

St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance, as part of Orthodox Campus Fellowship at University of Mount Union, Dewald Chapel. Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am.

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

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

April 7, 2013; Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Holy Cross

Repose of St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow & Enlightener of N. America



Tone 3 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion *(for the Cross)*

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!

Tone 1 Troparion *(for St Tikhon)*

Let us praise Tikhon, the Patriarch of All Russia,
and Enlightener of North America,
an ardent follower of the apostolic traditions,
and good pastor of the Church of Christ,
who was elected by Divine Providence,
and laid down his life for his sheep!
Let us sing to him with faith and hope,
and ask for his hierarchical intercessions:
keep the Church in Russia in tranquility,
and the Church in North America in peace;
gather her scattered children into one flock,
bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith,
preserve our lands from civil strife,
and entreat God's peace for all people!

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Nikolai Velimirovich)*

Thy righteous acts have revealed thee to thy flock
As a model of faith, a reflection of humility.
And a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nikolai;
Therefore, through humility thou hast obtained exaltation and through poverty, riches;
Pray to Christ God to save our souls.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs// they unceasingly praise the divine
majesty of Your power.

Tone 7 Kontakion *(for the Cross)*

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;
it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross.
The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;
for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell://
“Enter again into Paradise!”

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 3* Kontakion *(St Tikhon)*

Today the assembly of New Martyrs
stands together with us in the Church,
and together we raise a festive song,
celebrating the uncovering of the relics of our Hierarch Father Tikhon,
who defeated the enemy and preserved the Faith,
while protecting the flock entrusted to him.
For he ever prays to all, // that we may never be deprived of the love of God.
(In place of the Trisagion, we sing:)
Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,
and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Tone 6 Prokeimenon

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance!
v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Tone 8 * Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!

v: God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing: Hymn to the Theotokos)

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:
the assembly of Angels and the race of men.
O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,
the glory of virgins,
from whom God was incarnate and became a Child –
our God before the ages.
He made your body into a throne,
and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.
All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.//
Glory to you!

Communion Hymns

The light of Your countenance has shone on us, O Lord. (*Ps 4/5:6*)
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Schedule of Services:

Wednesday, April 10, Presanctified Liturgy, 7 pm Mt. Union Chapel, Followed by soup and salad.

Saturday, April 13, Vespers, 7 pm. Confessions heard after service, Mt. Union Chapel

Donations: For those desiring to make a contribution to this missionary effort, please make your check payable to "Orthodox Mission of Alliance."

Coffee Social: Will take place following the Divine Liturgy, in the fellowship room on the left side, down the hall from the chapel; please join us.

Procedure for receiving Holy Communion: In the Orthodox Church, Holy Communion is reserved only for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and regular confession. Those who have done so should approach the chalice with their arms crossed over their chest. Do not make the sign of the cross while standing in front of the chalice; state your baptismal first name; open your mouth wide (do not stick out your tongue), tilt your head back and allow the priest to deposit the holy gifts into your mouth (no need to close your mouth on the holy spoon).

Welcome to our non-Orthodox visitors: As stated above, Holy Communion is reserved only for prepared Orthodox Christians. We invite all visitors to introduce yourself to Fr. Joe and Fr. Deacon James at the end of the liturgy and to come forward to receive a piece of the blessed bread (which is given "instead of Holy Communion," especially to those Orthodox not prepared to receive the Eucharist and to those who are not Chrismated Orthodox). We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the historic Orthodox Christian Faith.

Thought for the Day: *Synaxarion of the Sunday of the Cross:*

On this Sunday, the third Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the veneration of the honorable and Life-Giving Cross, and for this reason: inasmuch as in the forty days of fasting we in a way crucify ourselves.... and become bitter and despondent and failing, the Life-Giving Cross is presented to us for refreshment and assurance, for remembrance of our Lord's Passion, and for comfort.... We are like those following a long and cruel path, who become tired, see a beautiful tree with many leaves, sit in its shadow and rest for a while and then, as if rejuvenated, continue their journey; likewise today, in the time of fasting and difficult journey and effort, the Life-Giving Cross was planted in our midst by the holy fathers to give us rest and refreshment, to make us light and courageous for the remaining task.... Or, to give another example: when a king is coming, at first his banner and symbols appear, then he himself comes glad and rejoicing about his victory and filling with joy those under him; likewise, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is about to show us His victory over death, and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection Day, is sending us in advance His scepter, the royal symbol-- the Life-Giving Cross-- and it fills us with joy and makes us ready to meet, inasmuch as it is possible for us, the King Himself, and to render glory to His victory.... All this in the midst of Lent which is like a bitter source because of its tears, because also of its efforts and despondency.... but Christ comforts us who are as it were in a desert until he shall lead us up to the spiritual Jerusalem by His Resurrection.... for the Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is the tree that was planted in Paradise, and for this reason our fathers have planted it in the midst of Holy Lent, remembering both Adams bliss and how he was deprived of it, remembering also that partaking of this Tree we no longer die but are kept alive....

St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance
P.O. Box 193
Maximo, Ohio 44650