



**Volume 26, Issue 2**  
**April - May, 2022**

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# THE NEWS FROM ST. NEKTARIOS

## OUR HEARTS ON HIGH

By Fr. Andreas G. Houpos, Proistamenos

**Χριστὸς ἀνέστη!**  
Christ is risen!

It seems like just the other day that we were in the center of our holy temple exclaiming these words with joy and exuberance, surrounded by the warm and growing glow of candle light that infused the nave, and the inner radiance of the faithful that shone from their beaming faces.

Like an event of cosmic proportions, the Resurrection of Christ continues to radiate into the world with undeniable waves and beams of divine energy and light.

It is not only this that sustains us as the world turns, day after day, toward the eventual return of our Lord in Glory. No. Indeed it is also the knowledge that on the fortieth day after his Resurrection our Lord Jesus **“ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father”** (Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed), and that after fifty days, he sent the Holy Spirit upon His Church.

This reality—namely, that our human nature has ascended into the heavenly realm with Christ, and that the Holy Spirit has descended to remain with us on earth, and to lead us **“into all truth”** (John 16:3)—is our reminder of Jesus’ words to his disciples before ascending: **“Lo, I am with you to the close of the age”** (Matthew 28:19).

God is with us, and we are with him! But this is in a mysterious,

**“hidden” way**, as the Holy Apostle Paul says characteristically in his letter to the church in Colossae:

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (3:1-4)

What words! What thoughts! What a beautiful and fearful reality!

*... we lift our hearts to be on high with the Lord, and ... the Holy Spirit abides in our hearts here below ...*

In the Divine Liturgy, the celebrant exclaims **“Let us lift up our hearts!”**, to which the faithful respond **“We lift them up to the Lord!”**. This is a distinctly beautiful moment of the Divine Liturgy. In the original Greek text—**«Ἄνω σχωμεν τὰς καρδίας. | Ἐχομεν πρὸς τὸν Κύριον.»**—more literally means **“Let us have our hearts on high”, and “We have them with [or, even, “we bring them to”] the Lord”**.

As St. Paul continues:

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil

desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry... Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. (3:5, 12-15)

In these days still radiating the joy of Pascha, the Ascension, and awaiting Pentecost, and as our community buzzes with life and ministry, I cannot help but to be thankful for what the Lord has done for us all, and for what is taking place in this parish. New and old, and returning, faces continue to reflect the radiance of Christ in our holy temple and into the world around us.

As we lift our hearts to be on high with the Lord, and as the Holy Spirit abides in our hearts here below, more and more people will come to the saving knowledge of the Truth. Glory to God for his ongoing presence in our life and the lives of those yet to know him!

Christ is risen!

We are risen with Christ!

Let us have our hearts on high with Him!

## Spotlight on our Visitors



We were blessed to have serving with us on the Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers, Fr. Nicholas Bacalis, proistamenos of Sts. Constantine & Helen Cathedral in Richmond, VA.

Fr. Nicholas has served in the holy priesthood for fifty years. May the Lord continue to bless his ministry!



We were also pleased to have with us during Holy Week, Alexandros and Rachel Pandazis. Alexandros is a third-year seminarian at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA. In addition to participating in pastoral visits during Holy Week, he was present and assisted at all the divine services, including a funeral, and offered inspired and challenging homilies on Holy Friday and on Bright Monday for the feast of St. George. We thank Alexandros and Rachel for their presence with us for the week and pray for their continued progress and preparation to serve the Church. With such up-and-coming servants well-rooted in the Orthodox Faith, it gives us encouragement that the Church is in good hands for the coming generation.

