

February 9, 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 Church: 810-744-0070 e-mail: 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, 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 9, 2025 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 8.
Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Leavetaking of the Meeting. Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch in Syria (ca. 257). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk (1805). Ven. Pankratii (Pancratius) of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13th c.). Ven. Nikífor (Nicephorus – 1557) and Gennádii (Gennadius – ca. 1516), of Vazheozérsk. Hieromartyrs Marcellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina (1st c.).

FIRST ANTIPHON – PSALM 44

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 your lips. Therefore God has blest you 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 Your sword upon Your thigh, O mighty one, in Your glory and in Your beauty!
O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

The scepter of Your kingdom is a righteous scepter. **O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, 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

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...

I will make your name to be remembered in all generations.

Tone 1 Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace...

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Priest: The Lord has made known his Salvation, before all the nations he has revealed his Righteousness. Son of God, who were borne in the arms of the righteous Simeon, save us who sing to you: Allilua!

TROPARIA Tone 8 You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

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 Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb! And blessed Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now You have come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

The prokeimenon in the eighth tone: Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God! (*Psalm 75:10a*)
v. **God is known in Judea, in Israel great is his name.** (*Psalm 75:1*)

THE READING FROM THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY (3:10-15) Timothy, my son, now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the holy scriptures which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. **Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, raise a great shout to God our savior.** (*Psalm 94:1*)

v. **Let us come before his Face in confession, and in psalms let us raise a great shout to him.** (*Psalm 94:2*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (18:9-14) At that time Jesus spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me the sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

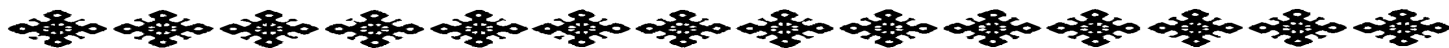
IN PLACE OF "IT IS TRULY MEET TO BLESS THEE"

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians! Protect, preserve and save those who hope in you! We faithful saw the figure in the shadow of the Law and the Scriptures: ev'ry male child that opened the womb was holy to God. Therefore, we also magnify the first begotten Son of the unoriginated Father, the first born Son of the unwedded Mother!

COMMUNION HYMN

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. (*Psalm 115:4*) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

February 9, 2025



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Peace & comfort for Nick Ponomarenko

Lucy Hogg

Good health for all of our kids & grandkids and for Nick Ponomarenko

Angelo & Christine

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,

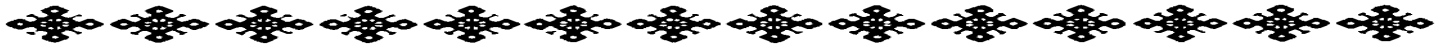
Nikolas, Ashley, Gracie, and Allie

Bosa Kantor

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Alex Tsandelis & Ellyn Serra
In memory of Nick Gintsis
Ellyn Serra and for Nicolas Brock (23 yrs.)
Ellyn Gail Serra
Ellyn Serra

Angelo & Christine
his family
Ian & Stephanie Price
Paul Brayan
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](#).

Feb 9 CANDLESTAND: Dennis Goodman

HOURS: Phil Wiles

READER: Alexander Gonser

Feb 16 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford

HOURS: Barry Cavett

READER: Katherine 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 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: [Dormition](#)

COFFEE SOCIAL is provided today by Stojan Prusac & Abigail Zayan in celebration of Elliot & Adeleine's baptisms. 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.

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST Elliot James Prusac and Adeleine Mira Prusac were baptized into Christ on Saturday, February 8. God grant them many years!

NEWLY-CHRISMATED on Sunday, February 9 - Michael Donigan, his godfather is Deacon Luke Gonser, and Adam & Kassandra Lang, their godparents are Deacon Luke and Kathy Gonser.. God grant them many years! Please continue to remember the catechumens Annie Bailey, Joel Green, and Madison Green. Annie and Madison will be received next Sunday, February 16 and Joel in the summer.

CATECHUMENS the following persons will be made catechumens - on Sundays: February 9 - Jeff James & Jeffrey David Muma, February 22 - Mark Choate and Sebastian Hager & Sadie Roberts.



