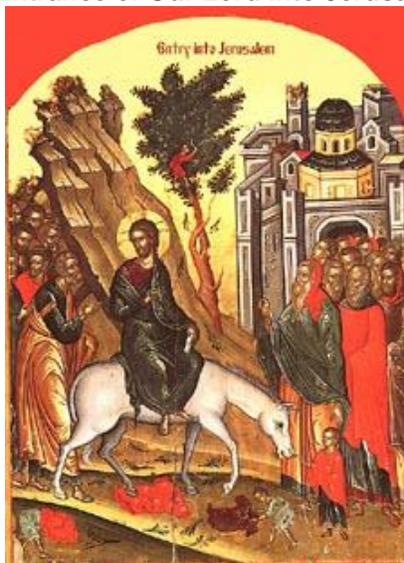


St. Nikolai of Zica, Orthodox Mission of Alliance
820 South Linden Avenue, Alliance, Ohio
(at St. Theodore Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church)
Divine Liturgy, 9:30

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)
April 5, 2015: The Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)



***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.*

Antiphon 1 (Ps 114/115)

v:I love the Lord because He has heard the voice of my supplication.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

v:Because He inclined His ear to me; therefore I will call on Him as long as I live. (Refrain is sung after each of the following verses)

v:The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of hell laid hold on me. (R)

v:I suffered distress and anguish, so I called on the Name of the Lord. (R)

v:I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. (R)

v:Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages. Amen. (R)

Antiphon 2 (Ps 115/116)

v:I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted."

Refrain: O Son of God, seated on the colt of an ass, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

v:What shall I render to the Lord for all the things He has given me? (R)
(Refrain is sung after each of the following verses)

v:I will receive the cup of salvation, and call on the Name of the Lord. (R)

v:I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people. (R)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

("Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God ... ")

Antiphon 3 (Ps 117/118)

v: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

Tone 1 Troparion

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion,
You confirmed the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of Death:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”

v: Let the house of Israel say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever!
Troparion: “By raising Lazarus from the dead ...”

v: Let the house of Aaron say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever!
Troparion: “By raising Lazarus from the dead ...”

v: Let those who fear the Lord say that He is good, for His mercy endures
forever!
Troparion: “By raising Lazarus from the dead ...”

(After the Entrance)

Tone 1 Troparion

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion,
You confirmed the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”

Tone 4 Troparion

When we were buried with You in baptism, O Christ God,
we were made worthy of eternal life by your Resurrection.
Now we praise You and sing: “Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”

Tone 6 Kontakion

Sitting on Your throne in Heaven, carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God,
accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing://
“Blessed is He Who comes to recall Adam!”

(The Trisagion is sung: “Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us”)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!
v: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Tone 1 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
v: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Gospel: John 12:1-18

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing in Tone 8:)

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!
Celebrate the feast and come with gladness!
Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches,

singing: "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord, our Savior!"
(*Hirmos of the 9th Ode of the Kanon*)

Communion Hymn

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!
God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. He rode on a colt for which He Himself had sent, and He permitted the people to hail Him publicly as a king. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (John 12:13). This day together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ's earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ's raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom. "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zech 9:9). Finally, the events of these triumphant two days are but the passage to Holy Week: the "hour" of suffering and death for which Christ came. Thus the triumph in a earthly sense is extremely short-lived. Jesus enters openly into the midst of His enemies, publicly saying and doing those things which mostly enrage them. The people themselves will soon reject Him. They misread His brief earthly triumph as a sign of something else: His emergence as a political messiah who will lead them to the glories of an earthly kingdom.

Our Pledge

The liturgy of the Church is more than meditation or praise concerning past events. It communicates to us the eternal presence and power of the events being celebrated and makes us participants in those events. Thus the services of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday bring us to our own moment of life and death and entrance into the Kingdom of God: a Kingdom not of this world, a Kingdom accessible in the Church through repentance and baptism. On Palm Sunday palm and willow branches are blessed in the Church. We take them in order to raise them up and greet the King and Ruler of our life: Jesus Christ. We take them in order to reaffirm our baptismal pledges. As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: "Do you accept Christ?" We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raise it up: "I accept Him as King and God!" Thus, on the eve of Christ's Passion, in the celebration of the joyful cycle of the triumphant days of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, we reunite ourselves to Christ, affirm His Lordship over the totality of our life, and express our readiness to follow Him to His Kingdom:... that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that if possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11).

Very Rev. Paul Lazor

DAILY SCRIPTURAL READINGS ARE AVAILABLE TO READ ON OUR WEBSITE.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: this Sunday for the IOCC. As part of our Lenten discipline for spiritual growth, our Holy Church encourages us to increase our prayer life, to practice fasting and to give sacrificially-especially to the suffering. One of the most worthy organizations that represents the Orthodox Church and that we should support to help the suffering throughout the world, is the "International Orthodox Christian Charities."

Please give generously from what the Lord has blessed you with.

For more information about their philanthropic work, please visit the IOCC website at <http://www.iocc.org>

PASCHA FLOWERS:

Please make a donation for the purchase of flowers to decorate Christ's tomb.

Write 'flowers' on your checks or add a note with your cash donation. If you have any questions, please see Lana Baier.

ADULT EDUCATION:

There will be no Adult Study Group for the next two Saturdays for the next two Saturdays (Lazarus Saturday and Pascha). We will resume the study group meetings the Saturday after Pascha. The group has decided to continue after Pascha with the current book – Victory in the Unseen Warfare – until we finish the book.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK:

Lazarus Saturday (April 4) at 11:00 am
Holy Monday and Tuesday 6:00 pm.
Holy Wednesday Unction at 6:00 pm
Holy Thursday morning Liturgy at 9:30 am
Holy Thursday evening Matins for Holy Friday with 12 Passion Gospels at 6:00 pm
Holy Friday Vespers at 3:00 pm
Holy Friday Matins for Holy Saturday at 6:00 pm
Holy Saturday Liturgy (April 11) at 11:00 am
Pascha Services (Saturday Night) at 10:00 pm

Please be aware that as has become our custom, Pascha family food baskets will be blessed at the conclusion of the Paschal Liturgy Saturday night; in place of having a sponsored coffee hour, we share the food from our blessed baskets. Common items in baskets are your favorite meat and cheeses and alcohol (foods that are prohibited during Great Lent & Holy Week).

Please do not hesitate to ask questions if you are uncertain of this wonderful custom.

(The schedule is also available 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 Trbuhovich (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
+Candi (Friend of John and Lynette Baier)
+Gloria Lijoi (friend of the Krupkos)
Protopresbyter +Thomas Hopko

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

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 !

COFFEE HOUR:

April 5	-	Dan Ralich
April 12	-	Pascha
April 19	-	Cervos
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 is scheduled to begin Bright Week, April 13. 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 Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the Gresh Home. Please see Heidi for details.

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.

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.

St. Nikolai of Zica, Orthodox Mission of Alliance

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