

April 3, 2011

Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America

2143 S. Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519

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

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SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2011 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Tone 4. St. John Climacus (of *The Ladder*). Ven. Nicetas the Confessor, Abbot of Medikion (824). Virgin Martyr Theodosia of Tyre, & Martyr Irene (307-308). St. Illyricus of Mt. Myrsinon. Martyrs Elpidephorus, Dius, Bithonius & Galycus. Icon of the Theotokos “The Unfading Bloom.”

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 1) O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. / You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave you strength! / Glory to Him Who granted you a crown! // Glory to Him Who through you grants healing to all!

(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) Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant Advocate before the Creator; despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you!

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 READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (6:13-20) Brethren: For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

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 SAINT MARK (9:17-31)

And one of the crowd answered Jesus, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

Instead of "It is truly meet," All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace: the assembly of Angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child, our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

COMMUNION HYMN Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia!
(3x)

On April 8th we read Genesis 22: 1-18, the story of God's command to Abraham to take his only son Isaac and to "offer him as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

We know how the story turns out, and that in the end Isaac was not sacrificed. But this event angers some people. They ask how it is possible to say that God cares for us if He would make this terrible demand of a person like Abraham, who did His will and followed His commands. Their anger prompts them to believe that having faith in God is foolish. Some of them say that Abraham also should have been angry, and should have refused to do as God commanded.

Yet what Abraham himself refuses is to be angry. When Isaac innocently asks him where the lamb is for the sacrifice, Abraham answers with what seems to be a calm statement, neither angry nor

agitated. He simply says, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." Abraham is faithful, trusting God even in this extreme moment.

There is a wonderful story of another follower of God who refused to be angry: Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk. His cellmate, Ivan Yefimov, wrote many reminiscences of the saint. Among them is a description of Tikhon's treatment by an arrogant nobleman.

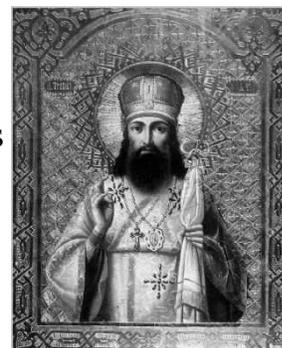
It was reported to Bishop Tikhon that this nobleman, a member of his diocese, was beating his serfs. The bishop went to the man to ask him to be kinder, and to remember that every person, including the poorest and simplest, is a child of God.

The nobleman was not at all ready to have anyone tell him what to do, even his bishop. He was a hot-tempered person, very much used to having his own way. He became incensed at the bishop for daring to suggest he change his behavior. His anger built to such a point that he slapped Tikhon across the face.

For many people, receiving such humiliating treatment would have been a cause for anger. At the very least, we might expect that Bishop Tikhon urged the nobleman to remember that he was a Christian, and to act like one. But the bishop did neither.

On his way home from the nobleman's house, the bishop decided to return. But rather than reproach the nobleman or tell him he'd been wrong, he threw himself at the man's feet and begged forgiveness for having led him into temptation to sin. The nobleman was so stuck by this humility and refusal to be angry that he fell to his knees and begged Bishop Tikhon to forgive him. From that day, his serfs did not suffer abuse.

On this same day we read from Proverbs 16:32: "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit [is better] than he who takes a city."



April 3, 2011



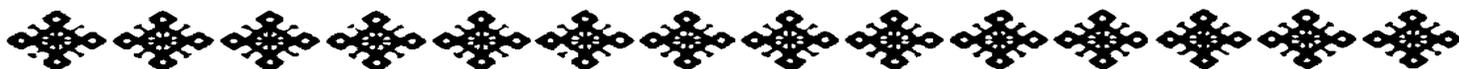
CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH & BLESSINGS OF

God's blessings Kourtney Frick	Stojan & Mira Prusac
Health & Blessings Rosemary, Mrs. Sarma, John & Gloria.....	Adam, Eli & Kara
Special Intention	
God's blessings Kourtney Frick	Mark & Alexis Liley
Health & Blessings for Christopher Panoff on his birthday-April 2	Mom & Dad

