

LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

(616) 954-2700 ▪ info@stnicholasgr.com ▪ stnicholasgr.com

JANUARY 3-9, 2020

START the NEW YEAR with FAMILY NIGHT

Whether you are single or married, have young children or adult children, in your thirties, seventies or somewhere in between, there are great ways to grow in your faith during this semester's Family Night. **Family Night is held for 8 consecutive Wednesdays from January 13 – March 3.**

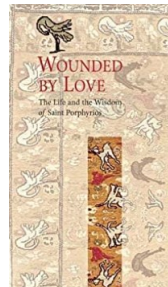
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Women of St. Nicholas

Hey ladies! Let's get together for some fun and fellowship and EUCHRE! We'll be having a Euchre Night (and other games if you choose) on **Tuesday January 26** at 7 pm in the Cultural Center to allow plenty of room to spread out and socially distance. Please remember your masks and join us for some fun! Contact [Janet Ansara](#) with questions!

Men of St. Nicholas

The men are having a book discussion of "*Wounded by Love*", the Life and the Wisdom of Elder Porphyrios. We will meet for three **Tuesday evenings on Jan 19, February 2 & 16** from 7-8PM on Zoom. Please mark your calendars, more details to come. The login information is posted on our St. Nicholas calendar. Contact [Greg Lambert](#) or [Sam Bander](#) with questions.



Young Adults

Join the St. Nicholas Young Adults for a Virtual Christmas Party **this Saturday, January 9** from 7:30-9:00 PM! Grab some holiday themed snacks, and log on to see each others' faces as we celebrate Christ's birth and baptism. We'll also try out some virtual team trivia throughout the night. The login information is posted on our St. Nicholas calendar. Contact [Ben Bauman](#) with questions.



THIS WEEK

Please visit stnicholasgr.com/calendar for information on these and all our activities. The Zoom password is 333.

Sunday, January 3

8:50AM—Orthros
No Orthodox Education
10AM—Divine Liturgy



Tuesday, January 5 Theophany



9AM—Royal Hours
5PM—Orthros of Theophany
6PM—Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Waters

Thursday, January 7

10AM—Bible Study
7PM—Youth Ministry Committee meeting

Saturday, January 9

6PM—Great Vespers followed by confession
7:30PM—Young Adult Virtual Christmas Party & Game Night



Theophany House Blessing



It is time to schedule your Theophany House Blessing! We have once again organized the House Blessing schedule according to zip codes and have provided an on-line sign-up feature for your convenience. If you do not have email access, please call the office to schedule your House Blessing. Please do your best to schedule during your listed zip code time frame, **but if you must schedule outside the prescribed time frame, we will understand.**

Register at: www.stnicholasgr.com/houseblessings.

The schedule is as follows:

Date	Zip Codes
January 6 & 7	49503, 49506, 49507
January 8, 9, & 10	49302, 49315, 49316
January 12, 13, & 14	49306, 49341, 49504, 49505, 49525, 49544
January 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, & 20	49301, 49512, 49516, 49546
January 21 & 22	49508, 49509, 59519, 49548
February Please contact Fr. Michael to schedule your House Blessing.	48815, 48917, 49009, 49058, 49303, 49307, 49319, 49326, 49401, 49415, 49423, 49426, 49431, 49456, 49461

- * If your zip code is not listed, contact the church office so we can update our records.
- * Feel free to coordinate your House Blessing with parishioners in your neighborhood.
- * Each household must be scheduled for their own time slot.

NOTE: In light of the ongoing pandemic, please note the following, as instructed by the Archdiocese:

- ♦ Father will not be staying for refreshments and/or conversation this year, but will simply bless the house and depart.
- ♦ He will be masked and socially distanced throughout his visit.
- ♦ He can bless your home at any time in the coming year, so feel free to delay your House Blessing until a later date if desired.

Register at: www.stnicholasgr.com/houseblessings.

HELP CORNER

The following are ways you can help out your church:

- ♦ Burn printed material containing icons
- ♦ Assist with taking down Christmas decorations this week: **January 6-9.**

Contact Keith if you can assist.