## FOCUS ON OUR COMMUNITY

### Celebrations, Milestones, Comfort & Support

#### In our prayers

Aphroula John Pat KS Joe Kim Johanna Edward Tina Theona Helen & Richard DG  
Chuck Handzel Mason Robin & Benny John & Elaine Jennifer & family Eleftheria Mary  
Catherine Grant Jack Phyllis Melton family Tish Joanne Christina Stephen Gloria  
Phil & Ronnie John & Michelle & family MP MSR Glen Cheryl & Brian Paul  
John T. John D. Terry Dorothy Erma (Hermione) Phyllis

Our First Responders, those on the front lines during this Pandemic and those suffering from Covid-19 and other illnesses throughout the entire world

#### FOR THOSE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

Helene Jordan Krassimire Nicholas Michael Constantine Zack  
Matthew Amanda Danielle Anton Jimmy Thomas

#### Congratulations and best wishes

#### Chrismations & Baptisms

Megan and Nick Marinakos on the baptism of Peter & John's brother, Marco William

To Inga & Denis Korotkikh on the baptism of Ellen's sister, Nicole

To Natalia Meleca & Dorel Istrati on the baptism of their son, Cristiano Ronaldo

To Cannon & Zack Walker on the baptism of their daughter, Cayden Sarah

To Stephanie & Jordan Crandall on the baptism of their son, Lincoln Howard

To Mary & Ben dresser on the baptism of Evangeline, Thea & Stylianos' sister, Hermione Susanna

To Emily and Dave Hanegraaff on the baptism of Grace's brother, Pax

To Charles Cutajar on his baptism

To Kristen & George Karanikas on the baptism of their daughter, Mia Faye

Sara & JamesTshakis on the baptism of Leonidas' brother, Philip Denys

#### MARRIAGES

To Kathryn Economy and David Kang on their marriage

To Rachel Peterson and Stuart Rodgers on their marriage

To Vivian Fotinos and Charles Cutajar on their marriage

#### With Sympathy on the Repose of our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

To the Kyritsis family on the repose of Presbyteria Maria's husband, Fr. Theodore S. Kyritsis

To the Pistolis and Kokalis families on the passing of Maria's husband, Serafim Mike Pistolis

To the Stanar family on the passing of Presbyteria Sandy's father, Stanley Stanar

#### In Appreciation

Thanks to Diane Gilbert and Copycat for printing the Church Bulletin and Newsletter.

Thank you to all who allowed us to use your photos for this issue — Fr. Andreas, Fr. Nektarios, Presbyteria Ellia, Kim Braswell, Caleb Clewell, Helen Giles, Irene Liapis, Elizabeth Kleto, Jim Keown

**Please contact Kim Braswell at [kclewell@stnektarios.org](mailto:kclewell@stnektarios.org) with information we may share with the community or to add someone to the prayer list. Please contact the office to request a clergy visit.**

#### SPECIAL NOTICE

An old photograph was found in the Spiritual Life Center. If you are missing a black & white photo of a couple, please contact Kim Braswell at [kclewell@stnektarios.org](mailto:kclewell@stnektarios.org)

There are many items in lost and found in the Spiritual Life Center.  
(shoes, dress, coats, hats, sunglasses, umbrellas, toys, bookbags, etc.)

Please check the bins in the upper level elevator lobby to claim your items by **June 26.**

# 40 DAYS OF GREETINGS “CHRIST IS RISEN!”

## Paschal Greetings from Around the World

Language	Greeting	Response
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall!	Vertet U Ngjall!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahm!	Hakken kahm!
Armenian:	Kristos haryav ee merelotz!	Orhnia! eh harootyunuh kris-tosee!
Eritrean-Tigre:	Christos tensiou!	Bahake tensiou!
Ethiopian:	Christos t'ensah em' muhtan!	Exai' ab-her eokala!
Georgian:	Kriste ahzdkhah!	Chezdmari-det!
Greek:	Christos anesti!	Alithos anesti!
Indonesian:	Kristus telah bangkit!	Benar dia telah bangkit!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	Adeverat a inviat!
Russian:	Khristos voskrese!	Voistinu voskrese!
Serbian:	Cristos vaskres!	Vaistinu vaskres!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	En verdad ha resucitado!
Swahili:	Kristo amefufukka!	Kweli amefufukka!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres!	Voistinu voskres!



Greetings sent to all on the day of the Resurrection! From Frs. Andreas and Nektarios; our sexton, Jim; our adult altar servers, Sam, Caleb, and Nolan; and visiting seminarian, Alexandros—all pictured here—and on behalf of our whole parish family!



