



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox  
Shrine Church

June 7, 2026

Rev. Ekonomos 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)

Α' Ματθαίου τῶν Ἁγίων Πάντων- Sunday of All Saints

**Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀνασιόαιμιον**

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ Εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν  
κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσης  
τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν,  
Κύριε δόξα σοι.

**Τῶν Ἁγίων**

Τῶν ἐν ὄλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ Μαρτύρων σου, ὡς  
πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον τὰ αἵματα, ἡ  
Ἐκκλησία σου στολισαμένη, δι' αὐτῶν βοᾷ  
σοι, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· Τῷ λαῷ σου τοὺς  
οἰκτιρμοὺς σου κατάπεμψον, εἰρήνην τῇ  
πολιτείᾳ σου δώρησαι, καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν  
τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**Κονιάκιον**

Ὡς ἀπαρχὰς τῆς φύσεως, τῷ φυτουργῷ τῆς  
κτίσεως, ἡ οἰκουμένη προσφέρει σοι Κύριε,  
τοὺς θεοφόρους Μάρτυρας· ταῖς αὐτῶν  
ἰκεσίαις, ἐν εἰρήνῃ βαθεῖα, τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν σου,  
διὰ τῆς Θεοτόκου συντήρησον, πολυέλεε.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion**

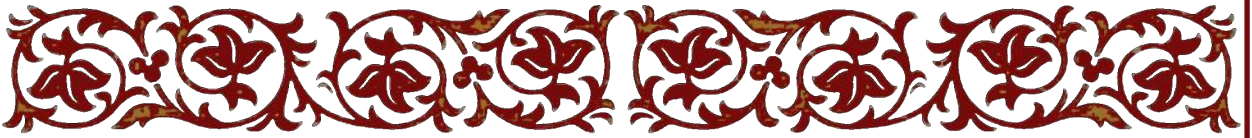
You descended from on high, O compassionate  
One, and consented to a three-day burial, to  
free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and  
resurrection, glory to You!

**For the Saints**

Your Church is arrayed in the holy blood of Your  
Martyrs who witnessed throughout the world, as  
though in purple and fine linen. Through them she  
cries to You, Christ our God, "Send down to Your  
people Your tender love, grant peace from above to  
Your commonwealth, and to our souls Your great  
mercy.

**Kontakion**

O Planter of creation, Lord, to You does the  
entire world bring as an offering the God-  
bearing martyr Saints, as being nature's first  
fruits. At their earnest entreaties, keep Your  
Church in a state of profoundest peace,  
through the Theotokos, O Lord abundantly  
merciful.



**ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (Εβρ. 11:33 40; 12:1 2)**

Αδελφοί, οί ἅγιοι πάντες διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων· ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἕτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πείραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον, περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι, ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος, ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσι καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὁπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ Θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρείττον τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσι. Τοιγαροῦν καὶ ἡμεῖς, τοσοῦτον ἔχοντες περικείμενον ἡμῖν νέφος μαρτύρων, ὄγκον ἀποθέμενοι πάντα καὶ τὴν εὐπερίστατον ἀμαρτίαν, δι' ὑπομονῆς τρέχωμεν τὸν προκείμενον ἡμῖν ἀγῶνα, ἀφορῶντες εἰς τὸν τῆς πίστεως ἀρχηγὸν καὶ τελειωτὴν Ἰησοῦν.

**EPISTLE READING (Heb. 11:33 40; 12:1 2)**

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin that easily distracts, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of faith.



**ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (ΜΑΤΘ. 10:32 33, 37 38, 19:27 30)**

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Πᾶς ὅστις ὁμολογήσει ἐν ἐμοὶ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὁμολογήσω καὶ γὰρ ἐν αὐτῷ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς, ὅστις δ' ἂν ἀρνήσηται με ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἀρνήσομαι αὐτὸν καὶ γὰρ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς. Ὁ φιλῶν πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ὁ φιλῶν υἱὸν ἢ θυγατέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ὃς οὐ λαμβάνει τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖ ὀπίσω μου, οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος. Ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἰδοὺ ἡμεῖς ἀφήκαμεν πάντα καὶ ἠκολουθήσαμεν σοι· τί ἄρα ἔσται ἡμῖν; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὑμεῖς οἱ ἀκολουθήσαντές μοι, ἐν τῇ παλιγγενεσίᾳ, ὅταν καθίσῃ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ, καθίσεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐπὶ δώδεκα θρόνους κρίνοντες τὰς δώδεκα φυλὰς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. καὶ πᾶς ὃς ἀφήκεν οἰκίας ἢ ἀδελφούς ἢ ἀδελφὰς ἢ πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ἢ γυναῖκα ἢ τέκνα ἢ ἀγροὺς ἕνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός μου, ἑκατονταπλασίονα λήψεται καὶ ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσει. Πολλοὶ δὲ ἔσονται πρῶτοι ἔσχατοι καὶ ἔσχατοι πρῶτοι.

**GOSPEL READING (MT. 10:32 33; 37 38; 19:27 30)**

The Lord said to his disciples, “Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”



# ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

JUNE 2026

June 1  
MON  
**Monday of the Holy Spirit**  
Του Αγίου Πνεύματος  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

June 7  
SUN  
**Sunday of All Saints**  
Κυριακή των Αγ. Πάντων  
7:30 a.m. / 8:45 a.m. Liturgy  
**General Assembly**

June 8  
MON / ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ

+The fast of the Holy Apostles begins +  
+Άρχεται η νηστεία των Αποστόλων+

June 11  
THU  
**St. Bartholomew the Apostle**  
Αγ. Βαρθολομέου  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

June 14  
SUN  
**Second Sunday of Matthew**  
2η Κυριακή Ματθαίου  
7:30 a.m. / 8:45 a.m. Liturgy  
**Sunday School Graduation**

June 21  
SUN  
**3rd Sunday of Matthew**  
3η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 a.m. Liturgy

June 24  
WED  
**Nativity of St. John the Baptist**  
Γενέσιον του Αγ. Ιωάννου Βαπτ.  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

June 28  
SUN  
**4th Sunday of Matthew**  
4η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 a.m. Liturgy

June 29  
MON  
**SS. Peter and Paul**  
Των Αγ. Πέτρου και Παύλου  
8:00 Orthros / 8:00 a.m. Liturgy

June 30  
TUE  
**Synaxis of the Holy Apostles**  
Σύναξις των Αποστόλων  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

**Great Vespers of the Holy Anargyroi**  
Μ. Εσπερινός των Αγ. Αναγύρων  
7:00 p.m.





<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: \_\_\_\_\_

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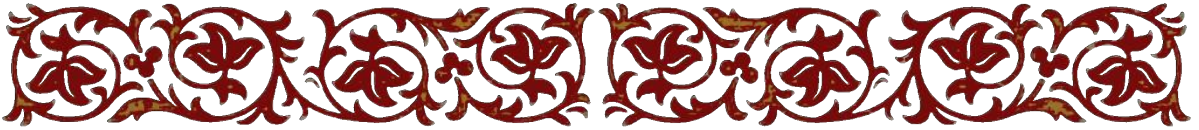
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"SO LET EACH ONE GIVE AS HE PURPOSES IN HIS HEART; NOT GRUDGINGLY OR OUT OF NECESSITY; FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER"



Dear Parish Family,

As we approach the summer months, we ask you to prayerfully remember your stewardship commitment to our parish. While many families travel and schedules change during the summer season, the ministry and daily expenses of the church continue without pause. Our parish remains active in worship, outreach, maintenance, and service to our community throughout the year.

If you have not yet made your 2026 stewardship commitment, or if you are able to offer an additional gift, we humbly ask that you do so before summertime. Every offering, no matter the size, helps sustain the life and mission of our church.

