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- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 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

JANUARY 2022

Kontakion ON THEOPHANY by ST. ROMANOS THE MELODIST

Prelude. **Today you have appeared to the whole world, and your light, O Lord, has made a sign upon us who, with knowledge, sing your praise, "You have come, you have appeared, the unapproachable Light."**

1. In Galilee of the nations, in the country of Zavulon and the land of Naphthalim, as the prophet said, a great light has shone-Christ. For the darkened, a shining beam has appeared, blazing out of Bethlehem, or rather, out of Mary-the Lord, the sun of justice, has made his rays dawn on the whole inhabited world. Therefore let us all, Adam's naked children, put him on that we may be kept warm; for as a covering for the naked and a light for the darkened you have come, you have appeared, the unapproachable Light.

2. God did not despise the one who was robbed by trickery in Paradise and lost the garment woven by God, for he came towards him calling to the disobedient once again with his holy voice, "Adam, where are you? From now on, do not hide from me; I want to see you. Though you are naked, though you are poor, do not be ashamed, for I have become like you. Though you desired it you did not become a god, but now, by own will, I have become flesh. Draw near me then and recognize me, that you may say, 'You have come, you have appeared, the unapproachable Light.'"

3. "In my mercy, I was overcome by my compassion and came to my creature, stretching out my hands to embrace you. So do not be ashamed in front of me; for your sake, naked as you are, I am stripped naked and baptized. Already the Jordan opens for me, and John prepares my ways in the waters and in minds." The Saviour spoke thus to humankind, not in words but in deeds, and came, as he said drawing near to the river on foot, but to the Forerunner as the unapproachable Light.

4. When John saw the river in the desert and the dew in the furnace and the shower of rain in the Virgin, Christ in the Jordan, he was troubled by fear, as his father had trembled at Gabriel; for at that moment something happened, greater than at any moment; for at that moment the Master of the angels had come to a slave wishing to be baptized. And so the Baptist, recognizing the Creator and taking his own measure, spoke trembling. "Stop, Redeemer. Let this suffice you. I know who you are, the unapproachable Light.

Stanzas 1 to 4 of 18 stanzas

FROM FATHER'S DESK

Beloved, the feast of Theophany, the baptism of Messiah Jesus, is also called the "festival of lights." We celebrate our Lord's feast from January 6 until January 14. On the Sunday after Theophany water will be blessed as a remembrance of how the Lord Jesus sanctified water by being baptized in the waters of the Jordan River. This is a feast of light because our Lord is himself the Light of the world. His baptism is the revelation to the world of Him who is the Son of God in the flesh, of the eternal Father whose voice sounds from the heavens, and of the All-Holy Spirit who descends in the likeness of a dove.

In the fourth chapter of Saint Matthew's gospel the evangelist quotes the prophet Isaiah "upon those who sat in the region and the shadow of death, a great Light has dawned." Our Lord Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of this prophecy. He is the great Light who has dawned upon the entire world. Saint Paul says, "He who descended is the same One who ascended." The Son of God who ascended into heaven is the same Son of God, the true Light, who descended to us, becoming man and revealing himself to us. The Light came down to us, to dwell among us, to lead us to all Truth and holiness. And as we read in Saint John's gospel, "He is the true Light, which enlightens everyone, Who was coming into the world." (John 1:9)

We have received the saving light who is Jesus Christ at our own baptism. It was there that we faced the west, where darkness begins as the sun sets, to renounce the devil and all his works. We make a conscious and deliberate choice to renounce the darkness of the devil and to renounce the works of darkness which is sin. Then we are turned to face the east from whence the sun arises, we turn to face the holy altar, to face the Sun of righteousness and commit ourselves to the true Light who is Christ.

After his baptism our Messiah Jesus preached "repent for the kingdom of God is at hand." These words ring true from generation to generation. Repentance is a change of heart and mind that does not happen in one instant. It doesn't take place at that one moment of Baptism never to be heard from again. Repentance is a way of life, a life that is daily turning away from sin and following Christ more closely – and repentance is a gift from God. We have chosen the Light who is Christ at baptism. Now we must continue to choose him every day. As he himself tells us, "I am the Light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the Light of Life." (John 8:12) So our lives are filled with choices, choosing light over darkness. When we choose the Light, choose to do the works of God in this world, then we will find that the kingdom of heaven is not a place in space and time. "it is a disposition." Messiah Jesus tells us "the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21) It is the realization of the Glory of God at work here and now within us and in the world.

