

# St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

## Newsletter

Diocese of Toledo-Orthodox Church in America  
2143 S. Center Road - Burton, Michigan 48519

Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie - Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser

Email: [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton](http://www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton)

Website: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org)

Church Office: 810-744-0070

Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Hours 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday- adult education 11:15 am

Saturday - 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions

Holydays: Vespers & Liturgy as announced

“May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.” St. Jude 1:1

## MARCH 2024

### PRAYER OF SAINT SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN - BEFORE COMMUNION

From lips tainted and defiled, from a heart unclean and loathsome, from an unclean tongue, and out of a polluted soul: receive my prayer, O my Christ. Do not reject me, nor my words, nor my ways, nor even my shamelessness, but give me courage to say what I desire, O my Christ; and even more, teach me what to do and what to say. I have sinned more than the harlot who, on learning where You were lodging, bought myrrh and dared to come and anoint Your feet, my Christ, my Lord and my God. As You did not repulse her when she drew near in her heart, neither, O Word, reject me, but grant that I may clasp and kiss Your feet, and dare to anoint them with a flood of tears as with most-precious myrrh. Wash me with my tears and purify me with them, O Word. Forgive my sins and grant me pardon. You know the multitude of my evil-doings, You also know my wounds, and You see my bruises. But You also know my faith, and You behold my willingness, and You hear my sighs. Nothing escapes You, my God, my Maker, my Redeemer, not even a tear-drop, nor part of a drop. Your eyes know what I have not achieved, and in Your book things not yet done are written by You. See my lowliness, and see how great is my trouble: take from me all my sins, O God of all, that with a clean heart, a trembling mind, and a contrite spirit I may partake of Your pure and all-holy Mysteries by which all who with sincerity of heart eat and drink You are quickened and deified. For You, my Lord, have said: “Whoever eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood abides in Me and I in him;” wholly true is the word of my Lord and God. For whoever partakes of Your divine and deifying Gifts certainly is not alone, but is with You, my Christ, the Light of the Triune Sun Which illumines the world. That I may not remain alone without You, the Giver of Life, my Breath, my Life, my Joy, the Salvation of the world, I have therefore drawn near to You, as You see, with tears and with a contrite spirit. Ransom of my offenses, I beseech You to receive me, that I may partake without condemnation of Your life-giving and perfect Mysteries, and that You may remain as You have said with me, thrice-wretched as I am, lest the tempter find me without Your grace and craftily seize me and, having deceived me, seduce me from Your deifying words. Therefore I fall at Your feet and fervently cry to You: as You received the prodigal and the harlot who drew near to You, so also have compassion and receive me, the profligate and the prodigal, as I now draw near to You with a contrite spirit. I know, O Savior, that no other has sinned against You as I have, nor has done the deeds that I have committed. But I also know this: that neither the greatness of my offenses, nor the multitude of my sins, surpasses the great patience of my God, and His extreme love for humankind. Despite our offenses, You purify and enlighten with the oil of compassion those who fervently repent, and You make them children of the light and sharers of Your divine nature. And You act most generously, for what is strange to Angels and to the minds of humans You often tell to the repentant as to Your true friends. These things make me bold, my Christ, these things give me wings, and I take courage from the wealth of Your goodness to us. With rejoicing, yet with trembling, I who am but straw partake of Fire and, strange wonder!, I am ineffably bedewed, like the bush of old which burnt without being consumed. Wherefore with thankful mind, and with thankful heart, and with thankfulness in all the members of my soul and body, I worship and magnify and glorify You, my God, for You are blessed, now and ever, to all ages.

## ST. AMPHILOCHIUS ON AVOIDING DESPAIR

A certain brother, overcome by the passion of immorality, sinned every day. However, each time, with tears and prayers, he would fall before the Master and Lord and receive forgiveness from Him. And as soon as he had repented, the next day, being misled again by shameful habit, he would fall to sin.

Afterwards, having sinned, he would go to the Church, where he would prostrate himself before the honorable and revered Icon of our Lord Jesus Christ and tearfully confess to Jesus: "Lord, have mercy upon me and take away from me this fearful temptation, for it troubles me fiercely and wounds me with the bitter taste of the pleasures. O my Master, cleanse my person once more, that I may gaze upon your Icon and see your holy form and the sight of your face, brighter than the sun, that my heart might be sweetened and thankful."

