“THE GOSPEL BEGINS AT THE JORDAN”

These words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem cause us to focus on the time and place that our Lord stepped out from the background of 30 years of obscurity and into the forefront of mankind’s consciousness. From the moment He emerged from the Jordan River after His Baptism by John, Christ embarked upon His divine mission to teach and save the world.

The Feast Day of THEOPHANY has a long and rich history among our faithful. Long before Christ’s Birth was formally observed, early Christians celebrated the events that occurred along the banks of the Jordan with great solemnity. In addition to commemorating Christ’s Baptism, this Feast Day places before us one of the most profound truths of our Orthodox Faith: the mystery of the Holy Trinity. The word “Theophany” literally means “Manifestation of God.” In one timeless moment, Father, Son and Holy Spirit were revealed to the world. As the Troparion for this magnificent day proclaims: “The voice of the FATHER bore witness to You, calling You His beloved SON, and the SPIRIT in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words.” Never had the world experienced such an event!

Traditionally, the “Great Blessing of Water” takes place during the celebration of Theophany. In the prayers of blessing, we are reminded that “…today we have been delivered from darkness and illuminated with the light of the knowledge of God.” The custom of blessing homes is still observed by many Orthodox during the season of Theophany. This pious practice further emphasizes our belief that Christ is the source of protection and guidance for our household.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin
January 10, 2021
Sunday after Theophany
Orthros 8:30am/ Divine Liturgy 9:30am

MEMORIALS
Konstandinos Karnas (5 years)

FLOWERS & CANDELS
From his loving Family of Konstandinos Karnas

CAREFUL IN THE NARTHEX! Though we might be all tired of COVID-19 safety measures, it is still important ESPECIALLY IN THE NARTHEX that we maintain social distancing, wear our masks, and keep our conversation to a minimum. Please arrange to socialize outside the church whether in the parking lot or your homes, but in church please respect safety measures that are in place. For more information related to our COVID-19 protocols and procedures please visit our website. ~Thank you for your support and cooperation.

PARISH BOOKSTORE: Visit our parish bookstore for a wide selection of icons, prayer books, prayer ropes, Καρβουνάκια/ karvounakia/censer charcoal, children’s books, Orthodox Study bible and more! Contact Maria at bookstore@stnicholastroy.org or call 248-362-9575.

RECEIVING COMMUNICATIONS VIA EMAIL - KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH! Interested in receiving the Weekly Church Bulletin and other communications from the church via email? Please contact the church office (248) 362-9575 or email the office at Office@StNicholasTroy.org so we can add you to our email distribution list. It’s that simple! Once set up, you can receive the Church Sunday Bulletin the Friday before as well as any other electronic communications. HOWEVER: If you unsubscribe for any reason, your email address IS removed and you will need to RESUBSCRIBE through the Church office.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING: The next Philoptochos meeting is Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 7PM via Zoom. Please email Philoptochos@stnicholastroy.org to receive the Zoom access information.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES THIS TUESDAY! Bible Study will resume on January 12 with an examination of the creation account in Genesis (plus St. Basil’s commentary).

AHEPA SCHOLARSHIP: Applications for graduating high school seniors and university level (sophomore through professional graduate school) are available online at www.ahepadistrict10.org and then select Educational Foundation. The AHEPA Scholarship deadline is April 1, 2021. Anyone who needs assistance please call Milton Gust at 248-689-4156.
St. Nicholas wishes to thank the following individuals for their stewardship to become part of the 2021-2022 Parish Council. Since there were less than the maximum of 25 names submitted, as per our parish bylaws, there is no need for an election.

