

**Greek Orthodox Metropolis of
Detroit**
*His Eminence Metropolitan
Nicholas*

Nativity of the Virgin Mary
39851 W. Five Mile Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Phone: 734-420-0131
Fax: 734-420-0602
www.nativitygochurch.org

Church Office Hours
Monday through Friday
10:00 am—2:00 pm

Office Administrator
Kathleen M. Kyriacou
secretarynvm@yahoo.com

2014 Parish Council

Louis Poulos
President

Georgia Koumariotis
Vice President

Angela Kheir
Treasurer

Charlene Galbraith
Secretary

Michael Fafalios
Evans Ferras
Dennis Ford
Angelos Katramados
Voula Sonbay
Michael Szllins
George Zervos

Nativity Epistle

November 2014

Prayers of Thanksgiving

O Lord my Savior and my Master, I, Thine unprofitable servant, with fear and trembling give thanks unto Thy loving goodness for all Thy benefits which Thou hast poured so abundantly upon me, Thy servant. I fall down in adoration before Thee and offer Thee, O God, my praises; with fervor I cry to Thee: O God, deliver me henceforth from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in me such of my desires as may be expedient for me. Hear me, I entreat Thee, and have mercy, for Thou art the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and unto Thee, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I praise Thee, O God of our Fathers, I hymn Thee, I bless Thee, I give thanks unto thee for Thy great and tender mercy. To Thee I flee, O merciful and mighty God. Shine into my heart with the True Sun of Thy righteousness. Enlighten my mind and keep all my senses, that henceforth I may walk uprightly and keep Thy commandments, and may finally attain unto eternal life, even to Thee, Who art the source of life, and be admitted to the glorious fruition of Thy inaccessible Light. For Thou art my

God, and unto Thee, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



By Fr. Mark Sietsema*

Mothers are curious people aren't they? All mothers somehow, regardless of their background, learn exactly the same things to say to their children—like when they call you by your full name when you've done something wrong. When a child is given anything, a cookie or a compliment, every mother in the same words and the same tone of voice asks, "Now, what do you say?"

Of course, the answer Mom is looking for is: "Thank you."

Mothers want their children to have a reflex of thankfulness. A reflex is an automatic response. When the doctor hits the knee with the little hammer, the leg twitches; and when someone is kind to us, we should likewise have a reflex response of gratitude. But unlike the knee-twitch, the reflex of thankfulness should not be an unthinking response. Did you know that the English words think and thank are related to the same Latin root? Thankfulness goes hand in hand with thoughtfulness. We should be grateful because we truly appreciate, from the mind and from the heart, what has been done for us.

Saint Mark the Ascetic, in a letter to a spiritual son, repeatedly tells him to think and be thankful (Philokalia, Vol. 1, p. 148): "This, my son, is how you should begin your life according to God. You should continually and unceasingly call to mind all the blessings which God in His love has bestowed upon you in the past ... from the beginning of your life until the present, and call them repeatedly to mind in accordance with the words: 'Forget not all His benefits' (Psalm 103:2)."

Notice what Saint Mark says: we begin the spiritual life with gratitude; it is an essential part of entering the Kingdom. We were made to give thanks to God, made to praise Him continually for His grace to us. The Apostle Paul says, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). That which mothers know instinctively and try to instill in us reflexively is this essential component of true humanity: a thankful spirit.



God saved us in Christ for the express purpose that we should give Him thanks forever in gratitude and love. The Apostle Peter says, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a special people, in order that you should show forth the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9). We were made for praise!

Life as a citizen of the Kingdom when we begin to feel this deep inner sense of indebtedness to God and then express gratitude to God for all He has done. This thanksgiving should not be for show or out of habit, but from the heart. We are not called to be "praise-robots," just mouthing the words of the Liturgy or of prayer; we are called to be thoughtful thankers, meditating on all God has done for us personally and singing our praise to Him for it. An ungrateful Christian is really a contradiction in terms; only a grateful Christian is a grace-filled Christian. The Scriptures says that complaining, murmuring, grouching and griping are serious sins, and according to Saint Paul (Romans 1:21), an attitude of ingratitude is at the heart of the world's apostasy and perversion.