*“Come, receive the light from the never-setting Light, and glorify Christ, who is risen from the dead.”*

# Our Journey through Holy Week



Saturday of Lazarus Divine Teaching Liturgy and Palm Cross Making



Palm Sunday Procession



The Bridegroom Service, Tuesday morning Philoptochos egg-dyeing and Holy Unction Anointing on Holy Wednesday evening

# Our Journey through Holy Week



Holy Thursday Passion of our Lord



Holy Friday Taking Down from the Cross

Recently chrismated members assisted in removing the icon of Christ from the cross: Cole Johnson, Zack Hair, Casey Mills & Christina Hanegraaff

Holy Friday morning decorating of the Kouvouklion



Holy Friday Night Lamentations Service



# Our Journey through Holy Week

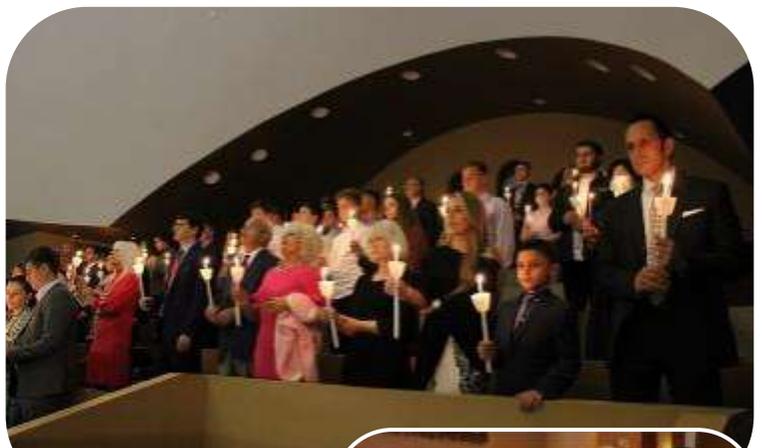


Pictured left: The Liturgy held on the morning of Holy and Great Saturday is that of Saint Basil the Great. This service is full of the coming Paschal joy. After the reading of the Epistle, the priest follows the custom of tossing of laurel and flower petals, saying:

*"Arise, O God, and judge Thou the earth: for Thou shall take all heathen to Thine inheritance".*



Parishioners bring in baskets filled with their Paschal meal to break the fast after midnight. Tables of food are blessed at the end of the service.



## Midnight Resurrection Service

Before midnight, the congregation gathers and sits in a dimly lighted sanctuary. A few minutes before midnight the sanctuary goes dark. Then the Fathers come out singing:

*"Come ye and receive light from the unwaning life, and glorify Christ, who arose from the dead" ...*



# Our Journey through Holy Week



Also called Vespers of Love, this service continues the celebration of Pascha. At this service the Gospel reading (John 20:19-25) depicts the first appearance of the risen Lord to his disciples, and is recited in as many languages as are known by those present in our parish. This symbolizes that the glorious resurrection of Christ is proclaimed to all the nations of the world.

## GOSPEL READERS

Arabic: Emile Khuri, Russian: Tatiana Mukhammad, Romanian: Adina Cotoman, Spanish: Esteban Cabil, French: Nadia Khoury Francis, Georgian: Aka Vashakidze, Armenian: Azad Khuri, Turkish: Mary Tash, German: Madeleine Tekin, Portuguese: Ana Levantis, Chinese (Mandarin): Jonathan Doughty, Latin: Presbyteria Maria Dalber, Ukrainian: Ludmyra Pankiv, Sign language Interpreter: Elizabeth Houpos

## Agape Picnic Pascha Celebration



# Stewardship Sunday

In April we offered in thanksgiving our stewardship commitments to the Lord so we may continue his ministry at St. Nektarios Church. We asked our Lord to accept these gifts, bless and multiply them unto the living out of the Gospel.

Fr. Andreas presented to the congregation a simple expanding folder that contained all the commitments received as of that day. He shared how our stewardship pledges allow our ministries to succeed and provide for our church home for God's Glory.

