

**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)  
January 19, 2014: 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Venerable Macarius the Great/ St. Mark of Ephesus**



**Venerable Macarius the Great**



**St. Mark of Ephesus**

**Tone 5      Troparion      *(Resurrection)***

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

**Tone 1      Troparion      *(St Macarius of Egypt)***

Dweller of the desert and angel in the body You were shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father Macarius.  
You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer; healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.  
Glory to Him Who gave you strength! Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown! Glory to Him Who through you grants healing to all!

**Tone 4      Troparion      *(St. Mark of Ephesus)***

By your profession of faith, O all-praised Mark The Church has found you to be a zealot for truth. You fought for the teaching of the Fathers;  
You cast down the darkness of boastful pride. Intercede with Christ God to grant forgiveness to those who honor you!

**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 5      Kontakion      *(Resurrection)***

You descended into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death.  
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, // and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

**Tone 4      Kontakion      (*Venerable Macarius the Great of Egypt*)**

The Lord truly placed you in the house of abstinence, as a star enlightening the ends of the earth, Venerable Macarius, Father of Fathers.

**Epistle:** Colossians 3:12-16

**Tone 5      Prokeimenon**

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!*

**Tone 5 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation.*

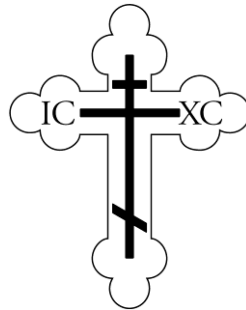
*v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens."*

**Gospel;** Luke 18:35-43

**Communion Hymn**

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.



**The First Annual St. Nikolai Mission Meeting** will take place after Liturgy on Sunday, **January 26**. Those who are eligible to vote and hold office are those who have partaken of the Holy Sacraments, are financially supporting our Mission and are not members of another Orthodox parish.

**Blessing of homes:**

\*Because having one's home blessed is a very important Orthodox Tradition, all parishioners who recognize the importance of this practice and desire to have the spiritual benefits of such blessings should talk to Father and make an appointment.

\*The blessing of the home is not merely a social event. Take it seriously, with preparation and prayer. Televisions, computers, radios and CD players must be off and family members should be present and attentive. Explain to children the meaning of this service (i.e. the priest is bringing the church to our home which confirms that our home is an extension of the church – where we pray, show love for God and one another).

\*Be sure to have ready a candle, an Orthodox Icon (not a religious picture), a bowl for water and a printed or typed list of names of family members that you want the priest to pray for.

\*Do not feel obligated to provide food or refreshments for the priest.

**Saint Mark, Archbishop of Ephesus**, was a stalwart defender of Orthodoxy at the Council of Florence. He would not agree to a union with Rome which was based on theological compromise and political expediency (the Byzantine Emperor was seeking military assistance from the West against the Moslems who were drawing ever closer to Constantinople). St Mark countered the arguments of his opponents, drawing from the well of

pure theology, and the teachings of the holy Fathers. When the members of his own delegation tried to pressure him into accepting the Union he replied, "There can be no compromise in matters of the Orthodox Faith." Not being opposed to unity but demanding that unity be based on truth he said, "We seek and we pray for our return to that time when, being united, we spoke the same things and there was no schism between us."

Although the members of the Orthodox delegation signed the Tomos (Agreement and Proclamation) of Union with Rome, St Mark was the only one who refused to do so. When he returned from Florence, St Mark urged the inhabitants of Constantinople to repudiate the dishonorable document of union. He fell asleep in the Lord, in 1457 at the age of fifty-two, admired and honored by all. On his deathbed, Mark implored Gregory, his disciple, and later Patriarch Gennadius II of Constantinople, to be careful of the snares of the West and to defend Orthodoxy. For his efforts at the Council of Florence and his defense against: the addition of the Filioque into the Creed, the primacy of the Pope, and the Roman doctrine of purgatory, the Orthodox Church glorified him, in 1734, among the saints, calling him a **Pillar of Orthodoxy**. His feast day is January 19.

### **Prayer Requests:**

We have received a prayer request for Marie, sister of Jaga Radosevic

### **Coffee Hour:**

Thank you to Jaga and Amy for providing coffee hour lunch last Sunday.

This week, January 19 coffee hour is being provided by Dan Ralich

Sunday, January 26 coffee hour is being provided by the Gresh Family.

We need people to provide coffee hour for all dates after January 26.

St. Nikolai of Zica  
Orthodox Mission of Alliance  
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