St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Newsletter

Diocese of Toledo-Orthodox Church in America
2143 S. Center Road – Burton, Michigan 48519
Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser
Email: stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton
Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org Church Office: 810-744-0070

Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Hours 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Wednesday- adult education 11:15 am
Saturday – 5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions
Holydays: Vespers & Liturgy as announced

"May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you." St. Jude 1:1

AUGUST 2024

HYMNS TO THE MOTHER OF GOD FROM THE MOLEBEN / PARAKLESIS

**To the Theotokos, let us run now most fervently, as sinners and lowly ones,
let us fall down in repentance, crying from the depths of our soul:
Lady, come and help us, have compassion upon us;
hasten now for we are lost in the host of our errors;
do not turn your servants away, for you alone are a hope to us.**

**O Theotokos, we shall never be silent. Of your mighty acts, all we the unworthy;
had you not stood to intercede for us who would have delivered us,
from the numerous perils?
Who would have preserved us all until now with our freedom?
O Lady, we shall not depart from you; for you always save your servants,
from all tribulation.**

**All those do you shelter, O Good One, those who in their faith flee unto you,
with your strong hand, you protect; we who sin have no one else
who intercedes for us before God, praying endlessly, in ills and all dangers,
for us who are laden with our many sins and mistakes;
Mother of our God in the Highest, therefore, we fall down to you, humbly;
From all the misfortunes, keep your servants safe.**

**For those in great sorrow you are joy, and for the oppressed, a protection,
and for the hungry, their food, comfort unto those estranged;
You are a staff to the blind, visitation of all those sick,
and to those held by pain shelter and a comforting, and to the orphaned, an aid;
Mother of our God in the highest, you who are the Spotless One,
hasten, save your servants from their sin, we ask of you.**

**Rejoice, Virgin most pure, honored scepter of Christ the King;
Rejoice, from you the mystical Vine sprouted;
Rejoice, gate of heaven and unburnt bush; Rejoice, light of the world;
Rejoice, joy of all; Rejoice, salvation of the faithful;
Rejoice, protectress and refuge of all Christians;
Rejoice, O Lady!**

FROM FATHER'S DESK **The Dormition of the Mother of God is the last great feast of the church year which ends on August 31. The new church year — which begins on September 1 — has as its first great feast the birth of the Mother of God on September 8. The church year, then, begins and ends with her, begins with her birth and ends with her falling asleep in death and her resurrection from the dead and ascension to heaven. So then, our lives begin and end with hers, we are born with her and we die with her.**

We call her "more honorable than the Cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim." These are not poetic exaggerations. We honor her above all the highest ranks of angels and all the saints. Why? Because she so considered herself as nothing before God that the Son of God was born in her heart and so took flesh from her womb to be born of her. Through her the God-Man lived among us and showed us Himself as the way to His Father through the Holy Spirit. Mary is the new Eve, indeed the Mother of Life because she gave birth to Him who is Life, the Son of God who took His human flesh from her. In her, then, we have a powerful advocate to intercede for us before her Son, for the prayer of a mother is powerful before the Master.

The first Scripture reading at the Vespers of her feast tells of Jacob's dream of a ladder extending from earth to heaven with the angels of God ascending and descending upon it. When he awoke Jacob said this place "is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" We call Mary, the Mother of God, these very titles "House of God" and "Gate of Heaven" as she is the ladder connecting earth and heaven, the ladder by which the Son of God descended to earth, took flesh from her and was born of her.

In the first hymn of the Vespers we sing, "O the marvelous wonder! The source of Life is laid in a grave, and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven." Now her tomb is called "a ladder", a ladder leading from earth to heaven, because when St Thomas arrived on the third day after her burial, the apostles opened the stone at the entrance to her tomb and found that her "body had disappeared and that only the shroud remained, empty and keeping the shape of the body." So by this the apostles learned of the resurrection of the Mother of God and "the ascension of her body, united again with her soul, above the skies in the close company of her Son, to be our representative and advocate before God."

