

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church



The Voice

**October
2025**





The Voice is published monthly by
Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

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Meetings

Parish Council
3rd Tuesday
7:00 PM

Philoptochos
1st Saturday
10:00 AM

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

GOYA
last Sunday
12:00 noon

Adult
Dance Classes
Ann Athans

Book Store
Chayse Cloonan

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

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St Nicholas Greek Ortho-
dox Church Ft Pierce, FL

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.



We just began the cycle of Sunday Gospel readings from Saint Luke's gospel, appropriately, during the first month of the ecclesiastical year. This time of new beginning allows us to return to the path we may have strayed from or perhaps have not yet found.

Simon Peter and his fellow fishermen barely knew Jesus at this Gospel account. Yet His presence was commanding. They had fished all night, caught nothing, and now were well into washing and stowing their nets – yet, when Jesus told Simon to set his nets for a catch, Simon said, "...at Your word I will let down the net." He did not hesitate and his growing faith in Jesus grew even greater as he witnessed the miraculous catch of fish. Sensing his sinfulness and Jesus' divinity Simon Peter knelt at Jesus' feet. This brings us to today. How does Jesus call us? How do we respond to His invitation?

Certainly we are in possession of the facts of His entire ministry. We celebrate His birth, His crucifixion, and His glorious resurrection each year. Thanks to the apostles and those who came after them, the early church fathers who in councils collected the writings and oral tradition about our Lord into the New Testament of the Holy Bible – thanks to them and all who gave their lives that the gospel of Jesus Christ may reach every corner of the earth, we today can worship freely in this country without persecution at this time.

All of this, however, does not answer the question, "Are we responsible Christians?" Do we gather to "praise, bless, and worship the Lord?" We sing this moving phrase during the Orthros service which precedes each Divine Liturgy. Reality, however, speaks louder than rhetoric. In spite of having consistently regular attendance on Sundays, reality shows us that Church, for many, is something for just the major feast days.

Our stewardship is a reflection of our commitment. A deep commitment is seen in a parish that requires no fundraisers but thrives on the offerings of the faithful. We read about the ten lepers further on in Saint Luke's gospel. The fact is that we are like the nine lepers for not returning to thank Jesus after they were healed. We must increase our commitment to Christ and His church. Baptism and Chrismation bring us into communion with the church. However, we must repent of our sins, faithfully worship and give thanks in preparation to receive the Holy Eucharist, the awesome mysteries of the Body and Blood of our Resurrected Lord.

Let us join together sincerely dedicating ourselves to our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is always there for us. *Lord Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.*



Feast of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

October 18

Saint Luke came from the city of Antioch, probably of a pagan family. From his youth he applied himself to seek after wisdom and to study the arts and sciences. He traveled all over the world to quench his thirst for knowledge, and had particular skill as a physician and in painting. The Gospel he wrote shows his excellent command of Greek; he also knew Hebrew and Aramaic.

There is a tradition that Luke was one of the Seventy Disciples that the Lord Jesus Christ sent before Him, two by two, to announce salvation in the towns and villages. Luke was in Jerusalem at the time of the life-giving Passion and, on Easter morning, walked with Cleopas (October 30) towards the village of Emmaus, distraught at the loss of the Master. But sadness was turned into unspeakable joy when Christ, whom they were unable to recognize when He joined them on the way, revealed to them in the breaking of bread that He was really and truly risen (Luke 24:35). After the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, Luke remained for a time in Jerusalem where there were already disciples. Some say that on his way back to Antioch he stopped to preach the Good News at Sebaste in Samaria, where he obtained the relic of the right hand of the Holy Forerunner, which he took as a precious trophy to his own city. It was, therefore, at Antioch where he met Saint Paul in the course of his second missionary journey and accompanied him thence to proclaim salvation in Greece.

But another tradition says that Luke did not know the Lord during His earthly sojourn, and that he met Saint Paul while working as a physician at Thebes in Boeotia during the reign of Claudius (c. 42 AD). The Apostle's fiery words convinced him of the Truth that he had vainly sought in the wisdom of this world for so many years. Without hesitation, he gave up all that he had and his profession in physical medicine to follow Paul and become the beloved physician (Colossians 4:14) of souls.

