

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Monthly Newsletter

Diocese of Toledo-Orthodox Church in America
2143 S. Center Road – Burton, Michigan 48519

Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser

Email: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Church Office: 810-744-0070

Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Hours 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy Adult Class 11:15 am

Saturday – 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions

Holydays: Vespers & Liturgy as announced

“May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.” St. Jude 1:1

AUGUST 2019

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS – ST. ISAAC OF SYRIA

That we should imagine that anger, wrath, jealousy or the such like have anything to do with the divine Nature is utterly abhorrent for us: no one in their right mind, no one who has any understanding at all can possibly come to such madness as to think anything of the sort against God. Nor again can we possibly say that He acts thus out of retribution, even though the Scriptures may on the outer surface posit this. Even to think this of God and to suppose that retribution for evil acts is to be found with Him is abominable. By implying that He makes use of such a great and difficult thing out of retribution we are attributing a weakness to the divine Nature. We cannot even believe such a thing can be found in those human beings who live a virtuous and upright life and whose thoughts are entirely in accord with the divine will—let alone believe it of God, that He has done something out of retribution for anticipated evil acts in connection with those whose nature He had brought into being with honour and great love. Knowing them and all their conduct, the flow of His grace did not dry up from them: not even after they started living amid many evil deeds did He withhold His care for them, even for a moment. If someone says that He has put up with them here on earth in order that His patience may be known with the idea that He would punish them there mercilessly, such a person thinks in an unspeakably blasphemous way about God, due to his infantile way of thinking: he is removing from God His kindness, goodness and compassion, all the things because of which He truly bears with sinners and wicked men. Such a person is attributing to God enslavement to passion, supposing that He has not consented to their being chastised here, seeing that He has prepared them for a much greater misfortune, in exchange for a shortlived patience. Not only does such a person fail to attribute something praiseworthy to God, but he also calumniates Him. A right way of thinking about God would be the following: the kind Lord, who in everything He does looks to ways of assisting rational beings, directs thought concerning judgement to the advantage of those who accept this difficult matter. For it would be most odious and utterly blasphemous to think that hate or resentment exists with God, even against a demonic beings; or to imagine any other weakness, or passibility, or whatever else might be involved in the course of retribution of good or bad as applying, in a retributive way, to that glorious divine Nature. Rather, He acts towards us in ways He knows will be advantageous to us, whether by way of things that cause suffering, or by way of things that cause relief, whether they cause joy or grief, whether they are insignificant or glorious: all are directed towards the single eternal good, whether each receives judgement or something of glory from Him not by way of retribution, far from it! but with a view to the advantage that is going to come from all these things.

FROM FATHER'S DESK

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra is the abbot who brought new life to this monastery on Mount Athos. He became father in God to our own Archbishop Alexander and is the abbot who tonsured Archbishop Alexander as a monk. Fr. Aimilianos fell asleep in the Lord on May 9 after twenty-five years of a debilitating neurological illness. During our pilgrimage to Simonopetra Monastery, Archbishop Alexander served the nine-day memorial for Fr. Aimilianos. At the convent of the Annunciation at Ormylia, founded by Elder Aimilianos and the largest convent in Greece, Elder Aimilianos is laid to rest. Mother Nikodimi, the abbess, invited Archbishop Alexander, Fr. Silviu Bunta, and me to serve a Trisagion at Fr. Aimilianos's grave.

Reading from his writings, hearing from those who knew him, show the Christ-likeness of Elder Aimilianos. Here is a small sample from those who knew him and how he interacted with them. I hope that these are as edifying to you as they are to me. With love in Christ,

Fr. Matthew



Elder Aimilianos never told anyone what to do. Never gave orders. He told us many times when the community was all together: "I can't really tell you what to do, all I can do is strive to be an example." He used to say, "In the Christian life, there is no 'must'. If you tell people they 'must do this and must do that', something in their spirit rebels. It's unnatural for us to be enslaved in that way, to have orders and commands imposed upon us.

A certain monk was asked to run the guest house and take care of guests after the Divine Liturgy while the other monks took their rest. He would get hungry – and there's food in the guest house: cookies, Turkish delights, coffee. This monk would snack in the guest house – he'd eat so many cookies that he made himself sick. He determined to tell abbot about his "problem" – and surely get a command not to do that. He confessed: "I get hungry, I'm indulging in cookies." "You can have 1 or 2, that's ok". "Well, I'm having 8 or 9 of them. I was

hoping you could give me a directive not to eat them." The Abbot almost physically recoiled and said, "I can't do that. You have to decide what to do". Immediately he realized how stupid and infantile he had been. "I'll just go along my merry way eating boxes of cookies, and wait for someone else to tell me what to do!" But we have freedom: we have to make the right choice – not get an order from another. What is it if an Elder tells you can't have more than 2 cookies?