"Mary, 'daughter of Adam'…having become truly 'Mother of God' and 'Mother of Life' in giving birth to Him who is the Fullness of Life (cf Jn 14:6)…passed through death. But her death was no dishonour because death, overcome by Christ, became a 'lifegiving death' and the principle of a new existence. As one of the saints put it, God has put death to a different use. "And the tomb of Mother of God at Gethsemane, as well as the Holy Sepulchre of our Lord, are as a 'bridal chamber' where the wedding feast of incorruptibility is made radiant."

We see in her falling asleep in death, in her resurrection and ascension into heaven, that which awaits every human. Her son tells us that "those who have done right will rise to the resurrection of life (as did His Mother) but those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment." Whether our resurrection will be glorious as hers was is up to us and how we live our life in Christ here and now.

At baptism we were give Christ, whole and entire, Him alive in us. The rest of our days we can spend conforming our life, our interior life, to Christ. And this will be revealed in the light of the divine presence for the light of heaven and the fire of hell are one and the same thing - the presence of God. To those ready to receive Him – light. To those who won't have Him – but have to have Him anyway because the Apostle Paul says "He will be all in all" – God will be fire. So whether we want God or not – we are going to be in His presence, and the question is "Are we ready for Him?"

The work of our life is to make our life, our inner life, fitting to the new world, the world to come, to prepare ourselves as vessels for the divine presence. Above all the holy people who have lived up to our very day, the Mother of God is one who has glimpsed this new reality – the presence and light and splendor of the world to come. She lived her life such that the Son of God took flesh from her and was born of her. And so she died in Him having lived her life in Him, her Son and God. Asking her intercession before her Son, like her let us conform our lives to His, make our life as His in every way through Him so that we live and die as our heavenly Mother did, such that we join her in the light of the glory of Christ's Face where he reigns with the Father and the Spirit forever. *With love in Christ, Fr Matthew*

DORMITION FAST begins on August 1 and continues to August 14. As is the custom at our parish, the Moleben to the Mother of God will be served in her shrine on Sundays after Liturgy beginning on Sunday, August 4 and continuing to August 11. Take the time to come before her icon at the shrine and ask her intercession for your and your family's needs. At the conclusion of the service you will be anointed with the myrrh from the myrrh-streaming Hawaiian icon of our Lady of Iveron.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD is celebrated on August 6. On Mount Tabor Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. "'He was transfigured,' Saint John Damascene assures us, 'not by assuming what He was not, but in revealing to His disciples what He was, opening their blind eyes and making them see.' Christ opened the eyes of His disciples, and it was with sight transfigured by the power of the Holy Spirit that they saw the divine Light indissolubly united to His body. There were therefore transformed themselves and it was in prayer that they were able to see and understand the change that has taken place in our nature through its union with the Word (St. Gregory Palamas)…[The} feast is therefore that of the divinization of our human nature and the participation of our corruptible body in those eternal blessings that are beyond nature. Even before accomplishing our salvation through His Passion, the Saviour showed that the goal of His Incarnation was precisely to lead the whole of mankind to the contemplation of His divine glory." *The Synaxarion* by Hieromonk Makarios of Simonos Petra, Volume 6, pg 392, 394

Hours Schedule

August		September		October	
4	Barry	1	Barry	6	Lucy
11	Lucy	8	Lucy	13	Phil
18	Phil	15	Angelo	20	Angelo
25	Angelo	22	Phil	27	Barry
		29	Barry		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

Reader Schedule

August		September		October	
4	Phil	1	Angelo	6	Phil
11	Angelo	8	Katherine	13	Angelo
18	Katherine	15	Phil	20	Katherine
25	Phil	22	Angelo	27	Phil
		29	Katherine		

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please find a replacement.