And though his lips had just whispered these words, no sooner would he leave the Church than he would fall once again to sin.

Despite this, however, he did not despair of his salvation, but, returning from his sinful deed, would cry out in the Church the same words to God, to the Lord, Who loves mankind, adding the following: "My Lord, I swear to you on my word that I shall no longer commit this sin. Only forgive me, Good and Most Merciful Lord, whatever sins I have committed from the beginning to this moment."

No sooner would he utter these awe-inspiring words than he would find himself the captive of this evil sin. Let no one cease to marvel at the sweet love of God towards mankind and at His boundless goodness, with which He each day tolerated the uncorrected and evil transgression and ingratitude of the brother. Indeed, God, because of the greatness of His mercy, persistently accepted the repentance of that sinful brother and his inevitable return. For this happened not for one or two or three years, but for more than ten years.

Do you see, my brother, the measureless forbearance and boundless love of the Master? How He continually endures, showing to us kindness, tolerating our terrible transgressions and sins? And what evokes astonishment and wonderment with regard to the rich mercies of God is that He did not become wrathful with the brother in question, though the brother, agreeing not to fall to sin again, continually broke his word.

At any rate, one day when all that we have described again occurred, the brother, having fallen to sin, rushed to the Church, lamenting, groaning, and crying with anguish, to invoke the mercy of God, that He might have compassion on him and take him from the sin of immorality.

No sooner had he called on God, the Lover of Man, than the Devil, that evil of old, destroyer of our souls, seeing that he could gain nothing, since whatever he accomplished by sin, the brother expunged by his repentance, became infuriated and appeared visibly before the brother. Facing the Icon of Christ, the Devil said to our compassionate Savior: "What will become of the two of us, Jesus Christ? Your sympathy for this sinner defeats me and takes the ground I have gained, since you keep accepting this dissolute man and prodigal who daily mocks you and scorns your authority. Indeed, why is it that you do not burn him up, but, rather, tolerate and put up with him? ... It is because one day you intend to condemn all of the adulterers and the dissolute and you will destroy all sinners."

"Actually, you are not a just Judge. But by whim your power is sometimes applied leniently and overlooks things. So, while I was cast from the heavens down to the abyss for a little breach of pride, to this fellow here, even though an immoral man and a prodigal, you calmly show your sympathy, just because he throws himself down in front of your Icon."

"In what way can you be called a just Judge, then? For, as I see it, you receive individual people with great kindness, but ignore justice in general."

*continued on page 3*

The Devil said all of this, poisoned with great bitterness, whilst there poured forth from his nostrils a black flame.

Having said these things, he fell silent. A voice was heard in response, coming forth from the divine sanctuary, saying the following: "O, all-cunning and ruinous Dragon, are you yet not satisfied with your evil and destructive desire to gobble up the world? Now you have even the nerve to try to do away with this man here, who has come with contrition to entreat the mercy of My compassion to devour him, too? Can you offer up enough sins that, by them, you can tilt the balance of justice against the Precious Blood which I shed on the Cross for this man? Behold My murder and death, which I endured for the forgiveness of his sins."

"You, Dragon, when he turns again to sin, do not turn him away, but receive him with joy, neither chastising him nor preventing him from committing sin, out of the hope that you might win him over; but I, who am merciful and love mankind, who counselled My laudable Apostle, Peter, to forgive sins seven times seventy (St. Matthew 18:22), do I not show him mercy and compassion? Indeed, simply because he flees to Me, I will not turn him away until I have won him over. Furthermore, I was crucified for sinners and for their salvation; My immaculate hands were nailed to the Cross, that those who so wish might take refuge in me and be saved. For this reason, then, I neither turn away nor reject anyone, even if he should fall many times a day and many times return to Me; such a person will not leave my Temple saddened, for I came not to call the righteous, but to call sinners to repent."

