

March 16, 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

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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, 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, MARCH 16, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 5. St. Gregory Palamas. Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra. Martyr Sabinas of Egypt (287). Martyr Papas of Lyconia (305-311). St. Serapion, Archbishop of Novgorod (1516). Apostle Aristobulus of the Seventy, Bishop of Britain (1st c.). Hieromartyr Alexander, Pope of Rome (119). Martyr Julian of Anazarbus (3rd c.). Hieromartyrs Trophimus and Thalus of Laodicea (ca. 300).

TROPARIA

Tone 5 Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Psalm 11:7)

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Psalm 11:1)

THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (1:10-2:3) Brethren: "You, Lord, founded the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle you will roll them up, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies a stool for your 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 5

v. Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing to the age, to generation and generation I will declare your truth in my mouth. (Psalm 88:1)

v. For you said, To the age mercy will be built, in the heavens your truth will be prepared. (Ps. 88:2)

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!"

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! (Psalm 148:1)

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 oca.org and goarch.org

March 16, 2025



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

for the health of Margaret Botek

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

Special Intention

Birthday blessings for Adam Lang

Joe Tome
Joe Tome
Godparents,
Dcn Kerry & Katherine

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

Germanos Batcos (6 yrs.)

Memory Eternal~Blessed Repose Mary Abu-Aita (1 yr. Mar 18)

Mykola (Nick) Ponomarenko

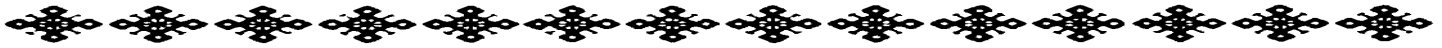
In memory of Francis S. Botek, Frances & Daniel Barno, and Jennie Serina

Irene Batcos & family
Nancy Krigner
Lucy Hogg

ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

Bogdan Beslach (13 yrs.)

Janja Beslach



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](#).

Mar 16 CANDLESTAND: Christine Panoff

HOURS: Phil Wiles

READER: Katherine Gonser

Mar 23 CANDLESTAND: Ian & Stephanie

HOURS: Barry Cavett

READER: Katherine Gonser

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS Father Matthew after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith. The class meets in the library.

ADULT EDUCATION class schedule for the remained of March:

- **Friday, March 21** - 9:30 am Presanctified Liturgy *no class*
- **Friday, March 28** - 9:30 am Presanctified Liturgy followed by class

CHURCH SCHOOL - lesson is [St Gregory Palamas](#)

COFFEE SOCIAL Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome. There is a sign up sheet next to the service window for those who would like to donate and/or serve.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE Present: Father Matthew, Chris Taylor, Paul Brayan, Eileen Branoff, Stephanie Price, Dennis Jernigan, Lena Bakousidis (virtually), Bill Economou. Absent: Barry Cavett, Connie Maxim. Minutes from the February meeting were approved. **Financial report:** stewardship/tithes are averaging approximately \$1,000 less per week than is needed for our budget. If you have not filled out a pledge card or made stewardship/tithes, please do so. Treasurer Corner in the bulletin to keep the faithful informed about our stewardship/tithes and budget. **Endowment report:** report has not arrived yet. **Rector's report:** Bill Economou and Dennis Jernigan are looking into what else is needed for our adult baptismal font. **Youth ministry/church school:** no new report. **Community outreach:** we plan to participate in the Burton Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26 (advertise the need for candy (Jolly Ranchers, Tootsie Rolls, etc.) - candy or monetary donation - in the weekly bulletin and April and May monthly newsletter). **Fundraising:** Meatfare \$750 and Cheesefare \$360 (15% for charity and the rest to St Juliana Guild). **Charity ministries:** Thursday, April 3 at the North End Soup Kitchen from 9 am to 12:30 pm. **Church building and grounds:** door sweeps added to the front doors of the church. Bad thermostat in the cry room. There is a monitor in the cry room to tune into the livestream of the service. Can use a laminated sheet with instructions on how to turn the monitor on and connect to the livestream. Dennis Jernigan is working on the furnace and the air conditioning. New timer for the parking lot lights on Center Road. There was a water leak in the fellowship hall at the clean-out pipe. **Old business:** none. **New business:** need chair person(s) for picnic and dance in Sunday, August 17. Need to get the word out. (Announcement in bulletin and newsletter that we need co-chairpersons for the picnic). **Vision plan review - 1st quarter 2025** - we did not identify a choir directory trainee yet. Maintenance ministry - work has been done on that to identify persons to assist. Outreach ministry - nothing to report. Fundraising ministry - a separate meeting on Sunday, April 27 after Liturgy to bring ideas that can be kept or combined

and identify three potential additional recurring revenue streams. We need an additional church school teacher and substitute because of the increase in number of students in church school - please see Stephanie Price. We need an additional catechist - classes for catechist certificate will begin in June 2025 - please see Father Matthew. Adjourned at 7:54 pm.

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!

FLOWERS FOR PASCHA & ITEMS FOR LENT donations this year are not specified by a certain amount. Give as you are able to. Please fill out the form (at the candle stand) & return it to the office. Sponsors will be listed in the newsletter.

PASCHA on Pascha night we would like to light all the 7 days candles in church. The cost is \$250. If you would like to contribute and have candles lit, please contact the office.

HOLY DORMITION MONASTERY, Rives Junction - on Wednesday, April 2 at 7 pm will be the Matins with the full canon of Saint Andrew of Crete and the reading of the life of Saint Mary of Egypt. If you are interested in attending this service which lasts approximately four hours, please let Father Matthew know so that he can inform the abbess, Mother Gabriella. You may see the guidelines for visitors here: https://www.dormitionmonastery.org/visitor_guidelines

LENTEN PRAYER PARTNER Pray daily for the person on the card you drew. Remember to keep it secret! At Pascha, you can let your prayer partner know you remembered them in prayer during Lent by giving them a card or a red egg or sending them a card.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH THROUGH GIVELIFY Go to our website www.saintnicholasburton.org and click on the box **Give now with Givelify**; this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify 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.

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Monday, Mar 17

6 pm [Great Compline at St. George](#)

Tuesday, Mar 18 *Fr Matthew leaves in the afternoon for Archbishop Alexander's*

Wednesday, Mar 19 No Lenten Hours

Fr Matthew returns from Archbishop Alexander's

6 pm [Presanctified Liturgy-live-streamed](#) followed by lenten potluck

Friday, Mar 21

9:30 am Presanctified Liturgy - No adult education

6 pm Akathist at St. George

7 pm [Lenten Retreat at St. George - live-streamed](#)

Saturday, Mar 22

9 am [Lenten Retreat at St. George - live-streamed](#)
concluding with Vespers at St George Church
No Vespers at St. Nicholas

Sunday, Mar 23 3rd Sunday of the Great Fast - veneration of the Cross of the Lord

9:30 am [Hours-live-streamed](#)

10 am [Divine Liturgy-live-streamed](#)

Parastas for Mykola Ponomarenko

Church School - [St Patrick](#)

Offerings for the week March 9, 2025

Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2,859.67
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,380.00
	\$ -1,520.33

68 persons in attendance on March 9