



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox  
Shrine Church

May 3, 2026

Rev. Economos Aristidis Garinis, Proistamenos  
Rev. Presbyter Alexandros Douvres

Office (718) 357-4200 - Email [info@stnicholasflushing.org](mailto:info@stnicholasflushing.org) - [www.stnicholasflushing.org](http://www.stnicholasflushing.org)

Κυριακή Δ' τοῦ Παραλύτου - Sunday of the Paralytic

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ**

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιášθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον· πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο· ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐῤῥύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ἈΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ**

Κανόνα πίστεως, καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, εγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξε σε τὴ ποιμνὴ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια δια τούτο ἐκτήσω τὴ ταπεινώσει τα υψηλά, τὴ πτωχεία τα πλούσια. Πάτερ Ιεράρχα Νικόλαε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

**ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ**

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατῆλθες Ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ ἄδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν· καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθελζάμενος, Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος, ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

**HYMNS OF THE DAY**

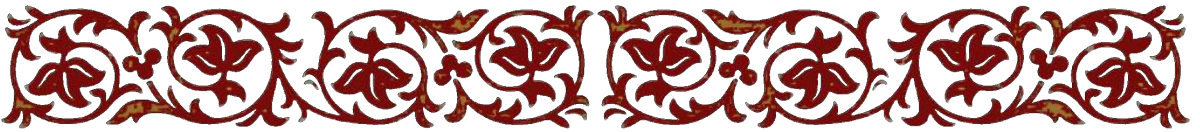
Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

**APOLYTIKION FOR ST. NICHOLAS**

A model of faith and the image of gentleness, the example of your life has shown you forth to your sheep-fold to be a master of temperance. You obtained thus through being lowly, gifts from on high, and riches through poverty, Nicholas, our father and priest of priests, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.

**KONTAKION**

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

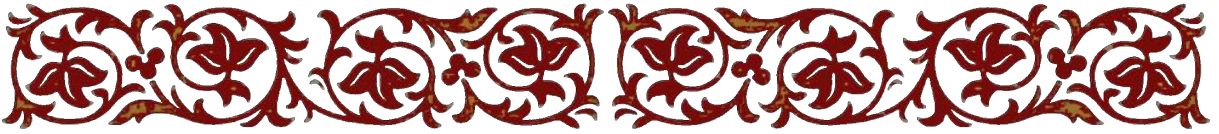


**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (Πράξ. 9:32 42)**

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκεῖναις, ἐγένετο Πέτρον διερχόμενον διὰ πάντων κατελθεῖν καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἁγίους τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Λύδδαν. εὔρε δὲ ἐκεῖ ἄνθρωπόν τινα Αἰνέαν ὀνόματι, ἐξ ἐτῶν ὀκτὼ κατακείμενον ἐπὶ κραβάτῳ, ὃς ἦν παραλελυμένος. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Πέτρος· Αἰνέα, ἰάται σε Ἰησοῦς ὁ Χριστός· ἀνάστηθι καὶ στῶσον σεαυτῷ. καὶ εὐθέως ἀνέστη. καὶ εἶδον αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες Λύδδαν καὶ τὸν Σάρωνα, οἵτινες ἐπέστρεψαν ἐπὶ τὸν Κύριον. Ἐν Ἰόππῃ δὲ τις ἦν μαθήτρια ὀνόματι Ταβιθά, ἣ διερμηνευομένη λέγεται Δορκάς· αὕτη ἦν πλήρης ἀγαθῶν ἔργων καὶ ἐλεημοσυνῶν ὧν ἐποίει. ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκεῖναις ἀσθενήσασαν αὐτὴν ἀποθανεῖν· λούσαντες δὲ αὐτὴν ἔθηκαν ἐν ὑπερῷῳ. ἐγγὺς δὲ οὖσης Λύδδης τῇ Ἰόππῃ οἱ μαθηταὶ ἀκούσαντες ὅτι Πέτρος ἐστὶν ἐν αὐτῇ, ἀπέστειλαν δύο ἄνδρας πρὸς αὐτὸν παρακαλοῦντες μὴ ὀκνήσαι διελθεῖν ἕως αὐτῶν. ἀναστὰς δὲ Πέτρος συνῆλθεν αὐτοῖς· ὃν παραγενόμενον ἀνήγαγον εἰς τὸ ὑπερῷον, καὶ παρέστησαν αὐτῷ πᾶσαι αἱ χῆραι κλαίουσαι καὶ ἐπιδεικνόμεναι χιτῶνας καὶ ἱμάτια ὅσα ἐποίει μετ' αὐτῶν οὕσα ἡ Δορκάς. ἐκβαλὼν δὲ ἔξω πάντας ὁ Πέτρος θείσ τὰ γόνατα προσηύξατο, καὶ ἐπιστρέψας πρὸς τὸ σῶμα εἶπε· Ταβιθά, ἀνάστηθι. ἡ δὲ ἤνοιξε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῆς, καὶ ἰδοῦσα τὸν Πέτρον ἀνεκάθισε. δοὺς δὲ αὐτῇ χεῖρα ἀνέστησεν αὐτήν, φωνήσας δὲ τοὺς ἁγίους καὶ τὰς χήρας παρέστησεν αὐτὴν ζῶσαν. γνωστὸν δὲ ἐγένετο καθ' ὅλης τῆς Ἰόππης, καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν ἐπὶ τὸν Κύριον.

