

**February 21, 2016**

**Bulletin**

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**

*Orthodox Church in America*

**2143 S. Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519**

*Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Rector*

*Deacon Kerry Luke Gonser*

*Deacon Esteban Julio Vázquez*

**Web Page: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org)**

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2016 38TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Tone 5. [Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]. Ven. Timothy of Symbola in Bithynia (9th c.). St. Eustathius (Eustace), Archbishop of Antioch (377). St. George, Bishop of Amastris on the Black Sea (802-811). The “KOZEL’SHCHANSKAYA” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (1881).**

### **TROPARIA**

(**Tone 5**) Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

(**Tone 4**) In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

### **KONTAKION**

(**Tone 4**) Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: “Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!”

*The Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us / from this generation forever.*

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.*

### **THE READING FROM THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY**

(**3:10-15**) Timothy, my son, now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

### *Alleluia, Tone 5*

*v: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.*

*v: Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever, and my truth will be prepared in the heavens.*



### **THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE (18:9-14)**

At that time Jesus spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**COMMUNION HYMN** Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Who do I resemble?  
By Fr. Steven Kostoff**

The Gospel reading at the Divine Liturgy for February 21, 2016—the first of the four pre-Lenten Sundays—is Luke 18:10-14. In it we discover our Lord’s parable of the Publican and the Pharisee.

As with all of the parables of Christ, we can understand this parable in two very different ways. We can listen to it carefully, reflect upon it through the course of the week, and discern what in the parable “speaks” to us today. Or we can take a “ho-hum” attitude—essentially forgetting the parable by the time we return home from the Liturgy—while moving on to the next distraction on our busy schedules (which now includes Sundays), and conclude that the parable does not really apply to us anyway.

For those who actually “hear” the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee, the first question that may arise is very basic: Do I resemble the Publican or the Pharisee in my attitude toward God and my neighbor? Other questions follow: Am I also afflicted with self-righteous pride, as was the Pharisee of the parable, or is my goal at least the slow and patient road of learning and practicing humility? Then there is a blunt but honest question: Do I even care? Somewhat unusual for the parables is that the intention of this parable is clearly stated before Christ actually delivers it: “He also told this parable to some who trusted themselves that they were righteous and despised others” [Luke 18:9]. Is this a fair description of me when I enter the church on any given Sunday? If so, what could I possibly do to change such an attitude?

With the best of intentions, we could possibly turn this great opportunity for “self-examination” into the ho-hum approach of selective forgetfulness or remembrance, wherein we forget the parable but remember the score of whatever game was on television later in the day or evening. That would be a colossal example of a missed opportunity. Perhaps one way to spare everyone from the ho-hum approach would be to provide the insights of others during the week – Church Fathers or contemporary writers – on this parable of the Publican and the Pharisee. This way, at least the material that lends itself to meditation will be present, and then we can choose to avail ourselves of it – or not.

A good beginning could be this passage from the Blessed Augustine: “How useful and necessary a medicine is repentance. People who remember that they are only human will readily understand this. It is written: ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. . . .’ The Pharisee was not rejoicing so much in his own clean bill of health as in comparing it with the diseases of others. He came to the doctor. It would have been more worthwhile to inform him by confession of the things that were wrong with himself instead of keeping his wounds secret and having the nerve to crow over the scars of others. It is not surprising that the tax collector went away cured, since he had not been ashamed of showing where he felt pain.”

February 21, 2016



**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Dan, Larissa, Anton & family, Diana & family, Maria & family.....	Larissa
Fr. Joe, Fr. Moses, Fr. Lavrenty, Deacon Anthony, Ruth, Aaron, Gloria, Laurie, Anna, Walt & Zina, Dorothy, Jeanette, Reggie, Stojan & Mira, Bosa, Rose, Joseph, Helen, Ted & Marlene, Fr. David, Gladys, my family & friends.....	Joe Tome
Sretan Rojan Dan with Blessings & Health for Stojan Prusac .....	Sredich Family
Happy Birthday & God’s Blessings Stojan Prusac, Matushka Lisa, Mark Liley.....	Stojan & Mira Prusac
Special Intention .....	Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE**

Newly Departed Anne Smith-Blessed Repose-Memory Eternal .....	Dorothy & Family
Evdokia, Nikola, Anna, Anna, Ivan, Maria, Vasiliy.....	Larissa
Evanka Elieff-Memory Eternal.....	Her family

Anne Smith-Memory Eternal..... Joe & Susan Oginsky  
 Anne Smith-Memory Eternal..... Sredich Family  
 Anne Smith-Memory Eternal..... Stojan & Mira Prusac



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship, coffee and donuts in our parish hall.

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PILGRIM ICON** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for parishioners to take the icon to their homes a week at a time. There is a special carrying case for the icon and a card with prayers you can offer before the image of the Mother of God.

**CHARITY MINISTRIES**

**HOPE IN A BOX** is collecting Shampoo for February. Place the items in the Blue Box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items. We list the needs for Hope In A Box in every monthly bulletin and are listed for a three month period.

**FOOD DRIVE** Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

**NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN** We next serve **Thursday, March 3 from 9 am to 1 pm.**

**MEATFARE LUNCHEON** sponsored by St. Juliana’s Guild will be held on Sunday, March 6. The menu consists of Lasagna, Baked Chicken, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert and Beverage. Join us for fellowship and a wonderful homemade meal as we prepare for Lent.

**CHEESEFARE LUNCHEON** will be held on Sunday, March 13. We are in need of volunteers to help cook, set-up/serving and clean-up. There are sign-up sheets in the parish hall.

**WALK FOR LIFE** will be held Saturday, March 12 from 9 am to 12 pm at Carman-Ainsworth High School. Come to walk or come cheer us on. The event will help support the Answer Center for Women in Flint. This is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event for March. For more information or to register to walk see Deborah Gonser-Adams.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** We are looking for two families or individuals who would be willing to give a parishioner a ride to church once a month. Pick up would be off of Saginaw Street in Grand Blanc. Please see Matushka Lisa with any questions.

**MEMORY ETERNAL** +Anne Smith fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, February 14. +Anna was the wife of the late +Carl Smith, the mother of Diane Zambito and Nancy Laycock. Viewing and Parastas were held at Swartz Funeral Home on Thursday, February 18. Funeral services were held in church on Friday, February 19 with interment at St. Nicholas Cemetery. May God grant his servant +Anne a blessed repose and rest among the saints.

***Schedule of services and events for the week of February 21:***

Tuesday, February 23

Fr. in Toledo

Wednesday, February 24

9:00 am

Divine Liturgy

11:00 am

Adult Education

Diocesan Clergy Retreat at Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction

Thursday, February 25

Diocesan Clergy Retreat at Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction

Friday, February 26

Teen Retreat at Colombiere Center, Clarkston

Diocesan Clergy Retreat at Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction

Saturday, February 27

Teen Retreat at Colombiere Center, Clarkston

Diocesan Clergy Retreat at Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction

5:00 pm

Vespers

Sunday, February 28

**PRODIGAL SON**

9:30 am

Third Hour

10:00 am

Divine Liturgy

Church School

**Offerings for the week February 14, 2016**

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,282.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$5,255.62
	<b>-\$3,973.62</b>

*91 people were in attendance on  
Sunday, February 14, 2016*

“If you cannot see Christ in the beggar at the church door, you will not find Him in the chalice.”

**St. John Chrysostom**