Candle Stand Attendant Schedule

August		September		October	
4	Dennis Goodman	1	Dennis Goodman	6	Dennis Goodman
11	Susie Ford	8	Susie Ford	13	Susie Ford
18	Ian & Stephanie P.	15	Christine Panoff	20	Christine Panoff
25	Christine Panoff	22	Ian & Stephanie P.	27	Ian & Stephanie P.
		29	Susie Ford		

If you are unable to make your assigned date please find a replacement. Let Susie know of any changes or if you cannot find a replacement (810-407-3016).

HOURS, READERS & CANDLE STAND. Please look at each month's newsletter as the schedule may have changed since the previous publication.

PRAYER SERVICE for the sick & suffering will be held at St. Mary Magdalene the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Email names to smmocafenton@gmail.com

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Please come & minister to Christ with our brothers & sisters on August 1 from 9 am-12:30 pm. "Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead." St. John Chrysostom.

CONFESSIONS the sacrament of Confession is offered on Saturdays after Vespers and by appointment. Call the parish office 810-744-0070 or e-mail stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com to make an appointment.

ADULT EDUCATION classes will resume in September.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE During the summer months please keep up your tithes and pledges as our expenses continue. June expenses were $3,877 over our income. Expenses remain generally constant throughout the year so please be as generous and consistent as possible. As of June 30 the endowment fund went down $3,000. Prosfora baking class took place with church school students on July 8. Next North End Soup Kitchen service is Thursday, August 1 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Church school class schedule for 2024-2025 will be set this month. For a fundraiser planning a brunch after church one Sunday in September. August picnic and dance - back will be mowed for overflow parking if needed, fogging against mosquitos will be done also. The air conditioning unit for the conference room and office is aging out and will need to be replaced. A new handrail was placed in the middle of the front steps of the church. The suggestion was made that in 2025 we schedule a photo directory for our 110th anniversary in 2026. Next meeting is Tuesday, August 13 at 6:30 pm.

PARISH COUNCIL meeting is Tuesday, August 13 at 6:30.

OUTDOOR LITURGY, SHRINE FEAST & DANCE Sunday, August 18th. The menu for lunch is lamb/chicken, rice, coleslaw, vegetable, & bread. Please bring a dessert to pass. Tickets are $20 adult & $9 children. Please purchase them from Sharon Jernigan by the 14th to ensure there is enough food for everyone. We are looking for donors for the lambs we'll be cooking! Please consider donating the cost of a whole lamb or making a partial donation.

Volunteers are needed Saturday, August 17 at 10 am to set up the pavilion for the Liturgy! Volunteers are needed to break-down the pavilion after Liturgy on Sunday! There is a sign up sheet in the parish hall for those who can help and for dinners. Skimos Band will play from 2-6 pm.

36th ANNUAL DORMITION MONASTERY PILGRIMAGE August 14-15. The guest speaker will be His Eminence Archbishop Daniel. Archbishop Nathaniel and Bishop Andrei will be in attendance. Look at the flier for more details.

21st ANNUAL ELIAS D. CHINONIS GOLF CLASSIC August 19th at Pine Knob Golf Course. This golf outing is being coordinated by Assumption & you can direct any questions to John Kaloydis at 810-922-2047 or jekaloydis@comcast.net. Look at the flyer for details.

CLASSIC CAR SHOW in our church parking lot on Sunday, August, 25 from 3-6 pm. hambergers & drinks will be provided.

PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICES AND EVENTS

Mon, Aug 5	6:30 pm Great Vespers for Transfiguration at St Mary Magdalene Church
Tue, Aug 6	10 am Liturgy for Transfiguration at St Mary Magdalene Church
Wed, Aug 14	6 pm Great Vespers for Dormition at Assumption Church
Thurs, Aug 15	10 am Liturgy for Dormition at Assumption Church

YOUTUBE CHANNEL subscribe to our YouTube channel Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Burton to receive notifications of upcoming livestreams for services. Livestreams begin at 9:30 with Hours.