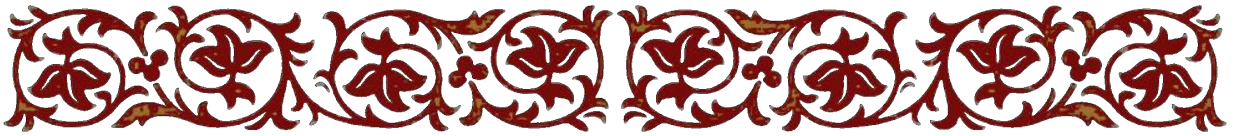
**EPISTLE READING (Acts 9:32 42)**

In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means gazelle. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which she made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.



## ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (ΙΩΑΝ. 5:1-15)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἀνέβη ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. ἔστι δὲ ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐπὶ τῇ προβατικῇ κολυμβήθρα, ἡ ἐπιλεγομένη Ἑβραϊστὶ Βηθεσδά, πέντε στοὰς ἔχουσα. ἐν ταύταις κατέκειτο πλῆθος πολὺ τῶν ἀσθενούντων, τυφλῶν, χωλῶν, ξηρῶν, ἐκδεχομένων τὴν τοῦ ὕδατος κίνησιν. ἄγγελος γὰρ κατὰ καιρὸν κατέβαινεν ἐν τῇ κολυμβήθρα, καὶ ἐταράσσετο τὸ ὕδωρ· ὁ οὖν πρῶτος ἐμβὰς μετὰ τὴν ταραχὴν τοῦ ὕδατος ὑγιῆς ἐγένετο ᾧ δὴποτε κατείχετο νοσήματι. ἦν δὲ τις ἄνθρωπος ἐκεῖ τριάκοντα καὶ ὀκτὼ ἔτη ἔχων ἐν τῇ ἀσθενείᾳ αὐτοῦ. τοῦτον ἰδὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς κατακείμενον, καὶ γνοὺς ὅτι πολὺν ἤδη χρόνον ἔχει, λέγει αὐτῷ· θέλεις ὑγιῆς γενέσθαι; ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ ὁ ἀσθενῶν· Κύριε, ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἔχω, ἵνα ὅταν ταραχθῇ τὸ ὕδωρ, βάλῃ με εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν· ἐν ᾧ δὲ ἔρχομαι ἐγώ, ἄλλος πρὸ ἐμοῦ καταβαίνει. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἔγειρε, ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει. καὶ εὐθέως ἐγένετο ὑγιῆς ὁ ἄνθρωπος, καὶ ἦρε τὸν κράβαττον αὐτοῦ καὶ περιεπάτει. ἦν δὲ σάββατον ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ. ἔλεγον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι τῷ τεθεραπευμένῳ· σάββατόν ἐστιν· οὐκ ἔξεστὶ σοὶ ἄραι τὸν κράβαττον. ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς· ὁ ποιήσας με ὑγιῆ, ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν· ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει. ἠρώτησαν οὖν αὐτόν· τίς ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ εἰπὼν σοι, ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει; ὁ δὲ ἰαθεὶς οὐκ ἤδει τίς ἐστιν· ὁ γὰρ Ἰησοῦς ἐξένευσεν ὄχλου ὄντος ἐν τῷ τόπῳ. μετὰ ταῦτα εὕρισκει αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἴδε ὑγιῆς γέγονας· μηκέτι ἀμάρτανε, ἵνα μὴ χειρόν σοὶ τι γένηται. ἀπῆλθεν ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἀνήγγειλε τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἐστιν ὁ ποιήσας αὐτόν ὑγιῆ.



