

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing Two Blind Men

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

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The Propers for today: Sunday Antiphons; Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 6; Glory be ... now and ever; Kontakion of the Resurrection, Tone 6; Prokeimenon and Alleluia, Resurrection Tone 6; Epistle, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (EOT 65-66). The Propers can be found on pages 152-153 of the teal Divine Liturgy book or page 56 of the yellow pew book.

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Glory be to Him Forever!

Divine Liturgy Schedule:

All are welcome!

Scripture readings:

Epistle: Romans 15: 1-7

Gospel: St. Matthew 9: 27-35

Sat.	July	27	The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	July	28	SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. Health and salvation of Mrs. Donna Rozmarynowycz 11:00 a.m. +Joseph Chontos by Judy Chontos and family GCU Picnic at Hartsig Park Reader of the Epistle: Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore/Cantor
Mon.	July	29	The Holy Martyr Callinicus
Tues.	July	30	The Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus 9:00 a.m. +Anna Mae Dirda by Charlotte Dirda
Wed.	July	31	The Holy and Righteous Eudocimus 9:00 a.m. Special intention for Father Edward Perrone by John MacDonald
Thurs.	Aug.	1	Procession of the Cross — Dormition Fast Begins
Fri.	Aug.	2	Translation of the Relics of St. Stephen
Sat.	Aug.	3	Our Venerable Father Isaac and Others 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	Aug.	4	EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. Special intention for "child who left our Church" by Florence Orris 10:30 a.m. Akathist to the Mother of God — intention for our parish 11:00 a.m. +Peter Digon by Marlene and Andy Gillis Reader of the Epistle: Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore/Cantor

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS The faithful of St. Nicholas Church would like to welcome new parishioners and visitors. We are happy that you have joined us on our spiritual journey and we hope that you feel welcome. **RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION** If you are Roman Catholic or Orthodox you are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When coming to receive Communion please do not extend your tongue — tilt your head back and open your mouth so that the priest can place the Body and Blood of Christ into your mouth with a golden spoon. Please do not close your mouth upon the spoon. **FASTING BEFORE LITURGY** Please fast at least (a minimum of) one hour before attending the Divine Liturgy and receiving Communion. **THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** Please do not receive Communion if you have committed sins of a grave nature (i.e., "mortal sins"). Go to Confession first before receiving Communion. Visitors: please sign the guest book by the bulletin board.

Please continue to pray for the sick and shut-in of our parish: Doris Crawley, Lillian Stefano, and Kitty Marchione.

Dormition Fast The traditional rule for the Dormition Fast is a strict abstinence from August 1 to 14 (The Dormition or "Falling Asleep" of the Mother of God is on August 15), with the usual mitigations (wine and oil) for Saturday and Sunday and the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6). It is, therefore, observed as the Great Fast. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880, #2). The observance of this fast is voluntary.

Healing the blind and the mute In today's Gospel, we hear of three persons being healed of their infirmities, two men who are blind and one who is mute and possessed by a demon. The healing of these people are signs that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one, who has come to save the world. According to the prophecy of Isaiah, the messianic age will be introduced when "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped" (Is. 35:5 and Is. 29:18,42:7). Jesus heals the blind men and allows them to see again; He heals the mute, whose lack of speech is usually caused by deafness. Jesus is given the title 'Son of David' that expresses the faith and belief of the blind men when He enters their house. They immediately accept Jesus as Lord, and upon touching their eyes, Christ opens them. Not only are they opened for seeing the world, but also open for believing in Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of David and Son of God. At the moment of healing the blind man, Jesus used the phrase "let it be done to you." This reminds us of the command of God at the creation of the world (Gen 1:3), and the phrase "thy will be done" in the Lord's Prayer that we use every day.

