

NICHOLAS AND MARY VITOS

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

2017 APPLICATION (DUE APRIL 15, 2017)

Mr. Nicholas Vitos is often called a “Great Benefactor” of Saint Nicholas. Indeed, many have benefited from his generosity, not only at St. Nicholas, but throughout the Metropolis of San Francisco.

His bequest included funds not only for this scholarship, but Mr. Vitos also provided for an AHEPA scholarship, a senior home for the Puget Sound region, and a philanthropic fund for the Metropolis of San Francisco. Prior to his death, it was Mr. Vitos’ contributions which helped retire the mortgage of St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church, Pasco, Washington.



While his legacy lives on in the philanthropic work established in his name, unfortunately, this man’s remarkable story remains mostly obscure.

Nick Vitos was born in Bura, in the region of Arkadia in Peloponesos, Greece. His family emigrated to the US in his early years, and he attended Tacoma schools; he graduated from Lincoln High School.

Following graduation, Nick attended Knapps Business College, before embarking on a 55-year career in accounting. In his leisure time, Mr. Vitos was active in the Church and Greek community, serving several terms on the Parish Council and in the Order of AHEPA.

Preceded in death by his wife Mary, Mr. Vitos fell asleep in the Lord on April 17, 1991 and was laid to rest alongside his family at Tacoma Cemetery.

From humble beginnings as a young immigrant, Mr. Vitos was aware of the struggles of the unprivileged. To that end, the Nicholas and Mary Vitos Scholarship was established, so that deserving and promising Orthodox young men and women would not want for training and education for their life’s work. In keeping with Mr. Vitos’ vision and dedication to the church which he loved so much, he stipulated that the scholarship bearing his name would awarded to deserving young people of the St. Nicholas Parish Community who demonstrate dedication to God and His Holy Church, academic excellence, and financial need. The purpose of this application and the Scholarship Committee is to ensure that Mr. Vitos’ request will be carried out to the best of our ability.

Mr. Vitos will always be remembered as a man of principle, conviction, and love for Christ’s Church. May his memory and legacy be eternal!

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

1. Recipients and their families must be members in good standing of St. Nicholas, including regular attendance at the worship services, for a period of two years prior to applying for a scholarship.
2. Scholarship recipients shall be chosen from among qualified applicants 24 years old, or younger, who are high school graduates, and who have enrolled, registered, or attended an accredited college, university, or vocational school in pursuit of technical or undergraduate degree. (The Scholarship is not intended for graduate studies.) Scholarships may be renewed, based on continued qualification.
3. The Nicholas and Mary Vitos Memorial Scholarship Committee will accept and review all applications submitted for scholarships.
4. In Selecting the applicants for the purpose of making awards, the Scholarship Committee will apply the following:
 - FINANCIAL NEED 30 points
 - ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE 25 points
 - Grade point average, honors classes, difficulty or challenge of the academic programs*
 - ORTHODOX LIFESTYLE 25 points
 - Attendance at Divine Services, participation in the Sacramental and social life of the Church*
 - RECOMMENDATIONS AND REFERENCES 10 points
 - PERSONAL LETTER: 10 points
5. **In order for the application to be considered complete, each applicant must submit the following:**
 - a. Complete application form
 - b. Official transcripts, sent directly from High School and any college (1st year applicants). SAT scores for college freshman applicants. College transcripts of grades (Continuing applicants)
 - c. Letter from the Priest of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church for new applicants. Continuing applicants who live outside of the area will need to contact our Priest at least quarterly to keep our Priest updated with his/her situation.
 - d. The Student Aid Report (SAR) from the U.S. Department of Education. See page 6
“ESTABLISHING FINANCIAL NEED” for details;
 - e. Letters of Recommendation
 - One high school teacher (1st year applicants) or one college instructor (continuing applicants), preferably from teachers/instructors in the area of concentration/major
 - One adult (not a family member), such as employer, volunteer supervisor, or other such person in an advisory capacity to the applicant
 - f. Personal Letter: **1st year applicants** please write a letter about yourself and your involvement and accomplishments in Liturgical and community services in the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Tacoma, and your future personal and professional goals. **Continuing scholarship recipients** please submit a letter of your past years accomplishments and future goals.
 - g. Letter of Acceptance from the vocational/technical school, college, or university for first year applicant.
6. This Application Form and all other materials must be typed or printed (in ink). All requirements must be fulfilled and the application materials postmarked **no later than April 15, 2017**
No hand-delivered applications will be accepted.
7. Scholarship recipients shall be notified in writing as to acceptance or rejection, with reason given, in both instances.
8. Scholarship recipients must be present in church on Graduate Recognition Sunday (mid-June) for the Scholarship presentation. Any Scholarship recipient who is absent from the Scholarship Awards Ceremony shall make an appropriate explanation, in writing to the Committee.
9. Scholarship monies (approx. amount \$5,670.00) shall be sent directly to the college/university business office, to be applied toward the recipient’s account. No money shall be given directly to the recipient.