When a certain novice arrived at Simonopetra, the cells were under construction so he was put in a guest room. It all looked normal: shelf, books, bed. He was working in the library, and one of the monks got up and said, "Ooh my back, my back: it's killing me. I have back troubles." "Is your bed too soft?" the novice asked. "You sleep in a bed?" "Yeah: don't you?" "No, nobody here sleeps in a bed," and laughed with the other monks saying, "Hey, come here. He sleeps in a bed!" When the novice was with the Abbot a couple days later, the Abbot asked, "You have a bed in your room? At some point we'll have to get that out of there." The novice was terrified: he had a long history of chronic lower back problems. He had the idea: "If they take my bed away, I'll be a cripple the rest of my life!" Every time he heard a knock on the door, he feared they were coming for it. Yet no one ever came for the bed. One day the Novice saw the cell of the Abbot. The Abbot didn't have a bed! "This man carries the weight of whole monastery on his shoulders, works so hard for everybody here, deals with all our nonsense, our infantile behavior, prays for us, and he doesn't sleep in a bed. And I'm going to have a bed? I can't do that." He went back to his room and got rid of the bed. Had they taken it, and he had back problems, he would have cursed them forever! The Abbot taught by example.

From A Light In A Dark World, Eastern Orthodox Patristic Memes and Quotes Facebook page

Hours Schedule

<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
4 Angelo	1 Lucy	6 Angelo
11 Lucy	8 Calvin	13 Lucy
18 Calvin	15 Angelo	20 Calvin
25 Angelo	22 Lucy	27 Angelo
	29 Calvin	

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, you must find a replacement.

Reader Schedule

<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
4 Johnny	1 Alexander	6 Johnny
11 Taras	8 Johnny	13 Amir
18 Angelo	15 Amir	20 Angelo
25 Amir	22 Angelo	27 Alexander
	29 Alexander	

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, you must find a replacement.

DORMITION FAST began on August 1st and continues to August 14th. Check the wall calendar and the newsletter calendar for fasting days.

HOLY DORMITION MONASTERY – RIVES JUNCTION, MI

32nd ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE CELEBRATION 2019

AUGUST 14th & 15th

With the Participation of

His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL

Guest of Honor:

His Grace, Bishop PAUL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

5 pm Light Supper

6 pm Vigil with Lamentations

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

9 am Akathist, 3rd Hour, 6th Hour, Vesting of the Hierarchs & Procession to Pavilion

10 am Hierarchal Divine Liturgy

12:45 pm Lunch

2:30 pm Mystery of Holy Unction Service

5:30 pm Vespers

6:30 pm Supper

RUMMAGE SALE August 9th, 10 am-5 pm & 10th, 10 am-3 pm. You can leave donated items in the foyer at the side door of the parish hall. If you want to donate a large item call Dennis Jernigan for a drop off or pick up time. Please make sure everything is clean, gently used & in good working order. It takes many hands to make this successful so please consider volunteering to help.

SHRINE FEAST/PICNIC Sunday, August 18 – outdoor Liturgy followed by lamb picnic. Please bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Free will offering.

16TH ANNUAL ELIAS D. CHINONIS GOLF CLASSIC August 19th at Pine Knob Golf Course. This golf outing is being coordinated by Assumption & you can direct any questions to John Kaloydis at 810-922-2047 or jekaloydis@comcast.net. Look at the flyer for details.

RUSSIAN SCARVES Connie (Precoda) Miskov is writing a book on immigrants from Russia. She is looking for pictures of authentic scarves or women wearing them. If you have the scarves but need a picture taken, please contact Connie & she'll make arrangements. Her contact information is (727) 412-4714 or miskovc@gmail.com.

August Coffee Hour Volunteers	
4	Mira & Stojan Prusac
11	
18	Shrine Feast/Picnic
25	

**UPCOMING
Events**

BINGO Sunday, September 8.

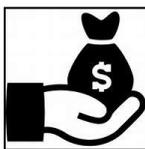
KONEVET QUARTET will be coming to St. Nicholas this fall.

MAKE YOUR FAITHFUL SUMMER GIVING EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH GIVELIFY.



You can now donate to St. Nicholas with an app on your phone & as always, on our website. You can donate toward any fund even coffee hour. If you want to split a donation between different areas just include a memo indicating how you would like the funds applied.

AUTOMATIC GIVING is another option offered by most banks & credit unions using their automatic bill payment service. You can set it up so they send a check from your account to St. Nicholas for the amount you designate. This can be a done one time, weekly or monthly. Just call or go online with your banking institution to get the form you need.



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS Remember to sign up for Community Rewards online at Kroger.com or go to the customer service desk in the store. They send a check to St. Nicholas for a portion of everything participants spend in their stores.

