



LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN OF ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

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

REGISTER FOR THE 2024 FAMILY FALL GATHERING!

Three Goals That Offer Something for Everyone:

- ⇒ Pray Together at Worship Services and Help with our Teen Service Project
- ⇒ Play Together at Trivia Night & Young Adult Pickleball and Join our Live Music Party
- ⇒ Stay Together in Growing Our Orthodox Churches and Sharing Our Best Practices

Please register at stnicholasgr.com/fall-gathering/

WE NEED YOU!

FIND YOUR FIT

Throughout the month of September, we have encouraged everyone to reconsider their engagement in the ministries of St. Nicholas. Today, as we celebrate everyone's participation, we continue to encourage each member of the parish to reflect upon how they connect to the life of the parish. Please review the "Find Your Fit: Ministry Guide" booklet and complete the commitment form located at the following link: stnicholasgr.com/timeandtalent.

GROW IN THE FAITH

An important part of being an Orthodox Christian is growing in our Faith. For those who cannot attend the Sunday morning Adult Education Class, Wednesday Parish Nights, or Thursday morning Bible Study, you can still grow by connecting to each class online: stnicholasgr.com/podcasts/.

FRIENDLY FACES NEEDED

As we start the new Ecclesiastical Year, we want to invite you to be a Sunday morning greeter. This opportunity involves standing in the stained-glass hallway and saying "good morning" to everyone as they pass by. One of the biggest rewards of greeting is becoming familiar with those who attend the Divine Liturgy each week. Another added benefit is being a friendly face while displaying the love of Christ! If you are interested, click the link below to sign-up! No experience necessary. All you need to be able to do is say "Good morning!" stnicholasgr.com/goodmorning/.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 22

8:50AM—Orthros & Orthodox Education

10AM—Divine Liturgy

Ministry Engagement Celebration

5PM—St. Nicholas AV Night

Monday, September 23

10AM—Baklava Baking

Tuesday, September 24

11:45AM-5PM—St. George Middle Eastern Dinner

6PM—Fall Gathering Meeting

Wednesday, September 25

Parish Night

6PM—Vespers

6:30PM—Spaghetti Dinner

7PM—Classes & Activities

Thursday, September 26

10AM—Bible Study

11AM—St. Xenia's Circle

6PM—Middle Eastern Dinner

Mid-way Leadership Meeting

VERSE OF THE WEEK

He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, And He will pay back what he has given.

Proverbs 19: 17

“LUNCH BUDDIES” FOR RIDGE PARK CHARTER ACADEMY

As the school year begins, we are once again partnering with our neighbor, Ridge Park Charter Academy, to provide extra support to their students. This year we are looking for “lunch buddies” — people who are able to spend a half hour a week with a student during their lunch time talking, playing games and generally being a trusted adult in their lives. If you have the desire to help and the time to give, please contact Jenny Khorey for more information.

PARISH NIGHT—WEEK 2

It is not too late to attend, so we hope to see you on Wednesday!

- * 6PM—Vespers
- * 6:30PM—Dinner
- * 7PM—Classes and activities

For a description of the adult classes, visit stnicholasgr.com/parish-night/.



ST. BASIL'S ORTHODOX HOMESCHOOL COOP

Do you homeschool? The St Basil's Orthodox Homeschool Co-op is starting its new semester! The co-op meets every Wednesday at Holy Cross, located next to the Blandford Nature Center. The day begins with Liturgy at 9:30am followed by lunch and classes. This semester, the focus will be on studying Scripture and nature. All ages are welcome and there is no cost.

ST. NICHOLAS TAKES THE TROPHY



This year's softball game was a lot of fun! We had a fantastic team of amazing talent. Congratulations Team St. Nicholas for bringing home the trophy!



Saturday, September 28
9AM—Women of St. Nicholas
Breakfast

6PM—Great Vespers
followed by Confession

Sunday, September 29

8:50AM—Orthros &
Orthodox Education

10AM—Divine Liturgy

Altar Boys: Pizza & Training

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, September 30

4-9PM—FOCUS fundraiser
dinner @ Euro Bistro

Tuesday, October 15

Middle Eastern Dinner

Friday-Sunday, October 18-20

Fall Gathering

A promotional poster for the FOCUS North America 20 Years of YES conference. The poster features the FOCUS logo, the text "invites you to a conference celebrating", and "20 YEARS OF YES". It lists the location "Austin, TX | November 8-10" and describes the event as including outreach, workshops, social gatherings, and a celebratory banquet. The theme is "Overcoming the Obstacles to Service, with three interactive workshops". Three speakers are listed: Fr. Michael Nasser, Elissa Bjeletich Davis, and Jason Catanese. A QR code is provided for registration, and the registration fee is \$125.

