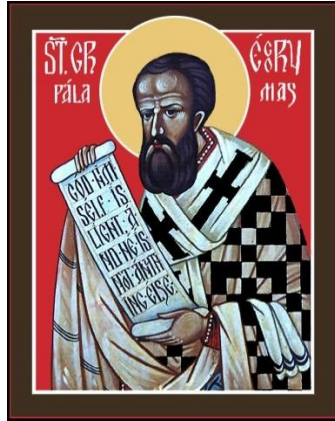


St. Nikolai Orthodox Mission of Alliance, as part of Orthodox Campus Fellowship at University of Mount Union, Dewald Chapel. Liturgy, 9:00 am.

Very Reverend Father Joseph Cervo, Archpriest (AOCANA-retired)

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

March 31, 2013: 2nd Sunday of Lent: St Gregory Palamas / Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts & Apostle to the Americas



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** (for St Innocent)

O Holy Father Innocent, in obedience to the will of God, you accepted dangers and tribulations, bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth.

You showed us the way; now by your prayers help lead us into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Tone 4 Troparion (St. Nikolai Velimirovich)

Thy righteous acts have revealed thee to thy flock

As a model of faith, a reflection of humility.

And a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nikolai;

Therefore, through humility thou hast obtained exaltation and through poverty, riches; Pray to Christ God to save our souls.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 Kontakion (for St Innocent)

Your life, holy Father Innocent, Apostle to our land,

proclaims the dispensation and grace of God!

For, laboring in dangers and hardships for the Gospel of Christ,

you were kept unharmed and exalted in humility././

Pray that He may guide our steps in the way we should go!

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

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 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 2 (Triodion)

v: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

(Instead of "It is truly meet..," we sing the following)

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:

the assembly of Angels and the race of men.

O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,

the glory of virgins,

from whom God was incarnate and became a Child -

our God before the ages.

He made your body into a throne,

and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.

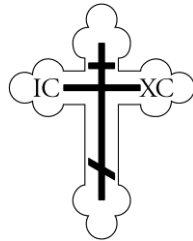
All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

Communion Hymns

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

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil

tidings. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Schedule of Services:

Wednesday, April 3, Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM. Mt. Union Chapel.

Saturday, April 6, Vespers, 7 PM. Confessions heard after service, Mt. Union Chapel

Donations: For those desiring to make a contribution to this missionary effort, please make your check payable to "Orthodox Mission of Alliance."

Coffee Social: Will take place following the Divine Liturgy, in the fellowship room on the left side, down the hall from the chapel; please join us.

Procedure for receiving Holy Communion: In the Orthodox Church, Holy Communion is reserved only for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and regular confession. Those who have done so should approach the chalice with their arms crossed over their chest. Do not make the sign of the cross while standing in front of the chalice; state your baptismal first name; open your mouth wide (do not stick out your tongue), tilt your head back and allow the priest to deposit the holy gifts into your mouth (no need to close your mouth on the holy spoon).

Welcome to our non-Orthodox visitors: As stated above, Holy Communion is reserved only for prepared Orthodox Christians. We invite all visitors to introduce yourself to Fr. Joe and Fr. Deacon James at the end of the liturgy and to come forward to receive a piece of the blessed bread (which is given "instead of Holy Communion," especially to those Orthodox not prepared to receive the Eucharist and to those who are not Chrismated Orthodox). We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the historic Orthodox Christian Faith.

Thought for the Day: The Life & Teachings of St. Gregory Palamas

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Second Sunday of the Fast, we remember our father among the saints, Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica. This divine father was born in Asia and was brought up from infancy in the royal palace of Constantinople. When he was of age, Gregory left the palace and gave himself to asceticism (a life of self-denial) on Mount Athos. He eventually moved to Thessalonica to seek cure for the diseases he contracted because of his asceticism and piety. On May 27, 1341 the Orthodox Council of Constantinople accepted the position of Father Gregory Palamas, that God, unapproachable in His Essence, reveals Himself through His divine energies, which are directed towards the world and are able to be perceived, like the Transfiguration Light of Mount Tabor, but which are neither material nor created, but emanate from God's Spirit. In 1349, Gregory was elevated to the episcopacy, tending to his people in an Apostolic fashion for 13 years. In 1351 the Council of Blachernae, after Abp. Gregory endured years of persecution for his teachings, solemnly upheld the Orthodoxy of his teachings. But the people of Thessalonica did not immediately accept Abp. Gregory, and he was compelled to live in various places. On one of his travels to Constantinople the Byzantine ship fell into the hands of the Turks. Even in captivity, Abp. Gregory preached to Christian prisoners and even to his Moslem captors. The Hagarenes were astonished by the wisdom of his words. Some of the Moslems were unable to endure this, so they beat him and would have killed him if they had not expected to obtain a large ransom for him. A year later, Abp. Gregory was ransomed and returned to Thessalonica. He is glorified as an ascetic, a theologian, a hierarch and a miracle-worker, who forsook a prominent, secular lifestyle to take up his cross and follow Christ. Abp. Gregory performed many miracles in the three years before his death, healing those afflicted with illness. On the eve of his repose, St John Chrysostom appeared to him in a vision. With the words "To the heights! To the heights!" St Gregory Palamas fell asleep in the Lord on November 14, 1359. In 1368 he was canonized at a Constantinople Council under Patriarch Philotheus, who compiled the Life and Services to the saint. Through his intercessions, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Orthodox Mission of Alliance
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