GOSPEL READING (JN. 5:1-15)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk'?" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.





<b>BRONZE DEDICATION LEAF</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>SILVER DEDICATION LEAF</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>GOLD DEDICATION LEAF</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>BENEFACTOR DOVE</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>GREAT BENEFACTOR STONE</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

**Please consider supporting our Renovation For Our Future project to continue passing the torch of Orthodox faith and Hellenism to our future generations.**

- BRONZE LEAF \$2,000
- SILVER LEAF \$5,000
- GOLD LEAF \$10,000
- DOVE \$25,000
- STONE \$50,000

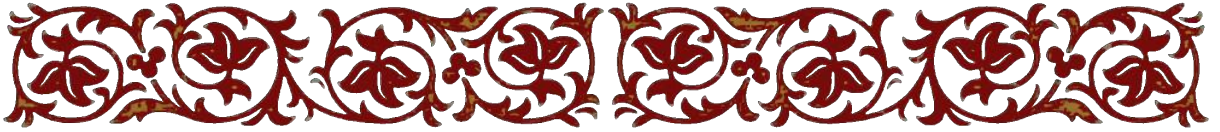
LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT INSCRIPTION CLEARLY. 3 LINES (33 CHARACTERS MAX)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

"SO LET EACH ONE GIVE AS HE PURPOSES IN HIS HEART; NOT GRUDGINGLY OR OUT OF



Dear Faithful Stewards of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church,

As we continue our stewardship appeal, we come to you with a sense of urgency and hope.

While we are deeply grateful for those who have already made their 2026 stewardship commitment, we have not yet reached the level of participation needed to sustain the ministries and operations of our beloved parish.

St. Nicholas is more than a church – it is our spiritual home. It is where we gather in worship, celebrate life’s sacred moments, teach our children the faith, and serve those in need. These blessings are only possible through your faithful stewardship.

If you have not yet made your pledge, we ask you to prayerfully consider doing so today. Your commitment – no matter the amount – is vital. Participation from every family is essential to ensure the strength and future of our parish.

As we are reminded in Holy Scripture: *“Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase.”* Proverbs 3:9

Now is the time to act. Please return your stewardship pledge as soon as possible and join us in supporting the mission of St. Nicholas.

With gratitude and faith, we move forward together.

For online giving- <https://onrealm.org/StNicholasShrine/Give>





# ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

MAY 2026

May 3  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Paralytic**  
Κυριακή του Παραλυτικού  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 6  
WED  
**Mid-Pentecost**  
Μεσοπεντηκοστής  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 9  
SAT  
**St. Christopher the Martyr**  
Αγ. Χριστοφόρου Μάρτυρα  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 10  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**  
Κυριακή της Σαμαρείτιδας  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 11  
MON  
**SS. Cyril and Methodios**  
Αγ. Κύριλλου και Μεθοδίου  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 14  
THU  
**St. Isidore of Chios**  
Αγ. Ισιδώρου του εν Χίου  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 17  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Blind Man**  
Κυριακή του Τυφλού  
7:30 Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 20  
WED  
**Apodosis of Pascha**  
Απόδοση του Πάσχα  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy  
**9th Hour - 9τη Ώρα 6:30 p.m.**  
**Great Vespers of the Ascension**  
Μέγας Εσπερινός της Αναλήψεως

May 21  
THU  
**Feast of Ascension**  
Εορτή της Αναλήψεως  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 24  
SUN  
**Fathers of the 1st Council**  
Αγ Πατέρων τής Α' Οίκουμ. Συνόδου  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 25  
MON  
**+Memorial Day+**  
**+Τρισάγιον στα Μνήματα+**  
Flushing Cemetery  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

May 27  
WED  
**St. John the Russian**  
Αγ. Ιωάννου του Ρώσου  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 30  
SAT  
**Saturday of the Souls**  
Ψυχοσάββατο  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 31  
SUN  
**Sunday of Pentecost**  
Κυριακή της Πεντηκοστής  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy



**ST. NICHOLAS LADIES  
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY  
YOUNG PHILANTHROPIST  
SCHOLARSHIP**

*The Scholarship application is now open for a  
Graduating High School Senior of the Greek  
Orthodox faith who has excelled in Philanthropic  
works during their high school career*

