

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission, Sunday Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am.**

**Saturday Vespers, 5:00 pm.**

**9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641**

**Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bulgarian Diocese, Orthodox Church in America**

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

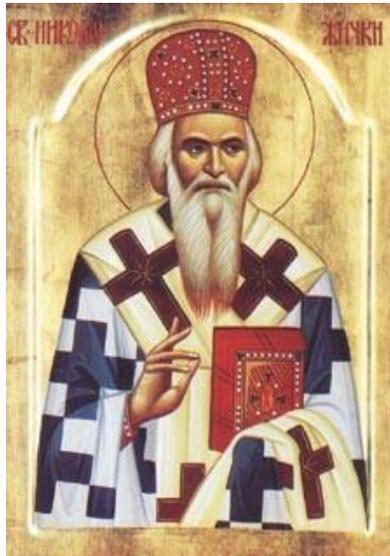
**Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)**

**October 25, 2015: 21st Sunday after Pentecost/Martyrs Marcian & Martyrius**

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

**Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionOfAlliance](http://www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionOfAlliance)**

*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. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith.*



***Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)***

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

***Tone 3 Troparion (Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius)***

In holy zeal you dispelled the error of Arius and proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence. Holy martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, unshaken bulwarks of Orthodoxy, entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy!

***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 (Resurrection)***

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

#### **Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.

v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20

**Tone 4** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!

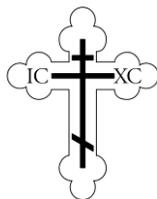
v: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity.

**Gospel:** Luke 16:19-31

#### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



#### **All Good Things Come From God ( by: St. Nikolai Velimirovich )**

A young and inexperienced man in spiritual combat underlines his every good work by self-praise. But the experienced soldier in the midst of struggles with passions and demons minimizes his every deed and intensifies his prayer for God's help. Father Matoes used to say: "The closer a man is to God, the more sinful he sees himself to be." He also was known to say: "When I was young, I thought perhaps that I was doing some good; and now when I am old, I see that I do not have any good deed." Did not our Lord say: "No one is good but One, that is God" (Matthew 19:17). Therefore, if only the one God is good and the source of all good, how can a good deed be done that is not from God? And, how can someone who does a good deed ascribe it to himself and not to God? If this is so, with what then can mortal man be praised? By nothing, except with God and the goodness of God!

Two Sayings of Abba Agathon Relating To This Issue:

1. It was said concerning Father Agathon that some monks came to find him having heard of his great discernment. Wanting to see if he would lose his temper they said to him:

'Aren't you that Father Agathon who is said to be a fornicator and a proud man?'

'Yes, it is very true,' he answered.

They resumed, 'Aren't you that Agathon who is always talking nonsense?'

'I am.'

Again they said 'Aren't you Agathon the heretic?'

But at that he replied 'I am not a heretic.'

So they asked him, 'Tell us why you accepted everything we cast at you, but repudiated this last insult.'

He replied 'The first accusations I take to myself for that is good for my soul. But heresy is separation from God. Now I have no wish to be separated from God.'

At this saying they were astonished at his discernment and returned, edified.

2. The old men said of Father Agathon to Father Elias in Egypt: 'He is a good Father.'

The old man answered them, 'In comparison with his own generation, he is good.'

They said to him, 'And what is he in comparison with the ancients?'

He gave them this answer, 'I have said to you that in comparison with his generation he is good but as to that of the ancients, in Scetis I have seen a man who, like Joshua the son of Nun could make the sun stand still in the heavens.' At these words they were astounded and gave glory to God.

**The Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius**, Notaries of Constantinople served in a Constantinople cathedral. Marcian was a reader and Martyrius a subdeacon. They both performed in the capacity of notaries, i.e. secretaries, for Patriarch Paul the Confessor (November 6).

Arian heretics expelled and secretly executed the righteous Patriarch Paul. His throne was given to the heretic Macedonius. The heretics attempted to entice Sts Marcian and Martyrius over to their side by flattery. They offered them gold and promised to consecrate them as archbishops, but all the efforts of the Arians were in vain.

Then the impious threatened to slander them before the emperor, and sought to intimidate them with torture and death. But the saints steadfastly confessed Orthodoxy, as handed down by the Fathers of the Church. Marcian and Martyrius were sentenced to death. Before death, the martyrs prayed, "Lord God, Who have invisibly created our hearts, and directed all our deeds, accept with peace the souls of Your servants, since we perish for You and are considered as sheep for the slaughter (Ps 32/33:15; 43/44:22). We rejoice that by such a death we shall depart this life for Your Name. Grant us to be partakers of life eternal with You, the Source of life." After their prayer the martyrs, with quiet rejoicing, bent their necks beneath the sword of the impious (+ ca. 335).

Their holy bodies were reverently buried by Orthodox Christians. Later, by decree of St John Chrysostom, the relics of the holy martyrs were transferred to a church built in their honor. Believers here were healed of many infirmities through the prayers of the saints, to the glory of the One Life-Creating Trinity.

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

### **PRAYERS requested**

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

Doreen Wishnok (friend of the Krupko's who is battling breast cancer)

Stefanie Waseman

The Knoll Family

Ann Cervo (Fr. Joe's sister-in-law, diagnosed with optical melanoma)

Roland Augspurger

Leslie and Tim Kocevar

Joan Downey

Beth Plocher

Susan Smith Miller (Heidi' Gresh's sister)

Brenda Grey

Barbara Eline

Janice Raber

Wally and Debby Borojevich and family

Jennifer White

Julian Farian (Corbin and Georgie's Grandson)

Georgie Washington

Renee Young

**Heightened prayers are requested for Mother Anna**, abbess of Monastery Marcha, Richfield Ohio. She has been diagnosed with inoperable bladder cancer. May God comfort and strengthen her in the days and months ahead.

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

Archpriest +Vasilije Sokolovich  
Archpriest +Rastko Trbuhovich  
Archpriest +Svetozar Veselinovic  
+ Walter Borojevich (Walley's father)  
+ Robert White (Friend of Kate White)

**VESPERS:**

Vespers will be held every Saturday evening beginning this Saturday, Oct. 24 at 5 pm at our church.  
We will have a time change to Saturday Evening Vespers to 4 pm beginning on November 7, due to daylight savings time.

**ADULT EDUCATION:**

Book study/Christian Education will follow the vespers service and take place in the fellowship area at the church.

**CHOIR PRACTICE:**

Choir practice will take a 2 week break and resume on the first 3 Tuesdays of November and the first 3 Tuesdays of December to prepare for our Christmas services. We will have our practices at the church on these Tuesdays at 7 pm. The choir dates are November 3, 10, 17 and December 1, 8, 15.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

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!!!!**

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS (remaining):**

Tom Krupko – 27th  
Amy Catania – 30<sup>th</sup>

**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES (remaining):**

Larry & Deanna Dordea – 30th

Well done and thank you to everyone, no matter how you contributed to the fruitful effort for the dedication weekend, that was positively received by our many guests.

It's good for us to realize and recognize all the work that was visible to many, as well as the work that went on behind the scenes, not for the purpose of inflating egos, but to the glory of God. Everyone's efforts and contributions are valued and appreciated. The various types of service-oriented work are a nuts and bolts type of ministry, necessary for the more recognized types of ministry. The positive experience enjoyed by many, would not have been possible without such sacrificial service.

May the Lord bless you with temporal and eternal good things!

St. Nikolai Orthodox Church  
P.O. Box 193  
Maximo, Ohio 44650

