

LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN OF ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

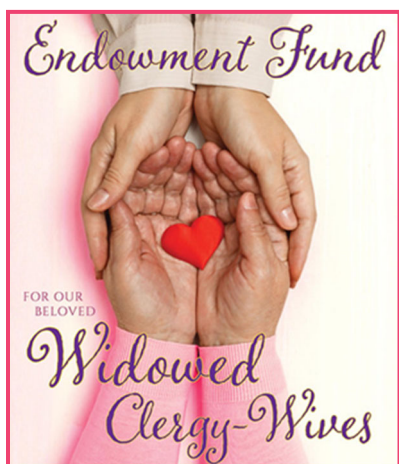
MARCH 3, 2024

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

MARCH IS WOMEN'S MONTH

Pancake Breakfast/Silent Auction

Sunday, March 24



This is the first Sunday of Women's Month in the Archdiocese. Watch for the women to take a more visible roll in church. The Women's Month project given to us this year is to "Establish an Endowment Fund for the Widowed Clergy Wives".

The Women of St. Nicholas will be hosting a pancake breakfast on **Sunday, March 24**, along with a silent auction, with proceeds going to the Endowment Fund. Silent auction items can be purchased with cash or check only. If you have any items you would like to donate towards the auction, please contact Elena Nasser or Barbara Thomas. More details to follow.

THE CHOSEN DISCUSSION GROUP

Tonight, March 3 @ 8PM

Join us via Zoom to discuss the popular TV series, *The Chosen*, depicting the Gospel and ministry of Jesus Christ. Fr. Michael will lead the discussion from an Orthodox perspective as we begin Season 2 (Episodes 1-3). The Discussion Group Zoom link is posted on the church calendar. Invite a friend!



HOST A COFFEE HOUR

All families are encouraged to host at least one Coffee Hour each year. Feel free to invite other families or individuals to partner with you if you prefer. When selecting a Coffee Hour date, take into account significant events such as memorials, anniversaries, names day, significant birthdays, etc.

To use the electronic sign up feature, go to: stnicholasgr.com/coffeehour. You can still sign up to host a Coffee Hour by using the paper sign up sheets located on the easel in the atrium. **The following host dates are available: March 17 (Cheesefare) and April 7 & 21.**

As a reminder, Coffee Hour does not have to be elaborate. It can be as simple as coffee and bagels. **If you are serving anything that contains nuts, please make certain to place a tent card "Contains Nuts" by that dish.**

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 3

8:50AM—Orthros & Orthodox Education Classes

10AM—Divine Liturgy

SOYO Leadership Meeting

5PM—SOYO Night

8PM—The Chosen Discussion Group via Zoom Season 2, Episodes 1-3

Wednesday, March 6

Parish Family Night

6PM—Vespers

6:30PM—Dinner

7PM—Groups

Thursday, March 7

10AM—Bible Study

12PM—Forerunners Leadership Meeting

6PM—Evangelism Team Meeting

Saturday, March 9

9AM—A-Men Breakfast

6PM—Great Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday, March 10

Meatfare Sunday

8:50AM—Orthros & Orthodox Education Classes

10AM—Divine Liturgy

* Coffee Hour/Lunch

6PM—Books with Abouna: *The Screwtape Letters* Discussion

YOUTH IN ACTION

SPECIAL PARENT MEETING

Sunday, March 17 @ 9-9:30AM

Dn. John Kaufman and Dn. Justin Adolphson will be holding an informational meeting for parents of all Church School children to discuss opportunities for our Youth to participate in Stewardship. Please drop your kids off for Church School, then join them in the Cultural Center.

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION NEEDED!

Scholarship requests are due today! If you are seeking a camp scholarship from St. Nicholas, please see Dn. Justin Adolphson ASAP!



Whether your child or teen is registered for Antiochian Village Summer camp **or** is on the waiting list, please contact Dn. Justin Adolphson or Gretchen Zahn so we can arrange transportation.

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE CREATIVE FESTIVALS

CREATIVE FESTIVALS 2024 THEME

"All things work together for good
to those who love God,
to those who are called
according to His purpose."
Romans 8:28



St. Nicholas Church School will be concentrating on Creative Arts during class on March 10. Projects will be due to St. Nicholas by March 24 so we can ship them to the Archdiocese. Categories Include:

*Art ~ Creative Writing ~ Digital & Graphic Art
Poetry ~ Photography ~ Video/Film*

Overview, eligibility requirements and rubrics can be found at:

<https://antiochian.org/dashboard?name=creative%20festivals%202024>

TEEN SOYO SAVE THE DATE!

