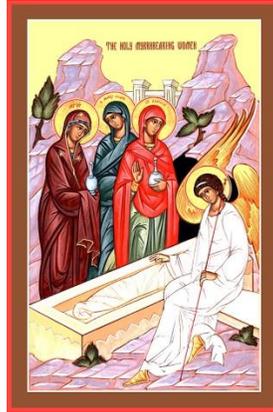


St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance
820 South Linden Avenue, Alliance, Ohio
(at St. Theodore Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church)
Divine Liturgy, 9:30

Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bulgarian Diocese, Orthodox Church in America
Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)
Mission Phone # 330 768-7633

Mission Website <http://www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com/>
April 26, 2015: 3rd Sunday of PASCHA - The Holy Myrrhbearers



Welcome to Visitors. Thank you for coming and praying with us today. In the Orthodox Church, Holy Communion is reserved only for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession during the Church fasting seasons. We invite you to introduce yourself to Father Joe and Deacon James at the end of the Liturgy and receive a piece of the blessed bread and join us for fellowship and Christian education at the Jonathan Casteel hall, directly through the alley way behind the church. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal, You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead. And when from the depths You raised the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out:// "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"

Tone 2 Troparion (from the Pentecostarion)

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But You rose on the third day, O Lord, granting the world great mercy!"

Tone 2 Troparion (from the Pentecostarion)

The Angel came to the Myrrhbearing Women at the tomb and said: "Myrrh is fitting for the dead; but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!
So proclaim: 'The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.'"

Tone 4 Troparion St. Nikolai

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence; your humility exalted you; your poverty enriched you. Hierarch Father Nikolai, entreat Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

Tone 2 Kontakion (from the Pentecostarion)

You commanded the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God. By Your Resurrection, You stopped the lamentation of Eve, the first mother.
You commanded them to preach to Your Apostles:// "The Savior is risen from the tomb!"

Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal, You destroyed the power of death. In victory You arose, O Christ God, proclaiming: "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Epistle: Acts 6:1-7

Tone 6 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance!

v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Tone 8 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: O Lord, You have been gracious to Your land; You have turned back the captivity of Jacob.

v: Mercy and truth have met, righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8

(Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:)

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: 'Rejoice, your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead.' "Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you!

Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest: "In the fear of God ..."

Choir: "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord ..."

Priest: "O Lord, save Your people ..."

Choir: "Christ is risen from the dead ... " (sung once, instead of "We have seen the True Light ...)

Priest: "Always, now and ever ..."

Choir: "Let our mouths be filled ..."

(At the Dismissal, the Priest says: "Glory to You, O Christ....," and the choir sings "Christ is risen from the dead...." (thrice).

And unto us He has given eternal life.

Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day.

Parish Patron Saint Celebration (Slava) Commemorating the Transfer of the Relics of St. Nikolai, will take place today. This is a major celebration in the life of our mission as we honor St. Nikolai and supplicate his holy prayers for our mission and for our salvation. Side dishes are requested for the Slava meal that takes place after the cutting of the Kolach (The service of blessing the feast bread), after Liturgy at the home of Corbin & Georgie Washington – 921 Fernwood Blvd. Alliance.

Our honored Kumovi (sponsors) for this year's Slava is Jaga Radošević and Dan Ralich.

The Myrrh-bearing women

Today we commemorate the Holy Myrrh-bearing women and also St Joseph of Arimathea (July 31), and Nicodemus.

There are eight women who are generally identified as the myrrh-bearers. Each of the four Gospels gives a different aspect of the roles of these eight women at the cross and at the tomb on morning of the Resurrection, perhaps since the eight women arrived in different groups and at different times. The eight are: Mary Magdalene; Mary, the Theotokos (the Virgin Mary), Joanna, Salome, Mary the wife of Cleopas (or Alphaeus), Susanna, Mary of Bethany, Martha of Bethany. Of the eight, the first five are the more prominent and outspoken. The last three are included according to tradition. Five of these women were also very wealthy; the women of means were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and Mary and Martha of Bethany.

A confusing aspect in Gospel references to these women is that two of the Marys had a son named James. Mary, the wife of Alphaeus, was the mother of James, one of the Twelve Apostles; the Virgin Mary was the step-mother of James, the Lord's brother (Matthew 13:55, Galatians 1:19).

