

September 3, 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 Holy Gospel according to Mark

16:1-8 (2nd Matins Gospel)

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 4. Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him: Martyrs Theophilus—Deacon; Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes, Gorgonius, Zeno; the Virgin Domna, and Euthymius (302). Ven. Theoctistus, fellow ascetic with Ven. Euthymius the Great (467). Blessed John “the Hairy”, Fool-for-Christ at Rostov (1580). St. Phœbe, Deaconess at Cenchreæ near Corinth (1st c.). Martyr Basilissa of Nicomedia (309). Martyr Aristion, Bishop of Alexandria (2nd c.). St. Joannicius, Archbishop of Serbia (1349).

TROPARIA

(Tone 4) When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting 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 Fourth Tone: O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! / In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (16:13-24)

Brethren: Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Alleluia, Tone 4

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth.

v: For Thou lovest righteousness, and doth hate iniquity.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (21:33-42)

At that time Jesus told the people who came to Him, "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

COMMUNION HYMN

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

SAINT ANTHIMUS AND THOSE MARTYRED WITH HIM (SEPT. 3)

The Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him suffered during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The persecution became particularly intense after a fire at the imperial court at Nicomedia. The pagans accused the Christians of setting the fire and reacted against them with terrible ferocity.

In Nicomedia alone, on the day of the Nativity of Christ, as many as twenty thousand Christians were burned inside a church. However, this monstrous inhumanity did not frighten the Christians, who firmly confessed their faith and endured martyrdom for Christ.

Sts Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes and Gorgonius died during this period. One of them was beheaded by the sword, others perished by burning, or being buried alive, or by drowning in the sea. The soldier Zeno boldly denounced the emperor Maximian, for which he was stoned, and then beheaded.

Then the holy Virgin Martyr Domna, a former pagan priestess, perished at the hands of the pagans, and also Saint Euthymius, because of their concern that the bodies of the holy martyrs should be buried. Bishop Anthimus, who headed the Church of Nicomedia, hid himself in a village not far from Nicomedia at the request of his flock. From there he sent letters to the Christians, urging them to cleave firmly to the holy Faith and not to fear tortures.

One of his letters, sent with Deacon Theophilus, was intercepted and given to the emperor Maximian. Theophilus was interrogated and died under torture, without revealing to his torturers the whereabouts of Bishop Anthimus. After a while Maximian managed to learn where Saint Anthimus was, and sent a detachment of soldiers after him.

The bishop met them along the way, but the soldiers did not recognize the saint. He invited them to join him and provided a meal, after which he revealed that he was the one they sought. The soldiers did not know what to do. They wanted to leave him and tell the emperor that they had not found him. Bishop Anthimus was not one to tolerate a lie, and so he would not consent to this.

The soldiers came to believe in Christ and received holy Baptism. The saint ordered them to carry out the emperor's instructions. When Bishop Anthimus was brought before the emperor, the emperor ordered that the instruments of execution be brought out and placed before him. "Do you think, emperor, to frighten me with these tools of execution?" asked the saint. "No indeed, you cannot frighten one who wishes to die for Christ! Execution is frightening only for the cowardly, for whom the present life is most precious." The emperor then directed that the saint be fiercely tortured and beheaded by the sword.

Bishop Anthimus joyfully glorified God with his last breath, and received the crown of martyrdom. (See December 28 for another account of the Nicomedian martyrs.)

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September 3, 2017



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Happy birthday Stasia Butrie (Sept. 6). Health & blessings

Her family



WELCOME all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship in our hall!



COFFEE HOUR Volunteers are needed to help serve coffee and donuts for the month of September. Please see the sign-up sheet outside of the kitchen.

MACEDONIAN OPEN The Macedonian Open Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's event a success. We are proud to announce that this year's total profit of \$19,047.46 is an all time record and will be placed in the Parish Pride account. We could not have done it without everyone's help. We encourage all parishioners to patronize the businesses that supported us. Flyers are available in the Church hall.

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting **TOOTHBRUSHES & TOOTHPASTE** for the month of September. 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.

BIRTHS Samuel Nicholas Seeley was born 8/31/2017 at 6:29 am, 5 lbs 10oz., 17.9 inches long. He is in NICU for breathing issues due to being born at 34 weeks. He is improving. As long as he continues to improve, he should be able to leave by Wednesday at the earliest.

BINGO Join in the fun September 17th following the Divine Liturgy. 3 cards for \$10. Lunch will be served. See Lucy Hogg if you would like to help.

CHURCH SCHOOL begins September 10th with prayers for the teachers & students during Liturgy and a blessing after Communion.

Weekly Schedule:

Monday, Sept. 4 Labor Day – Office Closed

Wednesday, Sept. 6

9 am Divine Liturgy
11 am Adult Formation – “Wounded by Love”

Thursday, Sept. 7

9 am to 12:30 pm **NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN** Please come to minister to Christ with our brothers and sisters. Sign up on the form in the narthex.
6 pm **Combined Vespers with Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos at our parish.**
Please fast from after lunch to receive Holy Communion.

Saturday, Sept. 9

5 pm Vespers

Sunday, Sept. 10

9:45 am Third Hour
10 am Divine Liturgy with prayers and blessing for our Church School teachers and students as they begin a new school year.

Offerings for the week August 27, 2017

Weekly Offerings	\$1838.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$4,034.03
	-\$2196.03

“Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry, but they who seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing.”

Psalm 33:11 (LXX)