

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)

May 8, 2016: 2nd Sunday of Pascha/Apostle Thomas

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!

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom.....

Choir: Amen

Priest: “Christ is risen from the dead ...” (1 time)

Choir: Christ is risen from the dead ...” (2 times)

(The Divine Liturgy is begun in this manner until the Leavetaking of Pascha.)

Tone 7 Troparion (from the Pentecostarion)

From the sealed tomb, You shone forth, O Life! Through closed doors You came to Your Disciples, O Christ God. Renew in us, through them, an upright spirit, //by the greatness of Your mercy, O Resurrection of all!

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 8 Kontakion (from the Pentecostarion)

Thomas touched Your life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, when You came to Your Apostles through closed doors. He cried out with all: “You are my Lord and my God!”

(The Trisagion is sung)

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power! His understanding is beyond measure!
v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

Tone 8 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!
v: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

(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

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Priest: “In the fear of God ...”

Choir: “Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord ...”

Priest: “O Lord, save Your people ...”

Choir: “Christ is risen from the dead ...” (instead of “We have seen the True Light ...”)

Priest: “Always, now and ever ...”

Choir: “Let our mouths be filled ...”

(At the Dismissal, the Priest says:) “Glory to You, O Christ....,” ***and the choir sings*** “Christ is risen from the dead....” (thrice).

(Priest says dismissal)

Choir: And unto us He has given eternal life.

Priest: We worship His third day Resurrection!

People: We glorify His third day Resurrection!

Thought for the Day: Some Icons depicting this event are inscribed “The Doubting Thomas.” This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, “The Touching of Thomas.” The Slavonic inscription is, “The Belief of Thomas.” When St Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts. This day is also known as “Antipascha.” This does not mean “opposed to Pascha,” but “in place of Pascha.” Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord’s Resurrection.

CONTEMPLATION by St. Nikolai (Velimirovich)

Contemplate the resurrected Lord Jesus:

*How Simon Peter and the other disciple ran quickly to the tomb to confirm the news of the Resurrection;

*How one after the other entered the tomb and saw the linen clothes and the napkin;

*How they both saw and believed, and then witnessed; and how, for their witness they died.

*How He entered among His disciples through closed doors and gave them peace;

*How there were no material obstacles to His appearing in His glorified body wherever He wanted.

*How, because of Thomas, who was momentarily the only unbelieving one among the disciples, He appeared in His glorified body;

*How Thomas placed his finger into the wounds of the all-pure body of the Lord and believed.

Today: Parish Patron Saint Celebration (Slava) Commemorating the Transfer of the Relics of St. Nikolai, next, Sunday, following Liturgy. Please be certain to participate in this major celebration in the life of our mission as we honor St. Nikolai and supplicate his holy prayers for our mission and for our salvation. Side dishes are requested for the meal that will follow the cutting of the Kolach (The service of blessing the feast bread). Our honored couple is (Kumovi-Nash), George & Helen Blebea.

If you wish to list someone on the parish prayer list, you must advise Father. The list will be revised this coming week.

PRAYERS requested:

For The Health and Salvation of:

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. old waiting for heart transplant)

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

+Paul (friend of Fr. David)

+Bruce “ “ “

+Khouria Marguerite Shaheen

+Helen (Step-Mother of Fr. Bill Evansky)

Many Years to:

Josef Gresh – May 8

Many Thanks to:

*Helen Blebea – for sewing and donating the new white altar covers.

*Fr. Michael Corbin and the parish of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Canton- For the large wooden crucifix used for Holy Friday services & the large votive above the Altar table (and to Greg Rajsich for helping Father install it).

*To all those who donated Easter Lilies and to Lana Baier for adorning the tomb and chapel with them.