

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

**Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)
January 25, 2015: 33rd Sunday after Pentecost/Sunday of Zacchaeus
New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia/St Gregory the Theologian**



Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!
You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Tone 1 Troparion (St Gregory the Theologian)

The sweet-sounding shepherd's pipe of your theology overpowered the trumpeting of the orators; for eloquence was also bestowed on you. as on one who searched the depths of the Spirit. Pray to Christ God, Father Gregory, that our souls may be saved!

Tone 4 Troparion (New Martyrs of Russia)

Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.// By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

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 8 Kontakion (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, You raised the dead and resurrected Adam.
Eve exults in Your Resurrection, and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!
v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15

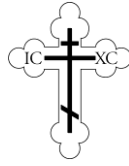
Tone 8 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!
v: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Zacchaeus Sunday: The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our Lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God’s mercy and compassion by Christ’s words to Zacchaeus, “Today salvation is come to this house” (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection “Today salvation has come to the world,” which echoes the Lord’s words to Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

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)

Despina Poulos (mother of Steve Poulos)

The Knoll Family

Margaret (Deacon James' Mother)
Eddie, Nancy, John and Alisha (Friends of Father David)
Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko
Protopresbyter George Livanos
Jennifer Codrea

For The Repose of the Souls of:

Deacon +Basil Frenchek (a deacon from within our diocese) – 01/15
+Violet (Father Joe's Godmother who passed away this week)

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

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

We will be celebrating our Mission's second anniversary on Sunday, February 15, 2015. Deanna Dordea will be taking care of sign ups for dinner donations. Please make sure you check with her. Dinner will be held at the Gresh Home. More details will be forthcoming.

COFFEE HOUR:

January 4	-	No Coffee Hour
January 11	-	Helen and George Blebea
January 18	-	The Gresh Family
January 25	-	Jaga Radosevic

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.

DECEMBER DONATIONS:

We have received the following special donations during December:
From: Jaga Radosevic For: Health of Family in "Old Country"

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:

We are trying to establish a good time for all members to practice, please give opinions to Heidi

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

St. Nikolai of Zica, Orthodox Mission of Alliance
P.O. Box 193
Maximo, Ohio 44650
Mission Phone # 330 768-7633
email: stnikolaiorthmission@gmail.com
website: www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com