

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Announcements 4/17/22

Please send any NEW announcements to Bulletin@StNicholasAR.org

Chrismation of Ciera Nelson

Yesterday, Ciera Nelson was received into the Holy Orthodox Church with the Sacrament of Chrismation just prior to the Festal Liturgy for the Raising of Lazarus at St. Nicholas Church! May God grant Ciera many years!

Sacrament of Holy Unction (Holy Wednesday – April 20)

Join us for this service during Holy Week at 6:00p on Wednesday, April 20. It is the liturgical practice of Greek/Antiochian churches to offer the Sacrament of Holy Unction of anointing for the healing of soul and body on Holy Wednesday as a means of remembrance of our Lord being anointed before His Passion, Crucifixion, and Burial. ALL are welcomed to attend the service, but as a sacrament, the anointing at the end of service is only for those who are prepared Orthodox Christians.

Holy Friday Vigil at the Tomb of Our Lord

It is the pious custom to read psalms inside the Church at the Tomb (Bier) of our Lord after the Lamentations service throughout the night until liturgical services on Holy Saturday morning. There will be a sign-up in hourly increments allowing our teenagers to take the first “shift” until midnight. A signup sheet has been created online, scan the QR code to the right to sign up! Please note that we would like to reserve the first 2 hours for Teen SOYO. If you have any questions, please contact Bryce Kirk (801-793-3050).



Decorations and Church Cleaning for Pascha

Following Vespers Liturgy on Holy Saturday morning (April 23), anyone who would like to help with decorating and cleaning of the Church, please join us to do so. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Baclig (920-574-0467) who is taking the lead on decorations and cleaning in the church for Pascha.

Blessing of Paschal Baskets

After our liturgical celebrations for Pascha (late Saturday night April 23), we will bless paschal baskets that families bring with them to Church. You can include various items in your basket, and we will share these foods and drinks during our Fellowship late that night. Items that are usually included: meats, cheeses, wine and other alcoholic beverages, sweet breads and desserts, and eggs. You can do a simple Google search to learn more about this custom which is practiced by many Orthodox Christians worldwide.

Reading of the Gospel in Various Languages for Agape Vespers

It is the custom to have this Gospel reading in a variety of languages as a universal proclamation of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! If you would like to read the Gospel in your native or studied tongue (language), please notify Fr. Paul during Holy Week.

Agape Vespers & Fellowship Dinner (Sunday, April 25)

We will offer Agape Vespers at 1:00p on Sunday followed by Fellowship Meal. We will have some children's activities during the Fellowship Meal including an Egg Hunt. A reminder that Parish Council members and their families are asked to bring large-portion side items, and any parishioner is welcome to bring some desserts and drinks.

Parish Directory & Guidebook – PICTURE DAYS

Thank you to everyone who has been participating in our picture days over the last several weeks for our Parish Directory & Guidebook project! Today is a make-up day for anyone who hasn't yet had their picture taken. If this applies to you, please go upstairs after Divine Liturgy today to have your picture taken. Additionally, please note that all Organizations and Ministry Teams will be taking group pictures on Sunday May 15th (This was originally announced for May 8th via email but now will be on May 15th.)

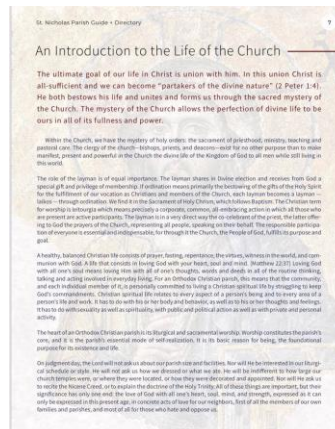
Remaining picture days:

April 17: Make-up

May 15: Organizations/Ministry Teams



Remember to wear your Sunday best for your picture, and most of all – smile! Copies of your digital photo will be available upon request via email to Elizabeth Baclig (elizabethsbacilig@gmail.com). We are asking for parishioner donations to help with the expense of printing our directory and guidebook, scan the QR code above to donate – THANK YOU! Please see Scott Strickland (479-365-9719) for more information on this important project.



