

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Newsletter

Diocese of Toledo-Orthodox Church in America

2143 S. Center Road – Burton, Michigan 48519

Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser

Email: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton

Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Church Office: 810-744-0070

Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Hours 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy adult education 11:15 am

Saturday – 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions

Holydays: Vespers & Liturgy as announced

“May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.” St. Jude 1:1

JULY 2022

ON THE TWO WOMEN

Once when Abba Macarius was praying in his cell, a voice came to him saying: “Macarius, you have not yet attained the stature of those two women of this city.” The elder got up early, took his palm-wood staff and began to make the journey to the city. When he got there and identified the place, he knocked at the door. One of the women came out and invited him into the house. He sat there for a little while then the other woman came. When he invited them to approach, they did so, seating themselves beside him. The elder said to them, “It is on your account that I have put up with the journey and so much toil in getting here from the desert. Now, tell me about your work; what kind is it?” They told him, “Believe us, Father, we have not been absent from our husbands’ beds to this very day; what sort of work do you expect of us?” The elder apologized to them and begged them, saying: “Show me the way you live,” at which they told him: “We are unrelated to each other in the worldly sense, but it happened that we were married to two natural brothers and, look, today we have been living in this house for fifteen years. We are not aware of ever having quarreled or spoken a shameful word. It crossed our mind to leave our husbands and to join the ranks of the virgins [nuns] but, despite frequent pleading on our part, our husbands did not agree to release us. So, frustrated in that project, we took an oath to each other and before God that we would let no worldly talk pass our lips until we died.” When Abba Macarius heard this, he said: “Truly, there is no virgin or married woman or monk or worldling, but God looks for a deliberate choice and He gives the Holy Spirit to everybody.”

The Anonymous Sayings of the Desert Fathers, N. 489/20.21
translated by John Wortley (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017) p 327.

FROM FATHER'S DESK This month let's look at St. Ephrem the Syrian's (306-373) *hymn thirty-one "On Faith."* We are probably most familiar with St. Ephrem because of his prayer we say during the Great Fast but he is also a great theologian-poet. In this hymn St. Ephrem describes how God speaks to humanity by means of images and metaphors in Scripture. Before taking flesh from the Virgin, the Son of God became incarnate in human language, he "put on names" as St. Ephrem writes. This month we read stanzas 1 through 7. Next month will be the remaining stanzas 8 thru 11. From *The Harp of the Spirit - Poems of Saint Ephrem the Syrian* translated by Sebastian Brock.

1 Let us give thanks to God who has clothed Himself in the names of the body's various parts: Scripture refers to His "ears," (Psalm 34:15) to teach us that He listens to us; it speaks of His "eyes" (Psalm 34:15) to show that He sees us. It was just the names of such things that He put on, And - although in His true Being there is no wrath or regret - Yet He put on these terms because of our weakness.

Refrain: Blessed is He who has appeared to our human race under so many metaphors.

2 We should realize that, had He not put on the names of such things, it would not have been possible for Him to speak with us humans. By means of what belongs to us did He draw close to us:

He clothed Himself in our language, so that He might clothe us in His mode of life. He asked for our form and put this on, and then, as a father with his children, He spoke with our childish state.

3 It is our terms that He has put on - though He did not literally do so; He then took them off - without actually doing so: when wearing them, He was at the same time stripped of them. He puts on one when it is beneficial, then strips it off in exchange for another; the fact that He strips off and puts on all sorts of metaphors tells us that the metaphor does not apply to His true Being: because that Being is hidden, He has depicted it by means of what is visible.

4 In one place He was like an Old Man and the Ancient of Days, (Daniel 7:9) then again, He became like a Hero, a Valiant Warrior. (Exodus 15:3) For the purpose of judgment, He was an Old Man, but for conflict He was Valiant.

In one place He was delaying; elsewhere, having run, He became weary. (Isaiah 1:14, John 4:6) In one place He was asleep, (Isaiah 7:13, Psalm 44:23, 78:66) in another, in need (Matthew 25:35-36): by every means did He weary Himself so as to gain us.

5 For this is the Good One, who could have forced us to please Him, without any trouble to Himself; but instead He toiled by every means so that we might act pleasingly to Him of our own volition, that we might depict our beauty with the colours that our own freewill had gathered; whereas, if He had adorned us, then we would have resembled a portrait that someone else had painted, adorning it with his own colours.