He went with the Apostle in his journeys from Troas to Philippi, where Paul left him to nurture the newly born Church. Luke remained in Macedonia for some years and, when Paul visited Philippi again during his third journey (AD 58), he sent him to Corinth to receive the collection made by the faithful there for the needs of the poor at Jerusalem. They went together to the Holy City, strengthening the Churches on their way. When Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and transferred to Caesarea, Luke remained with him. He accompanied Paul to Rome and describes their difficult and eventful voyage at the end of the Acts of the Apostles (chapters 27-28).

Continued...



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Luke wrote his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles at Rome in obedience to Paul, dedicating the Acts to Theophilus, the Governor of Achaia, who was a convert. In his Gospel, Luke adds details which are not found in the first two evangelists: in telling of the Savior's life, he especially stresses His mercy and compassion for sinful humanity that He has come to visit as a Physician (Luke 4:23; 5:31). And in the Acts, after telling of all that happened in the foundation of the Church at Jerusalem, he gives most attention to the work of his master, Saint Paul, who labored more abundantly than all the other Apostles in spreading the glad tidings of salvation.

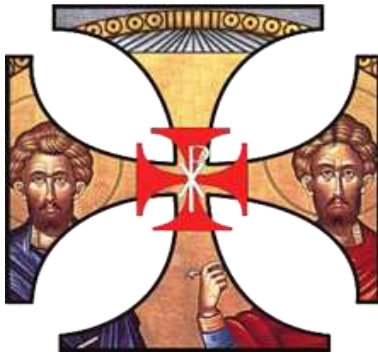
After two years of imprisonment in Rome, Paul was released and immediately resumed his traveling ministry, followed by his faithful disciple Luke. But Nero launched his furious persecution of the Christians in Rome soon after, and Paul returned to the city at the risk of his life to strengthen the faithful there. He was arrested, put in chains, and held in far worse conditions than before. Luke remained steadfastly faithful to his master while others forsook him (Timothy 4:11), and he was probably present at Saint Paul's martyrdom, although he left no written testimony to the fact.

After the glorious death of the Apostle of the Gentiles, Luke made his way back to Achaia, preaching the Gospel in Italy, Dalmatia and Macedonia. It is said that, in his old age, amid great tribulations, he also evangelized the idolaters in Egypt. He is supposed to have gone as far as the remote Thebaid and to have consecrated Saint Abile, the second Bishop of Alexandria.

On his return to Greece, Luke became Bishop of Thebes in Boeotia; he ordained priests and deacons, established churches and healed the sick in soul and body by his prayer. The idolaters arrested him there when he was eighty-four years old. They flayed him alive and crucified him on an olive tree. Many miracles were wrought afterwards by a miraculous myron trickling from his tomb, which was particularly effective in the cure of eye diseases for those who, in faith, anointed themselves with it.

Many years later, the Emperor Constantius, the son of Saint Constantine the Great, sent Saint Artemius (October 20) to Thebes to bring the relics of the Apostle Luke to Constantinople, where they were placed under the altar of the Church of the Holy Apostles with the relics of the Apostles Andrew and Timothy.

It is the tradition of the Church that Saint Luke was the first iconographer and that he painted an image of the Holy Mother of God in her earthly lifetime. The All Holy Virgin praised this representation and said, "May the grace of Him who was born of me be upon this image." Saint Luke afterwards painted other images of the All Holy Virgin and of the Apostles, giving rise in the Church to the devout and holy tradition of veneration of the icons of Christ and of His Saints. For this reason, Saint Luke is honored as the patron of iconographers.



Philoptochos

Hello everyone.

We had our first meeting of the New Year on September 6th at 10:00am. We welcomed the new members and also present members. Fundraising was on our agenda.

Our first fundraiser will be our annual rummage sale along with a pastry and cookie sale to be held on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25 from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Set up and pricing will be on Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 3:00pm. It is a lot of work. We welcome anyone who may be interested in helping. You do not have to be a member to give us some of your time. This is a large fundraiser for the Philoptochos. A list of items that will be accepted for sale will be posted on the bulletin board. Items not accepted: clothing, shoes, books, furniture (inc. no baby furniture), and electronics.

Our next monthly meeting will be Saturday, October 4th at 10:00am in the church hall. This is an important meeting as we will be discussing the final details for our rummage sale. Annual dues of \$30.00 are currently due. Thank those of you who have already paid.

Please consider becoming a Philoptochos member. It can be very rewarding.

In Christ,
Helen Penkosky

We encourage parishioners to get involved by assisting with various maintenance tasks around the parish. Your time and effort help keep our facilities safe, welcoming and in good condition for everyone.

