



# LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

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

**JUNE 23, 2024**

(616) 954-2700 ▪ [info@stnicholasgr.com](mailto:info@stnicholasgr.com) ▪ [stnicholasgr.com](http://stnicholasgr.com)

### LETTER FROM BISHOP ANTHONY

We were surprised and saddened to hear of Bishop ANTHONY's transfer to California. Use the link below to read the communication from him regarding his recent assignment to the Diocese of LA and the West. <https://stnicholasgr.com/bishop/>.

### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL PILGRIMAGE

Anyone interested in the pilgrimage to Greece is asked to communicate his/her interest by **this Friday, June 28** by using the following link. (Interest in this pilgrimage simply means that you are considering participating.) Currently, we have an informational meeting scheduled for **Sunday, July 14** if enough interest is expressed. Please use the following link to express interest: [stnicholasgr.com/pilgrimage](http://stnicholasgr.com/pilgrimage).

### CHURCH PICNIC

**Saturday, July 20**

Join your fellow parishioners for kayaking, games, fellowship, dinner and Vespers at Richardson-Sowerby Park (65 S. Main St. Rockford). For more information, go to <https://stnicholasgr.com/fun/>.

### FOCUS GR

For the most up to date information about FOCUS GR, pertaining to the opportunities and how they would look if taken on, please go to <https://stnicholasgr.com/focus/>. There is also a link to donate should you wish to contribute to the fundraising.

### WEEKLY COMMUNICATIONS

Lately many of you have not been able to receive our Wednesday re+new or Weekend Edition emails. This is due to the email host flagging the email as spam or accidentally unsubscribing. One of the ways this can be corrected is to open a previous email, then scroll to the bottom of the email and click the "Manage Email Preferences" link. You will be redirected to a page where you can update your email preferences. Next, select your preferences and click Save Preferences. This option allows you to opt back in if you unsubscribed by mistake! Please contact Jeri ([secretary@stnicholasgr.com](mailto:secretary@stnicholasgr.com)) in the church office if you continue to have problems.

### PAN-ORTHODOX FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

**Monday, August 5**

**5PM—Orthros, 6PM Divine Liturgy**

Mark your calendars for the Feast of the Transfiguration which will be celebrated at Fallasburg Park (13565 Covered Bridge Rd., Lowell, MI 49331). More details to follow.

### THIS WEEK

**Fast-Free Week**

**Sunday, June 23**  
**Feast of Pentecost**

8:50AM—Orthros

10AM—Divine Liturgy

\* Vespers with the  
Kneeling Prayers

**Monday, June 24**

5:30PM—Teen SOYO:  
Teen Night & Elections

**Tuesday, June 25**

6PM—Fall Gathering Meeting

6PM—Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday, June 26-  
Saturday, June 29**

Parish Life Conference

**Saturday, June 29**

6PM—Great Vespers followed  
by Confession

**Sunday, June 30**

Campers leave for  
Antiochian Village

8:50AM—Orthros

10AM—Divine Liturgy

\* Blessing of the Narthex Icons

# Council Corner

PC UPDATES

## TRAVELING THIS SUMMER?

It is important to remain strong in the Faith while traveling. Stay connected by participating in each Sunday's Divine Liturgy and all of the other services being prayed throughout the summer. The livestream link can be found on our website: [stnicholasgr.com/watch-live/](http://stnicholasgr.com/watch-live/).

It is easy to financially support St. Nicholas while you take a week here and there this summer to enjoy family vacation time. Continue your faithful contributions to St. Nicholas in any of the following ways:

- ◆ Mail a tithing check to the church for the time period that you will be on vacation.
- ◆ Venmo your tithe before traveling or while away.
- ◆ Go to our website at [stnicholasgr.com](http://stnicholasgr.com) to submit your tithe.

Your continuous contribution supports the ongoing mission of our parish and is critical during the summer months.

## PARISH TOWN HALL

Sunday, July 21

We will hold our annual Town Hall during coffee hour. Please plan to attend to receive updates from our parish leadership at the halfway point through the calendar year. Lunch will be provided.



Fr. Michael and the Parish Council:  
Toward a Higher Partnership Retreat.