We were made for praise—it is a part of the natural function of a human being to look in love towards the Source of our life and to bless Him. When we go against the grain of our nature, we pay the price in sin and sickness and depression. When we open our spiritual eyes, though, and see all that God has done for us, when we are able to "accept with gratitude everything that comes, whether it is good or whether it appears to be bad, and to remain undisturbed in all things," then we become the persons that God made us to be, as Saint Peter of Damascus says (Philokalia, Vol. 3, p. 174). The healthiest person is the one who sees the hand of God in all things and says continually, "Glory to You, O Lord!"

Thanksgiving is the breath of the saints. The saints would give thanks, not just one day out of the year or when times were good. The holy martyrs, even in their agony, raised their hands to God and thanked Him for the privilege of being counted worthy to die like Christ. The Blessed Theotokos, though she knew that a sword would pierce her heart, magnified the Lord and rejoiced in God her Savior. Jesus Christ Himself, holding in His spotless hands the bread and the wine in which would be revealed the excruciating breaking of His body and the shedding of His blood, nevertheless gave thanks to God for these Gifts (1 Corinthians 11: 24).

In everything, then, we should give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us. By so doing, we become the kind of persons our mothers want us to be, and the people our Father designed us to be. We were made for praise, and on the day of Thanksgiving especially let us "be all that we can be" by giving thoughtful thanks from the heart to God. Take some time this year to think about what the Lord has done for you, and let your "thanksgiving" lead to sincere thanksgiving. To you and to your families here and everywhere, I wish a "Happy Thanksgiving" and a joyous Christmas season ahead!

*Fr. Mark Sietsema is the Presiding Priest at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Lansing, MI

Article taken from Metropolis of Detroit Web Site: <http://detroit.goarch.org/resources/articles/miscellaneous/happy-thanksgiving>

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November marks our entrance into the holiday season with the beginning of the Nativity Fast on November 15th, The Presentation of the Theotokos one of the 12 major feast days of our faith on November 21st and of course Thanksgiving Day.

Additionally, preparations are under way for next month's 23rd annual Auction which will be held on Friday, December 5th. Please consider sponsoring and participating in this fun filled night which since 2002 has raised over \$140,000 for our Nativity parish.

Furthermore, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas has reminded us recently how important it is as Orthodox Christians to know and understand our faith more fully to be able to teach our children why we do what we do. With that in mind, the following list encompasses a small sample of resources for Orthodox enrichment and understanding:

- The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America website is an nationally award winning site offering an abundance of information and useful resources including the Epistle and Gospel readings and saints of the day - <http://www.goarch.org/>
- For a re-introduction to our faith - <http://www.goarch.org/ourfaith/>
- For information on fasting - <http://www.goarch.org/ourfaith/faithandlife>.
- Learn about Orthodoxy at our own Nativity website - http://www.nativitygochurch.org/about_orthodoxy.html
- An magazine published by our Archdiocese called **Praxis** is an amazing resource - <http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/religioused/praxis>
- Our Detroit Metropolis website has many articles written by the priests of our Metropolis - <http://detroit.goarch.org/resources/articles/>
- Daily liturgical texts in both Greek and English are available at <http://www.ematins.org>, this is where the Orthros compilation used here every Sunday morning is downloaded.
- The Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople - <http://www.patriarchate.org/>
- For books and further study:
 - <http://holycrossbookstore.com/> - Support our Holy Cross School of Theology.
 - <http://www.orthodoxmarketplace.com/> - Support the Archdiocese.
- For additional resources and links - <http://www.goarch.org/resources>
- Finally, a fantastic way to stay informed is to join one of the many archdiocese list serves. There are over 30 lists available and related information gets sent directly to your email address, please join at least one - <http://www.goarch.org/listserv>

Please email me any additional resources or websites that you have found valuable and would like to share - pouloslou@aol.com

May The Lord bless our efforts to grow closer to Him through understanding and living our Faith for the glory of His Holy Name and the salvation of our souls.