As Holy Scripture reminds us:

*“Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase.”*  
— Proverbs 3:9

And:

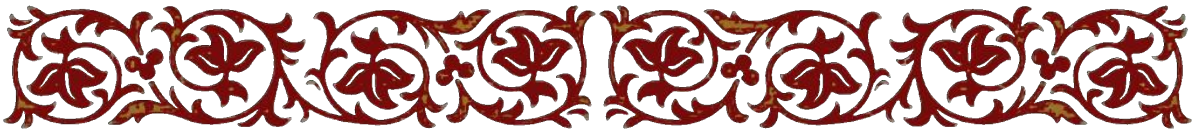
*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”* — 2 Corinthians 9:7

We are deeply grateful for your continued love, generosity, and faithful support of our parish family. May God bless you abundantly for all that you give and do in His name.

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

Rev. Economos Aristidis Garinis

Demetrios Athanasopoulos



# SAINT NICHOLAS

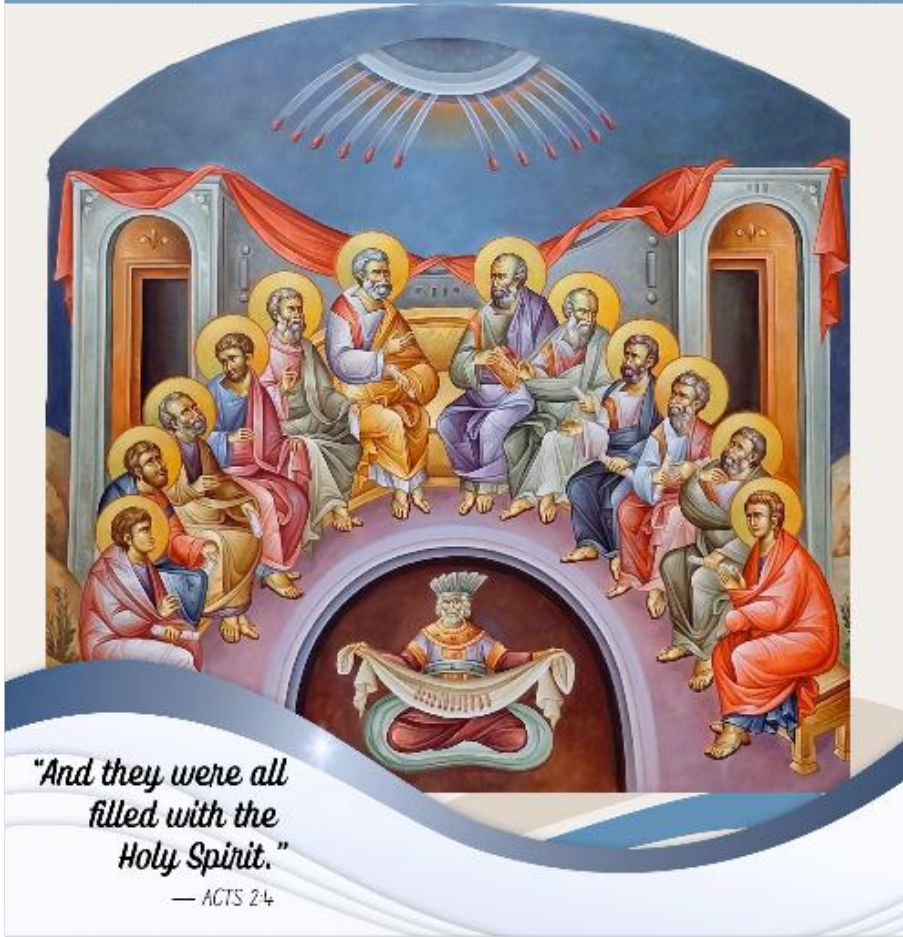
GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH

REV. ECONOMOS ARISTIDIS GARINIS, PASTOR

REV. PRESBYTER ALEXANDROS DOUVRES

Jun-Jul- Aug Volume 2, Issue 2

[stnicholasflushing.org](http://stnicholasflushing.org)