*Our chapter will be offering two (2) scholarships*

*Family must be a member in good standing of the parish of  
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church, Flushing NY  
and a member of the St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos chapter*



[stnicholasphiloptochos.org](https://forms.gle/NLks53pkCVJwA1kt5)

<https://forms.gle/NLks53pkCVJwA1kt5>

information email [pripsosm@gmail.com](mailto:pripsosm@gmail.com)

**APPLICATION DUE BY  
MAY 11, 2026**

**CLASS OF 2026**

**Gus Cherevas Estia-Pindus Chapter 326**

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

*Empowering Our Youth  
Since 1982*

Established by Van Pappas and Andy George, the Estia-Pindus Chapter No. 326 of the Order of AHEPA is proud to announce our 2026 Scholarship Program.

For over 40 years, we have awarded more than \$75,000 to deserving students who have gone on to become leaders, doctors, lawyers, and educators. This year, we continue that tradition by awarding \$7,250 in total scholarships!

We are proud to announce \$7,250 in total scholarships for the Class of 2026:

- High School Seniors: (3) Awards of \$2,000 (Enrolled in College for Fall 2026)
- W. Spyropoulos 8th Graders: (2) Awards of \$500 (Entering High School in Fall 2026)
- St. Nicholas Hellenic School: (1) Award of \$250 (Graduating Student)

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be of Hellenic descent residing in Queens (or attend school in NYC), or be children/grandchildren of Chapter 326 members.

Application Deadline:  
**MAY 18, 2026**



Apply Here: [forms.gle/Um89bJPRrDKA56Gk7](https://forms.gle/Um89bJPRrDKA56Gk7)

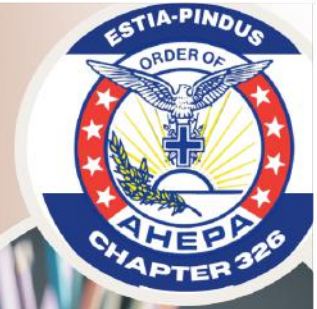
## OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**AHEPA Empire District No. 6**

<https://www.ahepad6.com/ahepa-district-6-scholarship>

**The AHEPA Education Foundation (AEF)**

<https://www.ahepa.org/education>



Contact Information:

[moskos.ahepa326@verizon.net](mailto:moskos.ahepa326@verizon.net)

ST NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH



AUTHENTIC GREEK FOOD & PASTRIES † FLEA MARKET †  
RAFFLE PRIZES † CHURCH TOURS † GAMES † VENDORS

**MAY 14 TO MAY 17**

Come & join us for great evening of  
Greek Food, Music & Dance

THURS MAY	FRI MAY	SAT MAY	SUN MAY
14	15	16	17
6PM TO 10PM	6PM TO 11PM	2PM TO 11PM	12PM TO 9PM

**140+ RAFFLE PRIZES**

196-10 NORTHERN BOULEVARD, FLUSHING

ENTRY: FREE

*For more information:*

**STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/FESTIVAL**



196-10 NORTHERN BLVD  
FLUSHING, NY 11358  
718-357-4200

## 54TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL MAY 14 – 17, 2026

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ - CHRIST IS RISEN!

Beloved Parishioners,

We invite you to help defray the expenses of our Festival by becoming a Festival Sponsor of our four-day Festival to be held **THURSDAY MAY 14th through SUNDAY MAY 17th**, on our Church grounds. Previous festivals have attracted tens of thousands of area residents to sample and enjoy Greek Food, Folk Dancing, and learn about Hellenic Orthodox Heritage.

With you, we can concentrate our efforts on making our annual major fundraiser the best ever. We need to be successful to carry on the vital operations of our beloved Church. The #1 moneymaker in the festival is the Souvlaki stand, however, the biggest expense in the festival is the Souvlaki. If we could reduce our Souvlaki expenses, our profits would be greater. Thank you for your kind consideration!

Please donate the funds to purchase some of the necessary food items or supplies.  
If you prefer to donate merchandise, please contact the Church Office at 718.357.4200.

### 1 CASE OF GYRO/SOUVLAKI \$50

Please drop off the form below OR mail this letter along with your contribution to the Church Office.

Please note on the envelope: ATTENTION FESTIVAL COMMITTEE.

