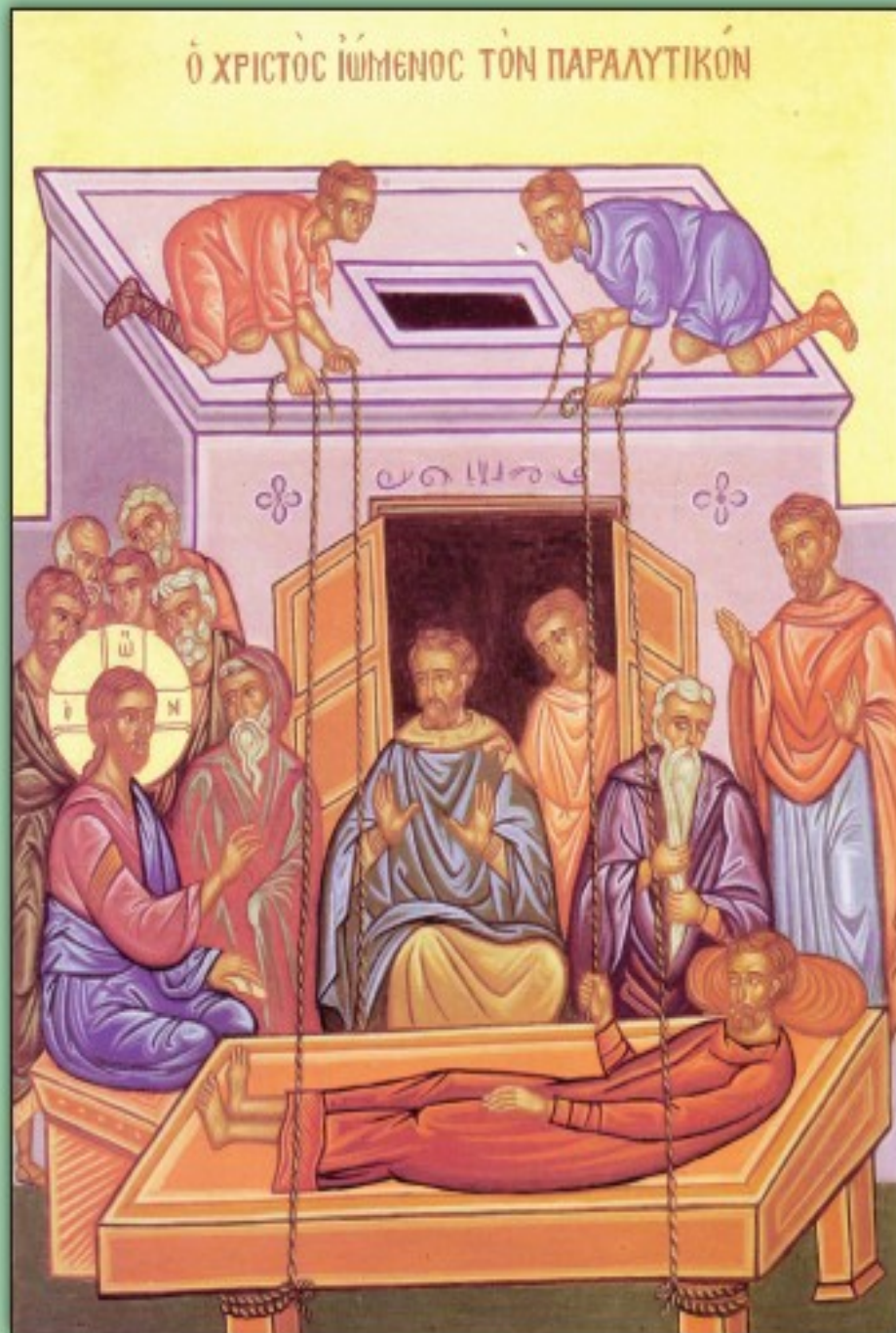


SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS



*Icon of Healing the Paralytic*

# St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

23300 King Drive

Clinton Township, MI 48035

Parish Office: 586-791-1052

Parish Cell: 216-501-0319

Email: [frrepko@ameritech.net](mailto:frrepko@ameritech.net)

[stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com](mailto:stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com)

Website: [stnicksdetroit.com](http://stnicksdetroit.com)



**T**he Propers for today: Liturgy of St. Basil is celebrated; Sunday Antiphons; Troparion, Resurrection Tone 6; Glory be ... Now and ever; Kontakion of the Second Sunday of the Great Fast, Tone 4; Prokeimenon, Tone 5 and Alleluia, Tone 6; Epistle, Second Sunday of the Great Fast (EOT 183); Gospel of the Second Sunday of the Great Fast; Communion Hymn of Sunday.

**GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER! SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!**

*The Year of Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Catholic Church*

Scripture readings: Epistle: Hebrews 1: 10-2:3

Gospel: St. Mark 2: 1-12

## Divine Liturgy Schedule:

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>SECOND ALL SOULS SATURDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. All Souls Liturgy — for the faithful departed 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST — ST. GREGORY PALAMAS</b> 8:30 a.m. Birthday blessings for Deacon John Hanchin by Ruth Hanchin 10:00 a.m. Pysanki making class 11:00 a.m. +William and Cheryl Ladwig by Terry North
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>The Venerable Martyr Eudoxia</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>The Holy Martyr Theodotus</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>The Holy Martyr Eutropius</b> 7:00 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy (+Helen and Andrew Artel by J. Chontos)
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>The Venerable Father Gerasimus</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>The Holy Martyr Conon</b> 5:00 p.m. Fish Fry 7:00 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy (+Paul and Anna Warhola)
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>THIRD ALL SOULS SATURDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. All Souls Liturgy — for the faithful departed 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST — VENERATION</b> 8:30 a.m. Uncle George Kushner, Aunt Millie & Robbie by Linda Patterson 10:00 a.m. Pysanki making class 10:30 a.m. Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God — parish and eparchy 11:00 a.m. +Raymond Huddas by St. Germain family

**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 as wide as possible so that the priest can place the Body and Blood of Christ into your mouth. **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. **All precautions are being taken to make our church as safe and sanitary as possible during this time of COVID.**

**Please continue to pray for the sick and shut-in:** Doris Crawley, Lillian Stefano, Kitty Marchione, Marie Sloff, Anna Uhrin, Cindy Dinsmore, Jerry May, Brian St. Germain.

**Year of St. Joseph** St. Matthew's Gospel describes him as a “just man” (1: 19). People invoke his aid for workers, families, home buyers and sellers, and the grace of a happy death, among other things. He is able to assist us at anytime and for anything. St. Theresa of Avilla echoed this sentiment when she wrote, “I know by experience that the glorious St. Joseph assists us generally in all necessities. I never asked him for anything which he did not obtain for me.” **Blessed St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to your honor and give myself to you, that you may always be my father, my protector and my guide in the way of salvation.**

**Second Sunday of the Great Fast: Carrying Other People** People are self-centered — perhaps more than any other time in history. Urban migration, pressures of work and the demands of the family have left us with very little time for our friends. When we do have some time, we wish to relax and unwind in our own privacy. There is a lack of interest in spending time with other people, to be concerned for them and to share in their struggles. But as people of Christ, we are commanded to share with others the good news of God's saving grace through the Lord Jesus. Unsaved people do not know how to trust in Christ and we need to lead the way for them to follow. Just like the four friends in Mark 2:1-12, we need to carry our friend who is “paralyzed” by sin and suffering to be healed by the Lord Jesus (our friend could be paralyzed because of COVID). The above passage tells of four (4) principles that we need to observe when we consider carrying other people. So, how do we carry others? Firstly, we need to carry our friends. Secondly, we need to carry our friends to Jesus. The direction we bring them towards is the Lord Jesus Christ. Thirdly, we need to carry our friends above other people. Like the four friends we need to give priority to the salvation of our friends. And finally, we need to carry our friends by faith. In Mark 2:5, Jesus saves the paralytic because of the faith of his friends. We are living in perilous times. We need to make our lives count. Indeed he who wins souls is wise. (Proverbs 11:30) We must look beyond our own personal problems and look out for others. Who are you carrying to Jesus today?

