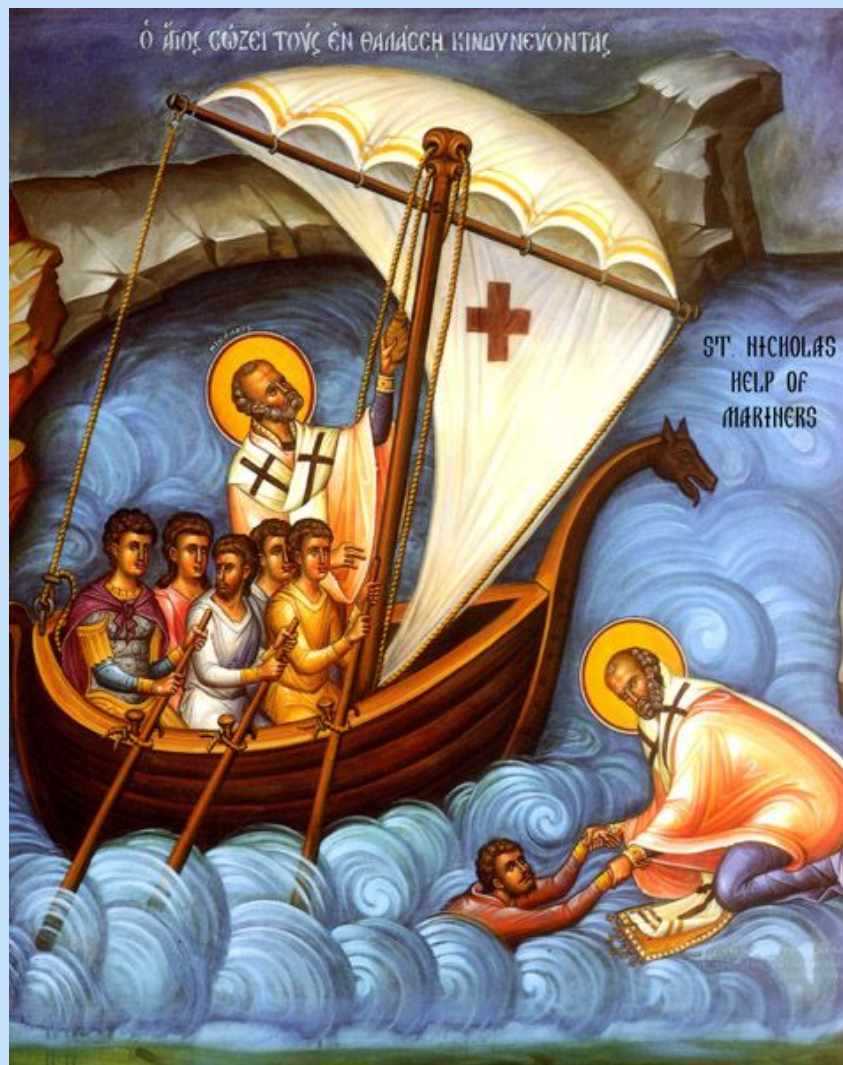




ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH WEEKLY ONLINE BULLETIN

*We are a Christ-centered community that welcomes all to worship, to pray,
to serve others and to learn our Orthodox faith*