Read our next issue: <https://www.stnicholasflushing.org/SNF-ARK>

# ST. NICHOLAS

## ★ ★ ★ SUMMER GAMES ★ ★ ★

*A Parish Youth BBQ*



Date

**June 14**

Sunday, 2026

Festivities

**Post Church-3:30**

Lunch - DJ - Games

Where

**St. Nicholas**

Back Lot - Gym - Hall

### The Feast

- ★ Burgers
- ★ Hotdogs
- ★ Souvlakia
- ★ Ice Cream



### The Games

- ★ Basketball
- ★ Races
- ★ Disc Toss
- ★ and More!!!

*All Families Welcome - Bring an Appetite, Bring Your Spirit*



Register

**SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH

COME & JOIN US FOR  
**PANAGIA'S  
GARDEN  
DAY CAMP**

FAITH- GAMES- FELLOWSHIP

Open to students entering  
grades 2-8  
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily

Jr. counselors 9th - 12th grade  
Parent counselors requested



WEEK ONE:

Mon-Friday (Aug 3-7)

WEEK TWO:

Mon-Friday (Aug 10-14)



Price \$250 per week  
\$50 off for siblings

For more information:

[WWW.STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/PGSUMMER](http://WWW.STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/PGSUMMER)



Attention rising 9-12th graders and college students. Sign up to volunteer as a camp counselor this summer. At [www.StNicholasFlushing.org/PGCounselor](http://www.StNicholasFlushing.org/PGCounselor)

NURTURING FAITH, HELLENIC HERITAGE, AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church**  
**GEORGE & EVLAVIA DOULAVERIS PRESCHOOL**

*Building Foundations for Life*



**OUR CORE VALUES**

Welcome to a family-oriented community where children are lovingly nurtured in the Christian Faith and our rich Hellenic Heritage.



**2-YEAR OLD PROGRAM**

We provide a structured environment that honors faith and tradition while challenging young minds to grow and excel.



**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

Our accelerated curriculum integrates Hellenic language and values, ensuring students are fully prepared for the transition to primary education.

*Call or Email to secure your child's spot*

**REGISTER TODAY**

Ready to ignite your child's imagination? Enroll today!



**EARLY  
DROP-OFF &  
AFTER SCHOOL  
AVAILABLE**

Contact Us: 718-357-0800

Our Location: 43-09 196 Street, Flushing

Email: [StNicholasDoulaVeris@gmail.com](mailto:StNicholasDoulaVeris@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stnicholasdoulaVeris.org](http://www.stnicholasdoulaVeris.org)



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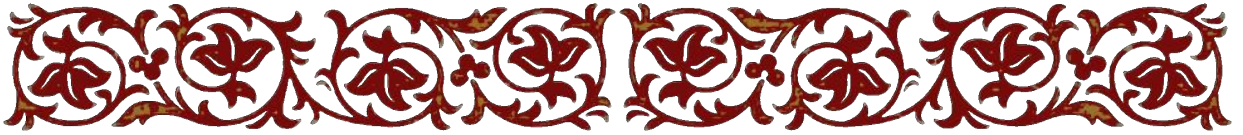
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# KIDS BULLETIN PAGE

The icon of the Sunday of All Saints depicts our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ seated above the throne of heaven surrounded by the Saints. The rows of Saints included the Archangel Michael and other Angels, the Theotokos and John the Baptist, the Apostles, Bishops, Great Martyrs, Ascetics and Monastics. To the side of the throne are Adam and Eve, bowing in reverence to Christ. They are joined by the Saints, who are lifting their hands in worship to the King of Glory. At the lower left of the icon is the Patriarch Abraham who has a righteous soul in his bosom, as told in the story of Lazarus and the rich man in the Gospel. At the lower center is the Good Thief who was crucified with Christ. On the lower right is the Patriarch Jacob.



