

March 19, 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

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The Gospel according to Saint John

20:19-31 (9th Matins Gospel)

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. Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 6. Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria, and those with them at Rome: Claudius, Hilaria, Jason, Maurus, Diodorus the Presbyter, and Marianus the Deacon (283). St. Innocent of Komel', disciple of St. Nilus of Sora (Vologdá—1521). Martyr Pancharius, at Nicomedia (ca. 302).

FIRST ANTIPHON

The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Thou hast given a sign unto them that fear Thee, that they may flee from before the face of the bow. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Thou hast ascended on high, Thou didst lead captivity captive. **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Thou hast given an inheritance to them that fear Thy Name. **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

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

Let us worship at the place where his feet have stood. **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

The eyes of the Lord are upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy. **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

God is our King before the ages, He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth. **O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

High above all nations is the Lord; Thou art Lord Most High over all the earth. **O Son of God who arose from the dead, 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

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet. (Tone 1) O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

O God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

(Tone 1) O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

Shepherd them and bear them up unto the ages.

(Tone 1) O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

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 1) O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

(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!

IN PLACE OF THE TRISAGION, WE SING:

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify.

The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance.

v: To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (4:14-5:6) Brethren: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased of old.

v. God is our King before the ages: He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK (8:34-9:1) At that time Jesus called to him the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

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 The light of Thy countenance is signed upon us, O Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INSTEAD OF “WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT”:

(Tone 1) O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

The Third Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross

On the Third Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, the Orthodox Church commemorates the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Services include a special veneration of the Cross, which prepares the faithful for the commemoration of the Crucifixion during Holy Week.

The commemoration and ceremonies of the Third Sunday of Lent are closely parallel to the feasts of the Veneration of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). Not only does the Sunday of the Holy Cross prepare us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ.

As we have “crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24), and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression. The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion - being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory.

As they who walk on a long and hard way and are bowed down by fatigue find great relief and strengthening under the cool shade of a leafy tree, so do we find comfort, refreshment, and rejuvenation under the Life-giving Cross, which our Fathers “planted” on this Sunday. Thus, we are fortified and enabled to continue our Lenten journey with a light step, rested and encouraged.

Or, as before the arrival of the king, his royal standards, trophies, and emblems of victory come in procession and then the king himself appears in a triumphant parade, jubilant and rejoicing in his victory and filling those under him with joy, so does the Feast of the Cross precede the coming of our King, Jesus Christ. It warns us that He is about to proclaim His victory over death and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection. His Life-Giving Cross is His royal scepter, and by venerating it we are filled with joy, rendering Him glory. Therefore, we become ready to welcome our King, who shall manifestly triumph over the powers of darkness.

The present feast has been placed in the middle of Great Lent for another reason. The Fast can be likened to the spring of Marah whose waters the children of Israel encountered in the wilderness. This water was undrinkable due to its bitterness but became sweet when the Holy Prophet Moses dipped the wood into its depth. Likewise, the wood of the Cross sweetens the days of the Fast, which are bitter and often grievous because of our tears. Yet Christ comforts us during our course through the desert of the Fast, guiding and leading us by His hand to the spiritual Jerusalem on high by the power of His Resurrection.

Moreover, as the Holy Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is placed in the middle of the Fast, as the ancient tree of life was placed in the middle of the garden of Eden. By this, our Holy Fathers wished to remind us of Adam’s gluttony as well as the fact that through this Tree has condemnation been abolished. Therefore, if we bind ourselves to the Holy Cross, we shall never encounter death but shall inherit life eternal.

March 19, 2017



**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF
ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR**

Fr. Joe, Fr. Tom, Deacon Anthony, Aaron, Noah, JoAnn, Nicolai, Kosta,
Luba, Jimmy, Laurie, Walt, Zina, Dorothy, Allen, Joseph, Helen, Jeanette,
Gloria, Reggie, Calvin, Ruth, Taras, Matushka Lisa, Anna, Stojan, Mira, Bosa,
Ted, Marlene, Nicholas, Margaret, Gladys, my family and friends

Joe Tome
Joe Tome
Laurie Brock

Special Intention

Denise and John Oslin and family

ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

In memory of Rosemary Vuckovich on her birthday (3/22)

Helen Ethington

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Memory Eternal ~ Jacob Oslin

Laurie Brock

Blessed Repose...Jacob Oslin

The Price Family

Theodora & Kosta Papalazarou, Evangelia Bakousidis, Eleni & Kosta Nedanis,

Kotsi Nedanis, Elias Nedanis

Lena Bakousidis



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship and coffee following the Divine Liturgy. **We need volunteers to serve coffee today and Sundays in the future. Please sign up!**

COFFEE AND PASTRIES are being served today in memory of Thomai (Thomka) Brayanis.

40 DAY PARASTAS for Thomai Brayanis will be held following the veneration of the cross.

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING – SUNDAY, MARCH 26 following the Divine Liturgy. The sole item on the agenda is whether to sell the 33.33 acres the parish owns in Elba Township. Richard Nelson, whose property adjoins it, is seeking to purchase it.

LENTEN RETREAT Fr. Silviu Bunta will be the guest speaker for the Annual Lenten Retreat, which will be held on Saturday, March 25th at Assumption. Please RSVP by calling 711-4611 as soon as possible.

PASCHA BREAD by Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Detroit. They are available with or without raisins and are approximately \$12 per loaf. Orders are due by March 19th and will be available on Palm Sunday, April 9th. Please see Joe Tome to place your order.

100th ANNIVERSARY BOOKS are available following the Divine Liturgy. There are extra copies available for purchase, as well. Please see Matushka Lisa.

CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting deodorant 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.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Please mark your calendar for next month's date: April 6th, in order to make it a priority to be there.

THIS SUNDAY is the 3rd Sunday of Lent: the Sunday of the Cross. If anyone would like to donate the wreath of flowers, please see Matushka Lisa for details.

LODGING Our choir director is in need of a place to stay on Saturday nights. If anyone has, or knows of, lodging space, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Schedule of services and events for the week of March 12th :

Monday, March 20

6:30 pm Compline at St. George

Tuesday, March 21

Father in Toledo

Wednesday, March 22

9:00 am Lenten Hours
 11:00 am Adult Ed
 6:00 pm Presanctified at St. George followed by Lenten Potluck

Saturday, March 25

ANNUNCIATION - LENTEN RETREAT AT ASSUMPTION
(all services & retreat at Assumption)

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
 11:30 am Lunch (free will offering)
 12:30 pm Talk #1
 1:15 pm Breakout Session for discussion
 2:00 pm Talk #2
 2:45 pm to 3:30 pm Breakout Session for Discussion
 4:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, March 26

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT – ST JOHN OF THE LADDER

9:30 am Third Hour
 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
 Church School

Offerings for the week March 12, 2017

Weekly Offerings	\$1748.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$4,034.03
	- \$2286.03

*78 people were in attendance on
 Sunday, March 12, 2017*