During the time that this voice was heard, the Devil was fixed in his place, trembling and unable to run away. The voice then again began to say: "We have heard from all that you say, O Seducer, that I am not just; to the contrary, I am just beyond all. In whatever moral state I find a person, in that state I judge him. Look at this man who a few moments ago repented, having returned from sin and having fallen at my feet with a sincere resolution to abandon sin, and thereby having conquered you."

"Therefore, I will accept him immediately and save his soul, since he did not lose hope in his hard toil for salvation."

"Look how much he merits by his repentance before Me, for which he is honored. As for you, let your hate be shred to pieces and you disgraced."

While this was being said, the repentant brother had thrown himself before the Icon of the Savior. With his face to the ground and lamenting, he surrendered his spirit to the Lord. At the same time that the repentant brother departed to the Lord, a great tempest fell upon Satan, like a fire from Heaven, and devoured him. From this incident, my brothers, let us learn of the limitless compassion of God and of His love of man – a good Master we have –, that we might never again be disheartened by our sins, but rather look after our salvation with zeal.

*from the Evergetinos, Volume 1, pages 8-11*



**PRAYER SERVICE** for the sick & suffering will be held at St. Mary Magdalene the second Tuesday of the month at 6 pm. Email names to [smmocafernton@gmail.com](mailto:smmocafernton@gmail.com)

**CONFESSIONS** the sacrament of Confession is offered on Saturdays after Vespers and by appointment. Call the parish office 810-744-0070 or e-mail [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com) to make an appointment.

## Hours Schedule

<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
3 Phil	7 Phil	5 Calvin
10 Alexander	14 Alexander	12 Phil
17 Angelo	21 Angelo	19 Alexander
24 Lucy	28 Lucy	26 Angelo
31 Calvin		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

## Reader Schedule

<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
3 Alexander	7 Angelo	5 Angelo
10 Angelo	14 Phil	12 Phil
17 Phil	21 Katherine	19 Katherine
24 Katherine	28 Alexander	26 Alexander
31 Alexander		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

## Candle Stand Attendant Schedule

<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
3 Dennis Goodman	7 Dennis Goodman	5 Dennis Goodman
10 Susie Ford	14 Susie Ford	12 Susie Ford
17 Christine Panoff	21 Christine Panoff	19 Ian & Stephanie P.
24 Ian & Stephanie P.	28 Ian & Stephanie P.	26 Christine Panoff
31 Susie Ford		

If you are unable to make your assigned date please find a replacement. Let Susie know of any changes or if you cannot find a replacement (810-407-3016).

**HOURS, READERS & CANDLE STAND.** Please look at each month's newsletter as the schedule may have changed since the previous publication.

**NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN** Please come & minister to Christ with our brothers & sisters on March 7 from 9 am-12:30 pm. "Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead." St. John Chrysostom.

**GOD BLESS** everyone who helped take down all of the numerous Christmas decorations, trees, and Nativity scenes on Sunday, February 4. The Lord repay you!

**MEATFARE DANCE** March 9 from 6 pm - 9 pm. A DJ will be playing cd's. The cost is \$10/under 10 free. There will be a freewill offering for food. All ages are welcome! Please join us for an evening of fun, dancing, fellowship & food.

**MEATFARE** is March 10. The menu is lamb, chicken, rice, coleslaw & a vegetable. The cost is \$18 per adult and children are free. Please see Sharon Jernigan for tickets. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall for those who can help with serving, cleanup & bringing desserts.

**CHEESEFARE** is March 17. The dinner will include pierogies, strata and French toast. The Fundraising Committee is asking parishioners for help in preparation, serving and clean-up. A freewill offering will be collected. Everyone is invited to attend. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall and you can contact Sharon Jernigan with any questions at 810-877-1766.

**KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP** meets in the fellowship hall every Monday at 10 am. Whether you already knit/crochet, want to learn or just want to come and fellowship everyone is welcome.

## MEMORY ETERNAL - CHRIST IS RISEN

**CHRIS MARKOFF (RISTO ŽELEVAROVSKI)** of Minnesota, fell asleep in the Lord on February 10, 2024. He is the brother of parishioner Tom (Atanas) Želevarovski. Please remember Chris (Risto) in your prayers and pray for the comfort of his family in their time of grief. Christ God rest the soul of His servant Risto in the light of His Face in the abodes of the righteous. Memory eternal! Christ is risen!

