

January 4, 2015

Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

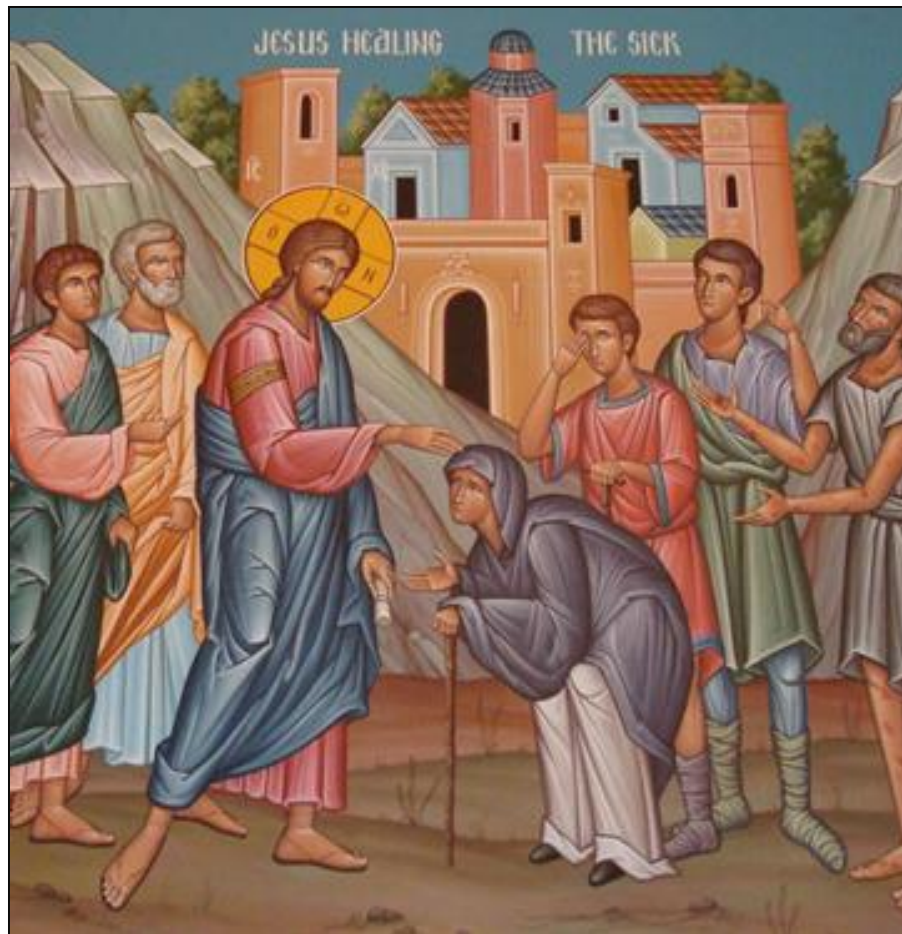
Orthodox Church in America

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Served by: Fr. Matthew-Peter Butrie – Rector Deacon Kerry Luke Gonser

Web Page: [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org)

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**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2015 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST-Tone 5.**

**Sunday before Theophany. Forefeast of Theophany.** Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles: James (Jacob), the brother of the Lord; Mark the Evangelist; Luke the Evangelist; Cleophas, the brother of Joseph the Betrothed; Simeon, the son of Cleophas; Barnabas, Justus; Thaddeus; Ananias; Stephen the Archdeacon; Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas of the Seven Deacons; Timothy; Titus; Philemon; Onesimus; Epaphras; Archippus, Silas; Silvanus; Crescens; Crispus; Epenetus; Andronicus; Stachys; Amplias; Urban; Narcissus; Apelles; Aristobulus; Herodion; Agabus; Rufus; Asyncritus; Phelgon; Hermes; Patrobus; Hermas; Linus; Gaius; Philologus; Lucius; Jason; Sosipater; Olympas; Tertius; Erastus; Quartus; Euodius; Onesiphorus; Clement; Sosthenes; Apollos; Tychicus; Epaphroditus; Carpus; Quadratus; Mark, called John; Zenas, Aristarchus, Pudens; Trophimus; Mark; Artemas; Aquila; Fortunatus; and Achaicus, Ven. Theoctistus, Abbot at Cucomo, in Sicily (800) Repose of St Eustathius I, Archbishop of Serbia (ca. 1285). St. Aquila, Deacon, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves-14<sup>th</sup> c.) Martyrs Zosimus the Hermit and Athanasius the Commentariusius (Superintendent of Prisoners), Anchorites, of Cilicia (3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> c.) Ven. Euthymius and twelve other Monks, martyred at Vatopedi (Mt. Athos-1285). Ven. Onuphrius of Chilandari (Mt. Athos), Martyr (1818)

**TROPARIA**

**(Tone 5)** Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead//by His glorious Resurrection.

**(Tone 4)** Prepare, O Zebulon, and adorn thyself, O Naphtali! River Jordan, cease flowing, and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized!

