

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance, as part of Orthodox Campus Fellowship
at the University of Mount Union, Dewald Chapel. Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am
Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)
February 9, 2014: Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee
Beginning of the Lenten Triodion / Leavetaking of the Meeting of our Lord.**



Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!// O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Tone 1 Troparion (Meeting of our Lord)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness.
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection!

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 4 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!"

Tone 1 Kontakion (Meeting of our Lord)

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God. Now You have come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 /Hebrews 7:7-17 (Feast)

Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!
v: *In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.*

Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Song of the Theotokos)

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Tone 8 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v :*Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!*

v :*Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!*

Tone 8 (*Feast of the Meeting of our Lord*)

v: Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation!

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14 / Luke 2:22-40 (*Feast*)

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing Tone 3)

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you! In the shadow and letter of the Law,

let us, the faithful, discern a figure: every male [child] that opens the womb is holy to God.

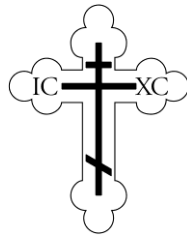
Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of a Father Who has no beginning, // the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymns

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

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



St. Nikolai Mission First Anniversary

Next Sunday, February 16, will mark the first anniversary of our Orthodox Mission of Alliance. To celebrate this milestone we are having a covered-dish dinner after Liturgy. Please consult with Jaga, who is coordinating this agape-meal of thanksgiving.

Blessing of homes:

*Because having one's home blessed is a very important Orthodox Tradition, all parishioners who recognize the importance of this practice and desire to have the spiritual benefits of such blessings should talk to Father and make an appointment.

*The blessing of the home is not merely a social event. Take it seriously, with preparation and prayer. Televisions, computers, radios and music must be turned off and family members should be present and attentive. Explain to children the meaning of this service (i.e. the priest is bringing the church to our home which confirms that our home is an extension of the church – where we pray, show love for God and one another).

*Be sure to have ready a candle, an Orthodox Icon (not a religious picture), a bowl for water and a printed or typed list of names of family members that you want the priest to pray for.

*Do not feel obligated to provide food or refreshments for the priest.

DEADLINE for home blessings is the week of February 23.

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee *Beginning of the Lenten Triodion*

The Sunday after the Sunday of Zacchaeus is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. This Sunday begins the first of three phases, known as the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent). This first phase consists of the three week preparatory period before Great Lent.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we do not merely possess the Pharisee's external religious piety, but the Publican's internal, heartfelt, humble, repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

Coffee Hour:

Thank you to Wally and Debby Borojevich for providing a wonderful meal for our first annual parish meeting. Coffee Hour on February 9 is being hosted by Tom and Lana Baier
Coffee Hour on February 16 will be a covered dish meal in celebration of our first anniversary!

We need hosts for February 23 and March 2!

Calendars:

We have calendars available for 2014. If you would like one, please see Cathy Krupko. Thank you to Dan Ralich for having the calendars printed for us!

Please note – there is an error on the calendar with respect to birthdays. Heidi Gresh's birthday is actually September 19. It is listed on the calendar as June 19. Apologies!!!!

Please start thinking of fund raising ideas that we could work on to raise monies for our building fund! Give your ideas to the Mission Council!

A new website for our Mission is in the works and should be ready very soon!!!!. If you have any photos that you would like to contribute, please email them to Cathy Krupko (mommak682@aol.com)

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Orthodox Mission of Alliance
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