

Championship Sunday

by Chris Pantazis

On Sunday, March 21st, our St. Nicholas basketball teams competed in their respective championship games. Of the eight championship games, our teams competed in a total of seven, a new record for our community!

Our younger athletes in JOY had a strong showing, with our teams in each division vying for a championship. Our 7-9 year old boys and girls came up just short as did our 10-12 year old girls. But our 10-12 year old boys, coached by Ted Kartas, George Palamara and John Palatianos, came away with a victory over Archangel Michael, Roslyn.

Our GOYA teams also had three teams vying for championships. Our Junior Boys team, coached by Andrew Tsiolas defeated St. Demetrios, Astoria by a score of 57-26. Our Senior Girls team, coached by Irene Filakouris & Anna Kanes defeated St. Demetrios, Astoria by a score of 67-33. And finally our Senior Boys team, coached by Larry Hatzioannides and Chris Pantazis, defeated St. Demetrios, Astoria by a score of 71-66.

All in all, March 21st will be remember by our youth as “Championship Sunday” for years to come.



Sr. Boys Team
MGobl Champs 2009-2010

Back Row (L-R) Coach Chris Pantazis, George Laskaridis, George Filakouris, Chris Tavantzis, James Louridas, George Hatzioannides, Vasili Pantazis, Xeno Vroulos, Coach Larry Hatzioannides
Front Row (L-R) George Loizides, Mathew Domingez, George Athanasopoulos, Chris Kaifias

St. Nicholas Soccer & Olympics

by Yiota Belitsis

The 2009 – 2010 soccer season is resuming now with a few games left as we approach playoffs and championships. If you are interested in signing up for the fall, please check on the website for information regarding registration at www.stnickssoccer.org

We are also preparing for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese District Olympics which are held Memorial Day Weekend, May 28, 29, 30th at Suffolk Community College, off exit 53 on LIE. If you are interested in participating, it may not be too late, so call and find out. Call Artie Glekas at (917) 226-9769. There are many other sports besides soccer for JOY and GOYA age athletes; track and field, board games, kickball, basketball, swimming, softball throw to mention just a few. The Olympics are once a year during Memorial Day weekend. They are open to all communities in New York. For additional Olympics information check their website at www.goado.com You are also welcome to come out and cheer on your St. Nicholas community. It is a great weekend and well represented by all NY parishes.

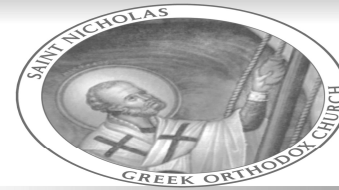
THOUGHTS ON ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

by Fr. Paul

MAKE IT FLY

A Pastor once said to his congregation, “My friends, it takes faith to make the church walk!” They responded in unison, “Let her walk, let her walk.” He went on. “Brothers, it takes love to make the church run!” And the response came back, “Let her run, let her run.” “Beloved,” he continued, “It takes money to make the church fly.” Back came the answer, “Let her walk, let her walk.” The Angels are pictured with wings to denote the speed with which they fly to carry out God’s will. I’m sure we can all try to imitate the angels in this respect. The Church should not walk or run; it should fly like the angels because its purpose is to promote and expand the knowledge of God throughout the world. Whether the Church walks, runs or flies in its service to Christ depends on how much I love and give.

(Taken from “Where Moth and Rust Do Not Consume: An Anthology on Christian Giving)



ARGUS

A newsletter for members of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

SUPPLEMENT

APRIL 2010

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**CRISTOS ANESTH
CHRIST IS RISEN**

From the Desk of Fr. Paul

**CRISTOS ANESTH
CHRIST IS RISEN**

Jesus said to the disciples “you know the way where I am going.” Thomas said to him “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know Him and have seen Him” (John 14:3-7). We read in the Book of Acts that one of the earliest names for the new Christian movement was called “the Way.” Later, we learn that followers of the Way were eventually called “Christians” in Antioch. (Acts 11:26) For the past 2,000 years, those believers who followed the way of Jesus have been called Christians. We live in a world which offers us many spiritual paths to take, from witchcraft and wiccan chants to New Age enlightenment. Likewise, we also encounter many different types of Jesus, Jesus the sage, Jesus the miracle worker, and Jesus the prophet. Yet, Scripture reminds us that our only hope is in the Jesus of Scripture, the one who leads us to His Father and Who grants us eternal life. Any other Jesus is a fantasy which leads nowhere. As St. John emphasizes, it is the scriptural Jesus who is the way, hope, and life. During these past forty days, we have followed Jesus through the Gospel of John as he called his disciples, performed miracles, and even raised the dead. Hopefully, we will continue to follow the Lord after the Paschal season is finished.

