



*Saint Nicholas*  
*Greek Orthodox Church*  
2525 South 25th Street  
Fort Pierce, FL 34981  
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Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church



*The Voice*

**Feb.**  
**2025**

**“Stop stressing.  
I will get you  
through this.”  
- God**





*The Voice* is published monthly by  
**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**

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 Fort Pierce, FL 34981  
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 Email [stnickftp@aol.com](mailto:stnickftp@aol.com)  
 The Rev. Father Andrew Maginas

**Parish Council**

**President**  
 Kevin Cruz

**Vice Presidents**  
 Jim Crist  
 Gregory Demko

**Secretary**  
 Crystal Monocandilos

**Treasurer**  
 Bob Azari

**Asst. Treasurer**  
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 Nick Gieseler  
 Nick Kapsis  
 Helen Kutukyan  
 Carmen Mohan  
 Homer Zambigadis

**GraceWay Village**  
 Paul Maneos

**Library**  
 Elizabeth Demko

**Stewardship**  
 Sharon Colonis  
 Robert Rieffel

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**Office Manager**  
 Pam Kapsis

**Sunday School**  
**Director**  
 Pam Kapsis

**GOYA**  
**Advisor**  
 Betty Cruz

**JOY/HOPE**  
**Advisor**  
 Lauren Gieseler

**AHEPA**  
**President**  
 Homer Zambigadis

**YAL**  
 Caroline Abramson

**Greek Dance**  
**Director**  
 Helen Kutukyan

**Deli**  
 Kevin & Betty Cruz

**Meetings**

**Parish Council**  
 3rd Tuesday  
 7:00 PM

**Philoptochos**  
 1st Saturday  
 11:00 AM

**Bible Study**  
 Every 2nd & 4th  
 Wednesday  
 10:30 AM

**Addiction Support**  
 Every 2nd & 4th  
 Monday  
 6:00 PM

**GOYA**  
 last Sunday  
 12:00 noon

**Adult**  
**Dance Classes**  
 Ann Athans

**Book Store**  
 Kathy Beasley

**Prison Ministry**  
 Shannon Foreman

**Philoptochos**

**President**  
 Stacey Louka

**Vice President**  
 Sharon Colonis

**Recording Secretary**  
 Betty Cruz

**Corresponding Secretary**  
 Toni Rekus

**Treasurer**  
 Toula Bouchoc

**F.I.S.H.E.R. Men**  
 Aaron Knapp  
 Every 1st & 3rd  
 Monday  
 6:00 PM

**On the Web**  
[stnicholasfp.com](http://stnicholasfp.com)

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

**YouTube**  
 St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
 Ft Pierce, FL

**GREEK FESTIVAL**  
**February 21, 22 & 23**

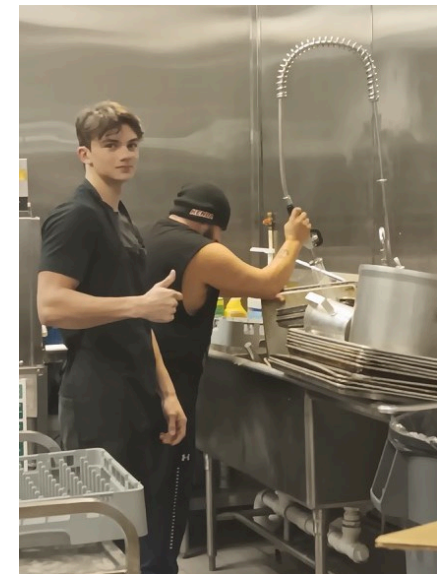
"The *harvest* truly is *plentiful*, but the *laborers* are few. Therefore *pray* to the *Lord* of the harvest to send out *laborers* into His *harvest*."

- (Matthew 9:37-38)

WE ♥ VOLUNTEERS!



Making Mousaka for the Festival



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 the church office before the 15th of each month for review and inclusion in the next month's issue. Thank you.

## Friend of St. Nicholas

Some of you who receive The Voice do not live in the Treasure Coast and are stewards of other Greek Orthodox parishes. We would like to ask for your support of our parish by being a "Friend of St. Nicholas Church". Your contribution as a "Friend" will help offset the cost of production of The Voice.

This does not make one a steward of St. Nicholas but gives one who is a steward elsewhere, an opportunity to make a gesture of financial support to our parish. Thank you for your consideration.

