

Saint Nikolai Orthodox Church

Temporarily at 8277 N Nickel Plate St., Louisville, Ohio 44641

Sunday November 19th
24th Sunday after Holy Pentecost –Tone 7

His Eminence, Archbishop ALEXANDER
Archbishop of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese

Rev. Mikel Hill, Acting Rector
fr.mikel.hill@gmail.com or 570-470-0447

Upcoming Services:

Sat. Nov. 18th - NO VESPERS!!

Sun. Nov. 19th - St. Mary's - Liturgy, 11am

Sun. Nov. 19th - St. Elias'-Thanksgiving Svs, 6pm

Wed., Nov. 22nd - NO BIBLE STUDY!!

Please visit our website:
www.stnikolaiorthodoxchurch.org
Or Like us on FaceBook



Welcome!

The entire parish family of St. Nikolai Orthodox Church welcomes you today! Please take a moment to introduce yourself to the clergy and the people of our parish. We hope that you can stay for coffee hour after the service.

Please note that we invite all Baptized members of the Orthodox Church to receive Holy Communion, provided that they have refrained from food and drink since midnight, and prepared themselves through prayer and recent confession.

If you are joining us today but have not been baptized in the Orthodox Church we welcome you but kindly ask you to refrain from approaching for Holy Communion. Please feel free to approach to kiss the cross at the end of the service and to take a piece of blessed bread as a token of our love. We pray that soon all people would find their true home in the Orthodox Church so that we might, together, share in Holy Communion of Christ's undivided Body.

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death./ To the thief Thou didst open Paradise./ For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,/ and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,/ to proclaim that Thou art risen,//granting the world great mercy.

Troparion for the Prophet Obadiah - Tone 2

We celebrate the memory/of Thy Prophet Obadiah, O Lord;/ through him we beseech Thee:// "Save our souls!"

Troparion for the Martyr Barlaam - Tone 4

Armed with youthful fervor,/ Thou didst endure martyrdom in old age and glorified Christ./ Thou didst offer Him thy right hand as a whole burnt offering/ and thy holy soul as a blameless sacrifice.// Intercede that all that be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr Barlaam!

Kontakion of the Resurrection - Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,/ for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers./ Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:/ “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion for the Prophet Obadiah - Tone 1

The great Obadiah, acquiring a mind luminous with divine splendor,/ speaks through the Holy Spirit, proclaiming things to come./ Today we honor him with faithful minds, // celebrating his holy memory which enlightens the hearts of men.

Kontakion for the Martyr Barlaam - Tone 3

Though weak with old age thou didst vanquish the Evil One/ in thy mighty contest, O Barlaam./ Thou didst endure the rack like one without a body,/ and steadfastly endured the burning of thy hand.// Therefore, God the Word has crowned thee with a crown of glory.

Now and Ever . . . Steadfast Protectress . . .

Priest: Let us attend: Peace be unto all

Reader: And to thy spirit

Priest: Wisdom

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 7th Tone

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

Congregation: The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

Reader: Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Congregation: The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

Reader: The Lord shall give strength to His people.

Congregation: The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

Priest: Wisdom

Reader: **The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Ephesians (2:14-22)**

Priest: Let us attend

Reader: Brethren, He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Priest: *Peace be to thee that reads. Wisdom*

Reader: The Alleluia in the Seventh Tone

Congregation: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.

Congregation: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

Congregation: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (12:16-21)

Then Jesus spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.’ And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.’” ‘But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

The Sunday Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

What is Stewardship?: Reflections from *Introducing the Orthodox Faith* by A. Conaris

Another response to God for His gracious love is the stewardship of our time, talents, and possessions. We are called to use our God-given talents to serve God and glorify Him. The word steward is an English translation of the Greek word *oikonomos*, which means manager. Every Christian is a manager of the time, talents, and possessions God has loaned to him. He is responsible to God for the use of these gifts and will be called on by God one day to give an account of how he used them.

