopoulos

How does one prepare for confession? How does one confess? What is sin? And what is repentance? And what on earth IS the relationship of repentance with the mystery of communion? This small easy to read book with an intelligent approach but written in simple words attempts to answer these as well as other questions to help one RETURN to the original attitude and correct approach to the great gift and mystery of repentance and confession. And the key is using the parable of the prodigal son to help us to see ourselves. The four basic points of the parable, the author states are:

1. The consequences of sin,
2. Repentance,
3. And most important, the vast love of God the Father, and, finally
4. in the dry 'love' of the older son.

It has been said that even if the Gospels were lost and only the prodigal son remained it would be enough to reveal to us God's infinite love for us.

Other important subjects covered are guilt, self-criticism, justifications, being in front of the Spiritual Father, the Prayer of Forgiveness, Communion, and understanding repentance is an unending journey.

The author himself summarizes his reason for the work. He says it is addressed mainly to simple people, who are struggling for their salvation. Then he continues, "union with the church is realized with our baptism...with God's grace we begin a spiritual journey, whose purpose is our perfection, our theosis...(but) we forget God's gifts and love, and the promises we gave at holy baptism, and we return to the slavery to sin. However, the (man-loving) God, knowing our weakness, offers us the possibility of returning near Him, to correct our course, to heal our wounds...and it is achieved with the mystery of repentance and confession."

The book was translated into English and its first Edition was in the year 2000. It has remained out-of-print for several years. Thankfully its popularity has prompted another English language edition and it is just now becoming available. This **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** book is a must have for those on the path to the great and philanthropic mystery of repentance and confession.

The Church & The Pope

by Robert Spencer

This book takes one from the New Testament and Apostolic Fathers through the Ecumenical Councils that span from the Filioque Controversy in the time of St. Photios the Great culminating with the Great Schism.

The author gives the testimony to the truth of the Church before post-schism papal claims. Due to his thorough and historical research the author tells us he became a convert from Catholicism to Orthodoxy. In his documentation he includes commentary from: the Apostle Peter himself and the Apostles, St. Clement of Rome, St. Ignatius of Antioch, St. Polycarp of Smyrna, St. Irenaeus of Lyons, St. Cyprian of Carthage, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, St. Athanasius the Great, St. John Chrysostom, Blessed Augustine, St. Gregory the Great, St. Photios the Great and others! The documentation is simple, direct, and compelling. It makes you think on his conclusion after a thorough walk-through history. Through his own journey to find the truth, he walks us out of the weeds of innovation and division and back into the garden of the Church Fathers where unity and continuity shine and are still possible.

He insists that what divides us can never be overcome unless it is fully acknowledged and understood by both sides, so that areas of disagreement can be addressed with an eye toward ending disagreement. He emphasizes that declining to discuss areas of disagreement only ensures that such disagreement will persist. The following are a few examples of the issues covered:

Pope Innocent declared that infants, “have not life without Christ’s baptism, and without partaking of Christ’s body and blood.” Therefore, infants cannot be cut off from eternal life for not receiving Holy Communion. Yet the Roman Church did not hesitate to reform it at the Council of Trent over 1,000 years later. That Council taught a flat contradiction of what Pope Innocent had taught, “If anyone says that communion of the Eucharist is necessary for little children before they have attained the years of discretion, let him be anathema.” The author states that this is not papal infallibility which is divinely revealed dogma as defined by Vatican I itself.

The author addresses another highly debated key issue and looks at St. Augustine's stance. St. Augustine was uncertain of the foundational Roman Catholic argument for papal authority. The claim being that in Matthew 16:13-20, where the Lord Jesus said He would build the Church of Peter, as its 'rock'. St. Augustine acknowledges this interpretation but then says, "What was said to him was not 'You are the rock', but 'You are Peter.' But the rock was Christ."

Another key issue concerns St. Photios and his famous commentary on the procession of the Holy Spirit. "...the Holy Spirit proceeds not only from the Father, as the Symbol declares, but from the Son also (Catholic creed). Until now, no one has ever heard even a heretic pronounce such a teaching. What Christian can accept the introduction of two sources into the Holy Trinity; that is, that the Father is one source of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and that the Son is another source of the Holy Spirit, thereby transforming the monarchy of the Holy Trinity into a dual divinity?" St Photios continues: "the mere citing of their addition of the Filioque to the Nicene Creed would be enough to subject them to a thousand anathemas. This innovation blasphemes the Holy Spirit, or more correctly, the entire Holy Trinity." In this famous statement he clearly believed and assumed his readers would believe, that the Pope of Rome could err on matters of faith. Additionally, the author tells us St. Photios agreed with the statement of the Council of Ephesus that the wording of the Creed cannot be changed.