Apostles	S	N	L	S	L	H	V	V	P	E	O	R	E	H	A	E
Church	A	H	G	T	T	A	S	M	S	S	R	H	S	N	E	H
Confessors	O	P	S	N	S	L	N	M	A	R	T	Y	R	S	E	H
Faith	N	Y	S	I	L	P	C	E	C	O	R	T	H	T	S	S
Greek	Y	R	R	A	R	T	H	E	S	T	C	R	T	K	S	R
Heaven	N	S	S	S	P	K	H	Y	S	S	V	L	E	F	H	O
Holy	L	H	T	C	L	O	L	N	Y	A	Y	E	C	R	T	S
Icon	S	R	E	E	A	O	S	R	E	R	R	N	N	I	H	S
Martyrs	O	T	I	A	H	A	E	T	T	G	A	H	C	M	P	E
Pray	E	T	H	H	V	P	U	N	L	T	F	O	F	E	H	F
Saints	N	C	M	C	O	E	O	S	P	E	N	C	C	T	R	N
	C	Y	H	R	H	E	N	R	E	S	S	K	I	N	A	O
	R	S	A	U	K	S	N	I	P	A	S	A	R	H	N	C
	R	Y	H	H	Y	H	O	T	Y	A	F	P	R	T	K	T
	E	P	C	C	N	S	A	P	T	O	N	I	E	H	M	H
	A	S	I	P	P	N	L	P	R	A	Y	R	S	S	E	U



### MEMORIALS

Gus Cherevas AHEPA Chapter #326

Irini Karavas

Demetra Papadopoulou

Anastasia Tasdilas

Constantinos Thomas

Demetra Thomas

Panagiotis Thomas

Maria Triantafyllou

George Yanakis

Alexandra Tsaknis Zazzarino

Voula Zoumberakis

### MNHMOΣYNA

Κεκοιμημένων μελών της ΑΧΕΠΑ

Ειρήνης Καραβά

Δήμητρας Παπαδοπούλου

Αναστασίας Τσαδήλα

Κωνσταντίνου Θωμά

Δήμητρας Θωμά

Παναγιώτου Θωμά

Μαρίας Τριανταφύλλου

Γεωργίου Γιαννακή

Αλεξάνδρας Τσακνή Zazzarino

Παρασκευής Ζουμπεράκη

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are all invited to our fellowship coffee hour after the first Divine Liturgy which is being sponsored by AHEPA.

The St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church of Flushing will hold its *General Assembly meeting on June 7th*. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this important meeting to discuss the ongoing life and future of our community. Please mark your calendars and join us in Sarantakos Hall.