Bookstore Update

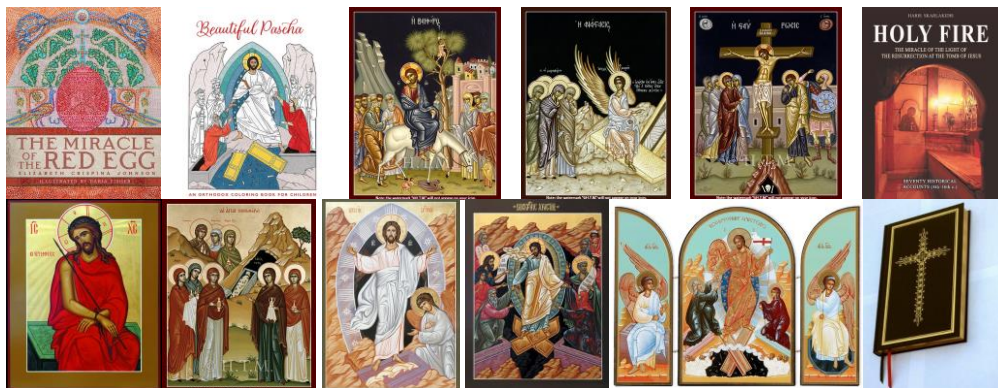
In anticipation of Holy Week and Pascha, the bookstore is offering two Pascha books for Children including:

1. *The Miracle of the Red Egg* - story of the start of the tradition of the red eggs at Pascha
2. *Beautiful Pascha* - Orthodox coloring book for children

Additionally, we only have 1 copy left of *Holy Fire: The Miracle of the Light of the Resurrection at the Tomb of Jesus!* This book includes 70 eyewitness accounts of the appearance of the Holy Fire at the Tomb of Christ.

Our bookstore is also offering the following icons that are related to Holy Week & Pascha:

1. *Palm Sunday*
2. *The Bridegroom*
3. *The Crucifixion of Christ*
4. *The Myrrh Bearing Women*
5. *The Empty Tomb*
6. 3 Resurrection-themed icons:
 - *The Resurrection*
 - *The Harrowing of Hell*
 - *Triptych: Resurrection*



Supplies are limited, so stop by our church bookstore today while these items are still in stock!

Also, we only have 3 copies left of the *Services of Holy Week and Pascha* book if you still need one for the coming week!

2022 DOMSE Parish Life Conference & Bible Bowl

Would you like to represent St. Nicholas Church in the Bible Bowl at the 2022 Parish Life Conference? If so, please send an email to Michael Baclig (michaelbaclig54@yahoo.com) to confirm your interest in participating **by the end of the day today!** Our parish can have up to 3 teams, each team is determined by age group including (1) Pre-Teen (age 10-12), (2) Teen (ages 13-19), and (3) adult (age 20 and older). We will organize teams depending on how many express interest in participating. **We already have an adult team confirmed with 3 people signed up, and we only have room for 2 more people as alternates for our adult team!** Visit <https://www.teensoyo.org/bible-bowl> or scan the QR code to the left to learn more about the Bible Bowl!



Registration is now open for our next Parish Life Conference (PLC)! It is scheduled for June 15-18, 2022, in Memphis, TN. The location of the PLC rotates each year, and this will be one of the closest locations possible for us to attend one of these events! We hope that you will choose to participate in this wonderful and important diocesan event this coming summer! Visit <https://domse.org/event/domse-plc2022/> to register for the PLC or scan the QR code to the right.



Community Garden Sale

SAVE THE DATE: Our annual Spring Garden Sale will be Sunday, May 8th (Mother's Day)! We will be selling plant starts, garden-related crafts, and edible goods! All earnings will be used towards maintaining the community garden.

Conversation About Strategic Planning Ministry

Many thanks to ALL who joined us for our conversation on Sunday, April 3 – it was a productive and informative conversation! We need to continue to consider the future of our parish community. What will St. Nicholas Church look like in 5 years? In 10 years? In 20 years? In order to do so, we plan to offer some additional informal conversations about a strategic plan. You are invited to participate in these conversations. Join us Sunday, May 22 after Fellowship (Coffee) Hour for another conversation!