The author tightly embraces history helping us all through the most sensitive of arguments. This brief, concise and thoroughly documented volume written to share the authors journey toward the truth is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** for those who want a well-researched distillation of the issues dividing Christendom.

For nothing can so make a man an imitation of Christ as caring for his neighbors. Nay, though you should fast, though you should lie on the ground, and even strangle yourself, but take no thought of your neighbor; you have wrought nothing great, but still stand far from this image while so doing. When you are weary of praying and do not receive, consider how often you have heard a poor man calling, and have not listened to him.

- St. John Chrysostom

Book Review

The Sabbath (published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

By Abraham Joshua Heschel

This description of the meaning of the Sabbath in Jewish Tradition is valuable in helping to understand the importance of the seventh day – a day of rest and what ultimately succeeded it the Resurrection of Christ on the eighth day.

We learn about the strictness of the required observances during the Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday evening. There is to be no work, no writing, no sadness, no handling of money. The other six days of the week are dedicated to “wrestle with the world, wringing profit from the earth.” But on the seventh day it is a day for the body as well as the soul. There is detachment from the other days of the week.

Rabbi Heschel explains that “Judaism is a religion of time arriving at the sanctification of time.” He distinguishes between time and space. Whereas the other six days of the week are “under the tyranny of things of space”, on the Sabbath there is a reset – a complete disruption of what is normal on the previous six days.

The purpose of the Sabbath is to become attuned to the holiness in time. He goes further and states that six days are given over to dominate the world and on the seventh day we try to dominate the self through renewal of spirit.

There are parallels between the Sabbath and the day of Resurrection because in both cases they give not only rest but purpose to the rest of the week.

This was a very interesting book!

Book Review

Fire From Ashes: The Reality of Perpetual Conversion (Ancient Faith Publishing)

By Joseph Huneycutt & Steve Robinson

This book is a very valuable and deeply personal display of the challenges faced by those seeking to live a life in Christ. One of the two authors is a priest and the other, a construction worker, who routinely podcasts on faith matters.

There is no pontificating. Rather the authors use everyday examples to make their points. They speak directly from experience and make clear their own struggles with sin and suffering. This is difficult! It requires one to look at himself or herself honestly without making excuses.

“Sin often masquerades as virtue” and “A good conscience accuses us; a bad conscience will let us off the hook.”

There is much to appreciate in this book especially as we draw closer to the Lenten period when introspection is needed.

Highly recommended!

Sermon January 8, 2023

Sunday after Epiphany (Mat 4:12-17)

Do we follow the **Word of God** or the word of the people?

Frequently these are at odds. The Church...the Word of God, which includes Scripture and Tradition which came before it is not consistent with what the world thinks.

Of course, the world agrees that killing, stealing and rape are crimes. But, beyond that, is there common ground between the Word of God and the world's view?

The world tells us to **get rich** because that will provide a better life.

The Bible tells us, "Blessed are you who are poor for yours is the kingdom of God." (Luke 6:20)

The world tells us to **associate with important people**.

Christ ate with sinners and tax collectors. (Mark 2:15)

The world tells us to **become powerful**.

Christ told His Disciples to become humble like a child. (Mat 18:3)

The world tells us to **gain knowledge** in order to become wealthy or 'connected'.

The Bible tells us "The fear of God is the beginning of knowledge." (Prov 1:7)

We are called to follow the Bible...the Word of God, but we live in the world. What are we to do? What are we, as parents (especially) to do?

Do we teach our children properly about money, knowledge, and the fear of God?

I think not!

Often, I am visited by individuals who ask for a baptism, wedding, or permission to serve as a sponsor at one of these Sacraments. Often it is the parent asking on behalf of their adult child, yet they haven't attended church or supported their church financially. Sometimes they have moved away and don't understand why they are not considered members of the church...members in "Good Standing".

If we teach our children how to give, then they will understand how to use money.