As the Light of the world entered Galilee to call his first disciples, so has He called us. Christ Jesus call us to be lights from His Light, to reflect Him to the world, to persevere in the works of Light: all virtue and love and compassion that He live in us the more deeply and that the world, through us, may know the Glory of the Father who is His only-begotten Son made flesh for us by the power of the Holy Spirit and to Whom is due all glory, honor and adoration to the ages of ages.

MEMORY ETERNAL – CHRIST IS RISEN
VALENTINA EVANENKO fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, November 24. She is the wife of Nikolai Evanenko and the mother of Taras Evanenko and Natalie Evanenko. Her funeral took place at Snow Funeral Home, Saginaw, on Saturday, November 27 with burial at Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Saginaw, on the same day. Bog da prosti! Christ is risen! Christos voskrese! Christ God grant His handmaiden Valentina rest in the light of His Face. God sustain her family by His grace.

10th ANNIVERSARY WINTER DINNER supporting Holy Dormition Monastery is scheduled on Thursday, January 20 at Saint George Church. Archbishop Nathaniel of the Romanian Episcopate (Orthodox Church in America) will be the guest speaker. Susie Ford is our parish coordinator. Our parish is responsible for providing the entrée, plates, utensils, napkins, etc. Please keep in mind the possibility of a cancellation due to COVID - such a decision would be made toward the very close to the date. Vespers will be livestreamed. Please register today using the enclosed form or the link listed on the form. Remember, if you are unable to attend, you can still make a donation.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Please come & minister to Christ with our brothers & sisters on January 6 – the feast of His baptism - from 9 am-1 pm. "Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead." St. John Chrysostom

PAN-ORTHODOX MOVIE NIGHT with refreshments is January 8th after vespers. The movie "New Men" from the Little Mountain will be featured.

NIGHT WITH THE PISTONS January 30th at 6 pm. St. Mary Magdalene is attending a Detroit Piston game as group to raise funds for their building program. For every ticket sold $5 will be donated towards the fund. If 100 or more people attend, the Pistons will match their funds with a $500 donation. Tickets are $23 and can be purchased at www.pistons.com/smmoc. For more information contact Andy Myers at 313-771-7588 or email him at AMYERS@PISTONS.COM.

THE PARISH COUNCIL will meet on January 11 @ 6:30 pm. Please call or email the parish office if you are unable to attend this meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE Leftovers from Saint Nicholas luncheon were donated to Carriage Town. A wonderful turnout in people and baked goods for the Cookie Walk with approximately $3,711.02 profit. Dormition Winter Dinner - Archbishop Nathaniel will be the guest speaker. Our parish is responsible for the entree, plates, utensils, napkins, etc. Susie Ford is our coordinator. Possible that the dinner may become virtual due to COVID. Our next fundraiser is the Theophany banquet on Sunday, January 9. Turkey dinner for Meatfare on February 27. Women's room there was a leak, needed to be repaired. The single door silver freezer in the barroom was fixed. Dennis Jernigan gave the maintenance report: Water sensor was fixed through insurance company. Bathrooms in school hallway - big job, all done: faucets, drains, shut-off valves. Dennis painted the shelf in the women's room and coat racks in women's and men's rooms. Receptacle cover replaced in courtyard. Toilet seal was replaced because it had failed. Water fountain - new regulator and drain line installed. Eavestrough - new downspout on one side of building because there was 30 to 40 feet between spouts. Need prepped for covers. Losing shingles on church every time there are heavy winds. Seams on eavestroughs are leaking and one is over the new AC unit. Terry Hammerberg will re-seal the joints and replace shingles, if possible. Perhaps fundraisers can be dedicated to covering the future expense of replacing the church roof which was changed decades ago. Dennis will put pvc pipe with red reflectors to show the entrances to the driveways in the evenings. Seals leaking on southeast windows in foyer in hall - maybe can be caulked or needs to be re-sealed.