[View PDF](#)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

July 5th

5th Sunday
of Matthew

8:00 AM
ORTHROS

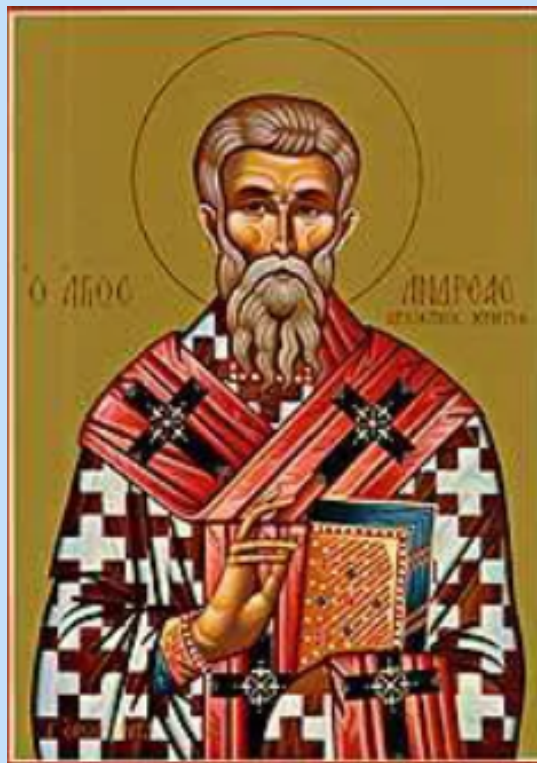
9:00 AM
DIVINE LITURGY

ATTENDANCE

June 28: 81 people

2025 Average: 117 people

[Full Attendance Report](#)



ALSO ONLINE



Chanters:

CHARLIE MARGE
TERI STEVENS

MEMORIAL

For **Nicholas Zallas (6 months)**, husband of Maria Zallas and father of Alexis Papathanasiou

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Hosted by **Ghada Massabni and Don Khouri**

Thank you to the Splagounias Family for hosting last week.



DIAKONIA

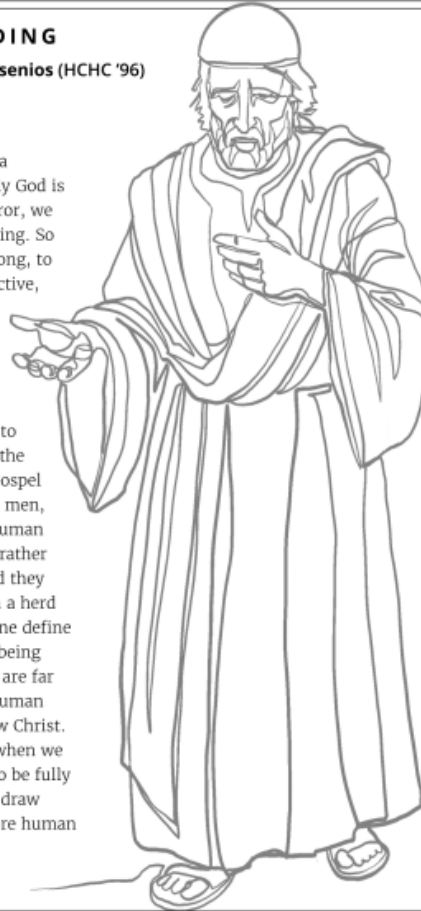
A National Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

REFLECTIONS FROM TODAY'S READING

Matthew 8:28-34; 9:1 | Fr. George Parsenios (HCHC '96)

"I'm Only Human ..."

I'm only human. We all say this when we make a mistake, and it's not a terrible thing to say. Only God is perfect, and if we torture ourselves for every error, we might easily become neurotic and full of self-loathing. So it's not a terrible thing, when we do something wrong, to say, "Hey, I'm only human." From another perspective, though, the phrase presents some problems. If we think that being human means being weak and always falling into error, then we diminish and misunderstand our humanity. Jesus Christ, after all, united human nature with God. For those who have faith in Christ, to be human no longer means to be frail and helpless, but to strive for holiness and the perfection to which we have been called. Today's Gospel reading helps us to see this. The demon-possessed men, prior to meeting Jesus, are not living like regular human beings. They don't even live with other people but rather spend their time among the tombs of the dead. And they are possessed by demons who later desire to live in a herd of swine. Corpses, tombs, demons, and beastly swine define these men until they are joined to Jesus Christ. By being caught up in wickedness and weakness, these men are far less human, not more human. They only become human after they rise above all of this confusion and follow Christ. The same is true for us. It is not when we sin nor when we make mistakes that we experience what it means to be fully human, but rather when we rise above our sin and draw closer to God. Indeed, we only begin to become more human when we strive to become more godly.



Fr. George Parsenios is Professor of New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. www.hchc.edu



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

Scan for today's service text

bit.ly/parishtexts



Reflection:

"NOTICING OUR NEIGHBOR"

Fr. Luke A. Veronis

reprinted from October 27, 2022



PRAYER LIST

Click on the list above to offer your prayers for those in need of prayer

[PRAYER IN TIME OF NEED](#)

[PRAYER FOR THOSE GOING THROUGH DEPRESSION](#)

Printable Version

[Growing the fruit of the Spirit](#)

[READ MORE](#)

Follow us @stnicholaslex
ON ALL SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow and like us! We like you! ❤️

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calling all social media enthusiasts, content creators, and digital storytellers!