If you have yet to make a pledge, please visit our website for more information. Using the convenient online Stewardship Pledge Form will allow your commitment to be included. Paper forms are also available at the church.

Your Stewardship Ministry Team



## 2022 COCKINOS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our 2022 Cockinos Family Scholarship Recipients. This year we had 14 applications. We chose two scholars of Distinction based on an essay they wrote. The Scholars of Distinction are Thomas Keretsis and Luke Farah.

Five scholars were chosen in a random drawing on the Solea by Fr. Andreas. Congratulations to Arianna Clewell, Samara Clewell, Heide Emmanuel, Maria Schoff and Kayla Schoff.



Pictured left to right: Chris Levantis, Heide Emmanuel, Arianna Clewell, Sam Kleto (in back), Fr. Andreas, Samara Clewell, Thomas Keretsis, Luke Farah, Emile Khuri and Theodora Sexstone (Not pictured and Kayla & Maria Schoff & committee member Julie Milich)

### About the Endowment

The Endowment was established in 2017 to provide donors an opportunity to make planned gifts to the Church that will provide a lasting legacy of financial support and will become a living memorial that honors the vision and mission of St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church.

Its goal is to build and expand upon its first gift from the Cockinos family. Future gifts will build upon this foundation and will be earmarked for the general well-being of our church and its ministries—the Endowment

invests all principal for long-term growth and makes interest income available for ministry work.

Please consider a gift now or a Planned Gift as part of your Estate Planning. . . The St. Nektarios Endowment is a designated 501(c)3 charity. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information, please contact Committee Members Theodora Sexstone, Emile Khuri, Sam Kleto, Chris Levantis, Julie Milich, Maria Mortis, and Peter B. Pappas



# BEYOND ST. NEKTARIOS

## ORDER OF AHEPA MARATHON CHAPTER #2

### CAPITAL DISTRICT #3 — CHARLOTTE, NC ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1922

The Order of AHEPA Marathon Chapter #2 celebrated their Centennial Banquet on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at the Maggiano's Restaurant with the Presentation of Colors, singing of the Hellenic and American National Anthems, and local Greek band that provided background music.

Our honored guest, Order of AHEPA Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas, had the opportunity to mingle, meet, and visit with the banquet guests at the fellowship hour prior to the banquet.

Honored Dignitaries are as follows. Congressman Dan Bishop of the North Carolina 9th District and Mecklenburg County Sheriff Garry I. McFadden

Order of AHEPA Family Dignitaries are as follows: Daughters of Penelope Grand Vice President Georgette Boulegeris, Order of AHEPA Capital District #3 Supreme Governor James Gregorakis, Daughters of Penelope District Governor Sondra Sealine, Order of AHEPA Capital #3 District Governor Steve Goodson, Order of AHEPA Marathon Ch. #2 President Frank Boardman, Order of AHEPA Marathon Chapter #2 Foundation President James Cavalaris, Daughters of Penelope Venus Chapter #102 President Christina Skiouris, Sons of Pericles Supreme Treasurer Alec Economakis, Sons of Pericles President Victory Chapter #123 John Shelton.

Special Honored Dignitaries included: The District Governor of Order of AHEPA District #1 John D. Shinas, AHEPA Chapter #1 Mother Lodge AHEPA Centennial Committee Co-Chairman Tom Kantsios, Past Supreme Secretary James Stasios, and The Former Governor of North Carolina and Former Mayor of Charlotte Pat McCrory as guest of Past Marathon Chapter No 2 President Louis Politis

The priests and parish council presidents of the three area Greek Orthodox Communities Of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral and St Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church (both of Charlotte) and St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church (of Mooresville) were invited to attend

Fr. Jonathan Resmini, Proistamenos Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, read the letters of blessings and congratulations of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta.

The Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas reflected on his travels, current concerns of the Order of AHEPA, and the accomplishments and history of Marathon Chapter #2.