### Friend of St. Nicholas:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to become a Friend of St. Nicholas Church. I am enclosing a contribution in the amount of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and check to:

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
2525 South 25th Street  
Ft. Pierce, FL 34981

### A Message from Father Andrew

## When We Believe

When we believe in a cause we extend ourselves to ensure its success in every possible way. Thousands who believe in our country's principles have stepped forward and served in the various branches of our armed forces. Others have used their abilities helping to shape our nation through the rule of government.

We choose to participate in various activities as individuals and to support their mission through our efforts and contributions. We support them because we understand that this is how they can achieve their goals.

Now we get to our faith and how we promote and support it through our parishes. Saint Paul wrote to the Christian community in Corinth: "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income..." (1st Corinthians 16:2 NIV). This is the ideal form of support for our Churches.

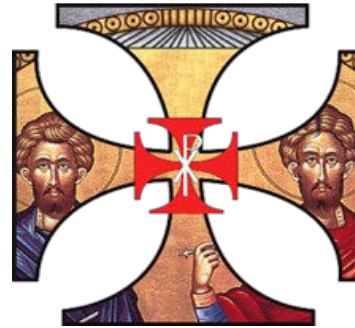
By supporting our parish's work regularly, throughout the year, we keep the mission of our Church in mind. That is how we remember our Lord's "great commission," as we read it in Saint Matthew's gospel: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:16-20 NKJV).

When support of the church and our Lord's saving message take a back seat even to worthy acts of charity, if we profess to be Orthodox Christians but do not support our house of worship, we are denying our Lord.

Our church asks each of us to step up and show our faith in action through the stewardship of our Treasure together with the stewardship of our Time and Talents. May all our Saint Nicholas family join together in this great ministry!

We thank our 2024 stewards and all who have already begun their 2025 stewardship. You are our angels.

# Philoptochos



Greetings,

As our first meeting falls on Saturday, February 1, a reminder will be sent. I hope to see all our members at 11:00 in the church hall. Hostesses are Helen Louka and Evie Argyiou.

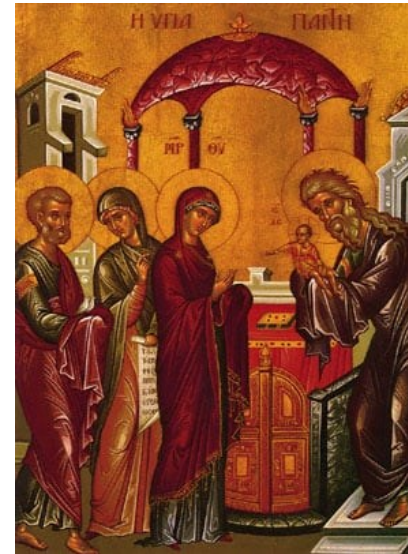
The annual St. Nicholas Festival will be held February 21, 22, 23. Hours on Friday and Saturday are 11 am to 9 pm and Sunday 12 pm to 6 pm. Volunteers are needed to offer 2 – 4 hours at our table. Please offer your time and be a participant in making this festival the best it can be. It is not fair for two or three to be responsible for all three days.

Also, more assistance is needed for the Sunday fellowship hour. It is appreciated that snacks are offered but it is your time that is most needed. The time for setting up before everyone arrives, serving coffee, and most importantly help to clean up by washing dishes, putting things away, nothing heavy duty just your time.

You do not need to be a member to help, everyone is appreciated for what they do. Come join the Philoptochos Society and be involved in our mission to aid those who are needy, impoverished, and/or deprived, financially or spiritually. It is a good feeling. Annual dues of \$30 is being collected by Toula Bouchoc, Treasurer.

With love in Christ,  
Sharon Colonis

**“Truly I tell you, whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me.” (Matt. 24:25)**



## The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple

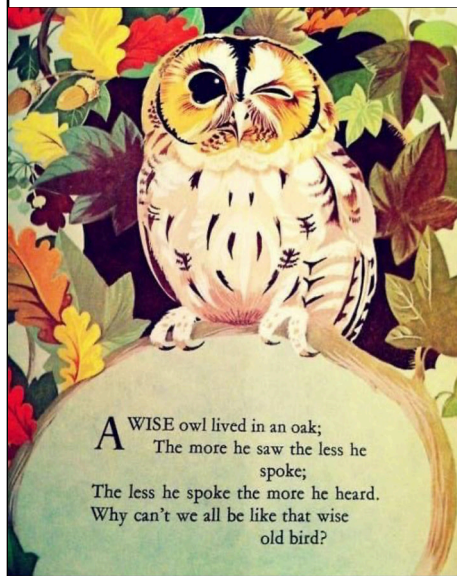
When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God, and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Simeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God, and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . ." And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and new-born child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

The Apodosis of the Feast of the Meeting in the Temple is usually on the 9th of February. This, however, may vary if the Feast falls within the period of the Triodion. Should this occur, the Typicon should be consulted for specific information concerning the Apodosis of the Feast.

“Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.”

Pope Francis

f /TandagDiocese



"Remember this Kenyan runner Abel Mutai who was just a few feet from the finish line, but became confused with the signage and stopped, thinking he had completed the race. A Spanish runner, Ivan Fernandez, was right behind him and, realizing what was happening, started shouting at the Kenyan to continue running. Mutai didn't know Spanish and didn't understand. Realizing what was taking place, Fernandez pushed Mutai to victory.

A journalist asked Ivan, "Why did you do that?" Ivan replied, "My dream is that someday we can have a kind of community life where we push and help each other to win."

The journalist insisted, "But why did you let the Kenyan win?" Ivan replied, "I didn't let him win, he was going to win. The race was his." The journalist insisted again, "But you could have won!" Ivan looked at him and replied, "But what would be the merit of my victory? What would be the honor in that medal? What would my mother think of that?"

Values are passed on from generation to generation. What values are we teaching our children? Let us not teach our kids the wrong ways and means to win. Instead, let us pass on the beauty and humanity of a helping hand. Because honesty and ethics are winning!"

Via: The Unique TonyaLe — in New York, NY.

## A Letter to the Laity from the Choir Leader

Dear Parishioners,

A new year is here, and I am excited to announce that the choir is looking to recruit new members! The upgrade to the sound system (by Dean Sfikas) has been completed and the balcony is now ready to accommodate a larger group.

Experience is not needed and with our mixed abilities, we aim to grow together and create a sound that matches the beauty of our services; representing the Angels standing around the throne of God and offering Him praise. Although we are volunteers, it is an important responsibility and not simply a “performance,” but an act of worship. Choir singers who are here during Matins should be ready to head upstairs during the Great Doxology for Liturgy—if you arrive in the middle of Liturgy, simply head directly upstairs and quietly join us!

Weekly 15-20 minute rehearsals will begin Sunday, February 2, following the end of service and will be held continually after each Sunday service. Rehearsing together is encouraged but not required. Although most Sunday Liturgies are similar, a few hymns do rotate and copies of the music will be provided for practicing. Anyone interested in joining may simply come up to the balcony with us! If you have any further questions, you may also contact me by email at: [LucyLouKnapp@gmail.com](mailto:LucyLouKnapp@gmail.com) or by text at: (859) 227-8456. Thank you and I look forward to singing with you all!

Christ's Peace be with you,  
Lucy/Loukia Knapp



# Stewardship

## Are you pouring wine or water?

Once upon a time, a festival was to be held in a certain village. To ensure there would be enough wine for the celebration, each member of the village agreed to pour one bottle of his best wine into a large cask. “If I fill my bottle with water.” reasoned one villager, “the dilution will be so slight, who will notice?” But when the time for the feast and merrymaking commenced, and the cask was tapped, nothing but water came out. Every member of the village had reasoned alike: “My portion will not be missed.”

It is the hope of St. Nicholas Church that every member would joyfully become a Steward and would be as generous as each of us is able. We depend on our Stewards who are faithful in giving joyfully to allow us to offer services and programs which will allow us to meet all the goals of our Mission Statement. We need 200 members to become Stewards this year.

Please complete your 2025 Stewardship Card as soon as possible and give with gratitude for your many blessings.

