

*December 20, 2020*

*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*

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020 28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ. Repose of St. John of Kronstadt (1908). Sunday before the Nativity. Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, Bishop of Antioch (107). Ven. Ignatii (Ignatius), Archimandrite of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—1435). St. Philogonius, Bishop of Antioch (323). (1338).**

**TROPARIA**

**(Tone 3)** Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down Death by death. He has become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

**(Tone 4)** Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all! Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, for the tree of life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave! Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit; if we eat of it, we shall live forever and not die like Adam. Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the beginning!

**(Tone 2)** Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

**(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 3)** The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word Eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message, with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He Who is from eternity God.

***The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!***

***v. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!***

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40)** Brethren: By faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be named." He considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead; hence, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his burial. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive

what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

*Alleluia, Tone 4*

**v: We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us.**

**v: For Thou hast saved us from them that oppose us, and have put to shame them that hate us.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (1:1-25)** The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

**COMMUNION HYMN** Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**The holy Gospel according to Luke 24:36-53 (6th Matins Gospel)**

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high. And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD** remembers the forefathers of our Lord: Adam and Eve (the first-created), the righteous Abel, son of Adam, the righteous Seth, son of Adam, the righteous Enos, son of Seth, the righteous Kenan, son of Enos, the righteous Mehaliel (Maleleim), son of Kenan, the righteous Jared, son of Mehaliel, the righteous Enoch, son of Jared, the righteous Methuselah, son of Enoch, the righteous Lamech, son of Methuselah, the righteous Noah, son of Lamech, the righteous Shem, son of Noah, the righteous Japheth, son of Noah, the righteous Arphachshad, son of Shem, the righteous Canaan, son of Arphachshad (in some versions of the OT, Canaan is called the son of Ham), the righteous Shelah, son of Canaan (some versions of the OT call Shelah the son of Arphachshad), the righteous Eber (from whom the Hebrews take their name), son of Shelah, the righteous Peleg, son of Eber, the righteous Ragab (Reu), son of Peleg, the righteous Serug, son of Ragab, the righteous Nahor, son of Serug, the righteous Terah, son of Serug.

The holy Patriarchs: the righteous Patriarch Abraham, son of Terah, the righteous Patriarch Isaac, son of Abraham, the righteous Patriarch Jacob, son of Isaac, the righteous Patriarch Reuben, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Simeon, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Levi, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Judah (Christ was of this tribe), the righteous Patriarch Zebulon, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Issachar, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Dan, son of Jacob and Bilhah (Rachel's maid), the righteous Patriarch Gad, son of Jacob and Zilpah (Leah's maid), the righteous Patriarch Asher, son of Jacob and Zilpah, the righteous Patriarch Naphthali, son of Jacob and Bilhah, the righteous Patriarch Joseph, son of Jacob and Rachel, the righteous Patriarch Benjamin, son of Jacob and Rachel.

The righteous Pharez and Zerah, twin sons of Judah, the righteous Hezron, son of Pharez, the righteous Aram, son of Hezron, the righteous Aminadab, son of Aram, the righteous Nahshon, son of Aminadab, the righteous Salmon, son of Nahshon, the righteous Boaz, son of Salmon, the righteous Obed, son of Boaz and Ruth, the righteous Jesse, son of Obed.

The holy Prophet-King David, son of Jesse, King Solomon, son of David, King Rehoboam, son of Solomon, King Abijah, son of Rehoboam, King Asa, son of Abijah, King Jehosaphat, son of Asa, King Joram (Jehoram, an evil king), son of Jehosaphat, King Ochoziah (Ahaziah), son of Joram, King Jotham, son of Uzziah (Oziah), King Ahaz (a faithless king), son of Jotham, King Hezekiah, son of Ahaz, King Manasseh, son of Hezekiah, King Amos (Ammon), son of Manasseh, King Josiah, son of Amos, King Jechoniah, son of Josiah.

Shealtiel, son of Jechoniah, Zerubbabel (who led captives back to Jerusalem, and laid the foundations of the new Temple), son of Shealtiel, Abiud, son of Zerubbabel, Eliachem, son of Abiud, Azor, son of Eliachem, Zadok, son of Azor, Achim, son of Zadok, Eliud, son of Achim, Eleazar, son of Eliud, Matthan, son of Eleazar, Jacob, son of Matthan, St Joseph the Betrothed, son of Jacob.

The righteous Melchizedek, King of Salem, the righteous Job, the holy Prophet Moses, the priests Hur and Aaron, Joshua, son of Nun.