**If you've already given something up for Great Lent ...** it's not too late to embrace something, too. Volunteer somewhere and get up close and personal with people who can teach you about faith in the midst of poverty and despair. Go on a retreat and spend some time alone with God. Heal a relationship that you wrote off long ago. Be nice to telemarketers, the lepers of our time. Take a teenager to lunch and see the world through the eyes of youth. Call someone in a nursing home. Praise your spouse, your kids and your co-workers. Invite someone to lunch you wouldn't normally include. Use a talent you left buried. Pick up your clarinet, your novel, your paintbrush. Read something beautiful every day: a Bible passage, a poem. And smile. If you really believe in the promise of Easter, your face should show it.

“The value of fasting consists not only in avoiding certain foods, but in giving up sinful practices. The person who limits his fast only to abstaining from meat is the one who especially lowers the value of it. Do you fast? Prove it by doing good works. If you see someone in need, take pity on them. If you see a friend being honored, don't get jealous of him. For a true fast, you cannot fast only with your mouth. You must fast with your eyes, your ears, your feet, your hands and all parts of your body.”  
— St. John Chrysostom

“Whether they were young or old, educated or uneducated, rich or poor, healthy or sick, the saints all had one thing in common: Prayer had a central place in their lives. They had amazing friendships with God because they were men and women of prayer. If you do nothing else with your life, develop an amazing friendship with God. Become a man or woman of prayer. This friendship will change the way you see yourself and the world.” — *Rediscover the Saints*, Matthew Kelly

## Weekly Collections

2/21/2021

**Celebrating our  
100th anniversary year!**

Offertory	\$ 2,295.00
Lent	\$ 120.00
Easter	\$ 20.00
Holy Days	\$ 120.00
Fuel	\$ 30.00
Candles	\$ 10.00
Choir Loft	\$ 150.00
Snow Removal	\$ 10.00
Horizons	\$ 115.00
Shrine	\$ 145.00
Altar Clothes	\$ 1,125.00
E-donations	\$ 200.00
Total:	\$ 4,340.00

St. Nicholas parishioners are exceptionally generous. Thank you!

# 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)

## *You are Forgiven and Healed*

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."





## St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

Clinton Township, MI

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

*Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na v'iki!*

**\*\*\* Celebrating 100 years: Aug 21-22, 2021 \*\*\***

### Announcements for February 28, 2021: Second Sunday of The Great Fast — St. Gregory Palamas

**Presanctified Liturgies Reminder:** As usual during Lent, we have the special *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts* every Wednesday and Friday evening at 7:00pm. We invite you to make these Liturgies a part of your Lenten observations this year.

**Friday Fish Fry Fundraiser—with COVID precautions!** Our Lenten Fish Fry fundraiser has started and will continue every Friday throughout Lent, from 5:00-6:45pm in the Church Hall. This year you will notice some differences because we are taking precautions per the latest COVID guidelines set forth by the State of Michigan. Dine-in and take-out dinners are both available, but dine-in seating is limited. Please come for a nice meal and support your church at the same time! The Fish Fry is co-sponsored by GCU Lodge 860, and all profits are matched by the GCU for double the benefit for our parish.

**Lenten Almsgiving:** As we did in previous years during the Great Fast, we are collecting donations for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. Because of the pandemic the need is even greater, so please consider helping our neighbors in need—this is how we show our love for one another! The donation container will be in the vestibule as usual; however, for those who would like to donate online we can accept them through our website, [www.stnicksdetroit.com](http://www.stnicksdetroit.com). To donate online go to our website, hit the donate button and make a note in the memo box that it's for "Catholic Charities," or "CCSM." Thank you for your generosity! For more information, please contact Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore.

**Now for Sale:** Pascha Basket Covers, beautifully embroidered by one of our parishioners. They are available for \$45.00/each, plus shipping and handling (unless you arrange to pick up here at church). Please use the order forms on our website, [www.stnicksdetroit.com](http://www.stnicksdetroit.com), or see Fr. Joe to order in person. Orders must be received by March 23<sup>rd</sup> to ensure delivery by Easter (April 4<sup>th</sup>). All proceeds benefit St. Nicholas Church.