HOUSE BLESSINGS Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the office if you would like your home to be blessed with the new holy water by Father Matthew.

OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER & THEOPHANY DINNER will be held on Sunday, January 9 following the Divine Liturgy. Bring your empty bottles to fill with Holy Water. Dress for the weather. The menu will consist of Lamb, Chicken, Rice, Vegetables, Bread & Butter, Coleslaw, Dessert and Drinks. There are sign-up sheets in the parish hall for volunteers for set-up, clean-up, your meal and also if you would like to make a dessert. Adult tickets are $15, children's meals are free.

DOVES FOR THEOPHANY are sponsored by Angelo & Christine Panoff in memory of their grandsons Andrew & Matthew Panoff ~ Memory Eternal and by Calvin & Ruth Conrad.

OFFERING ENVELOPES can be picked up at the candle stand. 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).

2022 CALENDARS are in the narthex including a small foldable calendar for your purse or wallet.

ANNUAL MEETING The Annual Meeting of Saint Nicholas Parish will be held on Sunday, January 23, beginning with a short prayer service after the Divine Liturgy. The Meeting will then reconvene in the Parish Hall. All parish organizations must present a report, oral or written, to be given at this meeting.

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.

FACEBOOK PAGE Please visit & follow our parish page: https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasburton

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN we serve on Thursday, January 6 from 9 am to 1 pm.

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

WINTER WARM UP Catholic Charities is in need of hats, gloves, scarves, socks, boots, coats & other warm winter gear. For more information call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri 9:30-3:30 at 812 Root St, Flint.

HOPE IN A BOX

January	Mouthwash & Toilet Paper
February	Shampoo, Conditioner & Lotion
March	Dish Soap

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	Gladys Edwards	Mary Karayanis	Ron Salhany
Linda Branoff	Paul Ellis	Nick Karayanis	Bill Tadrick
Mary Abu-Aita	Bill Haw	Macy Lemmen	Wendy Tadrick

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

Gladys Edwards	2 Harbor Dr.	St. Clair, MO 63077
Paul Ellis	2360 Stonebridge Dr.	Flint, MI 48532

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DECORATION DONATIONS

Poinsettias

(2) Lucy Hogg	In Memory of Evdokia & Ivan Ponomarenko
(1) Connie Maxim	In Memory of my loving husband Nicholas Maxim
(1) Ruth & Calvin Conrad	In Honor of Calvin, Ruth, Jeremy, Christa, Landon, Joshua, Rachael, Elias, Theophan, Basil, Genevieve
(1) Bosa Kantar	In Honor of my family& for good health
(2) Katherine & Kerry Gonser	In Memory of Christine & Aspasia Stathopoulos
(5) Donna & Marv Zischke	In Memory of Daisy & Sam Marvosh
(3) Eugene Akkerman	In Honor of Vladimir & Taïsa
(2) Stojan & Mira Prusac & family	In Honor of Stojan, Mira & the Prusac family In Memory of Danica, Milosh, Mary, Milka, Luka, Mara, Luka, & Ljubomir
(1) Johnny Kantor	In Memory of Stella Kantor
(2) Mary Batzos	In Memory of Alex, Kosta & Dimetra Georgopoulos

10" Wreaths

(2) Dedo (Angelo) & Baba (Christine)	In Honor of our kids & their families and for good health In Memory of our grandsons Andrew & Matthew and deceased family members

24" Wreath

(2) Diane & Randy Broadfoot	In Memory of Lawrence & Mildred Bladecki

36" Wreaths

(1) Ruth & Calvin Conrad	In Memory of Kenneth, Winnie, Harold & Lorraine
(1) Linda Branoff	In Memory of Tom & Stella Branoff

25' Garland

(2) Goodman family	In Memory of John & Rose Goodman, Angelo Branoff & Freda Farone

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

1 Lloyd Kilbourne Jr.
2 Barbara Vuckovich
6 Stella Nedanis
7 Anastasia Branoff
10 Jennifer Brucksch
Nikolai Evanenko
15 Cathy Edwards
Luba Yosheff
20 Alex Nedanis
21 Nancy Borkovich
26 Deborah Gonser-Adams
27 Ressa Borkovich
29 Protodeacon Kerry Luke Gonser

NAMESDAYS

1 Bill Cvetkovski
Bill Economou
Bill Kosman
Bosiljka Kantar (St. Basil)
Vasilios Georgopoulos
William Zelenko
2 Asher (Seraphim) Whittaker
Julia Peck
Juliana Loomis
Julie Marie Conover
3 Genevieve Whittaker
Jenna Carole Paul
Jennifer Broadfoot
Jennifer Lynn Borkovich
Jennifer Nicole Brucksch
Jennifer Nicevski

NAMESDAYS cont.

