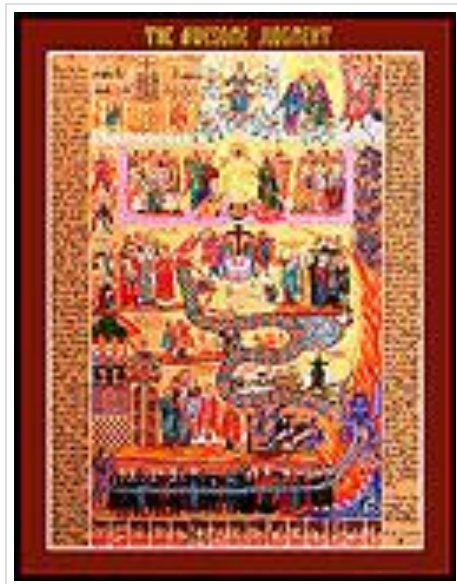


**St. Nikolai of Zica Orthodox Mission of Alliance
820 South Linden Avenue, Alliance, Ohio
(at St. Theodore Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church)
Divine Liturgy, 9:30**

**Right Reverend 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)
February 15, 2015 Sunday of Meatfare/Sunday of the Last Judgment**



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 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 1 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory, all things shall tremble,
and the river of fire shall flow before Your judgment seat;
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, //
and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Righteous Judge!

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!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

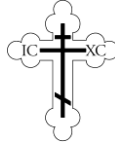
Tone 8 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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: Matthew 25:31-46

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Meatfare Sunday: Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins. The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed. As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45). Today is the last day for eating meat until Pascha, eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

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 at the Jonathan Casteel hall, directly through the alley way behind the church. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith. (Please note that because of our anniversary celebration today, there will be no fellowship and Christian education).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS requested

For The Health and Salvation of:

Mother Ana

Family of Nanci Stradley

Patricia Kosivich, friend of and helper to Mother Ana

Father Joe Cervo

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

George Ralich, (Dan's father)

Katie (Granddaughter of Father Stevo Rocknage, St. Sava Church in McKeesport, who is battling a rare genetic disease)

Stefanie Waseman

Metodija Damljanovic (4 year old child who fell ill suddenly and grandson of Prota Vasko Sokolovic)
Roland Augspurger (friend of the Krupko's who is battling cancer)
Joe Novak
Kerri Baugher (friend of the Krupko's who has cancer)
The Knoll Family
Margaret (Deacon James' Mother)
Eddie, Nancy, John and Alisha (Friends of Father David)
Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko
Protopresbyter George Livanos
Jenifer Codrea
Mildred (Peggy) and Walter Borojevich (Wally's Parents)

For The Repose of the Souls of:

Deacon +Basil Frenchek (a deacon from within our diocese) – 01/15
+Violet (Father Joe's Godmother)
Matushka +Mildred Klutchko (friend of Frs. Joe & Dragan)
+Despina Poulos (the mother of Steve Poulos and Bishop Andonios - Greek Archdiocese Chancellor)
+Mary Rossi (parishioner of Christ the Savior OCA Church, Byesville, Oh.)

(Please update prayer requests at the beginning of each month. We will remove names if the request is not renewed.)

COFFEE HOUR:

February 1 - Larry and Deanna Dordea
February 8 - Novak Family
February 15 - 2nd Anniversary of Mission – Dinner at the Gresh's
February 22 - Corbin and Georgie Washington

We have received several suggestions that we go to a simpler coffee hour. Please try to keep it to bagels, donuts, coffee cake, etc.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HOSTED 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.

DONATIONS:

Please note, any special donations will be added directly to our building fund unless otherwise specified by the donor. God bless all who have generously donated to and support our mission.

BUILDING PROJECT:

We are finalizing plans to begin phase one construction of our mission building project. If you have not made a commitment and would like to, please discuss this with either Father Joe or Deacon James by email or phone and/or by making your check payable to St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance. May God Bless all donors for their support of our Mission and purpose in celebrating Orthodoxy.

CHOIR PRACTICES:

Choir Practice will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the Gresh Home. Please see Heidi for details

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

George and Helen Blebea – 18th

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Cecelia Krajci – 14th
Linda Cervo – 15th
Jake Krupko – 24th

2nd ANNIVERSARY OF ST. NIKOLAI OF ZICA, ORTHODOX MISSION OF ALLIANCE:

On Sunday, February 15, 2015 we will be celebrating the 2nd Anniversary of our Mission. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop Mark presiding will begin at 9:30 am. Following church services, there will be a dinner held at the Gresh Home located at 9135 Gans Avenue NE, Canton OH 44721 beginning at noon.

Please enter through the garage door at the back of the house, near the gazebo (This entrance is much closer than the front door!)

For your convenience you may deliver food first. Parking will be at the left (barn side) of the driveway.

Orange juice, wine, coffee and tea will be provided. Feel free to share your favorite drinks.

You are welcome to bring and wear slippers for comfort in the house.

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Mission Phone # 330 768-7633
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website: www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com

