St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Monthly 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 Class 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

OCTOBER 2019

FROM THE FATHERS – ELDER AIMILIANOS

Naked man is something tragically diminished in his being. He is nothing and has only the consciousness of his nakedness, only the awareness of his sin, only the knowledge that he is a sinner. And this does not mean that I say things like "I am a sinner," or "I must go to confession," but it is rather an existential situation in which the soul is much more profoundly aware of its sin. . . Any soul can go to confession, read spiritual books, pray much, and shed copious tears. But all of that can take place without the sense of sin that we are describing here.

Why do we so often choose to conceal ourselves and cover things up? For the simple reason that it is a terrible thing for us to realize that we are nothing. Do you know what it means to go from thinking that you're special and important, from being respected publicly, from thinking that you've done great things, from being talented, wonderful, good-looking, charming, and I don't know what else besides, to recognizing that, on the contrary, you're naked and of no consequence whatsoever? It requires strength to accept that, a lot of strength. And yet we can't even accept the slightest blemish that we might have, or any fault, failure, error or sin that we may have committed, without covering it up with a lie, and then covering up that lie with a second one, and then the second with a third.

A person may conceal his or her nakedness by means of an inferiority complex, by acts of aggression, by self-justification, by donning various masks, and by many other means. Let me give you an example. It will be one taken from external experience, because I can't tell you anything else: that would be too deep.

Your professor asks you a question in class, and all the other students make fun of you because you don't know the answer. You get up, leave school, and go straight home. You stand in front of the mirror, fix yourself up, and put on your make-up, even though there's no one there to see you. But there, in front of the mirror, all by yourself – with that "self" which is everything to you – you can assure yourself that: "I, who they made fun of, am beautiful."

In this way, I seek to regain my balance, to compensate for the weakness exposed by my teacher and my classmates. At such a moment, when I'm in front of the mirror, I'm not standing there in my nakedness, in my inability to answer questions, but instead I'm standing on what I believe are my good qualities, such as my beauty, be it genuine or the artificial effect of make-up. And such "beauty" may be physical, emotional, intellectual, or even "spiritual," as we are now in the habit of saying. But it makes no difference. Whatever it is, it's a substitute for my nakedness.

Such strategies of denial also involve concealment from myself. What does that mean? It means that, even though I'm naked, I'll live as though I were not, and thus live a double life. Or I may refuse to grow and progress, as though I weren't naked at all. And this is something much more terrible, for it is the rejection of reality, and such a rejection can only have tragic consequences for me.

Life is full of people like that.

FROM FATHER'S DESK

Dear faithful and friends of St. Nicholas Church,

The text below is an excerpt from a talk by the late Elder Aimilianos of Simonos Petra Monastery on Mount Athos. It is Elder Aimilianos who tonsured our bishop, Archbishop Alexander, as a monk and it is this monastery to which our bishop returns, year after year. Fr. Aimilianos here opens to us a balanced way of life, not judging anyone but leaving all to God. This is our way of life because we are not our own, we have been bought at a price and so each one of us belongs not to ourselves but to God alone. Because we are God's and He alone is judge, there is no room for us to judge anyone else, whether ourselves or another person. May we each find some food for our souls in his words. With love in Christ,

Stop judgment of others and of self! '"Do not measure yourself in any deed' (St. Isaiah the Solitary). Do not judge yourself for what you have done--good, bad, virtue, sin--or compare it with others. How often we are dealing with this thing! Let us forget what is behind us and show no interest in what we have done. For by analyzing, we discover that we have done something important or something bad, something great and good and more accomplished than someone else or something smaller. Whether we judge the thing in itself, or in connection to our neighbor, we will sail into one of the traps: either into pride, if it is something good and greater, or into despair, misery, into the disintegration of our self, if it is not good. This is so because, as long as we believe that we are mature, that we have power within us, we bear the inaptitude of Adam and Eve, the frail ego that our ancestors bequeathed us. Therefore, in order to remain untroubled by thoughts, never stay to analyze what you have done. This is valid for all that happens with us. But how then will I confess if I don't judge? In confession I don't make an analysis of my deeds, but the revealing of my sins. This is a different thing, since I do not evaluate my deeds, but I simply relate them. I don't stay to think what I have done that morning, what I have done and what I have not done, since this thing creates in my soul a suffocating atmosphere. If we convince ourselves that we have done something good, you do understand into how much egotism we can fall. The word "do not measure yourself in any deed" is the true wisdom. Most, when they fell, they also fell for this reason. Or we use it to justify our passions. For example: I sinned once and afterwards I tell myself "what good is repentance"? What misery! How much is our self torn to shreds this way!"