If we teach our children the importance of faith, then they won't be shocked to learn the importance of attending and supporting their church. They won't be shocked to learn what is needed to be a sponsor or to receive Church Sacraments.

Do you know what is required? Maybe you would like to learn. This week Catechism classes begin on Wednesday evening at 7pm. In a series of five classes, we will discuss Church doctrine, history, and the meaning of the Sacraments.

Judging by the preparedness of many of the young people that approach me I suggest that there is a large gap in understanding our faith.

Yet this next generation must sustain our Church. Don't you think that they should understand their faith? These classes will be offered as frequently as there is an interest. Please consider them for yourself and for your loved ones. Amen.

SPONSOR

1846 20TH STREET 772-365-4803

Breakfast

On a Kaiser Roll

Egg & Cheese- 4.99

Bacon, Egg & Cheese- 5.99

Jersey Pork Roll, Egg & Cheese- 5.99

Steak, Egg & Cheese- 6.49

Chicken, Egg & Cheese- 6.49

Sausage, Egg & Cheese- 6.99

Hash Browns- 1.99

Salads

Italian Chop- 10.99 crisp romaine lettuce, tomato, red onion, hot peppers, provolone, salami, ham, capicola, Italian dressing

Greek Freak- 9.99 crisp lettuce, feta cheese, kalamata olives, tomato, red onion, cucumber, hot peppers, Greek dressing

Caesar- 8.99 crisp romaine lettuce, grated parmesan cheese, croutons, classic Caesar dressing

Add Fried Chicken Cutlet-4.99

Add Tuna Salad- 3.99 Add Chicken Salad- 3.99

Deli Delights

Chicken Sando- 10.99 crispy fried, siracha mayo, deli pickles on a Kaiser roll w/ fries

The Cubano- 13.99 mojo pork, sliced ham, swiss cheese, sliced deli pickles, mustard, Tree Of Life Cuban bread and hot pressed

Pappou's Gyro- 9.99 sliced Greek style beef and lamb, sliced tomato, sliced onion, tzatziki sauce, toasted pita bread

Chicken Pizzaiolo- 11.99 crispy fried breaded chicken cutlets, tomato basil pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, parmesan cheese, oregano, toasted on a hoagie roll

Steak & Cheese- 11.99 onions, peppers, provolone & American cheese on hoagie roll

Korean Beef Tacos- 11.99 Gochujang sauce, crunchy slaw, sour cream, jalapeño on flour tortillas

Subs

All our Subs include Choice of Provolone or Swiss Cheese, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Onions, Pickles, Hot Peppers, Oil, Vinegar, Oregano, Salt & Pepper

On a 10 in. Hoagie Roll

Italian- 9.99 Turkey- 8.99 Ham- 8.99

Tuna Salad- 9.99 Chicken Salad- 9.99



VERO BEACH, FL

Kimchi Cabbage- 3.99

Fries- 4.99 Parm Fries- 5.99

Potato Salad- 2.49

Whole Deli Pickle- 1.99

Cookies- 2.49

Soda & Seltzer- 1.49

Gatorade- 2.49 Tea- 2.99

Bottled Soda- 3.49

Coffee-2.49

Bottled Water- .99

THE AGAPE FUND

This time of year it is a tradition to bless parishioners' homes and businesses. It is a joy for me to enter your homes and to bring God's special grace for the New Year. I thank you all for welcoming me warmly. Please call me to set up a time if you would like to schedule this.



Please know that it is my joy to come into your homes and bring the special blessing of our Lord. No monetary gift is ever expected, and if you give a gift, know that I do not keep it for myself. All the money I receive from House Blessings, as well as any money received from Sacraments (Baptisms & Weddings) or Memorials and Funerals goes into my "Agape Fund".

I use this AGAPE FUND as a discretionary fund to help a variety of people in need - this may include people within our parish, as well as others outside our Church Family. I also use some funds to help various Church ministries. I always welcome any donations made out to this special fund.

If anyone tells me of a special need, I will try to respond to it. Of course, any such help is always held in the utmost confidence.

Fr John

Note to Parishioners:

We invite all parishioners to submit items of interest for our monthly newsletter, *The Voice*.

This may include articles, stories that are relevant and important news in the lives of our parishioners.

Please submit material to Father John before the 15th of each month for review and inclusion in the next month's issue. Thank you.



Saint Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church
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There is no unpardonable sin,
save the unreported one.
- St. Issac the Syrian