

LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN OF ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

APRIL 14, 2024

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

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

An indispensable part of our preparation for Holy Week and Pascha is the offering of our Confession. The last opportunity to have Confession prior to Pascha will be Holy Tuesday following Bridegroom Matins. Below are several opportunities being offered:

Unscheduled Confession with Fr. David
Tuesdays from 9AM - 4PM

Unscheduled Confession with Fr. Michael & Fr. David
Mondays following Compline
Saturdays following Great Vespers

Scheduled Confessions with Fr. Michael

For the next three weeks on Tuesdays-Thursdays, Fr. Michael still has 15-minute time slots available for Confessions. stnicholasgr.com/appointments

The 45 minute appointment slots are currently filled. Please consider meeting with Fr. Michael during the unscheduled confession sessions.

THE GREATEST INVITATION: ROUND 2!

Saturday, April 20 @ 10AM

Register by this Wednesday, April 17: stnicholasgr.com/retreat.

Join your fellow parishioners by attending this wonderful Lenten Retreat where you will obtain practical tools to better understand and fully engage in the Divine Liturgy. By the way, you won't want to miss out on the salad bar Mark Ansara is preparing for lunch!



10AM - Continental Breakfast
10:30AM - *What Only God Can Do*
Noon - Lunch
12:30PM - *God Comes In Love*

VENMO IS BACK

Please use **St-NicholasGR** (note the dash) for our new account name.

THE CULTURAL CENTER IS HIRING

With the continued booking of the Cultural Center to our Grand Rapids community, we are looking to hire additional set-up, re-set, and staff personnel. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about this flexible, part-time opportunity, please contact Janet Ansara or Keith.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 14

Sunday of St. John Climacus

8:50AM—Orthros

Orthodox Education Classes

10AM—Divine Liturgy

* Soup Sunday Coffee Hour

8PM—*The Chosen* Discussion
via Zoom

Monday, April 15

6PM—Great Compline followed
by Confession

Tuesday, April 16

6PM—Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 17

6PM—Small Compline with the
Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
and Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Thursday, April 18

10AM—Bible Study

6PM—Presanctified Liturgy
followed by Lenten Potlock

Friday, April 19

6PM—Akathist Hymn
@ St. George

7:30PM—Young Adults
@ Pind Indian Cuisine



SPRING WORK DAY

APRIL 27TH

**WE'RE HAVING A PARTY,
AND YOU ARE INVITED!**

We will join our fellow parishioners in sprucing-up our church!

There will be jobs for all ages and skills!

The day begins with Orthros (9 AM) and Divine Liturgy (10 AM) followed by a light breakfast.



PASCHA CELEBRATION

The Lewis Family (Nick, Joanna, and Colette) is throwing their annual Open House to celebrate Pascha, and they'd love for you to join them. They see this as an evangelistic opportunity to celebrate our faith in the greater Grand Rapids community with friends and family from the parish. As part of the festivities, there will be live music (a la Mr. Sam Granger and his band), a whole lamb on a rotisserie in the front yard, lots of good food, and big tents in case the weather does not cooperate. This Open House is potluck-style, so please bring a dish to pass if you're able. Please join them in their celebration!

When: Sunday, May 5 (Pascha!)

Time: anytime after 3:00 P.M.

Where: 422 Gladstone Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

THE SECOND HALF OF OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Last Sunday, we lifted up the Holy Cross as a reminder that we only journey to the Kingdom of Heaven by picking up our own crosses and offering ourselves to God and others in sacrificial love. As we press on to Holy Pascha, think through the following questions:

- * How can I bring more prayer into my life, both by attending services and by my personal prayer, to draw close to Christ?
- * How can I engage in the Fast so as to strengthen the result of my soul over the weaknesses of my body?
- * How can I love the people around me, especially the neediest of the poor and the lonely and forgotten, as an expression of my love for Jesus Christ, who offers himself for me and my salvation?

Saturday, April 20

10AM—The Greatest Invitation
Retreat: Round 2

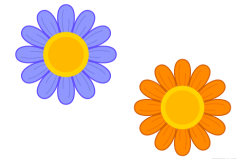
6PM—Great Vespers
followed by Confession

Sunday, April 21

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

8:50AM—Orthros
Orthodox Education Classes

10AM—Divine Liturgy



UPDATES TO THE DIRECTORY

We look forward to distributing a new Church Directory by Palm Sunday.

