

March 10, 2019

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

Web Page: www.saintnicholasburton.org Office: 810-744-0070

e-mail: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

The Holy Gospel according to John

20:11-18 (8th Matins Gospel)

But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, “Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019 SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE — Tone 8. Forgiveness Sunday. The Expulsion of Adam from Paradise. Martyr Quadratus and those with him: Cyprian, Dionysius, Anectus, Paul, Crescens, Dionysius (another), Victorinus, Victor, Nicephorus, Claudius, Diodorus, Serapion, Papias, Leonidas, Chariessa, Nunechia, Basilissa, Nice (Nika, Victoria), Galla, Galina, Theodora, and many others, at Corinth (258, 267-268). Martyrs Quadratus, Saturninus, Rufinus, and the rest, of Nicomedia (3rd c.). St. Anastasia the Patrician, of Alexandria (567-568).

TROPARIA

(Tone 8) Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

(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) Now the season of virtues has come, and the Judge is at the door. Let us not hold back with a darkened face, but offering tears, contrition and giving of alms let us keep the fast, and let us cry: Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea, but forgive each of us, that we may receive an incorruptible crown, O Savior of all!

The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!

v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS (13:11 - 14:4) Brethren: Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery

and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

Alleluia, Tone 6

v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.

v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (6:14-21)

The Lord said: "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GREAT LENT 2019

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

On the Wednesday of Cheesefare week, we hear a reading from the Holy Prophet Joel. The reading begins with this exhortation:

"'Now, therefore,' says the Lord,
'Turn to Me with all your heart,
With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.'
So rend your heart, and not your garments;
Return to the Lord your God,
For He is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and of great kindness;
And He relents from doing harm.'" (Joel 2:12-13)

The words "Turn to Me with all your heart" are a call to repentance. Our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us that, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21) "Metanoia," the Greek word for repentance, indicates a complete change of heart. We no longer treasure the values of a fallen world, because they are fleeting and in them we will not find rest for our souls. Rather, we embrace the treasures of God's Kingdom, "where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Matthew 6:20)

To accomplish this life-giving change of heart, mourning is unavoidable. In the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12), we hear, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." We typically associate this passage with bereavement. However, the Holy Fathers teach us that this Beatitude flows out of the one immediately preceding it: "Blessed are the poor in spirit." We mourn our spiritual poverty, looking toward Christ's promise of a life of true abundance through forgiveness and the restoration of God's image in us.

"So rend your heart, and not your garments," the Lord tells us; in these words, we receive a challenge and a warning as we draw near to the Great Fast. If our fasting is not indicative of an inner change -- "metanoia," that compete

change of heart -- then the outward appearance of our fast has no value. We must apply ourselves to the spiritual disciplines of the Lenten season, not as ends in and of themselves, but as the means offered to us by God to effect our healing and sanctification.

The above words of the prophet end on a note of encouragement and hope: "For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm." Thus, we remember that Great Lent is a gift, given to us by Christ himself. It bears the promise of renewal and healing if we engage it in the proper manner. With God's help, let us all make wise use this holy season.

May the Lord grant you all a blessed Fast, and lead you, with renewed hearts, to the celebration of his glorious Resurrection.

With love in the Lord,
+Alexander, *Archbishop of Toledo*

March 10, 2019



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Anna Branoff, John Goodman, JoAnn Havens & Milica Beslach

Adams family

Mary, Anna & Alex

Alex & Magda Popoff

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitrie, Fr. Anthony, Angelo, Aaron, Reggie, John, Alex, Irene, Rimi,

Allen, Deborah, JoAnn, Susan, Luba, Kosta, David, Anna, Walt, Calvin,

Vladimir, Dorothy, John, Rose, Allison, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Ted,

Marlene, Joseph, Nicholas, Margaret, Gladys, my family and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

Christine Panoff for the knee surgery

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Helen Ethington

Adams family

Peter Popoff

Alex & Magda Popoff

Kum Louie Prusac

Bosa Kantar

Bogdan

Bosa Kantar

ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

Charles Jernigan~Blessed Repose

Dennis, Sharon & Charlie



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors.

