

Saint Nikolai Orthodox Church

9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641

Sunday July 9th, 2017

5th Sunday after Holy Pentecost (Tone 4)

**His Eminence, Archbishop ALEXANDER
Archbishop of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese**

Rev. Mikel Hill, Acting Rector
fr.mikel.hill@gmail.com or 570-470-0447
Protodeacon James Gresh, Attached

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Liturgies on Feast Days - 9:30 AM

(Proceeded by 3rd and 6th Hours - 9:00 AM)

Please visit our website:
www.stnikolaiorthodoxmission.com
Or Like us on FaceBook



Welcome!

The entire parish family of St. Nikolai Orthodox Church welcomes you today! Please take a moment to introduce yourself to the clergy and the people of our parish. We hope that you can stay for coffee hour after the service.

Please note that we invite all Baptized members of the Orthodox Church to receive Holy Communion, provided that they have refrained from food and drink since midnight, and prepared themselves through prayer and recent confession.

If you are joining us today but have not been baptized in the Orthodox Church we welcome you but kindly ask you to refrain from approaching for Holy Communion. Please feel free to approach to kiss the cross at the end of the service and to take a piece of blessed bread as a token of our love. We pray that soon all people would find their true home in the Orthodox Church so that we might, together, share in Holy Communion of Christ's undivided Body.

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 5

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.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers - Tone 8

You are most glorious, O Christ our God! You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them You have guided us to the true Faith./ O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

Kontakion of the Resurrection - 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!"

Kontakion of the Holy Fathers - Tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church./Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology,// it defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone (Resurrection)

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! (Ps 11/12:1)

Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone (Holy Fathers)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is >>

Your name forever!

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans (12:6-14)

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (13:7-16)

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

The Alleluia in the Fifth Tone

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."

The Alleluia in the Fifth Tone

V: The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew (9:1-8)

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or

to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" - then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

The Holy Gospel According to St. John (17:1-13)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)

From the *Prologue* by St. Nikolai for July 16th

The Ecumenical Councils are the greatest battles of Orthodoxy with heretics. Under today's date, the Church jointly commemorates the first Six Ecumenical Councils:

The First Ecumenical Council in Nicea, 325 A.D. This Council refuted the heresy of Arius, who taught that Jesus Christ was not fully God.

The Second Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 381 A.D. This Council refuted the heresy of Macedonius, who taught that the Holy Spirit was not fully God.

The Third Ecumenical Council in Ephesus, 431 A.D. This Council refuted the heresy of Nestorius, who taught that the Virgin gave birth to an anointed man and not God.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon, 451 A.D. This Council refuted the Monophysite heresy, which taught that Jesus Christ had only one, divine nature after His incarnation.

The Fifth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 553 A.D. This Council refuted the heresy of Origen, who taught that Jesus Christ, after His ascension no longer had a human body, that human souls were co-eternal with God, and other incorrect teachings.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 680 A.D. This Council refuted the Monothelite heresy, which taught that Jesus Christ had but one, divine will.

The Seventh Ecumenical Council which was convened in 787 A.D. This Council refuted the heresy of Iconoclasm, which taught that Jesus Christ could not be depicted by material means like wood and paint.

At these Councils, through the operation of the Holy Spirit, all these heresies were condemned and the Faith of Orthodoxy was defined and confirmed for all time.

Fall Kick-Off Event

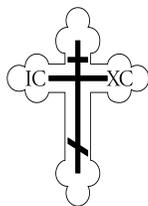
Our parish council is working to develop several programs to nurture spiritual health, education, and growth. We welcome all ideas and assistance in the following areas:

Adult Education
Child Education
Book & Bible Study
Community Outreach
Stewardship

We are planning to “kick-off” these programs by a parish-wide celebration held on Sunday, September 3rd. This event will include a potluck and grill-out, games for kids and adults, music and fellowship. Details will follow but mark your calendars now!!

Make Disciples of All Nations

In preparation for a renewed effort to bring the truth of the Orthodox Faith to our surroundings communities, Fr. Mikel will be giving a series of brief talks in the month of August, immediately following the Divine Liturgy to provide tips for sharing our faith.



Special Announcements:

Fr. Mikel & Mat. Rachel in Serbia – July 25th—Aug. 4th
Vigil and Liturgy for the Feast of Transfiguration –
August 5th & 6th
Weekday Services start August 9th & 10th
Akathist-Wednesday nights at 6pm
Liturgy-Thursday mornings at 9:30am
Fall Kick-Off Event – Sept. 3rd

Lock Box Combination – Please note that the combination for the key lock box has been changed. This will occur periodically for security measures. Please see Fr. Mikel if you are in need of a key.

Coffee Hour and Trash removal:

Please sign up today! ☺

Cleaning the Church – Please sign up on a monthly basis for cleaning the church.

Birthdays:

July 19-Cole Catania

Today we are especially praying for *the Health and Salvation of:*

Arika, Renee, Ashley, and Chloe.
Valentina
Josh W.
The Minnick Family
The Fromholtz Family
Kathy Jo, Michael
Kelli
Liz and Carla
Kim, Dale, Helen, Larissa, and Niki
Larissa
Steve and Sandy
Anthony
Joan
Slavco
Anthony
Thomas

For The Departed Soul of:

+Andy Dordea
+Pdn. Gregory