

St. Nicholas Newsletter

April 2024

Great Lent & Holy Week

Remaining Lenten Services

Mondays (April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22)

— Great Compline at 6:00p

Wednesdays (April 3 & April 17)

— Pre-Sanctified Liturgy & **Potluck Meal** at 6:00p
(Hosted at our Parish)

Wednesdays (March 27, April 10, & April 24)

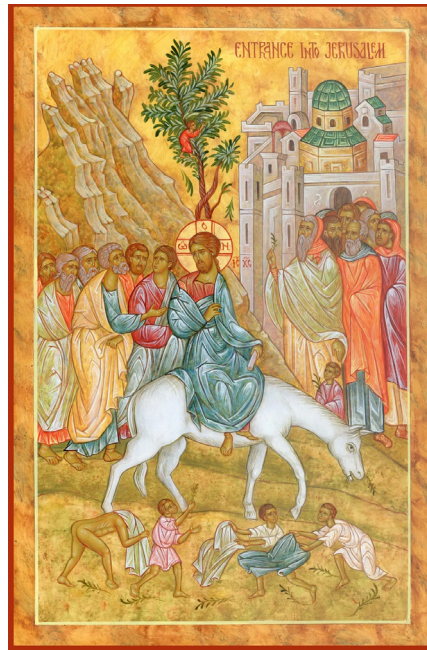
— Pre-Sanctified Liturgy & **Potluck Meal** at 6:00p

(Hosted at St. John Church—1740 9th St. in Rogers)

Potluck Meals provided by the Host Parish ONLY after Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on Wednesdays

Fridays (March 29, April 5, April 12, & April 19)

— Akathist (Madayah) Service to the Theotokos at 6:00p



Our Journey through Great Lent & Holy Week—2024

May you and your family be encouraged to increase your participation in the life of the Church by attending as many services during Great Lent and Holy Week as possible. This is an opportunity that the Church provides us: to demonstrate our desire for God who desires to offer salvation to us, His beloved faithful!



Schedule for Holy Week

Friday, April 26

6:00p Compline with the Canon of the Raising of Lazarus

Raising of Lazarus

Saturday, April 27

10:00a Festal Liturgy

5:00p Great Vespers

Palm Sunday, April 28

9:00a Festal Orthros

10:00a Festal Liturgy

1:00p Bridegroom Orthros

Holy Monday, April 29

6:00p Bridegroom Orthros

Holy Tuesday, April 30

6:00p Bridegroom Orthros

Click the image to the left to view the entire schedule for Great Lent and Holy Week along with explanations of the various services.

Celebrations

God grant you many years!

Birthdays

Niki Kolokithas - April 1st

Bob Brown - April 2nd

David Nelson - April 2nd

Steve Rieger - April 4th

Isaiah Hale - April 7th

Stuart Jackson - April 7th

Debra Wheeler - April 8th

Rich Ratliff - April 16th

Leela LeGare - April 18th

Scott Strickland - April 19th

Mark King - April 23rd

Michael Kolokithas - April 23rd

Madeline Teague - April 28th

Namedays

Georgeta Galbraith - April 23rd St. George

Kota Waters - April 23rd St. George

Wedding Anniversaries

Eric & Elizabeth Carender - April 2nd

Todd and Terry Keesee - April 6th

Lindel and SoonMee Townsley - April 27th

based on returned 2024 stewardship & membership forms

2024 Stewardship & Membership Forms

2024 Stewardship & Membership forms are currently available. 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!

Access the print or online form by clicking the image below.