Pews (kneelers) need minor repairs
Freezer needs work before festival

If you're interested in lending a hand or learning more about how you can get involved, please call the church office.



Your Stewardship

"Why Would You Buy From Anyone Else?"

You've seen this guy hundreds of times on TV

His pitch is that he offers you so much, so many options, so many colors, so many fabrics, so many kinds of flooring, etc. He waves his upraised arms in sync with his message. Since he has it all waiting for you, you don't really have any choice. If you don't buy from him, you don't have anything. What he really wants from you is a commitment. And if you won't commit then you can just continue to live in your humble, little, unattractive home.

Well, you know what commitment is. After all, you commit to pay your taxes so you can stay in your home. You commit to pay your homeowners insurance and your electricity bill, and your mortgage payment. So making a commitment is not difficult thing to do especially since you get so many benefits for making those commitments.

So why do you hesitate to make a commitment to the church? Why do you not want to be a steward of the church? Our Lord asks us to do works of charity, to be servants of our fellow man, to help others. Your *committed, regular giving* is part of your duty as a Christian. Your Church offers many ministries to aid others through the difficult times in their lives. Think of how much more could be done if all those who call Saint Nicholas their spiritual home would make the decision to become a steward.

Last month the Gospel that was read involved a young man came to Jesus asking what he must do to have eternal life. After a lengthy examination, the crux of the matter was that he must sell what he had and help the poor. Then he would have treasure in heaven. The man went away sorrowful because he had many possessions and could not bear to part with them. So it is with us. We are afraid of doing too much; making the commitment to help others (both in our church and those outside) is a step too far. Why do we have hundreds of names on our mailing list but only 157 stewards?

Don't fear your own poverty. Fear that you have not done enough to help your neighbor. Come to church next Sunday, get a Stewardship card and fill it out. Return it and breathe a sigh of relief. The amount, either great or small, is unimportant. The commitment is important. Jesus might well ask us, "Why would you buy from anyone else?"

Submitted by Subdeacon Pamphilos

2025 Stewards

If your name is missing from this list, you have not filled out a 2025 Stewardship form. Please do so at your earliest convenience .

Akl, Abdo & Melissa
 Anagnostu, Arthur & Sherry
 Angell, Juliana
 Angelos C & Elliott S
 Angelos, Georgette
 Argitakos, Anastasia
 Argyriou, Demitrious
 Argyriou, Evanthia
 Athans, Ann
 Athans, Bill & Liz
 Atheneos, M/M Emmanuel
 Azari, Robert & Cindy
 Bacatselos, Costa
 Barcan, Petru & Sara
 Bayer, Michael
 Beasley, Katherine
 Belford, Theofane
 Bertrand, John & Victoria
 Bitzanakis, Pierre & Panagiota
 Blond, Peter & Maria
 Bologeorges, Nia
 Bontzolakes, Hercules & Lanie
 Bothwell, Craig & Karla
 Bouchoc, Toulia
 Bournas, Marie & Tom
 Brown, Philip & Elaine
 Brown, Shelley Anne
 Candoloros, Nicholas & Helen
 Catherines, Lillian
 Cavooris, George & Shirley
 Cavooris, Lisa
 Christie, Illona
 Coker, Donnie & Carol
 Colonis, Sharon
 Conits, Barbara
 Crist, James & Linda
 Cruz, Kevin & Betty
 Dacosta, Anna
 Darazi, George & Helane
 Demis, Sophie
 Demko, Gregory & Elizabeth
 Denedios, Christopher
 Doberneck, Charles & Tina
 Dode, Enida (Maria)
 Elfast, Alexandra
 Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. Peter
 Ferguson, Maria
 Fogel, Susan
 Foreman, Shannon & Paige
 Fottis, Basil & Despina
 Gage, Drs. Joseph & Patricia