MEMORY ETERNAL Frank Oginksy, brother of parishioner Joe Oginsky, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, June 8 at his home in Goodrich. You may read Frank's obituary here. The funeral service was July 13 followed with burial in Sunset Hill Cemetery. Please remember Frank in your prayers that he find rest among the saints and for the comfort of his family in their time of grief. Bog da prosti! Christ is risen!

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN we serve on Thursday, August 1 from 9 to 12:30 pm.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Razors & Shaving Cream/Lotion in August. Place the items in bags then put in the Blue Box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

HOPE IN A BOX

August	Razors & Shaving Cream/Lotion
Sept	Soap
Oct	Socks

August Coffee Social Volunteers & Sponsors	
4	
11	
18	Shrine Feast
25	

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).) *Please consider adding a little extra to your donation to cover the fee we are charged. 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.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP/SEMINARIAN OFFERING On the first Sunday of the month an envelope will be placed in the bulletin for this fund to be placed in the plate when it is passed. There is also a category marked "Seminarian" on your stewardship envelopes that you can include with your regular giving. This helps to support parish seminarians, those training to become catechists, and kiosk expense for theological materials for inquirers.

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.

MACEDONIAN OPEN 2024

Thank you again to everyone who volunteered, participated & donated. More pictures can be seen on our Facebook page.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

1 Dat Gerzevske
Julie Conover
Sophia Todorovsky
5 Paul Brayan
6 Diana Broadfoot
8 Maria Green
9 Katelyn Price
Milan (Michael) Stikovich
Steven Spankie
12 Janja Beslach
18 Lisa Pray
Tom Krigner
19 Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie
20 Quinn Gerzevske
22 Michael Borkovich
24 Philip Wiles
25 Sophia Batzos
26 Christine Panoff
27 Katherine Gonser
Tom Batzos
30 Cortney Batzos
Lydia Nicoloff

If your name is missing or has the incorrect information in the birthday, anniversary or namesday list please call the office: (810) 744-0070

NAMESDAYS

11 Susan Oginsky
Susan Popoff
15 Linda Marie Branoff
Maria (Papalazarou) Green
Marie Todorovsky
Marika Karayanis
Marilyn Branoff
Mary Batzos
Mary Anna (Marie Anna) Kilbourne
May Kokaly
Sharon Jernigan (Theotokos)
Sharon George
Sharon Krych
18 Laurie (Florinka) Brock
21 Cameron Stevens
Dat Gerzevske
26 Adriane Grossi (St. Adrian)
Natasha Oginsky
27 Monica Mitevski
30 Alexander Gonser
Alex Branoff
Archbishop Alexander
Saśo Pirkovic

ANNIVERSARIES

19 Luai & Amani Helal (1993)
21 Amir & Rimi Abu-Aita (2015)
Bill & Cindy Economou (1992)
26 Steven & Sharon Krych (1995)

DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

VISITATION TO THE SICK If you would like Fr. Matthew to make a visit to home, hospital, or nursing home, please contact the office 810-744-0070.

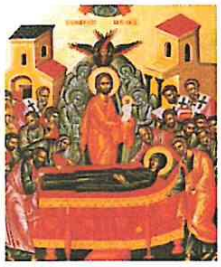
DAILY INTERCESSION FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The following are our brothers and sisters of St. Nicholas who are currently homebound, suffering from chronic illness, in recovery or in need of special prayers. Please remember them in your prayers and reach out to them with a card, a phone call or a visit! Please call the office to schedule a visit for Holy Communion.

