

GREEK SCHOOL

The primary focus of our Greek School is to instill in our children an appreciation and awareness of the Greek language, as well as a feeling of love, pride and respect for our Greek heritage and traditions. Our Greek School offers a comprehensive program which includes singing, dancing and cultural enrichment as well. An emphasis is placed on learning to speak the language. Classes are held on Fridays from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m.

GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

The AHEPA Modern Greek Language Program for Adults is in its ninth year of classes. We offer Intermediary Greek and Beginner's classes. The program is open to anyone in the community and AHEPA family that is interested in participating.

STEWARDSHIP AND OUTREACH

Saint Nicholas has a dynamic stewardship program which recognizes God as the source of all gifts, including our time, talent and treasure. In our outreach, we provide assistance to our families in their hour of need. Outreach means caring and sharing. Through stewardship, we share the bounty of God's blessings with others. At Saint Nicholas we reach out to local charities, such as the Eastern Christian Center in Wyckoff and the Love Fund among others. We reach out to the homeless at Thanksgiving and Christmas and share in cooking for the homeless as well. We support the national programs of our Archdiocese, including Holy Cross Theological School, St. Basil Academy and St. Michael's Home for Seniors. Internationally, we support IOCC and send missionary teams to the Hogar Orphanage in Guatemala.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is the group of parishioners elected by the Church body to assist the priest in Christ's ministry to our people. The administrative needs of the Parish are under the watchful eye of our Priest and Parish Council. We are always in need of dedicated, Christ-centered Orthodox Christians, who seek to ensure that our Parish fulfills its Christian objectives. The Parish Council meets regularly to manage these needs for our church.

To participate in any ministry, organization or program
Contact Fr Bill Gikas frbill@stnicholasnj.org 201 652 4774

LADIES OF PHILOPTOCHOS (PHILOPTOCHOS-FRIENDS OF THE POOR)

The Ladies of Philoptochos Society of Saint Nicholas offers opportunities for philanthropy. Through social functions and Church related activities, the women of Philoptochos develop a camaraderie that is unique within any structure. Long lasting and even lifetime friendships are made among women who share in the enjoyment of achieving *goals* within a ministry that promotes harmony, fun and friendship. If you wish to aid and relieve those who may need the help of the Church, attend a Philoptochos Society meeting. The meeting dates are announced in our Sunday bulletin and Parish Life newsletter.

LADIES PRAYER GROUP

A group of ladies meet regularly to pray in the Theotokos Chapel of our Church on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. The quiet time has proven to strengthen our faith. We welcome and encourage all ladies who are interested in a time of dedicated prayer and fellowship to join us. The answered prayers we are witness to are countless.

KALI PAREA-(GOOD COMPANY) (SENIOR CITIZEN FELLOWSHIP)

Among the greatest resources in our Church community are the senior citizens. The Kali Parea meets monthly providing joyous gatherings for our seniors, often times with a light luncheon and plenty of time for fellowship, reflection and recreation. Our group also plans interesting and educational trips. All are welcome.

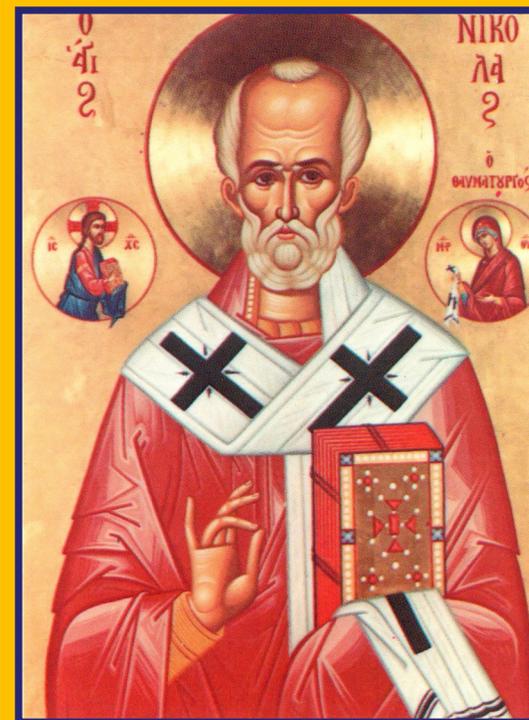
"EX-O!" EXCURSIONS IN ORTHODOXY

This group organizes trips to religious, historical and cultural sites.

AHEPA FAMILY (AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION)

Saint Nicholas enjoys a special tie with all facets of our AHEPA family, which includes the Daughters of Penelope, the Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena. AHEPA's fraternal and educational work distinguishes this dedicated group among all their peers. From the gymnasium to the school classrooms the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope continue to support philanthropic work within the Church family.

MINISTRIES PROGRAMS ORGANIZATIONS



SAINT NICHOLAS Greek Orthodox Church

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SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church reverently and proudly proclaims Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In the Traditions passed on to us since the Apostles by our forefathers, our faith stands as a source of hope for each and every individual. At Saint Nicholas our commitment to love, God's love, our neighbor's love and our own love, is built on the noble values and sacred traditions of our faith and culture. Our Parish and Church embody and preserve the faith of yesterday by serving today's men and women and seek as well, to nurture our children in Christ for all tomorrows ahead. Join us in our ministry to become bearers of the faith and living stones upon which the bonds of Christ are being built (1 Peter 2:5)

MENS READING FELLOWSHIP (MRF)

As we are directed to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, the MRF is commissioned with the ministry of educating and deepening our knowledge of the Lord, His Body, the Church, and Orthodox Christianity through an informal but fervent men's reading group. Approved texts are assigned by Fr. Bill, read and discussed at once a week intervals (on site or off site). The MRF's small group format lends itself to dynamic interaction and fellowship of its male participants.