With love in Christ,

Economos Fr. Aristidis Garinis, Proistamenos

Demetrios Athansopoulos  
Michael Haralambous

Festival Chairpersons

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State Zip

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_





196-10 NORTHERN BLVD  
FLUSHING, NY 11358  
718-357-4200

**54TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL  
MAY 14 – 17, 2026**

**FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP CONTRACT**

- \$250.00 FESTIVAL FRIEND SPONSOR**  
(Your name or business will be displayed on the sponsor list)
- \$500.00 FESTIVAL FOOD BOOTH SPONSOR**  
(Your name or your business will be displayed over the food booth of your choice and sponsor list)
- \$550.00 FESTIVAL BANNER SPONSOR**  
(Must supply own banner 2' x 6')

**To become a sponsor, visit: <https://www.stnicholasflushing.org/become-a-sponsor>**

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

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

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount \$:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Display Location:**     SOUVLAKI     LOUKOUMADES     KAFENIO     BAR

**Method of Payment:**     CASH     CHECK (payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church)  
    CREDIT CARD (please call the church office to make payment)

Please note: A 3% processing fee will be applied to all credit card transactions.  
Thank you for helping us maximize the impact of your donation!

\*\*\*\*Payments must be received no later than May 11, 2026\*\*\*\*



If you have any questions, please call Karen Kalkanis at (917) 584-2322

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

ST NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH



# VOLUNTEERS

**JOIN US!!**

**For over five decades, the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church Festival has been a beacon of our community's culture and hospitality. As we prepare for our 54th Annual Festival, we invite you to be part of the legacy!**

**It takes a village to bring our traditions to life—from the Souvlaki booths, Salad prep, Flea Market and the kitchen to the game booths. Whether you can spare two hours or two days, your time is the greatest gift you can give our Parish. Come for the service, stay for the fellowship, and help us make this year our best one yet!**

**Festival Hours:**

**Thurs. 5/14 6pm-10pm  
Sat. 5/16 2pm-11pm**

**Fri. 5/15 6pm-11pm  
Sun 5/17 12-9 pm**



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

[HTTPS://WWW.STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/FESTIVAL-VOLUNTEER](https://www.stnicholasflushing.org/festival-volunteer)

196-10 Northern Blvd Flushing, NY 11358  
[www.stnicholasflushing.org](http://www.stnicholasflushing.org)



# FLEA MARKET



## DON'T MISS OUT!

The Philoptochos Society is now accepting donations for our upcoming Festival Flea Market. Your "pre-loved" treasures can help us make a huge impact in our community!

We are seeking gently used, clean items:

- **Household Goods:** Kitchenware, décor, linens, and small appliances (in working order)
- **Clothing:** Freshly laundered clothes for all ages.
- **Small Furniture:** Side tables, chairs, lamps, and accent pieces.

**Drop-off Location: Sarantakos Hall (Michelis Cultural Center) Accessible via the Northern Boulevard Parking Lot only.**

*Important Note: To ensure proper handling, items will NOT be accepted by the Church Office. Please bring all donations directly to Sarantakos Hall.*

*Please note: A 3% processing fee will be applied to all credit card transactions. Thank you for helping us maximize the impact of your donation!*

**Festival Hours:**

Thurs. 5/14 6pm-10pm  
Sat. 5/16 2pm-11pm

Fri. 5/15 6pm-11pm,  
Sun 5/17 12-9 pm

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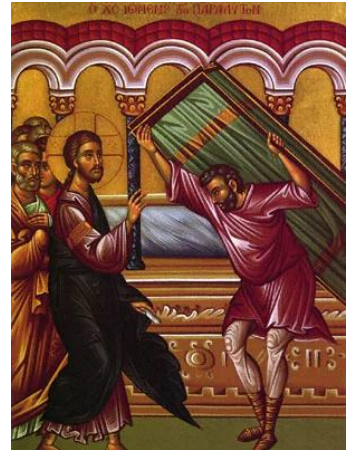
## KIDS BULLETIN PAGE

### The Story: Paralytic Sunday

At the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem, there was a special pool called Bethesda. Many people who were sick stayed there, waiting for an angel to stir the water. They believed the first person to step in would be healed. One man had been paralyzed for 38 years. He lay on a small mat, watching others get into the water while he stayed behind because he had no one to help him.