**MARTHA BREESE** of Texas, fell asleep in the Lord on December 23, 2023. She is the sister of parishioner Phil Wiles. Please remember Martha in your prayers and pray for the comfort of her family in their time of grief. Christ God rest the soul of His servant Martha in the light of His Face in the abodes of the righteous. Memory eternal! Christ is risen!

MEMORIAL SATURDAY/SOULS' SATURDAY Memorial Saturday is March 9 & 30 which we will observe with 10 am Divine Liturgy followed by a Trisagion for the fallen asleep. We pray for the dead because it is handed on to us from the Scriptures. As members of the Church, the Body of Christ, we are exhorted to pray for one another ([James 5:16](#)). Whether we live or die, "we belong to the Lord" ([Romans 14:8](#)). For we are "members of His Body, of His flesh and of His bones" ([Ephesians 5:30](#)). The Church is "the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God". As such, she includes "tens of thousands of angels" and "the spirits of righteous people completed (in death)" as well as those of us alive on earth ([Hebrews 12:22-24](#)). Death does not end our membership in the Body of Christ. For neither "death nor life [...] will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" ([Romans 8:38-39](#)). We remember that God "is not the God of the dead, but of the living - for all are alive to Him" ([Luke 20:38](#)). Therefore, we pray for both the living and for the "dead in Christ" ([1 Thessalonians 4:16](#)).

The kollyva/kutya/phentsa/zhito is being prepared by Irene Batcos for this Memorial Saturday.

In this newsletter there is a remembrance sheet for 2024 for you to put the first names of those you want to be remembered at the Souls Saturdays throughout the year. Extra copies are at the candlestand.

LENTEN PRAYER PARTNER We will have our Lenten Prayer Partners again this year. If you are out of town for Lent or are homebound and would like to participate, please call the office: 810-744-0070. Here's how the Lenten Prayer Partner works: prayer cards are printed with a blank space for your name. It is then folded in half and returned to the office. On Cheesefare Sunday (March 17), everyone participating will draw a card. Then everyone will pray daily for the person on the card they 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.

ADULT EDUCATION classes are on Wednesday at 11:15 am. We are continuing with [Psalms and the Life of Faith](#) by Elder Aimilianos looking at twelve of the one hundred and fifty Psalms.

INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS led by our parish catechist, Reader Alexander Gonser, takes place on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith.

NEW ICONS Seven (7) icons have been commissioned for the temple - 11 inches by 17 inches with relics mounted in each. John Jurewicz will paint the icons and they will take a year to complete. He is one of the children of Father Theodore Jurewicz who did the icons in the church. The sponsorship for each icon is \$1,000. If you would like to sponsor the available icon, St. Cornelius, please contact the office or Father Matthew.

The icon still available to sponsor is

- St Cornelius, martyr, bishop of Rome, 253 AD - feast on September 16

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE *Father's report* - April 6 pan-Orthodox retreat at St Mary Magdalene Church with Fr Andrew Stephen Damick of "The Lord of Spirits" podcast from Ancient Faith. Pan-Orthodox services for Lent, Annunciation, Lazarus Saturday, and Bright Week are set and will be published in the March newsletter. Choir practice on Tuesday, March 26 from 7 to 9 pm for the pan-Orthodox Presanctified we will host on March 27 at 6 pm with lenten potluck. *Finances* - we are still doing very well financially, thanks to everyone for your regular stewardship pledges and donations. *Endowment report* increase of a little over \$3,000. *Community outreach* - Family game night on Saturday, February 17 after Vespers. A DJ has been found for the March 9 Meatfare dance. *Fundraising* - date not yet decided to re-schedule the lamb dinner from Theophany. *Church building and grounds* - Bill Economou, Dave Houser, and Dennis Jernigan did some re-wiring in the altar. Dennis Jernigan got a couple prices for repairing the concrete floor in the pavilion. Repairs on bench seating, kitchen area. Lamb cooking area needs to be attended to soon. He has been pulling wires and working in the tunnels where we had some water. The carpet in Father's and the secretary's office needs to be replaced. *Date for church grounds clean up* on Saturday, April 20. *Gift bags for visitors* Susie Ford will look into costs for having small gift bags for visitors - crayons, etc. for children, spare items from kiosk, etc. for adults.

