

THE ORTHODOX POST

October/November 2021

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Pastor's Message

by Fr. Nikodhim

Right at the start of summer I found an unexpected parcel in my mailbox. It rattled as I lifted it to peer at a return address I didn't recognize. Like most of us these days I do a fair amount of online shopping, yet despite this, I usually manage to keep track of what to expect and from whom. Not so that day. As I undid the paper a glint of gold showed through, and a long chain slipped out. A worn jewelry box whose clasp had long since ceased to fasten fell from the paper, the knotted tail of gold chain escaping its mouth. In the box rested a cross, worn but immediately familiar: a final gift from Fr. Basil.

In his last years as I visited to make my confessions and we shared lunch afterward, Father had always said that, when he was gone, his religious items would be dispersed to friends and family. When he had made the big leap of retiring finally into a retirement home at the eve of the world's most inauspicious season, we spoke through glass—him inside and me without—while the virus raged around us. There was the phone, of course, which kept us in touch, but those who knew Fr. Basil certainly can imagine its limitations as he loved to see and be with other people. And from time to time he would again let me know to expect something from him when death, which he was never eager for, finally called. At ninety-five, most of us who loved him assumed and hoped that death had simply given him a pass or forgotten to check in entirely or itself retired. Outliving a hairy stint in the wartime navy, two

seminaries, social unrest, major surgery, and decades of sometimes contentious but fruitful conflict from the "good Christians" whose pastor he was, he lived to serve. And when serving at the altar became for him, at ninety or so, a challenge alone, he lived still to talk and lead and guide and, ever so subtly, refrain from holding his tongue, saying necessary things with humor and gentleness.

The cross in my hands, at the start of the summer, was the one I had always seen him wear: small blue stones, the patina of gold worn away in places to reveal some duller metal underneath. I value each bit of its tarnish. In the ordered ranks of the Russian tradition, this pectoral cross is a "jeweled cross", a mark of distinction for senior priests. I can't wear it yet, but I pull it out from time to time, withdrawing it from the drawer to listen in memory for some still resounding echoes of good advice. For Fr. Basil, the beating heart of the world was love, the community of God and us that he was always trying to broaden, always striving to bring others into. He was bold in his love, rash even, knowing that what he spread around so liberally would not always be returned. But he chose this again and again. At the funeral, we smiled, not as a mask of the grief in our hearts, but as people of profoundly good fortune: to have known and been known by someone and something so inextinguishable.

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GOLF OUTING EVENT WAS A SUCCESS



The 24th Annual St. Nicholas Golf Outing was held at the Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course on Monday, October 4th. This is the first year that it was held under its new name the “Albert Foundos Memorial Golf Classic” in honor of our long-time parishioner Al who started and championed it for the last 23 years.

More than 80 golfers were on the course this year and the carts rolled out right at noon for the shotgun start. While the weather forecast was bleak, as usual St. Nicholas made sure the rain waited until after all the golfers were off the course.

Golfers returned to the Clubhouse to share stories of their heroic shots for the day and enjoy dinner and drinks. While we did not have a ‘Hole in One’ winner we were happy to give a shout out and gift to our winning foursome, closest to the pin and longest drive. Raffle prizes and silent auction also went off with much success.

A special thank you to all the people who worked to make this event a success and especially to our sponsors & golfers who help made this a successful fundraiser for St. Nicholas.



President's Message We are officially in autumn now and the weather is beginning to change. We miss the heat, but the cool mornings are surely refreshing. The new church year, which begins in September, has started with a bang! We had our annual Church School kickoff festivities with games, food and fellowship. The weather cooperated and the children had a blast. This kickoff day is a reminder that as adults, we have the responsibility to do our part to educate our children in their faith. Therefore, we encourage all the parents to bring their children to Church School as often as

they can. Please check the schedule to see when Church School is in session.

Zoom was necessary for a while, but we all missed the in-person liturgy and the coffee hour fellowship after. Church is back on a regular schedule in person, and we have resumed our fellowship coffee hour again. In fact, the fellowship hall was utilized by the TV show, Law and Order in September! We are planning the first function in our fellowship hall with a Halloween Dance scheduled for November. We would like to make this as festive as possible, so costumes are welcome. This is the first opportunity for the community to get together and get back to some normalcy.

Pictures From Different Liturgies





Halloween Party

Saturday, November 6th, 2021

7:00 p.m. til 12:00 a.m.

Buffet Dinner & Drinks, Dancing, Fellowship Halloween Masks / Costumes

Music by Altin Shehu and his band

St. Nicholas Albanian Church

Fellowship Hall

181-14 Midland Parkway

Jamaica Estates, New York

Don't miss all the fun!!!!