Pending as person parish by-laws ratification by His Eminence, and an oath of office in January 2021, the 2021-2022 Council will consist of the following 18 people:

Katina Cloutier  
Karen Cosmos  
Patrick Crosson  
Kaethe Economos  
Nick Feles  
Paula Kalevas  
Kessie Kaltsounis  
Nick Kaltsounis  
Stephen Karniotis  
Steve Katsaros  
Mary Lafter  
George Manolias  
Pete Michalakis  
Guss Pappas  
Ted Souphis  
Maria Spounias  
Ray Tonelli  
Dr. Gregory Zotos

BOOK CLUB/DISCUSSION:
The St. Nicholas Book Club will resume on Monday, January 12 and Thursday, January 14 with the book *When You Pray: A Practical Guide to An Orthodox Life*. The morning session is offered each Monday at 11:00 a.m. (or immediately after Divine Liturgy of a Feast day) and an evening session each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. To participate in either session please contact Kathy Manos for the morning session or Spiros Xydas for the evening session (bookclub@stnicholastroy.org) or call the church at 248-362-9575 to let them know your interest to participate. Sessions will take place over Zoom. Books are available in the Bookstore. We encourage and welcome everyone to participate.

WEEKLY BULLETIN
DEADLINES:
Please remember to submit weekly bulletin items for the following Sunday. Please email requests to: office@stnicholastroy.org by Tuesday, January 12 for the following Sunday January 17 bulletin and Eblast.

ECHO DEADLINE:
Please have all ECHO items submitted NO LATER than the 10th of every month. Please send information to Maggie at echo@stnicholastroy.org in the subject please type ECHO ITEMS. Please make sure all submissions have been spell-checked and grammar-checked before submitting to the parish office.

For any other information please contact the office: Office@stnicholastroy.org

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:
The AHEPA Educational Foundation offers financial support to qualified high school students in any academic discipline, applying and accepted by an accredited college or university. This scholarship award can only be used for educational use, tuition and/or books.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: (MUST MEET at least ONE of the following conditions):
Check any that apply. ONLY typed applications will be accepted.
- A. Be of Greek descent.  
- B. Parent(s) are currently members of the Order of AHEPA or Daughters of Penelope.  
- C. The applicant is either a Son of Pericles or a Maid of Athena.  
- D. Is a grandchild of a current member of the Order of AHEPA or Daughters of Penelope.

This scholarship is intended ONLY for graduating High School senior students that are continuing higher education.  
The scholarship will be awarded with special emphasis on character and intelligence, capacity in chosen field as reflected in school work, scope of interest as reflected in extra-curricular activities, evidence in leadership, and some financial need.  
The applications will be reviewed by the members of the District #10 Educational Foundation and their decision will be final.  
The awards will be presented at the time designated for the awards banquet planned for Saturday, May 22nd 2021. Please save the day in your calendar.  
The recipient will be notified immediately after the selection process so that he or she can make arrangements to attend. (If the recipient is unable to attend the awards presentation, a representative MUST be present in order to receive the award on his or her behalf.)  
Applicants MUST USE the scholarship application that indicates the current year on the cover. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

DEADLINE: All required materials must be included with your application and be received no later than APRIL 1st on the year applying via US Mail and email to Milton A. Gust.  
Applicants must send their color wallet size photo in JPG format to: ingust@yahoo.com

DUE DATE: APRIL 1st, 5:00pm Eastern Time.  
ONLY applications received by the due date will be considered.  
Anyone interested or wishing to get an application, please contact:  
Mr. Milton A. Gust  
Executive Secretary  
AHEPA District #10 Educational Foundation  
Telephone: 248.689.4156  
ingust@yahoo.com

Download from the website below:  
www.AHEPA district10.org/educational-foundation
SMALL ENTRANCE  
(WITH THE BOOK OF THE HOLY GOSPELS)

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ. Save us, O Son of God who rose from the dead, as we sing to you: Alleluia.

APOLYTIIKIA

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You.

A standard of firm belief and an icon of gentleness, of self-control an instructor, you were revealed to your sacred flock, by the reality of your deeds, for this reason you acquired, by humility, heaven’s heights, and by poverty riches, Father and Great Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God, to sanctify and save our souls.