SHARING ORTHODOXY

Fr. Michael is a regular contributor to the Grand Rapids Press Religion section. Read what Fr. Michael along with other pastors representing a variety of religious affiliations have to say about the following topics:

- ♦ [Questions about abortion](#)
- ♦ [Calls to defund police?](#)
- ♦ [Misperceptions about religion](#)

AV 2021 WINTER CAMP (VIRTUAL)

Winter Family Camp will be held **Saturday, January 16** from 2-4PM with guest speakers Fr. Donald, Kh. Janet, and Dr. Stephen Shadid.

Winter Camp will be held **Saturday, February 13** from 2-4PM with guest speaker Fr. Nicholas Belcher.

While both programs will be offered free of charge and open for anyone to participate, the AV Camp is in financial need. Donate online at avcamp.org or send a check to 201 Saint Ignatius Tr, Bolivar, PA 15923.

BECOME A PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER

During our January 31, 2021 General Assembly, we will be electing three members and an alternate to the Parish Council. If you are interested in being a potential candidate, please complete the Affirmation Statement and the Questionnaire. Both can be found on our [St. Nicholas website](#) under the "Parishioner" tab. If you have questions regarding Parish Council membership, please contact [Greg Lambert](#), [Mike Simon](#), or [Fr. Michael](#).

TRINITAS - INFORMATION NIGHT

With all of the uncertainty that surrounded (and still surrounds) the prospect of in-person learning for students this year, parents have faced difficult decisions about how best to raise up their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Will there even be in-person learning? How often, and for how long, will we have our children at home? If they are home, how hands-on will online learning be for us as parents? What will be the quality of virtual classes? Should we even enroll our child in school, or should we homeschool?

With thanks to God for His protection and guidance, Trinitas opened the year with in-person learning and has continued to teach students face-to-face. It has taken a balance of adjusting to official safety requirements and protecting the integrity of our Christian, classical approach to learning. By God's grace and the diligence of many, we continue to cultivate lives of faith, reason, and virtue in our physical classrooms.

If you are weighing your options for the second half of this school year or starting to think about your plans for next year, visit our website or join us for a conversation. Our headmaster will host an online informational meeting for parents on January 12 at 6:30 p.m. Reserve your space by visiting: <https://www.trinitasclassical.org>

DISPOSING OF ICONS

As we approach the end of another year, questions arise regarding what to do with printed materials containing icons, such as calendars, obituary cards, newsletters, etc. We should never throw any icon in the trash, regardless of the material on which it is seen. We should dispose of unwanted printed materials containing icons in one of the following ways:

- ◆ Burn the icon and place the ashes under a tree, bush, or other place where it won't trampled.
- ◆ Bring only the pages containing the printed icons to the church and place them in the "ICON" bin outside the church offices. We will burn the icons for you.

PARISH COUNCIL

Your Parish Council is here to serve you. If you have a question or comment, email them by clicking on any of their names below.

Chairman
[Mike Simon](#)

Vice Chairman
[Sam Bander](#)

Treasurer
[Joe David](#)

Secretary
[Bruce Nicola](#)

Assistant Treasurer
[Melissa Powell](#)

OTHER MEMBERS

[Dan Abraham](#)

[Rami Haddad](#)

[Brian La Franboise](#)

[Greg Lambert](#)

[Steve Medich](#)

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Nicholas Church is a worshipping community in the Antiochian Orthodox Christian tradition that preserves, proclaims, and practices the Faith given by Christ to the Apostles, serving Him, one another and our neighbors. We manifest His love through sacramental and liturgical life, education, hospitality, works of mercy, and fellowship.

Our parish exists to seek and share Christ's love so that ALL will find Eternal Life in Him.

SINGLE & ORTHODOX

A NEW MEETUP CREATED FOR SINGLE
ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN MICHIGAN

Make connections within parishes and BETWEEN

This groups purpose is to connect actively practicing single Orthodox Christians together and build new relationships. We will focus on providing positive social outlets, virtual events, retreats, and networking opportunities.

So many people complain that there are not very many single members in their parish and struggle to build relationships within the Orthodox community. And during these trying times being single can be exceptionally difficult. I hope this group will be a way to connect us all together, no matter where in Michigan you are!

Check us out on Meetup.com and get connected today!

WANT TO KNOW MORE? GO TO OUR MEETUP SITE OR CONTACT US TODAY!

Jessica Laarman - Group Leader

j26blue@gmail.com

<https://www.meetup.com/orthodox-christian-singles-of-michigan/>