

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church September 2010 Newsletter
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www.holytrinitynashville.org



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, New York City, Established 1916, one year before Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Nashville, TN – Destroyed by Terrorists September 11, 2001 Rebuilding forced into Limbo by Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Let your voice be heard, write to the governors of New York and New Jersey:

David A. Paterson
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Office of the Governor, Chris Christie
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

What about the Church that was at Ground Zero?

On September 11, 2001 the World Trade Center was destroyed and an inestimable loss of life occurred, along with the destruction of a humble 4 story Church, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. St. Nicholas had been built around 1916, and it was destroyed when the second tower fell. From that day on the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese desired to rebuild St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, and called for an expanded mission of the Parish to help heal the wounds that had been thrust violently upon New York City and all America. Indeed, that little Church already had a special role, many businessmen and employees that worked in the World Trade Center, Orthodox Christian or not, would stop into the Church to light a candle, to sit and pray, or just to get a moment's peace.

Unfortunately, as we approach September 11, 2010 the Church is still not rebuilt. Why not? Bureaucracy and red tape from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has kept it from coming into fruition. The Port Authority and other News Syndicates of various sorts have been faulting the St. Nicholas Parish and Greek Orthodox Archdiocese for the fact that the Port Authority has cut off all communication. The item being negotiated was simply a land swap so that the Church would not hinder the building plan for the Ground Zero memorial to be erected. The Church simply desires that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey come back to the table for further discussions so that an agreement can be reached. Without warning, a year ago, the Port Authority simply stopped discussion on the issue and chose to inform the press in the past few weeks rather than the Archdiocese. This is a great injustice.

There was and is a Christian Church at ground zero. It is part of the ground zero community. It was destroyed by terrorists, and it should be allowed to rebuild. It is my hope that all Americans and especially all Christians will support with your voices the rebuilding of St. Nicholas. Outside that Church hung a few flags that flowed in the wind proudly, one of them, of course being the Flag of the United States of America. It should fly again on the front of that Church, and the Church should once again be a source of rest, peace and refuge for all who are heavy laden with the cares of this life.

Holy Trinity News.

Greetings!

Much has happened at Holy Trinity this summer. The Air conditioning units were dying out on the roof of the Church hall and they have been replaced. The membrane, roof tile and flashing is being replaced on the sanctuary. The roofers are also repairing the roof on the Church hall. This will be done before the Festival begins.

On August 8, 2010, the General Assembly of the Parish approved the building project for the new Church School classrooms and office space. You will be receiving pledge forms soon in the mail in the form of brochures; we ask that everyone participate in the joyous work of creating a new and better space to carry out the ministries of the Church. Besides Church School, we hope to host Greek School in the new building again, as well as other out reach ministries of the Church.

We will host the Greek Festival on September 10, 11 and 12. We need many volunteers to make this event the usual great event that the city has come to love. Please sign up if you have not already done so. It is only with your help that we can keep putting on one of the best venues in town.

Church School will begin on September 19th with a blessing of the teachers and students and a meet the teacher day. The first official day of class will be September 26th.

GOYA and JOY calendars are being created and we look forward to a great year with these ministries. GOYA is for all youth between 6th grade and 12th grade, whereas JOY is for all children, Kindergarten through 5th grade. The Youth ministries usually meet once a month, besides the various

retreats, trips, camps and other activities they participate in. If you would like to get your child involved, please contact the Church office and we will help you: 615-333-1047.

The Orthodox Book Club had a wonderful first year and is looking forward to people joining in. We read a book concerning something in Orthodox Christianity and get together to discuss it every other month. On October 10th, the book club will gather again to discuss the teachings of Elder Thaddeus, "Our Thoughts Determine our Lives." It is a great time for fellowship and discussion concerning our Orthodox Faith. Young adults and college students welcomed and encouraged to join in! "Come and See" is the theme that the Archbishop spoke to us about at clergy laity this year. There are many things to come and see at Holy Trinity. Not only to see, but also to take part in, to grow in our Spiritual lives until we all reach, "the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you all abundantly!
(the same follows in Greek)

Τα Νέα της Ενορίας μας

Χαιρετίσματα!

