

**ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**PARISH MINISTRIES**  
**2017-2018**



**Sunday Worship Services**

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Orthros</b>        | <b>8:15 a.m.</b> |
| <b>Divine Liturgy</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b> |

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**  
**17 Meriam Street**  
**Lexington, MA 02420**  
**781.862.6453**

[www.stnicholaslex.org](http://www.stnicholaslex.org)



**St. Nicholas GOC of Lexington MA**

## **GREAT FEASTS OF THE CHURCH**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| September 8             | Nativity of the Theotokos                   |
| September 14            | Elevation of the Holy Cross                 |
| November 21             | Presentation of the Theotokos to the Temple |
| December 25             | Nativity of Christ                          |
| January 6               | Theophany (the Baptism of Our Lord)         |
| February 2              | Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple      |
| March 25                | Annunciation                                |
| Sunday before Pascha    | Palm Sunday                                 |
| Great and Holy Pascha   | Pascha                                      |
| Forty days after Pascha | Ascension                                   |
| Fifty days after Pascha | Pentecost                                   |
| August 6                | Transfiguration                             |
| August 15               | Dormition of the Theotokos                  |

## **MOVABLE ECCLESIASTICAL DATES**

| <b>FEAST</b>        | <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Triodion Begins     | January 28  | February 17 |
| Lent Begins         | February 19 | March 11    |
| Saturday of Lazarus | March 31    | April 20    |
| Palm Sunday         | April 1     | April 21    |
| Good Friday         | April 6     | April 26    |
| Pascha              | April 8     | April 28    |
| Western Easter      | April 1     | April 21    |
| Ascension           | May 17      | June 6      |
| Pentecost           | May 27      | June 16     |

## PARISH MINISTRIES

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Agape                       | 4 |
| Altar Boys/Servers          | 4 |
| Book of the Month           | 4 |
| Church School               | 4 |
| Greek School                | 5 |
| Greek Dance Group           | 5 |
| Health and Wellness         | 5 |
| Ladies Philoptochos Society | 5 |
| Orthodox Life Series        | 6 |
| Orthodoxy in Action         | 6 |
| Parish Council              | 6 |
| Prosforo Baking             | 7 |
| Stewardship                 | 7 |
| Welcoming Committee         | 7 |
| YOUTH: GOYA, Hope/Joy, 40-4 | 7 |

For a full description of ministries, parish calendar, information on our faith and more, please visit our website: [stnicholaslex.org](http://stnicholaslex.org) for the upcoming 2017-2018 Ministries Booklet. *Final edition is currently a work in progress.*

**For calendar changes, event updates and planned activities, please check Facebook (St. Nicholas GOC of Lexington MA), church website and weekly bulletins or see Father Demetri with questions.**

## **AGAPE**

**Advisors:** Costa Digenis and Gloria Doukakis

*Costa email: cdigenis@verizon.net      Gloria email: ggdouk@comcast.net*

This ministry group provides the opportunity for senior parishioners to get together with friends, meet new people, enjoy fellowship over coffee and pastry, as well as plan enjoyable events. The activities are informative, interesting and fun. Events/projects: Lecture series, museum visits.

## **ALTAR BOYS/SERVERS**

**Advisor:** George Papayannis

*George email: doyouaskwhy@gmail.com*

It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve our Lord in the Holy Sanctuary. Boys from 4th grade through high school are encouraged to serve. This does not mean that this ministry stops at the completion of high school. We encourage men of all ages, who feel that they have a calling in serving Him in the Holy of Holies, to do so. Altar boys and servers benefit from learning teamwork and humility. Please encourage your son, grandson, father or grandfather to help serve Christ through this wonderful opportunity. Events/projects: Baseball games, outings.

## **BOOK OF THE MONTH**

**Coordinator:** Alexa Vafiades

*Alexa email: alexa.vafiades@gmail.com*

This ministry group will be starting this year. Once a book about our faith is selected, the monthly meetings will take place online. Events/projects: Dinner gatherings to discuss books along with our faith in our lives.

## **CHURCH SCHOOL**

***Pre-K through High School***

**Directors:** Lariza Panagiotou and Amantha Tzaros

*Lariza email: larizap@earthlink.net      Amantha email: amanthatzaros@gmail.com*

The purpose of this parish ministry is to encourage the children and youth of our community to grow in the very foundation of our Orthodox faith. It teaches Christ's love and His examples of how to live our lives as well as the worship practices of the Greek Orthodox Christian faith. Events/projects: Oratorical festivals, Feast presentations, retreats,

Christmas story pageant, end-of-year picnic.

## **GREEK SCHOOL**

### ***Pre-K through High School***

Directors: Lela Digenis and Gloria Doukakis

*Lela email: ldigenis@verizon.net*

*Gloria email: ggdouk@comcast.net*

The philosophy of the St. Nicholas Greek School is to offer a program to students from Pre-K to Level 7 that includes the teaching of the Greek language, Hellenic culture, history, and our Greek Orthodox faith. The program provides a learning environment that is supportive and structured to provide the best opportunities for each student to develop his/her individual potential to the fullest. Events/projects: Speeches and songs in Greek, presentations, retreats, Apokriatiko Glendi.

## **GREEK DANCE GROUP**

Instructor: Haralambos Stathopoulos

*Haralambos email: hstathopoulos@verizon.net*

As part of the enrichment curriculum for the St. Nicholas Greek School, the children also participate in Greek folk dance instruction. We encourage other children from the community to join our dance groups. There are two groups, one for younger children and one for the older children. Dance practice takes place on Saturday mornings.

