

February 25, 2024

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

Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org Church: 810-744-0070 e-mail: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

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.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 5.
Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. St. Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806).

TROPARIA

Tone 5 Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

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 Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!"

The prokeimenon in the fifth tone: You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us / from this generation forever. (*Psalm 11:7*)

v: Save me, O Lord, for a venerable one is fading away. (*Psalm 11:1a*)

THE READING FROM THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY

(3:10-15) Timothy, my son, now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the holy scriptures which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia, Tone 5

v. **Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing to the age, to generation and generation I will declare your truth in my mouth.** (*Psalm 88:1*)

v. **For you said, To the age mercy will be built, in the heavens your truth will be prepared.** (*Psalm 88:2*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (18:9-14) At that time Jesus spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me the sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

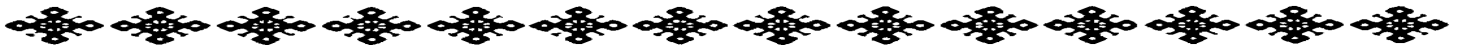
COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (*Psalm 148:1*)

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they “did all their works to be seen of men” (Matthew 23:5), and were hypocrites (Matthew 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy money’s sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights. All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday. From goarch.org

February 25, 2024



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Oleg, Galina, Nikolay, Nikolay, Andrey, Vlada, Kirill, Lev & Irina
Tom

Irina Sivergina
Bruce Watson

Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Angelo, Joan,
Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, Les,
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

Happy birthday to our dad & deda Nicholas A. George. Love,

Kara, Vanessa, Adam, Nick, Eli,
baby Rowan, Don, David, Paul & Kris

CANDLE INTENENTION FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE OF

The Georgopoulos & Batzos families
Adelaïda, Feodosiy, Vitaliy, Galina & Vasiliy
Memory Eternal~Blessed Repose Dorothy Goodman (1 yr.)
Rade Beslach Memory Eternal (3 yrs.)

Anonymous
Irina Sivergina
Elieff & Krigner family
sister Bosa



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors and those 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](#).

Feb 25 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford

HOURS: Phil Wiles

READER: Katherine Gonser

Mar 3 CANDLESTAND: Dennis Goodman

HOURS: Phil Wiles

READER: Alexander Gonser

COFFEE SOCIAL is provided today by Debbie & Ralph Neely in memory of Dorothy Goodman (1 year memorial). Please join us after Liturgy in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome. There is a signup sheet next to the service window for those who would like to donate and/or serve in the coming weeks.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

INQUIRERS'/CATECHUMENS' CLASS led by Reader Alexander Gonser after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith.

ADULT EDUCATION classes are on Wednesday at 11:15 am. We are continuing with [Psalms and the Life of Faith](#) by Elder Aimilianos looking at twelve of the one hundred and fifty Psalms.

CHURCH SCHOOL Lesson - [Timothy - God is our Shepherd](#)

MEATFARE DANCE March 9 from 6 pm - 9 pm. A DJ will be playing cd's. The cost is \$10/under 10 free. There will be a freewill offering for food. Please join us for an evening of fun, dancing, fellowship & food. All ages are welcome!

MEATFARE is March 10. The menu is lamb, chicken, rice, coleslaw & a vegetable. The cost is \$18 per adult and children are free. Please see Sharon Jernigan for tickets. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall for those who can help with serving, cleanup & bringing desserts.

PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT on Saturday, April 6 at St Mary Magdalene Church welcoming Father Andrew Stephen Damick of the Lord of Spirits podcast at Ancient Faith. Register and see more information [here](#). There is also a signup sheet in the parish hall. Please take the time during the great forty days' fast to be spiritually renewed through our annual pan-Orthodox retreat. Livestreaming will be available for those who register. **The deadline to register is Friday, March 29 at 3 pm.**

GIVE TO THE CHURCH THROUGH GIVELIFY Go to our website www.saintnicholasburton.org and click on the box [Give now with Givelify](#); this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify as a fee). ***Please consider adding the extra fee we are charged to your donation.** If you do not wish to donate online, you may write a check to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and send it to the parish address: 2143 S Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519.

KNITTING/CROTCHET GROUP meets in the parish hall every Monday at 10 am. Come and share ideas, knowledge & fellowship. This is open to everyone who would like to attend.

OFFICE HOURS are Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9-3.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL subscribe to our YouTube channel [Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Burton](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) to receive notifications of upcoming livestreams for services. Livestreams begin at 9:30 with Hours.

FACEBOOK PAGE Please visit, like, and follow our parish page: www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton
Please share posts to your page. This increases the number of people who know about our church. Those who have been at coffee fellowship have seen the number of inquirers who have been coming to Sunday Divine Liturgy. 2,100 people have liked our Facebook page and 2,200 people have followed it.

Thank you to everyone for all of your prayers, cards & support during my surgery and the weeks following.
Janja Beslach

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Today Parastas for Dorothy Goodman following the distribution of the antidoron
Fr. in Toledo through March 1

Monday, February 26

10 am Knitting/crochet group

Wednesday, February 28

No Divine Liturgy or Adult education

Saturday, March 2

5 pm [Vespers - live-streamed](#) *Confessions*

Sunday, March 3

9:30 am [Hours & 10 am Divine Liturgy- live- streamed](#)

Church School - [Philemon - Slave or Brother?](#)

Offerings for the week February 18, 2024

Weekly Offerings	\$ 2,273.27
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,100.00
	\$ -1,826.73

49 persons in attendance on February 18