Yours In Christ,
Louis Poulos
Parish Council President

Parish Information

ED CENTER REPAIRS: Mold remediation repairs will be complete the first week of November and the Ed center will be available for use for use by Thursday November 6th. Repairs to the roof are planned as well.

NEW ROOFTOP HVAC NEEDED: One of the 2 main church rooftop HVAC units has failed and needs replacement. The parish council will begin taking bids and look to replace the unit as quickly as possible.

PRIEST: His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas is currently seeking a priest for our parish and will keep us informed of the progress. At this time, a priest has not been selected.

PHOTOS FOR THE EPISTLE: If you have captured any photos showing parish life, please forward them to nativityvmphotos@gmail.com for publication in the Epistle.

THREE HIERARCHS GREEK SCHOOL - The joint Greek School of Nativity & Sts. Constantine and Helen Parishes has begun and classes will return to the Nativity Ed Center on Thursday, November 6th. For more information please contact Anna Liakou-Hentnick at 248-425-2321 or email: nativity_greek_school@yahoo.com

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Scheduled for November 9th after Liturgy. Please make every effort to attend to hear reports from all our ministries and learn vital information concerning our parish life.

WEDDINGS: Nativity hosted two weddings in the month of October! Congratulations to newlyweds **George and Melissa Demtriou** united in the Lord on October 4th by retired celebrant Reverend Father James Stathakios. Also, congratulations to **Alex and Stephanie Diakonis** united in the Lord on October 18th by Reverend Father Nick Kotsis of St. Nicholas Ann Arbor.

ALTAR BOYS: The altar boy schedule has been distributed to all families with boys serving in the altar. If your child age 7 and up would like to begin serving in the altar, please contact Georgia Koumariotis at 248-767-0214 or georgiah@sbcglobal.net to be added to the schedule.

From God
every family in heaven
and on earth is named.

Ephesians 3:15

When we speak of stewardship and family we must also consider stewardship *of* family. Most often, we stress the importance of stewardship of the great gifts of God's material world, but which of God's gifts is greater than family?

Throughout our life's journey, our family will take many forms. For a child, the family is parents, siblings, grandparents, cousins, godparents and individuals with significant roles in the child's life. As we mature, we become stewards of our parents as they also are of us. We are stewards of our siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and more. We are called to encourage and support our family members to grow in the faith. We are also called to encourage and support them in developing their God-given gifts and talents to the full for the glory of God. If we are blessed with a spouse, our concept of family expands and our stewardship of family expands with it.

As our role within our family evolves, we become stewards of the authority and influence which we hold in the family. This requires balance tempered by love and respect. A spouse or parent with authority must also relate to family members with respect and humility. St. Paul writes to the Ephesians, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ" (5:21). St. Paul further instructs us, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her" (5:25). And in Colossians 3:21, St. Paul instructs, "Parents, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged."

We are stewards of our family through the influence that we have upon them. This influence may be for good or for evil. In *The Moral Intelligence of Children*, Robert Coles writes, "... the child is an ever-attentive witness of grown-up morality – or lack thereof; the child looks and looks for cues as to how one ought to behave, and finds them galore as we parents and teachers go about our lives, making choices, addressing people, showing in action our rock-bottom assumptions, desires, and values, and thereby telling those young observers much more than we may realize." We exercise our stewardship of family by our actions more than our words.

Throughout our lives and the roles we assume within the family, we are stewards of the love, authority, trust and respect that exist among members of the family. Unlike material possessions, these are not diminished by use. But if mishandled, they can be lost. Love, authority, trust and respect require the most diligent stewardship, because once they are lost, they are most difficult to recover.

The Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great includes beautiful silent prayers expressing the Church's concern for the family: "*... remember, Lord, the people here present and those that are absent with good cause. Have mercy on them and on us according to the multitude of your mercy, fill their store-houses with every good thing; maintain their marriage-bonds in peace and concord; nurture the infants; instruct the young; strengthen the aged; encourage the faint-hearted; gather together again those that are scattered; bring back those who went astray and unite them to Your holy, catholic and apostolic church; defend the widows; protect the orphans...*"

As Orthodox Christians, we are also stewards of our Church family – those with whom we worship, fellowship and serve the community. In the same way that we care for our immediate family, we also care for our Christian brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, sons and daughters. In his book on the Eucharist/Divine Liturgy, Fr Alexander Schmemmann explains that in the early church, the Eucharistic sacrifice was offered by all the members of the church. Each person coming to the gathering of the Church brought with them everything they could spare for the needs of the Church. This meant for the sustenance of the clergy, widows and orphans, for helping the poor, and for all the good works of the Church. This is the Church that we as Orthodox Christians claim to be.

In the Gospel of Saint Matthew (6:19), Jesus instructs us, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ..." Often in life, we pursue and collect those things that do not last. We must ask, "One hundred years from now, where will our possessions be?" Our greatest blessing is our family. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to be stewards of this great gift. If we are faithful to this calling, perhaps our Lord will say to us as he did to the faithful steward, "Well done good and faithful servant" (Mt 25:23).

AUCTION SPONSOR FORM

The Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church is proud to host its **23rd annual** fund-raiser on Friday, December 5, 2014 to begin at 6:30 p.m. in our Church Fellowship Hall.

Currently, we are in need of sponsors for this event and ask that you help us with either an item to be auctioned or one of the following donations:

GOLD.....\$300

SILVER.....\$200

BRONZE...\$100

Your contribution will entitle you to have your name placed in the evening program. Please help us by sending a check or an item to be auctioned to the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church by no later than November 25th.

We encourage you to join us on Friday, December 5th, at 6:30 p.m. for an evening of enjoyment and fellowship. Please come to see how your contribution will help us in producing a successful event.

Sincerely,

The Nativity Church
Auction Committee

I AM PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY CHURCH

COMPANY NAME:

CONTACT PERSON:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE:



Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church

39851 West Five Mile Road

Plymouth, Michigan 48170

Telephone: (734) 420-0131 Fax: (734) 420-0602

Website: www.nativitygochurch.org

October 6, 2014

Dear Nativity Steward:

Please be informed that our Fall General Assembly will take place on Sunday, November 9th following the liturgy, with the following agenda:

General Assembly Agenda (Please Limit Reports to 5 Minutes or Less)

1. Opening Prayer
2. Election of Chairman, Vice-chairman and Secretary of the Assembly
3. Reading of the minutes of the Spring 2014 General Assembly
4. Presbyter's report
5. President's report
6. Greek School report
7. Sunday School report
8. Senior Citizens report
9. Philoptochos report
10. GOYA report
11. Hope/Joy report
12. Basketball report
13. Maintenance Report
14. Auditing Committee's report
15. Treasurer's report
16. Stewardship report
17. Fundraising report
18. Nominations for Parish Council
19. Committee Appointments
 - Elections
 - Auditors
20. General Discussion
21. Adjournment & Closing Prayer

Your attendance and input are extremely valuable and we hope you make every effort to attend.

In Christ,
Louis Poulos
Parish Council President

SPIRITUAL VITAMINS

A simple explanation of how prayer helps us out:

1] Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout the journey.

2] So why is a car's *WINDSHIELD* so large and the Rear View Mirror so small? Because our *PAST* is not as important as our *FUTURE*. So, Look ahead and Move on.

3] Friendship is like a *BOOK*. It takes a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.

4] All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.

5] Old Friends are Gold! New Friends are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold!

6] Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, *GOD* smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"

7] When *GOD* solves your problems, you have faith in *HIS* abilities; when *GOD* doesn't solve your problems *HE* has faith in your abilities.

8] A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your vision!"