One day, Jesus walked by. He saw the man and asked, "Do you want to be made well?" The man sadly explained that he had no one to put him in the pool. Jesus didn't wait for the water to move. He looked at the man and said, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

Immediately, the man felt strength in his legs! He stood up, picked up his heavy mat, and walked home praising God. He went from having "no man" to having the best friend of all: Jesus.



Use the words from the story to complete the sentences.

1. The pool where the sick people stayed was called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The man had been sick for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
3. Jesus asked the man, "Do you want to be made \_\_\_\_\_?"
4. Jesus told the man to "Rise, take up your \_\_\_\_\_ and walk."
5. The man was healed on the \_\_\_\_\_ (the holy day of rest).

Unscramble these words related to the miracle.

1. ATMEHSDB — \_\_\_\_\_ (The name of the pool)
2. ALREMIC — \_\_\_\_\_ (Something amazing only God can do)
3. VELBELIE — \_\_\_\_\_ (To have faith in Jesus)
4. ETWRA — \_\_\_\_\_ (What the angel stirred)



## MEMORIALS

Nick Diamond  
Stamatoula George  
George Goustas  
Panagiota Hatzis  
Konstantinos Kapetanakis  
Konstantinos Kouklakis  
Antonis Lazaris  
Dimitrios Panos  
Ioanna Papaelias  
Theophilos Papaelias  
Fotios Roumeliotis  
Anna Tsiatis

## MNHMOΣYNA

Νικολάου Διαμαντίδη  
Σταματούλας Γεωργίου  
Γεωργίου Γκούστα  
Παναγιώτας Χατζή  
Κωνσταντίνου Καπετανάκη  
Κωνσταντίνου Κουκλάκη  
Αντωνίου Λαζάρου  
Δημητρίου Πάνου  
Ιωάννας Παπαηλία  
Θεοφίλου Παπαηλία  
Φωτίου Ρουμελιώτη  
Αννης Τσιάτη

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

Please join us for our Spring General Assembly on **Sunday, June 7th**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

Your participation is vital as we discuss upcoming parish initiatives, community events, and the continued growth of our St. Nicholas family. We encourage all members in good standing to attend and stay informed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

You are all invited to coffee hour after the Divine Liturgy, sponsored by the Goustas family, in loving memory of George Goustas.

*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church  
196-10 Northern Blvd Flushing, NY 11358*



# DIAKONIA

A National Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

REFLECTIONS FROM TODAY'S READING - *John 5:1-15*

**“Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.”**

Fr. George Parsenios



The Paralytic who is healed in today's Gospel reading is a puzzling figure. After he is healed, we are left wondering: does he become a disciple or will he be a traitor? When other people are healed by Jesus, they show their loyalty to him in obvious ways. But the Paralytic does not worship Jesus. He does not thank Jesus. He does not follow Jesus. The only thing he does after being healed is to tell the leaders of the Jews that Jesus healed him on the Sabbath. In the very next line, these same leaders pursue Jesus with a violent intensity. Was the Paralytic, then, a disciple or an informant? We cannot be sure. The matter is left ambiguous. Is our loyalty to Jesus equally uncertain? We call ourselves Christians, but would the people who encounter us each day know that we are Christians? Would our Christian character be obvious? Or would it be ambiguous? Would the cashier at the grocery store consider us cruel and rude? Or kind and gracious? How do we spend our money? A checkbook is a theological document. What does it say about our Christian commitment? And our homes and families—are they havens of kindness or places of anger and neglect? If we are honest, we will see in our Christian life vast gray areas where our Christian devotion is less than clear. We cannot be perfect. But we do need to show progress. As we move through this radiant period in the Church's calendar, let us strive with ever greater commitment and focus to say not only in words but in actions: *Χριστός Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!*

Fr. George Parsenios is Professor of New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. [www.hhc.edu](http://www.hhc.edu)



Diakonia is made possible by a generous grant from Leadership 100

Scan for today's service text

[bit.ly/parishtexts](https://bit.ly/parishtexts)



FROM THE ORIGINAL GREEK: *Ekklesia* (Ἐκκλησία)