The Supreme President bestowed to Past Supreme Governor and Past Chairman National Projects Harry T. Cavalaris the 50-year pin that belonged to his Father Thomas Cavalaris, Past Supreme Treasure and #107 AHEPA member. (pictured right)



Congressman Dan Bishop and Sheriff Gary McFadden reflected on their past associations and friendships with many Charlotte's AHEPANS from their early years with fond memories.

The Sons of Pericles Supreme Treasurer Alec Economakis and Chapter President John Shelton reflected on the Sons charitable work and outreach. The Charlotte Sons of Pericles Chapter is the largest Chapter in the country. Marathon Chapter #2 was honored by all of the speakers warm reflections and greetings.

The Centennial Banquet Celebration ended with Greek and American dancing and more fellowship.

Many thanks to Diane Gilbert, Jan and Nate at Copy Cat Printing for their professional work in printing the historical book, program and the presentation checks.

*Harry T. Cavalaris*

### **Banquet Highlights: Presentation of Three Charitable Checks and Past National Officers Honored**

**\$10,000 Check for The Order of AHEPA "AHEPA Charitable Fund"**

**\$10,000 Check for the Daughters of Penelope Charitable Foundation "Meals on Wheels America"**

**\$10,000 check for the "AHEPA Founding Monument" Order of AHEPA Mother Lodge Chapter #1 Atlanta, Georgia**



Presentation of  
**AHEPA Charitable Fund Check**  
Frank Boardman,  
Jimmy Kokotas and  
James Cavalaris



Presentation of  
**Daughters of Penelope Charitable Foundation "Meals on Wheels America"**  
Frank Boardman,  
Georgette Boulegeris,  
Christina Skiouris,  
and James Cavalaris



Presentation of  
**"AHEPA Founding Monument" Check**  
Tom Kantsios, Jimmy Kokotas, Frank Boardman,  
John D. Shinas, and James Cavalaris

### Past National Officers



John G. Plumides  
Order of AHEPA  
Past Supreme  
President



Zoe Lucas Cavalaris  
Daughters of Penelope  
Past Grand President



Peter A. Pappas  
Sons of Pericles  
Order of AHEPA Past  
Supreme President

# St. Nektarios Ministry Fair

On May 1st our ministries came together to highlight all they do at St. Nektarios for the community and beyond. Following the Divine Liturgy and as the congregation entered the fellowship hall, everyone was directed through an enticing colorful maze of booths and displays. Ministry members were ready with information to recruit others to serve in the various ministries offered through the church.

To add some fun to the fair, the people were asked to vote for their favorite ministry display. Several donors had provided "prize money" to go to the top three ministries with the best display. All our booths were decorated and showed the hard work and dedication of our leaders and members. It was a tough choice. St. Phoebe Ministry received the top prize, which they immediately gifted to the St. Hermione Home for needy and homeless women. The St. Nektarios 5K was our 2nd place winner with Youth Ministry taking 3rd place.

At the end of the ministry maze, all participants were treated to frappes and sausage biscuits. Please know that you can join any ministry any time of the year. Contact the church office for more information. ❖



St. Nektarios Office Staff



Liturgical Ministry



St. Hermione Home



Helping Hands Ministry



Hospitality Ministry



Above left to right: Adult Religious Education, Music Ministry and Church Mouse Kit 'n' Kaboodle

# St. Nektarios Ministry Fair



Our winners for Best Ministry Display left to right: 1st place - St. Phoebe Ministry, 2nd place - St. Nektarios 5K and in 3rd place - St. Nektarios Youth Ministry



Outreach & Welcoming Ministry, Missions & Philanthropy Ministry & Ladies Philotochos of St. Nektarios



Left & above: Life & Family Ministry  
Right: Young Adult Ministry



Members of our Safety and Security Monitoring Team



AV Ministry



# Adult Religious Education

At the invitation of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, the initiative of Elder Ephraim of Vatopedi Monastery and its brotherhood, and the facilitation of Nikos Gouraros and his team at Pemptousia, a number of American clergy have been leading live seminars introducing the Orthodox Faith in an online format, available globally and being translated into local languages where needed.

