

LIFE AT ST. NICHOLAS

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN OF ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

APRIL 27, 2025

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

CHRIST IS RISEN!

THANK YOU

We want to give a BIG thank you to everyone who made Holy Week and Pascha a beautiful occasion. Don't forget to look at the photos on the back page!

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE & CHARITABLE OUTREACH

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give"

Sir Winston Churchill

As the Food for Hungry People & Charitable Outreach fund drive comes to a close, we ask that you count the change you have collected and write a check to St. Nicholas, noting FFHP&CO in the memo line. There will be a collection table in the Narthex. If you're giving electronically, please also note FFHP&CO in the memo line. There will be a simple Coffee Hour today for Food for Hungry People & Charitable Outreach as a last chance to give.

We have collected about \$6,800 toward our \$7,500 goal, so we hope this Coffee Hour will get us to that goal. Thanks to our anonymous matching donor, that will bring our total donation to \$12,500! Thank you for your generosity to this wonderful cause.

"For it is in the giving that we receive." St Francis of Assisi

INTRODUCING SMALL GROUPS AT ST. NICHOLAS

At St. Nicholas, we believe that meaningful relationships are the foundation of a strong, vibrant church community. Many parishioners have expressed a desire for deeper connection, and we're excited to launch **Small Groups** this fall as one way to make that happen.

Small groups will consist of 8-12 people meeting once a month during the school year. These gatherings create space for authentic conversation, mutual support, and spiritual growth, all in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

Whether you're new to St. Nicholas or have been a part of the community for years, Small Groups are a great way to get to know others more deeply.

Interested in joining? Visit our information table at Coffee Hour this Sunday to learn more, go to stnicholasgr.com/small-groups/ or use the QR code to sign up.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 27

Thomas Sunday

8:50AM—Orthros & Orthodox Education

10AM—Divine Liturgy followed by Prayer Trail Dedication

Thursday, May 1

10AM—Bible Study

Saturday, May 3

7AM—A-Men Pilgrimage to Dormition Monastery

9AM—Prayer Trail Planting Day

6PM—Great Vespers followed by Confessions

6:45PM—Exorcism Prayers for Catechumens

Sunday, May 4

Sunday of the

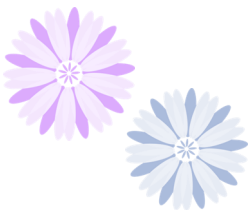
Myrrhbearing Women

8:50AM—Orthros & Orthodox Education

10AM—Divine Liturgy

5PM—SOYO Night

7PM—Young Adults: Rooted in the Sacraments



THANK YOU

The Palm Sunday and Pascha meals were a huge success this year due to the hard work of our Parish Council and numerous volunteers. A huge thank you to Maryrose Olson, Joanna Abud, Nawal Swart, Tanner DeJonge, Keith McAdams, Mark & Janet Ansara, George Ansara, Brian LaFranboise, Nicholas Nicola Jr., and many others.

WHITECAPS BASEBALL

Save the date: Thursday, June 5

Mark your calendar for the annual outing as we host the residents of Shepherds of Independence to a Whitecaps baseball game. More details coming soon!

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Memorial Day (Monday, May 26)

A wonderful Orthodox tradition is to have the graves of our departed loved ones blessed. Fr. Michael will be meeting families and blessing graves at the cemeteries listed below. If you would like to have your loved one's grave blessed, please meet him at the designated location at the cemetery.

Graceland @ 10AM: meet at Mausoleum parking lot

Woodlawn @ 11AM: meet at cemetery office parking lot (east side of Kalamazoo Ave)

Oakhill @ 12:30PM: meet at cemetery office parking lot (north side of Hall St)

Chapel Hill @ 1:45PM: meet at cemetery office

If you would like the grave of your loved one blessed on a different day or at a different cemetery, please contact Fr. Michael.