Usher/Greeter Ministry

We will be implementing a new ministry of ushers and greeters during our liturgical services, especially on Sundays. We are blessed with many inquirers and guests, and it will be beneficial to our worship experience in having volunteers better equipped to serve in these functions. If interested in this ministry, please contact Fr. Paul.

2022 Stewardship & Membership Form Update

As of March 3, 2022, we have received Stewardship & Membership Forms from the following 41 parishioners & families who have pledged a total amount of \$154,706.00. All members are asked to fill out this form each year, as they allow us to update contact information, as well as budget and plan for future needs, charities, and projects of our parish community. Please fill out YOUR Stewardship & Membership Form if you haven't already and return to our Church Office. **We have set NEW goals for 2022 of \$170,000 in pledged funds and 50 forms returned!** Many thanks to these parishioners listed below who have filled out their 2022 Stewardship & Membership Form:

Michael, Elizabeth & Gretchen Baclig
Vera Belic
William Benoit
Nancy & Robert Brown
Matt & Sandra Buja
Eric & Elizabeth Carender
Janessa Craig
Dawn DeLong
Mounir & Montez Farah
Steven & Brittany Fenner
Fr. Paul & Ramia Fuller
Georgeta & Mike Galbraith
Lauren Goff
Mackenzie Goff

Shawn Guthrie
Casey & Kiersten Hale
Adnan & Paula Haydar
Colton & Claire Holland
Jeff Jenkins
Todd & Terry Keese
Mark & Denise King
Steve & Niki Kolokithas
Don & Talitha Lourie
Caleb Mackey
Trevor Nakamura
David & Ulli Nelson
Philip & Ciera Nelson
Andrew & Alexis Powers

Richard & Samantha Ratliff
Turnip Rea
Steve & Tina Rieger
Tom & Kate Salem
Kevin & Nancy Scherer
Scott & Janna Strickland
Lily Tippet
Jared & Marianna Townsley
Lindel & Soon-Mee Townsley
Cory & Rebecca Troy
Derek & Gina Waters
Seth & Diana Wilson
Alan & Candy Wolff

Antiochian Men

April is Antiochian Men Month! If you are interested in reading the Epistle, helping with the collection plate, or with being a greeter/usher this month, please talk to Fr. Paul or to our AMEN Chapter President, Michael Baclig. A big THANK YOU to Derek Waters for building a new bier (Tomb of Christ) for our church to use on Holy Friday! Our next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday April 30th at the Blue House. This will be a potluck breakfast and will be after Pascha so there are no restrictions on what food to bring!

Church School Reminder

Listed below are the remaining dates for Church School leading up to the summer break. Please note that we will have back-to-back weeks of Church School in May. **Remaining Church School dates are May 8th & 15th.**

Baby Shower for Lindsay Cate

Attention Ladies of St. Nicholas! We are planning a Baby Shower for Lindsay Cate on Saturday May 14th starting at 4:00 pm at the church. We hope to see you there!

Holy Oblation & Fellowship Hour Hosting

We are in need of families to host the holy oblation (holy bread) and Fellowship (Coffee) Hour after Liturgy on Sundays. Those who offer the holy oblation will also host Fellowship Hour on the same Sunday. Please see Kate Salem (ksalem2@cox.net) to sign up and see the upcoming dates available in the sign-up schedule below!

Date	Name	Commemoration
April 17 (Palm Sunday)	Talitha Lourie	
April 24 (Pascha)	Nichole Lourie	Evelyn – Elizabeth the Wonderworker
May 1	Tom & Kate Salem	
May 8	Baclig/Holland Family	
May 15	AVAILABLE	
May 22	The Carender Family	
May 29	AVAILABLE	
June 5	AVAILABLE	
June 12	HOLD	
June 19	AVAILABLE	
June 26	AVAILABLE	
July 3	Mackenzie & Lauren Goff	
July 10	AVAILABLE	
July 17	AVAILABLE	