How To Make Your First Givelify Donation

- 1 Download the free Givelify app
- 2 Locate our Place of Worship
- 3 Tap My Place of Worship
- 4 Tap the Give button
- 5 Tap an amount
- 6 Select an envelope
- 7 Tap Give Now
- 8 Create your account
- 9 Enter payment information

Next time you use Givelify, save time with the button

Please leave this slip here to help spread the word.

QUARTERLY STATEMENTS were mailed out July 15th. Due to a new software program your statement looks quite different. If you turned in a pledge for the year, that amount is listed in the “Original Amount” column (on the rows that have “Weekly Offering” as the item). Please call Marcia in the office at (810-744-0070) if you have any questions or if you did not receive your statement.

CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting razors & shaving cream/lotion for August. 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.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN We serve Thursday, August 1st from 9 am to 1 pm. Please use the sign-up sheet at the candle stand to volunteer.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dat Gerzevske
Julie Conover
Sophia Todorovsky
3 Cheryl Ellis
5 Paul Brayon
6 Diana Broadfoot
8 Maria Green
9 Katelyn Price
Milan (Michael) Stikovich
12 Janja Beslach
18 Lisa Pray
Tom Krigner
19 Alexis Liley
Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie
20 Quinn Gerzevske
22 Michael Borkovich
25 Sophia Batzos
26 Christine Panoff
27 Kathy Gonser
Tom Batzos
30 Cortney Batzos
31 Lydia Nicoloff



NAMESDAY

- 4 Maximilian Biernacki
10 Lawrence Bladecki
11 Susan Oginsky
Susan Popoff
15 Deva Glusica (Theotokos)
Donna (Susie) Ford (Theotokos)
Linda Marie Branoff
Maria Papalazarou Green
Marie Todorovsky
Marika Karayanis
Marilyn Branoff
Mary Abu-Aita
Mary Batzos
Mary Kosman
Mary Anna (Marie Anna) Kilbourne
May Kokaly
Sharon Jernigan (Theotokos)
Sharon George
18 Laurie (Florinka) Brock
21 Cameron Stevens
Dat Gerzevske
26 Adriane Grossi (St. Adrian)
Adrienne Biernacki (St. Adrian)
Natasha Oginsky
27 Monica Mitevski
30 Archbishop Alexander
Sašo Pirkovic

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Pete & Jo Sredich
19 Luai & Amani Helal
21 Bill & Cindy Economou

If your name is missing or has the incorrect information in the birthday, anniversary or namesday list please call the office: (810) 744-0070

VISITATION TO THE SICK Fr. Matthew brings Holy Communion to the shut-ins on Mondays. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact the office. Presently, those receiving weekly visits are: Helen Ashmun, Paul Ellis, Rose Goodman, Pete & Jo Sredich, & Fred Oginsky. Monthly Fr. Matthew visits Larry Bladecki (Bay City), Peter and Olga Samaras (Caro).

DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The following are our brothers and sisters of St. Nicholas who are currently homebound, suffering from chronic illness, in recovery or in need of special prayers. Please remember them in your prayers and reach out to them with a card, a phone call or a visit! Please call the office to schedule a visit for Holy Communion.

Larry Bladecki	Gladys Edwards	Nick Karayanis	Olga Samaras
Deacon John Bocek	Paul Ellis	Macy Lemmen	Peter Samaras
Anna Branoff	Bill Haw	Fred Oginsky	Bill Tadrick
Linda Branoff	Mary Karayanis	Ron Salhany	Wendy Tadrick

To aid in your outreach, here is a listing of the addresses and phone numbers of our Homebound:

Helen Ashmun	4436 Beecher Rd.	Flint, MI 48532	
Larry Bladecki	409 15 th Street	Bay City, MI 48708	
Nick & Marge Butrie	30 E. Bertsch St. #12	Lansford, PA 18232	
Gladys Edwards	2 Harbor Dr.	St. Clair, MO 63077	
Paul Ellis	2360 Stonebridge Dr.	Flint, MI 48532	
Rose Goodman	12458 St. Andrews Way #56	Fenton, MI 48430	
Pete & Olga Samaras	1285 Cleaver Rd.	Caro, MI 48723	(989) 673-0821



RUMMAGE SALE

AUGUST 9 10 am - 5 pm

AUGUST 10 10 am - 3 pm

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

2143 S. CENTER RD., BURTON
Next to Lockwood



- ◆ Furniture
- ◆ Clothes
- ◆ Books
- ◆ Kitchen Items
- ◆ Sports Equipment
- ◆ So Much More!



PARISH PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th

Following the outdoor Liturgy



**Lamb will be served
Bring a side dish or dessert to pass
Free will offering**

Bring any outdoor games to play. Let's have FUN!

