

February 15, 2026

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 (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, FEBRUARY 15, 2026 SUNDAY OF MEATFARE – Tone 3. Sunday of the Last Judgment.

Apostle of the Seventy Onesimus (ca. 109). Ven. Paphnúti (Paphnutius), Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13th c.). Ven. Paphnutius and his daughter, Ven. Euphrosynē, of Alexandria (5th c.). Ven. Eusebius, Hermit, of Syria (5th c.).

TROPARIA

Tone 3 Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down Death by death. He has become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hell, and has granted to 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 1 When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble, and the river of fire shall flow before Your judgment seat; / the books shall be opened, and hidden things disclosed; / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, // and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Righteous Judge!

The prokeimenon in the third tone: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond measure. (Psalm 146:5)

v. Praise the Lord, for good is the psalm. To our God let praise be pleasing. (Psalm 146:1)

THE READING IS FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (8:8 - 9:2) Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if

we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Alleluia, Tone 8

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

v: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth! (Psalm 94:3)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (25:31-46) At that time Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (*Psalm 147/148:1*)

Meatfare Sunday The foregoing two parables – the Tax Collector & the Pharisee, especially that of the Prodigal Son -- have presented to us God's extreme goodness and love for man. But lest certain persons, putting their confidence in this alone, live carelessly, squandering upon sin the time given them to work out their salvation, and death suddenly snatch them away, the most divine Fathers have appointed this day's feast commemorating Christ's impartial Second Coming, through which we bring to mind that God is not only the Friend of man, but also the most righteous Judge, Who recompenses to each according to his deeds.

It is the aim of the holy Fathers, through bringing to mind that fearful day, to rouse us from the slumber of carelessness unto the work of virtue, and to move us to love and compassion for our brethren. Besides this, even as on the coming Sunday of Cheese-fare we commemorate Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight -- which exile is the beginning of life as we know it now -- it is clear that today's is reckoned the last of all feasts, because on the last day of judgment, truly, everything of this world will come to an end. All foods, except meat and meat products, are allowed during the week that follows this Sunday. from goarch.org

February 15, 2026



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

The Popoff Family, The Naum Family, The Papalazarou Family	Magda Popoff
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 friend	Joe Tome
Special Intention	Joe Tome

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Natse, Peter, Eleni & Angelo	Magda Popoff
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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](#).

Feb 15 CANDLESTAND: Christine Panoff	HOURS: Angelo	READER: Katherine
Feb 22 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford	HOURS: Staci	READER: Barry

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY Protodeacon Luke is with Father Michael Bassett this weekend visiting prisoners at the Kinross Correctional Facility in Kincheloe in the U.P..

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE 6:35 pm prayer. In attendance: Christopher Taylor, Eileen Branoff, Staci Shank, Connie Maxim, Bruce Watson, Lena Bakousidis (via FaceTime). Absent: Bill Economou, Dennis Jernigan, Stephanie Price. Minutes approved as presented. Financial report was given. Please fill out a pledge card to help with budget planning. Endowment fund went up \$22,492.41 in January. At the Rector's report: written report was presented, added info: Father Matthew will be attending the priestly ordination of Deacon Bogdan Popescu on Sunday, March 8 at St Vladimir Seminary by Archbishop Alexander. When the spring semester is completed Father Bogdan is to be assigned as priest-in-charge of our diocesan mission of St John the Baptist in Los Angeles. Church school students made greeting cards for our homebound parishioners. Outreach: family game night was Friday, February 6 at 6 pm - 20 people attended. Fundraising: 40 tickets purchased so far for Meatfare dinner. Charity ministries: North End Soup Kitchen on Thursday, March 5 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Church building and grounds: a new solenoid for the bells was purchased by Richard Baranko. We need an invoice in order to re-imburse him for the solenoid as the package contained only a packing list. Old business: Father Matthew's housing allowance was approved - same as previous year. New business: budget was presented for 2026, motion to approve the budget, seconded, approved. Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant: motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved the budget for congregational expenses which will be paid by the grant. The deadline to make the Clergy Renewal Grant proposal is March 18 and Father Matthew plans - God-willing - to submit all the documentation in the online portal before the Great Fast begins on February 23. Review of stipend and salaries. 110th anniversary ideas - a parish picture directory that can be self-funded by sponsorship pages, Archbishop Alexander serve Liturgy, banquet, other activities. Connie Maxim appreciates that our parish secretary can be at the meetings. Adjourned with prayer at 7:42 pm.

MEATFARE DINNER - FEBRUARY 15 Please see Christopher Taylor to purchase tickets for the Meatfare dinner on Sunday. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children.

CHEESEFARE DINNER by St Juliana's Guild on Sunday, February 22, All proceeds will go to Sadie Roberts & Sebastian Hager in anticipation of their crowning in marriage in April.

CELEBRATION for the engagement of Sebastian Hager & Sadie Roberts for the occasion of their upcoming Crowning in Marriage on April 25th. Celebration will be held on February 22nd. All are welcome to honor them with a card or gift. Any monetary gift will be put towards helping them create a beautiful and memorable honeymoon! Please contact Katherine Gonser, Susie Ford or Chris Taylor for more information.

2026 PLEDGE CARDS If you haven't already done so, please return your pledge card so the parish council can budget accordingly. To be 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

MEMORY ETERNAL! Milan "Mike" Stikovich fell asleep in the Lord Wednesday afternoon at Whispering Pines in Lapeer. Milan is the husband of Stephanie Stikovich and served as a member of parish council and is a past president of parish council. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Dodds-Dumanois Funeral Home in Flint. You may read Milan's obituary [HERE](#). Please see the weekly schedule for the funeral arrangements. Please remember in your prayers his wife Stephanie, his children, and family and friends that the Lord sustain them in their grief. And pray that Milan rest in the light of Christ's Face. Bog da prosti! God forgives! Christ is risen! Memory eternal!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Today Church School: Meatfare
inquirers, catechumens, neophytes dine with Father Matthew for informal discussion

Monday, February 16

10 am visitation for Milan "Mike" Stikovich at church
11 am funeral followed by burial at Davison Cemetery 10080 E Potter Rd, Davison, MI 48423

Wednesday, February 18

10 am Great Fast 3rd & 6th Hour
[6 pm Google Meet class for inquirers, catechumens, and neophytes
https://meet.google.com/oyr-hohi-phv](https://meet.google.com/oyr-hohi-phv)

Saturday, February 21

5 pm Great Vespers followed by Confessions

Sunday, February 22 CHEESEFARE - expulsion of Adam & Eve from Paradise

9:30 am Third & Sixth Hours
10 am Divine Liturgy
Cheesefare Dinner
inquirers, catechumens, neophytes dine with Father Matthew for informal discussion
Forgiveness Vespers

Offerings for the week February 1, 2026

Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ 11,385.46
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ 7,005.46

56 persons in attendance on February 8