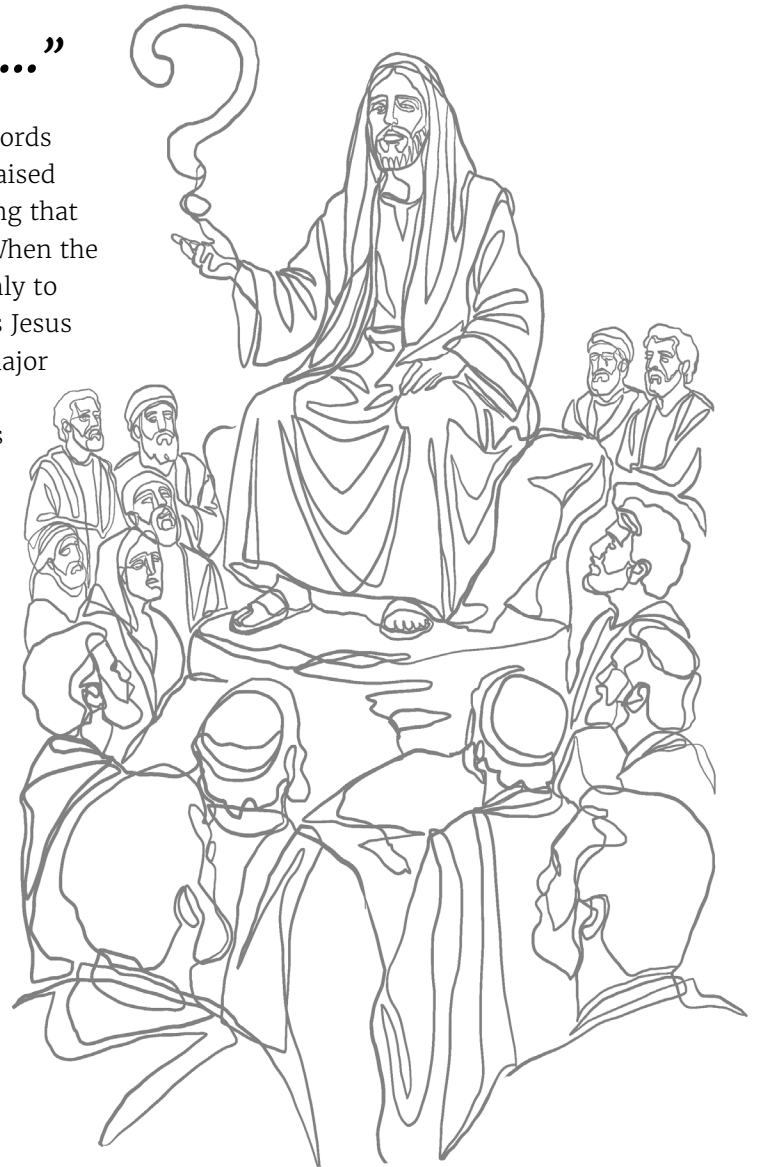
# DIAKONIA

A National Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

REFLECTIONS FROM TODAY'S READING | Fr. George Parsenios

## “Hate your father and mother...”

Today's Gospel reading hits our ears strangely. The words of Jesus contain a very hard saying. Most of us are raised in Christian families, and Jesus puzzles us by teaching that our commitment to him requires us to deny our families. When the Gospel of Luke shares this same material, Jesus says not only to deny our families, but to hate them (Luke 14:26). Why does Jesus say this? To answer this question, we must understand a major difference between the ancient world and the modern one. Religion was not a private choice in antiquity, and religious diversity did not mean then what it means now. To be born in a city meant to worship the gods of that city. To be born into a family meant to worship the gods of that family. The gods were understood to protect a city that was loyal to them. To abandon pagan gods for Christ, therefore, was to endanger the city. This was a serious crime. Socrates was killed for not properly honoring the gods of Athens, and early Christians were persecuted for not honoring the gods of Rome. Some early martyrs were killed by their own families to avoid the disgrace of harboring a traitor. St. Paul recognized that some Christians would lose their spouses by being baptized into Christ (1 Cor 7:12-14). This highly-charged setting is the proper context for understanding Jesus' hard words. Everything must be surrendered, even family harmony if necessary, to follow Christ. Modern converts to Orthodoxy might experience similar pressures. Those who are already in Orthodox families, however, have a different task. We must ensure that our families are places where our children experience Christ, not ones where family dynamics require a denial of Christ's teachings. Let us therefore build families of faith, hope and love.



**Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30**

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



Diakonia is made possible by a generous grant from **Leadership 100**

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## FROM THE ORIGINAL GREEK: Eschatology (Ἐσχατολογία) What is “Eschatology” ?

Fr. George Parsenios



*Ἐσχατολογία/Eschatology* is an essential term in Christian doctrine, but it may not be widely known. The Greek word *ἔσχατον/ eschaton* means “final, last,” and so *eschatology* is the study of what occurs at the final stages of God’s plan

for creation, “the last days, the end times.” *Eschatology* has two different

senses. First, *eschatology* is the study of God’s ancient promise to send a savior to his people. Biblical authors

announce that Jesus is this expected savior by saying that he appeared “in these last days” (*eschaton*; Heb 1:2). Jesus, in other words, fulfilled the eschatological hope of ancient Israel. Second, *eschatology* refers to the promises that Jesus himself made in the New Testament, where he says that he will return in glory to create “a new heaven and a new earth” (Rev 21:1). Because “we know neither the day nor the hour” of his return (Matt 25:13), the Orthodox Church views as foolhardy any attempt to calculate the precise moment of Christ’s arrival. But when our Creed says that we “expect the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come,” we express our eschatological hope.



