

December 31, 2023

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 Church: 810-744-0070 e-mail: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

Welcome! We are honored that you have joined us in our celebration of the circumcision of Christ Jesus today.

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 Father Robert, 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 31, 2023 30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. Leavetaking of the Nativity. Sunday after Nativity. “Unfading Flower” Icon of the Mother of God at Ardatov. Ven. Melania the Younger of Rome (439). Ven. Chiriacos (Kyriakis) of Bisericani (Romanian – 160). Ven. Chiriacos (Kyriakis) of Tazlau (Romanian – 1660).

FIRST ANTIPHON

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known! (*Psalm 110:1a*)
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord! (*Psalm 110:1b-2a*)
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

They are studied by all who have pleasure in them! (*Psalm 110:3*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

His work is glory and beauty, and His righteousness endures forever! (*Psalm 110:2b*) **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!

SECOND ANTIPHON

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord! Who greatly delights in His commandments! (*Psalm 111:1*) **O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed! (*Psalm 111:2*) **O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness endures forever! (*Psalm 111:3*) **O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous! (*Psalm 111:4*)
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, 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 was 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!

THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said to my Lord, Sit on my right. (*Psalm 109:1a*) Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it those who worshipped the ..stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to You!

Until I make your enemies a footstool of your feet. (*Psalm 109:1b*) Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

A rod of power the Lord will send you from Sion, and lord over in the midst of your enemies. (*Psalm 109:2*) Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

With you – the rule on the day of your power, in the brightnesses of your holies. (*Psalm 109:3*) Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Choir: Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

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 Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to You!

Tone 2 Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, / to David, the ancestor of God; / you saw a Virgin great with child; / you gave glory with the shepherds; / you worshipped with the Magi; / you received the news from the Angel. // Pray to Christ God to 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 Today the Virgin gives birth to the transcendent One! And the earth offers a cave to the unapproachable One! Angels with shepherds glorify Him! The wise men journey with a star! Since for our sake, the Eternal God was born as a little child!

The prokeimenon in the sixth tone: O Lord, save Your people / and bless Your inheritance! (*Psalm 27:9a*)
v. **To you, O Lord, I cried, O my God, do not keep silent from me.** (*Psalm 27:1a*)

THE READING IS FROM THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY (4:5-8) Timothy, my son: as for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your

ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v: God have pity on us and bless us, show His Face to us and have mercy on us. (*Psalm 66:2*)

v: To know in the earth your way, in all nations your salvation. (*Psalm 66:3*)

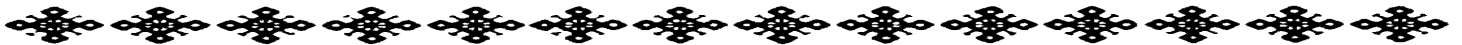
THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (1:1-8) The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare the way' the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight-"John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the county of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

INSTEAD OF "IT IS TRULY MEET..." Magnify, O my soul, Christ the King who was born in a cave! I contemplate a marvelous and all-glorious mystery: heaven has become a cave, the cherubic throne - a virgin; and the manger has become an honorable place in which lies Christ, the uncontainable God. As we praise Him with song, let us extol Him!

COMMUNION HYMN The Lord has sent redemption to His people! (*Psalm 110:8a*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

INSTEAD OF "WE HAVE SEEN..." Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to You!

December 31, 2023



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Special Intentions for the Akkerman family

Health & blessings for Vladimir Akkerman

Health & blessings for Ellyn & Mike Love,

Health & blessings for Les Ford

Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Angelo, Joan,

Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta,

Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, David, Taras, Ted,

Joseph, Marlene, Mary, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family

and friends

Special Intention

Ford family

Akkerman family

Ian & Stephanie

Akkerman family

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

CANDLE INTENETION FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Evdokia & Ivan Ponomarenko

Lucy Hogg



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors and those 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](#).

Dec 31 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford **HOURS:** Alexander Gonser **READER:** Phil Wiles
Jan 7 CANDLESTAND: Christine Panoff **HOURS:** Angelo Panoff **READER:** Alexander Gonser

COFFEE SOCIAL is provided today by Fr. Matthew & Matushka Lisa in memory of Margaret (Dec. 29) & Nicholas Butrie (Dec. 27) for their 4 year anniversary. Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome. There is a signup sheet next to the service window for those who would like to donate and/or serve in the coming weeks.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS led by Reader Alexander Gonser after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith.

ADULT ED CLASS resumes January 10.

CHURCH SCHOOL Lesson - [1 John - God is Love](#)

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD is Saturday, January 6, Theophany. Please come to worship Father, Son, and Holy Spirit on this great feast. Hours at 9:30 am and Liturgy at 10 am.

THEOPHANY DINNER and outdoor blessing of water January 14th. Tickets can be purchased from Sharon Jernigan. Adults \$18, children under 12 free.

12th ANNUAL DORMITION FUNDRAISER DINNER will be held at the *newly renovated* St. George Banquet Center on January 18th from 5 pm – 8:30 pm. Register, volunteer or donate by Sunday, January 7th. There are 4 ways to register: online at www.saintgeorgeflint.org, [the QR](#) code to the right and found on the registration form, by paper (fill out form and give to Katherine Gonser) or by phone (810-732-0720). Forms are in the parish hall. *The talks that will start around 7:30 will be on YouTube. **Our parish is to prepare the main course for the event. Katherine Gonser is our contact person.**



2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the narthex. If there are boxes for family who have not been attending whom you will be seeing, please deliver them to help save on postage costs (\$5 per box of envelopes). Please let Marcia know if you haven't received envelopes and would like to have them. Using envelopes is very helpful to those who count the stewardship collection & for the auditors.

2024 CALENDARS are in the narthex. Thank you to Swartz Funeral Home for sponsoring them again.

OFFICE HOURS this week are Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 9-3. *Closed Monday, January 1*

GIVE TO THE CHURCH THROUGH GIVELIFY Go to our website www.saintnicholasburton.org and click on the box [Give now with Givelify](#); 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.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS Father Matthew is assisting Archbishop Alexander during his recovery from surgery until January 4. Please contact **only for emergencies** Father Gabriel Bilas 810-750-1401 or Father Peter Bistolarides 810-771-4611.

Well-wishes for Archbishop Alexander may be sent to
Archbishop Alexander
519 Brynhaven Dr
Oregon, OH 43616-2809

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Monday, January 1 - Circumcision of our Lord/St Basil the Great
Office is closed

Tuesday, January 2 *Office open*

Wednesday, January 3
No Divine Liturgy or Adult education

Friday, January 5
12 pm 40 day Parastas for Kosta Todorovsky at church followed by a luncheon
in our fellowship hall

Saturday, January 6 **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD**
9:30 am **Hours & 10 am Divine Liturgy- live- streamed**
5 pm **Vespers - live-streamed** *Confessions*

Sunday, January 7 **Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist**
9:30 am **Hours & 10 am Divine Liturgy- live- streamed**
Church School - **2 Corinthians - Light of the World**

Offerings for the week December 24, 2023

Weekly Offerings	\$ 3,511.14
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,100.00
	\$ - 588.86

81 persons in attendance on December 24
30 persons in attendance on December 25