John presents Jesus as the Word sent from God, the Word which is given to us as a promise.

All we need to remember is that we are to remain faithful to this Word in all circumstances, since this Word will lead us to the Father Who is the creator and sustainer of our lives.

From our Parish Council President

by Larry Hotzoglou

My Friends and Fellow Parishioners,
Christ has Risen

I hope that everyone had a wonderful PASCHA and enjoyed the glorious day with family and friends. I am proud to say that on Holy Tuesday our GOYA group hosted the annual Lenten supper and we enjoyed Maria Bakoyiannis delicious Yankee Bean soup. On Holy Thursday we were blessed with the presence of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios. During Holy Week we enjoyed the beautiful chanting of Mr Eleftherios Eleftheriadis. Renovations of the Sanctuary will begin soon. As we have updated the rest of our facility the time has come where we need to refurbish our church. The first component of our renovation will be the brick pointing on the exterior façade. During heavy rain we have many leaks in the church. Subsequent we will replace the lighting, sound system, flooring and new seating. These renovations will carry us for the next thirty years.

News from Wm. Spyropoulos Day School

By Athena Kromidas, Principal

Christ Is Risen!

It is with great joy that I share with you a few highlights of the life and works of our beloved St. Nicholas William Spyropoulos School. We can still hear an echo in our hearts and minds from the patriotic songs and poems of our Greek Independence Day celebration. All of our students performed beautifully at the assemblies; poems, songs and dances filled our souls and hearts with pride and joy. Congratulations and acknowledgements to all the teachers and parents for working diligently with our children. Furthermore, the day of the Annunciation, our school’s choir chanted during liturgy and made us proud with their flawless performance. At the P.T.A. Annual Dance, our seventh and eighth grade students performed elegantly the Greek traditional dances. All guests attending admired our students’ grace and pride. On Sunday, April 18th our school participated in the Greek Independence Day Parade. On such a day, our hearts are filled with passion for our Hellenic heritage; our students marched with pride, and our school’s uniform put a color on this beautiful appearance. Additionally, in April we conducted a series of workshops along with the “Covenant Players” and “Mr. Green’s Hands on Science” for all our students. Currently, we have completed administering the English Language Arts State Tests for grades 3-8 and we are preparing for the Mathematics State Tests next week. Our current students have begun enrolling for the school year 2010-2011 and will continue until May 7, 2010. We will welcome new students to our school for registration beginning May 10, 2010. Another highlight of our school’s program is the theatrical performance of the Greek Drama Club. They are preparing feverishly to perform the dramatic play “Evagoras Pallikaridis” on Thursday, May 13, 2010. Our students will present a significant part of Cyprus’s history. Please join and support us in this noble endeavor. We will be honored by your presence.

Απ’ το Γραφείο του σχολείου «Βασίλειος Σπυρόπουλος» του Αγίου Νικολάου.

Χριστός Ανέστη!

Με πηγαία συγκίνηση μοιραζόμαστε μαζί σας σήμερα τα νέα του αγαπημένου μας σχολείου «Βασίλειος Σπυρόπουλος» του Αγίου Νικολάου. Ακόμη έντονα στ’αυτιά μας αντηχούν οι εορταστικές εκδηλώσεις του σχολείου μας επ’ευκαιρία της επετείου του Ευαγγελισμού και της Εθνικής μας Παλιγγενεσίας. Όλα τα παιδιά μας απέδωσαν υπέροχα στα γιορταστικά αυτά προγράμματα. Με τα τραγούδια, τους χορούς και τα ποιήματά τους πλημύρισαν τις καρδιές μας με περηφάνεια και αγαλλίαση. Συγχαρητήρια τόσο στους δασκάλους μας όσο και στους γονείς που εργάσθηκαν με τα παιδιά για την επιτυχία των εκδηλώσεων. Την ημέρα του Ευαγγελισμού η χορωδία του σχολείου μας έψαλε στην λειτουργία και μας έκανε πολύ περήφανους με την άψογη απόδοση των ύμνων. Οι μαθητές και οι μαθήτριες της εβδόμης και της ογδόης τάξης χόρεψαν πολύ ωραία στην ετήσια χοροεσπερίδα του Σ.Γ.Δ και απέσπασαν τα χειροκροτήματα και τα κολακευτικά σχόλια των παρευρισκομένων. Την Κυριακή 18 Απριλίου το σχολείο μας συμμετέσχε στην παρέλαση. Μια τέτοια μέρα οι καρδιές μας πλημμυρίζουν περηφάνεια για την ελληνική μας κληρονομιά. Οι μαθητές μας παρέλασαν με καμάρι και με τις μαθητικές τους στολές είχαν μια υπέροχη εμφάνιση. Το μήνα Απρίλιο προσφέραμε μια σειρά προγραμμάτων στα παιδιά μας με την ομάδα «Covenant Players» και με τον «Καθηγητή Φυσικής, Κύριο Green». Πρόσφατα αρχίσαμε τις επανεγγραφές των μαθητών μας οι οποίες θα συνεχισθούν μέχρι της 7 Μαΐου. Από τις 10 Μαΐου αρχίζουν οι εγγραφές νέων μαθητών. Ακόμη ένα θαυμάσιο πρόγραμμα του σχολείου μας είναι η παράσταση του έργου «Ευαγόρας Παλληκαρίδης» την οποία ετοιμάζουν με μεράκι τα παιδιά της θεατρικής ομάδας. Το έργο που πραγματεύεται ένα κομμάτι Κυπριακής ιστορίας θα παρουσιάσθει την Πέμπτη 13 Μαΐου 2010. Η παρουσία σας θα βραβεύσει τις προσπάθειες των μαθητών μας και θα μας δώσει χαρά. Σας περιμένουμε!

