

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Announcements 12/12/21

Please send any NEW announcements to Bulletin@StNicholasAR.org

Church School Today!

We are continuing to have Church School every other Sunday. Our Church School classes will resume tomorrow following the Divine Liturgy. We look forward to having your children join us!

Patronal Feast Recap

MANY THANKS to ALL who helped make our celebration last weekend so rich and fruitful, especially those who brought food and set-up for such a large number in attendance - truly, such a wonderful weekend! Through the prayers of St. Nicholas, may we have a blessed remainder of the Advent season!

Community Christmas Card – Last Call!

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). **Today is the last day to sign up to be included in the Christmas card.** Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this fundraiser!



Nativity Paraklesis

During this Nativity (Advent) season, we will continue to offer a special prayer service in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas). **There are only 2 of these services left! Please join us for this service on the December 15th & 22nd!**



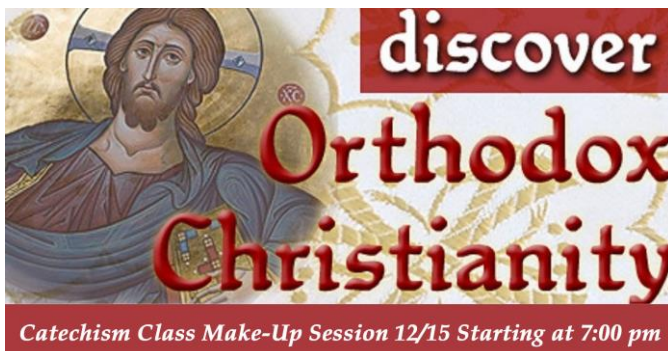
Feast of the Nativity Services

Please join us for the Feast of the Nativity at St Nicholas Church on Christmas Eve, December 24! **Royal Hours will begin at 10:00 am, Festal Orthros will begin at 6:00 pm, and Festal Liturgy will begin at 7:00 pm.** We look forward to celebrating the feast of the Nativity with you!



Education in the Faith – Make-Up Session

Fr. Paul is offering a Catechism Class Make-Up Session this Wednesday 12/15 for anyone that may have missed one or more of the Education in the Faith Series sessions over the last 2 months. In this session, Fr. Paul will briefly go over the lessons and field any questions.



Akathist to St. Joseph the Betrothed

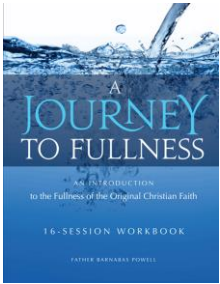
A live stream is planned for the Akathist to St. Joseph the Betrothed, patron saint of The Antiochian Men! It will be live from St. George Orthodox Cathedral in Coral Gables, FL on Sunday December 26, 2021 starting at 2:00 pm. It will be live streamed at youtube.com/amendomse.



Parish Council 2022

If you are interested in being on the Parish Council for the upcoming year, please contact Fr. Paul Fuller to discuss further. Parish Council nominees will be considered at our General Parish Assembly in early February 2022, but only those nominated in advance, not from the floor at the Assembly.

Community Groups



The next **South Group** meeting will be **this coming 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.**

The next **North Group** meeting will be on **Monday January 10th, starting at 6:00 pm.** It will take place at the Kolokithas family's home. The address is: **1701 Park Ridge Way, Cave Springs, AR 72718.**

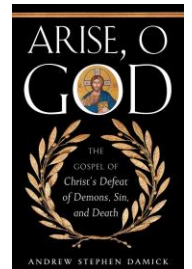
Both groups will be continuing to go through the *A Journey to Fullness* series. Remember to bring your workbook with you! If you don't have a workbook and would like to purchase one, they can be purchased through our Church Bookstore for \$10 each.

Antiochian Women

Many, many thanks to everyone for their enthusiasm and support of this year's Holiday Baklava fundraiser. We have received a record number of orders! Special thanks also to all the volunteers who have reached out to Paula to help with baking and packaging on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and manning order pick-up at Church on Saturday 12/18. Paula has shared scheduling details with the volunteers directly. If you have any questions, please contact her by email (pmhaydar20@gmail.com)

Antiochian Men

Our next men's breakfast will take place on **Saturday January 15th starting at 9:00 am** at St. Nicholas Church. Since His Grace, Bishop NICHOLAS is scheduled to visit us that weekend, we are expecting that he will join us for our men's breakfast and will address our men's group in-person at the church. Please plan to join us if at all possible! The next book that we have selected to read as an organization is *Arise O God: The Gospel of Christ's Defeat of Demons, Sin, and Death*. This book will be the theme of our 2022 AMEN Lenten Virtual Retreat. We have extra inventory on this book available in our church bookstore, buy your copy now while supplies last!



Bookstore Updates

Are you looking for some Christmas gift ideas for your family and friends? Our Church Bookstore has some great suggestions! We have compiled a list of Orthodox Christian gift options below that are currently available in our bookstore's inventory: (1) The Orthodox Study Bible, (2) Books on the Orthodox Faith, (3) Orthodox Children's Books, (4) Sterling Silver Crosses, and (4) Semi Precious Stone Prayer Bracelets (including Carnelian, Amethyst, Tiger Eye, Garnet, Black Onyx, and Turquoise). Our bookstore also has some great stocking stuffer ideas including: (1) Bookmarks, (2) Keychains, (3) Pocket Prayer books, (4) Prayer ropes, and (5) Incense. Stop by our bookstore and get some of your Christmas shopping done before you leave today!

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

Tuesday, December 14	6:00p South Community Group (Strickland Home - 122 Northaven Street in Farmington)
Wednesday, December 15	6:00p Nativity Paraklesis 7:00p Education in the Faith Series Make-Up Session
Saturday, December 18	6:00p Great Vespers
Sunday, December 19	9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship 12:30p Choir Practice