

THE ORTHODOX POST

October 2017

Volume XIII, Issue 9



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Pastor's Message

by Fr. Hieromonk Nikodhim

Brothers and Sisters,

My article for this month's Orthodox Post is going to be a little different. I'd like to share with you some coming changes in my own life. I'm at my laptop one week before our annual Archdiocesan Assembly, this year to be held at our sister parish of St. John Chrysostom in Philadelphia. Tomorrow (Sunday) I'll be making an announcement after we pray together at the Liturgy. Don't worry; I'm not going anywhere! Or, perhaps, do worry if you were hoping finally to get a new priest after all these years. No, it's a different sort of change.

His Eminence, our Archbishop Nikon, has expressed his intention of tonsuring me a monk next week. And you are asking now, "What does this mean?" And I myself have been asking much the same question for a while.

Practically, this means a few small changes for us. At the short ceremony of induction, the Archbishop will give me a new name; I will no longer be Fr. Nathan but will receive the name of a different saint. Traditionally, this is done for nuns and monks as a mark of their new life. As at birth or baptism we name and bless a child, so it will be for me—a new beginning and a different sort of blessing for a different sort of life. I will still answer to Fr. Nathan if you forget, and as I have long joked, if you wonder what to call me, just yell out: Hey Stupid! I'll be sure to turn around.

You may notice that I wear a different sort of hat for part of the Sunday service; this is sometimes called a veil and is a traditional part of monastic attire for both men and women. I find it cumbersome, and I'm certain that it will be very amusing to look at, like a curtain on the back of my head. In ancient times, when the first monks lived in Egypt and Palestine, this was the article of clothing that marked them out as different.

President's Message

by James Liolin

"Everything is Beau-ti-ful"...

By now, I'm sure you all have heard about the Beautification of the Temple project happening all summer at St. Nicholas. It has attracted the attention of past members, current members and certainly deserves your presence... you will be amazed at the transformation. The project is almost complete only a few minor issues to be dealt with.

Many have responded with donations to the fundraising letter; current and past members, other churches, and friends. If you haven't yet there is still time to be involved in this joyous project. Call 718-380-5684 to request a donation card. Or pick one up at church.

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Sunday School has started so bring your children if they are PreK- and up to 4th grade.

Coming up this month is the Flea Market on October 21/22. More info is included in this POST.

Starting November 1, 2017 the Annual Pledge Drive will begin for 2018. Please be as generous as you can. Each year the pledging community has increased and we want to continue the trend. We want to bless the pledges on St. Nicholas Day, so please respond as soon as possible. The pledge is a promise and helps the Council plan for the coming new year budget. The payments begin with 2018 envelopes.

Coffee List

Daughters' Corner

by Linda Foundos

Dear Ladies,

Below is the schedule for coffee for the next 3 months. If your name is listed, please be sure to put it on your calendar. If you need to change the date, please advise Christina Liolin or Adriana Topore.

It is very important to remember that on the day you are scheduled for coffee, **please arrive at church by 10 a.m.** so that preparations can be made.

What to bring:

- Cake for 50-60 people
- Cookies for the children
- 1 gallon of milk

October 01 Donika Papando / Ornela Joanidhi
 08 Open
 15 Christina Liolin / Alexandra Liolin
 22 FLEA MARKET
 29 Irma Mile / Xhuljana Baltado

Our annual Flea Market/Bake Sale will be taking place very soon, Saturday & Sunday, October 21st & 22nd.. Please bring in your donation items beginning Sunday, October 8th. We need helping hands for pricing on Sunday October 15th following services. Please see Linda Foundos of Christina Liolin if you can help. Linda will be signing up volunteers to work the sale weekend. Tina Peters will be signing up volunteers to donate baked goodies for our Bake Table.

The Daughters make annual contributions to a number of organizations like the Archdiocesan Student Fund, the Orthodox Christian Mission Center, International Orthodox Christian Charities and more. We help with church expenses as best as we can. That's why, we need your participation to make this a successful event.

The Daughters are the right hand of the church Board. We are called upon to help with a number of community activities like Archdiocese receptions, church dances, golf outing, Sunday School materials, altar needs for services and more. As with most institutions/events, it seems like things "just happen," but that is hardly the case! Our Priest, our President, the Board and others work hard to keep us operating smoothly for all of our community needs. There are a few people who volunteer tirelessly without any expectation of reward. They do it from their heart.

There are a number of young families with young children that have been coming. That is our future. A strong faith foundation is invaluable, especially in today's society. Being a part of an interconnected, hospitable community is a very positive element in our lives. Our St. Nicholas community will be as great as we all make it together!

BRING YOUR CHILD TO SUNDAY SCHOOL



ST. NICHOLAS GOLF OUTING
COME AND JOIN US – MONDAY, OCT 2ND
PLAY GOLF OR ATTEND THE DINNER



St. Nicholas
Albanian Orthodox Church
Jamaica Estates, NY



**20TH Annual
Golf Classic
& Dinner Reception**

SAVE THE DATE
The Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course
Woodbury, NY
Monday, October 2, 2017



COME & JOIN US!!!
FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE
October 21st & October 22nd
Saturday (10am-4pm) & Sunday (12noon-4pm)



St. Nicholas needs your help - both as a worker and as a customer.
Volunteer to be a worker!!!
Contact Linda Foundos (516 637-8972) or Christina Liolin (914 325-9138)

St. Nicholas Beautification Project

The construction work beautifying the Temple of St. Nicholas Church has made great progress over the Summer months. The work associated with Phase 1 of the Beautification Project is nearing completion. Photos reflecting the work completed to date are shown below.