6 A person who is teaching a parrot to speak hides behind a mirror and teaches it in this way: when the bird turns in the direction of the voice speaking it finds in front of its eyes its own resemblance reflected; it imagines that it is another parrot, conversing with itself. The man puts the bird's image in front of it, so that thereby it might learn how to speak.

7 This bird is related to the man, but although this relationship exists, the man beguiles and teaches the parrot something alien to itself by means of itself; in this way he speaks with it.

The divine Being that in all things is exalted above all things in Its love has bent down from on high and acquired from us our own customs; It has laboured by every means so as to turn all to Itself.

Hours Schedule

July	August	September
3 Calvin	7 Angelo	4 Alexander
10 Angelo	14 Lucy	11 Lucy
17 Lucy	21 No hours	18 Angelo
24 Alexander	28 Calvin	25 Calvin
31 Calvin		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

Reader Schedule

July	August	September
3 Ruth	7 Alexander	4 Alexander
10 Alexander	14 Angelo	11 Angelo
17 Angelo	21 Kathy	18 Kathy
24 Kathy	28 Ruth	25 Ruth
31 Ruth		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS! Adult men and boys, your service is needed in the holy altar to assist in the Divine Liturgy! If you would like to learn to serve, please see Deacon Luke, send an email stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com or call the office 810-744-0070. Training sessions will be set up for altar servers to learn the importance of this ministry and the "how to" for serving.

MEMORY ETERNAL - CHRIST IS RISEN!

DONALD LELAND FORD fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, May 22. Don is the brother of parishioner Les Ford. The Lord grant His servant Don rest among the saints. Please remember Don in your prayers and his family. You may view Don's obituary [here](#).

ROBERT GEORGE NAUMOFF fell asleep in the Lord on Saturday, May 28. Bob is the brother of Laurie Brock and uncle of Stephanie Price, Stacy Brock, and Joseph Brock. The funeral was June 6 at church. Burial took place at on June 25 at Evergreen Cemetery. Christ God, risen from the dead, grant His servant Robert rest in the light of His Face. God sustain all his family by His grace. Please remember Robert in your prayers and his family. Bog da prosti! Christos voskrese! Christ is risen! You may read Bob's obituary [here](#).

FR. DANIEL LOYA fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, June 10. He is a brother of Matushka Kathleen Biernacki Killian. The Lord grant rest to His servant, the priest Daniel, in the light of His face. Memory eternal! If you would like to send a card of condolence to Matushka Kathleen, her address is 4 Walker Ave, Apt 111 Clarendon Hills, IL 60514-1354

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN MACEDONIA

On May 24, on the old calendar feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Patriarch Porfirije of Serbia and Metropolitan Stefan of Ochrid, Macedonia, served the Divine Liturgy together with bishops of Serbia and Macedonia at St. Kliment of Ochrid Cathedral in Skopje. At the Liturgy, Patriarch Porfirije announced that the Council of Bishops of Serbia approved the Macedonian Orthodox Church to be autocephalous. You may read the patriarch's address [here](#), see photos [here](#), and view the Liturgy [here](#).

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Please come & minister to Christ with our brothers & sisters on July 7th from 9 am-12:30 pm. "Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead." St. John Chrysostom.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS is reading the life of Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra, father in God to our Archbishop Alexander. It is *Transfigured in the Night: Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra* by Fr. Maximos Conostas in The Orthodox Word magazine. You may read it [here](#).

PARISH COUNCIL The next parish council meeting is Tuesday, July 12th at 6:30 pm.

ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL of the Orthodox Church in America – July 18 to July 22. In place of Susie Ford, our lay delegate, Father Matthew will attend as our clergy delegate.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE God bless everyone for their financial stewardship, especially with the cost of gasoline, food, etc. The parish checking account is low, please give as you are able. Endowment fund loan: The endowment committee approved a \$15,000 loan from cash on hand in the endowment fund to the church checking account for the purpose of meeting normal expenses through the summer. This loan will be paid back to the endowment fund by installments.

Our parish hosts the pan-Orthodox celebration of Saints Peter and Paul with Liturgy on Wednesday, June 29 at 10 am. Pan-Orthodox Vacation Church will be Saturday, August 27 at Groveland Oaks Campgrounds in Holly.

Rummage sale has been postponed for lack of chairperson(s).