PAN-ORTODOX LENTEN RETREAT April 6 at St. Mary Magdalene with Fr. Andrew Stephen Damic. The topic will be "Salvation and the Unseen World". The deadline to register is Friday, March 29 at 3 pm. It is especially important for those wishing to attend virtually to PRE-REGISTER so they can receive the private link. This will not be accessible virtually any other way. You can register at [www.st-marymagdalene.org/adult-education](http://www.st-marymagdalene.org/adult-education) or with the direct link [here](#). Fr. Andrew also created a Facebook event for the lecture. The link will be shared with those who register. Even if people express interest on Facebook, they still need to fill out the registration form. See the flier for more details.

#### GENESEE COUNTY PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICE SCHEDULE - MARCH THROUGH MAY

##### GREAT LENT - lenten potlucks follow the Presanctified Liturgies

Sun, Mar 24 6 pm Annunciation Great Vespers at Assumption Church

Mon, Mar 25 10 am Annunciation Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church

Wed, Mar 27 6 pm Presanctified at St Nicholas Church

Sat, Apr 6 Lenten Retreat at St Mary Magdalene Church

Wed, Apr 10 6 pm Presanctified at St George Church

Wed Apr 24 6 pm Presanctified at St Mary Magdalene Church

Sat, Apr 27 Lazarus Saturday - 9:30 am Divine Liturgy at Assumption

##### BRIGHT WEEK

Mon, May 6 10 am Divine Liturgy at St Mary Magdalene Church

Tues, May 7 10 am Divine Liturgy at St Nicholas Church

Wed, May 8 6 pm Vespers with Divine Liturgy at St George Church

Fri, May 10 10 am Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY BOXED LUNCH SALE 2024** Thursday, March 14. Drive Thru 11 am - 1 pm. Order 15 or More and get FREE Delivery. Lunches include a delicious corned beef & Swiss on rye bread, chips, coleslaw, pickle and a cookie for \$12. All proceeds benefit Catholic Charities meal programs.

**OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES**

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN we serve on Thursday, March 7 from 9 to 12:30 pm.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Feminine Care & Dental 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.

CENTER OF HOPE will be giving out Easter baskets to every child who visits for Easter dinner. Please consider donating a fully made basket(s) by March 22<sup>nd</sup>. For more details call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri 9:30-3:30 at 812 Root St, Flint.



	<b>HOPE IN A BOX</b>
March	Feminine Care & Dental Products
April	Deodorant & First Aid Items
May	Bar & Hand Soap

March Coffee Social Volunteers & Sponsors	
3	Connie Maxim
10	Meatfare
17	Cheesefare
24	
31	

**MAKE YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH GIVELIFY**

Go to the website and on the home page click on the box Give now with Givelify which will walk you through the donation process; this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify as a fee). \*Please consider adding the extra fee we are charged to your donation. 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.

**ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE-KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS** Remember to use your community rewards when checking out at Kroger. If you haven't signed up for it you can do so online or at their customer service desk. They send a check to St. Nicholas for a portion of everything participants spend in their stores.

**THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP/SEMINARIAN OFFERING** On the first Sunday of the month an envelope will be placed in the bulletin for this fund to be placed in the plate when it is passed. There is also a category marked "Seminararian" on your stewardship envelopes that you can include with your regular giving. This helps to support parish seminarians, those training to become catechists, and kiosk expense for theological materials for inquirers.

**YOUTUBE CHANNEL** subscribe to our YouTube channel [Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Burton](#) to receive notifications of upcoming livestreams for services. Livestreams begin at 9:30 with Hours.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** March 10



# MARCH BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Petro Ahejew
- 5 Michelle Gerzevske  
Svelanta DeShaw
- 7 Amir Abu-Aita  
Johnny Kantor
- 9 Linda Kilbourne
- 10 James Leonard Allen
- 12 Zeid Helal
- 14 Megan Krigner
- 15 John Popoff  
Ryan Broadfoot  
Theodore Wilhelm
- 18 Allison Borkovich  
Jim Grossi
- 19 Joseph Oginsky Sr.
- 20 Mary Batzos  
Sandra Ahejew
- 24 Marie Todorovsky
- 26 Scott Adkisson



