

September 17, 2023

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. **Again, welcome!**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation. Martyr Sophia, and her three daughters: Faith (Vera), Hope (Nadézhda), and Love (Liubóv', Charity), at Rome (ca. 137). Martyrs Theodota at Nicæa (ca. 230). Martyr Agathocleia (ca. 230). 156 Martyrs of Palestine, including Bishops Peleus and Nilus, the Presbyter Zeno, the Noblemen Patermuthius and Elias, and others (ca. 310).

FIRST ANTIPHON

God, my God, attend to me! // Why have You forsaken me? (*Psalm 21:1a*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

Why are You so far from helping me, // from the words of my groaning? (*Psalm 21:1b*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; // and by night, but find no rest. (*Psalm 21:2*) **Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!**

You dwell in the sanctuary, // the praise of Israel. (*Psalm 21:3*) **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

O God, why do You cast us off forever? (*Psalm 73:1a*) **O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Remember Your congregation, // which You have gotten of old. (*Psalm 73:2*) **O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

Remember Mount Zion, // where You have dwelt. (*Psalm 73:3b*) **O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You! Alleluia!**

God is our King before the ages; // He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth. (*Psalm 73:13*) **O Son of God, who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You! 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 willed to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and were crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord reigned, let the peoples be enraged. (*Psalm 98:1a*) **Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!**

The Lord reigned, let the peoples be enraged, the one who sits upon the cherubim, let the earth be shaken. (*Psalm 98:1*) **O Lord, save Your people...**

The Lord – great in Sion, and is high over all the peoples. (*Psalm 98:2*) **O Lord, save Your people...**

Lift up the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain, for holy is the Lord our God. (*Psalm 98:10*) **O Lord, save Your people...**

TROPARIA

Tone 6 The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Your grave, / seeking Your most pure body. / You captured hell, not being tempted by it. / You came to the Virgin, granting life. / O Lord, Who rose from the dead, // glory to You.

Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

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 As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power, / granting them victories over their adversaries, / by bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Your weapon of Peace.

INSTEAD OF "HOLY GOD..."

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify!

The prokeimenon in the seventh tone: Extol the Lord our God; / worship at His footstool for He is holy!

(Psalm 98:5)

v. **The Lord reigned, let the peoples be enraged.** (Psalm 98:1a)

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS (2:16-20) *Brethren:* we ourselves who know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Alleluia, Tone 1

v: **Remember your assembly which you obtained from of old.** (Psalm 73:2)

v: **God is our king from before the ages, he worked salvation in the midst of the earth.** (Psalm 73:13)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (8:34-9:1) And Jesus called to Him the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

COMMUNION HYMN

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

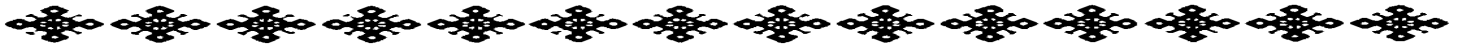
INSTEAD OF "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT..."

Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

The holy Gospel according to Luke 24:1-12 (4th Matins Gospel)

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

September 17, 2023



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Happy birthday to Menka Nedanis (Sept. 11)	her family
God's blessings for good health to all our grandkids for a new school year & activities	Baba & Dedo
God's blessings on Dcn. Kerry, Katherine, Alex & Noah Gonser	Connie Maxim
Oleg, Galina, Nikolay, Nikolay, Andrey, Irina	Irina Sivergina
Natasha, Elena, Victoria, Irina, Valeri	Irina Kozlyuk
Health of Hazel, Ralph & their family	the Gonsers
My family, Alina, Mykola & Yarik	Lucy Hogg
Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Milica, Calvin, Angelo, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, 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

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Blessed Repose to our sweet grandsons Andrew & Matthew & all our angels	Baba & Dedo
Memory Eternal for Julia Goodman (Sept. 19)	Goodman family
Adelaïda & Feodosiy	Irina Sivergina
Vladimir, Nina, Antonina, Elizaveta & Nikita	Irina Kozlyuk



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](#).

Sept 17 CANDLESTAND: Dennis Goodman	HOURS: Alexander Gonser	READER: Kathy Gonser
Sept 24 CANDLESTAND: Susie Ford	HOURS: Angelo Panoff	READER: Phil Wiles

COFFEE SOCIAL 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 our parish catechist, Reader Alexander Gonser, takes place on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy. Feel free to join in and let other inquirers know about these classes introducing the Orthodox faith.

ADULT ED CLASS will not be held on Wednesday, September 20. It will resume on September 27.

CHURCH SCHOOL There will be prayers during the Liturgy for the teachers and students and a blessing after Communion for them as they go to class. Lesson - [Elevation of the Cross](#)

OFFERING ENVELOPES We have resumed passing the tray after Communion for offering envelopes. Please drop your donations in the tray when it is passed after Communion.