## THIS WEEK’S LOOK AT CHURCH HISTORY The Saints of North America

*Ben Malian, MTS*

Following the Sunday of All Saints, the second Sunday after Pentecost is traditionally reserved in the Orthodox Church for recognizing the saints of certain locales, nations, and regions. In North America, the many saints who have “shone forth” in the New World are commemorated on this day, ranging from Juvenal the Proto-Martyr (+1797) to Olga of Alaska (+1979).

St. Olga (Michael)—glorified by the Orthodox Church of America in 2025—was a native Yup’ik woman from the village of Kwethluk in southwestern Alaska. Born in 1916, Olga married and raised thirteen children with her husband, Nikolai, who was later ordained a priest. As a matushka, Olga was the “quiet heart” of their parish community, serving generously as a midwife, healer, and teacher. Following her repose, several miraculous events and intercessions confirmed the sanctity already evident in her earthly life.

As we prepare to commemorate the saints of North America, consider the opening verses of the troparion to St. Olga: “God has chosen a humble mother from Alaska / to be an example for all the servants of God.”



*Icon of Saint Olga with permission Monastery of All Saints of North America, Ottawa, Canada*

## THE SUNDAY OF All Saints

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The first Sunday after Holy Pentecost is the Sunday of All Saints. On this day, the Church honors all the holy men and women who have pleased God—known and unknown—from the beginning of the world until today. These include prophets, apostles, martyrs, teachers, monks, and faithful people just like us who loved Jesus Christ with their whole lives.

King David says, “How precious are Your friends, O Lord.” The Saints are God’s friends. They listened to Him, obeyed His commandments, and trusted Him in hard times. The Apostle Paul tells us that we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” This means the Saints are with us, cheering us on as we run the race of faith. They show us that a holy life is possible.

This feast began as a day to remember the martyrs—those who gave their lives for Christ. Later, the Church added all the Saints, because many people witness to Christ in

different ways. Some suffer, some teach, some pray quietly, and some serve others with love. All of them show us what it means to follow Jesus.

This feast is like a harvest after Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came down, and the Church grew strong. Saints are the fruit of the Holy Spirit’s work. They are proof that the Gospel is true.

### THE ICON OF THE FEAST

In the icon of All Saints, Christ sits in glory on His heavenly throne. Around Him are many rows of Saints. We see the Theotokos and Saint John the Baptist close to Him. There are angels, apostles, bishops, martyrs, and monks. Adam and Eve bow before Jesus, showing that He saves all humanity. We see Abraham holding a righteous soul, the Good Thief who entered Paradise, and Jacob.