Πολλά έχουν συμβεί στην Αγία Τριάδα αυτό το καλοκαίρι. Οι μονάδες κλιματισμού από την οροφή της αίθουσας Εκκλησίας έχουν αντικατασταθεί. Η μεμβράνη, κεραμίδι και αναβοσβήνει έχει αντικατασταθεί στο ιερό. Η roofers είναι επίσης επισκευή της οροφής στο χωλ του Ι. Ναού.

Στις 8 Αυγούστου 2010, η Γενική Συνέλευση της Ενορίας ενέκρινε το σχέδιο για την οικοδόμηση της νέας Εκκλησιαστικές σχολικές αίθουσες και γραφεία. Ζητάμε να συμμετέχουν όλοι στην χαρούμενη έργο του δημιουργώντας ένα νέο και καλύτερο χώρο για να πραγματοποιήσει τα υπουργεία της Εκκλησίας. Εκτός από την Εκκλησία της Σχολής, ελπίζουμε να φιλοξενήσει Ελληνικό Σχολείο στο νέο κτίριο και πάλι, καθώς και άλλα από την επίτευξη των υπηρεσιών της Εκκλησίας.

Εμείς θα φιλοξενήσει το Ελληνικό Φεστιβάλ, στις 10 Σεπτεμβρίου, 11 και 12. Χρειαζόμαστε πολλούς εθελοντές για να κάνουν αυτή την περίπτωση το συνηθισμένο μεγάλο γεγονός ότι η πόλη έχει έρθει στην αγάπη.

Εκκλησιαστικό Σχολείο θα αρχίσει στις 19 Σεπτεμβρίου με την ευλογία των καθηγητών και των φοιτητών και συνεδριάζει την ημέρα των εκπαιδευτικών. Η πρώτη επίσημη ημέρα μαθημάτων θα είναι 26 Σεπτεμβρίου.

GOYA και JOY ημερολόγια που δημιουργούνται και προσβλέπουμε σε μια μεγάλη χρονιά με αυτά τα υπουργεία. GOYA είναι για όλους τους νέους μεταξύ 6ης τάξης και 12η τάξη, ενώ JOY είναι για όλα τα παιδιά, Νηπιαγωγείο μέσα από 5ης τάξης. Τα υπουργεία Youth συνήθως συνεδριάζει μία φορά το μήνα, εκτός από τις διάφορες υποχωρήσεις, εκδρομές, κατασκηνώσεις και άλλες δραστηριότητες συμμετάσχουν. Αν θέλετε να πάρετε το παιδί σας συμμετοχή, επικοινωνήστε με το γραφείο και εμείς θα σας βοηθήσουμε: 615-333-1047 .

Η Ορθόδοξη Book Club είχε ένα θαυμάσιο πρώτο έτος και αναμένει με ανυπομονησία να ενώνει τους ανθρώπους. Έχουμε διαβάσει ένα βιβλίο σχετικά με κάτι στο Ορθοδοξία και συναντήσεις για να συζητήσουν αυτό κάθε άλλο μήνα. Την 10η Οκτωβρίου, ο σύλλογος βιβλίο θα συγκεντρωθούν και πάλι για να συζητήσουν τις διδασκαλίες του Γέροντος Thaddeus, "Προσδιορισμός μας Σκέψεις ζωές μας." Είναι μια μεγάλη στιγμή για την υποτροφία και τη συζήτηση σχετικά με την πίστη μας. Νεαρούς ενήλικες και εξέφρασε την ικανοποίησή του κολλέγιο σπουδαστές και να ενθαρρύνονται να συμμετάσχουν σε!

"Ελάτε να δείτε" είναι το θέμα ότι ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος μας μίλησε για την ιεροσύνη λαϊκών φέτος.

Υπάρχουν πολλά πράγματα για να έρθει και να δει στην Αγία Τριάδα. Όχι μόνο για να δείτε, αλλά και να συμμετέχει, να αυξηθεί στη ζωή μας Πνευματική μέχρι να φτάσουμε σε όλα, "το μέτρο της ανάσθημα του πληρώματος του Χριστού» (Εφεσίους 4:13).