Elder Aimilianos, *Logos Peri Nipseos*

Hours Schedule

October		November		December	
6	Angelo	3	Lucy	1	Calvin
13	Lucy	10	Calvin	8	Angelo
20	Calvin	17	Angelo	15	Lucy
27	Angelo	24	Lucy	22	Calvin
				29	Angelo

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

Reader Schedule

October		November		December	
6	Johnny	3	Johnny	1	Johnny
13	Amir	10	Angelo	8	Amir
20	Angelo	17	Amir	15	Angelo
27	Alexander	24	Alexander	22	Alexander
				29	Johnny

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING October 8th at 6:30. Please call or email the office if you cannot attend. Meeting information will be emailed.

MEMORY ETERNAL – CHRIST IS RISEN! Rose Goodman fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday, August 27th. She is the wife of John, mother of Stephen, Dennis (wife Eileen), the late Michael and late daughter-in-law Susan, grandmother of Benjamin and sister-in-law of Dorothy Goodman. Her funeral was Saturday, September 7th. Burial was in Great Lakes National Cemetery. Christ rest her in the light of His Face. Bog da i prosti! Christ is risen!

THANK YOU from the Goodman family for all of your support, kind words & donations. We appreciate you more than words can say.

MEMORY ETERNAL – CHRIST IS RISEN! Cheryl Ellis fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday, August 22. She is the mother of Paul, Sam, Chris and Ben. Her 9 day Parastas and burial took place at our cemetery on Friday, August 30th. Christ rest her in the light of His Face. Bog da i prosti! Christ is risen!

THANK YOU all for being so kind to my sister, Cheryl Ellis, through the years. She loved you guys & it means so much to me that you were there for her in her time of need & her last hour. God bless your entire church family. *Teresa Cross*

ORTHODOX WOMEN 27th ANNUAL RETREAT October 4, 5 & 6 at the Holy Dormition Monastery. See the flyer for more information.

ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL, AUDITORS AND LAY DELEGATES
As of September 19, 2019 the nominees are:

Parish Council Nominees (3 will be elected)
Mary Abu-Aita
Paul Brayan
Phil Brown
Connie Maxim
Ian Price
Bob Steiner

Auditor Nominees (1 will be elected)
Cathy Steiner

If your name is listed above and you do not wish to run for the parish council or auditor OR if you would like to nominate someone, please call the parish office at 810-744-0070.

The annual election will take place on Sunday, November 3.
****Absentee ballots will be available in the office beginning October 21st.**

RIGHT TO LIFE **Their annual benefit dinner is October 15th, 6:30 pm at Captain's Club Woodfield in Grand Blanc. The guest speaker is Dr. David Russell. The cost is $20 student, $35 individual & $250 for a table of 8. For more information contact Fran Schihl at 810-694-5079 or franschihl@comcast.net.**

TRUNK OR TREAT will be hosted by Assumption October 26th 6 pm-8 pm. See flyer for more information.

CALLING ALL SINGERS The 32nd annual "Community Messiah Performance" is November 24th, 4 pm at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Grand Blanc. Rehearsals are Nov. 2, 9 & 16th, 10 am-12 noon. The dress rehearsal, which is mandatory, is Nov. 23, 10 am-12 noon. There is no audition. Bring a pencil, your own copy of Händel's "Messiah" (any edition) & a bottle of water. Go to the free section at http://www.cyberbass.com/Major_Works/Handel_GF/Handel_Messiah.htm to listen to your specific part of each chorus.

PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICES – NOVEMBER 2019

November 20th – eve of the Entrance of the Theotokos – 6 pm Vespers & Divine Liturgy at location to be determined.

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY St. Nicholas will take part in the Angel Tree program again this year.

COOKIE WALK will be December 14th.

COFFEE HOUR volunteers are needed. There is a signup sheet outside of the kitchen. Please commit to helping out so we can continue having this social time together.

October Coffee Hour Volunteers	
6	
13	
20	
27	

HOPE IN A BOX

October	Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
November	Dish Soap
December	Socks, Towels, Toiletries & New Toys

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS Remember to sign up for Community Rewards online at Kroger.com or go to the customer service desk in the store. They send a check to St. Nicholas for a portion of everything participants spend in their stores.

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN St. Nicholas, 1st Thursday of every month, 9 am to 1 pm. St. George, 4th Tuesday, 9 am to 12:30 pm. Assumption – *Center for Hope, 517 E Fifth Ave*, 3rd Wednesday, 11 am to 1 pm.

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

SOCKTOBER! During Socktober we encourage donations of warms socks of all sorts. We will also begin distributing coats and winter gear in October. Their Warming Center opens on Monday, December 2, with their annual Warming Center Blessing event on Friday, December 6 at 11 am in the Center for Hope Dining Room. Everyone is welcome.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & NAMESDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

1 Vasilka Karatza
2 Ellyn Serra
3 Alyson Wilhelm
7 Jacob Abu-Aita
9 Sarah Neely
13 Allen Adams
14 Cameron Stevens
Téa Jonascu
15 Eugene Akkerman
Stephanie Stikovich
Zora Glusica
25 Phil Brown
27 David George
Taras Evanenko
29 Bruce Borkovich
31 Jack Todorovsky
Irene Batcos
Vladimir Pyatenko

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Michelle & Dat Gerzevske (2011)
13 Irina Sivergina & Oleg Dashevsky
17 Peter & Marilyn Branoff (2004)
18 David & Barbara Vuckovich (1986)
20 David & Cortney Batzos (2007)
25 Michael & Ellyn Serra (1986)

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

3 Dennis Goodman
Dennis Jernigan
4 Bernita Brown
6 Thomas Panoff
Thomas Stavridis
Tom Batzos
Tom Krigner
Tom Sfetkidis
8 Taisa Akkerman
18 Protodeacon Luke Gonser
Luke John Borkovich
20 Diana Mitevski
Diane Broadfoot
Diane Todorovsky
26 Dimitrios Nedanis
Jack (Dmitri) Todorovsky
John (Dimitrios) Todorovsky
29 Anastasia Pirkovic
Anastasia Tecla Butrie
Anastasia Whittaker
Anna Branoff
Stacy Jean Binelli
Stacy Loomis
Stacy Grousopoulos
30 Milan Stikovich
Reggie Milan Jehnsen

VISITATION TO THE SICK Fr. Matthew brings Holy Communion to the shut-ins on Mondays. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact the office. Presently, those receiving weekly visits are: Helen Ashmun, Paul Ellis, Pete & Jo Sredich, & Fred Oginsky. Monthly Fr. Matthew visits Larry Bladecki (Bay City), Peter and Olga Samaras (Caro).

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.

Larry Bladecki	**Gladys Edwards**	**Nick Karayanis**	**Olga Samaras**
Deacon John Bocek	**Paul Ellis**	**Macy Lemmen**	**Peter Samaras**
Anna Branoff	**Bill Haw**	**Fred Oginsky**	**Bill Tadrick**
Linda Branoff	**Mary Karayanis**	**Ron Salhany**	**Wendy Tadrick**