Gavaris, Irene
 Gieseler, Geoffrey & MaryAnne
 Gieseler, Nicholas & Lauren
 Ginopoulos, Bessie
 Gregory, Kostas
 Guida, Frank & Natalia
 Haralumbus, John & Barbara
 Higgins, Eugenia
 Hooper, Neil & Athena
 Ilyadis, George & Latia
 Ioannides, Tim & Cammy
 Ioannidis, Rita & Kostas
 Iraclidis, Tsao
 Jimokas, Judith
 Kalioonis, George
 Kambouris, George & Magda
 Kapsis, Nikolaos & Pamela
 Kapsis, Joe & Ashley
 Kavatis, Litsa
 Kelly, Priscilla
 Keramidas, Helen & Gus
 Ketchum, Tyler & Jennifer
 Kleopoulos, Nikitas
 Knapp, Aaron & Lucy
 Koete, Richard & Irini
 Kolovos, Nicholas
 Kutukyan, Helen & Alvin
 Kyriakos, Pres Eva
 Laletas, Elaine
 Louka, Helen & Stacey
 Maginas, Fr Andrew & Pres
 Eleni
 Mamangakis, Fr John & Pres
 Melissa
 Mancini, Mary
 Maneos, Paul
 Marangakis, Evangelia
 Marangakis, Nikolaos & Felicia
 Martinez, Orlando & Harriet
 Maske, Robert & Elena
 Mavrakes, Simone
 Mavricos, Marius
 Mihalakos, Joan
 Miller, Maria
 Mitchell, Dr. & Mrs. George
 Mohan, Carmen
 Monocandilos, Tony & Crystal
 Oathout, Tracie & Tom
 O'Flarity, Linda & Steve
 Panarites, Helen
 Papageorge, Mary

Papastavros, Tom
 Pashos, Antonia
 Pashos, Irene
 Penkosky, Helen
 Piccirillo, Konstantina & Vincent
 Pourakis, Stacey, John & Fam.
 Psychas, Mary
 Purdis, Cynthia
 Reis, Morisca & Tiago
 Rekus, Toni
 Rieffel, Robert & Karen
 Sangas, Van
 Saxonis, Carolyn
 Sfikas, Dean
 Skarlis, Nancy
 Sofikitis, Eumorfia
 Sofikitis, Konstantinos
 Sofocle, Harry
 Serrano, Manuel
 Spanier, Sabrina
 Stamatogianis, George & Angie
 Stamatogianis, Steven & Robin
 Starr, Arthur & Debbie
 Stefanakis, George & Helen
 Strates, Mary
 Sutherland, Skip
 Svenning, Peter & Helen
 Svojse, Ed and Marijo
 Tadroff, Lawrence
 Tadrus, Fouad & Lina
 Terezakis, Andrew & Christine
 Terezakis, Evelyn
 Thayer, Aspasia & Tom
 Theodoropoulos, Panagiota
 Timon, Angelice
 Timon, Katherine
 Triantis, John & Constance
 Trotter, Rena
 Troukis, Mr. Dimetrios
 Tsipouras, George
 Tsoukalas, Joan
 Vatis, Voula
 Voliva, Scott & Wendy
 Winslow, Maria
 Woulas, Bill and Kim
 Yanopoulos, Steve
 Zambigadis, Omiros & Maria
 Zarifis, George
 Zazanis, Marina

The New Orthodox Observer

The new OrthodoxObserver.org was built with one mission in mind: **to tell the stories of our Church, our people, and our faith—every day, in real time.** While the *Orthodox Observer* has always chronicled the life of the Archdiocese, this new platform represents a major leap forward. It's designed to inform, inspire, and connect readers across the country and around the world.

Importantly, this site **doesn't replace GOArch.org, but complements it.** The Archdiocese's main site will remain your destination for ministries, resources, parishes, and official documents. OrthodoxObserver.org, on the other hand, is 100% focused on **news, features, culture, opinion, and multimedia**—a full-fledged digital publication ready to meet the pace and rhythm of the modern world.

Read the reader's guide to what's new, what's next, and how you can be part of it at <https://orthodoxobserver.org/user-guide/>

I am old and I just realized I still have so many unanswered questions!!!! I never found out who let the Dogs Out...where's the beef...how to get to Sesame Street... why Dora doesn't just use Google Maps...why eggs are packaged in a flimsy paper carton, but batteries are secured in plastic that's tough as nails...why women can't put on mascara with their mouth closed... why "abbreviated" is such a long word... why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor yet dish-washing liquid is made with real lemons... why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections... and, why do you have to "put your two cents in" but it's only a "penny for your thoughts" where's that extra penny going to... why do "The Alphabet Song" and "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" have the same tune... why did you just try to sing those two previous songs... and just what is Victoria's secret?



GO TO CHURCH ANYWAY

If you're having sex before marriage,
go to church anyway.

If you are an addict trying to beat
addiction, go to church anyway.