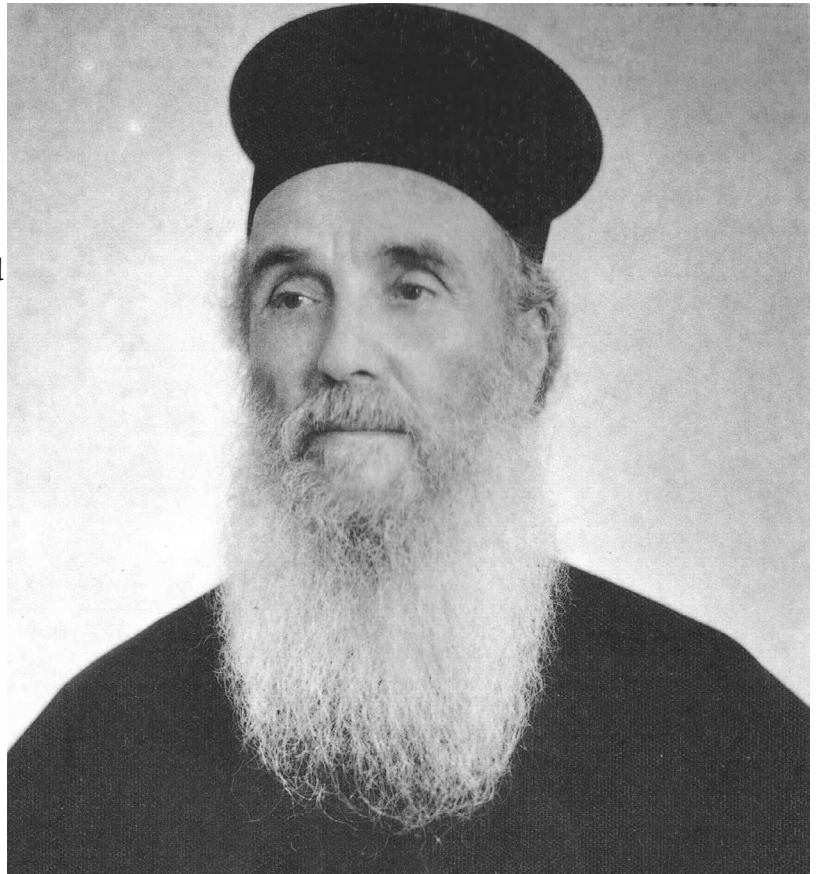
St. Amphilochios of Patmos

April 16th

The future elder was born on December 13, 1889 to Emmanuel and Irene Makris and named Athanasios. He was born into a large family of simple, country folk. Even as an infant, Athanasios was devout, even observing the fasting rules regarding milk products while still an infant. When Athanasios was five, he convinced his newly-engaged godmother to spend the rest of her days in virginity. Athanasios, having preserved himself from worldly temptations, decided to enter a monastery at the age of seventeen. He asked his parents' blessing, which they were happy to give.

In March, 1906, he entered the Monastery of St. John the Theologian, Patmos; in August, having earned the love of the aging brotherhood, he was made a rassophore and given the name Amphilochios. To fight the passions and temptations, Amphilochios would employ strict fasting - ten mouthfuls of food at each meal on standard days, with seven or eight olives on fast days.

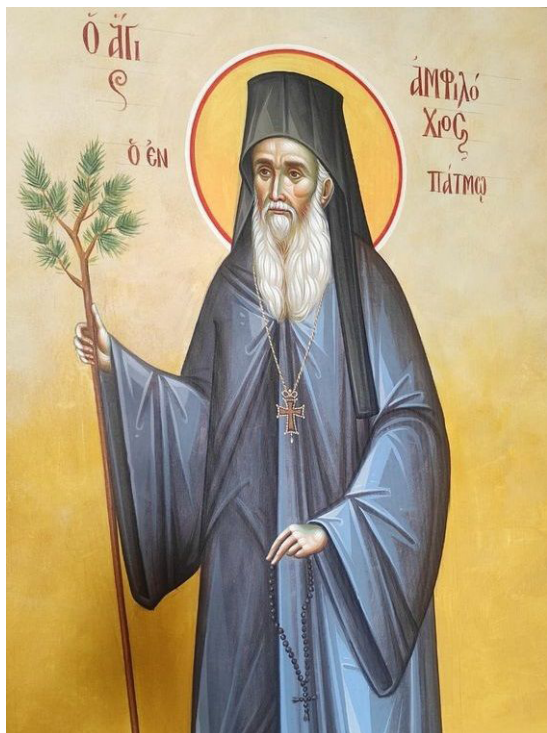
In 1911, the abbot of the Monastery of St. John the Theologian sent Amphilochios to Mount Athos in order to learn wood-carving; in March 1913, he was tonsured to the Great Schema by Elder Antoniadis. Two months later, the abbot had the agreement of the brethren of the monastery to ordain Amphilochios; but, because of a self-perception of inadequacy, he asked his traveling companion to continue while Amphilochios went to Egypt and the Holy Lands. Amphilochios asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to receive him as one of the caretakers of the Holy Sepulchre. While the Patriarch was willing to do this, the Monastery insisted that he return, where they "punished" him by sending him to the hermitage of Apollo, alongside Elder Makarios, which made Amphilochios very happy as he was better able to pray.



