

# "The Spirit of Christmas"

## Icon of the month

Leonidas Diamantopoulos, creator of the Spirit of Christmas icon, is an iconographer born in Greece who has expanded his work overseas with his projects in USA, Canada, South America and Europe. He beautified more than 40 different Orthodox Churches in the world including Greek Orthodox, Serbian, Antiochian, Armenian, Indian, e.t.c.



## Mission statement

Our mission is to bring children closer to their **Orthodox Christian Church** throughout the entire year by utilizing the technology of the Internet and telephone to communicate with them in their homes. This could take place at various times, namely: Christmastime, Name Days, and even birthdays. This would be accomplished by using the beloved and friendly character of **Santa Claus**, who was originally **Saint Nicholas of Myra, a Priest and Bishop of the Greek Orthodox Church.**

## Intro to newsletter

The Executive Committee of the St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Program would like to introduce to you, and to all of our friends, this new addition of the St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Program. After over two years of planning, promoting & executing the virtual visits of St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa in the homes of hundreds of families across the Archdiocese, including preschools, parochial schools and US Autism Homes, we have started production of this monthly newsletter. This newsletter will be sent out to all of the friends of the St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Project and we hope you will be able to share the Spirit of Christmas with others!

**Your help is needed for us to bring together another 50 - 100 Disciples to train to become Tele-Santas.**

Training will begin shortly and your recommendations of men who want to share the Spirit of Christmas with children is important! You can go to the website at <https://stnicholas-tele-santa.com/> and leave us the contact information for your recommendation and our committee will contact that person to go through the vetting process.

## What to expect

Your help will continue to assist our program and enable us to introduce St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa to other families and parishes. All our promotional materials will be available to share with any individual or organization that will help to promote this exciting and new program.

This newsletter will feature special articles and updates, and it will introduce you and your family to new and exciting teaching material that will not only benefit your young children, but also will be valuable and useful throughout life. **St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Program is FREE for all families.**

## Those 47 Parishes that participated in the St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Program in 2022 are:

Ss. Constantine & Helen: Annapolis, MD ... St. George: Bethesda, MD ... Ss. Constantine & Helen: Olney, MD ... St. Katherine's: Falls Church, VA ... Holy Apostles, Dulles VA ... Kimisis Tis Theotokou Church: South Hampton, NY ... St. George, Astoria NY ... St. Paraskevi -Greenlawn, NY ... St. Paul - Hempstead, NY ... Holy Trinity - Hicksville, NY ... Holy Spirit Church - Rochester, NY ... St. Nicholas - West Babylon, NY ... Holy Cross - Whitestone, NY ... Annunciation - Winston Salem, NC ... Holy Trinity - Cincinnati, OH ... All Saints - Canonsburg, PA ... Annunciation - Elkins Park, PA ... St. Demetrios - Upper Darby, PA ... St. Sophia: Jeffersonville, PA ... St. Luke: Broomhall, PAo ... St. Basil: Houston, TX ... Transfiguration - Austin, TX ... Holy Cross - Belmont, CA ... Nativity of Christ - Novato, CA ... St. Nicholas - San Jose, CA ... Holy Trinity - Bridgeport, CT ... St. George - Hartford, CT ... St. George - New Britain, CT ... St. Barbara - Orange, CT ... Annunciation - Stamford, CT ... St. Mark - Boca Raton, FL ... St. Catherie - West Palm Beach, FL - ... St. Christopher - Peachtree City, GA ... St. Nectarios - Palatine, IL...St. Iakovos - Valparaiso, IN....Holy Trinity - New Orleans, LA....St. Catherine - Braintree, MA

## If you like what we do please donate here:

<https://store.stnicholas-tele-santa.com/products-new/>



## Success of the 2022 program

The Executive Committee of St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa has confirmed that the 2022 Program had recruited 18 Disciples as St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa's. The training and fellowship developed between different Tele-Santa's was very generous and all are looking forward to 2023.

Along with our Disciples of the Tele-Santa's, we had 47 Parishes take part in the St. Nicholas - Tele-Santa Program in 2022. But not to be forgotten, we had a family in South Korea, a family in Puerto Rico and a family in Athens, Greece all take part along with 3 Preschools in Maryland, 1 in Virginia, a Parochial School in New York and a US Autism Home in New York. The total number of individuals the Program reached this year (2022) was over 400 hundred children.

## To volunteer:

<https://stnicholas-tele-santa.com/volunteer/>

## To read more please click here:

<https://stnicholas-tele-santa.com/about-us/>



## Personal reflections of the program

"My daughter absolutely loved when Santa called her last year and is looking forward to it again this year. This process for signing up was very user friendly and we heard from Santa so quickly afterwards. The Tele-Santa program is fantastic, and I highly recommend it to everyone!" - The Nolan Family

## To read more reflections, please click below:

<https://stnicholas-tele-santa.com/personal-reflections/>



JOIN OUR  
COUNTDOWN!



GREETINGS TO YOUR  
CHILDREN FOR THEIR  
NAME DAY



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