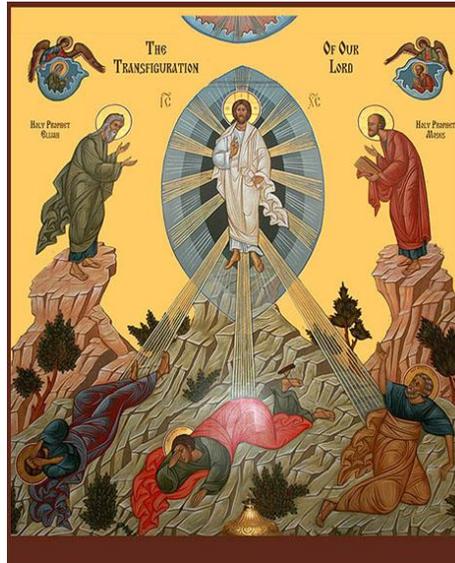


St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance
University of Mt. Union Library Building - Room KHIC 003, Liturgy 9:00 am.
Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)
Mission Phone # 330 768-7633
Mission Website "<http://www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com/>
August 3, 2014: 8th Sunday after Pentecost/Ven Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus



Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)
By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that You are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion (for the Martyrs)
O God of our Fathers, always act with kindness towards us;
take not Your mercy from us, but guide our lives in peace //
through the prayers of Venerable Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus!

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 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)
The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
“The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 2 Kontakion (for the Martyrs)
Through asceticism you shone like lights in the world,
and by your faith you overthrew heresies.
We praise you with hymns, Isaac, Dalmátus, and Faustus, //
as servants of Christ, who are praying for us all.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

v: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Tone 7 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High.

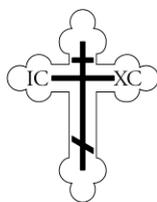
v: To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night.

Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

Communion Hymn:

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on August 6. The feast commemorates the transfiguration or metamorphosis of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory before the Apostles Peter, James, and John.

BIBLICAL STORY

The event of the Transfiguration is recorded in three of the four Gospels: [Matthew 17:1-9](#), [Mark 9:2-8](#), and [Luke 9:28-36](#). Jesus took the Apostles Peter, James, and John with Him up upon a mountain, and while they were on the mountain Jesus was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and His garments became glistening white.

Moses and Elijah appeared with Christ, talking to Him. Peter declared how good it was for them to be there and expressed the desire to build three booths for Moses, Elijah, and Christ. This reference to the booths could imply that this occurred during the time of the Feast of Tabernacles when the Jews would be camping out in the fields for the grape harvest; for this Feast had acquired other associations in the course of its history, including the memory of the wanderings in the wilderness recorded in the Old Testament book of Exodus.

While Peter was speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." When the disciples heard this they fell on their faces filled with awe. Jesus came to them and told them to not be afraid. When the three looked up they saw only Jesus.

As Jesus and His disciples came down the mountain, He told them not to speak of what they had seen until He had risen from the dead.

ICON OF THE FEAST

In the icon of the Feast of the Transfiguration, Christ is the central figure (1.), appearing in a dominant position within a circular mandorla. He is clearly at the visual and theological center of the icon. His right hand is raised in blessing, and his left hand contains a scroll. The mandorla with its brilliant colors of white, gold, and blue represent the divine glory and light. The halo around the head of Christ is inscribed with the Greek words *Ὁ ὢν*, meaning "The One Who is".

Elijah (2.) and Moses (3.) stand at the top of separate mountain peaks to the left and right of Christ. They are bowing toward Christ with their right hands raised in a gesture of intercession towards Him. Saint John Chrysostom explains the presence of these two fathers of the faith from the Old Testament in three ways. He states that they represent the Law and the Prophets (Moses received the Law from God, and Elijah was a great prophet); they both experienced visions of God (Moses on Mount Sinai and Elijah on Mount Carmel); and they represent the living and the dead (Elijah, the living, because he was taken up into heaven by a chariot of fire, and Moses, the dead, because he did experience death).

Below Christ are the three Apostles, who by their posture in the icon show their response to the transfiguration of Christ (4.). James has fallen over backwards with his hands over his eyes. John in the center has fallen prostrate. Peter is kneeling and raises his right hand toward Christ in a gesture expressing his desire to build the three booths. The garments of the Apostles are in a state of disarray as to indicate the dramatic impact the vision has had on them.

The icon of the feast directs our attention toward the event of the Transfiguration and specifically to the glory of God as revealed in Christ. This event came at a critical point in the ministry of our Lord, just as He was setting out on His journey to Jerusalem. He would soon experience the humiliation, suffering, and death of the Cross. However, the glorious light of the Resurrection was revealed to strengthen His disciples for the trials that they would soon experience.

The feast also points to the great and glorious Second Coming of our Lord and the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God when all of creation will be transfigured and filled with light.

PRAYERS are requested for:

Candi (friend of John and Lynette Baier)

Wendy (friend of Lana Baier)

Jim, Cousin of Fr. David

George Borojevich, brother of Wally and Debby

Ava Cooper, infant who is undergoing surgery for heart defects

Mother Ana

+Archimadrite Theodor (Micka)

+Nell Janik

Nanci Stradley, Pancreatic Cancer

Emily Waseman, Brain Tumor

Dawn Shaheen

Sharon Budd, Teacher from Perry, injured when rock thrown from overpass

Father Joe Cervo

Announcements:

Allison Krupko – is riding in MS150 (a 150 mile bike ride to Cedar Point and back) August 2 & 3, raising money for Multiple Sclerosis. If interested in donating please see Allison. It is not too late.

COFFEE HOUR:

Coffee Hour Sunday, July 27 was provided by the Gresh Family. Thank you!!

Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 3 will be provided by the Krupko/Catania Families.

We have no host for Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 10.

Coffee Hour for the summer needs to be very simple (i.e. coffee, donuts, juice) due to facility constrictions.

Any leftovers will need to go home with the host.

Please see Cathy or Tom Baier if you would like to help.

GOLF OUTING:

Photos from the golf outing are on our website. Take a look! More information about the golf outing will be provided next week!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

Jacob Baier 8/22

Greg Cervo 8/23

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES:

None

St. Nikolai of Zica, Orthodox Mission of Alliance

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