February 9, 2014 Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

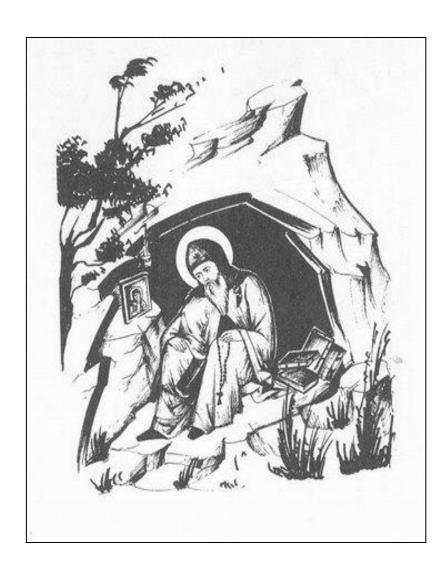
Orthodox Church in America

2143 S. Center Rd, Burton, MI 48519

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

Web Page: www.saintnicholasburton.org

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2014 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE—Tone 8.Leavetaking of the Meeting. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Martyr Nicephorus of Antioch in Syria (ca. 257). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk (1805). Ven. Pankratii (Pancratius) of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th c.). Ven. Nikífor (Nicephorus—1557) and Gennádii (Gennadius—ca. 1516), of Vazheozérsk. Hieromartyrs Marcellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taoromina (1st c.).

FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart is indicting a good matter, I speak of the things which I have made to the King.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer, full of grace are thy lips. Therefore God hath blest thee forever.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty one, in Thy glory and Thy beauty!

Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

The scepter of Thy kingdom is a righteous scepter.

Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON

Hear, O daughter, consider, and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house.

(**Tone 1**) Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, <u>Full</u> of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, <u>Christ</u> our God, / enlightening those who sat in <u>darkness</u>. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous <u>Elder</u>: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resur<u>rec</u>tion!

Even the rich among the people shall entreat your favor.

(**Tone 1**) Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, <u>Full</u> of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, <u>Christ</u> our God, / enlightening those who sat in <u>darkness</u>. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous <u>Elder</u>: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resur<u>rec</u>tion!

I will make your name to be remembered in all generations.

(**Tone 1**) Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, <u>Full</u> of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, <u>Christ</u> our God, / enlightening those who sat in <u>darkness</u>. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous <u>Elder</u>: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resur<u>rec</u>tion!

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Priest: The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness before the eyes of the Gentiles. O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

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 1**) Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, <u>Full</u> of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, <u>Christ</u> our God, / enlightening those who sat in <u>darkness</u>. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous <u>Elder</u>: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resur<u>rec</u>tion!

(**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 1**) By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb! And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!

v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

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 sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

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 SAINT LUKE (18:10-14)

At that time Jesus spoke this parable: "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 thee 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 a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

IN PLACE OF "IT IS TRULY MEET TO BLESS THEE" O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians! Protect, preserve and save those who hope in you! We faithful saw the figure in the shadow of the Law and the Scriptures: ev'ry male child that opened the womb was holy to God. Therefore, we also magnify the first begotten Son of the unoriginated Father, the first born Son of the unwedded Mother!

COMMUNION HYMN

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

On February 9th the Church remembers the Hieromartyr Peter Damascene, a man who saw God in everything. He took every event as God's gracious gift, including the terrible things that happened to him.

Peter Damascene (meaning "of Damascus") lived in the 12th century, under Islamic rule. He was known as a great reader who loved to gain wisdom and knowledge. Yet he lived in such utter simplicity, with so little interest in worldly possessions, that he never actually owned or wanted to own a book. He borrowed books he wanted to read from friends, and then cheerfully returned them, having no desire to build an impressive library.

His reading made him a wise person with much knowledge. Yet he knew that reading, in and of itself, is of limited value. He wrote: "We need knowledge based on experience...if we wish to attain knowledge of God mere reading or listening is not enough."

He expanded on this idea of the need for experience in these words: "Man is free to receive the sun's rays or not. God sends the light of knowledge like rays to all, but He also gives us faith like an eye. The one who wants to receive knowledge through faith, keeps it by his works, and so God gives him more willingness, knowledge and power." All these gifts--faith, willingness, knowledge, power—he wanted human beings to thank God for.

His conviction that "works" and "experience" are of the utmost important led Saint Peter to brave, dangerous acts. He spoke out and defended the Christian faith powerfully. His words carried the certainty that his extensive reading, done with faith, had given him. His hearers were

convinced that he spoke the truth and followed the true God.

Saint Peter became a highly respected leader among fellow Christians. But he suffered exile and physical punishment at the hands of the Islamic government, which dealt harshly with those who dared to say that Islam is inferior to Christianity and not the true faith. He paid a great price for his witness to Christ.