Blind spots in our lives Are there any blind-spots in your life that keep you from recognizing God's power and mercy? Faith opens the way for us to see the power of God's kingdom and to experience his healing presence in our lives. The word *mercy* literally means "*sorrowful at heart*". But mercy is something more than compassion, or heartfelt sorrow at another's misfortune. Compassion empathizes with the sufferer. But mercy goes further; it removes suffering. A merciful person shares in another's misfortune and suffering as if it were his own. In Jesus we see the fullness of God's mercy and the power of his kingdom -- power to save from death and destruction, to forgive sins and lift the burden of guilt, and to heal infirmities and release the oppressed. Jesus never refused to bring God's mercy to those who earnestly sought it. How can we seek and obtain God's mercy? God gives mercy to the lowly in heart -- to those who recognize their need for God and for his forgiveness and healing power. Faith is a gift freely given by God to help us know God personally, to understand his truth, and to live in the power of his love. For faith to be effective it must be linked with trust and obedience -- an active submission to God and a willingness to do whatever he commands. When two blind men approached Jesus, he questioned their earnestness in order to test and strengthen them in faith and trust in his power. Their faith grew as they responded to his word with confident hope. He restored their sight -- both physically and spiritually to the reality of his kingdom. The Lord Jesus wants us to live in the confident expectation that he will fulfill his promises to us and bring us into the fullness of his kingdom -- a kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17). Do you know the peace and joy of God's kingdom? "Lord, help me to draw near to you with confidence and trust in your saving power and mercy. Free me from doubt and unbelief that I may approach you confidently and pray boldly with expectant faith. Let your kingdom come and may your will be done in me."

Honesty It pays to be an honest person in everything we say and do. No matter how complicated life is, we must remain honest and true. The Father in Heaven respects honesty, He commends those living that way. The best weapon we have to help us is seeking God's Will as we pray. A person who is serving the Savior will try to live and walk as He. No matter how hard it may seem, His love will keep you perfectly. If we are tempted to be dishonest, we will not fail, guided by Him. He has the power to keep us and light to shine when life is dim. So, continue to be someone honest. Keep your heart focused on God above. You'll never regret a life of service, to the One Who deserves your love.

Weekly Collections

7/21/2019

"My return to the Lord for all His goodness to me"

Offertory	\$ 1,458.15
Candles	\$ 43.00
Choir Loft	\$ 150.00
Total:	\$ 1,651.15

Thank you to those who generously support our parish. *We should use all of our money for the Lord, i.e., we should use all in a way that God would approve.* "Giving beyond living" — remember our parish in your will.

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

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Phone: (586) 791-1052; Email: stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com

Served by: Father Joseph J. Repko, Pastor
Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore

Cantors: George Nagrant, Nicholas P. Nagrant, Joseph Wanchik, Steve Terlescki, John P. Minarish, and Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore and Richard Baranko, *Cantor Emeritus*.

Choir Director: Nicholas J. Nagrant

Catechetical Director: Suzanne Swanney

Youth Directors: Adam Digon and Kimberly Kaufman

Liturgy Schedule: Saturday 4:00 P.M. (Anticipated Sunday Obligation with Vespers)
Sunday 8:30 A.M. (Slavonic / English mix)
11:00 A.M. (English)
Daily Liturgy as scheduled (see inside of the bulletin)
Holy days as scheduled (see inside of the bulletin)

They Saw Because They Believed

At that point, two blind men follow the Lord as He was passing by. But if they could not see, how could the blind men know of the Lord's departure as well as His name? Moreover, they called him "Son of David" and asked to be made well. In the two blind men, the entire earlier pre-figuration is complete. The ruler's daughter seems to be from these people, namely, the Pharisees and John's disciples, who already made common cause in testing the Lord.

To these unknowing persons the law gave evidence as to the one from whom they sought a cure. It indicated to them that their Savior in the flesh was of the line of David. It also introduced light to the minds of those who

were blind from past sins. They could not see Christ but were told about Him.

The Lord showed them that faith should not be expected as a result of health but health should be expected because of faith. The blind men saw because they believed; they did not believe because they saw. From this we understand that what is requested must be predicated on faith and that faith must not be exercised because of what has been obtained. If they should believe, He offers them sight. And He charges the believers to be silent, for it was exclusively the task of the Apostles to preach.

St. Hilary of Poitiers



Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

Clinton Township, MI

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na v'iki!

Announcements for July 28, 2019: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Please remember Fr. Roy Shubert in prayer. He is a former pastor of St. Nicholas Church. Fr. Shubert is in critical condition and approaching the end of his life. *"O Lord Jesus Christ our God, for the sake of your most holy wounds, hear our prayer and forgive all the transgressions of your humble priestly servant, Fr. Roy. At the moment of his death, accept into your merciful hands his soul cleansed of all stains of sin, and place him with your Saints in the resplendent light of your kingdom. For You are our salvation and redemption, and we give glory to You, together with your eternal Father, and your all-holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen."*

This Sunday afternoon, July 28th, GCU Lodge 250 invites everyone to their annual picnic, which will be held from 12-4pm at Hartsig Park in Warren. All food and drinks will be provided compliments of Lodge 250.