WOMENS READING FELLOWSHIP (WRF)

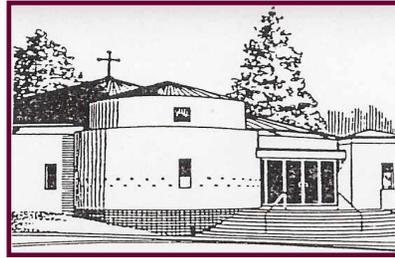
The WRF is a reading and discussion group open to all women interested in deepening their faith and their relationship with the Lord. The WRF meets once a week usually on site, for discussion of an assigned text approved by Fr. Bill. The WRF maintains a small group, informal, friendly atmosphere of ladies who welcome other women seeking to deepen their spirituality, knowledge and relationships with each other and Jesus Christ.

CHOIR

The Book of Psalms in the Old Testament urges us to glorify the Lord by lifting up our voices in praise to Him. The Church choir is that place where dedicated men and women gather each and every Sunday to enrich our Divine Liturgy and assist the priest in leading our congregation through the inspirational responses of the Divine Liturgy. Choir practice is announced in the Sunday bulletin. New members are always welcome. Contact Andrew Bacalakis

ACOLYTES

Orthodox boys 9 years of age and older are invited to share in this most special and joyous ministry of serving Christ and His Body the Church as Acolytes (followers of the priest) before the Holy Altar of God. To serve at God's altar is an honor and not a privilege. These young boys are given a keen insight into the beauty and importance which our Divine Liturgy has and should have in our lives. All boys are welcome to participate in this meaningful ministry of our Church.



HISTORY

In November of 1969 a corporation was formed from a small group of families attending St. Athanasios in Paterson NJ to establish a Greek Orthodox Community in Northwest Bergen and Northeast Passaic Counties. St. Nicholas was born when a 5 ¼ acre tract of land was purchased on Grandview Avenue in Wyckoff NJ shortly thereafter. Services were held in the Coolidge School gymnasium on Grandview Avenue in Wyckoff in September of 1970. Frs Demetrios Stephanopoulos and Milton Stamatos guided the fledgling community holding Sunday worship services at the school until Fr. Nicholas Ksethias was assigned as the parish's first priest. Services continued at Coolidge School and the Grace Methodist Church until our Parish Center was erected in 1972. On April 13, 1973 the Thyranoxia of the new Parish Center took place. Months before, dear friends of Fr. Ksethias – Mr. & Mrs. Frank Weinstein- donated \$40,000 toward this effort. In recognition of their philanthropy, the classroom wing was named the St. Photios wing and the new Church was named after Fr. Nicholas Ksethias, whose dedication and sacrifice for the Community were unswerving.

In 1973 Fr. Charles Serelis was assigned to serve after Fr. Nicholas and in November of 1975 Fr. James C. Moulketis was assigned to serve as the pastor. In March of 1983 it was decided to build a permanent Church building, and groundbreaking ceremonies for the church took place on March 18, 1984. Thyranoxia Service was held on November 10, 1985 and the consecration of St. Nicholas on October 11, 1998.

An expansion program was undertaken and the groundbreaking for the gymnasium, classrooms and office facility was held in June 2003 and the new building dedicated in 2005.

In 2011 Fr. James Moulketis retired after 37 years of distinguished service. The Rev. Ekonomos Basil C. Gikas was assigned on January 1, 2012 as the new pastor.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The primary place where our children learn the richness of our faith in Jesus Christ and the symbols and traditions of our Greek Orthodox Faith is in the Sunday School. Our Sunday School staff consists of dedicated teachers and aides providing religious instruction to our children. At St. Nicholas, we encourage all family members to worship together during Divine Liturgy which begins promptly at 10:00 a.m. Following Holy Communion, Sunday School students are dismissed to their class-rooms for forty-five minutes of religious instruction. Maintaining the integrity of that learning time is essential to our progress and success.

GOYA

The mission of GOYA is to strengthen the relationship of young Orthodox Christians (ages 12-18 or 7th through 12th grade) with Jesus Christ and with one another through worship, fellowship, service and witness. In addition to our monthly GOYA meetings, we offer on-site and off-site religious retreats, the Mr. & Miss GOYA Pageant, dances, sports teams, service projects, Sights N' Sounds, GOYA Olympics and the Oratorical Festival. There are numerous other opportunities to get involved such as fundraisers and other trips throughout the school year.

HOPE & JOY

(Holy Orthodox Primary Education)

(Junior Orthodox Youth)

HOPE (ages 5-7) and JOY (ages 8-11) meet together regularly for fun, fellowship and to learn about their faith. Vacation Church School is a one week summer program of this ministry that takes place annually in August. It is important that our children make strong connections early on with other Orthodox Christians their age. We welcome families with young children to get involved!

YOUNG ADULTS

In an effort to engage emerging adults in our community, we now have this ministry for those 18 -30 years old. Join us for fellowship and explore life's pressing questions. We gather for food and fellowship throughout the year.

SHARING & CARING

This ministry is for those who have suffered a loss either through death, divorce, separation. The support group meets monthly to accompany people through their journey.

To participate in any ministry, organization or program...

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