

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



*Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind*



# St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

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**T**he Propers for today are on pages 189-91 of the teal Divine Liturgy books and pages 68-69 of the yellow pew books. *The week of the Man Born Blind:* Jesus anointed the eyes of the Man Born Blind, and he was enlightened, professing Jesus to be his Lord. He is an image of our baptisms, when we are enlightened out of darkness by the anointing of the chrism of the Holy Spirit. We remember the salvation of the Man Born Blind and our own enlightenment as we close the Feast of the Resurrection.

**Christ is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen! Christós Voskrése! Voístinu Voskrése!**  
**Föltamádt Krisztus! Valoban Föltamádt! Christós Anésti! Alithós Anésti!**

## Divine Liturgy Schedule:

*All are welcome!*

### Scripture readings:

Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34

Gospel: St. John 9: 1-38

Sat.	May	25	<b>Feast of the Third Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist</b> 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	May	26	<b>SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND</b> 8:30 a.m. +Sister Maria, OSBM by Theresa Ortman 10:30 a.m. Akathist to the Mother of God — intention for our parish 11:00 a.m. +Fr. Robert Barter by the parishioners of St. Nicholas Church <b>Reader of the Epistle: Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore/Cantor</b>
Mon.	May	27	<b>The Holy Bishop-Martyr Therapont — Memorial Day</b>
Tues.	May	28	<b>Our Venerable Father Nicetas</b> 9:00 a.m. Special intention for M/M David Repko and family 7:00 p.m. 100th Anniversary meeting
Wed.	May	29	<b>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of Pascha</b>
Thurs.	May	30	<b>ASCENSION OF OUR LORD, OBLIGATION</b> 7:00 p.m. +Ann Kulasa by Mr. Robert Kulasa
Fri.	May	31	<b>Postfestive Day of Ascension. Beginning of the Icon Workshop</b>
Sat.	June	1	<b>Postfestive Day of the Ascension. The Holy Martyr Justin</b> 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	June	2	<b>SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS AT THE FIRST NICEAN COUNCIL</b> 8:30 a.m. +Joseph Chontos by Judy Chontos and family 11:00 a.m. +Sister Ambrosia, OSBM by her family <b>Reader of the Epistle: Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore/Cantor</b>

**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, Kitty Marchione and Pete Digon.

**With Me Every Day** May I begin each day with grateful thoughts of You. May I be ever grateful for all that You do for me ... for guidance each and every day, protection strong and true, lifting me up in Your great love in all I say and do. Your love is like a river flowing through my heart, as I awake each morning, You're with me from the start.

**The Man Born Blind** It took a lot of courage for a young blind man to stand up against great odds. Even his parents were afraid to speak out. They excused themselves by saying: "He is of age. Let him speak for himself." But he was intelligent as well as courageous. He outwitted the crafty and clever Pharisees. "Well, this is news!" he said. "You do not know where He comes from, yet He opened my eyes ... it is unheard of that anyone ever gave sight to a person blind from birth, if this man in today's world it takes real courage and deep faith to be loyal to God. We live in very lax times. Too many people, youth and adults, want to be "with it." They go along with a group or gang because they lack the courage to be different. They find it hard to defend Jesus and His teachings to an unbelieving generation. It takes courage to say: "I'm different. I have certain standards. I think for myself. I won't follow like a meek lamb led to the slaughter. I want to be me! At one time, people painted over beautiful wooden objects.... furniture, doors, fireplace ornaments, because it was the "style." With the passing of years they realized their mistake and removed the layers of paint to uncover the real beauty of the wood grain. People often do this to themselves. Sometimes an intelligent high school student will hide his superior scholastic talents by saying: "I don't want the gang to think I'm a brain." Others go along with the gang and conform to low standards of behavior. Many adults also lack the courage to be different. Because "others do it," they follow like sheep. As Christians, we must be different. God gave us definite rules and laws. Do we have the courage to keep them and stand up for Christ? Can we do less than the today's Gospel.