Είθε ο Κύριος Ιησούς Χριστός να σας ευλογεί όλους άφθονα!

Stewardship Update

By Thoma Gaddis

Thank you for everyone who has participated thus far. We currently have 133 committed for 2010 versus 152 from 2009. Even though stewardship has no real "off season", this is about as close as it gets with the Festival in full swing, the church addition being approved (yea!) and the 2011 Stewardship Kickoff to take

place coming up in November. Therefore, please pitch in as much as you can to help the Festival be as successful as possible (Sign up to work, tell people, give admission passes, etc...). Have fun at the Festival and let's get ready for Stewardship 2011.

2010 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGES

A special **Thank You**, to all that have pledged so far to the Capital Campaign for the New Building!

Please watch the mail for the new brochures and pledge forms.

Chris & Julia Andrews	Dr. & Mrs. Jim Gore	Mr. & Mrs. James Mitchell
John & Kassiani Billo	Todd & Dawn Harman	Sonny Mooney
Philip & Mary Ann Bolger	Fr. Gregory and Sofia	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Nicholson
Chris Botsaris	Hohnholt	Bill & Jackie Phillips
Michael & Laurie Brown	Janet Hohnholt	Fred & Priscilla Preuss
Kathryn Carden	Jeff & Anna Horner	Presv. Stella Sfikas
Paul & Kathy Changas	Kareem & Daad Jabbour	Kari Slukich
Chris & Tess Coutras	Larry Kamm & Helen Rogers	Dean & Lisa Solon
Mark & Stephanie Davis	Ithaca LaBrec	Jim & Becky Sousoulas
Mike & Becky Delvizi	Mr. & Mrs. Lambert G.	Mr. and Mrs. Nick Taras
Dennis & Candy Ekimology	Lamberson	James & Debbie Vaughn
Joan Felts	James & Bethany Malakelis	Earl & Vickie Winter
George Gianikas	John Miller	

Encyclical from Archbishop Demetrios for the New Ecclesiastical Year

September 1, 2010

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year

Day for the Protection of our Natural Environment

To the Most Reverend Hierarchs, the Reverend Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, the Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils of the Greek Orthodox Communities, the Distinguished Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Day, Afternoon, and Church Schools, the Philoptochos Sisterhoods, the Youth, the Hellenic Organizations, and the entire Greek Orthodox Family in America

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We begin this Ecclesiastical New Year as we should begin every year and each day of our lives, with hope in the promises of our Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation and a blessed life with Him for all eternity. The Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Romans links this hope in the glory which shall be revealed in us (Romans 8:18) to another attribute that should be characteristic of our Christian lives, "hope with perseverance." He states, "But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance" (8:25).

The hope of believers is not an empty hope. It is not inactive or hesitant. It is not based on the naïve idea that things will become better automatically. Our hope originates in our transformation through the power and presence of Christ, and it marks all attitudes and actions of our lives. It is in this hope that we join together with brothers and sisters in Christ in a community of love, worship, and fellowship. In hope, we gather all people into God's home affirming His love and power to redeem their lives. In hope, we live in a fallen world responding to the needs around us in love, striving for and doing what is just and holy, and offering peace and true life. And we do this with perseverance.

On this day of Indiction, of September 1, which marks the beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year, "hope with perseverance" has a significant meaning. The question is how do we persevere through the challenges of this world in the hope of participating in the glorious liberty we will have as the children of God? We receive the power of perseverance as we gather in prayer and praise to the Holy Trinity, as we are guided through the Holy Sacraments, as we are edified through all aspects of worship through the Holy Scriptures, hymns, prayers, sermons, icons, and the sacred space of the Church. Through all of these, our perseverance is nurtured, and our hope grows into a strong witness of the Gospel to a world which seems hopeless, lost, and confused.

