

St. Nikolai Orthodox Church, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 / Saturday Vespers, 4 pm.
Book study/Christian Education following Vespers
Parish Council meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7pm (*open to parishioners*)
9837 State Street, Louisville , Ohio 44641
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)
February 28, 2016: Sunday of the Prodigal Son/ Venerable Basil the Confessor
Website: <http://www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com>
Facebook page: "<http://www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMission> of Alliance

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. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith.

Tone 6 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Your grave, seeking Your most pure body.
You took captive hell, // not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

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 3 Kontakion (*from the Lenten Triodion*)

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me.
And now I cry to You as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before You, O merciful Father;
receive me a penitent, and make me as one of Your hired servants!"

Tone 6 Prokeimenon

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!

Epistle: *1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

Tone 6 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

v: He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust."

Gospel: *Luke 15:11-32*

Communion Hymns

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

St. Nikolai Velimirovich: One needs to distinguish a sinner from a penitent . . .

“One needs to distinguish a sinner from a penitent. If you have taken upon yourself the role to rebuke the sinner, guard yourself well, that you do not rebuke the penitent also. How dear the repentant sinner is to God, call to mind the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Therefore, let it be very dear for you, he who has become dear to God. At one time it happened that a monk succumbed to sin for which he was banished from the monastery. This monk went to St. Anthony, confessed his sin, repented and remained with Anthony for a period of time. Then Anthony sent him back again to the monastery but they did not receive him and, again, they banished him. Again, the penitent came to Anthony. Again, Anthony sent him back to the monastery with a message to the fathers of the monastery: ‘One boat experienced shipwreck and lost its cargo; with great difficulty did that boat arrive in the harbor and you wish to drown even that which was saved from drowning!’ Hearing this wise message, the fathers received with joy the penitent brother into the monastery.”

Contemplation of St. Nikolai:

Contemplate the Lord as the Bread of Life (John 6:48):

1. As the Bread by which the soul is nourished and lives;
2. As the Bread by which the mind is nourished and enlightened;
3. As the Bread by which the heart is nourished and ennobled;

The prayer list is revised monthly. If you wish to list someone please advise Father.

PRAYERS requested:

For The Health and Salvation of;

Letitia Bella (Lynette Baier’s mother)

Father John and Cindy Zdinak & Family

Olympia Tillman (Father David’s mother)

Helen (Father David’s aunt)

Carl (friend of Father David)

Lisa “

Bruce “

Kitty “

Paul “

Father David and Family

Doreen Wishnok

Stefanie Waseman

The Knoll Family

Roland Augspurger

Leslie and Tim Kocevar

Beth Plocher

Renee Young

Larry Gainer
James Rickard and Family
Gregory Cervo
Ann Cervo
Letitia (Lynette Baier's mother)
Julian (Georgie & Corbin's grandson)
Arika (missing person)

For The Repose of the Souls of the newly departed Servants:

+John Horny (Ann Cervo's nephew)
+Edna Stamatoff (Popadija Linda (Fr. Basil) Shaheen's mother)
+Yolanda (friend of Lynette)
+Joshua Zdinak

Coffee Hour Today: Georgie & Corbin Washington

Thank you to all those who contributed to the wonderful meal and fellowship for our parish 3rd anniversary last week.

COFFEE HOUR AND CHURCH CLEANING:

There is a sign-up sheet posted in the fellowship room for coffee hour and church cleaning. If you have any questions please see Father Joe or Deacon James. We are asking for individuals, families or groups to sign up on a monthly basis to clean the church. If we do not have anyone signed up for coffee hour on any week, we will simply have coffee during fellowship.

Stewardship: Please pray, contemplate and complete the parish pledge form and return to the Priest or Deacon, as soon as possible. May the Lord direct you and bless you for returning some of your possessions to further the work of His holy Church.

Save Your Stuff. Once again our parish is going to have a rummage sale at the Hartville Flea Market, this spring. Please contact Georgie Washington for details.

Blessing of Homes

The Blessing of homes is a long honored Tradition of Orthodoxy. The Holy Water which is blessed in the Church for the Feast of Theophany is taken by the priest to bless and sanctify the homes of the faithful. By this we are reminded that our homes are to be an extension of the Church; a place where we pray and celebrate the many blessings of life. Through this special blessing we reinforce our connection to God and His Church and we ask for the Lord's protection and guidance in our daily activities. We should be mindful that even if we have had this blessing in past years, we should nevertheless, want to repeat our prayer that the Lord will "keep safe from harm those who dwell here; grant to them Your Blessing, purification and health of body..."

To schedule a day and time for your home to be blessed, please see or contact Father (330) 284-8353 or email: frjcervo@sbcglobal.net