

*February 4 2018 ,*  
*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*  
*Deacon Kerry Luke Gonser*  
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***The Holy Gospel according to Mark***

***16:1-8 (2nd Matins Gospel)***

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON** — Tone 2. Afterfeast of the Meeting. Ven. Isidore of Pelusium (ca. 436-440). Rt. Blv. George, Great Prince of Vladimir (1238). Ven. Kirill (Cyril), Abbot and Wonderworker of Novoezérsk (Novgorod—1532). Ven. Abraham and Coprius, of Pechenga (Vologdá—15th c.). Martyr Jadorus (3rd c.). Hieromartyr Abramius, Bishop of Arbela in Assyria (ca. 344-347). Ven. Nicholas the Confessor, Abbot of Studion (868).

**FIRST ANTIPHON**

My heart is indicting a good matter, I speak of the things which I have made to the King. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer, full of grace are thy lips. Therefore God hath blest thee forever. **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**

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty one, in Thy glory and Thy beauty! **Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous , save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

The scepter of Thy kingdom is a righteous scepter. **Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous , save us who sing to Thee: 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 didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

## **THIRD ANTIPHON**

**Hear, O daughter, consider, and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house.**

**(Tone 1)** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

**Even the rich among the people shall entreat your favor.**

**(Tone 1)** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

**I will make your name to be remembered in all generations. (Tone 1)** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

## **TROPARIA**

**(Tone 2)** When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

**(Tone 1)** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

**(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 1)** By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb! And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

***The Prokeimenon in the Second Tone: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.***

**v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.**

THE READING IS FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS. (6:12-20) Brethren: "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

***Alleluia, Tone 2***

**v. May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.**

**v. O Lord, save the king and hear us in this day in which we call upon Thee.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (15:11-32)** And 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!

### **Sayings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica**

It seems that we do not understand one thing: it is not good when we return the love of those who love us, yet hate those who hate us. We are not on the right path if we do this. We are the sons of light and love, the sons of God, His children. As such we must have His qualities and His attributes of love, peace, and kindness towards all.

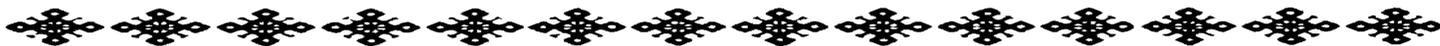
We know that the Lord, while in the flesh, was kind to all people, even those who persecuted Him—Him, the Almighty God. He showed us how to avoid evil and not oppose it. He said so Himself (cf. Matt. 5:39). Not opposing evil means preserving one's inner peace. Opposing evil is evil; it involves a desire to return evil for evil, which is what the fallen spirits thrive on. However, when they attack us and find that we do not oppose them, then our peacefulness disarms them and they are defeated. Therefore we must try to always pray like this: "Lord, help me to preserve my inner peace, teach me how to be calm and peaceful and kind, just like Thine angels." In order to be able to do this, we must be with the Lord constantly in our thoughts. You see, we direct all our thoughts and all our attention to those whom we love. This is exactly how we should be toward God, for as our Parent, He rightfully asks that we give back to Him what He has given us. This is for our own good, in order that we may participate in Divine joy, peace, and life. Let us, therefore, learn to turn to God and seek Him ceaselessly through prayer.

"There is no one who can understand me," we say. The soul seeks unchangeable love, but there is no such thing here on earth.

How will we know whether we are living according to the will of God or not? If you are sad for whatever reason, this means that you have not given yourself over to God, although from the outside it may seem that you have. He who lives according to God's will has no worries. When he needs something, he simply prays for it. If he does not receive that which he asked for, he is joyful as though he had received it. A soul that has given itself over to God has no fear of anything, not even robbers, sickness, or death. Whatever happens, such a soul always cries, "It was the will of God."

You should learn to love little things. Always try to be modest and simple in everything. When the soul is mature, God will give it peace. The Lord looks upon us and is pleased when we yearn after His peace. Until such time as the soul is mature enough to receive the Lord, He will only sometimes allow it to see and sense that He is present everywhere and fills all things. These are moments of indescribable joy. But after that, the Lord hides Himself from us once again in order that we might yearn for Him and seek Him with all our heart.

February 4, 2018



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

Happy 96<sup>th</sup> birthday Matushka Mary Donahue

Hailey Paul~Health

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitri, Deacon Anthony, Reggie, Allen, Deborah, Joann, Gloria,

Luba, Kosta, Jimmy, Laurie, David, Helen, Anna, Walt, Zina, Vladimir,

Nicolai, Dorothy, Michael, Nicolai, Allison, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette,

Nicholas, Margaret, Joseph, Gladys, Ted, Marlene, my family and friends

Special Intention

Joe Tome

Gabriel Paul

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Adelaida, Feodosiy, Oleg, Irina & Galina~Health & Blessing  
Nikolay~Special Intensions  
Health & God's Blessings to Deacon Kerry Gonser on his birthday on  
January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Irina Sivergina  
Irina Sivergina

Health & Blessings: Anna Branoff, Helen Popoff, Gloria Zelenko. Nik Evanenکو,  
Nick Maxim, Cathy & Bob Edwards, Ruth & Calvin Conrad, Christine  
Panoff, Matushka Lisa & all sick & suffering of our parish  
James Mason~successful surgery & healing

Angelo & Christina

Adams family  
Dorothy Goodman

### **CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE**

Memory Eternal~Evanka Elieff on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday Feb. 4th  
Béla Jobb

Her family  
Gabriel Paul  
Irina Sivergina  
Dorothy Goodman

Vasiliy, Andrey, Galina, Nikolay & Vitaliy

David Lazar~Blessed Repose, Memory Eternal

For the blessed repose of the following: Henry Grady Stockard, Toni Etrass,  
Robert Hanes Atwood, Linnie & Mike Corley, Jerry Heard, Chris Aleksoff,  
Robert Henry Story, Jo Vuckovich, Mary & Joe Eckert, Helen Doyle, Pete &  
Martha Finley, Olga Haw, Walter Howel, Sandra Pettis, Duane Bolinger,  
Dorothy & Johnny Conner, Stella Isom & the newly departed Dennis Allen

Adams family



**WELCOME** to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall for coffee and donuts.

**COFFEE, DONUTS & PASTRIES** are provided today by Alex and Anastasia Branoff in Memory of Thomai Brayanis (one year memorial). A Trisagion will take place following the veneration of the cross.

### **OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES**

**HOPE IN A BOX** is collecting Shampoo, Conditioner & Lotion for the month of February. Place the items in the blue box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

**FOOD DRIVE** Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall

### **Weekly Schedule:**

**Tuesday, Feb 6** Fr. Matthew in Toledo

### **Wednesday, Feb. 7**

9:30 am Liturgy  
11:15 am Adult Ed Class

### **Saturday, Feb. 10** MEATFARE SATURDAY

4:45 pm Trisagion with the reading of the names of the fallen asleep  
5 pm Vespers

### **Sunday, Feb .11** MEATFARE SUNDAY

9:30 am Third Hour  
10 am Divine Liturgy  
Church School  
Meatfare Luncheon

**Offerings for the week January 28, 2018**

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,749.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$4,034.03
	<b>-\$2,285.03</b>

*83 people were in attendance on  
Sunday, January 28, 2018*

**“You must bear the spiritual infirmities of your brother gladly, and without annoyance. For when someone is physically ill, we are not only not annoyed with him, but we are exemplary in our care of him; we should also set an example in cases of spiritual illness.” *St. Moses of Optina***