

July 27, 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 (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, JULY 27, 2025 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6. Holy Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon (305). Saint Clement of Ochrid, Equal of the Apostles, Bishop of Greater Macedonia, and his companions Nahum, Savvas, Gorazd and Angelarius. Bl. Nikolai Kochanov, Fool-for-Christ, at Novgorod (1392). Ven. Anthousa (8th c.).

TROPARIA

Tone 6 The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Your grave, / seeking Your most pure body. / You captured hell, not being tempted by it. / You came to the Virgin, granting life. / O Lord, Who rose from the dead, // glory to You.

Tone 3 O holy prizewinner and Healer Panteleimon, intercede with the merciful God, that He grant unto our souls the forgiveness of our offenses.

Tone 1 With wreaths of praise let us crown the glorious seven: Cyril and Methodius, Clement, Nahum and Sabbas, Gorazd and Angelarius! They are beacons who shone forth and proclaimed to us the glad tidings of the triune God, unshakable pillars of the Church of Bulgaria, and divinely inspired champions of its letters, who abolished the demonic worship of idols, and who pray unto Christ God to make steadfast our Church, and grant to our souls peace and 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 7 On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold You crucified, they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that You are truly the Radiance of the Father!

The prokeimenon in the first tone: My mouth shall speak wisdom, / and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Psalm 48:3)

v. Hear these, all the nations, give ear, all inhabitants of the world. (Psalm 48:1)

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (7:26-8:2)

Brethren, such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected to the age. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a liturgizer of the holy of holies and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Alleluia, Tone 6

v: The one who dwells in the help of the Most High, in the shelter of the God of heaven will be abiding.
(*Psalm 90:1*)

v: He will say to the Lord, You are the one who takes hold of me and my refuge, my God, and I will hope in him. (*Psalm 90:2*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (9:27-35) At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

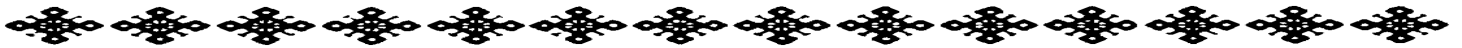
COMMUNION HYMN

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

The Holy Gospel according to John 20:1-10 (7th Matins Gospel)

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

July 27, 2025



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF:

Health and blessings for Bonnie Reno and Mike Hudson	Laurie Brock
Gerry, Lena, Angela, Philip, Kelly, Alana, Anastasia, Izabella, and Andy	Bakousidis Family
Alexander, Noah, Barry, Alexandra, Madison, Jonathon, and newly baptized Joel	Deacon Kerry & Katherine Gonser
Oleg, Galina, Nikolay, Nikolay, Andrey, Vlada, Kirill, Lev & Irina	Irina Sivergina
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 friends	Joe Tome
Special Intention	Joe Tome

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Georgios, Theodora, Kosta, Nikolaos, and Evangelia	Bakousidis Family
Adelaïda & Feodosiy	Irina Sivergina
In memory of my loving husband, Nicholas on our wedding anniversary, July 27 th	Connie Maxim



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](#).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS led by Father Matthew today from 12 to 12:45 pm. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith in the library. No classes in August.

July 27 CANDLESTAND: Ian & Stephanie P. **HOURS:** Baptism (*no Hours*) **READER:** Katherine Gonser
Aug 3 CANDLESTAND: Denis Goodman **HOURS:** Madison Green **READER:** Barry Cavett

COFFEE SOCIAL is provided by Connie Maxim in memory of her beloved husband, Nick. Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall for coffee and donuts. Everyone is welcome.

NEWLY ILLUMINED & CHRISMATED on Sunday, July 27 before the Divine Liturgy, **Joel Green** was baptized into Christ, his godparents are Deacon Luke & Kathy Gonser. Many years!

PAN-ORTHODOX VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL hosted by our church on Saturday, August 9. **Please register here:** <https://tinyurl.com/523v4set> **Deadline for registrations is Sunday, August 3.** If you would like to help (adults and youth 12 and over), please see Stephanie Price.

