



# LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

## THE SUNDAY BULLETIN OF ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

### NOVEMBER 27, 2022

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#### **METROPOLITAN ANTONIOS TO VISIT GRAND RAPIDS**

**Thursday, December 15**

His Eminence Metropolitan ANTONIOS, our Patriarchal Vicar, is planning to visit Grand Rapids on Thursday, December 15th.

Please find below the proposed schedule. It might be modified, if needed, based on His Eminence's arrival to Grand Rapids:

- ◇ **4PM:** Meeting with clergy from local parishes
- ◇ **6PM:** Vespers - all churches are requested to attend
- ◇ **7PM:** Light coffee reception to meet His Eminence

Please save the date and more details will be forthcoming.

#### **A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS**

On **Monday, December 5**, we will be having Orthros (5PM) and Divine Liturgy (6PM) in honor of our Patron Saint. Children, please leave a shoe in the Narthex in the designated area on your way into the Nave.

Immediately following, the parents of the youth are hosting a festive fast-friendly dinner. "St. Nicholas" himself will be visiting all the children and posing for individual and group photos.

#### **NATIVITY POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to offer a Christmas poinsettia "in Eternal Memory of" or "for the Good Health of" your loved ones, kindly submit the form to the Plexiglas box on the Parishioners' table in the Narthex or return it to the church office by **Sunday, December 11**. The electronic form is available at [stnicholasgr.com/advent/](http://stnicholasgr.com/advent/).

#### **BECOME A PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINEE**

During our January 29, 2023 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](http://St. Nicholas website) under the "Parishioner" tab. If you have questions regarding Parish Council membership, please contact Mark Ansara ([mark.ansara@advantage-cre.com](mailto:mark.ansara@advantage-cre.com)).

All nominees are welcome to submit a biography for the General Assembly booklet. **The deadline for inclusion is December 31.**

#### **THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, November 27**

8:50AM—Orthros &  
Orthodox Education  
(No Church School)

10AM—Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, November 30**

6PM—Advent Paraklesis  
followed by confession

**Thursday, December 1**

10AM—Bible Study  
12:30PM—Forerunners  
Leadership Meeting

**Saturday, December 3**

6PM—Great Vespers

**Sunday, December 4**

8:50AM—Orthros &  
Orthodox Education

10AM—Divine Liturgy

Patronal Festal Luncheon  
Each household is encouraged to  
bring a fast-friendly dessert or  
fruit tray.



## A FOCUS ON ALMSGIVING

*“Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs.” + St. John Chrysostom*

### **SANTA’S HELPERS—PROJECT MEXICO**

#### **Today is the last day to give**

Our church is teaming-up this Christmas to bring the love of Christ to Roberto who lives at St. Innocent’s Orphanage, Mexico. Contact your Fellowship Group leader to give to this special cause: Forerunners (Eileen Adolphson or Barbara Thomas), Men of St. Nicholas (Sam Bander or Greg Lambert), Women of St. Nicholas (Janet Ansara or Debra Taylor-Weiss), Young Adults (Ben Bauman), SOYO (Mykel Giannakakos), JOY (Ben or Meredith Solak). You can also donate electronically at [[stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving](http://stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving)], or through [Venmo](#) or by check with “Santa’s Helpers” in the memo.

### **CLOTHING THE NEEDY**

#### **Through December 4**

This Advent season we are conducting a Winter clothing drive for the residents of the Camelot Community. On your next shopping trip please consider purchasing NEW coats, hats, mittens, scarves and socks for children, teens and adults. Many of our Camelot neighbors are from warmer parts of the world and winters are difficult for them. There is a collection box for the clothes in the Narthex and another by the west entrance across from the Cultural Center.

Besides general winter clothing articles for children, teens, and adults: coats, hats, mittens, scarves and socks, below are specific clothing items for Camelot students attending Ridge Park Charter School:

- Boys snow pants size 5/6 (for two students)
- Boys snow pants size 7/8 and 8 (for two students)
- Girls snow pants size 5/6
- Boys coat size 5/6
- Boys boots sizes 3, 11, 12
- Boys hats (size small and medium)
- Boys gloves (size small and medium)
- Man Size Hat

### **FEEDING the HUNGRY**

Meijer has selected Green Apple Pantry as a recipient of the “Simply Give” double match this Advent season. That means \$10 donated to “Simply Give” will result in a \$30 food donation. Contributing to St. Nicholas for the “Simply Give” program feeds the hungry right here in our community. Donate at [[stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving/](http://stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving/)], by Venmo or by check. Please include “Simply Give” in the memo. **The deadline to donate is Monday, December 12.**