Deacon John Bocek	Mary Karayanis	Angelo Popoff	Bill Tadrick
Paul Ellis	Nick Karayanis	Helen Popoff	Wendy Tadrick
Bill Haw	Macy Lemmen	Ron Salhany	Dave Vuckovich

To aid in your outreach, here is a listing of the addresses and phone numbers of our Homebound:

Paul Ellis	2360 Stonebridge Dr	Flint, MI 48532	
Mary & Nick Karayanis	2238 Old Hickory	Davison, MI 48423	810-653-1169
Angelo & Helen Popoff	2221 Bellemeade Dr.	Davison, MI 48423	810-653-3867
Dave Vuckovich	9352 Morrish Rd	Swartz Creek, MI 48473	810-348-4733 (Barb)



DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
ORTHODOX MONASTERY

Mother GABRIELLA - Abbess

37TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE CELEBRATION 2024

Guest of Honor:
His Eminence Archbishop DANIEL
Diocese of the Midwest, OCA

Hosted by:
His Eminence Archbishop NATHANIEL
His Grace Bishop ANDREI

PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 14

6:00 pm Vigil of the Feast with Lamentations.

Thursday, August 15

9:00 am Akathist, 3rd Hour, 6th Hour.
Procession to the Pavilion
10:00 am Hierarchal Divine Liturgy.
2:30 pm Mystery of Holy Unction.
5:30 pm Vespers

3389 Rives Eaton Road; P.O. Box 128, Rives Junction, MI 49277
Phone: 517-569-2873
www.dormitionmonastery.org
dormitionmonastery@dormitionmonastery.org

Live Music by the Skimos Band

August 18th
2pm-6pm

Dancing

Bounce House

Food and soft drinks for purchase

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S. Center Rd, Burton Mi 48519

Lamb and Chicken dinner

August 18th

after outdoor Liturgy

Adult meals $20
12 and Under $10

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH
2ND ANNUAL CLASSIC CAR SHOW

CLASSIC *Wheels*

AUGUST 25, 2024
3 - 6 PM

TIMELESS *Appeal*

Free to the public

CALLING ALL CAR ENTHUSIASTS!

At this unique exhibition, you'll witness a spectacular display of vintage wheels, each with its own story and history. Mark your calendar and come to our 2nd Annual Classic Car Show.

Hamburgers and beverages

ST NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

2143 S Center Road
Burton, MI

MORE INFO:

Donations welcome

AUGUST 2024

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S. Center Rd. Burton, MI 48519
810-744-0070
stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com Website: www.saintnicholasburton.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fast *Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)* *Fish Permitted (no other meat)*				1 ***9 am to 12:30 pm North End Soup Kitchen*** *Office Closed*	2	3 *5 pm Vespers* *Confessions*
4 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Moleben at Shrine***	5 *Father in Toledo* *6:30 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers @ St. Mary*	6 ***Transfiguration of our Lord*** *10 am Pan-Orthodox Liturgy @ St. Mary*	7 *9:30 am Divine Liturgy*	8 *Office Closed*	9 ***Glorification of St Herman of Alaska***	10 *5 pm Vespers* *Confessions*
11 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Moleben at Shrine***	12 *Father in Toledo*	13 ***St. Tikhon of Zadonsk*** *6:30 pm Parish Council* *Office Closed*	14 *No Liturgy* *6 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers @ Assumption* *Office Closed*	15 ***Dormition of the Theotokos*** *10 am Pan-Orthodox Liturgy @ Assumption* *Office Closed*	16 *Office Closed*	17 *10 am Setup for Liturgy/picnic* *5 pm Vespers* *Confessions*
18 ***Shrine Feast/Picnic*** *9:15 Hours* *9:45 am Procession* *10 am Divine Liturgy livestreamed on Facebook* *2-6 Dance*	19	20	21 *9:30 am Divine Liturgy*	22 *Office Closed*	23 *Father in Toledo*	24 *5 pm Vespers* *Confessions*
25 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *3-6 pm Classic Car Show*	26	27	28 ***Uncovering of the relics of St Job of Pochaev*** *9:30 am Divine Liturgy*	29 ***Beheading of St John the Baptist*** *Office Closed*	30 *Father in Toledo*	31 *5 pm Vespers* *Confessions*