

The Saint George Chronicle

An occasional newsletter of Saint George Orthodox Church
Kearney, Nebraska



Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Greetings from Saint George Orthodox Church in Kearney. It's been a while! We hope and pray that you are all well and enjoying a blessed Resurrection season. As you can see from the photo above, our beloved Saint George parish is doing well, too. Our parish photo was taken on Orthodox Palm Sunday just a few weeks ago, and it is bustling group even though a number of families were

Arabic

**AL-MASEEH
QAM!**

Haqqan Qam!

Greek

**CHRISTOS
ANESTI!**

Alithos Anesti!

Slavonic

**CHRISTOS
VOSKRESE!**

Voistinu Voskrese!

**Christ is risen
from the dead
trampling
down death by
death and upon
those in the
tombs
bestowing life!**

(continued from page 1) unable to be in the photo due to sickness or traveling for Western Easter. The last few years have been difficult ones for all of us during the pandemic. Yet God is always faithful, and during times of trial and hardship, He often bestows His greatest blessings!

One of the great blessings we have received here at Saint George has been some incredible growth. We recently baptized four families, adding 21 newly illumined members to the Orthodox Church and our Saint George family—the Millers, the Jorgensens, the Jaegers, and the Cones, all young families with children. (There are lots of children at Saint George!) We have also been blessed by Steve & Danielle Wolf, the Beim and Hilling families moving to the area.

Through generous support within the parish, we have hired a quarter-time Youth Ministry Coordinator, Sarah Fothergill, to help organize and coordinate our Youth Group, Sunday schools, and other youth-related activities together with our indispensable volunteers. And because of our continued growth, the need for a new church hall is even more pressing (see an update below). It is a busy and blessed time here at Saint George. We thank God for you all and ask for your continued prayers and support!

NEW CHURCH HALL...

By God's grace and the generosity of our members and wider Saint George family, we paid off the mortgage on our new parish house in December 2021. Many thanks to all who helped us accomplish this! With all our debts paid, this frees us to pursue the next phase!

We are currently compiling a list of "wants and needs" from parishioners. Priorities will include handicap accessibility, fellowship space, and classrooms. We hope to begin interviewing architects soon which will lead to detailed conceptual drawings as well as initial cost estimates. We will keep everyone posted and especially ask for your prayers as we proceed, by God's grace!

Donations gratefully received:

We have recently received donations from Janet Bendler & Jim Maloley & families, Dorothy Bettar, Norma Deeb, Kim & Jeannie Leonard & family, Tom & Kate Salem, Joe & Linda Maloley, Judy Yacio, Virginia Suleiman, Jenny Bergt, Radu & Alexandra Neamu, Don & Lorraine Nemer, Varthie & LeeAnn Eliakis, James & Anne Pape, Margo Maloley, Nick & Collette Miller, Anne Hilling, and the Sveti Ivan Rilski Charitable Foundation. *Thank you and God grant you many years!*

The Chronicle rebooted...

We are "rebooting" The Chronicle in order to keep our wider Saint George family updated on the exciting things happening in our parish. It is our hope to do this quarterly. The former editor is a truly talented person, Joanie Klein. Due to her heavy work schedule and other commitments, she reluctantly had to give up doing The Chronicle in the winter of 2020. The current editor (Father Christopher) is not such a talented person. So for the time being, the format will be very much shortened and missing many of the lovely things that made the former Chronicle so special. But we hope you will enjoy the occasional news and updates from Kearney.



Ladies book study...

Our ladies book study meets every other Tuesday at 3:00 pm at different parishioners' homes. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Khouriya Anastasia. We are currently studying "The Lives of Holy Women."

Wednesday evenings...

We are having potluck meals following most of our Wednesday evening services, sometimes followed by a class and discussion.

Landscaping help needed!!

We need volunteers to help mow the church property during the spring and summer seasons. If you are interested in helping, please talk to Subdeacon Micheal. We also need help with weeding the church grounds. A sign-up will be posted soon.

Iconography Update

We are close to finishing our iconography project! For those who haven't been able to visit Saint George recently, our latest installment of icons took place in late January 2021. Two scenes from the life of Father Nicola Yanney—sponsored by the Steinbrink family—were installed in the church narthex. The first scene depicts Saint Raphael's meeting of the Yanney family on their homestead north of Gibbon, Nebraska in 1899. The second scene depicts Father Nicola's ordination by Saint Raphael in Brooklyn, New York in 1904. (You can see photos of these beautiful icons on the next page.) Two smaller icons depict holy angels, and the rest of the narthex is filled with decorations that were inspired by Christian artwork found in the Roman catacombs. The icons of Father Nicola and family are completely unique. Nothing like them can be found in any other Orthodox church in the world. The iconographer, Alexander Chernyy, studied family photos and historic photos of Brooklyn to prepare for the painting of these icons.

During their 2021 visit, the iconographers also installed a number of icons in the altar. These include figures of saintly priests and bishops who served in missionary capacities to the Orthodox faithful in America: Saints Tikhon of Moscow, Innocent of Alaska, John of San Francisco, Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, Mardarije of Libertyville, and Juvenaly of Alaska. Two deacons that we read about in the Bible—

SPRING BIRTHDAYS**MARCH...**

1st—Zane Jaeger & Rachel Rehtus
3rd—Emma Rehtus
7th—Nick Shada
8th—Gracelynn McCracken
10th—Ruthia Kremer
15th—Tracey Shada
17th—Amber Hartley & Les Hassel
18th—Christine Kremer
19th—Mariam Browne
21st—Mark Klein & Theodora Wolf
25th—Sara Theoharis
27th—John Maloley
30th—Ron Denny

APRIL...

1st—Phil Maloley
7th—Marina Hartley
8th—Rexten Williamson
14th—Charity Miller
15th—Ezri Kremer & Arlene Patsios
16th—John Morris
18th—Nikos Theoharis & Christian Jorgensen
19th—Abram Miller
24th—Claire & Clay Maloley
25th—Danielle Wolf
27th—Cara Guikema
28th—Katie Maloley

MAY...

8th—Levi Hadley
9th—Margo Maloley
11th—Elizabeth Morris
17th—Aaron Kremer
19th—Henri Kremer
22nd—Anna Jorgensen & Varthie Eliakis
27th—Georgia Bakas
30th—Jackie Shada

**MAY GOD GRANT YOU
MANY YEARS!!!**

Congratulations...

To Grace Maloley on her graduation from Holdrege High School!!

To Rachel Rehtus on her graduation from UNK!!



Above: St. Raphael ordaining Father Nicola Yanney in 1904; below: St. Raphael visiting the Yanney homestead in 1899.

(continued from page 3) Saints Stephen the First Martyr and Philip of the Seventy—flank the apse. Inside the apse are the icons of four hierarchs: Saints John Chrysostom, Basil the Great, James the Brother of the Lord, and Gregory the Theologian, surrounding an altar table on which Christ rests as the Holy Eucharist. The final portion of iconography to be finished is the west wall of the church in the balcony. Because of the war in Ukraine and the situation in Russia, Alexander fled with his family to the country of Georgia, where he has set up a studio and is continuing to work. Our other iconographer living in Russia, Alexii, has been able to travel to Georgia to work with Alexander. They will begin work on our final icons soon. Please keep them in your prayers!