Stacey Bauer

833 Nevada St
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Jeremy & Emily Hultink

616 Bayberry Point Apt J
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

Emily & Royce Lloyd

314 Rosemary St
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Dn. Clem & Audrey Nicoloff

3956 Whispering Way SE
Rm. 606 & 608
Grand Rapids MI 49546

Brittany Storey

9475 Sanborn Ave
Alto, MI 49302

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

There are many scholarship opportunities available. Please head to our website for details: stnicholasgr.com/scholarships/.

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE & CHARITABLE OUTREACH

For 50 years the *Food For Hungry People & Charitable Outreach* has:

- ⇒ Helped the homeless and sick
- ⇒ Fed starving babies, children and adults
- ⇒ Sheltered and guided run-away and thrown-away teenagers
- ⇒ Aided and visited those in prison and cared for their families
- ⇒ Brought food, clothing, assistance and hope to the homeless
- ⇒ Provided food, medicine and aid to war-torn and disaster struck victims
- ⇒ Given assistance to our local communities in need
- ⇒ Supported local food banks
- ⇒ Has awarded almost \$200,000 in disbursements thru Charitable Outreach, (including \$30,000 here to Grand Rapids charities)

You can see the need for and the good that this wonderful program does. Please give generously.

"If you give something to someone who is in need, then let a cheerful face precede your gift, along with kind words and encouragement for his suffering." St. Isaac the Syrian

ALMSGIVING OPPORTUNITY

Personal Care Drive

The Camelot Community Neighborhood pantry is in need of **personal care items**. There are drop off areas outside the Cultural Center and in the Narthex for your donations. **Next Sunday, April 21, is the last day to participate in this Lenten almsgiving opportunity.** The following items are needed:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◇ toilet paper | ◇ body lotion |
| ◇ bar soap | ◇ baby wipes |
| ◇ toothpaste | ◇ small Band-Aid packages |
| ◇ deodorant | ◇ men's disposable razors |
| ◇ shampoo | ◇ men's shaving cream |
| ◇ conditioner | ◇ disposable diapers |
| ◇ dish liquid soap | and pull-ups –all sizes |
| ◇ laundry detergent | ◇ women's personal products |
| ◇ Kleenex | (pads only/no tampons) |
| ◇ dental floss | |



Calling all St. Nicholas Graduates

Congratulations! You did it!

Submit your form for our
Graduation Booklet by April 28.

stnicholasgr.com/graduates

Don't forget some photos of yourself!

We are honoring your hard work
Sunday, May 19th.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit"

1 Peter 3:18

SEMINARY COLLECTION

Thank you to the parishioners who contributed to the collection for Archdiocese Seminaries. The total amount was \$1,492.63.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

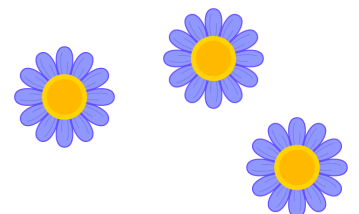
The following dates for upcoming Choir rehearsal are tentative:

Thursday, April 25 @ 6:30PM

Saturday, April 27 after the
Lazarus Saturday Liturgy
and Breakfast.

PASCHA CAROLING TO OUR HOMEBOUND

Save the date: Saturday, May 11
Details coming soon!



PROJECT GR 2024 PAN-ORTHODOX WORKDAY

Last Day to Register: Friday, May 10



Pan-Orthodox Workday

Saturday, May 18th

In partnership with ICCF, we'll rehab houses in GR doing minor carpentry, painting, cleaning, & yard work making them ready for those in need of affordable housing.

MEET AT ICCF: 415 MLK JR. ST. SE

8:30 AM - Prayer & Assignments
9:00 AM - Work Session
12:30 PM - Lunch (Bring a sack lunch)
1:00 PM - Work Session
4:00 PM - Clean-up

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION
iccf.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/panorthodox/

SPONSORS
Holy Cross
St. George
St. Nicholas

The poster features a central graphic of a house with a cross on top, surrounded by rays of light, with the text 'PROJECT GR 2024' below it. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a neighborhood with colorful houses and trees, and a QR code for volunteer registration.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

YOUNG ADULTS

This Friday, April 19 @ 7:30PM

Following the Akathist Service at St George, we will be meeting for food and fellowship at Pind Indian Cuisine. We will be joined by Fr David who will be giving a short message about the diversity of experiences in the church. Everyone is on their own for their food and beverages. Reach out to Gresham Olson with questions.

JOIN "THE CHOSEN" CONVERSATION

Tonight, April 14 @ 8-9PM

Everyone is Invited to Participate!

Join in the conversation on Zoom for our discussion of Season 3, episodes 5-8. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the life of Christ!



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.