This first day of September has also been designated by our holy and beloved Ecumenical Patriarchate as the Day for the Protection of our Natural Environment. We can also affirm the significance of "hope with perseverance" when we consider the challenges we face in the proper care and respect for the natural world. Over the past four months we have been saddened by the environmental tragedy in the Gulf of Mexico. The impact of this catastrophe on the ocean, wildlife, shorelines, and the well-being of the involved communities will linger for years and possibly decades. As Orthodox Christians, we also see the spiritual effects of this and many other environmental challenges around the world. As the Apostle Paul states, we know that the entire created order is under the bondage of corruption, eagerly awaiting redemption together with us (Romans 8:21-22). While we await such a final redemption of all, we cannot be idle or insensitive to the suffering environment. In our respect for life, in our love for all things created by God, and in our responsibility to be good stewards of all that He has given us, we must

adopt attitudes and habits that show this. We must respond to environmental challenges with the love that God has shown us. This is a “perseverance in hope” or a “hope with perseverance” that honors truth in the face of insurmountable adversity, values life above convenience and profit, and reveals the hope we have in the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ, on this day of Indiction I offer you my prayers and wishes for a blessed Ecclesiastical New Year filled with hope and joy as we gather for feasts and commemorations in the name of Christ, and as we persevere in the hope of the life that is ours through Him.

With paternal love in Christ,

†DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America

Major Feast Days in September

September 8 – the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anna. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.

September 14 -The Exaltation of the Honorable Cross

Two events in connection with the Honorable Cross of Christ are commemorated on this day: first, the finding of the Honorable Cross on Golgotha and second, the return of the Honorable Cross from Persia to Jerusalem. Visiting the Holy Land, the holy Empress Helena decided to find the Honorable Cross of Christ. An old Jewish man named Judah was the only one who knew where the Cross was located, and, constrained by the empress, he revealed that the Cross was buried under the temple of Venus that Emperor Hadrian had built on Golgotha. The empress ordered that this idolatrous temple be razed and, having dug deep below it, found three crosses. While the empress pondered on how to recognize which

of these was the Cross of Christ, a funeral procession passed by. Patriarch Macarius told them to place the crosses, one by one, on the dead man. When they placed the first and second cross on the dead man, the dead man lay unchanged. When they placed the third cross on him, the dead man came back to life. By this they knew that this was the Precious and Life-giving Cross of Christ. They then placed the Cross on a sick woman, and she became well. The patriarch elevated the Cross for all the people to see, and the people sang with tears: "Lord, have mercy!" Empress Helena had a silver case made and set the Honorable Cross in it. Later, the Persian Emperor Chozroes conquered Jerusalem, enslaved many people, and took the Lord's Cross to Persia. The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years. In the year 628 the Greek Emperor Heraclius defeated Chozroes and, with much ceremony, returned the Cross to Jerusalem. As he entered the city Emperor Heraclius carried the Cross on his back, but suddenly was unable to take another step. Patriarch Zacharias saw an angel preventing the emperor from bearing the Cross on the same path that the Lord had walked barefoot and humiliated. The patriarch communicated this vision to the emperor. The emperor removed his raiment and, in ragged attire and barefoot, took up the Cross, carried it to Golgotha, and placed it in the Church of the Resurrection, to the joy and consolation of the whole Christian world.

September 23 – Conception of St. John the Baptist

On this day the mercy, miracles and wisdom of God are celebrated: His mercy toward the devout and righteous parents of St. John, the aged Zacharias and Elizabeth, who all their lives had wished for and begged a child from God; His miracle, that of John's conception in the aged womb of Elizabeth; His wisdom, in the dispensation of man's salvation. God had an especially great intention for John: namely, that he be the Prophet and Forerunner of Christ the Lord, the Savior of the world. Through His angels, God announced the births of Isaac to the childless Sarah, Samson to the childless wife of Manoah, and John the Forerunner to the childless Zacharias and Elizabeth. All of these were those for whom He had special intentions, and he foretold their birth through his angels. How could children be born of aged parents? If someone desires to understand this, he should not ask men about it, for men do not know; nor should he study natural law, for this is beyond natural law. Rather, he should turn his gaze upon the power of the Almighty God, Who created the whole world from nothing, and Who needed no parents-old or young-for the creation of the first man, Adam. Instead of being curious, let us give thanks to God, Who often reveals His power, mercy and wisdom to us in ways that are beyond natural law-in which we would be imprisoned without these special miracles of God, and would fall into despair and forgetfulness of God.