Parish picnic is August 21 - outdoor Liturgy and dedication of the courtyard shrine of the Mother of God in memory of Mildred and Lawrence Bladecki. Followed by the picnic: lamb & limited number of chicken, rice, beans, coleslaw. Please bring desserts to share. We are looking for donors for the lambs we'll be cooking! Please consider donating the cost of a whole lamb or making a partial donation. Dinner tickets will be sold in advance.

Building and grounds: John and Nancy Borkovich put on new trim boards on the garage. Air compressor for the furnaces needs to be replaced but we can omit this by updating the thermostat zones which will be more efficient. Fan replaced in small kitchen to keep it cool for the refrigerators and freezers. The back field needs to be brush-hogged as soon as possible.

Those who would like to assist at non-parishioner rentals of the fellowship hall and pavilion by being present at the rentals, please contact the office. This is a paid per-hour position. There are rentals on Saturday, July 16 and Saturday, July 23.

PAN-ORTHODOX VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL Saint Mary Magdalene Church we will take on a modified version of Vacation Church School for this summer. It will be a one day event, Saturday, August 27th, at Groveland Oaks Campgrounds in Holly (Click [here](#) for website) The topic will be on the Cross. The tentative plan is to arrival at 11:00 AM for the program, and end at 4:00 PM with a pan-Orthodox Great Vespers in the pavilion. Lunch (in the form of cooking their own hotdogs on a stick) will be provided, as well as smores/snacks for all after Vespers.

CONGRATULATIONS to Rachel Victoria Panoff who graduated from Vandegrift High School in Austin, Texas. She will be attending Texas A & M University-Tarleton on the fall to study Psychology. Rachel's grandparents are Angelo & Christine Panoff.

PAN-ORTHODOX SOFTBALL GAME July 10 at St. Pius X Catholic School, 3139 Hogarth Ave., Flint. Drinks & food will be provided by St. George before the game, which starts at 3 pm. Everyone is welcome to play! Email Fr. Gabriel with any questions at: frgabrielm@gmail.com

MACEDONIAN OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Golf Scramble, especially to the committee members: Chris Nedanis, Angelo Panoff, Christine Panoff, Linda Branoff, and George Branoff.

UKRAINIAN REFUGEE Anyone who wishes to support International Orthodox Christian Charity's (IOCC) humanitarian response to the Ukraine crisis is asked to pray for all those affected and the people serving them, to share what IOCC is doing in order to spread the word, and to give as they are able financially. Please visit iocc.org/ukraine22 or call 877.803.4622 to make a donation.

MAKE YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH GIVELIFY

Go to the website and on the home page click on the box Give now with Givelify which will walk you through the donation process; this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify as a fee). If you do not wish to donate online, you may write a check to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and send it to the parish address: 2143 S Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519.

JULY	
Coffee Social Volunteers & Sponsors	
3	
10	
17	Nancy Tasevski
24	Connie Maxim
31	

 HOPE IN A BOX	
July	Toilet Paper & Travel Size Toiletries
Aug	Razors, Shaving Cream & Lotion
Sept	Bar & Hand Soap

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

<p><u>NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN</u> we serve on Thursday, July 7 from 9 to 12:30 pm.</p> <p><u>FOOD DRIVE</u> Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.</p> <p><u>CENTER OF HOPE</u> For more information call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri 9:30-3:30 at 812 Root St, Flint.</p>

TRIP TO SAINT ROMANOS HERMITAGE If you are interested in making a visit to our diocesan Saint Romanos Hermitage in Williamston, MI please contact the parish office 810-744-007, stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com or see Fr. Matthew.



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS Remember to designate your Community Rewards when shopping at Kroger. They send a check to St. Nicholas for a portion of everything participants spend in their stores. We received \$27.64 in June.

UPCOMING
Events

SHRINE FEAST OUTDOOR LITURGY & PARISH PICNIC Sunday, August 21. We are looking for donors for the lambs we'll be cooking! Please consider donating the cost of a whole lamb or making a partial donation.

19TH ANNUAL ELIAS D. CHINONIS GOLF CLASSIC August 22 at Pine Knob Golf Course. This golf outing is being coordinated by Assumption & you can direct any questions to John Kaloydis at 810-922-2047 or jekaloydis@comcast.net. Look at the flyer for details.

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL August 27th at Groveland Oaks Campgrounds in Holly.

CLASSIC CAR SHOW in our church parking lot on Sunday, August, 28 from 3 pm-6 pm.