The priests and Parish Council members from St. Nicholas, St. George, Holy Trinity, and Holy Cross, along with Steve Christoforou, director of FOCUS North America, toured Shepherds of Independence for FOCUS GR.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday, July 20

St. Nicholas Church Picnic

Sunday, July 21

Parish Town Hall

Monday, August 5

Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

5PM—Orthros

6PM—Divine Liturgy

@ Fallasburg Park

followed by a potluck

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

*And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever*

John 14:16



Forerunners celebrate at their annual Salute to the 4th!



## PLC TALENT SHOW

The Diocesan Talent Showcase will be the highlight of the last evening of the PLC! There will be well-prepared and highly entertaining performances of all kinds: music, comedy, magic, drama, etc. The Talent Showcase is for entertainment purposes only and not a competition. To register, go to [orthodoxwarrenville@gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxwarrenville@gmail.com).

## BLESSING OF THE NARTHEX ICONS

Sunday, June 30

The new icons in the Narthex will be blessed next Sunday.

## ADULT A.V. CAMP

September 20-23

Attention adults: don't let the kids have all the fun! Registration is open for Adult Camp at Antiochian Village! Adult Camp will be featuring our very own (we can still claim him as ours, right?!) Fr. Raphael Daly as the guest speaker. This is your chance to go back to camp (or go for the first time) for a weekend! You're never too old for camp! This is open to ANY adult 21+. To register, and for more information, go to: <https://avcamp.org/programs/adult-camp/>.

## SAVE THE DATE: FALL GATHERING

October 18-20

St. Nicholas will be hosting this year's Midwest Diocese Fall Gathering. We'll be asking for assistance from our various Fellowship Groups and for volunteers from amongst the parish. Please be a part of helping to make this a fun, successful weekend!



The Women of St. Nicholas met for a Saturday morning brunch at the Lambert's home on June 15. Good food and conversation were enjoyed by all.



## 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](mailto:parishcouncil@stnicholasgr.com)

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

For updated information go to: [stnicholasgr.com/parishioners](http://stnicholasgr.com/parishioners)

## SUBMISSION REMINDERS

Announcements and Holy Oblations are due by noon each Wednesday.

Submit Announcements:

[announcements@stnicholasgr.com](mailto:announcements@stnicholasgr.com)

Submit Holy Oblations:

[stnicholasgr.com/parishioners/](http://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](http://stnicholasgr.com/appointments) and do so directly online.



## YOUTH IN ACTION

### TEEN SOYO

Tomorrow, June 24 @ 5:30—8PM

At this month's Teen Night, we'll elect officers for next year and talk about summer plans. We'll also grill some burgers and hotdogs and having a good time together! This is open to all teens.

### KIDS' FOOD BASKET FARM DAY: HARD WORK & LOTS OF FUN!

Parents and parishioners, you should all be SO proud of our kids! They worked hard harvesting produce, shoveling and spreading compost, and planting herbs at the first of three Kids' Food Basket Farm Days. Even with temperatures in the 80s, they worked tirelessly with smiles on their faces, barely letting the adults get a turn with the shovels or buckets! As a reward for all of their hard work, we enjoyed the splash pad and a picnic at Wilcox Park.

Parents, mark your calendars and watch for emails about our two remaining KFB Farm Days this summer on July 19 (followed by a lake day at the Lamberts') and August 6 (followed by a pool party at the Sirotkos')!



### PARISHIONER UPDATE

Aleksandr de Morrow  
Delta Co 1st RTBN Platoon 1052  
Box 16150  
Parris Island, SC 29905-6150

### ETIQUETTE CORNER: TOYS

We understand the need for kids to be quiet during the Divine Liturgy, but we also do not want to distract them from the purpose of being in church. Some suggestions to help them may include:

For ages 2-5: point out the icons and look for similar colors, crosses, the Lord Himself, then give them a break for a few minutes and then find something else like singing the responses or what the priest is doing.

For ages 6-8: have your child follow along in the service book or purchase one of the children's liturgy books from the bookstore. Give them shorter breaks throughout the liturgy but always bring them back to focus on the liturgy.

By age 8 or 9: children should be able to follow along in the service with very minimal distractions. Having them sing and say responses keeps them engaged.

\*\*\*Note: anything being brought to church for quiet time should be church related and not create any noise to distract others.