OUTDOOR LITURGY, SHRINE FEAST & DANCE Sunday, August 17th. **Dinners are Pre-sale Only.** The menu for lunch is lamb/chicken, rice, coleslaw, vegetable, & dessert. Tickets are \$20 adult & \$10 children 12 & under. **Please purchase tickets from Sharon Jernigan by August 13th.** We are looking for donors for the lambs we'll be cooking! **Please consider donating \$300 for a whole lamb or making a partial donation, it will be a big help.** Volunteers are needed Thursday, August 14 at 9:30 am to clean the pavilion, Saturday, August 16 at 10 am and after Vespers to set up the pavilion for the Liturgy! Volunteers are needed to break down the pavilion after Liturgy on Sunday! **There is a sign-up sheet in the parish hall.** Live Music and Dancing with Skimos Band who will play from 2-6 pm.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY (OCPM)

- Statistically, if 100 people are gathered together 5 of those people will have served time in prison - it is not a matter of when former inmates will come to our parish.
- The National OCPM reaches out to share the Light and Hope of Jesus Christ and penetrate the darkness and despair that come from the evil of man's own fallen desires.

More About Our Local Prison Ministry Work

- Protodeacon Michael Schlaack (St. Mary Magdalene) coordinates our pen pal ministry allowing parishioners to correspond with inmates in prison and share the Love of Christ a letter at a time. This ministry (in place for over 15 years) involves approximately
 - 20 parishioners
 - 40 inmates
 - We have many, many more inmates desperately in need of a pen pal
- Protodeacon Luke Gonser (St. Nicholas) and Fr. Michael Bassett (St. George) lead a ministry of onsite worship and teaching (in place for 2 years) in the prisons where they:
 - Visit 5 prisons (4 every week and 1 in the UP every few months)
 - Have ongoing relationships with about 35 inmates, numerous prison officers and 5 chaplains
 - Setup Orthodox Worship spaces including icons and various service booklets
 - Provide Confession and Communion to Orthodox Inmates (note: we recently confessed and communed two men that had not received confession or communion for decades)
 - Lead Bible Studies where each inmate has (or is acquiring) an Orthodox Study Bible
 - Are getting ready to receive 16 men as Catechumens
- In addition to this we:
 - Work with the National OCPM to develop ministry materials
 - Provide ongoing support and fellowship with about 6 men on or graduated from parole
 - Work with priests and parishes to assist in receiving former inmates into their parishes
 - Provide spiritual guidance to inmate's family members where appropriate
 - Work closely with the National OCPM Leadership Team on day to day practical matters as well as advising on the development of future programs
 - Connect current or future parolees to parishes
 - Recruit other Clergy and Laypeople to join in this ministry (at this time we have been joined by an additional priest, are close to having a second actively involved and have another priest and 3 laymen in the UP on the path to assisting at the prison in the UP)
 - Have been blessed to have at least one very generous sponsor to help us provide books and other materials to inmates (by the way, at least one group in one of the prisons has directed \$500 of a Prison Fund to help fund our ministry work)
 - Work to establish relationships with key folks in the Michigan Department of Corrections Leadership team in Lansing on a variety of topics (e.g., Identifying Orthodox Vendors for Inmates, helping to facilitate the future delivery methods - internet - of Orthodox materials)
 - Are looking for good Orthodox Christian men to be Godfathers for our 16 Catechumens

OFFICE HOURS are Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9-3.

PAYPAL You can use PayPal for your financial stewardship! Go to our website

www.saintnicholasburton.org and click on the box **Give now with PayPal**; this is a secure site.

(1.99% + \$0.49 of your donation goes to PayPal as a fee). ***Please consider adding a little extra to your**

donation to cover the fee we are charged. 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
Givelify is also available for making online donations.

DORMITION FAST began on August 1 and continues to August 14. As is the custom at our parish, the Moleben to the Mother of God will be served in her shrine on Sundays after Liturgy beginning on Sunday, August 3 and continuing to August 10. Take the time to come before her icon at the shrine and ask her intercession for your and your family's needs.

IN EMERGENCY ONLY July 28 to August 8 contact Father Gabriel Bilas at 810-750-1401, Father Amin Houli at 810-732-0720 or Father Peter Bistolarides at 810-771-4611.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Today 1 pm Panoff Krsna Slava (Baptismal Glory celebration)

Wed., July 30 *No Liturgy*

Thurs., August 1 **DORMITION FAST BEGINS**

Saturday, August 2

9:30 am **Saint Romanos Hermitage work day - 804 S Putnam St, Williamston, MI**
lunch and cold water is provided
5 pm Vespers *no confessions*

Sunday, August 3

9:30 am Hours
10 am Divine Liturgy-live-streamed
12 pm Moleben at Shrine

Offerings for the week July 20, 2025

Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2,906.76
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ -1,473.24

89 persons in attendance on July 20