Halloween Masks & Costumes are RECOMMENDED!

Donation: \$75 adults \$35 children 12 & under

Capacity is limited, so tickets will be sold in advance

and NOT at the door. To purchase your tickets, please contact:

Anila Gjika (917) 584-4604

Zhani Joanidhi (917) 412 - 0344

Agathia Luka (917) 568-2106

Adriana Topore (516) 417-6637

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR-DEADLINE DATE: WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3rd

Please make your check payable to St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church.

(Please cut here & return your completed form with your check.)

← _____ →
Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone No. _____

Number of Adults _____ @ \$75 each = \$ _____

Number of Children _____ @ \$35 each = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER NAME DAYS

October

16 - St. Longin

Logan Kreglow

18 - St. Luke

Luke Brehl, Lucas Liolin, Luke Alla

19 - St. Laura of Spain

Lori Dilo, Laura DiTullio, Lauren Foundos

20 - St. Diana

Diana Kerim, Diana Beno

- St. Artemius

Alma Vesho

23 - St. James

Jamie Beno, Jim Liolin, Jim Oswald

26 - St. Demetrios

Dhimiter Beno, Dhimiter Guma, Dhimitraq Papando, Dhimiter Pecani, Dhimitrulla Prifti, Ermenita Aleko

30 - St. Zenobia

Jen Brehl

If you do not see your name, please contact Fr. Nikodhim.
Nëse nuk sheh emrin tënd, të lutem lajmëro priftin.

November

1 - Sts. Cosmas and Damian

Damian Peters

8 - St. Michael and Archangels

Rafaela Prifti, Michael Kehoe, Michael Kelapire, Michelle Kildunne, Mikel Rembeci, Arben Aleko, Anxhela Mile, Vito-Michael Interrante

11 - St. Menas

- St. Victor

Victoria Mertiri, Victor Tahiri

- St. Vincent

Vincent Soriano

14 - St. Phillip

Phillip Foundos

16 - St. Matthew

Matthew Foundos

24 - St. Catherine

Keti Kirka, Katherine Preftes, Ketrin Celo, Keti Pecani, Isabella Rehova, Iris Mile, Claire Wollocko

30 - St. Andrew

Andrew Foundos, Andrea Topore, Andrea Kutali

Ads from Merchants Who Support the Church

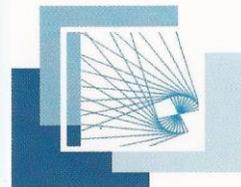
Please look at the Ads and support these Merchants by buying goods and services from them, whenever possible.

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 Lou Foundos

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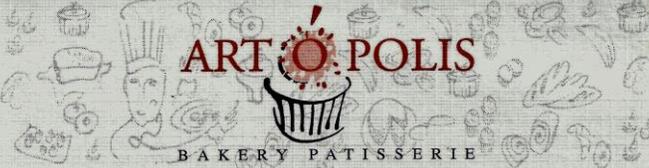
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CHURCH SCHEDULE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

October

Sat. 2 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 3 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 9 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 10 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 16 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 17 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 23 - Vespers is cancelled.
 Sun. 24 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 30 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 31 - Liturgy, 10am

November

Sat. 6 - Vespers is cancelled.
 Sun. 7 - Liturgy, 10am
 Sat. 13 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 14 - Liturgy, 10am
 - Parish General Meeting, noon
 Fri. 19 - Nativity Paraklesis, 7pm
 Sat. 20 - Vespers, 5pm: Entrance of the Theotokos
 Sun. 21 - Liturgy, 10am: Entrance of the Theotokos
 Thur. 25 - Thanksgiving Prayers, 10am
 Fri. 26 - Nativity Paraklesis, 7pm
 Sat. 27 - Vespers, 5pm
 Sun. 28 - Liturgy, 10am

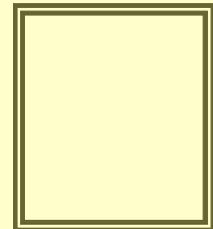
*We're on the Web, Facebook and Instagram as St. Nicholas Albanian
 Orthodox Church NY; stnicholas_alb_oca or*

Visit us at:

www.stnicholasalbanian.org

St. Nicholas Church is fully open. Reservations and masks are not required; however, we encourage everyone to continue to observe those precautions they think best. With a mask or without a mask, we will be glad to see you! And if you are not feeling well, take care of yourself and stay at home.

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 Jamaica Estates, New York 11432



Customer Name
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