## NAMESDAYS

- 2 Chad Conover
- 7 Eugene Akkerman
- 9 Vivian Binelli
- 10 Leonid Rabkin
- 17 Alexis Nedanis
- 23 Lydia Nicoloff
- 25 Angela Bakousidis  
Angelo (Vangel) Panoff  
Angelo Popoff  
Angelo Young  
Austin Angelo Selmi  
Evangelos Stavridis
- 26 Gabriel Paul
- 27 Robert Elieff  
Robert Russell  
Robert Steiner

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 John & Fanny Popoff (1967)
- 26 Gregory & Danni Burns (2003)

*If your name is missing or has the incorrect information in the birthday, anniversary or namesday list please call the office: 810-744-0070*

## DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

**VISITATION TO THE SICK** If you would like Fr. Matthew to make a visit to home, hospital, or nursing home, please contact the office 810-744-0070.

### DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The following are our brothers and sisters of St. Nicholas who are currently homebound, suffering from chronic illness, in recovery or in need of special prayers. Please remember them in your prayers and reach out to them with a card, a phone call or a visit! Please call the office to schedule a visit for Holy Communion.

Deacon John Bocek	Paul Ellis	Nick Karayanis	Bill Tadrick
Anthony Branoff	Bill Haw	Macy Lemmen	Wendy Tadrick
Mary Abu-Aita	Mary Karayanis	Ron Salhany	Dave Vuckovich

To aid in your outreach, here is a listing of the addresses and phone numbers of our Homebound:

Mary Abu-Aita	19820 N. 13 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Unit 167	Phoenix, AZ 85027 *New address*it's n. 13 <sup>th</sup>
Paul Ellis	2360 Stonebridge Dr	Flint, MI 48532
Mary & Nick Karayanis	2238 Old Hickory	Davison, MI 48423
Dave Vuckovich	9352 Morrish Rd	Swartz Creek, MI 48473



**CHURCH GROUNDS SPRING CLEAN UP** April 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 am. There will be something for everyone to do no matter your age or ability. Lunch will be provided. Bring your gloves, yard & garden tools. Please sign up in the fellowship hall or call the office so Dennis can coordinate the jobs beforehand.





# Meatfare dance

March 9th  
6pm-9pm

DJ will be there to play CD's  
\$10 entrance fee  
(Under 10 free)  
Freewill offering for food



# Meatfare Luncheon

March 10, 2024

Following the Divine Liturgy



Lamb & Chicken  
Rice  
Cole Slaw  
Vegetable  
Drinks



Please bring a dessert to share.  
Price \$18/person, Children free

Everyone is invited to attend!



RSVP at [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com),  
call 810-744-0070  
or see Sharon Jernigan after Sunday Liturgies

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# Cheesefare Sunday

March 17, 2024

Following the Divine Liturgy



Pierogies, Strata, French toast



FREE WILL OFFERING

Everyone is invited to attend. The Fundraising Committee is asking parishioners for help in preparation, serving and clean-up.

# “SALVATION AND THE UNSEEN WORLD”

## A PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT APRIL 6, 2024

Join us for our annual Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat hosted by St. Mary Magdalene Parish (2439 S. Long Lake Rd Fenton, MI 48430)

This year’s guest lecturer is Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick.  
Retreat Schedule:

<b>9:30am - 10:30am</b>	<b>Hospitality &amp; Registration</b>
<b>10:00am - 12:00pm</b>	<b>Session 1: “What Do Demons Have to Do with the Gospel?”</b>
<b>12:00pm - 1:00pm</b>	<b>Lenten Fellowship Lunch</b>
<b>1:00pm - 2:30pm</b>	<b>Session 2: “What do Angels Have to Do with Salvation?”</b>
<b>2:30pm - 2:45 pm</b>	<b>Break Time</b>
<b>2:45pm - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Open Q &amp; A</b>
<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers</b>

**WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND THIS ALL-DAY RETREAT IN PERSON AND JOIN IN THE FELLOWSHIP. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US IN PERSON THERE WILL BE A PRIVATE LIVESTREAM OF THIS EVENT. THE RETREAT WILL NOT BE BROADCAST PUBLICALLY, SO PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

**PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT OR VISIT [ST-MARYMAGDALENE.ORG/ADULT-EDUCATION](https://ST-MARYMAGDALENE.ORG/ADULT-EDUCATION)**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH AT 3:00PM EST**



### *The Pan-Orthodox Churches of Genesee County*

Holy Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
(2245 E. Baldwin Rd Grand Blanc, MI)

St. George Orthodox Church  
(5191 Lennon Rd Flint, MI)

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church  
(2439 S. Long Lake Rd Fenton, MI)

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church  
(2143 S Center Rd Burton, MI)



# Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611  
St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720  
St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 S. Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1401  
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

## 2024 Great Fast and Bright Week



### Pan-Orthodox Divine Services and Lenten Refreshments

**Great Compline** at St. George (*Mondays, 6pm*) All are welcome every Monday night. This beautiful service, along with the Lenten Hours on Wednesdays at St. Nicholas, allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available after the service.

**Lenten Hours** at St. Nicholas (*Wednesdays, 10am*) All are welcome every Wednesday morning.

**Presanctified Divine Liturgy** and **Lenten Potluck Dinner** (*Wednesdays, 6pm*) We will celebrate together the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion at evening liturgies, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (*no eating or drinking after 12 Noon*). Confessions will be available prior to the evening liturgies from 5:30pm–6pm. The Lenten Potluck Dinners will be coordinated by the host parish.

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> Great Feast of the **Annunciation Great Vespers** at Assumption 6pm  
Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> Great Feast of the **Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption 10am

March 27<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 6pm

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> **Lenten Retreat** (*more information to follow*)

April 10<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. George 6pm

April 24<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm

April 27<sup>th</sup> **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy** at Assumption 9:30am

### Bright Week (May 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>)

May 6<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 10am

May 7<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 10am

May 8<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Evening Liturgy** at St. George 6pm

May 10<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy for the Life-giving Font** at Assumption 10am

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the USA  
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*

**KOLLYVA / KUTYA / ŽITO / PŠEJNTSA - boiled wheat - for Memorials and Souls Saturdays  
recipe by Rosemary Vuckovich**

**Ingredients**

**1 lb whole wheat berries**

**1 lb ground walnuts**

**¾ lb powdered sugar**

**1 teaspoon rum extract (optional)**

**9 Jordan almonds for making cross on top of wheat**

**Directions**

**Rinse wheat in cold water. Drain and put wheat in 4 quart pot. Add water to within 1 inch of top.**

**Bring to boil - turn heat down - simmer 2 hours or until the wheat berries are tender.**

**Add additional hot water as needed, to maintain water level.**

**Drain in colander overnight.**

**In the morning, put wheat in bowl.**

**Add nuts and powdered sugar mixing together.**

**Add rum extract and mix again.**

**Place in serving bowl.**

**Arrange the 9 Jordan almonds on top in the form of a cross.**

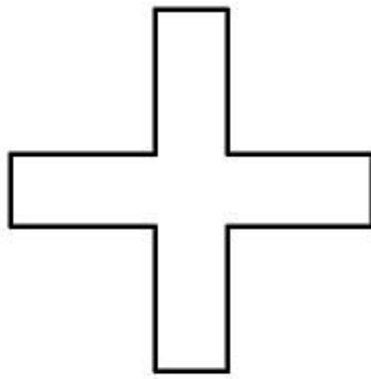
**Options**

**If don't have time to let drain overnight, place wheat on linen towel on a baking sheet, spreading out into an even layer to dry. Then use as above.**