Much needs to be said about the importance of stewardship since the entire work of the Church as the Body of Christ in the world today depends on it. Our monetary gifts to the Church are translated into deeds of love. Consider what our gifts to the Church can do: They give legs to a word like love and send it off on urgent errands of mercy. They bring hope, health, sanity and salvation to people in the spirit of Christ. They put clothing on the naked, food in the stomachs of the starving. They administer the sacraments. They educate young people in the faith. They gather workmen to build schools, hospitals, colleges, seminaries, churches. They bring new life to the handicapped.

Someone said one Sunday during the offering, “Here we go again! There’s always a plate.” The person was right in one way and wrong in another. There is not one plate—but two! One is man’s: the offering plate that is passed to us every Sunday. The other is God’s. And that is the paten, the plate that carries the Precious Body of our Lord during the Liturgy. God gives *first*. He gives us our body, mind, life, health, talents. On the paten—the plate of God’s mercy—He gives us Himself as the Bread of Life, the manna from heaven. He gives forgiveness, strength, courage. He gives victory over sin and death. He gives eternal life. “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us” (Eph. 1:7-8). God gives! That is the meaning of the first plate—the paten.

The second plate which is passed to us every Sunday is the offering plate. It represents our response to the first plate. We are invited to give in gratitude for God’s generosity, for His limitless forgiveness and mercy. The emptiness of the offering plate represents the aching needs of the world—spiritual hunger, physical hunger, etc., which we are called to help remedy through our sharing. It represents the great spiritual hunger that exists in the world—the God-shaped vacuum in every heart—that only Christ can fill.

More to follow . . .



Special Announcements

On November 26th, our council will present a few items related to our re-building about which they hope to hear from the entire community. Our council has been working closely with our contractor (DKI) to insure that our beautiful church will be as it was before the fire. There are a few items that have been suggested for change. For the suggested changes, the council will present 2-3 options that are within our budget to determine a consensus from the larger community. If you are not able to make it to the Nov. 26th meeting, we will post the information in the previous week's bulletin to give you the opportunity to express your thoughts.

Introduction to the Orthodox Faith

Our catechumens and others interested in learning more about their faith will be meeting on Sunday afternoons, at 2:30, at Panera Bread in Alliance. The discussion will revolve around weekly assignments, which are available to everyone at the link below. If you would like to join our discussion, in-person, through Google Hangout, or e-mail, let Fr. Mikel know.

<https://stnikolaiorthodoxchurch.wordpress.com/>

Today we are especially praying for *the Health and Salvation of:*

Richard R.	Larissa
Richard + Tetiana	Steve and Sandy
Fr. Joseph	Anthony
Arika, Renee,	Joan
Ashley, and Chloe.	Slavco
Valentina	Anthony
Josh W.	Thomas
The Minnick Family	Mat. Rebecca
The Gresh family	Rebecca
Kathy Jo, Michael	Thomas
Kelli	Marsha
Liz and Carla	Jackie
Kim, Dale, Helen,	Dorothy
Larissa, and Niki	Matthew
Fr. Andrew &	Paul
The Community of St. Matthews	

For The Departed Soul of:

+June
+Fred

Upcoming Events:

Fr. Mikel will be joining the Mount Union Alliance Chorale in their holiday concert on November 19th at 3pm at Alliance Friends Church, 1307 W. State St. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

St. Elias in Akron will hold a Thanksgiving Service on November 19th at 6pm. Our parish has been invited to join the Summit County Orthodox churches for this event.

Our community will gather at 6pm, on Friday, Dec. 1st for a fun-filled evening at the Louisville Bowling Alley (115 S. Mill St.). Cost is \$7 to bowl. There is food on-site, or you can bring your own. RSVP with Steve Bozeka by Nov. 26th.

We will be holding a "Stewardship Sunday" celebration on December 3rd. Make sure to fill out a "Giving Goal" card by this date to help our council with financial planning.

St. George Romanian Orthodox Church will be blessed to receive the visit of the Miraculous Myrrh-Streaming (Taylor) Icon of the Mother of God on Friday, December 15, services start at 6pm.

We will be holding our annual community meeting on Sunday, December 17th. Please mark your calendars for this important event.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Tom Krupko – Nov. 21st