

Parish Announcements – Sunday, September 14, 2025

Announcement requests (due by Monday at noon) may be sent via email to info@stnicholasar.org (NEW EMAIL)

Schedule of Liturgical Services & Activities	
TODAY, Sunday, September 14 (<i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>)	9:00a Festal Orthros 10:00a Festal Liturgy followed by Church School, Fellowship, & Inquiring Minds
Wednesday, September 17	6:00p Vespers followed by OCF Dinner Gathering & Choir Practice
Friday, September 19	9:30a Homeschool Co-op
Saturday, September 20	9:00-11:00a Ladies' Fellowship @ NWA Food Bank <i>NO Great Vespers</i>
Sunday, September 21	9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy followed by Church School & Fellowship

Welcome to our Guests

We are grateful that you have joined us for worship of God this morning! While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox Christian guests will be offered holy bread (as a sign of hospitality) in their seat or standing area. At the Dismissal, please join us in veneration of the Holy Cross (held by the Priest) or Festal Icon and receive additional holy bread at the end of the Liturgy. After service, please join us for food and drink during Fellowship so that we can meet and greet you! Please contact Fr. Paul Fuller (479-379-6220 or pastor@stnicholas.org) to schedule a time to meet and learn more about our parish community and the Orthodox Faith.

Church School Registration – 2025-2026



We've begun a NEW year of Church School! Please scan the QR code to fill out this registration form with your children's information for the upcoming program of Church School. Your continued support and participation are greatly appreciated! To learn more, please contact our Church School Director - Gina Waters (480-682-8878 or gwaters034@gmail.com).

Great Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Saturday & Sunday, September 13-14

Join us on Saturday, September 13 at 5:00p for Great Vespers and Sunday, September 14 for Festal Orthros at 9:00a and Festal Liturgy at 10:00a with Procession of the Holy Cross followed by Fellowship (*strict fast*) as we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Inquiring Minds – TODAY, Sunday, September 14

Join us for Inquiring Minds, our monthly Adult Education Class on Sunday, September 14 following Fellowship (approx. 12:30p) for a Q&A session with Fr. Paul. Encouraged for ALL to attend, but “required” for inquirers and catechumens!

Pizza & Discussion for College Students – Wednesday, September 17

Join us for Vespers at 6:00p followed by Pizza & Discussion. We will meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday for this gathering at our parish community; mark your calendars!

Homeschool Co-op – Fridays

St. Katherine Homeschool Co-op meets weekly at 9:30a with Morning Prayers and meets until 12:30p weekly on Fridays. If interested in participating, please contact Gina Waters (480-682-8878 or gwaters034@gmail.com).

Ladies' Volunteer Outing - Saturday, September 20

There will be a volunteer outing at the NWA Food Bank on Saturday, September 20 from 9:00-11:00a. Sign-up link and password in parish email.

Catechism Class - Fall 2025

We will offer catechism classes for our newcomers, inquirers, and catechumens on Wednesday evenings (September 24, October 1, October 24, & November 5). Vespers at 6:00p followed by Catechism until 8:00p.

Bookstore - Fall Sale

Sale items include books, icons, prayer bracelets, key chains, etc., all marked at 30% off. All items will be available on tables across from the bookstore.

Sacraments of Christian Initiation - Sunday, September 28

Join us on Sunday, September 28 at 9:00a (in lieu of Orthros) as we celebrate the Sacraments of Christian Initiation for the Reineking Family (Dylan, Britany, Elizabeth, & James) & Cox Family (Tyler, Hanna, Ira, & Rudy). Many years!

Peace of Mind Training - Saturday, October 11

We are hosting a Peace of Mind Training Program on Saturday, October 11. Program objectives include: appropriately identifying, understanding, responding, and referring mental health concerns as they arise in the parish; exploring the connection between Orthodox Christian anthropology, pastoral care, and mental health care; cultivating ongoing conversations about mental wellness within the parish and the greater Orthodox Christian community. Cost per participant is \$150 (lunch provided). To learn more, please contact Elisabeth Cisneros (602-625-5622 or elcisneros@yahoo.com). Scholarships available, please discuss with Fr. Paul. Scan the QR codes to access the online registration and payment.



Those Celebrating in September - God Grant You Many Years!

