

June 11, 2023

**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](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org) Church: 810-744-0070 e-mail: [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto: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 vestibule. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with one of the ushers.

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 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. **Again, welcome!**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023 1ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 8. All Saints. Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas (1st c.). Ven. Barnabas, Abbot of Vetluga (1445). Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Ephraim, Abbot of Novotórgsk (1572). Synaxis of the "Axion Estin" Icon of the Mother of God (10th c.). Saint Luke of Crimea, the Blessed Surgeon.**

**TROPARIA**

**Tone 8** You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

**Tone 4** As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Your Church has been adorned with Your martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to You, O Christ God: "Send down Your bounties on Your people, // grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

**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 8** The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace // through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

**The prokeimenon in the eighth tone: Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God! (Psalm 75:10a)**  
v. **God is known in Judea, in Israel great is his name. (Psalm 75:1)**

**THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (11:33-12:2)**

**Brethren:** all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were

tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith - Jesus.

#### *Alleluia, Tone 4*

**v: The Lord is near the ones shattered of heart, and the humble in spirit he will save.** (*Psalm 33:18*)

**v: Many - the afflictions of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will deliver them.** (*Psalm 33:20*)

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)** At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (*Psalm 32:1*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

#### **SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINT - THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

Saint Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (*Philokalia* [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the *Octoechos*, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

Saint Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to Saint Peter's five categories. The list of Saint Nicodemus is found in his book *The Fourteen Epistles Of St Paul* (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs.

They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. Saint Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Bishops comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (*Ladder*, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living "in the world." Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Saints Joachim and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, Saint Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful.

Even before the death of Saint Theophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated. *from [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)*

June 11, 2023



### CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Congratulations Protodeacon Luke Kerry & Reader Joe Tome

Chris, Sandra & Julia

To honor Archbishop Alexander's visit & God's blessings to Deacon Kerry  
and our choirmaster Joe Tome

Connie Maxim

Health, blessings & protection for my family

Lucy Hogg

Oleg, Galina, Nikolay, Lev, Kirill & Irina

Irina Sivergina

Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Angelo, Joan,  
Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta,  
Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, David, Taras, Ted,  
Joseph, Marlene, Mary, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family  
and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

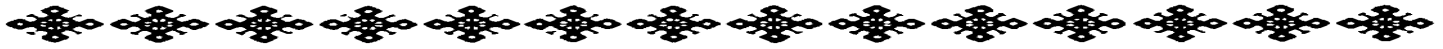
### CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Ed Goggins

Noah Gonser

Adelaïda, Feodosiy, Galina, Vasiliy & Vitaliy

Irina Sivergina



**ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER** is with us for Vespers on Saturday, June 10 and Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 11 to present Protodeacon Luke (Kerry) with the *kamilavka* and Reader J. Joseph Tome with the Order of St. Romanos.

**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](#).

**CANDLESTAND:** Susie Ford    **HOURS:** Phil Wiles    **READER:** Angelo Panoff

**BRUNCH** will be served after liturgy. There will be a freewill offering. Donuts are also provided by Connie Maxim in honor of Archbishop Alexander, Protodeacon Kerry & Joe Tome.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**ADULT EDUCATION** Tuesday at 11:15. We will continue with Fr. Silviu Bunta's book.

**INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS** led by our parish catechist, Reader Alexander Gonser, takes place on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith.

**MACEDONIAN OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE** deadline to sign up for golf, a sign, to donate gift cards and other items is **June 11<sup>th</sup>**. See Christine Panoff if you have any questions or payments today. Fliers are available in the fellowship hall and on our website.

 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to help water the flowers around the outside of the church. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall.

**MEMORY ETERNAL Pavle (Paul) Želevarovski** fell asleep in the Lord, Tuesday, June 6. Paul is the son of Tom (Atanas) and the late Ivanka Želevarovski. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Swartz Funeral Home. You can see them in the weekly schedule below. Pray to the Lord for Paul's blessed repose and comfort for his family in their time of great grief. Bog da prosti! Christ is risen!

### **SUMMER PAN-ORTHODOX BOOK CLUB**

Our first book will be *The Way Of The Ascetics* by Tito Colliander. You can get it at [Amazon](#) or the book seller of your choice. This is a nice book with short chapters and about 100 pages long. We will meet monthly so this will be a two session book (you read on your own and we meet once a month, live and possibly via zoom). **First (live) discussion:**

- Tentatively - Monday June 26 at 6 pm at St. George Church (we are looking at some other options including morning and zoom in addition to the live)

If you are interested contact Fr. Michael Bassett / St. George Church at [frdnmike@gmail.com](mailto:frdnmike@gmail.com) or at 989-627-9580.

**BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES** for students in need in Burton will be purchased with donations collected in the Charity Plate in May and June.

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

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Today** Brunch following Liturgy  
4-8 pm Visitation for **Pavle Želevarovski** at Swartz Funeral Home  
7 pm Parastas

**Monday, June 12**  
10 am Visitation for **Pavle Želevarovski** at church  
11 am Funeral service  
Burial at Evergreen Cemetery

**Tuesday, June 13**  
11:15 am Adult education class – **Please Note Schedule Change**  
6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday, June 14** *Fr. in Toledo*  
No Liturgy or Adult ed class

**Saturday, June 17**  
5 pm Vespers - live-streamed Confessions

**Sunday, June 18** All Saints of North America  
9:30 am Hours  
10 am Divine Liturgy - live-streamed

**Offerings for the week June 4, 2023**

Weekly Offerings	\$ 3,575.44
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,104.00
	\$ 471.44

61 persons in attendance on June 4