

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

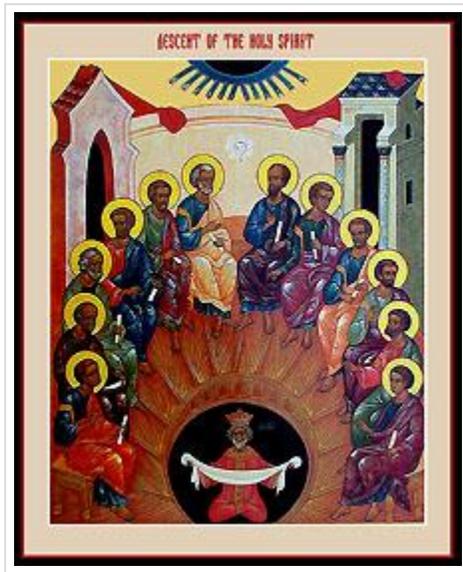
**Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bulgarian Diocese, Orthodox Church in America  
Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)  
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)**

**May 31, 2015/ Sunday of PENTECOST**

**Mission Phone # 330 768-7633**

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

*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.*



**The Icon:** Shows the Apostles sitting, as on Mount Zion, representing the first Church community, the beginning of the Christian Church. They form a semicircle to express the unity of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ. The icon is not a depiction of the historical events of Pentecost, but it signifies that this is a great event for all time.

As with many icons, the Apostles are pictured in an inverse perspective, the figures grow larger as they recede into the background. Also, the building that the Apostles are in is shown as background.

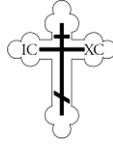
**The Holy Spirit:** At the top of the icon is another semicircle, with rays coming from it. The rays are pointing toward the Apostles, and the "tongues of fire" are seen descending upon each one of them signifying the descent of the Holy Spirit.

**Christ:** At the center of the group of Apostles, there is a place which is unoccupied. It is reserved for Christ, the invisible head of the Church. Some ancient icons symbolize Christ's invisible presence with an altar, the throne of His glory. Clearly, no one else can be depicted here.

**The Apostles:** The Apostles sit orderly, unlike the Ascension icon where they seem confused. This is to show the gift of the Holy Spirit, the inner life of grace. The gift to the Church.

The group of twelve represent the Church, not just those mentioned in the book of Acts as being with the others on the day of Pentecost. Pictured in the icon is Paul, who became an Apostle of the Church and the greatest missionary. The four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, are shown holding the not yet written books of the Gospel. Other Apostles are holding scrolls that represent the teaching authority given to them by Christ.

**Cosmos:** In yet another semicircle, at the bottom of the icon, is a symbolic figure of a king. He is in a dark place that represents the world enveloped by sin. This one person represents the whole world that had formerly been without the light of faith. He is bent over to show he was made old by the sin of Adam. Through the power of the Holy Spirit the Church brings light to the whole world by her teaching. Sometimes, the figure is shown coming out, into the light, having a cloth containing scrolls which represent the teaching of the Apostles.



### **The First Antiphon**

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

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

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

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

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

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

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

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

### **The Second Antiphon**

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

May He send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

May He remember all your offerings, and fulfill all your plans!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

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 Word.....*

### **The Third Antiphon**

In Your strength the king rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Your salvation.  
You have given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips.  
For You meet him with goodly blessings; You set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

#### **Tone 8 Troparion**

Blessed are You, O Christ our God;  
for You have shown the fishermen to be most wise  
by sending down on them the Holy Spirit  
and through them catching all the world in Your net.//  
Glory to You, O good God Who love mankind!

#### **Entrance Verse**

Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise Your power!

### **Tone 8 Troparion**

Blessed are You, O Christ our God;  
for You have shown the fishermen to be most wise  
by sending down on them the Holy Spirit  
and through them catching all the world in Your net.//  
Glory to You, O good God Who love mankind!

### **Tone 8 Kontakion**

When He came down and confused the tongues, the Most High divided the nations; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all people to unity.//Therefore, with one voice we glorify the most-Holy Spirit.

### **(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)**

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

**Epistle:** Acts 2:1-11

### **Tone 8 Prokeimenon**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!  
*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.*

**Tone 1:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth.  
v: The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men.*

**Gospel:** John 7:37-52; 8:12

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

Rejoice, O Queen, glory of mothers and virgins!  
No tongue, however sweet or fluent, is eloquent enough to praise you worthily.  
Every mind is overawed by your childbearing.  
Therefore, with one voice, we glorify you.

### **Communion Hymn**

Let Your good Spirit lead me on a level path! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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**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)  
Stefanie Waseman  
Kerri Baugher (friend of the Krupko's who has cancer)  
The Knoll Family  
Archpriest Rastko Trbuhovich (Fr. Dragan's Kum)  
Ann Cervo (Fr. Joe's sister-in-law, diagnosed with optical melanoma)

#### **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)

Our heartfelt condolences to Dan Ralich and family on the passing from this life, this past Wednesday, of his father +George. May his memory be eternal! And may the Lord strengthen and comfort his loved ones.

(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 taking a short break. Announcements for future meetings will be announced.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

May 3	Jaga Radosevic
May 10	Gresh Family
May 17	Georgie and Corbin Washington
May 24	Helen Blebea
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. The next practice will be Wednesday, June 3.

**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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