

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Church, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 / Saturday Vespers, 5 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, Bishop of Toledo, Orthodox Church in America**

**Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)**

**Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (OCA)**

**June 5, 2016: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha/ Healing of the Blind Man/**

**Leave-taking of Pascha-*observed***

**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 Great Lent. 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.*

***CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!***

(After "Blessed is the Kingdom..." and "Amen.")

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead,  
trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (once)

Choir: Christ is risen from the dead,  
trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (twice)

Priest: v: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Priest: v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Priest: v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Priest: v: This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

The First Antiphon

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise! (Ps 65/66:1-2)

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

Say to God: “How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You!” (Ps 65/66:3) (Refrain)

Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your name, O most High! (Ps 65/66:4) (Refrain)

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

The Second Antiphon

God be bountiful and bless us! Show the light of Your countenance upon us and have mercy on us! (Ps 65/66:1)

Refrain: O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: “Alleluia!”

That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations. (Ps 65/66:2) (Refrain)

Let the people give thanks to You, O God! Let all the people give thanks to You! (Ps 65/66:5) (Refrain)

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 ... “)

The Third Antiphon

v: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!  
Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead ..."

v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!  
Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead ..."

v: This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!  
Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead ..."

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us Attend!  
In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel.  
O Son of God, who didst rise from the dead, save us, who sing unto Thee. Alleluia.  
(After the Entrance)

***Troparion (Pascha)***  
Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

***Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)***  
Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death,  
and to raise the dead// by His glorious 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 Pentecostarion)***  
I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes,  
and call to You in repentance:// "You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness."

***Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)***  
You descended into the tomb, O Immortal, You destroyed the power of death.  
In victory You arose, O Christ God,  
proclaiming: "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women,//  
granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

***(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)***  
As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

***Epistle:*** Acts 16:16-34

***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 8** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
v. Look upon me and have mercy on me!  
v. Guide my steps according to Your word!

**Gospel:** John 9:1-38

*(Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:)*

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:  
"Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: 'Rejoice,  
your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!  
With Himself He has raised all the dead.'" Rejoice, O ye people!  
Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you.  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of your Son!

**Communion Hymn**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Instead of "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord," we sing the troparion "Christ is risen ..." (once). Instead of "We have seen the True Light" and "Let our mouths be filled ...," we sing "Christ is risen ..." (once each). Instead of "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," we sing "Christ is risen ..." (thrice). Instead of "Glory to You, O Christ our God...", "the priest sings: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death," and the choir concludes: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life." The priest gives the Dismissal, and after the singing of "Christ is risen" (thrice), we finish with: "And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!")*

**Leave-taking of Pascha**

This week we leave behind using the greeting "Christ is risen!" While most Feasts have their Leave-taking on the eighth day, Pascha, the Feast of Feasts, has its Leave-taking on the thirty-ninth day. The fortieth day is the Feast of the Lord's Ascension, which marks the end of the Lord's physical presence on earth. He does not abandon us, however. He has promised to be with us always, even until the end of the age (Matt. 20:28). As we sing in the Kontakion for Ascension, "Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you."

The services for Leave-taking are celebrated just as on the day of Pascha itself. The daily readings from Holy Scripture, of course, will differ. After the Dismissal at Liturgy, the paschal hymns are no longer sung.

### ***The Ascension of our Lord***

Ascension is this Thursday, with the festal Liturgy celebrated Wednesday evening. This is a critical part of our salvation, and contains within it many important dogmatic truths that can only be understood if they are experienced. The major part of this experience is the living of the life in Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, but our learning must also begin with and continually involve the worship of the church, as we are always like the Ethiopian eunuch, who told the Apostle Philip that he could not understand the scriptures unless he had someone to explain them to him. The explanation, at the highest level, that we have access to is the holy services, when we stand, and sing or listen with attention and expectation.

We can gauge our understanding of Orthodox Christian teachings and practices by examining over time our attendance and participation in the divine services, especially for the Great Feasts of our Lord and His Virgin Mother.

We only have one opportunity to stand and pray about the Ascension this year with the entire church, triumphant and militant (in heaven and on earth). There is enlightenment awaiting us, and divine change that we can experience.

We live in perilous and difficult times, and we should bear these burdens together. No matter what else we do, we need to pray together.

### **Ascension Vesperal Liturgy, Wednesday, June 8, 6:30 pm.**

Reminder, those preparing to receive Holy Communion, should fast after lunch (unless of course that you have a medical condition that fasting would cause you harm).

#### ***CONTEMPLATION* by St. Nikolai (Velimirovich)**

#### **Contemplate the resurrected Lord Jesus:**

1. How by His Resurrection, drives away from us all confusion, gloom and sadness.
2. How by His Resurrection, instills serenity, courage and goodwill into the souls of men.
3. How His Resurrection incites us and strengthens us for every good work, physical and spiritual;
4. How His Resurrection enlightens our every good work with the light of hope in the Living God, Who counts our works, measures them and preserves them for the Day of Judgment.
5. How His Resurrection is a great light, which dispels the darkness of our doubt, ignorance and despair concerning life after death.
6. How His Resurrection is a great light that illuminates the path on which we must travel in this world in order to arrive at the other world.
7. How He commanded that repentance and forgiveness of sins be preached in His Name;
8. How He commanded His disciples to await the Father's promise of the power of the Holy Spirit from on high.

*If you wish to list someone on the parish prayer list, you must advise Father monthly.*

*The next prayer list update will take place after the June 12 bulletin.*

#### **PRAYERS requested:**

***For The Health and Salvation of:***

Julian (Georgie & Corbin's grandson)

Nicholas Tomich (friend of Fr. Joe)  
Gloria (Fr. Joe's nephew Dan's M-I-L)  
Andrea Bartol (Steve & Sandy Bozeka's daughter)  
Letitia Bella (Lynette Baier's mother)  
Olympia Tillman (Father David's mother)  
Helen (Father David's aunt)  
Carl (friend of Father David)  
Lisa “  
Kitty “  
Father David & Family  
Father John Zdinak & Family  
Gregory Cervo  
Ann Cervo  
Harper (13 yr. who just received heart transplant)  
Arika (missing person) & her family

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

+Subdeacon +Alexander McNeer (Antiochian Choir director, Huntington, WV)  
+Carol Ritchey (Fr. Joe's cousin-in-law)

***Many Years:***

Allison Krupko, June 7  
Lynette Baier, June 10

**Parish Garage Sale:** Because the Hartville Flea Market sale had to be cancelled last week, there will be a parish garage sale on Friday, June 10, from 10am to 2 pm at 2321 52<sup>nd</sup> Street NE Canton, 44705. If you have additional saleable items or questions contact Heidi Gresh.

**Alex Ralich Graduation Party**, June 12, from 1-4 pm at St. George Serbian Hall. RSVP TO [SUZYSOTA1@AOL.COM](mailto:SUZYSOTA1@AOL.COM) or call her cell# 330-705-9338 By JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>.  
EVERYONE IS INVITED