

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Announcements 11/28/21

Please send any NEW announcements to Bulletin@StNicholasAR.org

Community Christmas Card

As a parish fundraiser, we are going to send out a community Christmas card to our mailing list with the inclusion of names of those who would like to contribute \$25 per entry (person or family). You can complete your donation by using the QR code to the right. Please contact Jason & Kristin Potoski to be included. Contact them via email or phone (kpink007@live.com or 214-843-2114). Many thanks!



Church School Updates

We are resuming our Church School classes today! They will begin at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy and will be held at the blue house. If you are interested in helping out as an assistant to one of our Church School teachers, please speak with Elizabeth Baclig (920-574-0467). Also, there are some Orthodox Children's books that we would like to add to our Church School's resources. If you would be interested in donating a book to our Church school, you can purchase it through our Church bookstore. The titles include: *St. Nicholas and the Nine Gold Coins*, *St. George and the Dragon*, *Heaven Meets Earth: Celebrating Pascha and the Twelve Feasts*, *The Life of the Theotokos for Children*, *Sweet Song (The Story of St. Romanos)*, and *The Boy, A Kitchen, and his Cave (The Story of St. Euphrosynos the Cook)*. Please speak with Gretchen Baclig if you are interested in donating one of these titles to our Church School!

Nativity Paraklesis

Now that we have entered the Nativity Fast (Advent season), we are planning to offer a special prayer service in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas). Join us for this service on the following Wednesday evenings: **December 1, 8, 15, & 22.**



St. Nicholas Retreat

Join us on Saturday, **December 4th at 3:00 pm** as we watch a documentary and offer a discussion on the Life of St. Nicholas. We will have **Great Vespers at 6:00 pm** followed by Fellowship (joined by parishioners of our sister church of St. John of Chicago Orthodox Church in Rogers).



Celebration of our Patronal Feast (December 4th & 5th)

With the blessing of Bishop Nicholas, we will "transfer" the feast of St. Nicholas (our patronal feast) to the weekend of **December 4th & 5th**, in the hope that more of our parishioners can join us to celebrate. We will need food and drinks for Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon (coffee hour); please contact Fr. Paul if you are willing and able to help out!

Stewardship & PC Nomination Committee Meetings

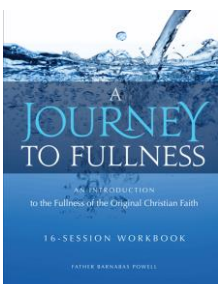
Our Stewardship Committee will be meeting this Wednesday, December 1st, at 6:00 PM to discuss our stewardship efforts for 2022 and future financial needs of the parish. Immediately following this meeting, our Parish Council Nomination Committee will have a brief meeting. Both meetings will be held at the church. Our next Parish Council Meeting is being moved to 12/8 to accommodate for these meetings.

Community Groups

The next **North Group** meeting will be on **Monday December 6th, starting at 6:00 pm**. It will take place at the Salem family's home. The address is: **9 Windemere Street, Bentonville, AR 72712.**

The next **South Group** meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 14th, starting at 6:00 pm**. It will take place at the Strickland family's home. The address is: **122 Northaven Street, Farmington, AR 72730.**

Both groups will be continuing to go through the *A Journey to Fullness* series. Remember to bring your workbook with you! If you don't have a workbook and would like to purchase one, they can be purchased through our Church Bookstore for \$10 each.



Antiochian Women

Thanks to everyone for their enthusiasm and support of our Holiday Baklava fundraiser. In recent years we've sold out, so if you haven't yet placed your order please remember to do so by November 30th. **This means there are only 2 days left!** This deadline allows for time to get all the baking ingredients and supplies lined up. Ladies, if you'd like to sign up for any of the following or donate towards ingredients, please contact Paula (pmhaydar20@gmail.com). Exact times are TBD.

Wednesday, Dec. 15 - Prep Session at the blue house

Thursday, Dec. 16 - Baking Day at the blue house

Friday, Dec. 17 - Packaging Day at the blue house

Saturday, Dec. 18 - Customer Order Pick-up at Church from 10a-12noon; Clean-up of work areas at the blue house

Sunday, Dec. 19 - Optional Pick-up Day for our parishioners

Antiochian Men

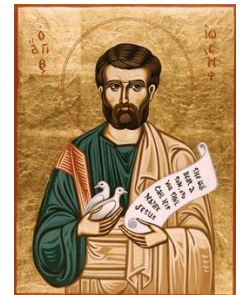
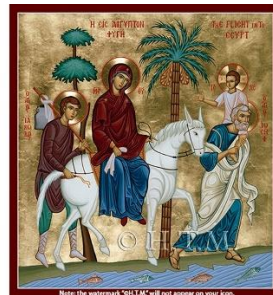
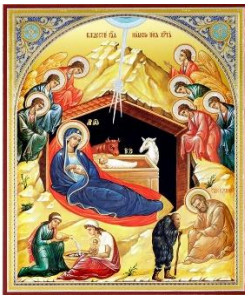
We will not have a men's breakfast in the month of December. We will plan to resume these in January, the date is TBD. Our next Men's Virtual Bible Study hosted by Fr. Stephen De Young will be on Thursday 12/16. The Zoom meeting link will be sent out in the Antiochian Men Newsletter and will also be available in our AMEN groups in the Band and GroupMe Apps. If you would like to be added to these groups or to the AMEN Newsletter mailing list, speak with AMEN President Michael Baclig (479-372-7097)

OCF (Campus Ministry)

Our college students (and young adults) are invited to join us for a bowling outing this Thursday, December 2nd, at 7:00 pm at Ozark Bowling Lanes (2300 N College Ave.). RSVP with Bryce Kirk (801-793-3050).

Bookstore Updates

Our Church Bookstore has three beautiful Nativity icons available, stop by today to check them out! Any of these icons would be the perfect addition to your icon corner as we approach the Nativity of our Lord and Savior! Did you know that St. Joseph the Betrothed is commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity? He is also the Patron Saint of the Antiochian Men! We have an icon of St. Joseph as well as an icon of the Flight into Egypt which is a great gift idea for any men that might be in your household!



Holy Communion Reminders

Please remember to state your name when you approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Be sure to say your name loud enough for Fr. Paul to hear it. Also, since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and recent Confession may participate in Holy Communion. We do invite any non-Orthodox, however, to approach the chalice for a blessing from Fr. Paul and to partake of the blessed bread, which is also distributed at the dismissal. Please speak with Fr. Paul for inquiries on how to become a member of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.

Schedule of Liturgical Services & Activities	
Wednesday, December 1	6:00 pm Nativity Paraklesis 7:00 pm Stewardship & PC Nomination Committee Meetings
Saturday, December 4	3:00 pm St. Nicholas Retreat 6:00 pm Great Vespers followed by fellowship (joined by parishioners from St. John of Chicago Orthodox Church)
Sunday, December 5	9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Fellowship & Potluck Lunch for the feast of St. Nicholas