Elder Amphilochios of Patmos (Reposed April 16, 1970)

However, in 1919, Fr Amphilochios was ordained to the diaconate and, soon after, to the priesthood. He was assigned to the monastery's dependency on the island of Kos, also serving as confessor throughout the Dodecanese. In 1926, he was sent to the Cave of the Apocalypse, Patmos. He spent much time with students of the Ecclesiastical Academy, which produced numerous elders and abbots.

In 1935, the occupying powers of the Dodecanese were the Italians, who influenced the Church by forcing a system of governance that made it easy to manipulate the Church. However, the Patriarch of Constantinople demanded that this situation be rectified for the new abbot. In response, the brotherhood elected Elder Amphilochios as abbot. Soon after, the seeds of the future female Monastery of the Annunciation began to be planted: the first building housed a training workshop for knitting and weaving, a guise under which to teach children Greek.



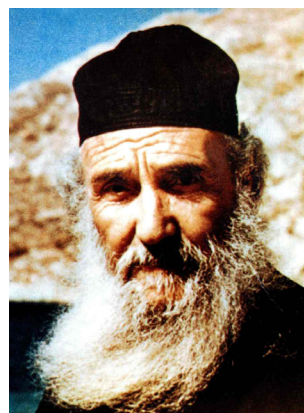
St. Amphilochios of Patmos, depicted holding a tree due to his great love for trees and the natural world:

“Do you know that God gave us one more commandment, which is not recorded in Scripture? It is the commandment, ‘Love the trees.’” Whoever does not love the trees, so he believed, does not love Christ. “When you plant a tree,” he told us, “you plant hope, you plant peace, you plant love, and you will receive God’s blessing.”

In response, in 1937, the Italians exiled Elder Amphilochios to mainland Greece, where the Elder received hospitality from the Zoe brotherhood in Athens, from whence he traveled throughout Greece; after which he traveled to Crete, where he became spiritual father of the island.

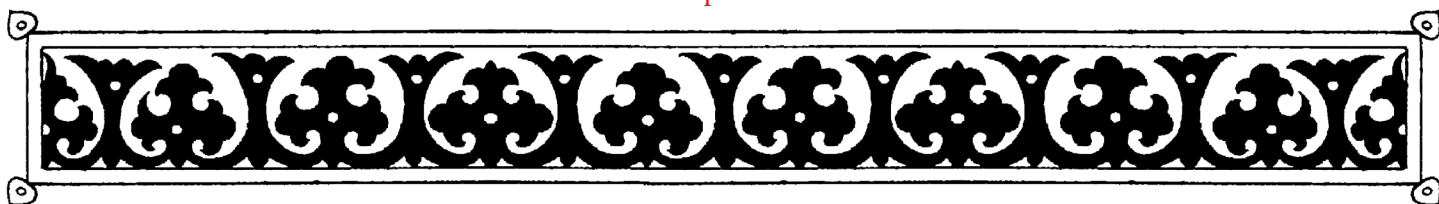
His exile ended in 1939, and Elder Amphilochios returned to Patmos, being received with great joy. He did not, however, reassume his abbacy, but rather, focused on dependencies and the female Monastery of the Annunciation. The changeover of power in 1942, from the Italians to the Germans, did not greatly impact on the Elder’s life. In 1947, Elder Amphilochios organised a small group of nuns to assist the orphans of Rhodes (at that time, extremely poor) by establishing an orphanage, along with a unit for pregnant women.