**Memorial Day, May 27th** Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. Many people still designate it as such. It was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first celebrated on May 30, 1868, to commemorate them after General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic made a proclamation on May 5 in General Order No. 11 that: "The 30th of May 1868 is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance, no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit." During the first May 30, 1868 celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who were buried in the cemetery. Several towns throughout America claim to be the first to decorate the graves, which gave inspiration for the official proclamation. But in 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, NY the official birthplace of Memorial Day, because the town had on May 5, 1866 made Memorial Day an annual community-wide event, closing businesses and planned a special program so that people would be encouraged to decorate the graves. After World War I, the observance was expanded to include all those who had died in all of America's Wars. In 1971, it was declared a national holiday by Congress, which was to be celebrated the last Monday in May. It differs from Veteran's Day, which is observed on November 11, which honors all veterans - living and dead.

**Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, Thursday, May 30th** Jesus did not live with his disciples after his resurrection as he had before his death. Filled with the glory of his divinity, he appeared at different times and places to his people, assuring them that it was he, truly alive in his risen and glorified body. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). On the fortieth day, Jesus ascended into heaven to be glorified on the right hand of God (Acts 1:9-11).

## Weekly Collections

5/19/2019

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

Offertory	\$ 1,076.25
Holy Days	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 10.00
Choir Loft	\$ 150.00
Postage	\$ 11.00
Total:	\$ 1,257.25

Thank you to those who generously support our parish through your time, talent and treasure. Please remember our parish in your will — *giving beyond living.*

## St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

23300 King Drive, Clinton Township, MI 48035

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

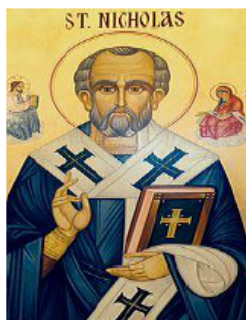
### *A Link to Baptism*

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man

but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.





## Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

Clinton Township, MI

*Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!*  
*Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!*

### Announcements for May 26th, 2019: Sunday of the Man Born Blind

**Almsgiving during the Great Fast:** We are happy to report that \$365 was collected for almsgiving during the Great Fast. This amount is up from last year. A big "thank you" to all the generous parishioners who donated! Your alms giving will go to help the needy, right here in Macomb County! This money was given to the Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. A thank you card was sent to us from Dawn Barrack, Director of Advancement, of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. The card is posted in the social hall. *"And if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday."* Isaiah 58:10

**Final Reminder: Icon Workshop at St. Nick's (May 31- June 2):** We will be having another icon-writing workshop at St. Nick's, starting this Friday evening, May 31<sup>st</sup>, and continuing through Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Participants will paint an icon of either St. Michael the Archangel or the Archangel Gabriel. Cost is \$135 per person, which includes all supplies. All are welcome. For information and instructions on how to register, please see the applications on the bulletin stand in the vestibule, or check out [www.stnicksdetroit.com](http://www.stnicksdetroit.com). A minimum of 10 people must register in order to have the workshop.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Meeting this Tuesday, May 28th:** As we've announced in this space for the past several weeks, we are planning to celebrate our parish's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the weekend of August 7-8, 2021. At this point we know that the formal Liturgy and Banquet will be on the Sunday afternoon/evening, but everything else about the celebration that weekend is still open for discussion. If you have ideas to share and are willing to help in the planning of this milestone event in the life of our parish, please come to our next planning meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, from 7-9pm in the church hall. All parishioners are invited.

**Next Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, is our annual ECF end-of-year picnic, after the 11am Liturgy.** All parishioners are invited to attend, and are asked to bring a side item or dessert to share. The ECF program is providing the hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as the drinks.

**IMPORTANT-- Eparchial Stewardship Drive:** We are nearing the end of this year's Stewardship Drive, but unfortunately we still are ~\$2,150 short of our goal (as of May 24). If you have not yet made your pledge for this Stewardship year, please send it in today! The deadline for making payments is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Come celebrate our Eparchy's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (June 21-22, 2019):** The festivities will be held at our own Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Parma, OH. There will be activities open to everyone on both the Friday and Saturday, June 21-22, with the main celebration being the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 11:00am Saturday celebrated by Metropolitan William Skurla. The homilist will be Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches. Please see the posted fliers for more information.

