

March 22, 2015

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

Church: 810-744-0070 Fr Matthew: 810-247-4265



SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2015 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 8. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (362-363). Martyr Drosida, daughter of Emperor Trajan (1st-2nd c.). Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (4th c.). Monk Martyr Euthymius of Prodomou (Mt. Athos—1814).

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) 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) Protection of Christians never failing, Mediatress 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 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 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 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 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! Alleluia! Alleluia!

March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation, the visit of the archangel Gabriel to Mary, proclaiming God's plan that she would give birth to His Son.

We read the story of the Annunciation on this day, in Luke 1: 24-38. It begins with Gabriel saluting Mary with "Hail," which can be translated as "rejoice." One of the recurring phrases with which Mary is addressed in Orthodox worship is, "Rejoice, O unwedded bride." Origen wrote that a salutation like this is never "addressed to a man; such a special greeting was reserved only for Mary."

Gabriel tells Mary, "The Lord is with you." These words alert us that God is going to do something extraordinary with the person to whom they are addressed. In the Old Testament, Nathan says the words to King David when David plans to build a temple for the Lord (2 Samuel 7:3). In Judges 6: 12 the angel of the Lord comes to encourage Gideon to fight the Midianites, and says, "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor" (Judges 6: 12).

Mary is understandably troubled by Gabriel's words, and by his formal greeting. She is, after all, just a young girl. In answer to her question of how the birth will take place, Gabriel says, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you." His words tell us that this is a uniquely miraculous birth, far beyond any other, including the birth of John the Baptizer which Gabriel also has foretold.

Once again, similar words occur in the Old Testament, describing something important. In Isaiah 32: 15-20 we read about the future transformation of everything in creation, when "the Spirit is [will be] poured upon us from on high."

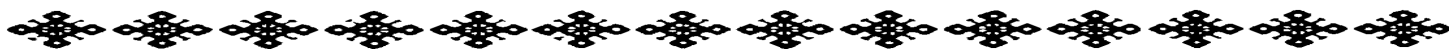
Luke uses words that tie Christ's birth to the Old Testament, the preparation for His coming, to remind us that God always prepares us for things. But then he makes it clear that this birth, the coming of Christ, is the end and

fulfillment of all that preparation. Gabriel says: "...and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Young Mary stands in the presence of this imposing celestial being. She hears these life-changing words. She knows that Gabriel is waiting for her response. Without equivocation, without any more questions, she calmly says, "Let it be to me according to your word."

Her decision will be costly—Simeon will soon tell her of the sword that is to pierce her soul. But she trusts that agreeing to be "the handmaid of the Lord" is the right thing. A reading for this day, Hebrews 2: 14, tells us that it is indeed the right thing for our salvation: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he [Christ] himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage." Mary is the one through whom this deliverance took place.

March 22, 2015

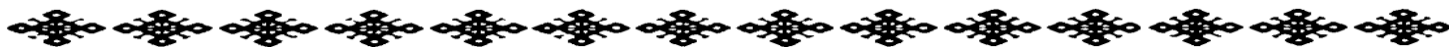


CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Health & God's Blessings for Jo Sredich, John Goodman	Stojan & Mira Prusac
Special Intention	Joe Tome
Health & God's Blessings John Goodman	Mike, Sue, Stephan, Dennis, Eileen & Ben
Health & God's Blessings Jo Sredich	Dorothy & Debbie
Birthday Blessings-Health for Megan Krigner.....	Love, Baba, Mom, Dad & Danny
Health & Blessings Anna Branoff	Alex & Magda Popoff
Health & God's Blessings John Goodman, Jo Sredich	Anna Branoff
Health & God's Blessings Bosa, Milan, Gracie, Ned, Dani, Milica, Dominic, Stojan	Janja Beslach
Fr. Michael, Fr. Moses, Fr. Lavrenty, Deacon Anthony, John, John, Joseph, Laurie, Tula, Anne, Reggie, Stojan & Mira, Jo Ann, Evanka, Dorothy, Walt & Zina, Bosa, John & Gloria, Peter & Olga, Elaine, Helen, Ted & Marlene, Fr. David, Gladys, Stephanie, my family & friends.....	Joe Tome
Health & God's Blessings John Goodman	Dorothy & Family

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Rosemary Vuckovich-Memory of her birthday.....	Debbie Neely
Peter Popoff-Memory Eternal	Alex & Magda Popoff
Bogdan, Sava, Vaso, Ilinka	Janja Beslach
+Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko	Joe Tome
+Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko-Memory Eternal	Adams Family



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas. Please join us for fellowship, coffee and pastries in our parish hall. Volunteers are needed to serve coffee and pastries today.