PRE-LENT DANCE February 15 from 6 pm - 9 pm at St. Nicholas. A DJ will be playing CDs. The cost is \$10/under 10 free. There will be a freewill offering for food. All ages are welcome! Please join us for an evening of fun, dancing, fellowship & food.



MEATFARE SUNDAY is February 23rd. The menu is turkey dinner. The cost is \$18 per adult and children are free. Please see Chris Taylor for tickets. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall for those who can help with serving, cleanup & bringing desserts.

CHEESEFARE DINNER is Sunday, March 2nd. A free will offering will be collected. Contact Katherine Gonser with any questions.

COOKIE WALK Cathy Edwards will be one of the co-chairs for our annual cookie walk on December 13, 2025. Another co-chair is needed. Please let Cathy know if you would like to co-chair with her.

MEMORY ETERNAL! Mykola "Nick" Ponomarenko fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, February 3, 2025 at The LaVigne Hospice Home in Burton. He is the brother of parishioner Ludmila (Lucy) Hogg. Visitation and funeral were held at church on Friday, February 7 through Swartz Funeral Home. Burial took place at Evegreen Cemetery. You may view Mykola's obituary [here](#). Remember Mykola in your prayers that he rest in the light of Christ's face. Also remember his family that the Lord sustain them in their time of grief. Memory eternal! Christ is risen! Bog da prosti!

YEAR END STATEMENTS were mailed out February 7.

OFFICE HOURS this week are Monday, Wednesday from 9-3.

Fr. Matthew is out of town from February 10-14. In emergency ONLY contact Father Gabriel 330-285-1740, Father Amin 810-732-0720 or Father Peter 989-928-3455.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Feb 11

6 pm Prayer service for the sick & suffering at St Mary Magdalene

Wednesday, Feb 12

No Divine Liturgy or adult education class

Friday, Feb 14

Office closed

Saturday, Feb 15

5 pm **Vespers - live-streamed** *confessions*
Pre Lenten Dance

Sunday, Feb 16

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

10 am **Divine Liturgy-live-streamed**
Church School - **St Athanasius and the Creed**

Offerings for the week February 2, 2025

<i>Weekly Tithes & Offerings</i>	\$ 4,790.67
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ 410.67

68 persons in attendance on February 2

THE TRIODION - the book with the hymns we will use from the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee through Holy Saturday - is [here https://www.ponomar.net/data/lenten_triodion.pdf](https://www.ponomar.net/data/lenten_triodion.pdf) and the hymns for the weekdays of the Great Fast are [here https://www.ponomar.net/data/lts.pdf](https://www.ponomar.net/data/lts.pdf) This time of the Great Fast takes the name the time of the Triodion from this book because of the three odes (triodion) for the canons - poetic hymns - at matins. Reading the Scriptures of the day during the Great Fast and the hymns from the Triodion leads us along the journey to Pascha.

13th Annual Dormition Dinner from Father Michael Bassett:

Glory to Jesus Christ!

I would like to thank each and every one of you for the fabulous job you did in leading each of your parishes toward a successful Pan-Orthodox gathering last Thursday. You each make it look so easy but, without question, it is clear that you put forth a lot of time and effort in preparing, shopping, setting up, tearing down, coordinating volunteers, promoting the event, etc! Forgive me for not helping you more! Here are the counts (a record year)!

- 174 registered for dinner (we are estimating perhaps 165 actually showed up); livestream: 36 unique views for Vespers and 60 unique views for the Panel Discussion
- 22 made a donation but did not attend
- Total \$ raised for the Monastery:
 - \$11,014 (subject to final double count) - about half of this was raised online and a very special contribution of over \$1,600 was made by a very special friend of the monastery as a result of his Men's Ministry activities for the past year
 - \$1,949 Gift Shop Sales

This was a record for a live event for the Winter Dinner (in 2021, the first Virtual Only event, we did have 400 views and raised over \$14,000).

God brought all of this about through the hands, thoughts and prayers of many! Thank you again for your love for the Monastery - for OUR Monastery!

Love, fm *Father Michael Bassett*