

February 23, 2020

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020 SUNDAY OF MEATFARE — Tone 3. Sunday of the Last Judgment. Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (167). Ven. Polycarp of Briansk (1620-1621). Ven. John, Antiochus, Antoninus, Moses, Zebinas, Polychronius, Moses, and Damian, Ascetics, of the Syrian deserts (5th c.). Ven. Alexander, founder of the Monastery of the “Unsleeping Ones” (ca. 430). Ven. Damian of Esphigmenou (Mt. Athos—1280). Monastic Martyr Damian of Philotheou (1568).

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 Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble, / and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; / the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed; / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, // and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!

The Prokeimenon in the Third Tone: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond measure.

v. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

THE READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF 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! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST 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!

THE GOSPEL OF MEATFARE

This gospel makes it clear that our life is all about our neighbor: the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, and the ones in prison. “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” (Mt 25:35-36) To help us fulfill these words of our Lord Jesus Christ, below is a list of our sick and homebound for whom we can pray daily (from our March newsletter). And we can visit them! If not physically, then by a card, a phone call, an email. Because what you do for the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick and the ones in prison is not done merely to them. You are doing it to Christ Jesus Himself.

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Helen Ashmun | 4436 Beecher Rd. | Flint, MI 48532 |
| Larry Bladecki | 409 15th Street | Bay City, MI 48708 |
| Anna Branoff | Grand Blanc Fields 12628 Pagels Dr | Grand Blanc, MI 48439 |
| Gladys Edwards | 2 Harbor Dr. | St. Clair, MO 63077 |
| Paul Ellis | 2360 Stonebridge Dr. | Flint, MI 48532 |
| Vasilka Karatza | Regency 1330 Grand Pointe Ct | Grand Blanc, MI 48439 |
| Jo Sredich | Magnolia House 4134 N. State Rd. | Davison, MI 48423 |

February 23, 2020



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Happy Birthday Kum Stojan & Matushka Lisa

Deborah & Allen Adams

Timothy & Veniamin

Health to all our children & grandchildren

Fr. Tom, Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Calvin, Larry, Helen, Angelo, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Dorothy, Anna, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Katheryn, Joseph, Ted, Marlene, Gladys, my family and friends.

Special Intention

Mary, Angelo, Helen, Alex, Anna, Patsy

Feodosiy, Oleg, Galina, Nikolay & Irina

Bosa Kantar

Gonser family

Svetlana

Angelo & Christine

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Alex & Magda Popoff

Irina Sivergina & Oleg Dashevskiy

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Blessed Repose to our grandson Matthew & Andrew

Adelaida, Vasiliy, Andrey, Galina, Nikolay & Vitaliy

Angelo & Christine

Irina Sivergina & Oleg Dashevskiy



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall after Liturgy.

COFFEE AND DONUTS volunteers are needed. There is a signup sheet outside the kitchen window. Please commit to helping out so we can continue having this social time together.

MEATFARE SUNDAY today. Chicken & Lamb Dinners are available. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children.

CHESEFARE SUNDAY March 1st following Divine Liturgy. Everyone is welcome. A freewill offering will be taken.

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Shampoo, Conditioner and Dish Soap in February. Place the items in the blue box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

MEMORIAL (SOUL) SATURDAYS From early times the Church dedicated Saturday to the souls. It is primarily the day of those who have fallen asleep. Christians always took care, with memorial services and charitable acts done especially on Saturdays, to stay close to their dead and ask God for their repose and salvation. The first Memorial (Souls') Saturday (Zadušnica) was Saturday, February 22.

The next Souls' Saturdays are March 14, 21, and 28. A Trisagion will be served on each Souls' Saturday (except March 21) at 4:45 pm, prior to Vespers. Please fill out the sheet at the candle stand with the names of your fallen asleep (first names only) and return them to Fr. Matthew as soon as possible.

PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT – MARCH 21 AT OUR PARISH

Fr. Bogdan Bucur, a former student of Archbishop Alexander, will lead the retreat this year. Please use the sign-up sheet or call the parish office to register. A separate sign-up sheet is for volunteers to bring Lenten food for the lunch that day.

Weekly Schedule:

Today Meatfare Banquet

Monday, Feb 24 Fr. Matthew in Toledo

Wednesday, Feb 26

10 am Lenten Hours
11:30 am Adult Education

Friday, Feb 28

7 pm OCF meeting at St. George with Fr. Jarrod

Saturday, Feb 29

5:00 pm Vespers followed by confessions

Sunday, March 1

CHESEFARE SUNDAY

9:30 am Hours
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Church School
Cheesefare Luncheon
Forgiveness Vespers

Offerings for the week February 16th, 2020

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| <i>Weekly Offerings</i> | \$ 1,296.00 |
| <i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i> | \$ 3,236.00 |
| | \$-1,940.00 |

82 people were in attendance on Sunday, February 16th.

St. Mary Magdalene 2020 Lenten Monastery Pilgrimage – Trip Itinerary

Sunday, March 29th: Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene in Fenton Michigan. Depart for Holy Trinity Jordanville Monastery, arriving on Sunday Evening. *We will be traveling through Canada, so Passports are required!

Monday, March 30th: Morning Services at the Monastery and Breakfast. Tour of the Cathedral, Baptistry, Candle Factor, Incense workshop, and bookstore. Lunch and free time to explore, before departing for St. Tikhon's Monastery in the evening

Tuesday, March 31st: Early Morning Services at the monastery, followed by breakfast and a tour of the Monastery Church, Museum, and Grounds. Lunch, followed by free time in the afternoon. Depending on availability, a visit to see the weeping icon of "The Tender Heart" in Taylor, PA, followed by dinner at Cooper's restaurant in Scranton.

Wednesday, April 1st: Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy at the Monastery Church and a bookstore visitation. Departing early afternoon for Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City, PA.

Thursday, April 2nd: Morning Services and breakfast with the Mothers and Sisters, followed by a tour of the Monastery Grounds and Bookstore. Lunch will be provided, before departing home for St. Mary Magdalene

Cost is \$340 per person (Cost does NOT include fuel, restaurants, and donations to the monasteries)

Email Fr. Gabriel at frgabrielsmm@gmail.com for more information by March 1!

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 16: 9-20 (3rd Matins Gospel)

Now when Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe. After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either. Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

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 vestibule. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with any parish member.

For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox Christians, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with Fr. Matthew after the Liturgy and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church. The bread and wine offered after Communion and the bread offered at the end of the service is available to all.

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.

There are coil-bound booklets available with the text for the Divine Liturgy – if you find it useful, please feel free to take one of those as well, with our compliments. We also hope you will stay and join us for fellowship after the Liturgy in our fellowship hall. We want the opportunity to get to know you, and for you to get to know us. **Again, welcome!**