St. Nicholas is seeking an individual to oversee its digital marketing and social media presence, promoting parish events, activities, and important communications.

Whether you're already skilled in digital media or interested in learning, this opportunity could be for you. Donate your time by doing something fun and creative!

Contact Presvytera Maureen at mparsenios@msn.com or call or text at 609-865-4883.



HELP BRING THE GOSPEL TO LIFE – DAILY:

We're looking for volunteers to help Fr. George share a short daily Bible reading with our parish. If you have a heart for Scripture and a few minutes a day, this is a simple

and powerful way to serve. Young adults especially encouraged and all are welcome. Interested? Reach out to Mary at office@stnicholaslex.org.

Be the Invitation: Record a Weekly St. Nicholas Video

Our parish is inviting **you** to help welcome others to Divine Liturgy in a simple and meaningful way.

Each week, parishioners record a short video invitation connected to the Sunday Gospel, just 10–20 seconds, spoken from the heart.

How it works:

-  Scan the QR code to sign up for a date
-  Record a short video on your phone
-  Speak naturally (like inviting a friend)
-  Upload your video (due 5 days before your Sunday)



No need to be perfect. Joy, warmth, and authenticity matter most.

Each video posted also helps support our parish through a special grant opportunity.

Thank you for helping us share the love of Christ and build connection in our community.



FOOD DONATIONS WANTED

Please share your non-perishable, unexpired food items in the food donation cart in St Irene's Hall. This basket will stay in the Hall and be donated when ever it is full. If you have any questions please ask Emily Babalas (edbabalas@gmail.com).

MINISTRIES

Strategic Planning Update

(Click the Strategic Plan Implementation report below)

Strategic Plan Implementation Update June 21, 2026



Religious Education	Co-Captains: Maria Decoulos and Judy Gray
Accomplishments	Executed the goal: At least 80% of parish youth completed a revised and updated full academic year Sunday School program with goals and objectives for each grade level. Student presentation planned for June Graduation.
Plan	Consider setting the next set of goals for Religious Education.

Stewardship and Engagement	Co-Captains: Penelope Tzougros and Stephanie DeVasto
Accomplishments	Presented findings to the Strategic Implementation Team. Completed evaluation of adult and youth stewardship programs.
Plan for Next Month	Determine conscious overlap with the Outreach Committee. Finalize adult and youth stewardship program.

Renovation Program	Co-Captains: Carol Bearse and Bob DeVasto
Accomplishments	Completed fundraising brochure to share with potential donors. Reengaged architects to better understand engineering costs. Met Geotech engineer onsite to address conservation items.
Plan for Next Month	Scheduled fundraising planning with the fundraising consultant in July. Start fundraising in July.

Outreach, Evangelism, and Welcoming (OEW)	Team Members: Emily Babalas, Charlie Marge, Nicholas Zervoglos
Plan for Next Month	Project Mexico Trip planned. Several parishioners are participating.

Thank you to all the co-captains and team members for the great progress on implementing the strategic planning goals.

Community Transformation Team



Dear parishioners,

We are pleased to announce that we are moving forward with Phase 2 of the Design and Development. This phase involves hiring the engineers to look at our design before going before the Design Review Board for the town of Lexington. We will have more details at the May 4 General Assembly. We also hope to launch our Capital Campaign in May. Thank you for your ongoing support and patience.

Thank you,
Carol

Please check out our [website](#) where we provide all the latest information and developments regarding the transformation of our facility.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol Bearse Mackintosh.

Stewardship



Happy (almost) Summer!

I am happy to report the following data on our pledges/giving since January 1, 2026:

# of Pledges (individual)	Pledge amt (total)	# of indiv fam paid	Amt paid (total)	% Amt paid (total)	Remainder to goal
45	\$111,282.00	106	\$130,665.98	60.00%	\$89,334.02

Spring is in full force and Summer is right around the corner. Graduations and other celebrations are abundant. St. Nicholas is thriving while hitting 60% of our Stewardship goal thus far! Enjoy the beautiful weather and our success!

