

*January 3, 2016*

*Bulletin*

*St. Nicholas Orthodox Church*

*Orthodox Church in America*

*2143 S. Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519*

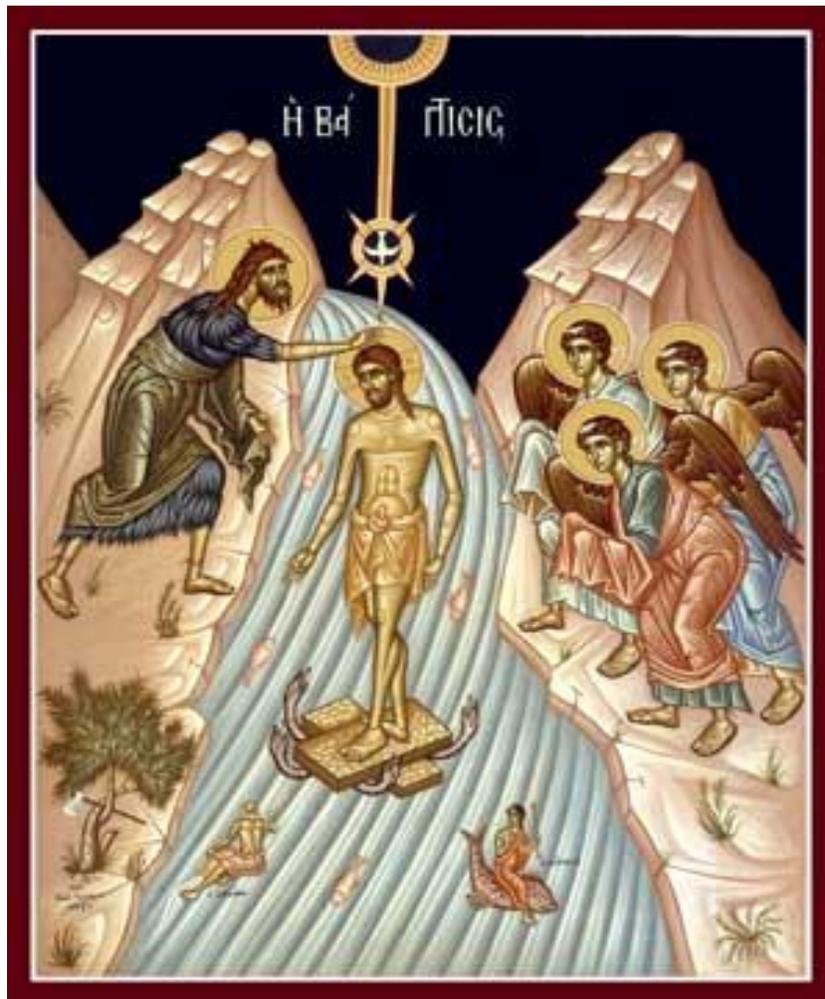
*Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Rector*

*Deacon Kerry Luke Gonser*

*Deacon Esteban Julio Vázquez*

*Web Page: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org)*

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**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016 31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. Forefeast of the Theophany. Sunday before Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Cæsarea in Cappadocia (4th c.). Ven. Genevieve of Paris (5th c.).**

**TROPARIA**

**(Tone 6)** The angelic powers were at Thy tomb the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

**(Tone 4)** Prepare, O Zebulon, and adorn thyself, O Naphtali! River Jordan, cease flowing, and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized! Adam, rejoice with our first Mother, and do not hide yourselves as ye did of old in Paradise; for having seen you naked, He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment.//Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

**(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 4)** Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John: “Do not be afraid to baptize me.//For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

***The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance!***

***v: To thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!***

**THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY (4:5-8)** Timothy, my son: as for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

***Alleluia, Tone 8***

***v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us.***

***v: That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations.***

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK (1:1-8)** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare the way’ the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight- “John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the county of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

**COMMUNION HYMN** Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Building Healthy, Hopeful American Orthodox Parish Communities”.**

*(continued from last week)*

**2. Worship: Liturgical preparedness, congregational participation, effective preaching.**

Above all, the People of God are a “worshipping People,” called not only to share and proclaim the Gospel, but to celebrate it through the Liturgy, the sacraments, the psalms and the overall worship of the Church. Building on the vision of the Gospel, healthy parish communities remember that the fundamental “purpose” of the liturgical services is the worship of God—the very thing that the Church, and the Church alone, can “do... in Spirit and Truth.” The members of the community strive to please God, not themselves—the Church’s worship is “God-centered/focused,” not “Me-centered/focused.” And the People of God must strive consistently to offer their best through worship that is holy, joyous, peaceful, enlivening, inspiring and filled with thankfulness.