Events/projects: Dance performances at Apokriatiko Glendi and other events, March 25 celebration.

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Advisor: Judy Gray

*Judy email: jgray1321@gmail.com*

This ministry is dedicated and focused on the physical, mental and spiritual health of our parish family members and friends. Events/projects: Monthly health walks, exercise classes, presentations, lectures.

## **LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

President: Eleni Saledas

*Eleni email: echionakis@gmail.com*

Philoptochos is a national Greek Orthodox women's organization established 80 years ago to work through the parishes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese to assist those in need. Its expanded mission is to preserve and perpetuate Orthodox Christianity and the Orthodox Christian family, and traditions. Events/projects: Fundraising, grant making to various local, national and international charities, hosting feast day gatherings.

## ORTHODOX LIFE SERIES

Leader: Father Demetri

*Father email: frdcostarakis@gmail.com*

*"We read Scripture, not as isolated individuals, but as members of the Church. Our 'Scriptural mind' is to be at the same time an 'ecclesial mind.' The Bible is the book of the Church, and so our decisive criterion when seeking to understand Scripture is always the mind of the Church. But how are we to discover this 'mind'? There is only one way: by observing how Scripture is used in worship, and how it is interpreted by the Fathers. Our approach to the Bible is both Liturgical and Patristic."*

Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia. Meetings for this ministry will take place online. Events/projects: DVD series "Journey to Fullness" by Father Barnabas Powell.

## ORTHODOXY IN ACTION

Advisors: Ghada Massabni and Meli Papayannis

*Ghada email: drghada@agapedentist.com Meli email: molitts@gmail.com*  
This new ministry's mission is to engage the St. Nicholas community so that parishioners can increase their time and talent commitments to fulfill the mission of the church. It will create and nurture opportunities within the Orthodox community and community at large and combine efforts with other ministries at St. Nicholas. Events/projects: Monastery visits, lectures, game nights, emergency drives for IOCC.

## PARISH COUNCIL

President: Maria Decoulos

*Maria email: madecoulos@gmail.com*

Parish Council members represent our parish and the Orthodox Christian faith. As leaders of the community, Parish Council members are responsible for overseeing all the administrative, financial and day-to-day functions of the church and parish house as well as planning for the future of the church. Serving on the Parish Council ministry is also a calling to represent Christ to all whom they meet in all aspects of life. Events/projects: Hosting feast day receptions and community gatherings, general assemblies.

## **PROSFORO BAKING**

Advisor: Pam Brown

*Pam email: pamb782@gmail.com*

This ministry is dedicated to providing the prosforo ((bread that is offered for the Holy Eucharist) and used during all our services at St. Nicholas. If you would like to bake, please sign up on the bulletin board. Events/projects: weekly gift of prosforo, learning workshops, parish baking on Saturday of Lazarus.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Chairperson: Tony Gray

*Tony email: awgray.jr@gmail.com*

This ministry involves the complete participation of each household from our parish family. We are all called to give our time, talent and treasures to our Lord and to His church. Through this ministry, we have had parish family gatherings over meals to talk about who we are and what we are called to be. This ministry hosts presentations and lectures to help our families with issues and situations outside of our Church life too.

Events/projects: Lecture series, Stewardship Appreciation Sunday.

## **WELCOMING COMMITTEE**

Advisor: Ghada Massabni

*Ghada email: drghada@agapedentist.com*

All parishioners are encouraged to take part in welcoming guests! While an assigned few will be on the look-out for new faces and invite them to learn more about our parish, everyone is asked to welcome our visitors or direct them to parish council members for more information.

## **YOUTH**

### **GOYA, JOY/HOPE, 40-4**

Advisors: George and Meli Papayannis (GOYA)

Nicholas Zervoglos (youth basketball)

*George email: doyouaskwhy@gmail.com Meli email: molitts@gmail.com*

*Nicholas email: nzervoglos@gmail.com*

The mission of the various youth groups is to lead our young people into experiencing the Holy Orthodox faith. By developing a personal relationship with our Lord and becoming active sacramental members of the living church, our young people will be equipped with tools necessary to assist them in their journey toward salvation. The ministry teams consist of the parish priest and dedicated volunteers.

Events/projects: outings, retreats, church vigils, youth basketball team.

## TIME & TALENT

# Which ministry will you serve?

### THANKSGIVING

- Sanctuary & Altar Care
- Altar Server/Boys
- Baking Prosforo
- Bookstore/Library
- Choirs -- Youth and Adult
- Long term planning
- Parish Council
- Stewardship

### GET - TOGETHERS

- Family Night
- 40 to 4 (Infant - Pre-K)
- HOPE (K - 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- JOY (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>)
- GOYA (7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup>)
- Agape
- Health
- Welcoming
- Fellowship hour
- Dance group
- Social: planning events

### OUTREACH

- Visiting the homebound, hospitalized or imprisoned
- Offering food, clothing, disaster relief
- Mission trips
- Philoptochos

### LEARNING

- B.I.B.L.E. Group (evening sessions)
- Church School
- Faith & contemporary issues (lecture series)
- Greek School

### MAINTENANCE

- Building upkeep interior/exterior
- Gardening
- Snow removal

### COMMUNICATING

- Bulletins: weekly/monthly
- Office mailings, phone response
- Social media: Facebook, YouTube
- Publications: parish/greater community

**Please let us know of a ministry/ministries you are interested in and not listed above:**

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