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

Helen Ashmun	**4436 Beecher Rd.**	**Flint, MI 48532**	
Larry Bladecki	**409 15th Street**	**Bay City, MI 48708**	
Nick & Marge Butrie	**30 E. Bertsch St. #12**	**Lansford, PA 18232**	
Gladys Edwards	**2 Harbor Dr.**	**St. Clair, MO 63077**	
Paul Ellis	**2360 Stonebridge Dr.**	**Flint, MI 48532**	
Pete & Olga Samaras	**1285 Cleaver Rd.**	**Caro, MI 48723**	**(989) 673-0821**
Jo Sredich	**4134 N. State Rd.**	**Davison, MI 48423**	**(Magnolia House)**

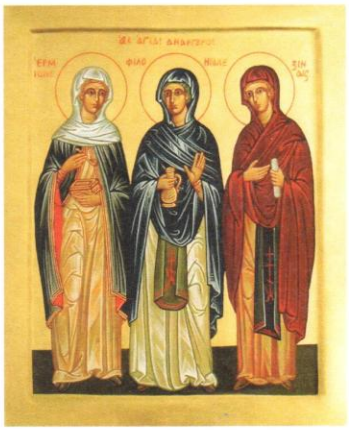
Orthodox Women in the Healing Ministries

27th Annual Retreat

October 4, 5 & 6, 2019

Holy Dormition Monastery

Rives Junction, Michigan



The Mothers of Modern Medicine
Sts. Hermione, Philonella & Zenaida

V. Rev. Dimitrie Vincent

"My Grace is Sufficient for You, My Strength is Made Perfect in Weakness"

OWHM is pleased to welcome Rev. Dimitrie Vincent as our speaker for our 27th annual retreat. Father was born and raised in the metro Detroit area and grew up in St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral parish in Southfield, MI. He received his M.Div. from St. Vladimir Seminary and did Ph.D. studies in historical theology at Saint Louis University, in Missouri. Father has served in parishes in St. Louis and Michigan before becoming the permanent pastor of St. Thomas Orthodox Church, of the Albanian Archdiocese, in Farmington Hills, MI. In addition, Father Dimitrie is also an Art Educator and Sculptor, teaching Art at a Charter School in Detroit for five years. Many of his sculptures are done in bronze, mild and stainless steel and copper.

REGISTRATION: OWHM.ORG

Please register by using one of the two methods listed below:
1.Use the PayPal link on our web site owhm.org (*any credit card is accepted*).
2. Mail the registration form found on the web site with a check made out to OWHM (U.S. dollars only, please) to OWHM, Monica Dellas, 2744 Carric Court, Jackson, MI. 49201 (517-414-3829)

Salad Luncheon

Thursday, October 24, 2019

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
2245 E. Baldwin Road
Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439
810-771-4611

11:30 a.m. To 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy an assortment of individual, delectable salads.

Includes: Tiropita (cheese triangle) & beverage.

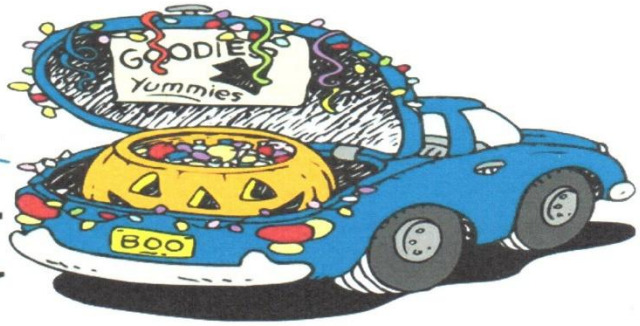
This salad experience is only $10.00

A **sale** of Greek pastries will also be available.

We invite everyone in the area to join us for lunch

ASSUMPTION'S ANNUAL HARVEST FEST &

Trunk or Treat



Saturday, October 26th!

6:00 to 8:00pm

2245 E. Baldwin Rd Grand Blanc, MI

Join us for this SPOOKTACULAR event of costumes, treats, and community fun!

Get those trunks decorated and ready for the kids to visit for treats.