ETHNIC DANCE Saturday, September 23 at 6 pm at St. Nicholas. Come and enjoy an evening of dancing & fellowship. **Everyone is welcome.** The cost is \$10 per person; children under 12 are free. Pizza & pop will be provided.

KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP will meet every Monday 10 am - 2 pm starting Sept. 24th. Whether you already knit/crochet, want to learn or just want to come and fellowship everyone is welcome. Contact Pam Pitlanish at 248-854-6351 with any questions.

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. 2,000 people have liked our Facebook page and 2,100 people have followed it.

MAKE YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH GIVELIFY Go to the [website](#) and on the home page click on the box **Give now with Givelify** which will walk you through the donation process; this is a secure site. (2.9% + \$0.30 of your donation goes to Givelify as a fee). **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.**

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE Rector's Report Diocesan Conference is October 7 & 8 at St Nicholas Cathedral, Fort Wayne with Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Alexander. We will be represented by delegates: Protodeacon Luke Gonsler, Susie Ford, and myself. Joe Tome is alternate delegate in the event that Susie is unable to attend in person or remotely (delegates may attend in person or by Zoom). Father Robert Royer will serve the Divine Liturgy here on Sunday, October 8. No Vespers here on Saturday, October 7. Adult education resumed on September 6. Icons with Memorial Funds looking to have 7 icons done which will hold the relics of various saints to be placed in church. Reliquaries have arrived. One will be sent to the iconographer, John Jurewicz, to drill holes in the boards for the icons to seat the relics. Music books have been prepared for congregational singing (in unison - not four parts) to open the door to more Wednesday Liturgies on those days when Fr Michael Bassett is unavailable. The book uses the text of the pew book and has the music for each part of the Liturgy (excepting the prokeimenon, Alleluia, and communion hymn which texts vary according to the feast). In addition, sound recordings of the music have been made and uploaded to our parish website together with the music book to be used as a tool for learning the melodies. Wednesday, September 6 was the first Liturgy using this book and the singing went well. The text and sound files are here <https://saintnicholasburton.org/ministries>.

Finances General operating expenses comparison from 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 is scheduled to be published in the October newsletter. Expenses for inquirers'/catechumens' books will go under "theological education" line item and will come from the monthly plate passed beginning in October for the seminarian/theological scholarship on the first Sunday of the month - envelope will be placed in the bulletin that Sunday to be used. x **Church School/Youth Ministry** begins Sunday, September 17. High schoolers will use the library. Elementary/middle school students will use the large classroom. Stephanie Price is coordinator and will serve as substitute teacher. Michelle Gerzevske, Jennifer Shann, and Gabriel Paul are serving as teachers. Noisy offering will be resumed the whole month of October and the children will sponsor a child or children from the Angel Tree for Christmas. Offering taken during coffee social after class. Please bring your spare change! The plan is to have the church school students shop for their Angel Tree child/children. Saturday, September 16 the teachers will prepare the classrooms and crafts. 100 backpacks were donated to Atherton School District thanks to everyone's charitable offering. **Fundraising** Net profit from the parish picnic on August 20 was \$2,396.70 - 1/2 to Maui fire victims through International Orthodox Christian Charities, 1/2 for Father's white vestments. Net profit from the rib/chicken dinner on September 10 was \$1,300. Car show was enjoyed by all who attended. **Social Events/Outreach Dance September 23 after Vespers** - \$10 per person, children free: pizza, salad, pop, dessert. **Saturday, October 21** - trunk or treat after Vespers. Decorate your trunks and bring treats! **Sunday, November 5** - parish elections - potluck luncheon. **Saturday, November 11** - game night after Vespers. **Charity ministries** 50 children will be sponsored for the Angel Tree and Eileen Branoff will chair. **Building and Maintenance** Painting of the bell tower will begin shortly. Sealing of crevices to keep bats out will be done. Leaf guards were swept clean. Filters were changed in the altar air conditioner. Air conditioner was fixed in the cry room. New valves have to be incorporated into the boiler. Cracks in asphalt will be sealed soon. **Parishioner knitting/crochet group** approved to use the fellowship hall on Monday from 11 am to 3 pm when the office is open.

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Monday, September 18 Fr. in Toledo

Tuesday, September 19 Fr. in Toledo

Wednesday, September 20 Fr. in Toledo
No Divine Liturgy
No Adult ed

Saturday, September 23

5 pm **Vespers**
Confessions
6 pm **Ethnic Dance**

Sunday, September 24

9:30 am **Hours- live- streamed**
10 am **Divine Liturgy - live- streamed**
Church School - **Baptism**

Offerings for the week September 10, 2023

Weekly Offerings	\$ 3,506.34
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,104.00
	\$ 402.34

92 persons in attendance on September 10