9] When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

10] *WORRYING* does not take away tomorrow's *TROUBLES*, it takes away today's *PEACE*. Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly and, Leave the rest to God.

Fr. Nick Louh, ST. JOHN, Jacksonville, FL

Northville Civic Concern

We will again be helping the Northville Civic Concern

**Please bring them to church by December 21
Here are some suggestions:**

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

***Feminine hygiene products**

- *Hair care products/supplies, especially for women of color
- *Comb/brush sets
- *Full-size hand sanitizer
- *Full-size bar soap
- *Full-size shampoo & conditioner
- *Full-size deodorant
- *Full-size hand lotion
- *Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

NEW KITCHEN ITEMS

- *Dish sets
- *Pots/pans sets
- *Plastic cutlery
- *Kitchen utensils
- *Laundry and/or Dish soap
- *Garbage bags
- *Handy wipes

NEW LINENS

- *Bath towels
- *Hand towels

**Thank you for your kind donation
Ladies of Philoptochos**

BABY ITEMS

***Diapers especially 4,5,6**

***Baby wipes**

- *Baby lotion & powder
- *Baby formula
- *New infant/toddler toys
- *New kids' puzzles & books

Hotel/sample-sized products

Non-perishable food items

That can be prepared microwaves or stove-tops

- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Applesauce
- Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Chicken Noodle soup
- Boxed mashed Pot.
- Pancake Mixes
- Tuna Fish
- Baby Food
- Bottled water
- Juice Boxes
- Pop Tarts, Protein bars
- Jell-o cups

PAPER PRODUCTS

Paper towels

***Toilet paper**

- *Facial tissue
- *12 oz. paper cups
- * Paper plates, bowls
 - Napkins
 -

MISCELLANEOUS

- *New Pay-As-You Go Phones
- *New Pay-As-You-Go Phone Cards
- *Movie passes (Emagine/AMC)
- *Digital TV conversion boxes

***Used Ink cartridges**

***Used cell phones**

GIFT CARD SUGGESTIONS:

- *CVS, Rite-Aid, Walgreens
- *Meijer / Target / Wal-Mart
- *Payless Shoes, SMART bus cards
- *McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Dear Parents,

For your planning calendar please note the following dates related to Sunday Church School. We hope to see you at all the special events this year!

Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 27, 2014	No School Thanksgiving weekend
Christmas pageant practice	Sunday, December 14, 2014	Students in church after Liturgy
Christmas Pageant	Sunday, December 21, 2014	Students in church after Liturgy
Sunday After Nativity	Sunday, December 28, 2014	No School
Sunday Eve of Epiphany	Sunday, January 4, 2015	School (Epiphany is on Monday)
Godparent Sunday	Sunday, February 1, 2015	School
Annunciation Program	Sunday, March 22, 2015	Students in church after Liturgy
Palm Sunday	Sunday, April 5, 2015	No School
Holy Friday	Friday, April 10, 2015	Retreat in Church
Pascha	Sunday, April 12, 2015	No School
Last Sunday School Class	Sunday, May 17, 2015	School
Memorial Weekend	Sunday, May 24, 2015	No School
Holy Pentecost	Sunday, May 31, 2015	No School
Graduation	Sunday, June 7, 2015	Students in church after Liturgy

In Christ,
 Jerry Takis & Michele Hunsinger
 Sunday School Advisors



Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Greek Orthodox Church

39851 Five Mile Rd, Plymouth, MI 734-420-0131

23 rd Annual Christmas Auction

Friday, December 5, 2014

6:30pm

Church Fellowship Hall

Silent & Live Auction

Raffle

Fish Fry

Hors D'oeuvres

Cash Bar



2014 Community Christmas Card

It is time to think about your Christmas card list. The Nativity of the Virgin Mary Ladies Philoptochos Society is once again sponsoring our annual Christmas card for 2014. For just \$10 per family or \$25 per business, you can send holiday greetings to families in our community.