Teen SOYO will be having a Lenten retreat the weekend of **April 12-14** at Grace Adventures Retreat Center near Silver Lake State Park. Mark your calendars and look for more information coming soon.



Last month teens enjoyed a Sunday afternoon skating together !

VERSE OF THE WEEK

*Before destruction the heart
of a man is haughty,
And before honor is humility.*

Proverbs 18:12

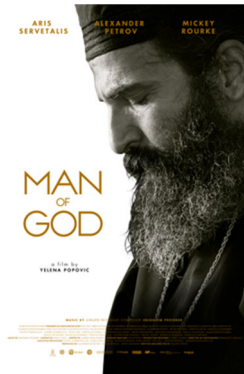
PANCAKES WITH PADRE RECAP

Last Saturday, our HOPE & JOY kids finally had a chance to enjoy Pancakes with Padre! Thanks to Kh. Vicky Nasser and Melissa Adolphson for planning such a fun morning.



GRIFFINS HOCKEY RECAP

Last Sunday a group of parishioners and residents of Shepherds of Independence watched the Grand Rapids Griffins snap the Milwaukee Admirals 19 game winning streak! It was a great night of hockey and spending time with our friends from Shepherds. The residents were very grateful to all of you that purchased tickets for them! A special thanks to all those that attended as well as to Ethan DeJonge and the YAM's for sponsoring the fun event for the entire parish.



OCF MOVIE SHOWING: *MAN OF GOD*

Tuesday, March 26 @ 6:30PM

As we begin this Lenten season, Grand Rapids Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) would like to invite the community and our local parishes to join us for a showing of the film *Man of God* at the Richard M. DeVos Center. Invite your family and friends! Admission is free of cost, and any donations will go to support Grand Rapids OCF as we serve college students!



Address:

The Richard M. DeVos Center:
401 West Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, 49504
Room: EV 122E - Loosemore Auditorium

Parking: 505 Fulton St W, Grand Rapids, 49504

MEAL SPONSORS FOR ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our West Michigan chapter of OCF is looking for meal sponsors for their meetings on **March 12 and March 19**. Meals should feed 15-20 people and can be either home-cooked or purchased from a restaurant. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact one of the following:

Dn. Justin Adolphson at dnjustin@stnicholasgr.com

Schuyler Brinks at schuyler.brinks@gmail.com

Emily Cameron at emcm375@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE

2024 DIOCESE OF TOLEDO
PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

All Saints and Holy Transfiguration invite you to join us for a few days of Christian fellowship, prayer, and fun for all ages. Whether you are new to the Diocese or have been attending PLCs for many years, we welcome each of you and your families. We look forward to seeing you and getting to know you at the Toledo Diocese Parish Life Conference in Chicago-Land in June 2024!

DATE	LOCATION
June 26-29 Wednesday - Saturday	Chicago Marriott Oak Brook 1401 W 22nd St, Oak Brook, IL 60523

OUR MISSION—WHAT WE DO

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church is a worshipping community living and sharing the Faith Christ gave to the Apostles.

WHY WE EXIST

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church exists to seek and share Christ's love so that all will find Eternal Life in Him.

PARISH COUNCIL

Please use the following email address when communicating with the Parish Council:

parishcouncil@stnicholasgr.com

STRATEGIC PLANNING

For updated information go to:
stnicholasgr.com/parishioners

SUBMISSION REMINDERS

Announcements and Holy Oblations are due by noon each Wednesday.

Submit Announcements:

announcements@stnicholasgr.com

Submit Holy Oblations:

stnicholasgr.com/parishioners/
or by completing an envelope located on the Parishioner's Table in the Narthex.

SCHEDULING TIME WITH FR. MICHAEL

To make a an appointment, please call the Church Office and arrange. For those who would like to arrange their own appointments, please go to stnicholasgr.com/appointments and do so directly online.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Fellowship activities provide great opportunities to invite others to engage in faith, fellowship & fun.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 9 @ 9-10:30AM

Join us for the men's monthly breakfast in the Gathering Room. Our guest speaker will discuss how to get the most out of Lent.

WOMEN OF ST. NICHOLAS:

Ridge Park Teacher Treats

We will be providing treats for the teachers at our neighbor Ridge Park Charter Academy on **Wednesday March 13** as they prepare for parent-teacher conferences. We will need 5-6 people to provide sweet or salty snacks or 2-3 dozen cookies and bring to church by 10AM on March 13 and someone to help set up and deliver the treats by 11AM. If you would like to help please contact Jenny Khorey at Khoreyegr@gmail.com or 616-204-4265.