GREAT LENT begins March 11th. There will be a Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete March 11th-14th at 6:30 pm. Friday, March 15th at 6 pm there will be a Presanctified Liturgy & blessing of Koliva followed by a Lenten potluck. Saturday, March 16th at 9:30 am Confessions & 10 am Liturgy. Vespers at 5 pm followed by Confessions. All of these services are at St. Nicholas.

PRAYER PARTNER CARD FOR LENT. Cards have been provided with the names of those at Liturgy today. Pick up the card with your prayer partner's name at the veneration of the cross. Pray for your prayer partner throughout Lent especially. At Pascha you may want to let them know you were praying for them with a card or note.

PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT – SATURDAY, MARCH 23 AT ST MARY MAGDALENE

Abbot Sergius will present "Acquiring the Mind of Christ." **RSVP To This Event by Calling (810) 750-1401, or by emailing Fr. Gabriel at frgabrielmmm@gmail.com by Wednesday, March 20th**

PAN-ORTHODOX YOUTH RETREAT – MARCH 29, 30, & 31 AT DORMITION MONASTERY

Please see Matushka Lisa to make your reservation and to obtain a registration form.

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019 The sole item on the agenda regards the extreme financial hardship of our parish. As of the parish council meeting last Tuesday, there was \$4,000 in the savings account and \$6,000 in checking. The average monthly expenses are \$12,000. The motion will be made to disburse \$100,000 from the Endowment Fund as a loan to help carry us for the coming year. **Donations have been increasing since the Annual Meeting in January and the letter was sent to the parish families.** The funds from the Endowment will help us catch up until we get to the point that we can cover our monthly expenses through donations and other sources of income. A vote of 2/3 in favor is required to approve the motion. The requirements to vote are: 1- submit a pledge card, 2- have received Confession, 3- have received Holy Communion.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting **baby items, wipes & formula** for the month of March. Place the items in the blue box in the Parish Hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

KEEP IN PRAYER JoAnn Havens (Room 108) and John Nastos (Room 612) are at Wellbridge, 31319 E Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc. Anna Branoff (Room 17) is at Grand Blanc Fields, 12628 Pagels Dr, Grand Blanc. Gerry Batcos (Room 240) is at Regency, 1330 Grand Pointe Ct, Grand Blanc. Christine Panoff is recuperating at home following knee surgery. Nik Evanencko is scheduled for hip surgery on March 14. John Goodman is at home.

Weekly Schedule:

Today Cheesefare luncheon. Everyone is welcome & there will be a free will offering taken for the meal. Help is also needed for serving & clean-up. 12:30 pm Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, Mar 11

9 am
6:30 pm

GREAT LENT BEGINS

Matins at St. Mary Magdalene
Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, Mar 12

6:30 pm

Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wednesday, Mar 13

6 am
10 am
6:30 pm

St Mary Magdalene pilgrimage to Dormition Monastery (meet at St Mary Magdalene at 6 am)
Lenten Hours (no adult education)
Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Thursday, Mar 14

6:30 pm

Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Friday, Mar 15

6 pm

Presanctified Liturgy & blessing of Koliva & Lenten potluck
Please bring a Lenten dish to pass (no meat, fish, dairy, eggs)
Please see Fr. Matthew if you are able to make koliva for the Presanctified and/or the Liturgy for St. Theodore Saturday

Saturday, Mar 16

9:30 am
10 am
5 pm

St Theodore Saturday

Confessions
Liturgy
Vespers followed by Confessions (Lent is a time of repentance, to go to Confession)

Sunday, Mar 17

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

9:30 am

Hours

10 am

Divine Liturgy & Church School

Noisy Offering

Icon Procession – children, bring your icons from home! Parents, please bring your children.

Parastas for Nick Maxim

Offerings for the week March 3, 2019

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 2,674.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 3,236.00
	\$- 562.00

81 people were in attendance on Sunday, March 3rd.

Here's the shortest and easiest path to salvation: Be obedient, restrained, don't judge, and guard your heart and mind against wicked thoughts. Think well of everyone and bear in mind that the Lord loves them. Because of these humble thoughts, the grace of the Holy Spirit will dwell in your heart and you'll say: 'The Lord is merciful'.

- St Silouan the Athonite