



**SAINT NICHOLAS
ORTHODOX CHURCH**
P.O. Box 777
Barton, OH 43905-0777

*A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*

Follow our Diocese online:

- Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>
- Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
- You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Very Rev. Father Michael C. Kabel *Pastor & Dean*

OFFICE PHONE (740) 695-9533
Church Hall Phone (740) 695-9456

- E-MAIL: stnicholas777@yahoo.com
- WEB SITE: www.stnicholasbarton.org
- PARISH FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/St.NicholasBarton>
- ACRY FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/405014019594907>

MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSION: Before & after Saturday evening Vespers. Other Sacraments by appointment.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL? Please notify Father when you are admitted if you want him to visit. Kindly notify Father also when you are discharged.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017 DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!
SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA V'IKI!

THE SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS, THE PATRIARCHS: Antiphon "Bless the Lord" on p. 8. The Beatitudes on pp. 14-15. Tropar for Tone 4 on p. 90. Additional Tropar, Kondak and remaining Propers are from the Holy Forefathers, the Patriarchs on p. 128. *Saint Nicholas melodies* on pp. 124-125 may still be used for the Cherubic Hymn & Communion Hymn. There will be *Mirovanije* (festive anointing) at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in honor of the Feast of Saint Nicholas. **Confessions** after the Liturgy **TODAY**.

EPISTLE: Colossians 3:4-11. GOSPEL: Luke 14:16-24.

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

For the week of December 24:

Sun., December 24: (After Liturgy) **Panachida** in memory of +*Max & Emma Casteel*. Requested by Joe & Karen Zavatsky. Also in memory of +*Jim Koprak*. Requested by Debbie Bartyzel.

- NO *Weekday Services* or *Confessions*
- NO *Bible Study* on Thursday, December 28
- NO *Vespers* on Saturday, December 30

The Sunday of the Holy Fathers
The Sunday *before* Christmas, December 31
The Fifth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM: Preparation Prayers for Holy Communion.

9:50 AM: *Advent Wreath Service*.

10:00 AM: **Divine Liturgy** for the *Sunday of the Holy Fathers*. Antiphon “*Bless the Lord, O my soul*” on p. 8. The Beatitudes on pp. 14-15. Tropar for Tone 5 on p. 93. Additional Tropar, Kondak and remaining Propers are from the Holy Fathers on pp. 129-130. The Cherubic Hymn and the Communion Hymn may be sung according to the “*Divnaja Novina*” melody on p. 134. **Father will be available for *CONFESSIONS* after the Divine Liturgy.**

THE ETERNAL LAMP burns with prayers and best wishes for a *Blessed 96'th Birthday* to Flora Ross. Requested by *Laney & Cindi Ross*.

THE LEFT SIDE ALTAR LAMPS (Prothesis) burn with prayers and best wishes for a *Happy 96'th Birthday* to Flora Ross. Requested by *Laney & Cindi Ross*.

THE RIGHT SIDE ALTAR LAMPS (Diakonikon) burn with prayers for Laney & Anna Ross. Requested by *Laney & Cindi Ross*.

THE TETRAPOD LAMPS burn with prayers for *Special Intentions*. Requested by *Theresa Reese*.

TODAY'S SUNDAY BULLETIN is sponsored with prayers and best wishes for a *Happy Birthday* to Dad. Requested by *Noah, Isaac, Faith & Nicholas*.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES need to be turned-in by *next Sunday, December 31*. Names and donors will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

2018 ECCLESIASTICAL WALL CALENDARS & CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are **available** in the **back** of the church. If there is no envelope box with your name on it, please see Jim Turner. We have enough boxes for everyone!

WE EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES for a HAPPY & BLESSED CHRISTMAS and a Joyous Nativity Season to our friends, relatives and fellow Orthodox Christians who are celebrating the Birth of Our Savior **TOMORROW** according to the New Calendar. *Christ is Born! Glorify Him!*

CHRISTMAS DECORATION DAY is scheduled for *next Saturday, December 30, 2017* at 9:00 AM.

LUMINARIA HELPERS. We would like to invite the children and young people of the parish, and anyone else who would be interested, to help prepare and set out the luminaria on *Christmas Eve*. This will take place on **Saturday afternoon, January 6**.

YOUTH PROCESSION ON CHRISTMAS EVE. We once again invite ALL of our parish young people to participate in a special procession from the back of the church to the Advent Wreath before the beginning of the Vigil Service on **Christmas Eve, Saturday, January 6**. ***Come by 7:45 PM***. If you would like to carry the Nativity Icon or the figurine of the Baby Jesus in the procession, please let Pan'i know.

50/50 Raffle Drawing Winner
\$122.00 — *Harv Hurley*

THE **JANUARY** PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be held on **Sunday, January 14, 2018**.

A BIG THANK YOU to **EVERYONE** who came out and helped on church clean-up day. Thanks also to those who helped in any way with last Sunday's Saint Nicholas Dinner: to those who prepared and served the delicious dinner; to those who decorated the tables and hall; to our Youth Choir, for their beautiful singing; to those who purchased the children's gifts; to the servers and clean-up crew; to everyone who attended and made the day so special; and last but not least, to Saint Nicholas himself!

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS. Time is passing quickly! There will be additional opportunities for Confessions when Father gets back from vacation. Christmas will be here before you know it, so plan now to avail yourselves of God's forgiveness.

THE GIFT SHOP has a number of books, icons and religious articles which would make wonderful Christmas gifts. Christmas cards are also available, so please stop by and have a look.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Saturday Vespers (12/16) — 8

Sunday Divine Liturgy (12/17) — 88

Saint Nicholas Vespers (12/18) — 13

Saint Nicholas Divine Liturgy (12/19) — 21

Prefestive Service (12/20) — 11

OUR ADVENT FASTING

We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. By fasting, we shift our focus from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on, in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us—and for many people, food is a controlling factor. [We live in the only society in which an entire TV network is devoted to food!] While fasting from food, however, we are also challenged to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from anything else which we all too often allow to master us.