Last Call: Registration Deadline is MONDAY (July 29)-- GCU District 11 invites all parishioners to their Annual Golf Scramble, which will be held next Sunday afternoon, August 4th, at Rammler Golf Course in Sterling Heights. Sign up as a foursome, or as an individual, for this FUN event which includes a nice buffet dinner, awards, and prizes afterwards. Cost is a very reasonable \$65/person. For more information including the application to sign up, please look for fliers posted in the vestibule, or contact John P. Minarish.

Our annual Pork-n-Potluck Picnic date has been set for Saturday, August 24th, after the 4pm Divine Liturgy. Please lock this into your calendars, so we can all look forward to another great turnout. And, of course, friends, relatives, and neighbors are welcome, too! As always, we would appreciate parishioner help with the set-up, clean-up, and games for this year's event. If you are able to donate even the slightest amount of your time, we would gladly appreciate it, and ask that you please sign up on the sheets in the vestibule so we know we can count on your support.

GCU District 11 invites all parishioners to their annual Tailgate Party and GCU Night at Comerica Park, which will be held on Saturday, September 14th. The tailgate party will be held here at St. Nick's, and then buses will take everyone to the park for the 6:10pm game between the Detroit Tigers and Baltimore Orioles. Please see the fliers posted in the vestibule and hall, or contact George Nagrant to sign up. **The deadline to purchase tickets is Monday, August 12th.**

Help Wanted to refinish cabinets: We recently obtained some used wooden cabinets for our parish office. The price was right, but they are in need of a bit of refinishing. If you have the talent and would be willing to help out with this work, please contact Fr. Joe, Subdeacon Phillip, or Jim Van Kula. We would greatly appreciate it!

Free to a good home: wooden office furniture! Two of the older cabinets from our parish office are available to any parishioner who can make good use of them. They have been temporarily moved to the back of the hall, near the coat racks, if you'd like to take a look at them. The cabinets are available "as is," on a first-come, first-served basis—but please, if you are interested in any of them, please see Fr. Joe, Subdeacon Phillip, or George Nagrant first to make sure they have not already been claimed by somebody. You would be responsible for arranging your own transportation.

Now accepting photos and other memorabilia for our parish's 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2021! We are asking all current and former parishioners, visitors, guests, and friends to please check your cameras, computers, photo boxes, basements, attics, frames, junk drawers, memorabilia, scrapbooks, photo albums.....and turn in your good quality captures of those great St. Nick's moments and occasions (of any location, event/activity, group or era) in either digital form (preferred) or hard copies. If you have digital copies, please email scanned photos in jpeg form (.jpg file) to stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com. If you have hard copies only, please deposit photos to the specially designated box in the parish office to be archived. (If you want print photos returned to you, please include your name and contact information on the back.) Any questions, email us at stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com, attention: Val Marszalec or Jim Van Kula.

Akathist services at St. Nick's: For those that might be interested, St. Nicholas Parish has started a regular offering of a special prayer service called an Akathist to the Mother of God on select Sundays (check the service schedule in the bulletin each week to confirm). The Akathists will start at 10:30am and end before the 11am Liturgy. Please attend if you are able. We will be praying for the spiritual welfare and growth of our parish!

Have you heard? We now have the ability to accept donations on-line!!! We can accept donations electronically, and securely, through our website. Please check it out! Just go to www.stnicksdetroit.com, and click on the "donations" tab. Everything else should be self-explanatory and simple to use, but of course, please feel free to let us know if you have suggestions for making improvements.

Happy Birthday this week to Marlene Farkas (7/29)! May God grant you many more years of peace, health, and happiness!

Other Announcements from within our Eparchy/Deanery:

Icon Workshop coming to St. Basil Parish in Sterling Heights: Fr. Damian Higgins is scheduled to teach his annual icon class from September 16 to 20. This Icon workshop will teach the traditional Byzantine style of icon writing. Students will learn the traditional methods and materials of egg tempera. This course is limited to 16 participants, the cost: \$350 per person. All materials will be provided. Register by phone by September 2, 2019. To register please contact Fr. Mychail from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 586-268-1082. Please leave a message if Father is unable to answer the phone.

Upcoming Pilgrimage Opportunities:

August 17-18:	Eparchial Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch in Burton, OH
August 31- September 1:	Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, PA

Please note that if you would like to attend the Uniontown Pilgrimage, now would be a good time to secure your hotel reservations. Tent and camper space is also available on-site, for those interested. See Fr. Joe if you have any questions regarding either of these two pilgrimages.

For more info: Please see our bulletin, LIKE us on Facebook or visit our website: stnicksdetroit.com