

January 28, 2017

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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**The Gospel according to Saint Matthew
28:16-20 (1st Matins Gospel)**

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2017 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

— **Tone 1. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Ven. Ephraim the Syrian (373-379). Ven. Theodosius, Abbot, of Tot’ma (Vologdá—1568). Ven. Efrem (Ephraim), Abbot and Wonderworker of Novotórzhszk (1053). St. Efrem, Bishop of Pereyaslavl’ (Kiev Caves—ca. 1098). Ven. Palladius the Hermit, of Antioch (4th c.). St. Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh (7th c.).**

TROPARIA

(Tone 1) When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

(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 1) By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb! And didst bless Simeon’s hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

The Prokeimenon in the First Tone: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.

v. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

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 1

v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

v. He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO 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!

St. John Chrysostom

I am insatiable, I do not wish many to be saved but all. And if but one be left in a perishing condition, I perish also, and deem that the Shepherd should be imitated who had ninety-nine sheep, and yet hastened after the one which had gone astray (Luke 15:4). How long will money last? How long this silver and gold? How long these draughts of wine? How long the flatteries of slaves? How long these goblets wreathed with garlands? How long these satanic drinking feasts, full of diabolical activity?

Do you not know that the present life is a sojourn in a far country? For are you a citizen? Nay, you are a wayfarer. Do you understand what I say? You are not a citizen, but you are a wayfarer, and a traveller. Say not: I have this city and that. No one has a city. The city is above. Present life is but a journey. We are journeying on every day, while nature is running its course. Some there are who store up goods on the way: some who bury jewellery on the road. Now when you enter an inn do you beautify the inn? Not so, but you eat and drink and hasten to depart. The present life is an inn: we have entered it, and we bring present life to a close: let us be eager to depart with a good hope, let us leave nothing here, that we may not lose it there. When you enter the inn, what do you say to the servant? Take care where you put away our things, that you do not leave anything behind here, that nothing may be lost, not even what is small and trifling, in order that we may carry everything back to our home. . . I say these things, and shall not cease saying them, causing continual pain, and dressing the wounds; and this not for the sake of the fallen, but of those who are still standing. For they have departed, and their career is ended, but those who are yet standing have gained a more secure position through their calamities. “What then,” you say, “shall we do?” Do one thing only, hate riches, and love your life — cast away your goods; I do not say all of them, but cut off the superfluities. Be not covetous of other men’s goods, strip not the widow, plunder not the orphan, seize not his house: I do not address myself to persons but to facts. But if any one’s conscience attacks him, he himself is responsible for it, not my words. Why are you grasping where you bring ill-will upon yourself? Grasp where there is a crown to be gained. Strive to lay hold not of earth but of heaven. “The kingdom of Heaven belongs to violent men and men of violence take it by force” (Mt 11:12). Why do you lay hold of the poor man who reproaches you? Lay hold of Christ who praises you for it. Do you see your senselessness and madness? Do you lay hold of the poor man who has little? Christ says “lay hold of me; I thank you for it, lay hold of my kingdom and take it by violence.” If you are minded to lay hold of an earthly kingdom, or rather if you are minded to have designs upon it you are punished; but in the case of the heavenly kingdom you are punished if you do not lay hold of it. Where worldly things are concerned there is ill-will, but where spiritual there is love. Meditate daily on these things, and if two days hence you see another riding in a chariot, arrayed in raiment of silk, and elated with pride, be not again dismayed and troubled. Praise not a rich man, but only him who lives in righteousness. Revile not a poor man, but learn to have an upright and accurate judgment in all things.



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitri, Deacon Anthony, Reggie, Allen, Deborah, Joann, Gloria,
Luba, Kosta, Jimmy, Laurie, David, Helen, Anna, Walt, Zina, Vladimir,
Nicolai, Dorothy, Michael, Nicolai, Allison, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette,
Nicholas, Margaret, Joseph, Gladys, Ted, Marlene, my family and friends

Special Intention

Helen Popoff, Anna Branoff, Patsy Papalazarou & Eleni Servinis

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Alex & Magda Popoff

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Peter Popoff & John Naum

Alex & Magda Popoff



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Coffee, donuts & pastries are provided today in memory of Simeon Panoff (two year anniversary), Aspasia and Christine Marie Stathopoulos by their family. Please join us in our fellowship hall.

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN on Thursday, Feb 1 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Our parish is on the schedule every first Thursday of the month to feed our brothers and sisters in Christ at the soup kitchen.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Shampoo/Conditioner & Lotion for the month of February. Place the items in the blue box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

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



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to take down the indoor & outdoor Christmas decorations on Saturday, February 3 at 10 am.

YEAR END STATEMENTS can be picked up in the parish hall today.

DORMITION DINNER RECAP

Total revenues to the Monastery: \$7,538 (this includes \$1,243 of Gift Shop sales)

The head count for dinner was thought to be about 166.

There may be more donations still to come in - seems like there frequently is

Excellent job all!

Father Deacon Michael Bassett / Saint George Orthodox Church / Flint, MI

Weekly Schedule:

*** FAST-FREE WEEK ***

Monday, Jan 29 Communion Calls in Bay City & Caro

Tuesday, Jan 30 Fr. Matthew in Toledo

Wednesday, Jan 31

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

11:15 am Adult Education Class

Thursday, Feb 1

9 am – 12:30 pm North End Soup Kitchen

6 pm Combined Vespertal Liturgy at Assumption for Our Lord's Entry into the Temple

Saturday, Feb 3

10 am Taking down all Christmas decorations and Nativity Scenes (indoor & outdoor)

5 pm Vespers

Sunday, Feb 4

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

9:30 am Third Hour

10 am Divine Liturgy followed by Church School

Offerings for the week January 21, 2018

Weekly Offerings	\$1,077.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$4,034.03
	-\$2,957.03

95 people were in attendance on Sunday, January 21, 2018.

Our holiness, our sanctification is Christ, as we say at the end of the Liturgy. There is none other. Therefore, there is no other way to be holy but to shrink to ourselves to that He becomes all in us. The Fathers used to put this truth this way: nothing makes a person holy but humility. Humility is not self-condemnation, but decreasing to nothing so that we become temples to be filled thoroughly by Him, our Life. This is also why a holy person never sees himself/herself as holy: there is no self left to look at—there is only Christ.

www.priestoftheorthodoxchurch.wordpress.com