KONTAKION

You appeared today to us * on earth, O Master, * and Your light was signed on us * who cry aloud to You and say * with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable.

PHILOPTOCHOS

Kali Xronia! Happy New Year!!!

THANK YOU for a great year and let us make 2021 even better!

Although 2020 was a difficult year for many reasons, it is important to reflect on some of our accomplishments and celebrate!

Prepared and distributed over 1,440 lunches through FOCUS Detroit. Collected and donated over 500 pounds of food to local food pantries. Made monetary donations to support the Metropolis Camp, Autism, Hellenic College/Holy Cross, International Orthodox Christian Charities, retired clergy and widowed Presvyteres, Empty Bowls and St. Basil Academy to name a few!

Supported local families in our community through the Sunshine Fund and Organized nutritional, social and financial task forces to aid during COVID-19. Made and distributed masks organized giving trees benefiting Judson Center and FOCUS Detroit.

Looking forward into 2021…KINDNESS COUNTS!

You are invited to join St. Nicholas Philoptochos and help us spread kindness! Below are some easy ways to get involved. How can I help?

Email us! Let us know you want to get involved at Philoptochos@StNicholasTroy.org

Join us for our ZOOM meetings held the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00

Make a monetary donation! Mail a check to the Church office, attention Philoptochos or make an online donation at http://www.stnicholastroy.org on the Philoptochos page.

Sunshine Committee – supports the following two main initiatives:

Troy People Concerned which is a referral agency that assists Troy residents who find themselves in a crisis,

Forget-Me-Not Baskets that are delivered at Christmas, Valentine’s Day and Easter to our parishioners who are not able to join us in person and spread a little sunshine!

St. Basil’s Academy, Bury the indigent immigrants and continue to help those in need

Make prayer blankets.

LOOK FOR THE 2021 COOKBOOK OR SUBMIT YOUR RECEIPES!!!
Prayer of Protection from the Coronavirus

Blessed is our God, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. 
O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth: You are everywhere filling all things: Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins.
Master, pardon our transgressions.
Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name’s sake.
Lord, have mercy. (3)
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

Prayer of Protection from the Coronavirus
(Prayer by Grace Bishop Alexis (Trader) of Bethesda)

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your Ineffable goodness, look down upon Your people gathered in Your name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O Lord Who loves mankind, deliver us from the impending threat of the coronavirus. Send Your Angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve You in peace and glory Your most honorable and majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.
Epistle Reading
Sunday after Theophany

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:7-13

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς.
Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε δίκαιοι ἐν Κυρίῳ

Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἕκαστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβὰς εἰς ὕψος ᾐχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δὲ, Ανέβη, τί ἐστιν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατήβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ο καταβάς, αὐτὸς ἐστὶν καὶ ὁ ἀναβὰς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστὰς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδάσκαλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδόμην τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταντήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἑνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ ὑιοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Ἐφεσίους 4:7-13

Additional Information for attendees:
- At risk persons (those with pre-existing health conditions and those over the age of 65) are strongly encouraged to stay at home
- Anyone who is currently experiencing any symptoms of illness must stay at home or be refused entry into church
- The cry room will only be available for the use of the restroom, which will be the only one available. If it is occupied, please wait in the Narthex area
- The chore duties will continue to be performed by chanters singing on opposite sides of the Church
- Until further notice, coffee hour is to be suspended
- We will continue cleaning and sanitizing our Church after every service
- Until further notice, all printed materials and liturgical books will not be used. Bulletin will be provided at the end of the service. The church’s website also has the bulletin available at www.stnicholastroy.org

Please be patient, kind and respectful and we’ll get through this together as our St. Nicholas family

General Information:
- The broadcasts will continue and are available via our website: www.stnicholastroy.org
- The Event Center is available for parishioner events. Please contact Sam Backos, our caterer, for information on how to use the Event Center.
- You can also virtually light a vigil candle for $5.00. Please visit our website OR call the church office and a donation check can also be mailed, writing vigil candle on memo line. A Parish Council member will light the vigil candle at the next Divine Liturgy, after the request is received.

