

September 30, 2018

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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The Gospel according to Saint John

20:1-10 (7th Matins Gospel)

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Greater Armenia (ca. 335). Ven. Gregory, Abbot of Pelshme, Wonderworker of Vologdá (1442). St. Michael, First Metropolitan of Kiev (992). Martyrs Rhipsime, Gaiana and 35 holy virgins with them, of Armenia (4th c.).

TROPARIA

(Tone 1) When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

(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 First Tone: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee. v. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (9:6-11) Brethren: this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Alleluia, Tone 1

v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

v. He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever.

THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (6:31-36) At that time, Jesus told His disciples, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

COMMUNION HYMN:

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

The Hieromartyr Gregory, Enlightener of Greater Armenia, (September 30) was born in the year 257. He was descended from the line of the Parthian Arsakid emperors. The father of Saint Gregory, Anak, in striving after the Armenian throne, had murdered his kinsman, the emperor Kursar, in consequence of which all the line of Anak was marked for destruction.

A certain kinsman saved Gregory: he carried off the infant from Armenia to Caesarea in Cappadocia and raised him in the Christian Faith. At maturity, Gregory married, had two sons, but soon was left a widower. Gregory raised his sons in piety. One of them -- Orthanes, afterwards became a priest, and the other -- Arostanes, accepted monasticism and went off into the wilderness.

In order to atone for the sin of his father, who had murdered the father of Tiridates, Gregory entered into the service of the latter and was a faithful servant to him. Tiridates loved Gregory like a friend, but he was intolerant of the Christian confession of faith. After ascending the Armenian throne, he began to demand that Saint Gregory renounce the Christian Faith.

The steadfastness of the saint embittered Tiridates, and he gave his faithful servant over to cruel tortures: they suspended the sufferer head downwards with a stone about his neck, for several days they choked him with a stinking smoke, they beat and ridiculed him, and forced him to walk in iron sandals inset with nails.

At the time of these sufferings Saint Gregory sang Psalms. In prison the Lord healed all his wounds. When Gregory again stood before the emperor cheerful and unharmed, he was astonished and gave orders to repeat the torments. Saint Gregory endured them, not wavering, with all his former determination and bearing. They then poured hot tin over him and threw him into a pit filled with vipers. The Lord, however, saved His chosen one: the snakes did him no harm.

Some pious women fed him with bread, secretly lowering it into the pit. A holy angel, appeared to the martyr, strengthening and encouraging him. Saint Gregory remained in the pit for fourteen years. During this time the emperor Tiridates executed the holy virgin Saint Rhipsime, the aged abbess Gaiana and another 35 virgins from one of the monasteries of Asia Minor. As punishment for this horrible deed, the king's face became disfigured.

Saint Gregory was released from the pit, and buried the relics of the holy virgins with honor. Then he began to preach to the people, urging them to turn away from the darkness of idolatry and toward Christ. The people came to believe in Christ, and wished to build a large church. When it was completed, Saint Gregory had the relics of the holy nuns brought into it. Then he brought King Tiridates there before the bodies of the saints whom he had slain. He repented, and immediately his face was made whole once more.

Soon all of Armenia was converted to Christ. The temples of the idols were destroyed, and churches for the worship of the true God were built. Saint Gregory ordained priests, established schools, founded monasteries, and provided for the good order of the Church.

Saint Gregory went into the wilderness, where he departed to the Lord. His son Aristanes was made a bishop in Cappadocia, and was one of the 318 holy Fathers at the Council of Nicea.

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September 30, 2018



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Prayers for my family who just lost my uncle, Owni. May he rest in peace.

Rimi & Amir Abu-Aita
Dorothy & family

John Goodman~Happy 94th Birthday blessings

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitrie, Fr. Anthony, Aaron, Reggie, Rimi, Allen, Deborah, JoAnn,

Susan, Luba, Kosta, David, Anna, Walt, Vladimir, Dorothy, Michael, Allison,

Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Christopher, Ted, Marlene, Marcia, Nicholas,

Margaret, Joseph, Gladys, my family and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

Alex & Mary

Alex & Magda Popoff

Feodosiy, Oleg, Nikolay, Irina, Galina & Nikolay

Irina Sivergina

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Louie Prusac

Connie Maxim

Anastasia Papadopoulos (40 days)

Angelo & Helen Papadopoulos

Themyana Brown (26 yrs.) Blessed Repose ~ Memory Eternal

Dorothy Goodman

Peter Popoff & John Naum

Alex & Magda Popoff

Adelaida, Vitaliy, Vasiliy, Galina, Andrey, Nikolay, Feodosiy & Yuliya

Irina Sivergina

Luka "Louie" Večnaja ja Pamjat'!

Mom & Dad



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 \$4,915 has been donated to the project not including any funds from the Macedonian Open.

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.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Please come & minister to Christ with our brothers & sisters October 4th (North End Soup Kitchen) and October 23rd (St. George at North End Soup Kitchen) from 9 am-12:30 pm.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting **socks** for the month of October. 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.



Mira, Stojan & family would like to thank everyone who came to the funeral home & funeral as well as the cards and prayers.

ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL, AUDITORS AND LAY DELEGATES

As of September 26, 2018 the nominees are:

Parish Council Nominees (3 will be elected)

Gerry Bakousidis	Michelle Gerzevske	Connie Maxim
Lena Bakousidis	Kathy Gonser (term ending 2018)	
Tom Batzos	Dennis Goodman	Peggy Russell
Phil Brown	Kristin Hart	Cathy Steiner (term ending 2018)
Val Evanenko	Sharon Jernigan (term ending 2018)	Fannia Young

Auditors Nominees (1 need to be elected)

Linda Branoff

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:

Today Rib/Chicken Dinner

Monday, Oct. 1

9:30 am

PROTECTION OF THE BIRTHGIVER OF GOD

Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, Oct. 3

9:30 am

Divine Liturgy

11:15 am

Adult Ed. Class

Thursday, Oct. 4

9 am to 12:30 pm North End Soup Kitchen

Saturday, Oct. 6

5 pm

Vespers

Sunday, Oct. 7

9:30 am

Third Hour

10 am

Divine Liturgy / Church School

Special Parish Meeting

Offerings for the week September 23, 2018

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 1,350.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 4,034.03
	\$-2,684.03

*75 people were in attendance on
Sunday, September 23.*

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