**Wanted: Parish Photos and Memorabilia!** Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee is hard at work digging up any and all pictures and other memorabilia from our parish's history, for potential use and display as part of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration later this year. If you have any items from our parish history that you'd like to share for our Anniversary—photos, documents, articles, mementos, programs, recordings, etc— we would LOVE to see them! Simply contact Karen Kaufman or Jim Van Kula, and they will make special arrangements with you on the proper handling and eventual return of your items.

Keep your eyes open for the next installment of our "Five Minutes of Formation" online videos: As a reminder, these videos are being posted to our parish YouTube and Facebook sites as supplemental information for our ECF students and parents—but can be watched by anyone interested! If you have any questions regarding ECF content, or something that you would like Subdeacon Phillip to address in a future video, please email him at our parish email address ([stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com](mailto:stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com)).

St. Nicholas Church Choir Rehearsal for Easter: There will be only one rehearsal for Easter. It will be at St. Nicholas Church on Thursday, March 18, from 7-9pm. New members are welcome, including interested middle and high schoolers and college students. All are welcome to join!


**You're Invited—St. Nicholas Parish Prayer Ministry:** Please consider joining this important ministry of prayer here at St. Nick's. The prayer ministry formally meets only a few times a year and most of prayers are done from home. For more information please contact Subdeacon Phillip.

**Reminder:** Help us grow our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration contact list: As a part of our publicity efforts for our parish's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we are asking for your help to grow our list of former parishioners and friends of the parish that we should invite to the festivities. Please help us populate our mailing list by filling out and returning the "contact cards" that we have placed throughout the vestibule and hall, with any names and information you might have (mailing address, email, phone number, etc). If you're looking for ideas, *please see our updated list posted in the vestibule and hall, of names that we still are missing information for.* Once you have your slips filled out, please place them in the box marked "100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Contact Cards" in the vestibule. Or, if it's more convenient, you can also email us at: [stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com](mailto:stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com).

**From the Eparchy of Parma- Stewardship Appeal 2020/2021:** We remember during this penitential season to give of our time, talent, and treasure. God has graced each of us with many gifts and talents. How are you using these gifts to build up the Kingdom of God? What treasure do you have stored here on earth that could be offered for the Kingdom? Please consider supporting the Stewardship Appeal today! If you have not already made your pledge or donation, please visit us online at [parma.org/2021appeal](http://parma.org/2021appeal) to submit your one-time or monthly donation to the Stewardship Appeal. Thank you for your generosity! Please remember, if you pay online, make sure you list our church name and location so that your donation gets logged properly. *As of February 9<sup>th</sup>, our parish has pledged \$4,725 vs. our assigned goal of \$7,000.*

**From the Eparchy of Parma- Marriage Preparation / Pre-Cana Program:** The dates and location for Pre-Cana for our Eparchy will be Friday, April 30 - Sunday, May 2, 2021 at St. John the Baptist Church in Solon, Ohio. More information, including how to register, will be forthcoming.

**From Sacred Heart Parish (our daughter parish in Livonia, MI):** You are invited to participate in a special Lenten Series that they are offering on Tuesday evenings through March 23<sup>rd</sup>, entitled "The Strong, Silent Type—An Exploration of St. Joseph's 7 Manly Virtues." Each week will feature a 90-minute seminar, held in their Banquet Center, starting at 6:30pm. Please see below for additional details.

	<p><b>"The Strong, Silent Type"</b> <b>An Exploration of St. Joseph's 7 Manly Virtues</b></p> <p>Six Part Lenten Series 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday Evenings - February 16<sup>th</sup> thru March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 -</p> <p><i>Presented by</i> Fr. Joseph Marquis, pastor</p> <p>Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church 29125 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152</p> <p>Admission: FREE</p> <p><i>The use of masks and social distancing will be observed due to Wuhan Virus concerns.</i></p>
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For more info: Please see our bulletin, LIKE us on Facebook or visit our website: [stnicksdetroit.com](http://stnicksdetroit.com)