**3. Shared Leadership: Sharing/delegating responsibility, leading change, functional structures and administration, open financial practice and reporting.**

Healthy parishes craft administrative structures that are appropriate to the size and vision of the community. Ministries are defined, appropriately funded and equipped. Parish lay leaders see themselves as stewards of a Christian community collaborating with the parish’s clergy to build and expand the community’s health and vibrancy. They are not the parish business managers, trustees, owners, or disinterested commentators and/or critics. While “functions” may vary, the individual gifts and ministries of every parish leader, clergy and laity alike, is one and the same.

**4. Open Communication: Consensus and dialogue, dealing with conflict, internal communication.**

Putting a collaborative leadership structure into action requires the ability to effectively communicate as a body. To do so, healthy parishes work to establish a clear competency for consensus, dialogue and listening and the ability—and desire—to humbly “speak the truth in love” to one another. They seek and integrate multiple perspectives and marginal views. Then they consistently reinforce communication by appropriately harnessing multiple forms of spoken, written, visual and electronic communications forms.

January 3, 2016



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

Fr. Joe, Fr. Moses, Fr. Lavrenty, Deacon Anthony, Aaron, John, Gloria, Laurie,  
Anne, Anna, Walt & Zina, Dorothy, Jeanette, Reggie, Stojan & Mira, Bosa, Joseph,  
Helen, Ted & Marlene, Fr. David, Gladys, my family & friends at St. Nicholas ..... Joe Tome  
Special Intention ..... Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE**

Peter Popoff ..... Alex & Magda Popoff



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship, coffee and donuts in our parish hall. Volunteers are needed to serve coffee and donuts this morning.

**THEOPHANY BANQUET** will be held on Sunday, January 10 following the Divine Liturgy. The menu will consist of Lamb or Chicken, Rice, Vegetables, Bread & Butter, Salad, Dessert and Drinks. We will need to know in advance as to how many would like to have chicken, if you prefer to have chicken instead of lamb please inform the parish office by January 3. There are sign-up sheets in the parish hall for volunteers for set-up and clean-up, also for those that would like to make a dessert. Adults \$12, children 12 and under \$6.

**BISHOP ALEXANDER** will be joining us for Liturgy and our traditional outdoor blessings of water on Sunday, January 10. Be respectful; be on time for the start of Liturgy at 10 am.

**DOVES FOR THEOPHANY** we are in need of an individual(s) to donate the three (3) white doves for the outdoor blessing of the water next Sunday. The total cost for the doves is \$175.00 or \$59 each. If you would like to donate one or all of the doves, please see Debbie.

**OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER** will be next Sunday. Bring your empty bottles to fill with Holy Water. Dress for the weather.

### **CHARITY MINISTRIES**

**HOPE IN A BOX** is collecting Toilet Paper for January. 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.

**NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN** We serve **Thursday, January 7 from 9 am to 1 pm.** Please use the sign-up sheet at the candle stand to volunteer.

**ST. CATHERINE'S DINNER OUT** will be held on Tuesday, January 19 at Italia Gardens in Davison at 6:30 pm. All of the ladies of the parish are invited to join us. Please see Stephanie Stikovitch or Lucy Hogg to make your reservation.

**4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PAN ORTHODOX WINTER DINNER** to support the Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction will be held on Thursday, January 28 at St. George. Reservations need to be made not later than Sunday, January 24. An informational flier is included in your January bulletin. You may also see Deborah Gonser-Adams for more information and to make your reservation(s).

### ***Schedule of services and events for the week of January 3:***

<u>Tuesday, January 5</u> 7:00 pm	Fr. in Toledo Royal Hours	
<u>Wednesday, January 6</u> 9:00 am 11:00 am	<b>THEOPHANY</b> Divine Liturgy Adult Education	
<u>Thursday, January 7</u> 9 am – 1pm	North End Soup Kitchen	
<u>Saturday, January 9</u> 5:00 pm	Vespers <b>**Please Note the Time Change**</b>	<i>121 people were in attendance on Christmas Eve (41 St. Nicholas parishioners &amp; 80 St. Mary Magdalene parishioners)</i>
<u>Sunday, January 10</u> 9:30 am 10:00 am	Third Hour Pontifical Liturgy No Church School Theophany Banquet	<i>77 people were in attendance on Sunday, December 27, 2015</i>

*Offerings for the week December 27, 2015*

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,860.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$3,634.49
	<b>- \$1,774.49</b>

“Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.”  
**Luke 11:42**