Your Pledges and Donations are still needed!!! Project and Fundraising materials including a green pledge/donation card have been mailed to Parishioners and Friends of St. Nicholas. Please review this information and make a Pledge/Donation by turning-in your green card, If you need a copy of this material, please contact Fr. Nathan, Jim Liolin , Lou Foundos or the Church Office.

To date, Pledges amounting to \$60,000 have been submitted. The cost for Phase 1 is \$150,000. There is still a great need for more donations. Everyone is urged to seriously consider the importance of St. Nicholas Church in their lives and then make a generous Pledge to support this Beautification of our Temple. Your support is very much appreciated!!!



Beautification Project Photos continued



Community News

By Linda Foundos

- Best wishes To Enea Topore & Morgan Cady-Lee who were married in Tirana, Albania on September 4th. It was a celebration that went on for days with family & friends. Enea's parents, Adriana & Andrea, were so happy that so many family members from America were able to share in the joyous event as well. We wish the happy couple all the best!
- Congratulations to Britu Haile on her daughter, Semhal's engagement. We wish the happy couple a lifetime of happiness.
- We send a "shout out" to several members that have been unable to make it to church to pray with us. You are certainly not forgotten!!
- Our deepest sympathy to the family of Albert Vani who fell asleep in the Lord mid-September. He will be missed by many. I perjetshim kujtimi!

Pastor Message – continued

It's black and was meant both to provide protection from the elements but also a uniformity in appearance. This sameness and drabness in dress is intended to give freedom to the monk or nun not to worry about what to wear so that s/he may focus on more important things. It is also worn as a sign of respect to God so that muting one's own personal choices, more attention may be made for prayer. Some say that it is like a burial shroud—that strip of fabric that sometimes goes over the deceased as they lay at rest—because the monk has elected to follow a different path. Unmarried and un beholden to the many joys and obligations of family life, the monastic works instead to pray more, serve more, care for the needy more. His or her black outfit is an outward manifestation of a different vocation, to live as someone who has already died to social norms and for God alone.

At the service, the bishop will cut a bit of my hair, the monastic tonsure, in much the same way as we conclude the baptism service by taking a little hair from those who are becoming Christians. These snips are shorn as a promise that takes physical form. His Eminence will do this only after ensuring that I agree to it because it is against the laws of our Church that anyone should enter into monastic life against his or her will. He will then put the hat on me, put a thick leather belt around my waist, and give me a prayer rope, the Orthodox equivalent of a rosary, that will be a tool for me in trying to center myself in God's will.

These are the changes that are coming for me and for us. I would be most grateful for your prayers as I take a new name and start a new life. It is exciting but also intimidating because, like baptism or marriage, becoming a monk is something lasting; there's no turning back. Nonetheless, be assured that I remain in many ways the same, proud as always to be part of our community with you at St. Nicholas.

OCTOBER FEAST SAINT AND NAME DAYS



October 1 - The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos: “Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church, and with choirs of Saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and Bishops venerate Her, Apostles and prophets rejoice together, since for our sake she prays to the Eternal God!”



16 - The Holy Martyr Longinus - St. Longin (Logan)



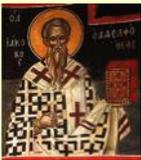
18 - St. Luke
Luke Brehl



19 - St. Laura of Spain
Lori Dilo, Laura DiTullio, Lauren Foundos



20 - St. Diana
Diana Kerim, Diana Beno



23 - St. James
Jamie Beno, Jim Liolin, Jim Oswald



26 - St. Demetrios
Dhimiter Beno, Dhimiter Guma, Dhimitraq Papando, Dhimiter Pecani,
Dhimitrulla Prifti



- St. Alfred
Alfred Fundo



30 - St. Zenobia
Jen Brehl

Ads from Merchants Who Support the Church

Please look at the Ads and support these Merchants by buying goods and services from them, whenever possible.

**Tell the Merchant that you are from St, Nicholas Church and
saw their Ad in the Church's Monthly Newsletter!!!**

For New Ads Please Contact – Tomi Beno at (917) 952-9252

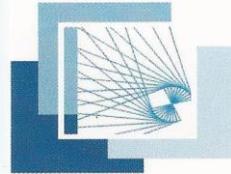
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ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Major Church Activities and Events

October:

Sun. 1 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 7 - Orthodox Education Day @ St. Vladimir's
 - Vespers is cancelled.
 Sun. 8 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 14 - Vespers is cancelled.
 Sun. 15 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 21 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 22 - Liturgy, 10am
 Thur. 26 - Prayers, 7pm: St. Demetrios
 Sat. 28 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 29 - Liturgy, 10am

Ushers' Schedule for Sunday Services Lista e sherbimit te dielave ne kisha

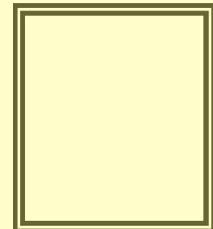
OCT 01 Jim OSWALD / Tomi BENO
OCT 08 Ilia LUKA / Bill PETERS
**OCT 15 Stefan BALTADORI /
Izzy TSAMBLAKOS**
OCT 22 Nasi PAVLLO / Ardian MILE
OCT 29 Jim OSWALD / Tomi BENO
NOV 05 Andrea KUTALI / John JANCE

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stnicholasalbanian.org

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