

*December 8, 2024*

**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*

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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 narthex. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with one of the ushers.

**Holy Communion** – for Orthodox Christians, please note that there are specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion – fasting from midnight (unless you need to take medication) and recent Confession. 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

For our visitors who are not Orthodox Christian: we welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. The Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (antidoron) which will be given when coming forward to receive the final blessing from the priest at the conclusion of the Liturgy. **Again, welcome!**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024 24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. 362 Martyrs of Africa (62 Clergy and 300 Laypeople) (475). Ven. Patapius of Thebes (8th c.). Ven. Kirill, Abbot of Chelmogorsk (1378). Holy Apostles of the Seventy: Sosthenes, Apollos, Cephas, Tychicus, Epaphroditus, Caesar, and Onesiphorus (1st c.). Martyr Anthusa, at Rome (5th c.).**

**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 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 seventh tone: The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Psalm 28:11)**

*v. Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord sons of rams. (Psalm 28:1a)*

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS (2:14-22)**

Brethren, Christ Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to

death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

*Alleluia, Tone 7*

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

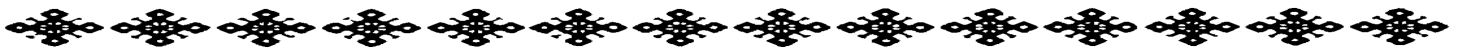
*v. So that to proclaim your mercy in the morning and your truth through the night. (Psalm 91:2a)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (13:10-17)**

At that time, on the sabbath day, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound - think of it - for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

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

December 8, 2024



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

Health & blessings for Michael Steiner

Eileen & Dennis

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

Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Les, Bosa,

Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, David, Taras, Ted, Joseph, Marlene,

Ellyn, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF**

Hanna St. Juliana~Memory Eternal

Bill Economou

Angelo Popoff

Jeanette & Paul Brayon



**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 8 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford

HOURS: Alexander Gonser

READER: Phil Wiles

Dec 15 CANDLESTAND: Ian & Stephanie

HOURS: Lucy Hogg

READER: Alexander Gonser

## 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. The class meets in the library.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES are on Wednesdays at 11:15 am. We are reading - *Wounded by Love*, a transcription of conversations with Saint Porphyrios (1906-1991). The cost of the book is \$30. You may purchase them at the kiosk.

CHURCH SCHOOL St. Nicholas visits



ANGEL TREE There are still two tags on the tree. **Gifts must be placed in a gift bag or wrapped but you must include the child's names and code number on the outside of the wrapping or bag for each gift.** Gift range is between \$25 and \$35. It's important to keep the amounts spent for kids in the same family the same. **Please return the gifts by December 11.** If there are any questions, contact Eileen Branoff at (810) 232-5132 or Cindy Branoff at (810) 714-1104.

COOKIE WALK is Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm. It is chaired by Lucy Hogg this year and requires help from many people. It would be helpful to have someone co-chair with Lucy this year as we need a new chairperson or chairpersons for the 2025 Cookie Walk. Please call Lucy at 810-695-3110 with any questions.



- Baked goods need to be delivered by Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> before 3 pm.
- Sign-up sheet in the parish hall to volunteer whether with baking cookies, set-up, the day of the sale, or the break-down of the hall following the sale.
- Donations are also appreciated if you cannot bring cookies so baklava & some pre-made goodies can be purchased. There is a donation jar in the parish hall.
- Please help us get the word out about the Cookie Walk! Share our parish [Facebook page event](#) and [posting](#) on the Cookie Walk, take fliers to share, let your friends and neighbors know!

HOLIDAY GIFT BASKETS RAFFLE Tickets are 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5. You can see the 3 beautiful baskets in the parish hall. See Connie Maxim to purchase tickets. Proceeds will go toward Saint Nicholas' visit. The drawing will be on December 8 but the winner does not need to be present.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR Friday, December 13 on ABC 12 Good Morning Mid-Michigan, Father Matthew will be interviewed about the Cookie Walk. The interview will air between 9 and 10 am.

CHEESE TRIANGLES with and without leeks will be available to pick up on December 14 & 15. The deadline to pre-order is December 8. The sign-up sheet is in the parish hall. The cost is 1@ \$3, 4@ \$10 & 8@ \$20. Please indicate how many of each that you want.

### MEMORY ETERNAL

**Angelo Popoff (Evangelos Papadopoulos)** fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, November 30. He is the husband of Helen (Eleni) and the father of Kathy, Elva, and Mary and brother of John Popoff. Swartz Funeral Home handled arrangements. Angelo was buried from church on Saturday, December 7 at Evergreen Cemetery. Please remember Angelo in your prayers that he rest in the light of Christ's Face. And remember his family that the Lord sustain them in their grief. Bog da prosti! Christ is rise!

2025 CALENDARS are available in the narthex. Thank you to Swartz Funeral Home for sponsoring them again this year.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS can be sponsored in honor of the living or as a memorial for the deceased. Forms are also in the narthex. The sponsors will be listed in the newsletter.

ANGEL WING ORNAMENTS will be placed on the tree on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and a Trisagion will be held in memory of all those fallen asleep remembered on tree. If you took yours home in years past bring them to place on the tree. A few are available for purchase from Christine Panoff. Cost is \$5 per ornament. These are for families to put in photos of fallen asleep family members.

KITCHEN USE Please call the office to check on availability before planning to use the kitchen. **If you would like to have a workshop of the cookie walk in the kitchen, please contact the office.**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available to be picked up in the parish hall. If you gave regularly this year with cash or a check there will be a box with your name on it. It helps a great deal when you use the envelopes & fill out the information on each one.

**GIVE TO THE CHURCH THROUGH GIVELIFY** Go to our website [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://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). **\*Please consider adding a little extra to your donation to cover the fee we are charged.** 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.

**OFFICE HOURS** are Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9-3.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Today** Trisagion for all of those remembered at our angel wing tree  
St. Nicholas visits followed by Lenten luncheon  
Set up Nativity scene in church

**Monday, Dec 9** Fr Matthew in Toledo

**Tuesday, Dec 10** Fr Matthew in Toledo returning for parish council meeting  
6 pm Prayer service at St. Mary Magdalene for the sick & suffering  
6:30 pm Parish Council meeting

**Wednesday, Dec 11**  
9:30 am Russian Tea cookies workshop  
No Liturgy or Adult ed class

**Friday, Dec 13**  
9 am ABC 12 interview  
10 am Set-up for Cookie Walk

**Saturday, Dec 14**  
10 am- 1 pm Cookie Walk  
[5 pm Vespers - live-streamed](#) Confessions

**Sunday, Dec 15**  
[9:30 am Hours-live-streamed](#)  
[10 am Divine Liturgy-live-streamed](#)  
Church School - [St. Nicholas of Japan](#) and Confessions

**Offerings for the week December 1, 2024**

Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ 1,812.96
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,380.00
	<b>\$ -2,567.04</b>

44 persons in attendance on December 1