JULY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kara George
- 2 Lucy Hogg
- 3 John Borkovich
Natasha Oginsky
Walter John Borkovich
- 4 Peter Branoff
- 7 Anastasia Branoff
- 8 Kathryn Gurin
Oleg Dashevsky
- 10 Alex Branoff
- 11 Richard Elieff
Robert Elieff
- 14 Dante Bradley Hatch
- 15 Charlie Jernigan
- 16 Alexander Gonser
Rimi Abu-Aita
- 17 Bob Russell
- 19 Austin Selmi
Dorothy Goodman
- 21 Linda Branoff
- 23 Calvin Conrad
- 25 Alexa Stevens
Zoe Conover
- 28 Ian Price
- 30 David Batzos
Stephanie Price



NAMESDAYS

- 3 Cynthia Economou
- 11 Olga Todoroff
- 15 Allen Vladimir Adams
Bruce Vladimir Borkovich
Vladimir Akkerman
Vladimir Pyatenko
Walter John Borkovich
- 19 Milica Beslach
- 20 Elijah Daniel George
Elias Kokaly
- 22 Magda Popoff
Marla Houser
- 24 Chelsea Christine Borkovich
Christine Adkisson
Christine Brucksch
Christine Panoff
Kirsten Lee Popoff
Kristin Hart
Krysten Brown

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Calvin & Ruth Conrad (1969)
- 17 Bob & Peggy Russell (1959)
- 20 David & Marla Houser (1985)
- 23 Steven & Sandra Spankie (1988)
- 27 Chad & Julie Conover (2003)
- 30 David & Kris George (1994)

If your name is missing or has the incorrect information in the birthday, anniversary or namesday list please call the office: (810) 744-0070

DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

VISITATION TO THE SICK If you would like Fr. Matthew to make a visit to home, hospital, or nursing home, please contact the office 810-744-0070.

DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The following are our brothers and sisters of St. Nicholas who are currently homebound, suffering from chronic illness, in recovery or in need of special prayers. Please remember them in your prayers and reach out to them with a card, a phone call or a visit! Please call the office to schedule a visit for Holy Communion.

Deacon John Bocek
Linda Branoff
Mary Abu-Aita

Paul Ellis
Bill Haw
Mary Karayanis

Nick Karayanis
Macy Lemmen
Ron Salhany

Bill Tadrick
Wendy Tadrick
Dave Vuckovich

To aid in your outreach, here is a listing of the addresses and phone numbers of our Homebound:

Paul Ellis	2360 Stonebridge Dr	Flint, MI 48532
Dorothy Goodman	1481 E Hill Rd, Suite 18	Grand Blanc, MI 48439 (Bella Vita)
Dave Vuckovich	9352 Morrish Rd	Swartz Creek, MI 48473

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY Sunday, July 31st is Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday in all Orthodox parishes of North America. Deacon Luke and Susie Ford are involved in this ministry from our parish.

The Hierarchs of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops have blessed the Sunday after the feast of St. Silas (the patron of prison ministry) to be Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday in all US Orthodox parishes. In 2022, this occurs on Sunday, July 31st.

America's tragically high incarceration rate (2.3 million) means that – chances are – more than one parishioner has been touched by a person serving time in prison. OCPM introduces prisoners to the fullness of the Orthodox faith. And we help Orthodox Christians who have been convicted of crimes to return to the Orthodox faith and find healing and reconciliation.

But we can't do it without the support of our parishes.

Please help us fulfill the commandment of our Lord to visit Him in prison (Matthew 25:36) by participating in this vital day of awareness.

In Christ,
Nicholas Petrogeorge, Executive Director



Orthodox Christian
PRISON MINISTRY

PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison?

Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church?

Who will minister to them?

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church. OCPM corresponds with thousands of prisoners across the country and provides spiritual books, Bibles, icons, and catechism courses. OCPM trains Orthodox priests and laypeople to enter prisons and minister to prisoners.



Together we can fulfill the Lord's commandment to visit Him in prison (Matthew 25:36 – "I was in prison and you visited me.")