The holy prophet Samuel, the holy prophet Nathan, the holy prophet Daniel, the three holy youths Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

The righteous Sarah, wife of Abraham, the righteous Rebecca, wife of Isaac, the righteous Leah, first wife of Jacob, the righteous Rachel, second wife of Jacob, the righteous Asineth, wife of Patriarch Joseph the all-comely, the righteous Miriam, sister of Moses, the righteous Deborah, Judge of Israel and prophetess, the righteous Ruth, wife of Boaz, the righteous woman of Zarephath, to whom Elias was sent (3 Kings 17), the righteous woman of Shunem, who was hospitable to Elisha (4 Kings 4), the righteous Judith, slayer of Holofernes, the righteous Esther, who delivered Israel from death, the righteous Hannah, mother of the prophet Samuel, the righteous Susanna. from [oca.org](http://oca.org)

December 20, 2020



**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all of St. Nicholas' parishioners & family~

be happy & safe! With love,

Bosa Kantar

Fr. Tom, Fr. Don, Fr. Paul, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Robert, Aaron, Milica, Calvin, Larry, Angelo, Joan, Peggy, Bob, Angelo, Christine, Dorothy, Irene, Allen, Deborah, Luba, Kosta, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Christopher, Allison, Jeanette, Kathryn, Taras Joseph, Ted, Marlene, Gladys, all the parishioners of St. Nicholas, my family & friends.

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE**

Walt Borkovich

Allison Borkovich

Roger Williams

Les & Susie Ford

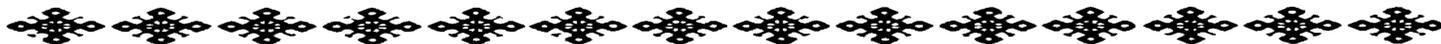
In memory of my loving husband. Nick's birthday Dec. 22 (3 yrs.)

Connie Maxim

**ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR**

Health & blessings for my family & myself

Bosa Kantar



Welcome to everyone 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](#) or [St George Church](#) or [Assumption Church](#) for their livestreams.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** can be picked up in the narthex. **If there are boxes for family members who have not been attending whom you will be seeing this month, please deliver them to help save on postage costs (\$5 per box of envelopes).**

**2021 CALENDARS** are also available in the narthex.

**OFFICE HOURS** this week are Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9–3. You are welcome to pick up your envelopes & calendar during the week. If you call ahead (810-744-0070) Marcia will have them ready for you.

**PLEDGE CARDS** Please send in your pledge card if you haven't already done so.

**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.**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES** needs help with Christmas dinner from 9 am – 1 am. All meals will be served curbside on Christmas day but they still need help with preparation and handing out gifts. Please contact John Manse at [jmanse@ccsgc.org](mailto:jmanse@ccsgc.org) or 810-785-6911.

**CANDLE INTENTION REQUESTS** can be emailed to the office at [stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com) or called in.

**Weekly schedule:**

**Tuesday, Dec 22**

Office Open

**6 pm**

**Royal Hours for the Nativity of our Lord – streaming on our YouTube channel**

**Wednesday, Dec 23**

**9:30 am**

**Divine Liturgy– streaming on our YouTube channel**

No Adult Ed

**Thursday, Dec 24**

**EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (CHRISTMAS EVE)**

Office closed

**6 pm**

**Vespers w/ Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great– streaming on our YouTube channel**

**Friday, Dec 25**

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD / CHRISTMAS**

Office Closed

10 am

Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of our Lord– streaming on our YouTube channel

**Saturday, Dec 26**

**SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS (2<sup>nd</sup> day of Christmas)**

10 am

Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of our Lord– streaming on our YouTube channel

5 pm

Great Vespers – streaming on our YouTube channel

Confessions after Vespers

**Sunday, Dec 27**

**ST. STEPHEN / SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY OF THE LORD (3<sup>rd</sup> day of Christmas)**

9:30 am

Third and Sixth Hours

10 am

Divine Liturgy – streaming on our YouTube channel

**Offerings for the week December 13 2020**

*28 persons in attendance on December 13<sup>th</sup>*

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 1,452.77
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 3,104.00
	<b>-\$1,651.23</b>



**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, or a phone call! Please call the office to schedule a visit for Holy Communion.

Larry Bladecki  
Deacon John Bocek  
Linda Branoff

Gladys Edwards  
Paul Ellis  
Bill Haw

Mary Karayanis  
Nick Karayanis  
Macy Lemmen

Ron Salhany  
Bill Tadrack  
Wendy Tadrack

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

Larry Bladecki  
Gladys Edwards  
Paul Ellis  
Vasilka Karatza  
Jo Sredich

3254 E. Midland Rd  
2 Harbor Dr.  
2360 Stonebridge Dr.  
Regency 1330 Grand Pointe Ct  
Victoria's House 1219 N. Dye Rd.

Bay City, MI 48706  
St. Clair, MO 63077  
Flint, MI 48532  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
Flint, MI 48532 \*Note new address