Please take the time to complete the order form below. Include your check or money order and mail or bring to the church. **Only** those whose order forms are received with payment by the deadline, November 29, 2014 will be included in our card. If you have any questions, please contact: **Betsy Basoukeas** of the Philoptochos. ***Please don't delay. Send in your form today!***

Family Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone # _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ \$10 per family

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone #: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ \$25 minimum

Return form before November 29, 2014. Print your family or business name as you wish it to appear on the card. Make checks payable to:

NATIVITY PHILOPTOCHOS

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Philoptochos is sponsoring



Our Christmas tree will be adorned with ornaments
In *Memory* or in *Health* of people you love

The name of each Honoree will be printed on a card
Attached to the ornament

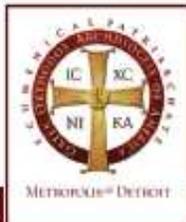
Minimum donation per ornament is \$10

Proceeds will benefit the many National Philoptochos ministries

Please print clearly the names you want to appear on the ornaments.

Make checks payable to Nativity Philoptochos

Donated by:	Phone #	
In Memory of:	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
In Health of:	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
# of ornaments _____	Total Amount	\$ _____



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

Dear Friends of the Metropolis:

God has called us to do mighty deeds for the glory of His name and for the love of His people.

You are called upon to join in this reality of "faith working through love" as we continue to manifest the love of God for His Church and His people.

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis Campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation.

Because of your devotion and help to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service.

If you have not yet become part of the Metropolis-wide effort, I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

Thanking you for your kind and generous response, I remain, with paternal blessings and prayers,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

WHAT DOES FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS SUPPORT?

GENERAL

Fully fund the expenses of the Metropolis office, program and travels.

EDUCATION

Enhance scholarships and adult education programs, as well as support the Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

SUPPORT

Develop and provide educational and instructional seminars and services to clergy and parishes.

YOUTH

Maintain and support the youth office and activities of a full-time Youth and Young Adult Ministries director.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society, participate in inter-Christian and inter-faith activities as well as provide quick responses to national disasters.

HELLENISM

Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history and arts.

LEADERSHIP

Organize Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Christmas Pageants, and Adult Education Programs.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries and guests, Charity and Philanthropy.

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING FORM IN AN ENVELOPE TO THE ADDRESS BELOW



I am pleased to support the work of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis through the Annual Metropolis Stewardship "Friends" Program

GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

2560 CROOKS ROAD
TROY, MI 48084

Phone: 248-823-2400
Fax: 248-823-2401

E-mail: office@detroit.goarch.org
Website: www.detroit.goarch.org

NAME (please print) _____

ADDRESS (please print) _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (please print) _____

PARISH AFFILIATION _____ CITY/STATE _____

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250

\$500 \$1000 OTHER _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Check Enclosed (payable to Metropolis of Detroit)
 Please Charge My Credit Card (MC or VISA ONLY)

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____



PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Parishioners,

Matthew 25:35 states, "In order to inherit the kingdom...for I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in. I was naked and you clothed Me. I was sick and you visited Me. I was in prison and you came to Me." How many of us can truly say we practice philanthropy as Matthew states in his passage? As you can see our actions shouldn't be just for the poor.

On October 26th we had our annual Hot Diggity Dog luncheon raising awareness for Breast Cancer. Proceeds went towards the Shades of Pink Foundation. This foundation supports families with temporary financial relief due to a family member suffering from breast cancer. It was a great success. We appreciate all of the community support. Thank you to Kerby's Koney Island in Livonia for donating all the hot dogs, buns and toppings for this event and to all the Philoptochos members for their hard work. A special thanks to Nick Adonakis for his grilling talents.

On November 2nd we will be passing a tray for Sts. Kosmas and Damianos the Patron Saints of the Philoptochos Society.

Due to popular demand, we are having our annual Holiday bake sales on Sunday November 16th and 23rd. Spinach and Cheese pies will be available for purchase. They are great to have on hand for the upcoming holidays.

