

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Church, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 / Saturday Vespers, 4 pm.
Book study/Christian Education following Vespers
9837 State Street, Louisville , Ohio 44641**

**Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bulgarian Diocese, Orthodox Church in America
Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)**

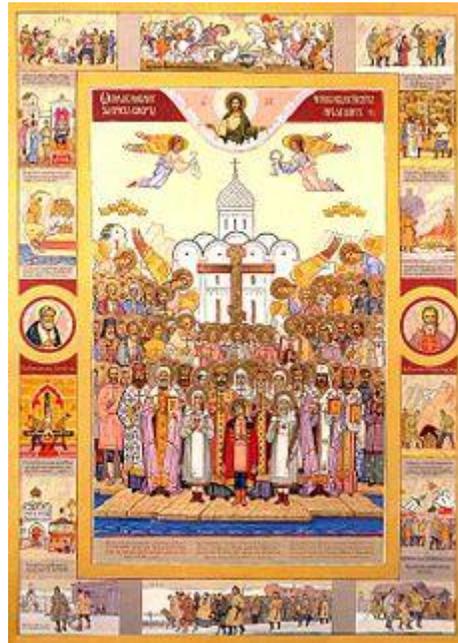
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)

January 31, 2016: 35th Sunday after Pentecost/ New Martyrs-Confessors of Russia

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

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionOfAlliance

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. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith.



Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

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 2 Kontakion (Resurrection)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You,// and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

Tone 2 Prokeimenon

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.
v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (New Martyrs of Russia)

God is our refuge and strength, a help in afflictions that severely befall us.

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16; Romans 8:28-39 (New Martyrs)

Tone 2 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

Tone 4

v: The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 21:8-19 (New Martyrs)

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!

The **New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia** were Orthodox Faithful who suffered during the Soviet period (1917 to 1991) for their faith. Immediately following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Russian Church under the leadership of Patriarch Alexei II began glorifying some of the New Martyr's, beginning with the Grand Duchess Elizabeth, Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev, and Metropolitan Benjamin of Petrograd in 1992. In 2000, the All-Russian Council glorified Tsar Nicholas II and his family, as well as many other New Martyrs. More names continue to be added to list of New Martyrs, after the Synodal Canonization Commission completes its investigation of each case. The Russian Church celebrates the feast of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia on the

Sunday nearest January 25th (o.s.) / February 7th (n.s.) -- the date Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev's martyrdom (the first Hieromartyr of the Bolshevik Yoke).

Presentation of Christ to the Temple: This Great Feast brings to a close the Nativity cycle of the Church. Unlike modern society, the Orthodox Church carries on the celebration of Christ's birth, not for 40 days before, as is done by those who commercialize Christmas, but the historical Christian practice is to commemorate the Incarnation of God's Only-Begotten Son, for 40 days following His Nativity. **Vespers-Divine Liturgy for the Feast will be, Monday, February 1, 6:30 pm.**

January 31 Contemplation of St. Nikolai Velimirovich: Contemplate the Lord Jesus, as the Host of His house:

1. How He walks about this world as One Who has authority, Commanding nature and expelling demons;
2. How He diligently labors over each man (woman) whom He encounters, as a Host over the members of His household;
3. How He acts in the Temple as a Host in His house, cleansing the Temple of the money-changers.

Stewardship: Please pray, contemplate and complete the parish pledge form and return to the Priest or Deacon, as soon as possible. May the Lord direct you and bless you for returning some of your possessions to further the work of His holy Church.

The prayer list has been cleared, except for those who have been requested to remain. If you wish to have someone listed please advise Father.

PRAYERS requested:

For The Health and Salvation of;

Father John and Cindy Zdinak & Family
Olympia Tillman (Father David's mother)
Helen (Father David's aunt)
Carl (friend of Father David)

Lisa “

Bruce “

Kitty “

Pau “

Father David and Family

Doreen Wishnok

Stefanie Waseman

The Knoll Family

Roland Augspurger

Leslie and Tim Kocevar

Beth Plocher

Renee Young

Larry Gainer

James Rickard and Family

Gregory Cervo
Ann Cervo

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

+Joshua Zdinak

+Michael Horney (Ann Cervo's brother)

COFFEE HOUR AND CHURCH CLEANING:

There is a sign-up sheet posted in the fellowship room for coffee hour and church cleaning. If you have any questions please see Father Joe or Deacon James. We are asking for individuals, families or groups to sign up on a monthly basis to clean the church. If we do not have anyone signed up for coffee hour on any week, we will simply have coffee during fellowship.

Save Your Stuff. Once again our parish is going to have a rummage sale at the Hartville Flea Market, this spring. Please contact Georgie Washington for details.

Blessing of Homes

The Blessing of homes is a long honored Tradition of Orthodoxy. The Holy Water which is blessed in the Church for the Feast of Theophany is taken by the priest to bless and sanctify the homes of the faithful. By this we are reminded that our homes are to be an extension of the Church; a place where we pray and celebrate the many blessings of life. Through this special blessing we reinforce our connection to God and His Church and we ask for the Lord's protection and guidance in our daily activities. We should be mindful that even if we have had this blessing in past years, we should nevertheless, want to repeat our prayer that the Lord will "keep safe from harm those who dwell here; grant to them Your Blessing, purification and health of body..."

To schedule a day and time for your home to be blessed, please see or contact Father (330) 284-8353 or email: frjcervo@sbcglobal.net