If you were out drunk all night the
night before, go to church anyway.

If you aren't sure what gender you
prefer, go to church anyway.

If you can't quit that disgusting habit,
go to church anyway.

**CHURCH is a HOSPITAL for the
BROKEN, LOST, EMPTY, CONFUSED,
DESPERATE & REJECTED.**

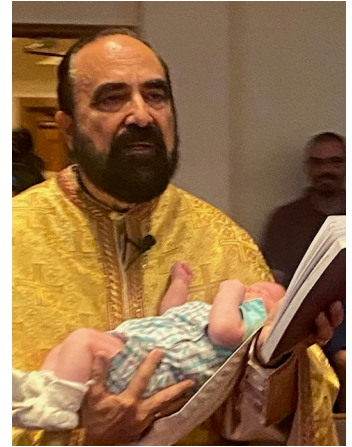
**Every saint has a past &
every sinner has a future.**

Amen!
JESUS ROCKS

Parishioner Happenings



Stella & Apostolos Koufalis received their 40 Day Blessing from Father Andrew.



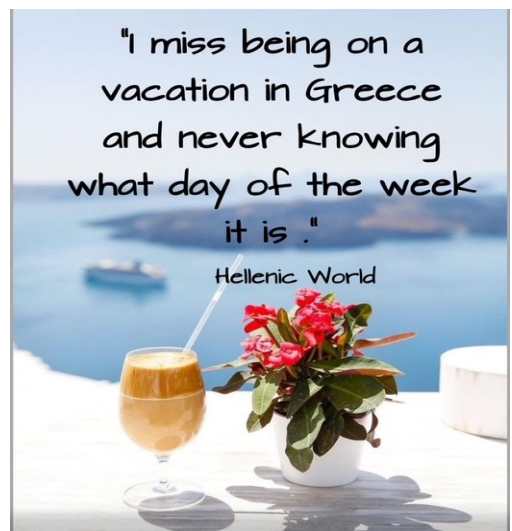
Father John Mamangakis, Robert Rieffel and Tony Monocandilos spent quality time praying together on Mount Athos this summer. Here they are enjoying a pleasant lunch by the sea.



**"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."
-FDR**

"I miss being on a vacation in Greece and never knowing what day of the week it is ."

Hellenic World



YOUTH KICKOFF EVENT 2025



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 5TH
12-4



SEE YOU ALL
THERE!



AUTUMN RUMMAGE and GREEK PASTRIES SALE

October 24 & 25
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Selling household items, jewelry, handbags,
books, toys, decorative items and much more.





DAY LUNCHEON

Following Divine Liturgy

October 26, 2025

Tickets will be
available for sale in the hall



SAVE THE DATE

St. Nicholas Annual Dinner Dance

with live music in the church hall

Saturday, December 6, 2025

Lord, when the winds of worry
blow and the waves of life feel
strong, anchor my heart in You.

Remind me that You are my
peace, my refuge, and the calm
within every storm.

Keep me steady, even when I
don't feel strong.

In You, I will not be moved.

Amen.



**Never blame
anyone in
your Life.**

Good people give
you Happiness.

Bad people give
you Experience.

Worst people
give you a

Lesson and

Best people

give you

Memories.

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Services: 8:45 AM-Orthros 10:00 AM-Liturgy			1	2	3	4 10:00 AM-Philoptochos
5 2nd Sunday of Luke 12:00 - 4:00 PM Youth Kick-Off Event	6 **Father Andrew at the Archdiocese Clergy Retreat** 6:00 PM-FISHER Men	7	8	9	10	11
12 Sunday of the 7th Edumenical Council	13 6:30 PM-Discover	14	15	16	17	18 District GOYA Retreat in Deerfield Beach
19 3rd Sunday of Luke	20 Sts. Arnesnios & Gerasimos 9 AM - Orthros 10 AM - Liturgy Confessions - Call for appt. 6:00 PM-FISHER Men	21 6:30 PM - Parish Council Meeting	22 10:30 AM-Bible Study Set Up 10 - 3	23 Set Up 10 - 3	24 Rummage/Bake Sale 9 - 2	25 Rumage/Bake Sale 9 - 2
26 6th Sunday of Luke 12:00 Noon - Oxi Day luncheon	27 5:00 PM - Paraklesis 6:30 PM-Discover Orthodoxy	28 OXI Day	29	30	31 Halloween	