

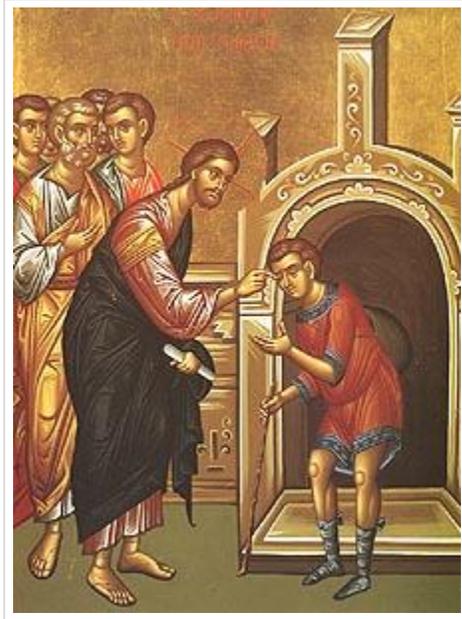
**St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance
820 South Linden Avenue, Alliance, Ohio
(at St. Theodore Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church)
Divine Liturgy, 9:30**

**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)
May 17, 2015 / 6th Sunday of Pascha: The Blind Man/
Leave-taking of Pascha-observed**

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

Mission Phone # 330 768-7633



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 at the Jonathan Casteel hall, directly through the alley way behind the church. 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 of ages. Amen.

ever, and unto ages

("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!"

Great Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. Evening Liturgy for Ascension will be [this Wednesday, May 20, 6:30 pm.](#) celebrated at St George Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1118 Cherry Ave. Canton.

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.

DAILY SCRIPTURAL READINGS ARE AVAILABLE TO READ ON OUR WEBSITE.

PRAYERS requested

For The Health and Salvation of:

Mother Ana
Doreen Wishnok (friend of the Krupko's who is battling breast cancer)
George Ralich, (Dan's father)
Stefanie Waseman
Kerri Baugher (friend of the Krupko's who has cancer)
The Knoll Family
Archpriest Rastko Trbuhovich (Fr. Dragan's Kum)

For The Repose of the Souls of:

+Violet Jokola (mother of Fr. Joe's Kum Nick)
Archimandrite +Roman Braga
+Helen Shaheen (St. George Antiochian Church)
+Sally Michael (St. George Antiochian Church)

(Please update prayer requests at the beginning of each month. Names will be removed if the request is not renewed.)

ADULT EDUCATION:

The study group is meeting on Saturdays 5 pm in the Gresh home located at 9135 Gans Ave NE. The group has decided to continue with the current book – Victory in the Unseen Warfare – until we finish the book.

ST. THEODORE ROMANIAN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

The Mission is most thankful to Bishop John Michael and the Romanian Byzantine Catholic Diocese for graciously providing us with a home until our building is complete. As a gesture of gratitude the Mission is giving a gift of \$250.00 per month. The money is being used to pay for meals for those in need.

COFFEE HOUR:

May 3	Jaga Radosevic
May 10	Gresh Family
May 17	Georgie and Corbin Washington
May 24	Open
May 31	Dan Ralich

Please see Deanna and Larry Dordea if you are interested in hosting a Coffee Hour. There are plenty of dates available. Thank you to Deanna, Larry and Georgie for chairing our Coffee Hours.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HOSTED COFFEE HOUR!!!!

DONATIONS:

Please note, any special donations will be added directly to our building fund unless otherwise specified by the donor. God bless all who have generously donated to and support our mission.

BUILDING PROJECT:

By the grace of God and with the sacrificial donations of many, phase one of construction for our chapel began Bright Week. Equipment moved in and construction officially began on Tuesday, April 14. We are still in need of additional funding for the general building project. If you are able to make an initial or additional contribution to the building fund, please see Father Joe or Deacon James.

May the Lord bless all our endeavors to glorify His Holy Name and bring others to the fullness of the truth.

CHOIR PRACTICES:

Choir Practice will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at the Gresh Home. Please see Heidi for details.

CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITY:

The Krupko Family and Friends will be participating in a 50 mile Bike Ride to benefit those afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis. The ride will be Saturday, June 20, 2015. Proceeds benefit Multiple Sclerosis research as well as assisting families with financial assistance, emotional support, therapy and equipment. Northeast Ohio is a “Hot Spot” for Multiple Sclerosis and has a larger than usual population of people afflicted with this debilitating. If you would like to make a donation and support our bike team, please check with Cathy, Amy or Allison.

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**ST. NIKOLAI ORTHODOX MISSION
HARTVILLE FLEA MARKET
Rummage Sale - Change of Date !!!**

**New Dates: May 23 and May 25
7:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Please bring your sale items to Georgie Washington's house
anytime between now and Thursday the 21st.

Large items can be delivered to Hartville Flea Market the day of sale or
contact Georgie for pick up arrangements
(Please make sure all items are in good condition , clean and pressed if necessary!)

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

11 tables and 4 chairs
One rack for hanging clothes
One large truck for storage from Saturday evening to Monday morning
Two pick-up trucks for taking the items to Hartville on Saturday morning

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO MAN THE TABLES SATURDAY AND MONDAY
ALL DAY.**

For more information - please call Georgie at 330-635-1715