FOCUS invites you to a conference celebrating
NORTH AMERICA
20 YEARS OF YES
AUSTIN, TX | NOVEMBER 8-10

Join us for outreach, workshops, social gatherings, and a celebratory banquet!

The theme of our weekend will be *Overcoming the Obstacles to Service*, with three interactive workshops:

- How to Share the Burdens of Others Without Being Overwhelmed
with Fr. Michael Nasser
- How to Serve When Perspectives Differ
with Elissa Bjeletich Davis
- How to Make an Impact When the Problem Feels too Big
with Jason Catanese

We welcome adults of all ages from the YES and FOCUS communities, and from Orthodox parishes across the country. Registration fee is \$125.

REGISTER NOW AT
YESNORTHAMERICA.ORG/20-YEARS-OF-YES-CONFERENCE/

Jason Catanese
Elissa Bjeletich Davis
Fr. Michael Nasser



MIDDLE EASTERN DINNER NEWS

Tuesday, October 15

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

We are counting on your cooperation to help make this dinner a success! Please start to sell tickets, and remember to purchase your own as well.

- ◆ Tickets can be purchased online using Venmo or credit card @ <https://stnicholasgr.com/dinner/>.
- ◆ Printed tickets are available during Coffee Hour as well as in the church office during office hours.
- ◆ Ticket prices are as follows:
 - ◇ Cash/check: \$22.00
 - ◇ Venmo: \$22.50
 - ◇ Credit Card: \$22.66



A few helpful tips to get you started on selling tickets.

- ◇ Send the online ticket link to your family and friends.
- ◇ Take printed tickets to sell to family and friends who would enjoy delicious dinner and collect money from them for the tickets.
- ◇ All unsold tickets and money from purchases must be turned in by Sunday, October 6!

ONE FINAL BAKING DAY

The prettiest of all baking days is saved for last!

This Monday, September 23

Baklava

10AM

NOTE: Please do not wear open-toe shoes when you come to bake.



SPREAD THE WORD!

Have you seen the photos of our wonderful chefs on social media? Make sure you share these photos, and our Middle Eastern Dinner flyer on your social media to promote this delicious event! Remember, St. Nicholas is on Facebook and Instagram so share, share, share! Let's make this the most successful dinner yet!

GIVING BOARD!

All parishioners are encouraged to make a donation to help underwrite the ingredients and supplies associated with the Middle Eastern Dinner. Pull off a giving card from the board located in the Atrium and make your donation.



FOCUS

+ GRAND RAPIDS +



DINNER TO SERVE

For the benefit of our new
FOCUS Center in Grand Rapids.

September 30, 2024 | 4 PM to 9 PM
Euro Bistro (6080 28th Street Southeast)
(616) 719-2017

Join us to enjoy a delicious meal. All proceeds from your dinner (excluding tips) will be donated to the development of this vital new ministry.

FOCUS North America is a national nonprofit with eleven operating divisions across the country. Join us as we develop a new FOCUS Center right here in Grand Rapids.

Call ahead to make your reservation. Space is limited.

More information at focusna.org/GrandRapids.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

WOMEN OF ST. NICHOLAS

Saturday, September 28 @ 9AM

Join us as we begin our new church year with breakfast, fellowship and an opportunity to learn more about the wives of our clergy. Our clergy wives will participate in a panel and let us know about their backgrounds and journeys to Orthodoxy. Please contact Angela Boyer if you did not receive an invite in your email.

YOUTH IN ACTION

GRAND RAPIDS AREA AV NIGHT

Sunday, September 22 @ 5-7PM

All camp-aged kids (8-17 next summer) and their parents are invited to AV Night! Come enjoy dinner, camp games, and learn about the Antiochian Village Summer Camp. We will watch the AV Camp video and hear from our own campers about their experience! Please register at: stnicholasgr.com/youth/.

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

SCHEDULING TIME WITH FR. MICHAEL

To make 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.