Activities to include:

Kid Friendly Dinner

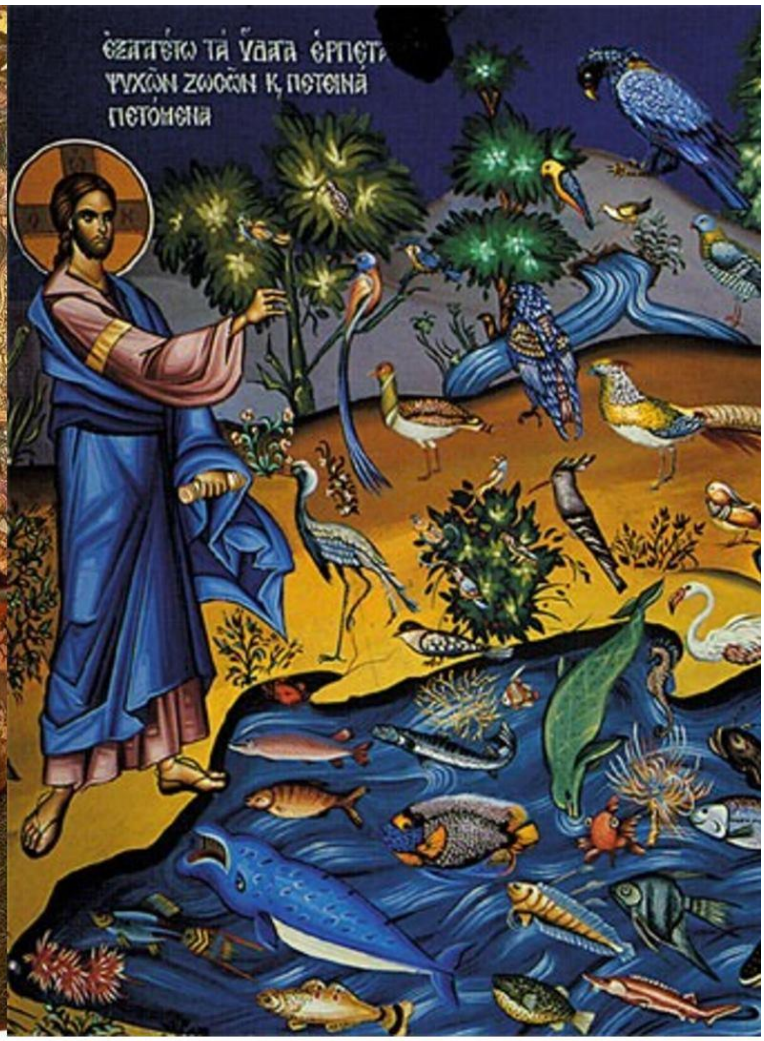
Bounce Houses

Basketball/Football Games

Crafts

Music by DJ Potsos

Trunk or Treating



St. Mary Magdalene Fall Lecture Series

THE BEGINNING AND THE END

AN ORTHODOX UNDERSTANDING OF CREATION AND THE END OF THE WORLD, USING IMAGERY FROM THE "CHRONICLES OF NARNIA"

Join us for our Fall Adult Education Series, we will be using images from C.S. Lewis's famous series "The Chronicles of Narnia", to uncover the Orthodox Teachings on the Creation of the World and the Second Coming. As part of our lecture series, we will be joined by His Eminence Archbishop Alexander for a special wrap up session on November 6th, as he speaks on his translation of St. Symeon the New Theologian's writings on Eschatology (the study of the end times).

+Wednesday, October 16th, 6:30 PM

WHAT IS MANKIND'S ROLE IN THE UNIVERSE?

+Wednesday, October 23rd, 6:30 PM

DO ANGELS AND DEMONS EXIST?

+Wednesday, October 30th, 6:30 PM

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AND KNOW ABOUT THE END TIMES?