## What is “Church?”

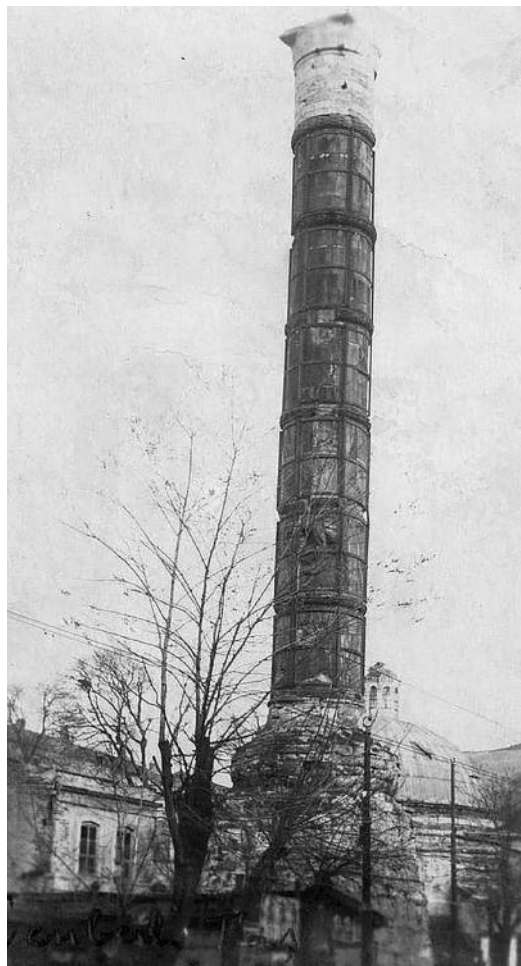
Fr. George Parsenios



The Greek word for “Church” is *ἐκκλησία/ekklesia*, so anything related to Church life is called “ecclesiastical.” But the term *ἐκκλησία/ekklesia* had a long history before it entered the Christian vocabulary. The word derives from the verb *ekkaleo*, which means “I summon.”

Homer, therefore, called a gathering of the Greek soldiers at Troy an *ekklesia*. More famous still, the democratic assembly where the citizens of Ancient Athens gathered to vote was called the *Ekklesia*. Most Greek cities had such an *ekklesia*.

The term entered biblical language when the Old Testament was translated into Greek in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC. The people of ancient Israel met in various kinds of gatherings, and the Greek translators of the Old Testament called such a meeting an *ekklesia* (see Deut 31:30). When Christians formed congregations in their own cities, they chose this biblical name for their communities. The word *ekklesia* stresses that Christians are called forth (*ekkaleo*) and summoned by God with a heavenly calling (Eph 4:1). Christian churches are not merely human assemblies, convened to debate political matters. They are God’s churches, guided by a heavenly mission. St. Paul, for this reason, refers to them as “the *ekklesia* of God” (1Cor 1:2).



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THIS WEEK’S LOOK AT CHURCH HISTORY

## May 11, 330–The Founding of Constantinople

In the fourth century, the Emperor Constantine saw the need for a new imperial capital connecting the Eastern and Western parts of the empire. In 324, he chose the ancient city of Byzantium as the capital. Tradition tells us that Constantine marked the city’s boundaries by walking with a spear. His advisors were surprised by how large the city was becoming and asked him when he would stop. Constantine answered, “When the one walking ahead of me stops,” implying that God was guiding him. Icons of this event often show an angel leading him as he traced the borders of the new capital. Building began in 325, and beautiful monuments from across the empire were brought to decorate the city. On May 11, 330, Constantine officially dedicated the new capital, Constantinople, placing it under the protection of the Theotokos. It became the heart of a Christian empire that lasted for a thousand years.

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The Column of Constantine in Çemberlitaş, comprises six cylindrical marble pieces held together with metal rings. It was taken from the Temple of Apollo in Rome to Constantinople in 330 A.D., on the order of Constantine I, to celebrate the new capital of the empire. (public domain)