2MILLION
ICONS DISTRIBUTED TO PRISONERS

46,047
BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND
SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS SENT IN 2021

276 5th Avenue, Ste. 704-3183
New York, NY 10001

347-868-6957
info@theocpm.org

WWW.THEOCPM.ORG



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PAN-ORTHODOX SOFTBALL GAME

Sunday, July 10, 2022
3:00pm



Drinks and Food provided
for questions call
St. George -Host
810-732-0720
or contact your parish coordinator

GAME LOCATION

St. Pius X Catholic School
Baseball Field
(3139 Hogarth Ave
Flint, MI 48532



The Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County

- Holy Assumption Greek
Orthodox Church
(2245 E. Burbank Rd Grand Blanc, MI)
- St. George Orthodox Church
(5101 Larch Rd Flint, MI)
- St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox
Church
(2430 S. Long Lake Rd Tonawanda, MI)
- St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
(12745 Center Rd Burton, MI)



HOPE

IN A BOX



JULY 2022 Need of the Month:

TOILET PAPER & TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES

**We need your help...to make sure
no one in need is turned away.**

Please support **Hope in a Box** by donating a “need of the month” item in the blue bin, at this community location. By donating to Hope in a Box you will help provide for more than 500 individuals who seek our assistance each day. Join us in our efforts to *Provide Help* and *Create Hope* for those most in need.

Contact: Catholic Charities’ Community Closet at
810-265-7025 x712, or send an email to:
mstevenson@ccsgc.org.

Please bring us your plastic grocery sacks and clean empty water bottles, too! These can be reused to bag clothing and dispense laundry soap or shampoo.



HYGIENE COUNTS

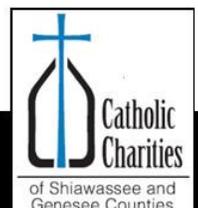
- Germs can survive for up to three hours on your hands.
- There are between 2 to 10 million bacteria on your fingertips and elbows.
- The number of germs on your fingertips doubles after you use the toilet.
- Handwashing can reduce the risk of respiratory infections by 16% 4.



Catholic Charities Flint and Owosso

www.ccsgc.org

Providing Help... Creating Hope



19th Annual Elias D. Chinonis

Golf Classic

August 22, 2022
at Pine Knob Golf Course



5580 Waldon Road • Clarkston, MI 48348

\$130 per Golfer • Registration 8:00 AM • **NEW:** 10:30 AM Shotgun Start
• Breakfast Buffet starting at 8:30 AM

Join us after golf for: Dinner Buffet/Cash Bar/Prizes & Raffles
More Info: John Kaloydis • 810-922-2047 • jekaloydis@comcast.net

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION

SPONSORSHIPS

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Gold Sponsor Includes 2 T box signs and 4 golfers	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Silver Sponsor Includes 1T box sign and 2 golfers	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Bronze Sponsor includes 1T box sign	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Dinner Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
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All sponsors receive numerous recognition and flyer placements.

Wording for Sponsorship: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Foursome: Name & Phone

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Please Return by: August 1, 2022

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

2245 E. Baldwin Road • Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Attn: John Kaloydis • 810-922-2047 • jekaloydis@comcast.net



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church • Grand Blanc

JULY 2022

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S. Center Rd. Burton, MI 48519
810-744-0070

stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <i>Fast</i>  <i>Dairy Permitted (no meat)</i>  <i>Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)</i>  <i>Fish Permitted (no other meat)</i>		<i>Services are streamed on our YouTube channel</i> St Nicholas Burton			1	 2 5 pm Vespers <i>Confessions</i>
3 9:30 am Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy	4  <i>Office Closed</i>	5	6  9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am adult education	7 <i>Office Closed</i>	8 	9 5 pm Vespers <i>Confessions</i>
10 9:30 am Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy 3 pm pan-Orthodox Softball game at St Pius X ballfield	11 <i>Father in Toledo</i>	12 6:30 pm Parish Council	13  9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am adult education	14 <i>Office Closed</i>	15 	16 <i>11 am 1 year Parastas for Dina Tasevska</i> 5 pm Vespers <i>no Confessions</i>
17 9:30 am Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy	18	19	20  <i>Prophet Elias</i> No Divine Liturgy No adult education	21	22 <i>Office Closed</i>	23 5 pm Vespers <i>no Confessions</i>
Orthodox Church in America's 20th All American Council - Baltimore, MD						
24 9:30 am Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy	25	26	27 No Divine Liturgy No adult education	28	29 	30 5 pm Vespers <i>no Confessions</i>
31 9:30 am Hours 10 am Divine Liturgy <i>Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday</i>				<i>Office Closed</i>		