On May 17th, Fr. Andreas led the seminar on the topic of worship in the Orthodox Church. The first part was a prepared lecture, and the second was a walkthrough of the church, followed by a substantial Q&A session with participants (not pictured) and the other clergy.



Glory to God for our faithful parishioners—including our temple architect and builder—whose work is helping to instruct and lead more and more people to the saving faith of the Church, even around the globe, not just here in Charlotte. And special thanks to camerawoman, Presbyteria Meredyth, and our sexton, Jim Keown, for the several hours they gave to help Fr. Andreas with his presentation. ❖



On May 31st, Fr. Andreas led the seminar “The Invisible World” in the *Getting to Know the Orthodox Faith* series. Participants learned about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, about Angels, and the Saints, and engaged in a robust Q&A session.

There are still more topics of interest over the next several weeks that will be explored by a number of our clergy. Next Monday, for example, will be “The Orthodox View of Evil” led by Fr. Anthony Salzman.

This series of international presentations is a joint effort of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, the Holy Monastery of Vatopedi, and Pemptousia. For more information and to register, visit [voulgarisacademy.com](http://voulgarisacademy.com) ❖



A Note from Gerry Clonaris, Chair Adult Religious Education

## Proverbs ... Seeking Wisdom

*Proverbs 2:4, NIV: and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,*

The nuggets in Proverb refers to the Hidden Treasures mentioned in both the Old Testament and New Testament. Our 24/7 programming is geared to do just what the proverb states. Make us all wiser by finding those Hidden Treasures. If you have missed any of our presentations this past season, they are currently all on the St. Nektarios web site, so you can review them at any time. While you are working around the home, out for a jog or just about anywhere you are. We hope you will also involve your children into some of our programming. Much of the information on our web site is information that has or will be covered in our catechism classes. This way you can have those important conversations with your children as the Proverb states ...” become leaders by exploring the depths of the meaning in these nuggets...” You will also be fulfilling the command from Our Lord to...”go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you”.

*Our goal is to make everyone wiser in the understanding of our faith.*

# Young at Heart

Our Young at Heart gathered on **Saturday, May 14th for a Mother's Day Luncheon**. We were served a delicious meal of Greek Salad and grilled chicken breast c. Thank you to George Couchell.

Fr. Paul spoke to us about the life and legacy of St. Nektarios.

We celebrated our members with April and May birthdays and Maria Poulimas **was named "Mother of the Year"**. Congratulations Maria. ❖



Maria receiving flowers after being named Mother of the Year for 2022



Fr. Paul offers a presentation on the life and legacy of St. Nektarios teaching us about the life of our patron saint



Mothers of the Year Wall of Fame



Pictured above middle:  
Members with April & May birthdays ~ Ana Georges, Christina Gionis, Sandy Capousis & Ritsa Neary

## Annual Metropolis Agape Picnic

Fr. Andreas and some of our faithful were able to join other clergy and brothers and sisters in Christ around our spiritual fathers, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios and His Grace Bishop Sebastianos, to **proclaim "CHRIST IS RISEN!"** at the Panagia Church at the Diakonia Retreat Center.

Thank God for Metropolitan Alexios and for his vision for the Diakonia Retreat Center, and for all those who have made and continue to make it a reality. ❖



# Youth Ministry



Pictured above and left: GOYA Lenten Service Project in action! Many thanks to all who donated food and to those who helped prepare and serve at the Community Shelter of Union County .



**Photo above:** GOYAN helping with Joy Hope First Friday game



Our GOYANS traveled to the Diakonia Center in Salem, SC for the annual Lenten Retreat. It was a blessing to be in such a beautiful place during this time.

# Youth Ministry



Left and right: Members of our St. Phoebe Ministry serving during Holy Week.

Congratulations to them for being selected as the best Ministry Display at the Ministry Fair on May 1st. They received a generation donation for their ministry, which they immediately gave to the St. Hermione Home for homeless women and children.



**~ Leadership Impacting the Next Generation ~**



Above: A member of our St. Phoebe ministry serves as a role model for a future member.