## THE SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

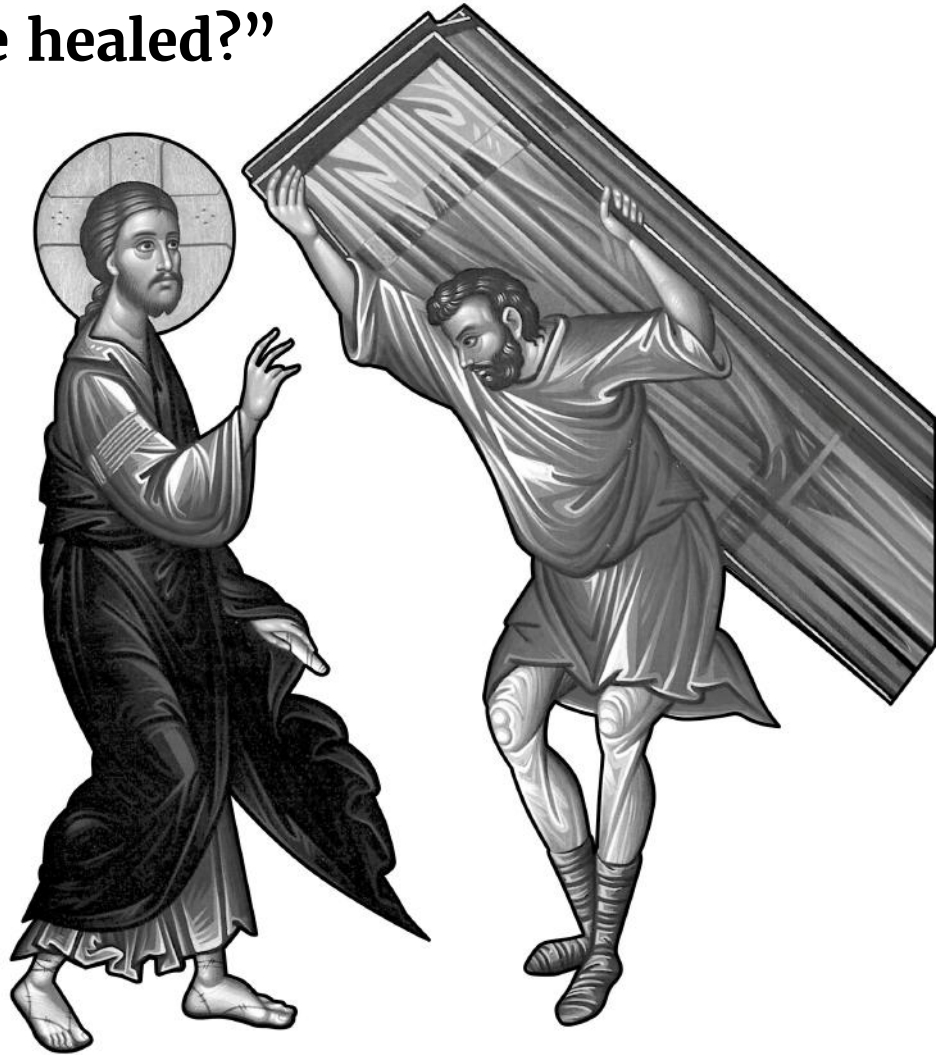
# “Do you want to be healed?”

Near the Sheep’s Gate in Jerusalem was a pool where the sick would gather, waiting for the water to stir. The first person to step in would be healed. On this fourth Sunday of Pascha, we read in the Gospel of John that Jesus sees a man there who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years, unable to reach the water. Jesus asks the man a simple yet powerful question: “Do you want to be healed?” The man answers honestly: he has no one to help him into the pool when the water is stirred. Jesus tells him, “Rise, take up your bed, and walk.” Immediately, the man is healed.

This story is not only about physical healing. It is about being transformed. The word healed in this passage has been translated in several ways. Some say, “healed.” Some say, “made whole.” According to Father George Parsenios, New Testament Professor at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, the most literal translation is “Do you want to be made healthy?” Fr. George explains, “The Gospel of John is focused more on spiritual than physical healing. When Jesus performs miracles, they all point to the transformation we receive in the new life in Christ.”

In the Epistle reading for this Sunday, we hear of a similar moment in Acts, when Peter tells a paralyzed man named Aeneas, “Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” Healing is not only personal. It becomes a witness to others.

The question of Jesus still speaks to us today: *Do you want to be healed? Do you want to be whole? Do you want to be TRANSFORMED?* The healing that Jesus brings also asks something of us—it calls us to receive new life in Jesus Christ.



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### Icon of the Sunday of the Paralytic

In the icon of the Sunday of the Paralytic, Jesus is shown blessing the paralytic after he has taken up his bed. He bows toward Jesus in reverence and in gratitude.



#### YOUR FAITH IN ACTION

This week, prayerfully reflect on how you may be spiritually or emotionally paralyzed. Ask Jesus for healing. Ask Him for transformation. Take concrete steps through prayer, repentance, reconciliation, or an act of faith, to rise and walk with Him.



# Sunday of the Paralytic

Help Christ reach the Paralytic so He can help him 'rise, take up his pallet, and walk'!

**Just For Kids!**  
*(...and the young at heart)*