6 Donna (Ordana) Slaughter
Fannia Young
Fanny Cvetkovski
Fanny Popoff
Jordan Abu-Aita
7 Evanka Zelevarovski
Jeanette Brayan
John Borkovich
John Cvetkovski
John Joseph Tome
John Popoff
John Sfetkidis
John Zelenko Jr.
Johnny Kantor
Jonathan Sfetkidis
Jonathon Shann
Robert John Edwards
12 Tonya Cvetkovski
14 Benjamin Goodman
Nina Sfetkidis
17 Anthony Mitevski
18 Atanas Zelevarovski
21 Janja Beslach
22 Hayley Louise (Lynn) Paul
25 Gregory Oginsky
26 Chris Taylor
28 Les (Ephraim) Ford

ANNIVERSARIES

14 Randall & Diana Broadfoot (1978)
31 John & Marie Todorovsky (2004)

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

PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICES – FEBRUARY 2022

February 1st - 6 pm Vespers with Liturgy for the great feast of the Encounter of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the Temple with Symeon and Anna. Location to be announced.

Theophany Banquet

Sunday, January 9

Following the Outdoor Blessing of water
and the Divine Liturgy

MENU

Lamb/Chicken
Rice
Vegetable
Salad
Bread & Butter
Dessert
Coffee and Soft Drinks

Adults $15
Children 12 and under free

FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
Commemorated on January 6

TROPARION — TONE 1
When You, O Lord were baptized in the Jordan / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest / for the voice of the Father bore witness to You / and called You His beloved Son. / And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, / confirmed the truthfulness of His word. / O Christ, our God, You have revealed Yourself / and have enlightened the world, glory to You!

KONTAKION — TONE 4
Today You have shown forth to the world, O Lord, / and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us. / Knowing You, we sing Your praises. / You have come and revealed Yourself, / O unapproachable Light.

~ Thursday, January 20, 2022 ~

10th Anniversary Winter Dinner for the

Holy Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery

Special Guest / Speaker

Archbishop Nathaniel

Minimum Donation Requested

$35 Adult / $25 Student

To register & pay ONLINE go to stgeorgeflint.org and find the link on the home page.

Evening Schedule

- ✓ *5:00 - Vespers sung by the Monastery Community*
- ✓ *6:15 - Social Time & Gift Shop*
- ✓ *7:00 - Dinner & Speaker*
- ✓ *8:30 - Closing Prayer & Good Night!*

Name	Check if Student	Amount	Check if Donation Only

See Your Parish Rep to make a reservation, volunteer your time or be a sponsor
~ OR Call St. George Church at (810) 732-0720

☛ ***MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO ST. GEORGE CHURCH*** ☚

A Pan-Orthodox Ministry of the Orthodox Churches of Genesee County

- ✓ Assumption Church.....Fr. Jarrod Russell
- ✓ St. George Church.....Fr. Michael Bassett
- ✓ St. Mary Magdalene Church.....Dn. Michael Schlaack
- ✓ St. Nicholas Church.....Susie Ford

~ 100% of your donation goes to Dormition Monastery ~

ALL ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD AT SAINT GEORGE CHURCH
5191 Lennon Rd., Flint, MI 48507

mtb 12/06/2021

Pan-Orthodox Movie Night

Hosted @ St. Nicholas

First Saturday of the Month
1) December 4th - Martin the Cobbler
2) January 8th - New Men / From the Little Mountain
3) February 5th - The Shepherd

Vespers @ 5pm with Movie and Refreshments following

2143 S. Center Rd.
Burton, MI 48519

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church

Night at the Pistons

Help support St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church by having fun at a Pistons game!
For every ticket sold $5 will be donated towards St. Mary Magdalene Building Fund
A post-game shot is guaranteed for every person who attends
Your choice of a free pistons hat or celebrate faith t-shirt

<u>If 100 or more people attend the Pistons game:</u>
The pistons will match our funds with a $500 donation &
Our post-game shot will become a post-game photo!