Quick links:

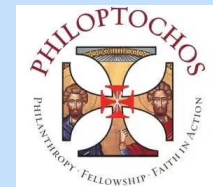
- Want to sign up for a church ministry? Fill out this survey: <https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/stnicholas/forms/8>
- Want to submit a pledge? Go to <https://stnicholaslex.onechurchsoftware.com/>, log in, and follow the prompts under the "5 Giving" tab
- Want to give a donation?
 - OPTION 1: If you already have a One Church account, submit an offering by going to <https://stnicholaslex.onechurchsoftware.com/>, log in, click [Give Now](#) (in the gray bar on the left of your screen), and follow the prompts
 - OPTION 2: If you don't have a One Church account, submit an offering by going to <https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/stnicholas/giving> and follow the prompts
 - OPTION 3: Mail in a check/cash to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17 Meriam Street, Lexington, MA, 02420
- Questions? Contact stewardship@stnicholaslex.org

For those who have pledged and/or given thus far - THANK YOU!!

Alexis Papaathanasiou (Dr. Alexis Zallas, DVM)
Stewardship Chair

MAY 2026 UPDATE

Philoptochos

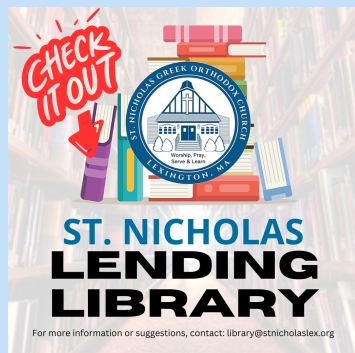


Click for the 2025-26 Philoptocos Meeting Schedule

St. Irene's Philoptocos Stewards as of June 21, 2026

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR PAINT NIGHT OCTOBER 16th: Philoptochos is hosting a Sip and Paint Night with the artist, Katerina Delegas, who will guide us through creating our individual paintings. No experience necessary! Come and join us for a really fun evening and support your Philoptochos! Sure to be lots of fun!

Lending Library



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY:

Fellowship



REMINDER:

Do you enjoy a nice cup of coffee and a piece of pastry following each Sunday's

Spiritual Counsels of Saint Paisios (6 vol. set) now available! St. Paisios the New (1924-1994) was one of the most loved and revered Elders of our times. Living as a monk on Mount Athos, he spent his nights in prayer and his days guiding, consoling, healing, and giving spiritual rest to countless people who took shelter in him. The wise spiritual counsels of the Elder have been collected in these six volumes under the following titles: **With Pain and Love for Contemporary Man, Spiritual Awakening, Spiritual Struggle, Family Life, Passions and Virtues, On Prayer.**

Please email the [library](#) if you have any requests or questions, we'd love to hear from you.

Divine Liturgy? Of course, you do. That's why we're asking those who have not sponsored a Sunday fellowship hour in a while to please sign up for the many opening dates available. We all like to chit-chat with our fellow parishioners with a coffee in-hand. So, please step forward. It's real easy.....all you need to bring is some pastry (nothing fancy) and a gallon of milk. The church supplies the rest (napkins, plates, cups, etc.). If you have questions, just call the church office.

Thanks much for answering this appeal. We all will appreciate and thank you.

Hey Ministry Leaders and eBulletin Contributors!

Keep your updates fresh and informative!

Email any digital photos or updates to rdiorio18@gmail.com by noon on Friday, and they will appear in the electronic bulletin. Also be sure to copy office@stnicholaslex.org by Wednesday noon if you would like the content to appear in the paper bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



2026 PAN-MASS CHALLENGE

DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR RIDERS!



**100% of All Donations Support Dana Farber
and The Jimmy Fund**

**Elena Proakis
Ellis**

Donate by scanning
the QR code
or go to
[https://profile.pmc.org/
EP0203](https://profile.pmc.org/EP0203)

SCAN ME



Anthony Gray

Donate by scanning
the QR code
or go to
[https://profile.pmc.org/
AG0489](https://profile.pmc.org/AG0489)

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Peter Lloyd

Donate by scanning
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[https://profile.pmc.org/
PL0196](https://profile.pmc.org/PL0196)

SCAN ME



Lou Saledas

Donate by scanning
the QR code
or go to
[https://profile.pmc.org/
LS0274](https://profile.pmc.org/LS0274)

