

June 4, 2017

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

Fr. Esteban Julio Vázquez

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Matins Gospel of Pentecost
The Gospel according to Saint John
20:19-23

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017 8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA. HOLY PENTECOST: FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY. 8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 7. HOLY PENTECOST: FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY. St. Metrophanes, First Patriarch of Constantinople (325-326). Righteous Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus (1st c.). Ven. Methodius “Peshnosh”, disciple of Ven. Sergius of Rádonezh (1392). Martyrs Frontasius, Severinus, Severian, and Silanus, of Gaul (1st c.). Martyr Concordius of Spoleto (ca. 175). Hieromartyr Astius, Bishop of Dyrrachium in Macedonia (ca. 110). Venerable Father Zosima the Bishop of Babylon (6th c.).

FIRST ANTIPHON The heavens are telling the glory of God; / and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior save us!**

Day to day pours forth speech, / and night to nights declares knowledge. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior save us!**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends of the universe. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior save us!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior save us!**

SECOND ANTIPHON The Lord answer you in the day of trouble; / the name of the God of Jacob protect you! **O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”**

May He send you help from the sanctuary / and give you support from Zion! **O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”**

May He remember all your offerings, / and fulfill all your plans! **O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON In Thy strength the King rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Thy salvation. **Troparion** (Tone 8): Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withheld the request of his lips.

Troparion: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

For Thou dost meet him with goodly blessings; Thou dost set a crown of fine gold upon his head. **Troparion:** Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

SMALL ENTRANCE

Deacon Wisdom! Aright!

Priest: Be exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength! We will sing and praise Thy power!

Choir: O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”

TROPARION

(Tone 8) Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

KONTAKION

(Tone 8) When the Most High came down and confused the tongues He divided the nations; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-Holy Spirit!

Instead of “Holy God” we sing: As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ! Alleluia!

The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth; / and their words to the ends of the universe.

v. The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE HOLY APOSTLES (2:1-11) In those days, when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth.

v. The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN (7:37-52, 8:12) On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to

receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS Without knowing a man you became a mother, without knowing corruption you bore a child, giving flesh to the Word who creates all things, containing Him Who cannot be contained, encompassing your infinite Maker: O Virgin Theotokos, we magnify you!

COMMUNION HYMN Let Thy good Spirit lead me on a level path. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

IN PLACE OF "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT"

(Tone 8) Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

HOLY PENTECOST Fifty days after the Resurrection of Jesus the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles gathered in Jerusalem. By the power of the Spirit they went forth to proclaim the good news that Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God made flesh and that by His death and Resurrection we have been saved. This kernel of faith has been passed on from generation to generation and faith has been passed on from generation to generation and preached to the four corners of the world. We ourselves receive this missionary command because we, too, have received the Holy Spirit. At our chrismation, our own personal Pentecost, we were anointed with the sacred chrism and the words were pronounced to us: "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit!" Sealed with the Holy Spirit as God's gift to us, our bodies have become living temples of God's Spirit. And we at our baptism and chrismation heard the words of Christ, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19) This mission given to the first apostles in the first century is given to us the Church in the twenty-first century. We who believe are not to hide our faith under a bushel basket but to live it as a light before all people. We are not to be ashamed of our faith or apologetic about it. And we must be prepared to give good answer to

those who ask us why we believe in Jesus, what makes us follow Him. “Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence.” (1 Peter 3:15-16) We believe and follow Him because He is God Himself become man who has given us the words of eternal life. By His death and resurrection He has saved us from the bondage of sin and death. And as a memorial of all this He has given us His own Body and Blood that we may be united with Him and He with us. May we reflect in our lives the communion with one another and with the Father that Christ calls us to by the power of the Holy Spirit who came upon the Apostles at the first Pentecost and who dwells with us, the Church, even today.



“Prayer, as we have said, is linked to something else, namely, our worship and especially with Holy Communion. If there is no worship and no Holy Communion, there can be no prayer.

Any prayer uttered apart from them is false. If, on the other hand, there is worship divorced from intense, spiritual prayer - internal, powerful prayer which cries out - you can be certain that our worship and our Holy Communion is in vain: an attempt to deceive God by throwing mud in His eyes, pretending that we love Him, when in fact we have no relationship with Him whatsoever." **Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra, "On Prayer"**

From “Taking Custody of Your Thoughts—Prayer of the Heart in an Age of Technology and Distraction” by Fr. Maximos Constas

“Those who practice this (the Jesus Prayer) will realize right away because we’re so used to the scattered, fragmented life we will easily float away from the prayer without even realizing it. That happens all the time, and when it happens don’t get upset or angry—just gently recall your attention to the heart and continue to say the prayer without even thinking about what happened. Expect that this will happen and know it’s not a huge problem. Just bring yourself back to the work you were doing.

...

The other thing we need to know is that these obsessive, recurring and impassioned thought-feelings are *not* you. Maybe they *happened* to you, or they’re places where you were wounded, but they are *not* you. I think most of us from an early age in life make the fatal mistake of self-identifying with those impulses. I told you the story about the colleague who had insulted me and the thought of anger was there. The fact that I could even see that thought shows you that it’s not absolutely one with myself. I could look at it, hear it and see it. The fact that I can differentiate such thoughts from my own thoughts shows that there’s a difference. I could have just uncritically said, ‘Well, anger came in—of course, because I’m an angry guy.’ I could have just embraced that impulse and thought and run with it; and if I’ve been doing that my whole life it becomes me. I think that’s who I am. All kinds of other thoughts and desires and inclinations are not us. But they can become us if all we do is welcome them and magnify them, and allow them to unleash their dark energy within us. I think all of us have seen these things. Unchecked, many of these thoughts can lead to neuroses of various kinds, obsessive-compulsive disorders, and at their worst, various sociopathic kinds of behavior.

