

**December 19, 2021**

***St. Nicholas Orthodox Church***

***Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America***

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

***Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Rector, mobile: 810-247-4265 & Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser***

***Website: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org) Church: 810-744-0070 e-mail:***

**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!**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1. Sunday before the Nativity. Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia & Righteous Aglæ (Agláida) of Rome (290). Ven. Ilya of Murom, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves – 1188). Martyrs Elias, Probus, and Ares in Cilicia (308). St. Boniface the Merciful, Bishop of Ferentino (6th c.). St. Gregory, Archbishop of Omirits (ca. 552).**

### **TROPARIA**

**Tone 1** When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body, You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom!// Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!"

**Tone 2** Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, save 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 3** The Virgin comes today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word Eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message, with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He Who is from eternity God.

***The prokeimenon in the fourth Tone: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Your name forever!* (Song of the Three Holy Children, v. 3)**

***v. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!* (v. 4)**

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40)** Brethren: By faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents

with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be named." He considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead; hence, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his burial. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

#### *Alleluia, Tone 4*

*v: We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us. (Psalm 43:1a)*

*v: For You have saved us from them that oppose us, and have put to shame them that hate us. (Psalm 43:8)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (1:1-25)** The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When

Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

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

### **The holy Gospel according to Luke 24:1-12 (4th Matins Gospel)**

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD** remembers the forefathers of our Lord. In addition to those named in the Gospel today we remember Adam and Eve (the first-created), the righteous Abel, son of Adam, the righteous Seth, son of Adam, the righteous Enos, son of Seth, the righteous Kenan, son of Enos, the righteous Mehaliel (Maleleim), son of Kenan, the righteous Jared, son of Mehaliel, the righteous Enoch, son of Jared, the righteous Methuselah, son of Enoch, the righteous Lamech, son of Methuselah, the righteous Noah, son of Lamech, the righteous Shem, son of Noah, the righteous Japheth, son of Noah, the righteous Arphachshad, son of Shem, the righteous Canaan, son of Arphachshad (in some versions of the OT, Canaan is called the son of Ham), the righteous Shelah, son of Canaan (some versions of the OT call Shelah the son of Arphachshad), the righteous Eber (from whom the Hebrews take their name), son of Shelah, the righteous Peleg, son of Eber, the righteous Ragab (Reu), son of Peleg, the righteous Serug, son of Ragab, the righteous Nahor, son of Serug, the righteous Terah, son of Serug.

The righteous Patriarch Reuben, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Simeon, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Levi, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Judah (Christ was of this tribe), the righteous Patriarch Zebulon, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Issachar, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Dan, son of Jacob and Bilhah (Rachel's maid), the righteous Patriarch Gad, son of Jacob and Zilpah (Leah's maid), the righteous Patriarch Asher, son of Jacob and Zilpah, the righteous Patriarch Naphthali, son of Jacob and Bilhah, the righteous Patriarch Joseph, son of Jacob and Rachel, the righteous Patriarch Benjamin, son of Jacob and Rachel.

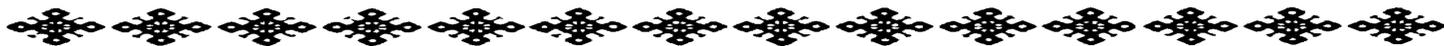
St Joseph the Betrothed, son of Jacob.

The righteous Melchizedek, King of Salem, the righteous Job, the holy Prophet Moses, the priests Hur and Aaron, Joshua, son of Nun.

The holy prophet Samuel, the holy prophet Nathan, the holy prophet Daniel, the three holy youths Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

The righteous Sarah, wife of Abraham, the righteous Rebecca, wife of Isaac, the righteous Leah, first wife of Jacob, the righteous Rachel, second wife of Jacob, the righteous Asineth, wife of Patriarch Joseph the all-comely, the righteous Miriam, sister of Moses, the righteous Deborah, Judge of Israel and prophetess, the righteous Ruth, wife of Boaz, the righteous woman of Zarephath, to whom Elias was sent (3 Kings 17), the righteous woman of Shunem, who was hospitable to Elisha (4 Kings 4), the righteous Judith, slayer of Holofernes, the righteous Esther, who delivered Israel from death, the righteous Hannah, mother of the prophet Samuel, the righteous Susanna. from [oca.org](http://oca.org)

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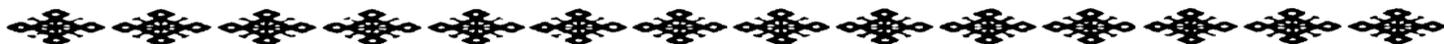


