

Parish Announcements – Sunday, March 24, 2024

Announcement requests may be sent via email to saintnicholasar@gmail.com

Schedule of Liturgical Services & Activities	
TODAY – March 24 <i>(Triumph of Orthodoxy – 1st Sunday of Great Lent)</i>	9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy followed by Church School & Fellowship 12:30p Great Vespers (<i>Annunciation</i>)
Monday, March 25 <i>(Great Feast of Annunciation)</i>	6:00p Festal Liturgy & Dinner Outing
Wednesday, March 27	6:00p Pre-Sanctified Liturgy & Potluck <i>(hosted by St. John Church in Rogers – (1740 9th St)</i>
Friday, March 29	9:30a Bible Study & Homeschool Co-op 6:00p Akathist & Lenten Lecture
Saturday, March 30	5:00p Great Vespers
Sunday, March 31	9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship

Weekly Offering during the Divine Liturgy

Each Sunday during the Divine Liturgy, we pass baskets as an opportunity for ALL those present to support the ministry offered by our parish community. To contribute electronically via PayPal, please access the QR Code. Many thanks!



Great Feast of Annunciation – Monday, March 25

Join us as we celebrate the Great Feast of the Annunciation: Today, Sunday, March 24 – Great Vespers (after Fellowship); Monday, March 25 – Festal Liturgy at 6:00p followed by Dinner Outing.

New Christian Education Director: Gina Waters

Gina Waters has been appointed by Fr. Paul to serve as our Christian Education Director for our parish community. She replaces Elizabeth Baclig who previously served in this role - our thanks for her service! May God grant many years to Gina and Elizabeth! Contact Gina (480-682-8878 or gwaters034@gmail.com) with any questions regarding our Christian Education program, including Church School.

Church School Classrooms

Due to our continued growth, some of our classes for Church School will meet in the upstairs rooms of the parish house beginning this Sunday, March 24. Please follow instructions of our teachers. As a reminder, we ask that NO ONE use the bathrooms upstairs.

Lecture Series – Fridays in Great Lent

We will be offering a Lenten Lecture Series on the “**Story of Orthodox Christians in North America**” on Friday evenings after Akathist at 6:00p during Great Lent.

Diocesan Virtual Lenten Retreats – Saturdays in Great Lent

There are numerous virtual retreats on Saturdays during Great Lent for our various ministries and organizations. More information available in the parish email for dates and links.

2024 Hosting for Fellowship on Sundays

NEW FORMAT in 2024: IN NEED of "hosts" for Fellowship on Sundays to sign up and offer "lighter" fare with 3 options available:

1. Host a Light Fellowship (individuals or families) by bringing some suggested items.
2. Sponsor a Light Fellowship for \$100 (suggested amount). With enough notice, our Hospitality Ministry members will get the food/drinks with your monetary donation.
3. Host a light meal in celebration of a special household commemoration by bringing whatever food/drinks you'd like to provide.

Fellowship suggested fare serving 80-100 people:
 *bagels and spreads *fruit trays *donuts *salads
 *soups *meat & cheese trays *vegetable trays
 *sweet or savory baked goods

2024	Names of Host	Commemoration
Mar 24 (Fast)	Nancy Brown & Antiochian Women	OCLife & Antiochian Women's Month
Mar 31 (Fast)	Waters Family	Derek & Kota's Birthdays
Apr 7 (Fast)	Baclig Family	Antiochian Men's Month
Apr 14 (Fast)	IN NEED OF HOST	
Apr 21 (Fast)	Paunov Family	1-year Memorial for +Emilia
Apr 28 (Fast)	Parish Potluck	Palm Sunday
May 5	Parish Potluck	PASCHA

Hosts NEEDED for Fellowship on Sundays; contact Denise King (DL0118@yahoo.com OR 501.442.8460) to sign up.

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy & Lenten Potluck - Wednesdays in Great Lent

We will rotate hosting on Wednesday evenings during Great Lent with our sister parish of St. John of Chicago Orthodox Church in Rogers (1740 9th St). ONLY the host parish needs to provide lenten food and drinks for the Potluck. We will host on Wednesdays: March 20, April 3, & April 17.

OCLife Ministry - March 2024

During the month of March, our church, through our affiliation with Orthodox Christians for Life, will be joining with Orthodox parishes across the country in holding a "baby shower" to support mothers who choose life for their unborn children! This donation drive will benefit Compassion House, a local residential facility for teen mothers, and Loving Choices, a pregnancy resource center. Donation requests are:

Loving Choices: baby board books, pacifiers, baby bottles, new or gently used maternity clothes, crib sheets. They do have needs for larger items like high chairs, baby swings, or pack and plays if several want to join as a group to donate an item like that. **Compassion House:** newborn clothes (both genders) and diapers.

Also inviting any who would like to participate in providing a dinner for the residents at Compassion House during the month of March, the open dates are March 25, 28. Perhaps two or three could get together to provide the meal for a total of 9 including residents and staff. They request meals be dropped between 5 and 6 PM.

Treasury Assistance Needed for the Parish

We are in need of assistance with counting weekly contributions of the parish. Those chosen to participate will be included in a rotation basis; there will be mandatory training sessions each Sunday in April. If interested, please contact Tom Salem (479-295-9892 or tasalem@cox.net).

Church Etiquette Reminder of the Month - "Eucharistic Fast"

It is proper to refrain (fast) from food and drink prior to receiving Holy Communion. If it is a morning Liturgy (such as on Sunday), we begin our fast from when we go to bed. If it is an evening Liturgy (such as Pre-Sanctified Liturgy during Great Lent), we should begin a fast after a light noon meal.

Those Celebrating in March - God Grant You Many Years!

Birthdays

Kevin Scherer - Mar 2
 Riley Arnold - Mar 4
 Jeff Jenkins - Mar 5
 Oliver Nevill - Mar 6
 Jackson Bliss - Mar 8
 Brittany Fenner - Mar 13
 Charlie Nevill - Mar 13

Evan Kolokithas - Mar 14
 Aidan Kolokithas - Mar 18
 Erik Lawrence - Mar 19
 Raphael Nelson - Mar 26
 Derek Waters - Mar 28
 Dominic Silva - Mar 30
 Kota Waters - Mar 30

Wedding Anniversary

Derek & Gina Waters - Mar 5
 Zachary & Olivia Rhodes - Mar 21

Name's Day

Jason Potoski (St. David of Wales) - Mar 1
 Pat Teague (St. Patrick of Ireland) - Mar 17
 Evan Kolokithas (Annunciation) - Mar 25