DETROIT PISTONS vs CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

SUNDAY. JANUARY 30th | 6:00PM

Pricing

200 LEVEL ENDZONE	$23

TO GET YOUR TICKETS, Click:
WWW.PISTONS.COM/SMMOC

St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

DETROIT PISTONS

For more information, please contact:
ANDY MYERS | 313.771.7588 | AMYERS@PISTONS.COM

Theophany House Blessings

We (I) wish for Fr. Matthew to visit our home with the traditional blessing this year.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Please visit _____ on a weekday
_____ on Saturday only
_____ any day

Please indicate what time of day works best for you.

_____

Father Matthew or the parish office will call the day before your house blessing.
Please have the following prepared:

1. A dignified place covered by a white cloth with a candle placed there along with an Icon or Cross.
2. Please turn off television and radios.

Father will bring the Holy Water.

from THE PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF WATER ON THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD

Today paradise is opened to men and the Sun of righteousness illumines us. Today the bitter water that was in the time of Moses is changed into sweetness for the people by the presence of the Lord. Today we are delivered from the ancient lament and are saved as a new Israel. Today we are redeemed from darkness and are illumined with the light of the knowledge of God. Today the mist of the world is cleared by the manifestation of our God. Today all the creation shines with light from on high. Today the deceit has been destroyed and the coming of the Master makes for us a way of salvation. Today those on high keep the feast with those below, and those below commune with those on high. Today the sacred and loud-voiced assembly of the Orthodox rejoices. Today the Master hastens to baptism, so that he lift up humanity on high. Today the Unbowed bows down to his own servant, so that he free us from servitude. Today we have bought a kingdom of heaven, for the kingdom of the Lord will have no end. Today earth and sea share the joy of the universe, and the universe is filled with gladness.

Your Business Here

DO YOU STILL WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER? IF NOT PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE TO BE TAKEN OFF OF THE MAILING LIST.

$36.00 Single Space
for 6 months

$50.00 Double Space
for 6 months

$65.00 Triple Space
for 6 months

JANUARY 2022

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
						1 **No fast** ***Circumcision of our Lord*** ***St. Basil the Great*** *5 pm Vespers* *no confessions*
2 **No fast** *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *40 day memorial* *+Valentina Evanenko*	3 **No fast**	4 **No fast**	5 ***EVE OF THEOPHANY*** ‡ ***6 pm Vespers with Liturgy of St Basil***	6 ***THEOPHANY*** ***9 am - 11:30 am North End Soup Kitchen*** *Office Closed*	7 ‡	8 *5 pm Vespers* *confessions* *6pm Pan-Orthodox Movie Night*
9 ***Sunday after Theophany*** *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *1 yr Trisagion* *+Sophie Tula Stavridis* ***Outdoor blessing of water*** ***Theophany banquet***	10	11 *6:30 pm parish council meeting*	12 ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:15 am adult ed*	13 *Office Closed*	14 ‡	15 *5 pm Vespers* *confessions*
16 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *after Liturgy* *6 mo. Parastas* *+Dina Tasevska*	17 *Fr. in Toledo*	18	19 ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:15 am adult ed*	20 ***10th Annual Dormition Fundraiser at St. George Church*** *Office Closed*	21 ‡	22 *5 pm Vespers* *confessions*
23 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Annual Meeting***	24 *Fr. in Toledo*	25	26 ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:15 am adult ed*	27 *Office Closed*	28 ‡	29 *5 pm Vespers* *confessions*
30 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *after Liturgy* *Parastas* *+Nicholas Brock* *St Mary Magdalene Night at the Pistons (see flier)*	31 *Fr. in Toledo*	***FEBRUARY 1*** *6 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers with Liturgy for the Encounter of our Lord in the Temple - location tbd*	2 ***Encounter of our Lord with Symeon in the Temple***	3 *Office Closed*	‡ *Fast* *Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)* *Fish Permitted (no other meat)*	