Ornaments for the Tree of Love will be sold in the hall every Sunday up to the ceremony in December. The community Christmas card will also be available if you would like to participate. Please see one of the Philoptochos members for order forms or find them in the weekly bulletin.

All of the above fundraisers greatly support many of our charitable causes. As Matthew stated in his passage it is our duty.

The ladies will have their annual Christmas Party on December 1st.

I'm so thankful for the wonderful family I have here at Nativity. I hope and pray you all have a blessed Thanksgiving and give thanks to all the wonders around you.

With love in Christ,
Betsy Basoukeas
Philoptochos President

Next meeting is November 3rd...please join us!

BASKETBALL

Nativity OYAA Basketball ***Hillside Middle School Gym in Northville***

Practice Every Sunday
4:30pm to 6:00pm
Please arrive 15 minutes early!

Players Needed!
Ages 6 to Adult

If you have any questions, please contact:
Mike Fafalios at 734-905-4482
Or
Nondo Basoukeas at 248-974-7637



G.O.Y.A

The first meeting for the GOYA is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 immediately following services in the church office..

With Christmas coming up our kids will be holding a toy drive and will keep you posted on when that will begin and what charity it will be for.

We have lots of project ideas for the upcoming year and look forward to working together on them all.

There are other Metro Area GOYA events happening and we will let you know what, when and where they are.

GOYA is open to all young adult Nativity Members between the ages of 13-17.

Our meetings are held the 1st Sunday of each month following the Liturgy.

Ms. Fay and Ms. Irene
Nativity GOYA Advisors

Sunday School

Our **Sunday School Classes** will be collecting hats, mittens and scarfs that will be given to a local charity for those less fortunate.



There will be a tree set up in the **Ed Center** where our teachers will be collecting these items, for all ages.

Thank you all in advance for your generosity and God Bless!!

Senior Citizens Gathering

*The Senior Group's kick-off meeting will be
Tuesday, November 11th at 11:30 am.
Come join them for their annual Thanksgiving
Luncheon and enjoy an afternoon of wonderful food
and fellowship.*

DID YOU KNOW?

There is an easier and more environmentally friendly way to fulfill your stewardship pledge! Sign up for **DIRECT WITHDRAWAL** and transfer funds electronically to our church on a weekly or monthly basis. No more writing checks, bringing envelopes or falling behind on payments. Forms are available in the Narthex or call Kathy in the church office for more information.



WISDOM

Read the books of the New Testament and make them your constant teachers. If grief befalls you, dive into them as into a chest of medicines: take from them comfort for your trouble, be it loss, or death or bereavement of relations; or rather do not merely dive into them but take them wholly to yourself, keeping them in your mind at all times.

- St. John Chrysostom

Nativity of the Virgin Mary – November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 5th Sunday of Luke GOYA meeting Following services 2pm Leone Baptism	3 Philoptochos Meeting @ 6:30pm	4	5 Greek School @ 6pm	6 Greek School @ 6pm	7	8 Synaxis of the Archangel Michael 11:30am Altenburg Baptism Rental of Hall following
9 7th Sunday of Luke General Assembly following services	10	11 Senior Meeting @ 11:30am Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm	12 Greek School @ 6pm	13 Greek School @ 6pm	14	15 Nativity Fast Begins
16 Apostle Matthew Memorial Peggy "Tjilos" Palombo	17	18	19 Greek School @ 6pm	20 Greek School @ 6pm	21 Entrance of the Theotokos	22
23 9th Sunday of Luke	24	25	26	27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! OFFICE CLOSED	28	29 
30 Apostle Andrew						

Sunday Services

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Continued Thanks to our monthly Epistle Sponsors



Nativity Ministries

Philoptochos
Betsy Basoukeas
President

Religious Education
Michele Prokos Hunsinger
Jerry Takis

Nativity GOYA
Irene Kaplantzes
Fay Mill

Senior Citizen Group
Kostantine Kassapis

Protopsaltis
Dr. Panayiotis Mitsias

Greek School
Anna Liakou-Hentnik

Fellowship
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