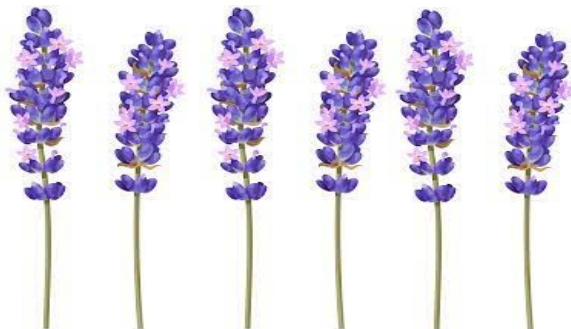
GRADUATION BOOK

Graduates, please remember to turn in your forms today!

PRAYER TRAIL PLANTING DAY

Saturday, May 3 @ 9AM-Noon

Join fellow parishioners as we plant trees, shrubs, and ground cover in the St. Nicholas woods. Come prepared to work in the woods by bringing gloves, sun and bug protection, shovels and rakes. We will provide water and snacks. Contact Kiara Abuaita if you plan to come or have questions.



LOOKING AHEAD

- May 26—Blessing of Graves
- May 29—Holy Ascension
- June 7—Saturday of the Souls
- June 8—Feast of Pentecost

VERSE OF THE WEEK

But let him ask in faith,
with no doubting,
for he who doubts is like a
wave of the sea driven
and tossed by the wind.

James 1:6

DEPARTED IN MAY

Remember in your prayers the following members who fell asleep in the Lord during the month of May:



5/1/1999	Robert Hickerty
5/2/1945	Asa Marod
5/2/1991	Victor Ziton
5/3/1963	Salema Salhaney
5/6/1964	Abraham Yared
5/5/1945	Lilian Sickrey
5/8/2019	Mary Martin
5/9/1979	Sadie Samra
5/12/1997	Fred Bendekgey
5/13/2023	Lorraine Zain
5/15/1986	Sarah Jabara
5/15/2000	Charlotte Cooley
5/16/1970	Jennie Ziton
5/17/2001	David Hanna
5/17/2003	Charles Riley
5/17/1950	Nathalie Collings
5/18/2014	Louise Philippi
5/19/2016	Adele Abraham
5/19/1984	Yesda Fraam
5/20/2022	Shirley Salhaney
5/21/1947	Nicholas Courey
5/21/1959	Mike Joseph
5/23/1959	Charles Bendekgey
5/23/1979	Elias Amash
5/24/1989	Georgette Abraham
5/26/1975	Wadiah Laham
5/26/1976	James Ayoub
5/27/1960	Bertha Corey
5/27/1982	Abraham Kaleefey
5/31/1999	John Soukar
5/31/2020	Stephen Lewis

YOUTH IN ACTION

MAY TEEN NIGHT

Next Sunday May 4 @ 5-7:30PM

It's election time! Teens, come join us for our May Teen Night. We'll hold elections for our officers, break in the new ping-pong table, discuss summer plans, and share a FAST-FREE meal!

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Teens, there is still time to prepare and sign up for the 2025 Midwest Diocese Oratorical Contest. This year's theme is, *"Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word."* - Luke 1:38

Junior Division: 13-15 yrs old

Senior Division: 16-19 yrs old

For more details, go to teensoyo.org/oratorical



FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

A-MEN PILGRIMAGE

Saturday, May 3

The Men of St. Nicholas are taking a pilgrimage to Dormition Monastery for an all-day event remembering Fr. Roman Braga. If you did not receive the email with all the information and , contact Scott Watson or Sam Bander. Register at stnicholasgr.com/men.

YOUNG ADULTS

Saturday, May 3 following Vespers

Join us for "Rooted in the Sacraments", a short, engaging discussion centered on real experiences in sacramental life. Fr. David will be giving a talk on the topic of Confession.

This isn't just about learning theology...it's about gaining a deeper understanding of who we are and what we already know. Grab some tea, join the conversation in the Youth Room, and leave equipped to live your faith with purpose and meaning. Reach out to Ethan DeJonge with questions.

WOMEN OF ST. NICHOLAS: GNO

Monday, May 5 @ 5:30PM

Join us for an evening of fellowship at Noco Provisions and hear from Yumna Jawad on cooking-relating subjects. Yumna Jawad is an entrepreneur, social media influencer, and cookbook author. She is the CEO and founder of Feel Good Foodie, Please contact Angela Boyer if you did not receive the emails! **RSVP through Evite by April 28.**

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

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.

SCHEDULING 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.

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.