**Important:** Anyone who wants to attend either the Friday buffet dinner or Saturday luncheon **MUST REGISTER BY MAY 31<sup>st</sup>**. Each meal is \$25/adult or \$12.50 for children ages 13-17. You can register three different ways:

- by visiting [jubileeparma.eventbrite.com](http://jubileeparma.eventbrite.com),
- by emailing [jubilee@parma.org](mailto:jubilee@parma.org), or
- by calling Nancy Fredrick at 216-741-8773, ext 4.

**For anyone that is interested in attending only the Saturday Liturgy and luncheon for our Eparchy's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we are willing to help coordinate group transportation.** To help in the planning, we need to know how many people are interested in attending, and who might be willing to be drivers. Therefore, please sign up on the sheet posted in the vestibule ASAP if you would like to attend the Saturday Liturgy and luncheon, and also please indicate whether you would be willing to drive others. **Please sign up no later than this Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**—so we can make sure plans are made by the registration deadline of May 31<sup>st</sup>. If we end up renting vans or other large vehicles, please expect to chip in some amount for the cost of the vehicle. **Each person still must register on their own with Parma for their meal, however.**

**Happy Birthday to Christi Beitel (5/25) and Jim Van Kula (6/1)!** May God grant them many more happy, healthy, and blessed years!

**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!

**Registration Deadline this Friday (May 31):** **Eparchial Boys and Girls Camps: June 19-22, 2019.** This year the Boys/Girls camps (for teens age 13-17) will be held as a joint event on the grounds of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 1900 Carlton Road, in Parma, on the occasion of the 50th-anniversary celebrations. Cost is \$125 per camper, with a maximum of \$300 per family. Scholarships are available upon request. To register, visit <http://www.parma.org>. Space is limited. Questions: email [youth@parma.org](mailto:youth@parma.org) or call 440-834-0290.

**Eparchial Video Contest for Teens:** Horizons Media is inviting all teens, 13-17 years old, to join in the 50th-anniversary celebration of the Eparchy of Parma and participate in a video contest about life at their parish. The video should be 2-5 minutes long. For contest rules and guidelines, go to: [www.parma.org/videocontest](http://www.parma.org/videocontest).

**Volunteers Needed for our Eparchy's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** Volunteers are needed to handle parking, ushering, greeting, etc at the Eparchy's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. At this point, the goal is to get 50 volunteers. If anyone is interesting in volunteering for the Eparchy's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary please contact Subdeacon Phillip.

**Generous Scholarships Available for Ave Maria University and Ave Maria School of Law:** High School Juniors & Seniors, and College Seniors & Post Graduates, you are invited to Ave Summer Fest, Wednesday, June 12, 6:00 p.m. Dinner ~ 6:30 p.m. Program. Meet AMU & Ave Law founder Tom Monaghan, AMU V.P. of Enrollment Brent Johnson, AMSL Associate Dean of Admissions Tabitha Canalda; alumni, and current students to learn about these generous scholarships: **Ave Maria School of Law - Michigan/Toledo Full-Tuition Scholarship** (Plus Stipend) and **Ave Maria University - Michigan Scholarship \$28,000 over 4 years** (Plus additional AMU Aid) and **Ave Maria University - Michigan Homeschool Scholarship \$36,000 over 4 years** (Plus additional AMU Aid). Enjoy an evening of great food, fellowship, and live music. **FREE** - Registration required by Monday, June 10 to attend. For more information & to register go to [www.avemariafoundation.org](http://www.avemariafoundation.org) or call 734-930-3441

For more info: Please see our bulletin, LIKE us on Facebook or visit our website: [stnicksdetroit.com](http://stnicksdetroit.com)