

St. Nikolai Orthodox Church

9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641

Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bishop of Toledo, Orthodox Church in America

Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (OCA)

Welcome our visiting Priest Fr. Silviu and choir director Joan Huba

Feel free to check out our website and Facebook page!

Website: <http://www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com>

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionofAlliance>

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Book study/Christian Education following Vespers

Parish Council meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7 PM (open to parishioners)

Sunday July 24th

5th Sunday after Pentecost – Great martyr Christina (Tone 4)

The entire Parish Family of St. Nikolai welcomes you today! Please take a moment to introduce yourself to our clergy and the people of our parish. We hope that you will stay for Coffee Hour and a short Adult Christian Education after the service. Feel free to ask any questions about our worship or the chapel or anything the Lord puts in your heart to ask. If we don't know the answer to your questions, we'll find someone who does and get back to you. Again, welcome!

We invite all Baptized and Chrismated members of the Orthodox Church to receive Holy Communion. This assumes that all taking Holy Communion have prepared with prayer, confession, and fasting according to the discipline of your home parish. If you are not taking Holy Communion today please accept a piece of blessed bread. Although it is not Holy Communion it is a token of our welcome and love. We long for the day when we can all take Holy Communion together!

Resurrectional Troparion Tone 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen// granting the world great mercy!”

Martyr Christina of Tyre Troparion Tone 4

Your lamb Christina call out to You, O Jesus, in a loud voice: “I love You, my bridegroom, and in seeking You I endure suffering. In baptism I was crucified so that I might reign in You, and I died so that I might live with You. Accept me as a pure sacrifice, for I have offered myself in love.” Through her prayers save our souls, since You are merciful.

Resurrectional Kontakion Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master// He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion of the Theotokos Tone 6

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant Advocate before the Creator; despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you!



Prokeimenon

*Tone 4: O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.
v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!*

Epistle Reading - Romans 10:1-10

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Tone 4: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!
v: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity.*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 8:28-9:1

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

Communion Hymns

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



THE HOLY FEMALE MARTYR CHRISTINA

Christina was born in the city of Tyre the daughter of Urban, the imperial deputy, and an idol worshipper. The reason her parents gave her the name of Christina is unknown but it concealed the mystery of her future following of Christ. Until age eleven, she knew nothing of Christ. When she reached the age of eleven her father, in order to conceal her from the world because of her extraordinary beauty until she fully matured, designated the highest floor of a tall tower for her to live. All the comforts of life were afforded her; slaves were given to serve her, gold and silver idols were placed in her quarters so that she may offer daily sacrifices to them. However, in this idolatrous environment, it was difficult for the soul of young Christina. Looking out through the window each day at the sun and all the beauty of the world then, again at night, at the miraculous cluster of shining stars, Christina, through her own natural understanding came to the firm belief in the One Living God. The merciful God, seeing her longing for the truth, sent His angel who traced the sign of the cross upon Christina and called her the bride of Christ and completely instructed her in godly understanding. Christina then smashed all the idols in her quarters and provoked wild fury in her father. Her father brought her to trial and handed her over to be tortured and, after that, threw her into the dungeon with the intention to behead her the next day. That night Urban, completely healthy, parted from his soul and went to the grave before his daughter. After that two imperial deputies, Dion and Julian, continued to torture this holy virgin. Christina's courageous endurance and her miracles, which she worked by the power of God, converted many pagans of Tyre to Christianity. During the torturing of Christina, Dion suddenly fell dead in the midst of the people. Dion's successor, Julian, severed the breasts and tongue of Christina. The martyr took her tongue and threw it into Julian's face and he was instantly blinded. Finally her suffering for Christ ended by death beneath the sharp sword and her life continues in the immortal kingdom of the angels. Christina honorably suffered in the third century.

PRAYERS requested:
For The Health and Salvation of:

Julian
Gloria
Andrea Bartol
Letitia Bella
Olympia Tillman
Helen
Carl
Lisa
Kitty
Tillman Family
Gregory Cervo
Ann Cervo
Harper
Arika, Renee, Ashley, and Chloe.
Xavier Fox
Emil DeSantis
Valentina
Amy Catania
Cole Matthew

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

+ Todd David Maragas
+ Nicholas Tomich
+ Subdeacon Alexander McNeer
+ Grisha
+ Robert Penovich

Coffee Hour

Jaga Radosevic – July 24
Krupko Family – July 31



Kathy and Tom would like to give special thanks to everyone who helped at the golf outing last weekend! It was a great success! We encourage our parishioners to support those businesses who sponsored the event. A list of sponsors will be posted on the bulletin board.