Women's Paint Night

Thursday, March 14 @ 6:30PM

All women are invited to spend an evening together as Nathan Adolphson leads us through the creation of a beautiful painting. Cost for supplies is \$25. To register go to: stnicholasgr.com/womensnightout/

Ethnic Dining over Lunch or Dinner

Interest has been expressed by several women in the parish in getting together for lunch or dinner and exploring a variety of ethnic dining options throughout the Grand Rapids area. If you are interested in joining other women in the parish in dining out occasionally in a variety of different restaurants, please send an email or text to Marian Lambert letting her know of your interest. Based on interest, we will make plans for an outing! gmlambert@att.net (616) 648-0469.

FORERUNNERS

Thursday, March 21 @ Noon

Join us for a Lenten lunch followed by an informative presentation and discussion of Orthodox Lent given by Fr. David. Please bring a Lenten meal/side of your choice. Please respond to Barbara Thomas at bat47@wmis.net with your attendance.

OK MAMA: MOMS & KIDS

DIY Lenten Calendar!

Friday, March 15 @ 10AM

Lent is finally around the corner! Moms and Kids, let's gather and do some preparing! We will meet at St Nicholas on We are going to make some DIY Lenten calendars! What a great way to prepare for preparing for Holy Pascha! And a great way to help us visualize our journey. We can't wait to see you there! Please come, bring your friends and your crafty fingers (or crafty-wanna-be fingers)! Please contact Hannah Seeley hrseeley@gmail.com or visit our FB group (search: OK mama) for details and questions.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARDS

If you have not submitted your stewardship Commitment Card, please do so. A month ago, we mailed Commitment Cards along with a self addressed stamp envelope to each family who did not submit a card. Thank you for submitting your card this week. We appreciate your cooperation.

AV GOLF

Saturday, May 18

Attention golfers! Would you like to enjoy a golf trip (maybe reunite with old Village friends?) all while helping out the Antiochian Village? Registration is open for the AV Open Golf Outing! It takes place at the scenic Champion Lakes Golf Course in Bolivar, PA. Registration includes a day of golf, green fee, cart, special competitions, lunch on the course, and dinner at the camp. All proceeds will go towards the newly established AV Camp Endowment, which will help support camper scholarships and/or capital improvements in the future.

For more information or to register, go to: <https://avcamp.org/golf/> !



ANTICIPATING GREAT LENT

EASING INTO GREAT LENT

In Her wisdom, the Church eases us into the Great Fast by offering us a Fast-free week, which we just completed. This week, we return to a normal Wednesday and Friday fasting schedule, followed by Meatfare Sunday, March 10, upon which we begin to fast from meat. This takes place one week before the Great Fast begins. The fasting schedule is as follows:

- ⇒ March 6 & 8 : Regular fasting on Wednesday and Friday
- ⇒ March 11-17: Fasting from meat
- ⇒ March 18: Lenten Fast begins

Let's all benefit from the blessing that fasting can be!

PREPARING FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK

Let's all plan to make our schedules available for the services of Lent and Holy Week by looking ahead on our parish calendar at stnicholasgr.com/calendar/.

Let's use this time to PREPARE for a spiritually-enlivening Lent with increased prayer, fasting, and almsgiving which lead us to encounter Christ. By being prepared to enter Lent, we can best benefit from this season of renewal! For more details, please visit the Lenten website at stnicholasgr.com/lent.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

Sunday, March 17

6PM—Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, March 18

6PM—Great Compline

with the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (part 1)

Tuesday March 19

6PM—Great Compline

with the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (part 2)

Wednesday, March 20

6PM—Presanctified Liturgy (followed by a Lenten Potluck)

Thursday, March 21

6PM—Great Compline

with the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (part 4)

Friday, March 22

9AM—Presanctified Liturgy

6PM—Akathist Hymn @ Holy Cross

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, March 17

Cheesefare Sunday

Cheesecake Sale
during Coffee Hour

Sunday, March 24

Orthodoxy Sunday

Special Collection for Seminarians
Lenten Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 28-Saturday, May 4

Holy Week

Sunday, May 5

Pascha



GREAT FEAT of the ANNUNCIATION of the THEOTOKOS

Sunday, March 24

5PM—Vespers

followed by a festal meal

@ Annunciation Orthodox Church

185 E. Pontaluna Rd.

Muskegon 49444

Monday, March 25

6PM—Vespersal Liturgy

@ St. Nicholas

followed by a fish taco dinner