At Easter, 1968, Elder Amphilochios received a forewarning of his coming repose, and was given two years to prepare himself and his children for his repose. Anxious for his spiritual children, he asked God with tears for more time to develop his children, after which the Mother of God and St. John the Theologian appeared to him and informed him that his request was denied. Soon after this, he received a bout of flu. Having made his final preparations, he reposed on April 16, 1970.



“Do not be afraid because of your Orthodoxy; do not be afraid because, as an Orthodox in the West, you will be often isolated and always in a small minority. Do not make compromises but do not attack other Christians; do not be either defensive or aggressive; simply be yourself.”

St. Amphilochios



Diocesan Virtual Lenten Retreats

Saturdays in Great Lent




Embrace the Season

DOMSE Antiochian Women
Hub & Spoke Lenten Retreat
Featuring Generational Panel Discussion
on *Embracing our Season in Life*
Janet Yakobik • Christine Hallberg • Stella Hallberg
(Zoom link to be provided to Chapter Presidents)

Saturday April 20th, 2024
from 10am to 12pm (EDT)

Young Adult Lenten Retreat

Join us on zoom!
The morning of
April 13th



How to be
a Sinner
by Peter
Boueteneff
with Fr. Ayman Kfoo

Click each image to learn more or to register for a retreat.



Living Orthodoxy

**TEEN SOYO LENTEN RETREAT
WITH KAREN HANNA**

**MARCH 30TH
10AM-11AM EASTERN**

register at <https://domse.org/event/soyo-lenten-retreat-2024/> to receive the zoom link!



5TH ANNUAL
AMEN
THE ANTIOCHIAN MEN
DIOCESE OF MIAMI & THE SOUTHEAST
LENTEN VIRTUAL RETREAT

SATURDAY 4/6/24

From
OBJECT to ICON

Event #1 @ 10 am EST
Books, Breakfast,
& Brotherhood Part IX
Discussion led by
Michael Baclig



Event #2 @ 12 pm EST
Guest Speaker:
Fr. Hans Jacobse

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 Sunday, March 24. Please follow instructions of our teachers. As a reminder, we ask that no one use the bathrooms upstairs.

Orthodox Homeschool Co-op

Weekly Orthodox Homeschool Co-op on Friday mornings from 9:30a till 12:30p to consist of Morning Prayers, lessons, arts & crafts, & fellowship.



Please reach out to Gina Waters to participate and learn more!




DIOCESE OF MIAMI AND THE SOUTHEAST
 PRESENTS
PARISH LIFE
CONFERENCE + 2024
 JUNE 12TH-15TH
FAMILY AS ICON
 HOSTED BY ST. STEPHEN CHURCH
 HIRAM, GEORGIA
 GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. PHILIP MAMALAKIS SPEAKER: FR. JOHN OLIVER SPEAKER: FR. JAMES GUIRGUIS


Parish Life Conference 2024

Registration is now open for the Parish Life Conference (PLC) of our diocese. It is being held in Peachtree, Georgia; [click the image above to register and learn more.](#)

We will offer an **Adult Education Class** on Sunday, April 21st following Fellowship Hour (approx. 12:30p).

All are welcome to attend this monthly Q&A session with Fr. Paul, and all inquirers should participate!