From our Parish Council Treasurer

by Victoria Tsadilas

Christ Is Risen!

On behalf of our Proestameno, Priests, Parish President and entire Parish Council, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks for your continued generosity, love, and support of this community even through the difficult economic times we’ve been facing. Despite that, we have come together as a family offering our time, talents and treasurers that have resulted in this beautiful legacy; the Michelis Cultural and Educational Center. Your efforts and cherished contributions have secured a safe haven for the future of this community, namely our youth. Although we have persevered and worked steadfastly with great determination under the dedicated leadership of our current and past Presidents and their Parish Councils to accomplish this important mission, we need to ensure it thrives for our children, and our future. The first challenge has been completed by building this amazing edifice.

Recent Sacraments in our Church

Baptisms

- 4/11 Daughter of Alexia & Kevin Kaiser
- 4/11 Son of Maria & Michael Maragopoulos
- 4/11 Son of George & Eleni Holevas
- 4/17 Son of Elizabeth & Stavros Fegos
- 4/17 Son of Theodore & Emily Kotsaftis
- 4/17 Daughter of Afrodite & Pantelis Seretis
- 4/18 Daughter of Paul & Alexandra Vasiliadis
- 4/18 Son of Vasiliki & Peter Mironis
- 4/24 Son of Cheryl & Peter Livaditis
- 4/25 Daughter of Athanasios & Maria Katranis
- 5/1 Daughter of Andrew & Dimitroula Goustas

Weddings

- 4/17 Tatiana Doneva & Travis Hatzipetrou
- 4/18 Sophia Zevgolis & Brian Kohlberg
- 4/25 Marjorie Tatiana Saltos & Michael Vasiliou
- 4/25 Vassiliki Georganes & Adam DeOliveira
- 5/1 Eugenia Papadimas & Michael Rizzi

Our continued challenge is to maintain it. As we all know from our personal lives, maintaining a home has a high associated cost, especially in this economy. It’s no different for our beloved St Nicholas. Between the church and the schools, the cost per day to open the doors is approximately \$6,000. The higher expenditures come from the following:

Utilities:	\$20,000/mo.
Archdiocese Obligation:	\$10,275/mo.
Interest on Loans:	\$15,000/mo
Maintenance/Cleaning	\$12-15,000/mo

From a revenue standpoint, aside from a couple of major fundraisers throughout the year such as our wonderful festival and community dances, we rely on stewardship and general donations. This is why tray collections and candles are vital as a supplemental income to help keep our community functioning. We have been receiving a steady inflow of stewardship pledges to date and are grateful to all of you who pledged. If you haven’t pledged yet, please find it in your hearts to do so and be part of this beautiful community that I love so much. I’m so very proud to belong to St Nicholas and am extremely humbled by the generosity and love of all you. Let’s continue to work together and keep this dream alive!

Our Brothers & Sisters who have fallen Asleep in the Lord

May Their Memories Be Eternal

- 3/23 Sophia Gogos
- 3/27 Maria Poulos
- 4/07 Konstantinos Saisanas
- 4/12 Despina Doumanis
- 4/21 Stamatia Karsos