Schedule of Liturgical Services & Activities	
Sunday, April 17 <i>(Palm Sunday)</i>	9:00a Festal Orthros 10:00a Festal Liturgy, Procession with Palms, & Fellowship 6:00p Bridegroom Orthros
Monday, April 18	6:00p Bridegroom Orthros
Tuesday, April 19	6:00p Bridegroom Orthros
Wednesday, April 20	6:00p Sacrament of Holy Unction
Thursday, April 21	10:00a Vespereal Liturgy (Institution of the Eucharist) 6:00p Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels
Friday, April 22 <i>(Holy Friday)</i>	10:00a Royal Hours 6:00p Un-nailing Vespers 7:00p Lamentations
Saturday, April 23 <i>(Holy Saturday)</i>	10:00a Vespereal Liturgy (Descent into Hades) 10:00p Paschal Orthros & Liturgy followed by Fellowship Meal of Paschal Baskets
Sunday, April 24 <i>(PASCHA)</i>	1:00p Agape Vespers, Fellowship Meal, & Egg Hunt

Sign Up to Offer the Holy Oblation and Host Fellowship Hour!



Guidelines for Holy Oblation:

- For Orthodox members of St. Nicholas
- Don't bake? Arrange for someone else to bake for you!
- Fr. Paul has preferred size/style of bread stamp, should you need to borrow
- Quantity: 3-5 small to medium-sized loaves
- Deliver no later than Saturday evening, or bring on Wednesday—place in freezer, marked with your name & date

Please e-mail your prayer list to Fr. Paul (saintnicholasar@gmail.com) by Wednesday, formatting list into 2 columns (Living/Departed), and noting which names are Orthodox.

Guidelines for Hosting Fellowship Hour:

- Catechumens, inquirers, and visitors are welcome to assist in hosting fellowship hour, by bringing food and/or contributing to coffee hour fund (basket for collection is on front table in church hall)
- If need be, feel free to host with another family or parishioner
- Come early Sunday morning to set up; may also deliver food items during the week
- Coffee is made prior to Orthros; furnishing additional beverages is optional
- Set out the food before or at conclusion of Divine Liturgy, however please wait until after post-Communion prayers for serving to begin
- Assistance is available for set up; please plan on remaining after to assist with clean up
- Kitchen supply donations (plates, bowls, etc.) or coffee donations always appreciated



Food options & ideas for hosting:

- 1) Light luncheon fare such as casseroles, meat dishes, soups, salads, sandwiches, etc.
Please inform us if you are furnishing a luncheon, and the meal will be blessed at conclusion of Divine Liturgy.
- 2) Snacks or finger food such as veggies & dip, fruit trays, cookies, muffins & pastries, meat & cheese trays with crackers, chip & dip, etc.

Fasting Seasons:

Please offer lenten foods, such as vegetables, fruits, pasta, and bread.

For questions or to sign up: Kate Salem, ksalem2@cox.net, (402) 430-9989

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Palm Sunday 2022

To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.

Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Beloved Faithful in Christ:

Joyous festal greetings to you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! Today we celebrate the triumphal entry of Him who came “in the name of the Lord” to redeem us (Matthew 21:9). We enter the commemoration of His sufferings with shouts of victory, for we know that the forces of evil are no match for Him. Yet let us be careful to cling to our Faith and remain faithful to our King, not imitating the treachery of those who shout “Hosanna” today and then “Crucify Him” on Friday. Instead, let us continue to shout in praise of Him even as He leads us down the road to Golgotha, and let us be willing to suffer there with Him so that we might also be raised with Him.

As has been our custom for many years, today we remember our Father in Christ, Patriarch JOHN X, and all our brothers and sisters of the Patriarchate of Antioch, especially those in its historic homeland of the Middle East. Christians there know the path of suffering better than most of us, as they have endured decades of wars, leading to countless deaths, crippling destruction, and economic collapse. Yet they do not give up, but through the humanitarian work of our patriarchate, they continue to minister compassionately to the needs of those around them, caring for Christ by caring for “the least of these” (Matthew 25:40).

Once again, I ask you to donate generously in support of our patriarchate and its humanitarian work. Through our gifts we show our solidarity with those who are keeping the Christian Faith alive in these apostolic and historic places by practicing the love that defines followers of our Lord Jesus (John 13:35). By helping them, we share in this beautiful work and show that Christ’s love still burns within our own hearts.

Wishing you all a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a glorious Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J" that extends upwards and to the left.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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