Saint Peter Damascene's writings are among the treasures of the Orthodox Church. It is in these writings that he most clearly lays out his belief that everything is a divine gift. Wealth is given so that a person can be merciful to others; poverty is given to engender patience; clumsiness is given for humility; health is given to so that a person can help the infirm. Everything, even great difficulty, is a gift, given by God for our salvation.

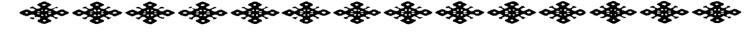
On Saturday of this week we read Luke 21:4, the story of the poor widow who is observed by Christ as she makes her offering to the Temple treasury. He says that with her small gift she has offered more than all the rich people who gave a lot, because she has put in all she had.

Saint Peter Damascene would understand an offering like the widow's, one which cost her so much. He would know that she was giving back to God in gratitude for all He had given her. He would recognize her as another person who, like himself, knew that there is not anything that is not a gift.



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Gigi & Dedo
Joe Tome Baba & Dedo
Baba & Dedo
Deborah Gonser-Adams
Les Ford
Joe Tome
Janja Beslach
Les Ford
Rosemary Vuckovich
Janja Beslach
Deborah Gonser-Adams
Janja Beslach



We welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas. Please join us for our coffee and donuts in the parish hall.

There will be a 40 day Parastas for the repose of +Max Bradley following the veneration of the cross. Coffee and donuts are being donated today in memory of Max by his family.

PARISH COUNCIL will meet on Monday, February 10 at 6:45 pm. Please be in attendance. If you are unable to attend please call the parish office.

ORTHODOX BOOK CLUB has been rescheduled for next Monday, February 17 at St. George from 6-8 pm.

END OF YEAR STATEMENTS are ready to be picked up. Those statements that are not taken home today will be mailed out this week.

<u>HOUSE BLESSINGS</u> have begun. If you wish for Father Matthew to bless your home, please fill out the house blessing form that was included in your January bulletin and return it to the parish office. There are extra forms at the candle stand.

HOPE IN A BOX for the month of February is shampoo. Please place the item in the blue Hope in a Box container located in the parish hall. The shampoo will be distributed by Catholic Charities Community Closet.

FOOD DRIVE Our next pick up is Monday, February 17. A list of food items is located next to the Hope in a Box.

PROTODEACON MICHAEL MYERS will visit us on Sunday, February 16. He is from our sister parish of St. Nicholas, Fort Wayne, IN. Protodeacon Michael has great experience with the Evangelization programs of the OCA and has visited other parishes on this topic. He will help us look with a fresh set of eyes at what it means to be a parish church, where we have been, where we are and where we are going.

SPECIAL MEETING for the revision of our parish bylaws will be held on Sunday, March 2, 2014 following the Divine Liturgy. A committee of parish council went through the bylaws to bring them up to date with the revised Diocesan Constitution and our current parish practice. The proposed revisions have already been approved by Bishop Alexander. The sole item on the agenda of this meeting will be the revised bylaws. The revisions have been sent out in the mail and email. If you have not received your copy there are extras in the parish hall.

PHOTO DIRECTORY We will have a parish Photo Directory made this year. Lifetouch will be taking pictures of our parishioners on March 12 & 13 and June 11 & 12 from 2 pm to 9 pm. You are under no obligation to purchase any photos but all portrait sessions in March will receive a 20% discount. In June only seniors will receive a 20% discount. You can make your portrait appointment in three convenient ways:

- 1- Schedule an appointment online at www.saintnicholasburton.org
- 2- Use the sign-up sheet in the hall to make your appointment
- 3- Call the church office at 810-744-0070 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays from 9 am to 3 pm (The office is closed on Thursdays).

Please make your appointment today!

<u>ANCIENT FAITH TODAY</u> with Kevin Allen will host Dr. John T. Chirban, for a discussion of "How to Talk to Your Children About Sex?" on the special live two-hour broadcast this Sunday, February 9, at 8 pm Eastern Listen live by pointing your internet browser to www.ancientfaith.com and clicking on the "talk" button.

Schedule of services and events for the Week of February, 9;

Monday, February 10

6:45 pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 12

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 15

4:30 pm Vespers followed by Confessions

Sunday, February 16 **PRODIGAL SON**

9:30 am Third Hour 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Church School

Sunday Offerings for February 2, 2014

Weekly Offering Envelope	\$2,505.00
Children's Offering	\$ 0.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 50.00
Charity Envelope	\$ 0.00
Love Inc	\$ 0.00
Diocesan Support	\$ 0.00
OCA Envelope-Charity	\$ 0.00
Candle Fund	\$ 143.05
Coffee Hour	\$ 0.00
Seminarian Fund	\$ 100.00
Loose Offering	\$ 52.00
Kiosk	\$ 0.00
Christmas	\$6.00
Total Sunday Income Feb. 2, 2014	\$2,856.05
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,629.13

Actual Income	\$13,152.82
Actual Expense	\$16,742.83
+/- to date	-\$3,590.01

81 people were in attendance on Sunday, February 2, 2014.