It always intrigued me that in Greece there seemed to always be a little cloud settled on the peak of Mt. Athos, and sometimes it's a perfect saucer shape. The monks call it the 'veil.' I always wondered what was happening meteorologically, and of course it's very simple. The warm air moves across the surface of the ocean and hits the wall of the mountain, and it has nowhere to go so it rises and condenses and forms into a cloud. The mountain is a weather-maker. I thought, this is a profound image, because *you* are the mountain, you are not the cloud, but we make the mistake of self-identifying with the cloud. You're not the emotional storm in your mind—that is other than you. It has come to rest on you, but don't they come and go? Our job is not to follow them wherever they go, but to be rooted in the mountain that we are. During a storm, what is the most active part of a tree? The outermost part. If we live up here in our minds we'll be agitated and blown about by every breeze. When we recognize that, it is the time to turn our attention to the core, the trunk, and not to self-identify with those thoughts.

There have been times when I was in line to receive Communion, and some of the most horrible, dark, even blasphemous thoughts came into my mind. Is that me? Why would I think such things, that I'd never thought before in my life, when my entire self is concentrated on receiving Communion? It breaks my heart even to know that I had such thoughts. I feel so bad that I have wounded God in some way. The pre-Communion prayer says 'I stand before the doors of Thy temple, yet I do not put away evil thoughts'—is that us? Some people think they need to leave the line at that point, but we should simply make the sign of the Cross, ask God to forgive us, bemoan the fact that our humanity is corrupt and fallen, and hold our ground."

June 4, 2017



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Sean, Nadja, Auden & Berneche

Lucy Hogg

Fr. Joe, Fr. Tom, Deacon Anthony, Aaron, Reggie, Allen, Gloria, Deborah,
Noah, Dushan, JoAnn, Nicolai, Luba, Kosta, Jimmy, Laurie, Anna, Walt,
Zina, Dorothy, , Michael, Allison, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Ted, Marlene,
Nicholas, Margaret, Gladys, my family and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

Anna Branoff & Patsy Papalazarou

Alex & Magda Popoff

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Faouzi Ghantous

Joe Tome

Memory Eternal – Milan

Kathy Biernacki

Rosemary & Marko Vuckovich

Stojan, Mira & family

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ETERNAL MEMORY (14 day candle)

Theodora Papalazarou (6 yr. memorial)

Lena Bakousidis

Peter Popoff & John Naum

Alex & Magda Popoff



WELCOME all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship in our parish hall.

COFFEE & DONUTS We need volunteers to help with coffee & donuts for the months of June, July & August.

CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Laundry soap for the month of June. 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 Thank you to those who came and helped on Thursday: Fred Paul & Fr. Matthew.

ST NICHOLAS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT on Friday, June 9 at the church at 6pm. Please bring a dish to pass. Popcorn will be provided. Our movie will be Matilda. Please feel free to bring your family and friends, even if they do not attend St. Nicholas. Thanks to Tim Seeley and Stephanie Price for getting this together. Over 20 children and adults were at our first movie night in May.

MACEDONIAN OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE The 37th Macedonian Open Golf Scramble will be held this year on Monday, June 19th at the Flint Elks Golf Club. Once again that is the Monday after Father's Day and would make a great Father's Day gift.

Everyone is encouraged to help out in any way they can. There are many sponsorship opportunities for Families and individuals who would like to support the event, from signs wishing "good luck" to signs "in memory" of a loved one. A sign sponsorship is a great advertising opportunity for any business. Whether it's for your business or one that you frequent, we encourage everyone to participate in getting new sign sponsors this year.

The Macedonian Open raised over \$16,400 for the Church last year and is hopeful for an even bigger and better turnout this year. If you have any questions or know of someone who would like to help, please contact Angelo Panoff (angelo.panoff@wfadvisors.com or 810-423-6020), Christine Panoff (capanoff@umflint.edu or 810-232-4868), Linda Branoff (branoff721@aol.com or 810-964-3654), George Branoff (george.branoff27@frontier.com or 810-252-5395) or Chris Nedanis (cned77@gmail.com or 810-877-0889).

MEMORY ETERNAL Milan Glusica fell asleep in the Lord on June 1 and was buried from Sharp Funeral Home on Fenton Road at Evergreen Cemetery on June 3 by Fr. Gabriel Bilas assisted by Fr. Matthew. He is the husband of Anita Glusica. May his memory be eternal!

Weekly Schedule: FAST FREE WEEK

Today

12:30 pm Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

Tuesday, June 6 Father Matthew in Toledo

Wednesday, June 7

9 am Divine Liturgy

11 am Adult Education

Friday, June 9

6 pm Family Movie Night – "Matilda"

Saturday, June 10

5 pm Vespers

Sunday, June 11

ALL SAINTS

9:30 am Third Hour

10 am Divine Liturgy

Program for the conclusion of the Church School Year

Offerings for the week May 28, 2017

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,943.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$4,034.03
	\$-2,091.03

*80 people were in attendance on
Sunday, May 28, 2017*

“If you cannot see Christ in the beggar at the church door, you will not find Him in the chalice.” **St. John Chrysostom**