There will be a one year memorial service for the repose of +Anna Allen following the veneration of the cross

PAN ORTHODOX LENTEN TALK will be held at 6:30 pm on Saturday, March 28 here at St. Nicholas. Fr. Silviu Bunta, will give the talk on The Bible: An Orthodox Perspective. Please call or email the church by Wednesday, March 25 if you plan on attending. **Please make some Lenten foods to share after Vespers on Saturday before the talk (no meat, eggs or dairy products).**

DONATIONS FOR LENT, HOLY WEEK & PASCHA there are still items available for donation. Available are: Fan Palms, Eggs for Pascha and Red Egg Dye. See, Debbie if you are interested in donating any of the items listed above.

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE order forms are available in the parish hall and were included in the March bulletin. All orders are due next Sunday, March 29.

PAN ORTHODOX CHOIR We will meet at 5:30pm before each combined service (Presanctified and Annunciation). If you cannot attend this rehearsal, please let me know and I can try to get music to you for self-study. Popadia Michelle Jannakos 810-845-8483 or michellejannakos@aol.com

CHARITY MINISTRIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN We need volunteers to assist at the North End Soup Kitchen on Thursday, March 26 from 9 am to 1 pm. If you would like to volunteer, please use the sign-up sheet at the candle stand.

HOPE IN A BOX for the month of March is Feminine Care Products. Please place the items in the blue Hope in a Box container located in the parish hall. They will be distributed by Catholic Charities Community Closet.

FOOD DRIVE Our next pick up is Monday, April 20. A list of food items is located next to the Hope in a Box.

FAMILY OF +FR. MATTHEW BAKER +Fr. Matthew Baker was the newly installed priest at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Norwich, Connecticut. +Fr. Matthew was tragically killed in an automobile accident on March, 1. He was traveling home with his six children following Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers when the accident occurred. The children were not hurt in the accident. Thanks be to God! +Fr. Matthew leaves behind his wife, Presvytera Katherine, and six children ranging in age from 12 to 2. Our Charity Ministry will be giving \$2,000 for the support of Presvytera Katherine and her children. We would like to have parishioners make donations to match that amount so that we can offer \$4,000 total to +Fr. Matthew Baker's family. The envelopes will be at the front of the church after the veneration of cross they are designated for this purpose. Please be generous with your donations. **We have raised \$935 so far.**

ANCIENT FAITH RADIO "Annunciation" on the next LIVE broadcast of *Faith Encouraged Live with Fr. Barnabas Powell* Sunday, March 22 at 8 PM Eastern/7 PM Central. Fr. Barnabas will discuss the subject of "Annunciation: Why do we remember this powerful revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ?" Listen live by pointing your browser to www.ancientfaith.com.

Schedule of services and events for the week of March 22;

Tuesday, March 24

Father in Toledo

Wednesday, March 25

ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Please email or call the office by today if you plan to attend the Lenten talk on Saturday.

9:00 am Divine Liturgy
 11:00 am Adult Education
 5:30 pm Pan Orthodox Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 pm Vespers with Liturgy @ Assumption
 Followed by Lenten Potluck - please bring a dish to share
 (No meat, eggs or dairy products)

Thursday, March 26

9am – 1pm North End Soup Kitchen

Saturday, March 28

5:00 pm Vespers followed by Confessions
 6:00 pm Pan Orthodox Lenten Retreat at St. Nicholas

Sunday, March 29

5th Sunday of Lent - St. Mary of Egypt

9:30 am Third Hour
 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
 3 year Parastas for +Peter Popoff
 Church School

Sunday Offerings for March 15, 2015

<i>Weekly Offering Envelope</i>	<i>\$1,540.00</i>
<i>Children's Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Cemetery Maintenance</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Charity Envelope</i>	<i>\$55.00</i>
<i>Love Inc</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Diocesan Support</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>OCA Envelope</i>	
<i>Charities</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Candle Fund</i>	<i>\$149.00</i>
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Seminarian Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Loose Offering</i>	<i>\$23.00</i>
<i>Kiosk</i>	<i>\$35.00</i>
Total Sunday Income March 15, 2015	<i>\$1,802.00</i>
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	<i>\$3,634.49</i>

<i>Actual Income</i>	<i>\$46,898.91</i>
<i>Actual Expense</i>	<i>\$38,931.34</i>
<i>+/- to date</i>	<i>\$7,967.57</i>