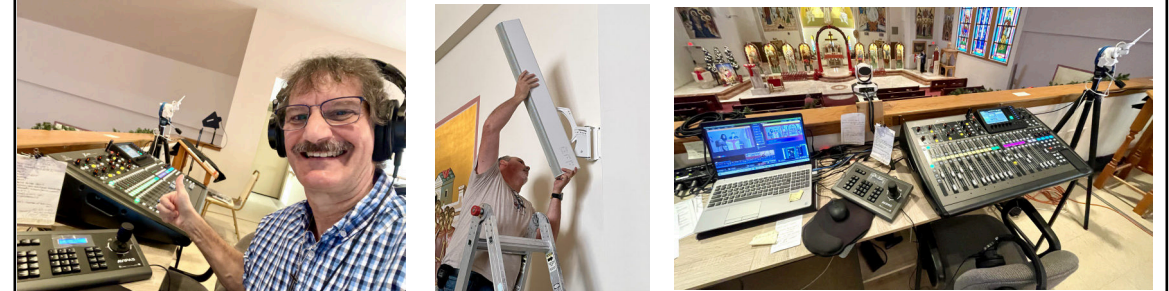
May God who richly blesses all of us continue to cover us all in the shadow of his wings.

Subdeacon Pamphilos

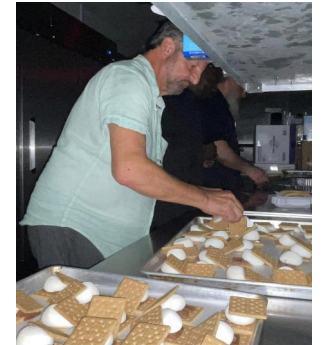


## Church Audio System Upgrade

Here are photos of the new audio system upgrades in the church. Installed by Dean Sfikas and professional audio engineer Marcelo. Hope everyone can hear the difference and enjoying the Divine Liturgy in it's fullest!



## Movie Night



# Parishioner Happenings



Congratulations to **Elizabeth and Gregory Demko**, our St. Nicholas 2024 recipients of the Archangel Michael award. The Archangel Michael Award is given to Greek Orthodox parishioners who demonstrate faith, service, and dedication to their community. Elizabeth and Gregory are integral members of our St. Nicholas family and well deserving of this honor.



## Philoptochos New Year's Celebration

January 19, 2025 at Tutto Fresco



## The F.I.S.H.E.R Men

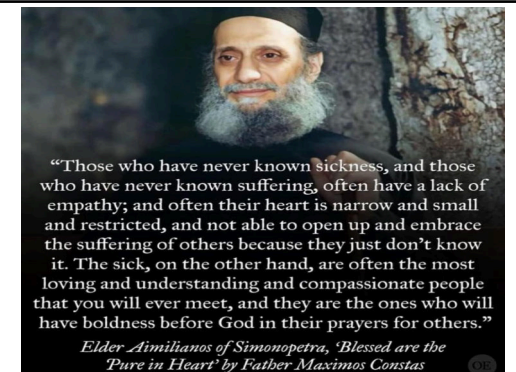
Greeting Church family.

The FISHERMEN have been meeting regularly and continue to grow and stay busy. On our last meeting we discussed the nature of struggle in the Christian life and what benefits arise from it. Our meetings have become lively with discussion about all aspects of the Christian life.

Recently we established a fire pit behind the schoolhouse and look forward to facilitating many gatherings around it. Looking forward, we will have a work day February 8th to tidy up the grounds of the church and clean up the choir loft. We also aim to help with setup and breakdown for the festival.

Lastly we wish to remind you the F.I.S.H.E.R. MEN of St. Nicholas meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday each month, and is open to any and all men 18 and older.

F = Faith, I = Integrity, S = Service, H = Hospitality,  
E = Efficiency, R = Responsibility = F.I.S.H.E.R. Men





# February 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 11:00 AM - Philoptochos
<b>2 Presentation of our Lord</b> 9:00 AM - Matins 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM - F.I.S.H.E.R. Men	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6 Saint Photios</b> 9:00 AM - Matins 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Baptism
<b>9 Sunday of the Publican &amp; Pharisee</b> <b>Triodion Begins</b> 9:00 AM - Matins 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy	<b>10</b> 6:00 PM - Addiction Support Group 7:00 PM - Discover Orthodoxy	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:30 AM - Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Baptism
<b>16 Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b> 9:00 AM - Matins 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy	<b>17</b> 6:00 PM - F.I.S.H.E.R. Men	<b>18</b> 7:00 PM - Parish Council Meeting	<b>19</b> 10:30 AM - Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Greek Festival</b>	<b>22 Saturday of Souls</b> 8:00 AM - Matins 9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy <b>Greek Festival</b>
<b>23 Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)</b> 9:00 AM - Matins 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy <b>Greek Festival</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 PM - Addiction Support Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM - Discover Orthodoxy	
	8				9	