Adam, rejoice with our first Mother, and do not hide yourselves as ye did of old in Paradise; for having seen you naked, He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment.//Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

**(Tone 3)** Holy Apostles of the Seventy entreat the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

**KONTAKION**

**(Tone 5)** Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,// and we cry to thee: O Lord, save us!

**(Tone 2)** O ye faithful, let us praise with hymns the choir of the seventy disciples of Christ. They have taught us all to worship the undivided Trinity, for they are divine lamps of the faith.

**(Tone 4)** Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John: “Do not be afraid to baptize me.//For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

***The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! v: To thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!***

**THE SECOND EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY (4:5-8)** Timothy, my son: as for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

*Alleluia, Tone 8*

**v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us.**

**v: That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK (1:1-8)** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare the way" the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight—"John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the county of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

**On January 4 the Church gives equal honor to each of the Seventy Apostles, and the icon for the day shows them all together. This grouping of saints is called a "Synaxis."**

On this day we also commemorate apostles by name. Among these is the Apostle and Evangelist Luke, writer of the third Gospel and of the Book of Acts. In these days just before the Feast of Theophany, when a multitude will witness the Father's proclamation of His Son's lordship, the Gospel of Luke is especially interesting to read. This is because Luke records several instances in which women witness to the lordship of Christ, often while those around them doubt or scoff.

In a well-known event, a Pharisee invites Jesus to dinner, and while they are at the table a sinful woman comes and anoints His feet with oil (7: 36-50). She knows Him to be the true Prophet, the One who has compassion and power to forgive her sins. But the Pharisee considers Jesus' acceptance of her gesture to be proof that He isn't a real prophet, because a real prophet would have known "who and what kind of woman this is."

Luke writes about a different kind of witness when he describes Jesus' visit to the home of Mary and Martha (10: 38-42). Martha accepts the usual role of women—to serve guests, and to do all the things that certainly are necessary to maintain a household. Jesus doesn't rebuke her for this, but He lets Mary witness to a wonderful additional truth: women can also be His disciples, sitting at His feet to take in His teaching. In fact, He calls this "the better part." It isn't only open to Mary, of course, but to every person.

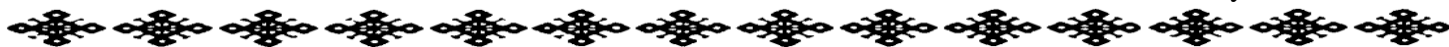
While teaching in a synagogue (13: 10-17), Jesus is approached by a woman who has suffered from a crippling spirit for eighteen years. She is a witness to His divine compassion; when He heals her she immediately stands straight and praises God.

The leader of the synagogue completely dismisses her witness, caring only that Jesus has violated the law by curing on the Sabbath day. But Jesus answers that anyone will "work" on the Sabbath day by giving an animal water. Should not much more a "daughter of Abraham" be set free from the bonds of Satan on that day? His loving—and practical—answer makes the crowd express joy at the wonderful things He is doing.

Luke also tells us that the women at the tomb (24: 1-12) have no trouble believing the "men in dazzling clothes" they meet there, who remind them of Jesus' words about His death and resurrection. It is the apostles, the men closest to Jesus, who dismiss the women's witness as an "idle tale."

These same apostles, after witnessing the Ascension, will devote themselves to prayer (Acts 1: 8-14). They will be joined by women, including the Theotokos, who have been witnessing all along.

