

St. Nikolai Orthodox Church

9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641

Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bishop of Toledo, Orthodox Church in America

Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (OCA)

Today we will have a reader's service of the Liturgy.

Feel free to check out our website and Facebook page!

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

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionofAlliance>

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Book study/Christian Education following Vespers

Parish Council meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7 PM (open to parishioners)

Sunday September 18

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost/ tone 4

Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross

The entire Parish Family of St. Nikolai welcomes you today! Please take a moment to introduce yourself to our clergy and the people of our parish. We hope that you will stay for Coffee Hour and a short Adult Christian Education after the service. Feel free to ask any questions about our worship or the chapel or anything the Lord puts in your heart to ask. If we don't know the answer to your questions, we'll find someone who does and get back to you. Again, welcome!

We invite all Baptized and Chrismated members of the Orthodox Church to receive Holy Communion. This assumes that all taking Holy Communion have prepared with prayer, confession, and fasting according to the discipline of your home parish. If you are not taking Holy Communion today please accept a piece of blessed bread. Although it is not Holy Communion it is a token of our welcome and love. We long for the day when we can all take Holy Communion together!

Resurrectional Troparion-Tone 4

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!"

Troparion of the Cross-Tone 1

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Your Cross,// preserve Your habitation!

Troparion of St. Nikolai -Tone 4

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. O Hierarch Father Nikolai, entreat Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion of the Cross-Tone 4

As You were voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by your power, granting them victories over their adversaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace!



Prokeimenon Tone 4

*O Lord, how manifold are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
v: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great.*

Epistle Reading - Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Tone 1 (after feast)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*v. Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!
(Ps 73/74:2)*

v: God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth. (Ps 73/74:12)

Gospel Reading - Mark 8:24-9:1

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

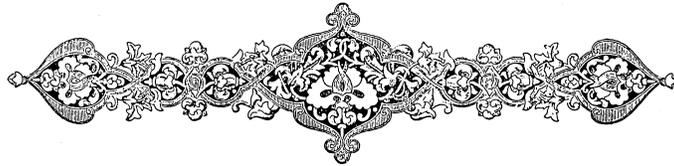
Communion Hymn

*Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest.
The light of Thy countenance is signed upon us, O Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

("It is truly meet ...," Resurrectional Theotokion:)

Tone 8

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God, the Word: true Theotokos we magnify you.



The Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross

September 14

On this day are commemorated two events connected with the Precious Cross of Christ: the first, the finding of the Cross on Golgotha and the second the returning of the Cross to Jerusalem from Persia. Staying in the Holy Land, the holy Empress Helena decided to look for the Precious Cross of the Lord. An old Jew called Judah was the only person who knew the whereabouts of the Cross, and, under pressure from the Empress, he revealed that the Cross was buried under the Temple of Venus that the Emperor Hadrian had built on Golgotha. The Empress ordered that this idolatrous temple be pulled down, and then, digging deep below it, she found three crosses. While the Empress was in uncertainty about how to recognise which cross was the Lord's, a funeral procession passed by. Then Patriarch Macarius told them to place the crosses one by one on the dead man. When they placed the first and second on him, the dead man remained unchanged, but when they placed the third on him, he was restored to life. By this, they knew that this was the Precious and life-giving Cross of Christ. After that, they placed it on a sick woman, and she recovered. Then the Patriarch raised the Cross aloft for all to see, and the people sang with tears: 'Lord, have mercy!' The Empress Helena had a silver casing made, and placed the precious Cross in it. Later, King Chozroes conquered Jerusalem, took the people into slavery and carried the Lord's Cross off to Persia, where it remained for fourteen years. In 628, the Greek Emperor Heraclius was victorious over Chozroes and brought the Cross back to Jerusalem with great ceremony. Entering the city, Heraclius was carrying the Cross on his back, but suddenly the aged Emperor was unable to take another step. Patriarch Zacharias saw an angel directing the Emperor to take off his imperial robes and walk beneath the Cross along the way that Christ had walked, barefoot and humiliated as He had been. He passed this vision on to the Emperor, who stripped himself of his raiment and, in poor clothing and barefoot, took up the Cross, carried it to Golgotha and placed it in the Church of the Resurrection, to the joy and consolation of the whole Christian world.

PRAYERS requested:

For The Health and Salvation of:

Gloria
Andrea Bartol
Olympia, the Tillman Family
Helen, Carl, Lisa, Kitty
Cervo Family, Gregory, & Ann
Harper
Arika, Renee, Ashley, and Chloe.
Emil DeSantis
Valentina
Josh
Minnick Family
Kathy Jo, Michael, and Family.
Pres. Zoe, Maria, Angelique
Walentik Family, Emil
Liz, Carla Michalik
Max and the Turcola family
Corbin and Georgie
Dan K.

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

+ Todd David Maragas
+ Nicholas Tomich
+ Subdeacon Alexander McNeer
+ Grisha
+ Robert Penovich
+ Maude
+ Jenny
+ Beth
+ Daisy V.



Clergy Schedule

Oct 2 – Liturgy at St. Elia the Prophet
64 W. Wilbeth Rd, Akron, OH 44301

Oct 9 –TBD
Oct 16 –Fr. Basil Soroka
Oct 23 –Fr. Basil Soroka
Oct 30 –TBD

Coffee Hour

Sept. 11 – Dan R.
Sept. 18 – Bozeka's
Sept. 25 – Gresh's

September Birthdays

Sept. 1 – Susan Varga
Sept. 6 – Steve Bozeka
Sept. 19 – Heidi Gresh
Sept. 30 – Josh Gresh

September Anniversaries

Sept. 30 – Dcn. James and Heidi Gresh