+Wednesday, November 6th, 6:30 PM

ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER: "ST. SYMEON ON THE END TIMES"

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

Your Business Here

$36.00 Single Space
for 6 months

$50.00 Double Space
for 6 months

$65.00 Triple Space
for 6 months

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 South Center Road
Burton, MI 48519

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Flint, MI
PERMIT NO. 102

OCTOBER 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Times and events are subject to change	*1* ***Protection of the Theotokos*** *9:30 am Divine Liturgy*	*2* ‡ *No Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed*	*3* ***9 am to 1 pm North End Soup Kitchen*** *Office Closed*	*4* ‡ *Orthodox Women's Annual retreat*	*5 Orthodox Women's Annual retreat* *No Vespers*
					Diocesan Conference – Oct. 4, 5, & 6 at St Nicholas Church, Fort Wayne, IN	
6 *9:30 Third Hour* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*7*	*8* *6:30 pm Parish Council*	*9* 🐟🍇 ***Holy Apostle James Glorification of St. Tikhon of Moscow*** *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed*	*10* ***Father in Toledo*** *Office Closed*	*11* ‡	*12* *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
13 *9:30 Third Hour* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*14* ***Communion Calls to Bay City & Caro***	*15* ***Father in Toledo***	*16* ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed* ***11 am to 1 pm Assumption at Center for Hope***	*17* *Office Closed*	*18* ‡	*19* *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
20 *9:30 Third Hour* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Noisy Offering*** ***Church School***	*21*	*22* ***Father in Toledo*** ***9 am to 12:30 pm St. George Church at North End Soup Kitchen***	*23* ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed*	*24* *Office Closed*	*25* ‡ ***7 pm Flint OCF meeting at St. George with Fr. Gabriel***	*26* ***St. Demetrios*** *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions* ***Trunk or Treat at Assumption6-8 pm***
27 *9:30 Third Hour* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*28*	*29* ***Father in Toledo***	*30* ‡ *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed*	*31*	‡ ***Fast*** 🧀 ***Dairy Permitted (no meat)*** 🍇 ***Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)*** 🐟 ***Fish Permitted (no other meat)***	

NOVEMBER 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fast ***Dairy Permitted (no meat)*** ***Wine & Oil Permitted (no meat)*** ***Fish Permitted (no other meat)***		**Charitable Ministries by the Orthodox Churches of Flint:** **St. Nicholas**-N. End Soup Kitchen, 1st Thurs., 9 am-1 pm. **St. George** – N. End Soup Kitchen, 4th Tue., 9 am to 12:30 pm **Assumption** – Center for Hope 517 E Fifth Ave, 3rd Wednesday, 11 am to 1 pm		***Times and events are subject to change***	*1* *Office Closed*	*2* *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
3 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* *Elections after Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*4* ***Father in Toledo***	*5*	*6* *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed* ***6:30 pm Fall Lecture Series at St Mary Magdalene with Archbishop Alexander***	*7* *North End Soup Kitchen* *9 am- 1 pm* *Office Closed*	*8* ***Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & All the Angels***	*9* *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
10 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*11* ***Communion Calls to Bay City, Caro & Lapeer***	*12* *6:30 pm Parish Council*	*13* ***St. John Chrysosyom*** *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *No Adult Ed*	*14* ***St. Philip*** *Office Closed*	*15* ***CHRISTMAS FAST BEGINS***	*16* ***St. Matthew*** *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
17 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*18*	*19* ***Father in Toledo***	*20* *9:30 am Divine Liturgy* *11:30 am Adult Ed* ***11 am to 1 pm Assumption at Center for Hope*** ***6 pm Vesperal Liturgy location to be determined***	*21* ***Entry of the Theotokos*** *Office Closed*	*22*	*23* *5 pm Vespers followed by Confessions*
24 *9:30 Hours* *10 am Divine Liturgy* ***Church School***	*25* ***Leavetaking of the Entry***	*26* ***Fr. in Toledo*** ***9:am to 12:30 pm*** ***St. George Church at North End Soup Kitchen***	*27* *No Divine Liturgy* *No Adult Ed*	*28* ***Thanksgiving*** *Office Closed*	*29* *Office Closed*	*30* ***St. Andrew*** *5 pm Vespers*