In Western tradition, James, the son of Alphaeus, and James, the Lord's brother, have sometimes been identified as the same person. In Eastern tradition, James, the Lord's brother was Bishop of Jerusalem from 30-62 AD and never left the vicinity of Jerusalem. He is the James who rendered the decision of the council of Jerusalem in 48 AD (Acts 15:13-19). Eastern Tradition links James, the son of Alphaeus, with evangelism abroad, especially in Egypt where he was martyred. One clarification that can clear up the confusion between these two Marys is the passage that refers to the Virgin Mary as the mother of James and Joseph (Matthew 13:55). This Joseph is also called Barsabas, Justus, and Judas (Acts 1:23 and

15:22). Therefore, in Matthew 27:56, the women looking on from afar at the cross were Mary Magdalene, the Virgin Mary (that is, Mary the mother of James and Joseph), and Salome (the wife of Zebedee and the Virgin Mary's step-daughter). Matthew refers to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who is probably the Virgin Mary also from the context (Matthew 27:61 and 28:1). Such Church Fathers as St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Gregory http://orthodoxwiki.org/Gregory_Palamas"; Palamas support this interpretation. Similarly, St. Gregory of Nyssa identifies "Mary, the mother of James" (Mark 16:1 and Luke 24:10) as the Virgin Mary also.

These eight women had been together a lot during Jesus' three-year public ministry. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and others (Luke 8:3) are described as providing for Jesus out of their possessions. These same women had faithfully followed him from Galilee and had come up with him to Jerusalem (Matthew 27:55, Mark 15:40-41, and Luke 23:55).

DAILY SCRIPTURAL READINGS ARE AVAILABLE TO READ ON OUR WEBSITE.

PRAYERS requested

For The Health and Salvation of:

Mother Ana

Father Joe Cervo

Doreen Wishnok (friend of the Krupko's who is battling breast cancer)

George Ralich, (Dan's father)

Stefanie Waseman

Kerri Baugher (friend of the Krupko's who has cancer)

The Knoll Family

Mildred (Peggy) and Walter Borojevich (Wally's Parents)

Stephanie (Father David's Cousin), who suffered a mild heart attack

Mara (Jaga's Sister)

Father Rastko Truhovich (Fr. Dragan's Kum)

Andre Dordea

Bonnie Smith (Friend of Jaga Radosevic)

Niki – Father David's first cousin facing surgery

Janet - an elderly work colleague of Father David's with serious health issues

For The Repose of the Souls of:

+Dr. Gregory Spohn, Canton Area Pediatrician and doctor to Tillman Children

Protopresbyter +Thomas Hopko

+Violet Jokola (mother of Fr. Joe's Kum Nick)

(Please update prayer requests at the beginning of each month. Names will be removed if the request is not renewed.)

ADULT EDUCATION:

The study group is meeting on Saturdays 5 pm in the Gresh home located at 9135 Gans Ave NE. The group has decided to continue with the current book – Victory in the Unseen Warfare – until we finish the book.

SAVE. SAVE SAVE!

Everything you have.

On Sat. June 13 we will have a mission rummage sale at Hartville Flea Market.

If you have any questions see Georgie or call her at 330 635 1715 Thank you !

ST. THEODORE ROMANIAN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

The Mission is most thankful to Bishop John Michael and the Romanian Byzantine Catholic Diocese for graciously providing us with a home until our building is complete. As a gesture of gratitude the Mission is giving a gift of \$250.00 per month. The money is being used to pay for meals for those in need.

COFFEE HOUR:

April 5 - Dan Ralich
April 12 - Pascha
April 19 - Helen Blebea
April 26 - Patronal Feast

Please see Deanna and Larry Dordea if you are interested in hosting a Coffee Hour. There are plenty of dates available. Thank you to Deanna, Larry and Georgie for chairing our Coffee Hours.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HOSTED COFFEE HOUR!!!!

DONATIONS:

Please note, any special donations will be added directly to our building fund unless otherwise specified by the donor. God bless all who have generously donated to and support our mission.

SPECIAL DONATIONS WERE RECEIVED IN MARCH FROM:

UNIREA Romanian Transilvaniana Inc.
Jenifer Codrea
Oliver Musat
Jenny Codrea
Peter and Shirene Tapyrik

BUILDING PROJECT:

By the grace of God and with the sacrificial donations of many, phase one of construction for our chapel began Bright Week. Equipment moved in and construction officially began on Tuesday, April 14. We are still in need of additional funding for the general building project. If you are able to make an initial or additional contribution to the building fund, please see Father Joe or Deacon James.

May the Lord bless all our endeavors to glorify His Holy Name and bring others to the fullness of the truth.

CHOIR PRACTICES:

Choir Practice will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm beginning April 22 at the Gresh Home. Please see Heidi for details.

UNITED WOMEN:

Recently, Helen (Mimi) Blebea attended the United Women group representing the Mission. Their next meeting is April 10 at 1:00 pm. If any women are interested in attending the meeting next month, please See Helen.

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