TO THE APPLICANT:

The duty of the NICHOLAS AND MARY VITOS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE is to select the most appropriate recipient from among all applications received, using the criteria set forth by Mr. Vitos himself. This is no small task. However, you help us to fulfill Mr. Vitos’ will by presenting a well-prepared and complete application to justify yourself.

We, of the Committee, look forward to reviewing your application, promising to thoughtfully and impartially consider you and your request.

BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL DATA

FULL NAME: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: *Street* _____

City, State Zip _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ PLACE OF BIRTH: _____

ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN: *Yes* _____ *No* _____

NAME OF FATHER, MOTHER, AND/OR LEGAL GUARDIAN(S): _____

ADDRESS: *Street* _____

City, State Zip _____

PARENTS:

Are your parents Living? Father _____ Mother _____

PARENTS' EMPLOYMENT:

Father's Occupation/Employer: _____ Number of Years _____

Mother's Occupation/Employer: _____ Number of Years _____

BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

Name _____ *Age* _____

ACADEMIC RECORD

HIGH SCHOOL:

Name of School _____

Year of Graduation _____

Address _____

What is your High School or College GPA? _____

Please respond to the following:

1. What special recognition have you received for excellence in school, such as honors or scholarships?

2. In what extracurricular activities have you participated?

3. Have you received special recognition for excellence in extracurricular activities? If so, please elaborate:

4. What vocation or field of study do you expect to enter?

5. What vocational/technical school, college, or university do you plan to attend?

Name of School _____

City, State _____

6. When do you expect to enter college or vocational technical school? _____

7. **STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES (INFORMAL COPIES OK) FOR SAT—PLEASE ATTACH UNLESS PLANNING TO GO TO A VOCATIONAL SCHOOL**

COMMUNITY AND PARISH SERVICE

1. Tell about your contributions to St. Nicholas Parish.

Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____

2. Tell about your contributions to the Community.

Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____
Event or activity _____ Month/Year _____

APPLICANT EMPLOYMENT

Tell about your current and past employment, in chronological order: *(Attach additional pages as needed)*

1. Employer: _____ Telephone: _____
Address: _____ Job Title: _____

Dates of employment: *(from)* _____ *(to)* _____

2. Employer: _____ Telephone: _____
Address: _____ Job Title: _____

Dates of employment: *(from)* _____ *(to)* _____

3. Employer: _____ Telephone: _____
Address: _____ Job Title: _____

Dates of employment: *(from)* _____ *(to)* _____

FINANCIAL NEED

Note: In order to establish financial need, it is imperative that the required forms and information be included in this application. Failure to do so will result in automatic rejection of the Scholarship Application.

ESTABLISHING FINANCIAL NEED:

1. A U.S. Department of Education FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) must be completed.
 - a. Complete the U.S. Department of Education FAFSA for the current year. This may be done online at fafsa.ed.gov, or by calling 1-800-433-3243.
 - b. When the FAFSA has been processed, you will receive your SAR (Student Aid Report) by mail or e-mail. Enclose a copy of this report (the SAR) with your completed NICHOLAS AND MARY VITOS SCHOLARSHIP Application.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

2. Please answer the following:
 - a. Have you applied for the Vitos Scholarship before? _____ If 'yes,' in which year(s)? _____
 - b. Are there persons dependent upon you for support while you are in vocational/technical school or college? _____
If 'yes,' give particulars _____
3. If you feel that there are further circumstances of which the Scholarship Committee should be aware regarding financial need, please include this in your application packet.

NOTE: Any questions or concerns regarding the Scholarship or application prior to the deadline, please contact either Fr Seraphim (253) 272-0466 or the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Hariklia (Hoddi) Motz by email at hoddimotz@comcast.net

Thank you for applying for the NICHOLAS AND MARY VITOS SCHOLARSHIP. While we wish that a scholarship could be provided for every applicant, however, due to the terms of Mr. Vitos' will, not every qualified applicant will receive a scholarship. If you are not selected, we do encourage you to apply again next year. We do wish you the very best in your continued studies. Please be assured that our thoughts and prayers will be with you as you undertake your studies, and hope that you will return to St. Nicholas and visit us often.

May God bless you in all your future endeavors!

With Christian Love, NICHOLAS AND MARY VITOS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

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