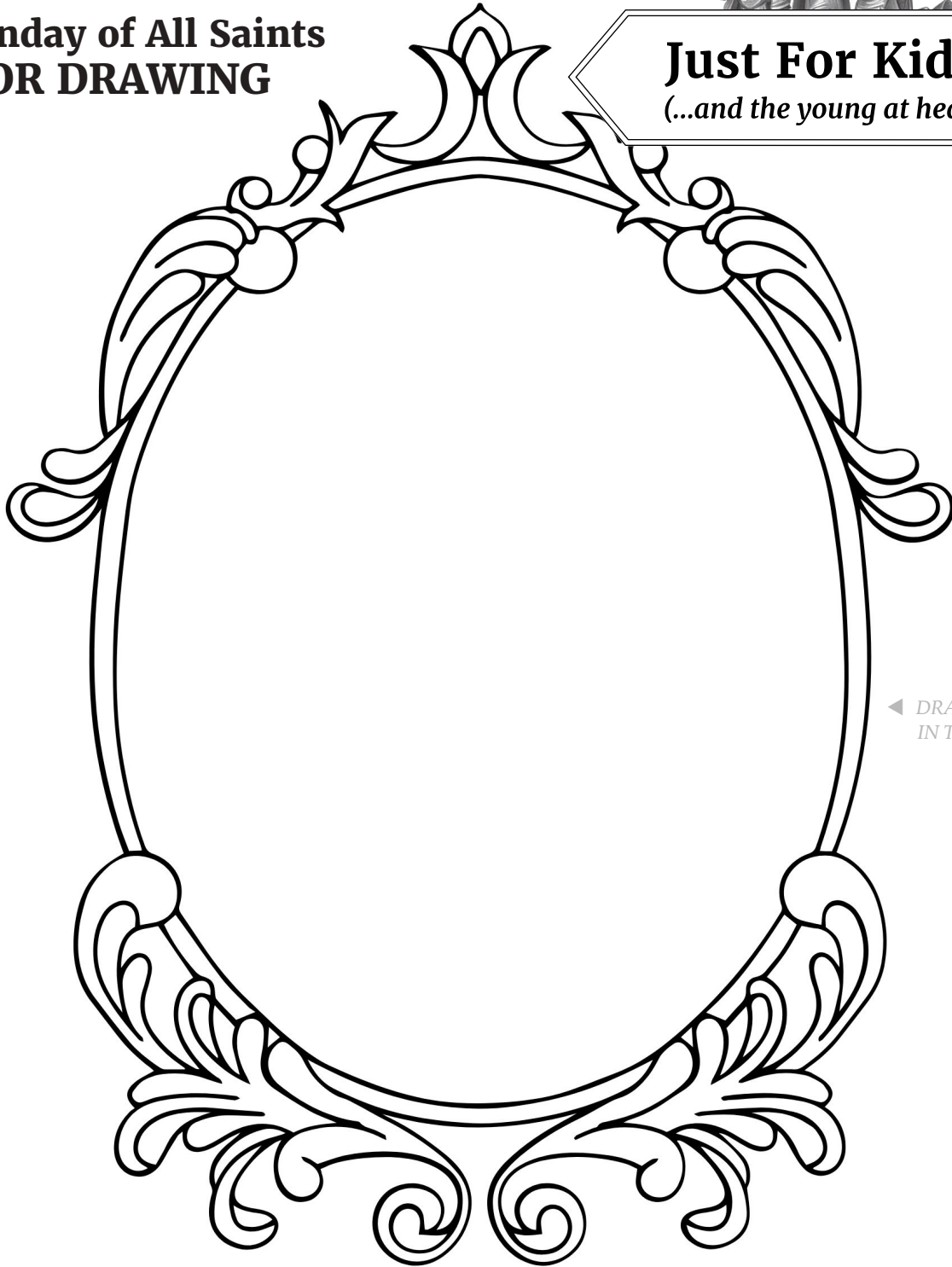
### A CALL TO ACTION

This feast is not only about the Saints—it is about you. God calls each of us to become holy. You do not need to be perfect. Start small. Pray each day. Come to Church. Forgive others. Help someone in need. Turn away from sin and follow Jesus with courage. Ask the Saints to pray for you. They are alive in Christ and ready to help. Remember: holiness is possible. The same Holy Spirit who guided them is given to you. Say with faith: “Holy Saints of God, pray for us!”



**The Sunday of All Saints  
MIRROR DRAWING**

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



◀ DRAW YOURSELF  
IN THE MIRROR

**Happy Name Day!** Today is the Sunday of All Saints where we celebrate all the saints. A saint is a friend of God who loves Him and tries to live the way He taught us. Saints pray, help others, forgive, and do their best each and every day to follow Christ, even when it's hard. Guess what? With God's help, you're growing to be a saint too! So, take some time to draw yourself in the mirror. With crayons, smiles, and a little creativity, you'll always remember that everyone can grow to be a saint!