**May add cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, toasted sesame seeds, ground almonds, as desired.**

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**At funerals it is customary to make the wheat to be offered up in memory of the fallen asleep. We remember the newly fallen asleep on the third day, ninth day, and fortieth day. As St. Symeon of Thessalonika writes: "The kollyva is offered because the human being is also a seed and like a fruit from the earth and like seeds sown in the earth he will be raised up again by God's might. The third day service is celebrated for the reason that the fallen asleep person receive his being through the Trinity and having passed to a state of good being and being changed he shall at the resurrection appear in his original state or one superior. The ninth day is celebrated that his spirit dwell together with the holy spirits the angels being immaterial and naturally similar to them for these spirits are nine in number and by them they triply proclaim and praise the God in Trinity and so that the fallen asleep one may be united with the holy spirits of the Saints. The fortieth day is celebrated because of the Savior's Ascension which came to pass after forty days after his Resurrection in the sense that the fallen asleep, as it were, having also risen and having ascended...being caught away in the clouds, shall meet the Judge and thus being united with him, he shall ever be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17). In some traditions it is also customary to have a loaf of prosphora and wine and oil for the funeral service or memorial service.**



**FOR THE REPOSE OF  
(first names only - please print)**






















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**Requested by:** \_\_\_\_\_

# March 2024

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church  
2143 S. Center Rd. Burton, MI 48519  
810-744-0070

[stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com) Website: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <i>Fast</i>  <i>Dairy Permitted (no meat)</i>  <i>Wine &amp; Oil Permitted (no meat)</i>  <i>Fish Permitted (no other meat)</i>		<i>Services in blue</i> <i>- click for the</i> <i>livestream</i>	<i>Times and events</i> <i>are subject to</i> <i>change</i>		1	2 <a href="#">5 pm Vespers</a> Confessions
3 <a href="#">9:30 am Hours</a> <a href="#">10 am Divine Liturgy</a> Church School: <a href="#">Philemon - Slave or Brother?</a>	4 <i>Fr. in Toledo</i>	5	6  9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:15 am adult ed	7 <i>9am to 12:30 pm</i> <i>North End Soup</i> <i>Kitchen</i>  <i>Office Closed</i>	8 	9 <i>Souls' Saturday</i> 10 am Liturgy & Trisagion <a href="#">5 pm Vespers</a> Confessions <i>Meatfare Dance</i>
10 <i>Meatfare Sunday</i> <a href="#">9:30 am Hours</a> <a href="#">10 am Divine Liturgy</a> Church School: <a href="#">Hebrews - Angels</a>	11 <i>Meat Fast</i> <i>Fr. in Toledo</i>	12 <i>Meat Fast</i> 6:30 pm Parish Council 6:30 pm Prayer Service for the sick & suffering at St. Mary Magdalene Church	13 <i>Meat Fast</i> 10 am Hours 11:15 am adult ed	14 <i>Meat Fast</i>  <i>Office Closed</i>	15 <i>Meat Fast</i>	16 <i>Meat Fast</i>  <a href="#">5 pm Vespers</a> Confessions
17 <i>Cheesefare Sunday</i> <i>Meat Fast</i> <a href="#">9:30 am Hours</a> <a href="#">10 am Divine Liturgy</a> Church School: <a href="#">Hebrews - Faith &amp; Hope</a> Forgiveness Vespers	18  <b>GREAT LENT BEGINS</b> <a href="#">6 pm Compline w/Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</a>	19  <a href="#">6 pm Compline w/Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</a>	20  10 am Hours <a href="#">6 pm Compline w/Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</a>	21  <a href="#">6 pm Compline w/Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</a> <i>Office Closed</i>	22  9:30 am <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i>	23 <i>St Theodore</i>  9:30 am Confessions 10 am Divine Liturgy <a href="#">5 pm Vespers</a> Confessions
24 <a href="#">9:30 am Hours</a>  <a href="#">10 am Divine Liturgy</a> Church School: Procession 6 pm Vespers @ Assumption	25   <i>Annunciation</i> 10 am Liturgy @ Assumption <a href="#">6 pm Compline at St George</a> <i>Fr. in Toledo</i>	26 <i>Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel</i> 	27  10 am Lenten Hours <a href="#">6 pm pan-Orthodox Presanctified at St Nicholas</a> followed by lenten potluck	28 	29  9:30 am <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i>  <i>Office Closed</i>	30  <i>Souls' Saturday</i> 10 am Liturgy & Trisagion <a href="#">5 pm Vespers</a> Confessions
31 <a href="#">9:30 am Hours</a>  <a href="#">10 am Divine Liturgy</a> Church School: <a href="#">James - the Mighty Tongue</a>		7-9 pm Choir Rehearsal				