

**September 23, 2018**

**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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**The Gospel according to Saint Luke 24:36-53 (6th Matins Gospel)**

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, “Peace to you.” But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.” And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high. And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. The Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. Ss. Xanthippa and Polyxena, disciples of the Apostles, who died in Spain (109). Virgin Martyr Irais (Rhais, Raïssa) of Alexandria (ca. 308). Martyrs Andrew, John, and John’s children: Peter and Antonius, of Syracuse, martyred in Africa (9th c.).**

**TROPARIA**

**(Tone 8)** Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

**(Tone 4)** Rejoice, O barren one, who formerly did not bear a child, for you have conceived the Lamp of the Sun, Who is to illumine the whole universe darkened by blindness! Rejoice, O Zachariah, and cry out with boldness: “The Prophet of the Most High desires to be born!”

**(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 6)** Protection of Christians never failing, Mediatrix before the Creator, ever constant. Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, interceding always for those honor you.

***The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall set his hope on Him.***

**v. Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to Thee.**

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS (4:22-31)**

Brethren: it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar –for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children –but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written: “Rejoice, O barren, You who do not

bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children than she who has a husband.” Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free

### *Alleluia, Tone 8*

**v. Come let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!**

**v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (5:1-11)**

At that time, while the people pressed upon Jesus to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

### **COMMUNION HYMN:**

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

**The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John – September 23.** The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah’s birth His Forerunner would appear, and would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner.

In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, zealously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple, however, remained childless in their old age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant them a child.

Once, when Saint Zachariah took his turn as priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the right side of the altar of incense.

Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the angel said to him, “Fear not, Zachariah, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.” But Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words....”

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not do so because he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.

[www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)

September 23, 2018



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

Health & God’s blessings to our godson Noah Gonser for his birthday Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>.

Safe trip back to school.

Bakousidis family & Murphy family

Joseph Neely~Happy 21<sup>st</sup> birthday blessings

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitrie, Fr. Anthony, Aaron, Rimi, Allen, Deborah, JoAnn, Susan,  
Luba, Kosta, David, Anna, Walt, Vladimir, Dorothy, Michael, Allison,

Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Christopher, Marcia, Nicholas, Margaret, Joseph,  
Ted, Marlene, Reggie, my family and friends

Special Intention

Alex

Chris, Heather, Raegan, Jeremy, Teri, Hayden, Nadja, Sean, Auden, Madeline,

Jack, Nick, Cathy & George

Numko & Numka

Lena & Gerry Bakousidis

Baba

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Alex & Magda Popoff

Lucy Hogg

## **CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE**

Blessed Repose to Luka Prusac

Angelo & Christina

Blessed Repose~Memory Eternal to our precious, sweet & brave grandson

Andrew on his birthday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> and 40 days Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>

Baba & Dedo

Luka Prusac Blessed Repose~Memory Eternal

Dorothy Goodman

Peter Popoff & John Naum

Alex & Magda Popoff

## **ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR**

Maria Samaras~Blessed Repose. Love,

Helen & family



**WELCOME** to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall.



**COFFEE & DONUTS** Volunteers are needed for the month of October. Please see the sign-up sheet outside of the kitchen. Call or email the parish office as well as signing up if you'd like to sponsor the donuts and/or coffee.

**PARKING LOT RE-PAVING** The proceeds from last year and this year's Macedonian Open will go towards the re-paving of the entire parking lot which will cost over \$100,000. With capital improvement funds and other funds on hand, that leaves a shortfall of \$35,000. If anyone would like to donate or dedicate a memorial fund or make an anonymous donation to the Capital Improvement Fund (formerly Parish Pride), please contact the office. To date \$4,490 has been donated to the project not including any funds from the Macedonian Open. The re-paving will start this week.

**RIB/CHICKEN DINNER** The dinner is only 1 week away, Sept. 30th. If you plan on coming please buy your tickets today as it's the last day to do so. See Sharon Jernigan or Susie Ford. All proceeds will go to the Parking Lot fund.

**KONEVETS QUARTET CONCERT** September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. We will have fellowship & dessert afterward so volunteers are needed. There is a signup sheet in the Parish Hall for those of you who can bring in desserts. There are also flyers available to put up in your community.

**SPECIAL PARISH MEETING – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7** The sole item on the agenda for this meeting is to vote on whether the parish shall take a loan to cover the remaining cost of the parking lot repaving or whether the parish shall release funds from the Endowment Fund to cover those costs.

**HOPE IN A BOX** is collecting **toothpaste & tooth brushes** for the month of September. Place the items in the blue box in the Parish Hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

**FOOD DRIVE** Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

**WORK READY ROOM** Catholic Charities Work Ready Room wants your new & gently used career clothes to help individuals in need! i.e. Khakis, Scrubs, Shoes, Work Boots, Dress Pants & Collared Shirts.

For more information call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri at 812 Root St, Flint.

## **ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL, AUDITORS AND LAY DELEGATES**

**As of September 16, 2018 the nominees are:**

### **Parish Council Nominees (3 will be elected)**

Gerry Bakousidis

Michelle Gerzevske

Connie Maxim

Lena Bakousidis

Kathy Gonser (term ending 2018)

Deborah Neely

Tom Batzos

Dennis Goodman

Peggy Russell

Phil Brown

Kristin Hart

Cathy Steiner (term ending 2018)

Val Evanencko

Sharon Jernigan (term ending 2018)

Fannia Young

### **Auditors Nominees (1 need to be elected)**

Linda Branoff

Nancy Krigner

Lay Delegate Nominees will also be voted on for the 2019 Diocesan Conference to be held at St. Nicholas Church, Fort Wayne, IN in the fall of 2019:

### **2019 Diocesan Conference Lay Delegate Nominees (1 will be elected)**

Deborah Gonser-Adams

J. Joseph Tome

*If your name is listed above and you do not wish to run for the parish council or auditor OR if you would like to nominate someone, please call the parish office at 810-744-0070.*

The annual elections will take place on Sunday, November 4.

**\*\*\*Absentee Ballots will be made available in the parish office beginning October 21\*\*\***

**Weekly Schedule:**

**Tuesday, Sept. 25** Communion calls in Bay City, Caro & Lapeer

**Wednesday, Sept. 26**

9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Adult Ed. Class  
6:30 pm Konevets Quartet Concert

**Thursday, Sept. 27**

11 am to 3 pm Middle Eastern Luncheon and Bake Sale at St. George 5191 Lennon Rd, Flint  
Menu: cooked kibbe, green bean stew and rice, hummus, salad, pita bread, dessert, coffee & iced tea (vegetarian plate available). Cost: \$10.  
For information/deliveries call St George 810-732-0720

**Saturday, Sept. 29**

5 pm Vespers

**Sunday, Sept. 30**

9:30 am Third Hour  
10 am Divine Liturgy  
Church School  
**Rib Dinner**



**Offerings for the week September 16, 2018**

Weekly Offerings	\$ 1,000.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,034.03
	<b>\$-3,034.03</b>

*70 people were in attendance on Sunday, September 16.*

“When your children are still small, you have to help them understand what is good. That is the deepest meaning of life.” **St. Paisios**