David Tome, Aunt Dora Lee Tome, Allen & Deborah Adams, Ted Weston,
 John & Gloria Zelenko, Mary Abu-Aita, Anna Branoff, Alex Ruggieri,
 Michael Berkey, Fr. David, Gladys Edwards, My family & friends..... J. Tome
 Health & God's blessings Kuma Daisy Marvosh, Kuma Donna Freude,
 John & Gloria Zelenko..... Rosemary Vuckovich
 Special Intention..... J. Tome
 Happy Birthday & God's blessings Michael Goodman on his 58th birthday (4-5)... Mom & Dad

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Lewis Elieff-Memory Eternal Evanka Elieff
 Ralph Neely Sr. in memory of his birthday, March 26..... Ralph, Debbie,
 Joe & Sarah
 Newly Departed-Joanne Sullenger..... Joe & Dorothy Goodman



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas. Please join us for fellowship in the parish hall following the veneration of the cross.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS are need today and next Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet next to the kitchen window. Please sign your name next to a Sunday to volunteer. Keep in mind that you are not responsible for picking up the donuts on the Sunday that you volunteer.

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING – was held on Sunday, March 27 to elect delegates for two Diocesan events and an OCA event. The results of the election are:

- 1- Our two (2) lay delegates to the Diocesan Congress-Sobor in July 2011 are **Johnny Kantor** and **Esteban Vázquez.**
- 2- Our one (1) lay delegate to the Diocesan Conference is **Johnny Kantor**
- 3- Our one (1) lay delegate to the OCA's All-American Council is **Johnny Kantor**

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE All Orders Are Due TODAY! If you need an order form there are some located in the parish hall.

ST. GEORGE 75th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011. Attached is an RSVP form. Please RSVP by April 17, 2011. RSVP forms will also be made available at the candle stand.

MACEDONIAN OPEN There will be a Macedonian Open meeting tomorrow April 4 @ 7pm at the Valley Family Restaurant. Anyone that would be interested in helping with this year's Open is encouraged to attend.

Schedule of services and events for the week of April 3, 2011

Monday, April 4

10:00 am 40 day Parastas for +Harry Matsoukis at Evergreen Cemetery
 6:30 pm Great Compline at St. George

Wednesday, April 6

6:00 pm Presanctified (Not a combined service) followed by Lenten Potluck
 (No meat, eggs or dairy products)

Thursday, April 7

10:00 am

40 day Parastas for +Gennady Zavalnitski

Friday, April 8

6:00 pm

Akathist to the Theotokos

Saturday, April 9

10:00 am

4:30 pm

5:30 pm

5th SATURDAY OF LENT

Divine Liturgy in Slavonic

Great Vespers followed by Confessions

Choir Practice

Sunday, April 10

9:30 am

10:00 am

5th SUNDAY OF LENT – St. Mary of Egypt

Third Hour

Divine Liturgy

Sunday Offerings for March 20, 2011

<i>Weekly Income</i>	
<i>Weekly Offering Envelope</i>	<i>\$ 1,423.00</i>
<i>Children's Envelopes</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Cemetery Maintenance</i>	<i>\$ 6.00</i>
<i>Charity Envelope</i>	<i>\$ 26.00</i>
<i>Diocesan Support</i>	<i>\$ 11.00</i>
<i>OCA Envelope-Mission</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Candle Fund</i>	<i>\$ 210.76</i>
<i>Kitchen/Coffee</i>	<i>\$ 3.00</i>
<i>Seminarian Fund</i>	<i>\$ 1.00</i>
<i>Loose Offering</i>	<i>\$ 75.00</i>
<i>Kiosk</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>\$1,755.76</i>
<i>Avg. Weekly Budget</i>	<i>\$3,753.03</i>
<i>+/- Budget</i>	<i>-\$1,997.27</i>

<i>Income to date</i>	<i>\$ 47,182.79</i>
<i>Expense to date</i>	<i>\$ 47,543.95</i>
<i>+/- to date</i>	<i>-\$361.16</i>

81 People were in attendance on Sunday.