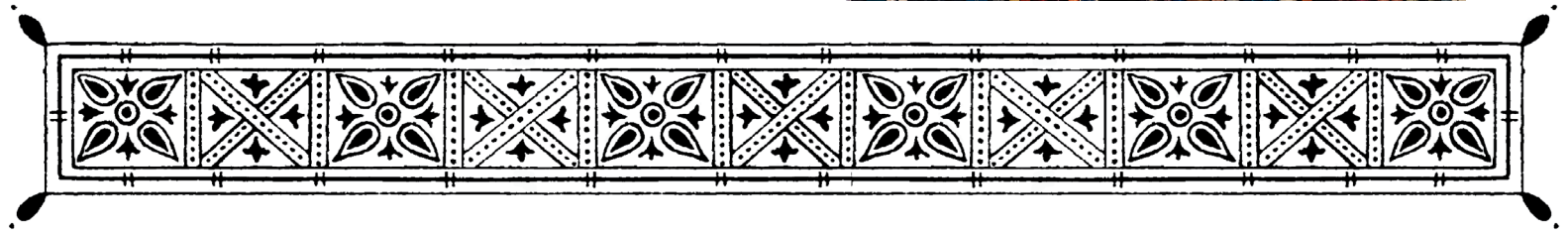


INQUIRING MINDS
ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

SESSIONS WITH FR. PAUL

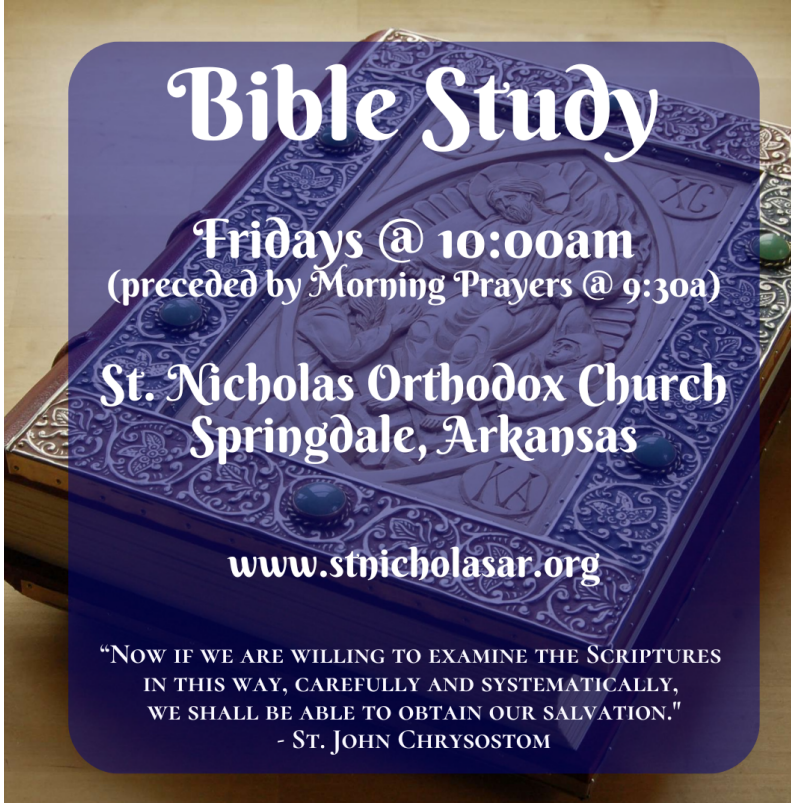


3RD
SUNDAY
OF THE
MONTH
AFTER FELLOWSHIP



Join us for our weekly Bible Study on Friday mornings beginning at
9:30a with Morning Prayers.

We are currently studying the Gospel of St. Matthew.



Bible Study
Fridays @ 10:00am
(preceded by Morning Prayers @ 9:30a)
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
Springdale, Arkansas
www.stnicholasar.org

"NOW IF WE ARE WILLING TO EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURES
IN THIS WAY, CAREFULLY AND SYSTEMATICALLY,
WE SHALL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN OUR SALVATION."
- ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Ministry & Organizational Leaders,

If there is any announcement or advertisement that you would like published in the
St. Nicholas Newsletter, please contact Brea Hale. brehale00@gmail.com

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REV. FR. PAUL FULLER, PASTOR