

August 18, 2024

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America • 2143 S. Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519

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Welcome! We are honored that you have joined us in our celebration of the Lord's resurrection this day.

If you are a first-time visitor to our parish, we invite you to sign our guest book in the vestibule. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with one of the ushers.

For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox Christians, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with Fr. Matthew after the Liturgy and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church. The bread offered at the end of the service is available to all.

If you are an Orthodox Christian from another parish who has prepared in accordance with your discipline, and have a blessing from your home priest to do so, we invite and encourage you to partake of Holy Communion. **Again, welcome!**

TROPARIA FOR THE PROCESSION OF THE ICON OF OUR LADY OF IVERON

Tone 1 (Dormition) In giving birth you preserved your virginity. / In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. / You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Tone 1 (Mother of God of Iveron) We faithfully honor thine august icon / O Lady, Virgin of the Portal, / for it miraculously hath come by sea unto thy flock / and is a sacred source of sanctification / and a dwelling place of thy glory. / And from it thou dost pour forth gifts upon them that cry to thee with love: / Glory to thy wonders, / O pure maiden! / Glory to thy providence! // Glory to thine abundant goodness towards us!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024 8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. Afterfeast of the Dormition. Repose of Ven. John, Abbot of Rila (946). Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria (2nd c.). Martyrs Hermes, Serapion and Polyænus, of Rome (2nd c.). Hieromartyr Emilian and with him Martyrs Hilarion, Dionysius, and Hermippus (4th c.). Ss. John (674) and George (683), Patriarchs of Constantinople. Ven. Macarius, Monk. Ven. Sophronius of St. Anne's Skete (Mt. Athos). Ven. Arsenios of Paros (1877).

1st ANTIPHON

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth! // sing forth the honor of His name make His praise glorious! (*Psalms 65/66:2*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

O give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name! // make known His deeds among the peoples! (*1 Chronicles 16:8*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

In the city of the Lord of hosts; // in the city of our God! (*Psalms 47/48:8*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

His sanctuary is in peace, // and His dwelling in Zion! (*Psalms 75/76:2*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

2nd ANTIPHON

The Lord loves the gates of Zion // more than all the dwellings of Jacob! (*Psalms 86/87:2*) **Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Glorious things are spoken of you, // O City of our God! (*Psalms 86/87:3*) **Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

God has established her forever! // We have thought upon Your mercy, O God, in the midst of Your people! (*Psalms 47/48:8-9*) **Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

The Most High has sanctified // His tabernacle! (*Psalms 45/46:4*) **Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and were crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

3rd ANTIPHON O God, my heart is ready, my heart is ready! I will sing and give praise to Your glory! (*Psalms 107:1*) In giving birth you preserved your virginity. In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits toward me? (*Psalm 115/116:12*) In giving birth ...

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. (*Psalm 115:4*) In giving birth ...

TROPARIA

Tone 7 By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Tone 1 In giving birth you preserved your virginity. / In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. / You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Tone 1 Your life was a foundation of repentance and a model of compunction, an image of consolation and spiritual perfection, equal to the angels, O venerable one. You persevered in prayer, fasting and tears, O Father John; // intercede with Christ God for our souls.

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 2 Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, / who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. / For being the Mother of Life, // she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

The prokeimenon in the seventh tone: Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. (*Ps 115:6*)
v. What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits toward me? (*Psalm 115:12*)

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE GALATIANS (5:22-6:2)
Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Alleluia, Tone 7

v. It is good to confess to the Lord, to chant to your name, O Most High. (*Psalm 91:1*)

v. So that to proclaim your mercy in the morning and your truth through the night. (*Psalm 91:2a*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (14:14-22) At that time, as Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

COMMUNION HYMN Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (*Psalm 148:1*)

SAINT JOHN OF RILA This great ascetic and saint of the Orthodox Church was born near Sofia, Bulgaria in 876, in the town of Skrinno, during the reign of King Boris. He was of poor but honorable parents. After the death of his parents, John was tonsured a monk and withdrew to a mountain wilderness, where he lived a life of strict asceticism in a cave. There he endured many assaults, both from demons and men, robbers and his own relatives. Eventually he moved to Mount Rila and settled in a hollow tree. He fed only on herbs and beans, which, according to God's providence, began to grow in the vicinity. For many years he did not see a man's face until (again, by God's providence) he was discovered by shepherds who were seeking their lost sheep. Thus the saint became known to the people, and they began to come to him, seeking help in sickness and in sufferings. Even the Bulgarian King Peter visited John and sought counsel from him. Many who were zealots for the spiritual life settled in the proximity of John. A church and monastery were soon built nearby. St. John reposed peacefully in the Lord on August 18, 946 A.D., at the age of seventy. After his death, he appeared to his disciples. At first his relics were transported to Sofia. In the year 1183, the Hungarian king Bela II (1174-1196), during a campaign against the Greeks, seized the chest with the relics of Saint John, together with other booty, and took it to the city of Esztergom. In the year 1187, after he embellished the reliquary, he sent back the holy relics with great honor. On October 19, 1238 the relics of Saint John were solemnly transferred to the new capital, Trnovo, and put in a church dedicated to the saint. On July 1, 1469 the holy relics of Saint John of Rila were returned to the Rila monastery, where they rest to the present day, granting grace-filled help to all the believers. [*Prologue from Ochrid*](#)