SCAN ME



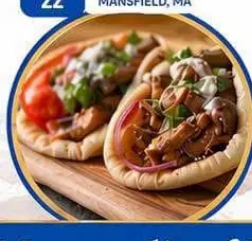
PAN MASS CHALLENGE • August 1-2, 2026



2026 Greek Festivals

IN NEW ENGLAND

MAY 15-16 ST. PHILIP CHURCH NASHUA, NH	JUNE 20-21 ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH MANCHESTER, NH	AUGUST 22-23 ST. GEORGE CHURCH PITTSFIELD, MA	SEPT 17-20 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH BROCKTON, MA
MAY 22-24 ST. VASILIOS CHURCH PEABODY, MA	JUNE 25-27 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH PORTLAND, ME	AUGUST 29 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HOLYOKE, MA	SEPT 17-19 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NORWICH, CT
MAY-JUN 29-31 TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH LOWELL, MA	JUNE 26-28 ST. CATHERINE CHURCH BRAINTREE, MA	AUGUST 29-30 ASSUMPTION CHURCH MANCHESTER, NH	SEPT 18-20 ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL – BOSTON BROOKLINE, MA
MAY-JUN 29-31 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH WOBBURN, MA	JULY 10-11 ST. GEORGE CHURCH CENTERVILLE, MA	SEPT 4-5 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH DOVER, NH	SEPT 18-20 ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL MANCHESTER, NH
JUNE 4-7 ST. ATHANASIOS CHURCH ARLINGTON, MA	JULY 10-11 ST. GEORGE CHURCH DARTMOUTH, MA	SEPT 4-5 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH LEWISTON, ME	SEPT 19-20 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH ANDOVER, MA
JUNE 6-7 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH DANIELSON, CT	JULY 10-12 ST. DEMETRIOS CHURCH SACO, ME	SEPT 4-6 ST. GEORGE CHURCH LYNN, MA	SEPT 19-20 ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST – BOSTON BOSTON, MA
JUNE 12-14 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH LOWELL, MA	JULY 11-12 ASSUMPTION CHURCH IPSWICH, MA	SEPT 4-6 STS. ANARGYROI CHURCH MARLBOROUGH, MA	SEPT 25-27 ST. NECTARIOS CHURCH ROSLINDALE, MA
JUNE 12-14 TAXIARCHAE CHURCH WATERTOWN, MA	JULY 17-19 ST. SPYRIDON CHURCH NEWPORT, RI	SEPT 11-13 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH CRANSTON, RI	SEPT 26 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CONCORD, NH
JUNE 18-21 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH CAMBRIDGE, MA	JULY 24-26 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH NEWBURYPORT, MA	SEPT 11-12 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH FITCHBURG, MA	OCT 16-17 ST. LUKE CHURCH EAST LONGMEADOW, MA
JUNE 19-20 ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH PORTSMOUTH, NH	JULY 25 DORMITION CHURCH BURLINGTON, VT	SEPT 11-13 DORMITION CHURCH SOMERVILLE, MA	NOV 4-6 ST. SOPHIA CHURCH NEW LONDON, CT
JUNE 19-21 ST. SPYRIDON CATHEDRAL WORCESTER, MA	AUGUST 21-23 ASSUMPTION CHURCH PAWTUCKET, RI	SEPT 11-13 ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL SPRINGFIELD, MA	NOV 6-7 HOLY APOSTLES STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH HAVERHILL, MA
	AUGUST 22 ST. GREGORY CHURCH MANSFIELD, MA	SEPT 12-13 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH WEBSTER, MA	DEC 5 ST. GEORGE CHURCH KEENE, NH



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METROPOLISOFBOSTONCAMP.ORG

SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4	SESSION 5
June 29 – July 5	July 6 – 12	July 13 – 19	July 20–26	July 27 – Aug 2



AGES 8-18 | SPACE IS LIMITED
Registration Opens March 1st at 7pm

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON CAMP

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Mark your calendars: *Fall General Assembly: Sunday, November 15th*

PLACE A BUSINESS AD?

If you are interested in placing an ad in our weekly bulletin, please contact the [church office](#).

In addition, we welcome supporting you or loved ones who are fundraising for a cause, by publicizing your appeal.



Try email marketing for free today!