### **ENGAGING IN SERVICE**

#### **Monday, December 12 @ 5:30PM**

Our Parish, in partnership with Catholic Charities, will again be setting up and stocking this year’s Foster Care Christmas Store. It is a fun night of work and fellowship with dinner provided. Over 1,200 children will receive Christmas gifts and winter clothing as a result of this effort. Consider bringing a friend to join us this year! Check out all the fun we had last year by going to the video link at: [[stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving/](http://stnicholasgr.com/almsgiving/)]

Catholic Diocese of West Michigan  
360 Division Avenue S, Suite 3A  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



## SAVE THE DATE: NATIVITY RETREAT

**Saturday, December 10 @ 12-4:30**

St George will be hosting a Nativity Retreat entitled "Mary, Mission & Mysteries—The paths to the Kingdom". It will be presented by Archpriest Fr. Chad Hatfield, President of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. The event begins with a potluck lunch followed by three addresses and quiet reflection time. The day concludes with Vespers. The retreat is free, but RSVP @ [[stgeorgenativityretreat.eventbrite.com](http://stgeorgenativityretreat.eventbrite.com)].

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

### OK MAMA: MOMS and KIDS PLAYDATE

**Friday, December 9 @ 10AM**

Moms! You are invited to bring your kiddos to a playdate! Hannah Nelson (a St. George mom) is hosting our play date this month. You know it's going to be a fun time! This is such a great opportunity to let the kiddos play and make friends and for you to connect with other moms. See you soon

**Address:** 2051 Breton Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, 49546.

Please follow us on our facebook page "O.K. Mama" for details and updates!

### FORERUNNERS: A SINCERE THANK YOU!

The Forerunners would like to thank Paul and Loisann Rogowyi for their wonderful presentation Thursday, November 17. First, we enjoyed our delicious Chinese Potluck Luncheon. A big thanks also to our members. Then, Paul and Loisann gave us a visual presentation of many aspects of their lives spent in China where Paul works. All 15 of us truly enjoyed this exciting and educational event! We hope to do it again.

### YOUNG ADULTS: ADVENT FELLOWSHIP

**December 17 @ 6:30**

The Young Adults are invited to the Olson House for an Advent Fellowship Get Together. A fast-friendly main dish will be provided but sides or fast-friendly desserts will be happily welcome. For address or more information, please consult Gresham Olson or the Young Adults group message.

## YOUTH IN ACTION

### SHEPHERDS OF INDEPENDENCE CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Tuesday, December 20 @ 4-7PM**

We will be hosting the Christmas party for the adult foster care residents at Shepherds of Independence! All JOY and SOYO students are invited to help with the party. We will have food, play bingo, sing songs, and help Santa deliver gifts to the residents! Please RSVP to Mykel or Elizabeth Ayoub (414.305.4676) if you are JOY/SOYO and able to participate.

## DEPARTED IN DECEMBER

The following are the departed members of St. Nicholas in the month of December. They will be remembered in today's Liturgy.



12/01/1984	Joseph Salhaney
12/02/1944	Elias Salem
12/07/1982	Amine Nicola
12/07/1957	Mike Maloley
12/09/1995	Julia Maloley
12/10/1996	Esper Salhaney
12/12/2003	David Kitolsky
12/12/2009	Rose Nicola
12/13/1986	Helen Wawee
12/13/2008	Clara Kaleefy
12/16/1956	Michael Nasser
12/16/1965	Yamna Assaley
12/16/2005	Bertha Runyon
12/18/1965	Yanna Assaley
12/18/2007	Mitri Karadsheh
12/19/1944	J.S. Salhaney
12/20/1944	Mary Maloley
12/20/1991	Leo Henry
12/21/1972	Bud Fraam
12/22/1983	Jeannette Jazzar
12/24/1965	Nora Najjar
12/24/1975	George Semwar
12/24/1993	Ramsey Salhaney
12/25/1943	Edward Kaleefy
12/25/2019	Steve Thomas
12/26/1959	Ferris Ziton
12/27/2003	Awwad Haddad
12/31/1977	Edward Bell

### INFORMATION FROM LAST WEEK'S BULLETIN

For more information about the following topics, go to:

[stnicholasgr.com/bulletins/](http://stnicholasgr.com/bulletins/)

- ◆ Honoring the Lord with Our First Fruits
- ◆ Nativity Poinsettias
- ◆ Etiquette in church: Food
- ◆ Special Collection Totals
- ◆ Nativity Service Schedule
- ◆ Nativity Retreat Hosted by St. George





# *St. Nicholas* PATRONAL FEAST

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

❄️ GIFT OF ST. NICHOLAS PRESENTATION

❄️ ST. NICHOLAS LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL  
(PLEASE BRING A FAST-FRIENDLY DESSERT OR FRUIT TRAY)

MONDAY DECEMBER 5

5 PM - ORTHROS FOR ST. NICHOLAS

6 PM - DIVINE LITURGY

❄️ ST. NICHOLAS MAY COME TO FILL SHOES WITH CANDY

❄️ FESTAL DINNER HOSTED BY THE YOUTH PARENTS.