**We need volunteers to help setup on Saturday after Vespers,
August 17 and before Liturgy on Sunday
as well as for the picnic. Please lend a hand!**

16th Annual Elias D. Chinonis Golf Classic

August 19, 2019

at Pine Knob Golf Course

5580 Waldon Road • Clarkston, MI 48348

Registration 10 AM • Lunch 11AM • 12:00 Shotgun Start/Scramble

\$100 early bird special until July 19, 2019
(\$125 after July 19, 2019) Dinner ONLY \$35

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Foursome: Name & Phone

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

SPONSORSHIPS

■ \$1000

Gold Sponsor

Includes 2 T box signs
and 4 golfers

■ \$500

Silver Sponsor

Includes 1T box sign
and 2 golfers

■ \$150

Bronze Sponsor

includes 1T box sign

■

**Other
Donation**

*All sponsors receive numerous recognition and flyer placements.
Wording for Sponsorship: _____*

Return by: August 5, 2019

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

2245 W. Baldwin Road • Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Attn: John Kaloydis • 810-922-2047 • jekaloydis@comcast.net



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church • Grand Blanc



**DO YOU STILL WANT
TO RECEIVE THIS
NEWSLETTER? IF NOT
PLEASE CALL OR
EMAIL THE OFFICE TO
BE TAKEN OFF OF THE
MAILING LIST.**

Your Business Here

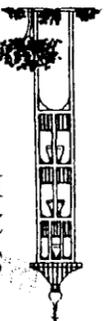
\$36.00 Single Space
for 6 months

\$50.00 Double Space
for 6 months

\$65.00 Triple Space
for 6 months

**Nonprofit Org.
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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 South Center Road
Burton, MI 48519



August 2019

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Burton, MI 48519
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Email: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat							
<p>† Fast  Dairy Permitted (no meat)  Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)  Fish Permitted (no other meat)</p>				<p>1 Dormition Fast  <i>begins</i> 9:am to 12:30 pm North End Soup Kitchen <i>Office Closed</i></p>	2	†	3	 5 pm Vespers followed <i>by Confessions</i>					
4		5	†	6	 	7	†	8	†	9	 	10	 <u>Rummage Sale</u> 5 pm Vespers followed <i>by Confessions</i>
9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy 12:30 pm Moleben to <i>the Theotokos (Shrine)</i>	6 pm Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy at our <i>church</i>	Transfiguration	No Liturgy No Adult Ed	Rummage Sale Set-up <i>Office Closed</i>	Glorification of St Herman of Alaska <u>Rummage Sale</u> Communion Calls in <i>Bay City & Caro</i>								
11		12	†	13	 	14	9:30 am Liturgy † 11:15 am Adult Ed 6 pm Vespers & Artoklasia at Assumption	15	Dormition 10 am Divine Liturgy @ Assumption) <i>Office Closed</i>	16	†	17	5 pm Vespers followed <i>by Confessions</i>
				Pilgrimage to Dormition Monastery									
18	19	20	21	†	22	23	†	24					
9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy Picnic in the Pavilion <i>Lamb Dinner</i>			No Liturgy No Adult Ed. <i>Office Closes at 12</i>		<i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Office Closed</i>		No Vespers					
25	26	27	28	†	29	30	†	31					
9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy		9:am to 12:30 pm St. George Church at North End Soup Kitchen	9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am Adult Ed.		Beheading of St. John the Baptist <i>Office Closed</i>			5 pm Vespers <i>with Litya</i> <i>followed by</i> <i>Confessions</i>					

September 2019

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Burton, MI 48519

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Email: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Church New Year</p> <p>9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>2  HAPPY LABOR DAY</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 †</p> <p>9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am Adult Ed</p>	<p>5 9:am to 12:30 pm North End Soup Kitchen</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>6 †</p>	<p>7 5 pm Vespers with Litya followed by Confessions</p>
<p>8 Nativity of the Theotokos</p> <p>9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy BINGO</p>	<p>9 Father in Toledo</p>	<p>10 6:30 pm Parish Council</p>	<p>11 †</p> <p>9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am Adult Ed</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>13 †</p>	<p>14 Elevation of the Cross </p> <p>10 am Pan-Orthodox Liturgy (location to be determined) 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions</p>
<p>15 9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy Church School begins</p>	<p>16 Communion Calls to Bay City & Caro</p>	<p>17 Father in Toledo</p>	<p>18 †</p> <p>9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am Adult Ed</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>20 †</p>	<p>21 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions</p>
<p>22 9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy Church School</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9 am to 12:30 pm St. George Church at North End Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>25   Repose of St Sergius of Voronezh</p> <p>9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am Adult Ed</p>	<p>26 Repose of St John the Theologian</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>27 †</p>	<p>28 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions</p>
<p>29 9:30 Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy Church School</p>	<p>30</p>			<p>† Fast  Dairy Permitted (no meat)  Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)  Fish Permitted (no other meat)</p>		