Birthday

Rosa Strunk - Sept 1
Chris Beam - Sept 4
Mia Folden - Sept 6
Hannah Waters - Sept 7
David Ellison - Sept 14
Lauren Goff - Sept 15
Mackenzie Goff - Sept 15
Katherine Fuller - Sept 17

Samuel Strunk - Sept 20
Andrew Baclig - Sept 23
Josh Thompson - Sept 23
Brea Hale - Sept 24
Rob Fannin - Sept 26
Kiersten Hale - Sept 28
Elizabeth Baclig - Sept 29
Hanna Deschler - Sept 30

Name's Day

Penelope Hale (Martyr Penelope) - Sept 1
Niki Kolokithas (Martyr Margarita) - Sept 1
Josh Thompson (Righteous Joshua) - Sept 1
Elizabeth Baclig (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5
Elizabeth Carender (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5
Elisabeth Cisneros (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5
Elizabeth Fenner (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5
Zachary Fitton (Prophet Zachariah) - Sept 5
Kh. Ramia Fuller (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5

Rebekah Fuller (St. Elizabeth) - Sept 5
Azelea Deschler (Theotokos) - Sept 8
Kiersten Hale (St. Anna) - Sept 9
Madeline Teague (St. Anna) - Sept 9
Steve Kolokithas (Holy Cross) - Sept 14
Sneha Virippil (St. Sophia) - Sept 17
Seth Wilson (St. Silouan) - Sept 24
Erik John Lawrence (St. John) - Sept 26
Sean Searce (St. John) - Sept 26

Wedding Anniversary

Samuel & Megan Strunk - Sept 25

Stewardship UPDATE

MANY THANKS for your financial contributions in 2025! We greatly appreciate your continued support of your time, talents, and treasures. Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves, and to grow in grace. We have received Stewardship & Membership Forms from 65 households who have pledged a total amount of \$211,330 towards supporting our various ministries and operation of our parish community.



However, over 90 households call St. Nicholas Orthodox Church their church. **Will you join us?** Please prayerfully consider what you are willing and able to financially contribute to the operation and functioning of our growing parish community to support its various ministries and services! This is an annual responsibility of everyone in our parish. Printed copies available in the Narthex OR access the online form by scanning the QR code. Also in 2025, for those willing and able please consider contributing towards our Capital Building Fund (suggested amount of \$100 monthly, but please contribute as able). This is in ADDITION to Stewardship.

To discuss or learn more, please contact Elizabeth Carender (479-409-8017; ecarender76@gmail.com), Stewardship Ministry

Happy (Church) New Year from the Hospitality Team!

Our Hospitality Team is restructuring and simplifying Fellowship Hour for the remainder of 2025. Please read up on these changes, to help keep this important ministry running smoothly!

In discussion with Fr. Paul, we've considered:

- 1) our growing attendance
- 2) limitations with current gathering space
- 3) challenges in finding participants to host and help

With these factors in mind, we've decided to scale back efforts and have come up with the following simplified plan:

First Sunday of Month: Parish Potluck

Everyone planning to attend – family or individual – please bring one ready-to-serve dish (main, side, or dessert). Covered dishes should be dropped off on the serving tables at parish house prior to services. Please collect your dishes from table once serving time has ended.

Potlucks are typically the first Sunday of the month but may change according to festal calendar. Please check parish publications for any updates.

Remaining Sundays of Month: Donuts & Fruit

There may be an occasional switch to bagels or other items.

Additional Info:

- Hospitality will continue to furnish coffee & lemonade, shelf-stable creamers, paper plates, napkins, tableware, plastic & styrofoam cups, but will be retiring the white coffee mugs.
- Monetary donations towards coffee and supplies are appreciated; please note on contribution envelopes (available in the Narthex) that your donation is specifically for Fellowship Hour. There will be a basket for cash donations at the parish house, as well.
- Special Occasion Hosting is still available. If you would like to fully host a fellowship hour with a provided meal, please notify Elizabeth Carender (479-409-8017; ecarender76@gmail.com) in advance.

Thank you for your efforts to support our Hospitality Ministry!

Please direct questions to Fr. Paul or any hospitality ministry member: Elizabeth Carender, Laura Evans, Denise King, Sonia Loy, Kate Salem, SoonMee Townsley.