Members of our youth participating during Holy Week

## The Ascension of Our Lord



The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday.

The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven. Hymns of the Feast

Apolytikion (Fourth Tone) O Christ our God, You ascended in Glory and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Your blessing assured them that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Kontakion (Plagal of the Second Tone) O Christ our God, upon fulfilling Your dispensation for our sake, You ascended in Glory, uniting the earthly with the heavenly. You were never separate but remained inseparable, and cried out to those who love You, "I am with you and no one is against you."

<http://www.goarch.org> "

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### OUR MISSION:

*St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church is dedicated to the continuation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's ministry of salvation through the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel; through Baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and through loving service to God and to mankind.*

### OUR VISION:

*The community will provide a loving, caring and welcoming environment where all belong and grow in the faith through worship, service, witness, and fellowship.*

## DIRECTORY

Church Office: 704-708-4669  
Church Fax: 704-846-6094  
Email: [office@stnektarios.org](mailto:office@stnektarios.org)  
Website: [www.stnektarios.org](http://www.stnektarios.org)  
5108 Kuykendall Rd. Charlotte, NC 28270

### Clergy

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Father Paul Tsahakis, Presbyter  
Mobile: (704) 608-1112  
Email: [frtsahakis@stnektarios.org](mailto:frtsahakis@stnektarios.org)

### Parish Staff

Parish Administrator - Evelyn Klund

#### Administration Staff

Silva Awaimrin, Kim Braswell, Samara Clewell, and Sofia Nicolopoulos

Property Manager - Tim Shelton

Sexton - Jim Keown

Music Directors - Jeff Clewell, Dina Marinakos-Oara

### 2022 Parish Council

President: Despina Gallis  
Vice President: Mike Burgan  
Treasurer: Elissa Bahanovich  
Assist. Treasurer: Chris Mortis  
Secretary: George Harris  
Assist. Secretary: Joanne Kiser  
Members: George Bacogeorge, Frank Bartis  
Dennis Kokenes, Mark Malatras, Aka Vashakidze

### Philoptochos Board

President: Charlotte Nickolopoulos  
1st Vice President: Madalina Lowen  
2nd Vice President: Deidre Lepkowski  
Recording Secretary: Sharon Koutroumpis  
Corr. Secretary: Michaelina Franks  
Treasurer: Evelyn Klund

**Ass't. Treasurer:** Christine Malatras

Advisor: Niki Kleto

Members: Helen Bakos, Katherine Cestrone, Phyllis Gianakopoulos, Renee Keretses and  
(Email: [philoptochos@stnektarios.org](mailto:philoptochos@stnektarios.org))

## SUNDAYS AT SAINT NEKTARIOS

### Worship

Matins 8:00 a.m. and  
Divine Liturgy 9:15 a.m.  
Fellowship Coffee:  
Following Divine Liturgy

### Prospophora

Please contact the church office or Christie Asimos at 704-756-1512 if you would like to provide or sponsor Prospophora.

### Coffee Hour

Please contact the church office if you would like to host or co-host a Coffee Hour on Sunday. Your Stewardship pays for the coffee hour refreshments provided by the Hospitality Ministry Team.

### Flowers

You may donate flowers in honor of a **family member's feast day, in memory** of a loved one or friend, on the occasion of a holiday, or simply as a gift to the community of St. Nektarios. To donate flower arrangements to be placed at the Iconostasis, St. Nektarios Shrine or in the Narthex for Sunday Services, please contact the church office to reserve a Sunday.

### Sacramental Wine & Pure Olive Oil

You may make a financial gift to help defray the cost of the sacramental wine that is used for Holy Communion. Please note on the memo line of your **check or on the envelope "Communion Wine"**. You may also donate a bottle or can of pure olive oil which is then blessed at the Shrine of St. Nektarios and is offered in the anointing kits. Please feel free to bring this with you to any of our services and give to an usher on duty. For additional information contact the church office.

### UPCOMING DEADLINE

Newsletter & Bulletin Due Dates:  
Information Due: June 21, 2022  
Published: June 28, 2022