

*September 4, 2022*

**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 vestibule. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Matthew, Deacon Luke, or with one of the ushers.

For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox Christians, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with Fr. Matthew after the Liturgy and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church. The bread offered at the end of the service is available to all.

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. **Again, welcome!**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3. **Hieromartyr Babylas (Vavíla), Bishop of Antioch, and with him Martyrs Urban, Prilidian, and Epolonius; and their mother, Christodula (251). Holy Prophet and Godseer Moses (16th c. B.C.). Hieromartyr Gorazd, Bishop of Bohemia and Moravia-Silesia (Serbian – 1942 (1942). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Joasáf, Bishop of Bélgorod (1911). Martyr Hermione, daughter of St. Philip the Deacon (ca. 117). Martyr Babylas of Nicomedia, and with him 84 children (4th c.). Martyrs Theodore, Mianus (Ammianus), Julian, Kion (Oceanus), and Centurionus, of Nicomedia (305-311). “Unburnt Bush” Icon of the Mother of God (1680).**

**TROPARIA**

**Tone 3** Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down Death by death. He has become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

**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** By your nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: the barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

***The prokeimenon in the third tone: Sing praises to our God, sing praises; / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!***  
*(Psalm 46:6) v. Clap your hands, all you people, shout to God with loud songs of joy. (Psalm 46:1)*

THE READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (15:1-11) Brethren: I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the

church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

### ***Alleluia, Tone 3***

**v. In You, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.** (*Psalm 30:1*)

**v. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.** (*Psalm 30:2*)

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (19:16-26)** And behold, one of the crowd came up to Jesus, saying, “Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.”

He said to him, “Which?” And Jesus said, “You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to him, “All these I have observed; what do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

**COMMUNION HYMN** Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
(*Psalm 147:1*)

### **The holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20 (1st Matins Gospel)**

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

**The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary (September 8)** The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God’s mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feasts at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

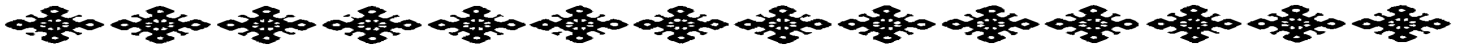
The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion. [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)

September 4, 2022



**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Jeremy

Julia Peck

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

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome



**WELCOME** to all our friends and visitors! Welcome to everyone 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](#).

**RUMMAGE SALE** is September 9 & 10. We need lots of help to setup, during the sale & cleanup! **The signup sheet is in the fellowship hall.** Lucy Hogg is chairing the event so you can talk with her if you have questions. Fliers are also on the table so you can post them in the community.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**CHURCH SCHOOL** classes resume next Sunday, September 11. Special petitions will be offered at the Liturgy for our teachers and students and a blessing after Communion. Plan on bringing your young ones for this beginning of the year!

**ADULT EDUCATION** classes resume on Wednesday, September 7 at 11:15 am. Having read a brief biography of Geronda Aimilianos of Simonopetra, we will read his homily "On Prayer: Problems and Temptations." Copies are available on the back table in the parish hall.

**OFFICE HOURS** this week are Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9-3. **Please note the office is closed Monday & Tuesday.**

**CATHOLIC CHARITES GINORMOUS TENT SALE** is September 1-5 from 9 am-6 pm. It is held behind ELGA Credit Union on Center Rd. in Burton. 100% of the proceeds go to Catholic Charities.

**MIDDLE EASTERN LUNCH & BAKE SALE** at St. George is September 22 from 11am-2pm. This is take-out only. Free delivery with 8 or more lunches! **The deadline to order is September 8.** For more information see the flier in this newsletter or in the fellowship hall. You can also order at: <https://stgeorgeladies.square.site/> or call 810-732-0720.

**BOOK CLUB** is back! Please sign up by September 12 with Fr. Mike Bassett at [frdmike@gmail.com](mailto:frdmike@gmail.com) or call him at 989-627-9580. Final details will be coordinated by mid-September. The discussions will be local & remote (Zoom). The first book is *May it be Blessed* by Archimandrite Symeon Kragiopoulos which is available at St. George. How it will work: 1.) Sign up 2.) get your book at the beginning of the month 3.) at the end of the month gather together for fellowship & discussion.

**UKRAINIAN REFUGEES** You can support International Orthodox Christian Charity's (IOCC) humanitarian response to the Ukraine crisis through [iocc.org/ukraine22](http://iocc.org/ukraine22) or by calling 877.803.4622.

**ORTHODOX WOMEN IN THE HEALING MINISTRIES** 29th Annual Retreat is September 30 & October 1, 2022. There will be a different speaker than originally planned. Fr. Silviu Bunta will be the guest speaker. He grew up and lived in Romania before he and his family moved to the United States. He studied early Judaism and ancient Christianity at Marquette University with Deirdre Dempsey, Archbishop Alexander (Golitzin), Sharon Pace, and Michel Barnes among others. His topic will be "Scripture is our life: thoughts on the Orthodox interpretation of Scripture". You can register at: <https://owhm.org/>

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**MEMORY ETERNAL** **Mary Kosman**, fell asleep in the Lord on August 27 and was buried from Assumption Church, Grand Blanc on September 1. Please remember Mary in your prayers that she rest in the light of Christ's face. And remember her daughter Stefanie that the Lord Christ grant her his comfort. Bog da prosti! Christ is risen!

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Monday, September 5**      **Office is closed**

**Tuesday, September 6**      **Office is closed**

**Wednesday, September 7**

9:30 am      Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am      Adult education class  
5:30 pm      Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Mary Magdalene Church

**Thursday, September 8**      **NATIVITY OF THEOTOKOS**      **Office open**

10 am      Pan-Orthodox Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene Church  
10 am      Rummage sale set-up

**Friday, September 9**

10 am-5 pm      Rummage sale

**Saturday, September 10**

10 am-3 pm Rummage sale

3 pm Nominating Committee meeting

**5 pm Vespers - streaming on our YouTube channel**

*Confessions*

**Sunday, September 11**

9:30 am Third and Sixth Hours

**10 am Divine Liturgy - streaming on our YouTube channel**

Church School begins

**Offerings for the week August 28, 2022**

*45 persons in attendance on August 28<sup>th</sup>*

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 4,607.61
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 3,104.00
	\$ 1,503.61