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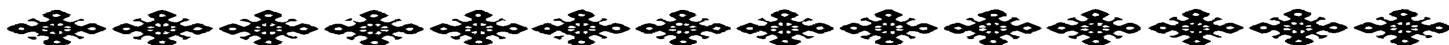


**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF**

Special Intention .....	Joe Tome
Health & God's Blessings John & Rose Goodman, Stojan & Mira Prusac, John & Gloria Zelenko .....	Sredich Family
Stojan, Janja, Prusac Family, Milica, Nikolina, Joshua, Bogdan, Rade, Jacob, Nedeljka, Malina, Dominic, Brian, Nedeljko, Allyssa, Bosa.....	Janja Beslach
Fr. Ilya, Fr. Moses, Fr. Lawrence, Fr. Joe, Deacon Anthony, Deacon Basil, John, Joseph, Tula, Reggie, Stojan & Mira, Evanka, Dorothy, Bosa, Walt & Zina, Evdokia, John & Gloria, Peter & Olga, Elaine, Jeanette, Ted & Marlene, Fr. David, Gladys, Stephanie, My family & friends .....	Joe Tome

**CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE**

Helen Bibilikow-Memory Eternal .....	Stojan & Mira Prusac
Blessed Repose & Memory Eternal newly departed Nikola Mamula .....	Peter & Jo Sredich
40 days Blessed Repose, Helen Bibilikow-Memory Eternal .....	Dorothy & Family
Blessed Repose & Memory Eternal Kum Walter Borkovich.....	Sredich Family
Joe Goodman-Memory Eternal .....	Dorothy & Family
Memory Eternal-Helen Bibilikow 40 days .....	Evanka & Family



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas. Please join us in our parish hall for coffee and pastries.

There will a 40 day Parastas for the repose of +Helen Bibilikow following the veneration of the cross. Coffee and pastries are being donated today in Helen's memory by her family.

**SWEARING IN OF PARISH COUNCIL & AUDITORS** will take place today following the Divine Liturgy.

**ST. CATHERINE'S DINNER OUT** will be held on Tuesday, January 6 at Aubree's in Grand Blanc on S. Saginaw St. All the ladies of the parish are invited to attend. Please see Stephanie Stikovich or Lucy Hogg to make your reservation.

**THEOPHANY BANQUET** will be held next Sunday, January 11 following the Divine Liturgy and the outdoor blessing of water. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy the wonderful meal. Adults meals are \$12 and children 12 and under \$6.

**PARISH COUNCIL** will meet Monday, January 12 at 6:45 pm. Please be in attendance.

**FLOWERS** We still have flowers available for donation. Available are: 4 poinsettias. Please see Debbie if you would like to donate any of the poinsettias.

**HOPE IN A BOX** for the month of January is toilet paper. 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, January 19. A list of food items is located next to the Hope in a Box.

**ONLINE OFFERINGS** is now ready for you to use. Go to our website [www.saintnicholasburton.org](http://www.saintnicholasburton.org) click on the donate tab, fill in the box as to where you would like your donation to go; Weekly Offering, Memorial Fund, Parish Pride or General Fund just to name a few and follow the prompts. It's that easy.

**PAN-ORTHODOX WINTER DINNER** a fundraiser for the Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction will be held on Thursday, January 22 at Assumption from 5:30-8:30 information fliers are on the tables in the parish hall and in you January bulletin. We hope that you can join us and bring a friend with you.

*Schedule of services and events for the week of January 4;*

Monday, January 5                      **Eve of Theophany**  
6:00 pm                                      Vespers w/Divine Liturgy for Theophany & Blessing of Water

Tuesday, January 6                      **Theophany**  
6:00 pm                                      Fr. in Toledo  
St. Catherine's Dinner Out at Aubree's in Grand Blanc

Wednesday, January 7  
9:00 am                                      Divine Liturgy  
11:00 am                                      Adult Education

Saturday, January 10  
5:00 pm                                      Vespers

Sunday, January 11  
9:30 am                                      Third & Sixth Hour  
10:00 am                                      Divine Liturgy  
Outdoor Blessing of Water  
Theophany Banquet  
No Church School

**Sunday Offerings for December 28, 2014**

<i>Weekly Offering Envelope</i>	<i>\$870.00</i>
<i>Children's Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Cemetery Maintenance</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>
<i>Charity Envelope</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>
<i>Love Inc</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Diocesan Support</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<i>OCA Envelope</i>	
<i>Charities</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Candle Fund</i>	<i>\$80.00</i>
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Seminarian Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Loose Offering</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<i>Kiosk</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>
<i>Christmas Offering</i>	<i>\$195.00</i>
<i>St. Nicholas Day</i>	<i>\$70.00</i>
<b>Total Sunday Income Dec. 28, 2014</b>	<b><i>\$1,295.00</i></b>
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	<b><i>\$3,629.13</i></b>

<b>TOTALS ARE YEAR TO DATE</b>	
<i>Actual Income</i>	<i>\$203,697.98</i>
<i>Actual Expense</i>	<i>\$188,993.62</i>
<i>+/- to date</i>	<i>\$14,704.36</i>