

February 16, 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

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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, FEBRUARY 16, 2025 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON — Tone 1. St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912). Martyrs Pamphilus—Presbyter, Valens—Deacon, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

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 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 I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You had given me. Therefore I cry to You like the Prodigal: / “I have sinned before You, O compassionate Father; / receive me a penitent, and make me as one of Your hired servants!”

The prokeimenon in the first tone: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on You. (Psalm 32:22)

v. Rejoice, O righteous ones, in the Lord. To the upright is due praise. (*Psalm 32:1*)

THE READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (6:12-20) Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Alleluia, Tone 1

v: God who gives me vengeance and subdues peoples to me. (*Psalm 17:48*)

v: Magnifying the salvations of the king, and making mercy to his anointed, to David and to his seed to the age. (*Psalm 17:51*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (15:11-32) At that time Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.’” And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry. “Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (*Psalm 147:1*)

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Through the parable of today's Gospel, our Saviour has set forth three things for us: the condition of the sinner, the rule of repentance, and the greatness of God's compassion. The divine Fathers have put this reading the week after the parable of the Publican and Pharisee so that, seeing in the person of the Prodigal Son our own wretched condition -- inasmuch as we are sunken in sin, far from God and His Mysteries -- we might at last come to our senses and make haste to return to Him by repentance during these holy days of the Fast. Furthermore, those who have wrought many great iniquities, and have persisted in them for a long time, oftentimes fall into despair, thinking that there can no longer be any forgiveness for them; and so being without hope, they fall every day into the same and even worse iniquities. Therefore, the divine Fathers, that they might root out the passion of despair from the hearts of such people, and rouse them to the deeds of virtue, have set the present parable at the forecourts of the Fast, to show them the surpassing goodness of God's compassion, and to teach them that there is no sin -- no matter how great it may be -- that can overcome at any time His love for man. From goarch.org

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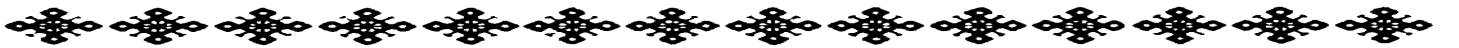


CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Health & God's blessings for our dear nieces Makayla & Mackenzie	Eileen & Dennis
Good health & blessings for Jeanette Brayan & our niece Mackenzie	Paul Brayan
Oleg, Galina, Nikolay, Nikolay, Andrey, Vlada, Kirill, Lev & Irina	Irina Sivergina
Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Les, Bosa, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, David, Taras, Ted, Joseph, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family and friends	Joe Tome
Special Intention	Joe Tome
Bosa, Milan, Mira, Radmila, Jeff, Jim, Nikke, Miroslav, Alex, Tatiana, Hannah, Nikolas, Ashley, Gracie, and Allie	Bosa Kantor

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Ellyn Serra, Nick Ponomarenko & Alexander Kurzhanskiy	Irina Sivergina
In memory of my loving daughter Ellyn. I miss you sweetheart	Connie
Adelaïda & Feodosiy	Irina Sivergina



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](#).

Feb 16 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford	HOURS: Barry Cavett	READER: Katherine Gonser
Feb 23 CANDLESTAND: Ian & Stephanie	HOURS: Lucy Hogg	READER: Angelo Panoff

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 on Wednesdays, at 11:15 am. We are reading - *Wounded by Love*, a transcription of conversations with Saint Porphyrios (1906-1991).

CHURCH SCHOOL - lesson is: [St Athanasius and the Creed](#)

COFFEE SOCIAL is provided today by Marc & Karen Ethington in memory of Helen Ethington. 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.

NEWLY ILLUMINED & CHRISMATED on Sunday, February 16 before the Divine Liturgy, Madison Kassiane Green was baptized into Christ, her godparents are Reader Alexander Gonser and Matushka Lisa Butrie. Annie Bailey was chrismated. Annie's godmother is Matushka Lisa.

CATECHUMENS the following persons will be made catechumens prior to the Divine Liturgy on Sundays: February 23 - Mark Choate and Sebastian Hager & Sadie Roberts.

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

MEMORIAL SATURDAY / SOULS' SATURDAY February 22 which we will observe with 9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by a Trisagion for the fallen asleep. In the February newsletter there is a remembrance sheet for 2025 for you to put the first names of those you want to be remembered at the Souls Saturdays throughout the year. Extra copies are at the candlestand. Please submit your remembrance sheet as soon as possible. We pray for the dead because it is handed on to us from the Scriptures. As members of the Church, the Body of Christ, we are exhorted to pray for one another ([James 5:16](#)). Whether we live or die, "we belong to the Lord" ([Romans 14:8](#)). For we are "members of His Body, of His flesh and of His bones" ([Ephesians 5:30](#)). The Church is "the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God". As such, she includes "tens of thousands of angels" and "the spirits of righteous people completed (in death)" as well as those of us alive on earth ([Hebrews 12:22-24](#)). Death does not end our membership in the Body of Christ. For neither "death nor life [...] will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" ([Romans 8:38-39](#)). We remember that God "is not the God of the dead, but of the living - for all are alive to Him" ([Luke 20:38](#)). Therefore, we pray for both the living and for the "dead in Christ" ([1 Thessalonians 4:16](#)). **If you would like to make kollyva/kutya/phentsa/zhito for this Memorial Saturday, please tell Father Matthew.**

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). *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.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Today @ 8:45 am Baptism of Madison Kassiane Green and chrismation of Annie Bailey

Monday, Feb 17 *Communion calls - afternoon Fr Matthew with Archbishop Alexander in Toledo*

Tuesday, Feb 18 *Fr Matthew returns from Toledo*

6:30 pm Parish council meeting

Wednesday, Feb 19

9:30 am Divine Liturgy served by Fr Michael Bassett with responses led by Fr Matthew

11:15 am Adult education class

Friday, Feb 21 Office Closed

Saturday, Feb 22 **Soul's Saturday**
9:30 am Liturgy & Trisagion-live-streamed
5 pm Vespers - live-streamed *Confessions*

Sunday, Feb 23 **Meatfare Sunday**
9:30 am Hours-live-streamed
10 am Divine Liturgy-live-streamed
Church School - St John Chrysostom and the Liturgy

Offerings for the week February 9, 2025

<i>Weekly Tithes & Offerings</i>	\$ 1,520.22
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ -2,859.78

68 persons in attendance on February 9