

March 15, 2020

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 6. St. Gregory Palamas. Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra. Martyrs Agapius, Publius (Pausis), Timolaus, Romulus, two named Dionysius, and two named Alexander, at Caesarea in Palestine (303). Hieromartyr Alexander of Side, in Pamphylia (270-275). Martyr Nicander of Egypt (ca. 302).

TROPARIA (Tone 6) The angelic powers were at Thy tomb the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!
(Tone 8) O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, / O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, / O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, // always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

(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) O victorious leader of triumphant hosts! We, your servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos! As you possess invincible might set us free from ev'ry calamity so that we may sing: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!

The Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever.

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (1:10-2:3) Brethren: And, "Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore we must pay the closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

Alleluia, Tone 2

v: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the Name of the God of Jacob protect you!

v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (2:1-12) At that time, when Jesus returned to

Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he said to the paralytic -- "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" **Go to pg. 120 in the pew books for the rest of the Liturgy of St. Basil**

Instead of "It is truly meet ... ,": All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace: the assembly of Angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child, our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

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

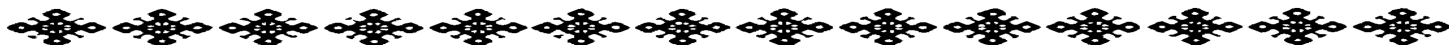
St. Gregory Palamas – the 2nd Sunday of Lent This Sunday was originally dedicated to Saint Polycarp of Smyrna (February 23). After the glorification of St Gregory Palamas in 1368, a second commemoration of Saint Gregory (November 14) was appointed for the Second Sunday of Great Lent as a second "Triumph of Orthodoxy."

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359. His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day.

from www.oca.org and www.goarch.org

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:36-53 (6th Matins Gospel) Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high. And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him. and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

March 15, 2020



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Fr. Tom, Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Larry,
Helen, Angelo, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Dorothy, Anna, Irene,
Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison,
Jeanette, Katheryn, Joseph, Ted, Marlene, Gladys, my family and friends.

Special Intention

Veniamin, Timothy & Larisa

Chris, Heather, Raegan, Jeremy, Teri, Hayden, Nadja, Sean, Auden, Olga
Hannah & my cousins in Ukraine

Mary, Angelo, Helen, Alex, Anna, Patsy

Good health to all our family & for Milica Beslach

Kum Stojan & Mira ~ Happy Anniversary (63 yrs!)

Joe Tome
Joe Tome
Svetlana DeShaw

Lucy Hogg
Alex & Magda Popoff
Angelo & Christine
Kuma Bosa

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Germanos Batcos

Peter Popoff

Our grandsons Andrew & Matthew

the Bakousidis family
Alex & Magda Popoff
Angelo & Christine

ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

Germanos Batcos (1 yr.)

the Batcos family



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall after Liturgy.

COFFEE AND DESSERTS are provided today by the family of Gerry Batcos in memory of his one year memorial.

GUIDANCE FROM ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER concerning our response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic is included with the bulletin. Please read it and use prudence in your activities.

PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT CANCELLED

Please notify those who are not here today. We hope to have Fr. Bogdan Bucur give his retreat later in the year. He was recently appointed professor of Patristics at St Vladimir Orthodox Theological Seminary.

COIN BOXES Each Lent, we collect coins to help support the Orthodox missions here in the US and around the world through the Orthodox Christians Mission Center (OCMC). Boxes are found on the tables in the church hall. Please be generous!

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Feminine Care Products for the month of March. 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.

MEMORIAL (SOUL) SATURDAYS From early times the Church dedicated Saturday to the souls. It is primarily the day of those who have fallen asleep. Christians always took care, with memorial services and charitable acts done especially on Saturdays, to stay close to their dead and ask God for their repose and salvation.

The next Souls' Saturdays are March 21 and 28. A Trisagion will be served on each Souls' Saturday at 4:45 pm, prior to Vespers. Please fill out the sheet at the candle stand with the names of your fallen asleep (first names only) and return them to Fr. Matthew as soon as possible.

PLEDGE CARDS If you haven't filled out a pledge card for 2020 please do so even if you don't designate an amount. This is required in the by-laws if you want to be considered in good standing with the church. There are cards in the narthex at the candle stand. Please call the office if you have questions regarding your pledge.

Weekly Schedule:

Today Trisagion for Gerry Batcos

Monday, Mar 16 Fr. Matthew in Toledo
6:30 pm Great Compline at St George

Tuesday, Mar 17 Office is open 9 - 12

Wednesday, Mar 18
6 pm No Lenten Hours
Presanctified Divine Liturgy (No potluck)

Friday, Mar 20
6 pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy followed by Trisagion for Souls' Saturday (no potluck)

Saturday, Mar 21 **Retreat is cancelled**
4:45 pm Trisagion
5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions

Sunday, March 22 **3rd SUNDAY OF LENT – Veneration of the Cross**
9:30 am Hours
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
No church school / No coffee social

Given the restrictions the Governor has placed on visiting people in hospitals and other health care facilities because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, let us reach out to those who are isolated through social distancing (a measure to slow the spread of the virus). Christ Jesus makes clear that our life is all about our neighbor: the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, and the ones in prison. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me" (Mt 25:35-36) To help us fulfill these words of our Lord Jesus Christ, below is a list of our sick and homebound for whom we can pray daily. And we can send a card, a phone call, an email. Because what you do for the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick and the ones in prison is not done merely to them. You are doing it to Christ Jesus Himself.

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|------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Helen Ashmun | 4436 Beecher Rd. | Flint, MI 48532 |
| Larry Bladecki | 3254 E Midland Rd #317 | Bay City, MI 48706 |
| Anna Branoff | Grand Blanc Fields 12628 Pagels Dr | Grand Blanc, MI 48439 |
| Gladys Edwards | 2 Harbor Dr. | St. Clair, MO 63077 |
| Paul Ellis | 2360 Stonebridge Dr. | Flint, MI 48532 |
| Vasilka Karatza | Regency 1330 Grand Pointe Ct | Grand Blanc, MI 48439 |
| Jo Sredich | Magnolia House 4134 N. State Rd. | Davison, MI 48423 |

Offerings for the week March 8th, 2020

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 2,741.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 3,236.00
	\$ -495.00

70 people were in attendance on Sunday, March 8th.