**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Sandy Taylor's birthday (Dec. 9), her mom	Julia Peck
Health, God's blessings & a speedy recovery for Laurie Hayward	Nancy Krigner
Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Aaron, Milica, Calvin, Angelo, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Dorothy, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, David, Taras, Ted, Joseph, Marlene, Mary, Gladys, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family and friends	Joe Tome
Special Intention	Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE**

Vična pamjat' for my beloved mother, Valentina - blessed repose	Taras Evanenko
December birthdates of my loving husband Nicholas (12/22) and dear brother Charles (12/19) ~ Memory Eternal	Connie Maxim
Fr. Tom George	Dorothy Goodman
My brother Charles & parents of both Nick and mine~Memory Eternal	Connie Maxim



**WELCOME** to all our friends and visitors! Welcome to everyone joining us via our YouTube channel: [St Nicholas Orthodox Church Burton](#). If at the time of the divine services you cannot access the livestream, please check out [St. Mary Magdalene Church](#) [St George Church](#) or [Dormition Monastery](#) for their livestreams.

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WINTER DINNER** supporting Holy Dormition Monastery is scheduled on Thursday, January 20 at Saint George Church. Archbishop Nathaniel of the Romanian Episcopate (Orthodox Church in America) will be the guest speaker. Susie Ford is our parish coordinator. Our parish is responsible for providing the entrée, plates, utensils, napkins, etc. Please keep in mind the possibility of a cancellation due to COVID - such a decision would be made toward the very close to the date. Vespers will be livestreamed.

**PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE** Leftovers from Saint Nicholas luncheon were donated to Carriage Town. A wonderful turnout in people and baked goods for the Cookie Walk. Dormition Winter Dinner - Archbishop Nathaniel will be the guest speaker. Our parish is responsible for the entree, plates, utensils, napkins, etc. Susie Ford is our coordinator. Possible that the dinner may become virtual due to COVID. Our next fundraiser is the Theophany banquet on Sunday, January 9 and the price of lamb is being checked so we can set the price for dinners. Turkey dinner for Meatfare on February 27. Women's room there was a leak, needed to be repaired. The single door silver freezer in the barroom was fixed. Dennis Jernigan gave the maintenance report: Water sensor was fixed through insurance company. Bathrooms in school hallway - big job, all done: faucets, drains, shut-off valves. Dennis painted the shelf in the women's room and coat racks in women's and men's rooms. Receptacle cover replaced in courtyard. Toilet seal was replaced because it had failed. Water fountain - new regulator and drain line installed. Eavestrough - new downspout on one side of building because there was 30 to 40 feet between spouts. Need prepped for covers. Losing shingles on church every time there are heavy winds. Seams on eavestroughs are leaking and one is over the new AC unit. Terry Hammerberg will re-seal the joints and replace shingles, if possible. Perhaps fundraisers can be dedicated to covering the future expense of replacing the church roof which was changed decades ago. Dennis wants to put pvc pipe with red reflectors to show the entrances

to the driveways in the evenings. Seals leaking on southeast windows in foyer in hall - maybe can be caulked or needs to be re-sealed.

**COFFEE SOCIAL** is provided today by Connie Maxim in memory of her loving husband Nicholas and all their families' deceased. Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome. There is a sign up sheet next to the service window for those who would like to donate refreshments and/or to help serve.

**OFFICE HOURS** are Monday & Wednesday 9-3. The office is closed Friday, December 17.

**MAKE YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH GIVELIFY**

Go to the [website](#) and on the home page click on the box **Give now with Givelify** which will walk you through the donation process; this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify as a fee). **If you do not wish to donate online, you may write a check to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and send it to the parish address: 2143 S Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519.**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are ready to be picked up in the narthex. If you don't see a box with your name but would like one please contact the office by phone or email.

**CALENDARS** are available in the narthex as well as small tri-fold calendars to carry in your purse or wallet.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Today** Swearing in of new parish council members

**Monday, December 20** Pre-feast of Nativity of our Lord begins  
*Father in Toledo*

**Wednesday, December 22**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

11:15 am Adult education - concluding the kontakion "on the Nativity of our Lord" by St Romanos

**Thursday, December 23**

6 pm Royal Hours for the Nativity of our Lord

**Friday, December 24** EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

**Office Closed**

**6 pm** [Vespers w/ Liturgy - streaming on our YouTube channel](#)

**Saturday, December 25** NATIVITY OF CHRIST

**10 am** [Divine Liturgy - streaming on our YouTube channel](#)

**Sunday, December 26** Synaxis of the Theotokos - Sunday after the Nativity

9:30 am Third and Sixth Hours

**10 am** [Divine Liturgy - streaming on our YouTube channel](#)

**Offerings for the week December 12, 2021**

*43 persons in attendance on December 12<sup>th</sup>*

Weekly Offerings	\$ 1,143.49
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,104.00
	\$ -1,960.51