

**December 28, 2025**

**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: [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com)**

**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 (those received into the Orthodox Church through baptism or chrismation)**, 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 28, 2025 29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. Afterfeast of the Nativity. Sunday after Nativity. The 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia, including: Glycerius, Zeno, Theophilus, Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonious, Indes, Gorgonius, Peter, Euthymius, and the Virgins: Agape, Domna and Theophila (302). Ven. Ignatii of Lomsk (Vologdá – 1591). Apostle Nicanor the Deacon (38 A.D.). Ven. Simeon the Myrrhusher, of Mt. Athos (14th c.).**

**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,...

**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

**TROPARIA Tone 4** When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!”

**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 fourth tone: O Lord, how manifold are Your works; / in wisdom have You made them all.** (*Psalm. 103:26*)

*v.* Bless the Lord, O my soul. Lord, my God, you magnified yourself greatly. (*Psalm 103:1*)

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE GALATIANS (1:11-19)** Brethren, I make known to you that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord’s brother.

*Alleluia, Tone 4*

*v:* Draw and prosper and reign, on account of truth and meekness and righteousness. (*Psalm 44:4*)

*v:* You loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. (*Psalm 44:7*)

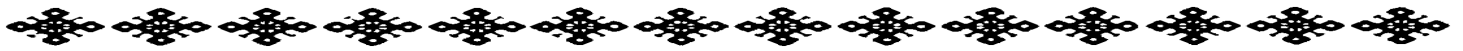
**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (2:13-23)** At that time when the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.” When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.” Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: “A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

**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!

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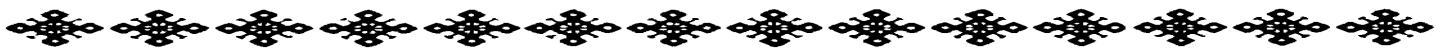


**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Jessie, Magda, Kosta & Family, Helen & Family, Michael & Haley, Marry Nicholas Khait, Elizabeth Khait, Artyom Khait, Aleksander Khait Sviatlana Khait	Magda Popoff  Sviatlana Khait
Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Les, Bosa, Jeanette, Ted, Kathryn, David, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family and friends Special Intention	Joe Tome Joe Tome
Lena, Gerry, Angela, Phil, Kelly, Alana, Isabella & Andy	Lena Bakousidis

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF**

Natse, Peter, Eleni, John & Angelo Theodora, Kosta, Eleni, Kosta, Nikolaos, Evanelia, Mitra, Jim, Ilia Germanos Joyce, Grandmother of Nathan Vangel, Domna, Nats'e Father: Milton Economou & Godfather: Bill Gogas; Memory Eternal Ivan, Evdokia, Mykola Ponomarenko	Magda Popoff Lena Bakousidis Nathan Vargo Helen Popoff Bill Economou Lucy Hogg
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**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](#).

<b>Dec 28</b>	<b>CANDLESTAND:</b> Susie Ford	<b>HOURS:</b> Madison	<b>READER:</b> Phil
<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>CANDLESTAND:</b> Ian & Stephanie Price	<b>HOURS:</b> Phil	<b>READER:</b> Staci

**COFFEE SOCIAL** Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall for coffee and donuts. The coffee social is donated in memory of **Nicholas Butrie, Jr (27 December 2019) and Margaret Kenderish Butrie (29 December 2019)** by the Butrie family.

**2026 CALENDARS** are available in the narthex. Thank you to Swartz Funeral Home for sponsoring our calendars again this year.

**2026 PLEDGE CARDS** If you haven't already done so, please return your pledge card so the parish council can budget accordingly. To be considered a voting parishioner of St. Nicholas Church you must receive Confession and Communion within the past year and return a signed pledge card even if you don't enter a pledge amount

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in the fellowship hall. Please check off your name on the list when you take your box. 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 Julie 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.

**THEOPHANY BANQUET AND OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER** on Sunday, January 11. Bring your empty bottles to fill with Holy Water. Dress for the weather. The menu is: lamb, chicken, rice, salad, vegetables, bread & butter, dessert & drinks. There are sign-up sheets in the parish hall for volunteers for set-up, clean-up, your meal and also if you would like to make a dessert. **Tickets can be purchased from Christopher Taylor. Adults \$18, children under 12 are free.**

**SCAM TEXTS & E-MAILS** Father Matthew has only one mobile phone which is an 810 area code. Father will **NEVER** ask for gift cards, money, etc. via text or e-mail. If you receive a text or e-mail requesting gift cards, money, etc. supposedly from Father Matthew, please delete and report as scam or phishing.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**      **Today**      Church School: [Balaam \(elementary\)](#)      [Balaam \(high school\)](#)

**Saturday, January 3**

5 pm      **Vespers** (No Confessions)

**Sunday, January 4** - **Sunday before the Theophany of our Lord**

9:30 am      **Third & Sixth Hours**

10 am      **Divine Liturgy**

Church School: [Joshua \(elementary\)](#)      [Joshua \(high school\)](#)

12:15 to 1 pm      class for inquirers, catechumens, and neophytes

**Offerings for the week December 21, 2025**

Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ 1,995.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ -2,385.00

69 persons in attendance on December 21

Fr. Matthew is out of town from December 26 afternoon through January 3. In emergency ONLY contact Father Gabriel 330-285-1740 or Father Amin 810-732-0720.

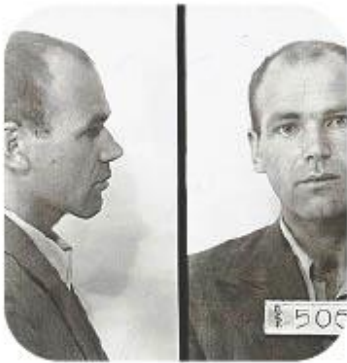
Pan-Orthodox  
Churches of  
Genesee Co.  
Present...

# “The Saintly Life of Fr. Roman Braga; Discovering the Church Within”

Join the Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan for our 14th annual charity dinner hosted on behalf of the Sisterhood of Holy Dormition Monastery.

Throughout this year’s reflections we will discuss the recent call for canonization of Fr. Roman Braga, of blessed memory, the Spiritual Father of this monastic community.

How can we use his saintly example within ourself amidst the chaos of this world?



Join in!  
**22 Jan 2026**  
5:00pm - 8:30pm  
**Holy Assumption Greek  
Orthodox Church**  
2245 E. Baldwin Rd  
Grand Blanc, MI  
**\$ Free- Will Offering**

## Program Details & Timeline

- ✙ 5:00pm Vespers with the nuns leading the choir
- ✙ 6:00pm Appetizers, Fellowship & Meal  
Monastery Bookstore will be open
- ✙ 7:00pm Program- Reflections, Testamonials and Q & A



Keynote Speakers  
Dr. Daniel B. Hinshaw &  
Dr. Jane Hinshaw

## How can you support?

- Pray for Fr. Roman and the community at Holy Dormition Monastery.
- Make a Donation as you are able.
- Volunteer through your parish for the meal.
- Purchase merchandise from the Monastery Bookstore.

For questions  
& more information  
contact :  
St. Mary Magdalene  
Orthodox Church  
**+810-750-1401**  
smmocafenton@gmail.com

Register Here  
for online or in person



Please see **Harmony Vargo** with any questions!

If you cannot register with the QR code, please register by signing up on the registration form in the fellowship hall.