Important Contact Information:
- Fr Paul Pattison FrPaul@stnicholastroy.org (248) 525-0711
- Fr Michael Manos FrMichael@stnicholastroy.org (313) 590-0354
- Office Administrator: Maggie office@stnicholastroy.org (248) 362-9575
- Finance Office: Nicole finance@stnicholastroy.org (248) 362-9575
- Caterer: Sam Backos sales2@ernieuni.com (586) 286-8435

Please continue praying to our Lord during these challenging times.
Your patience and continued understanding are greatly appreciated.

November 13th, 2020
At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 4:12-17

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ ᾿Ιησοῦς ὅτι ᾿Ιωάννης παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ ἐλθὼν κατῴκησεν εἰς Καπερναοὺμ τὴν παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὁρίοις Ζαβουλὸν καὶ Νεφθαλείμ, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ ῾Ησαΐου τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος:· γῆ Ζαβουλὸν καὶ γῆ Νεφθαλείμ, ὁδὸν θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ ᾿Ιορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθήμενος ἐν χώρᾳ καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ ᾿Ιησοῦς κηρύσσειν καὶ λέγειν· μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν. Matthew 4:12-17
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 Sunday Before Theophany</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;YAL Meeting 7:00pm</td>
<td>4 Divine Liturgy 9:00am</td>
<td>5 Eve of Theophany&lt;br&gt;Orthros &amp; Royal Hours 8:10:30am&lt;br&gt;Vesperal Divine Liturgy/ Blessing of water 5:00pm</td>
<td>6 Holy Theophany&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am</td>
<td>7 Synaxis of John the Baptist&lt;br&gt;Liturgy at St. John’s</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9&lt;br&gt;2nd Saturday Vespers 5:00pm</td>
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<td><strong>10 Sunday After Theophany</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades 4 12:00pm&lt;br&gt;6 1:00 pm</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 Bible Study 7:00pm</td>
<td>13 Philoptochos Meeting 7:00pm</td>
<td>14 Apodosis of Theophany&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades 7-9 6:30pm</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16&lt;br&gt;3rd Saturday Vespers 5:00pm&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grade 3 11:00am</td>
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<td><strong>17 12th Sunday of Luke</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades 4 12:00pm&lt;br&gt;6 1:00 pm</td>
<td>18 Athanasios &amp; Cyril&lt;br&gt;Martin Luther King Jr. Day&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am</td>
<td>19 St. Makarios the Great&lt;br&gt;St. Mark of Ephesus&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;Bible Study 7:00pm&lt;br&gt;AHEPA Meeting 7:00pm</td>
<td>20 St. Euthymios&lt;br&gt;Divine Liturgy 9:00am</td>
<td>21 St. Maximos&lt;br&gt;Divine Liturgy 9:00am&lt;br&gt;Book Club 7:30pm&lt;br&gt;DOP Zoom Meeting 7:00pm&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades 7-9 6:30pm</td>
<td>22 Apostle Timothy of the 70&lt;br&gt;Divine Liturgy 9:00am</td>
<td>23&lt;br&gt;4th Saturday Vespers 5:00pm&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades P-K 9:30am&lt;br&gt;1-2 10:00am&lt;br&gt;3 11:00am</td>
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<td><strong>24 14th Sunday of Luke</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;Catechism&lt;br&gt;Grades 4 12:00pm&lt;br&gt;6 1:00 pm</td>
<td>25 Gregory the Theologian&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am</td>
<td>26 Bible Study 7:00pm</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28 Book Club 7:30pm</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30&lt;br&gt;Three Hierarchs&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am&lt;br&gt;2nd Saturday Vespers 5:00pm</td>
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<td><strong>31 Sunday of Zacchaeus</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 8:30am/9:30am</td>
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**January 2021**