

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Church
9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641**

Divine Liturgy, 9:30 / Saturday Vespers, 4 pm.

Right Rev. Bishop Alexander, Bulgarian Diocese, Orthodox Church in America

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

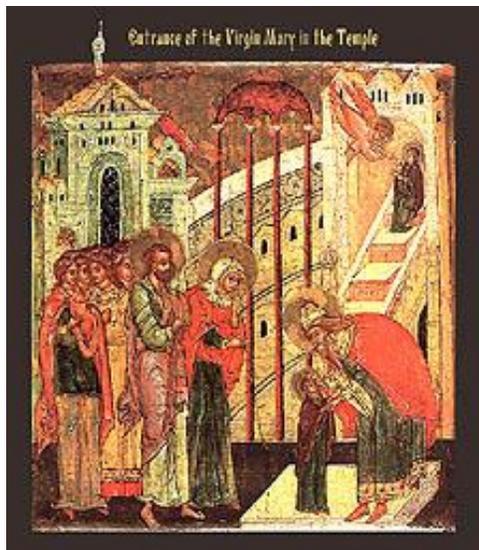
Rev. Protodeacon James Gresh, Mission Administrator (Bulgarian Diocese OCA)

November 22, 2015: 25th Sunday after Pentecost/Afterfeast of the Entrance of Theotokos/Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus and Martyr Apphia

Mission 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 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 4 Troparion (Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple)

Today is the prelude of the good will of God,
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.

The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.

Let us rejoice and sing to her:// “Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation!”

Tone 3 Troparion (Apostles)

Holy Apostles Philemon, Archippus, Apphia, and Onesimus,

entreat the ^merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

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 4 Kontakion (Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple)

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin;
the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord.
She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the Angels of God praise her:
“Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!”

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: Ephesians 4:1-6

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!

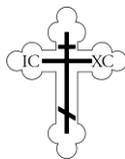
Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing Tone 4:)

The Angels beheld the Entrance of the Pure One and were amazed.
How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?
Since she is a living Ark of God let no profane hand touch the Theotokos.
But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her,
praising her in joy with the Angel’s song:
“Truly, you are more exalted than all, O pure Virgin!”

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



The Gospel Instruction of the Theotokos (by St. Nikolai Velimirovich)

"His mother said unto the servants, 'Whatsoever He says unto you, do it'" (John 2:5).

Here is joy for all the faithful: she who is closest to Christ the Savior in heaven, as she had been on earth, cares for the faithful, appears to them, helps them and advises them: "Whatsoever He, my Son and my God, says unto you, do it." Thus, she advised the servants at the marriage in Cana, and the servants obeyed her and saw a miracle. From those few words of the Most-holy Virgin, God's Bride, recorded in the Gospel, we receive a precious instruction, truly the one and only Gospel instruction that she gave to mankind during her life on earth. Whatsoever He says unto you, do it! As though she wanted to say: "He knows all; He can do all; He loves you all; therefore, you should look neither here nor there, but hear Him and obey Him." She comprehended the responsibility in this world of living for Him and directing others to Him as the Source of life, and she voluntarily continues carrying out this responsibility even from heaven. Throughout the Church's entire history, she has taught the faithful to do whatsoever He said. And even today, from her heavenly glory, she mystically descends among the faithful to counsel them to do that which He has commanded. That is her Gospel-the Gospel of the Most-holy Virgin, the Theotokos. It consists not of the Four Gospels but of four words: "Do whatsoever He says." O my brethren, let us obey her! Let us obey her as a mother and more than our mother, for she desires the greatest good for us - to reign in the Eternal Kingdom of her Son.

O Most-holy Virgin, help us to fulfill His words. To Thee and to Him be glory and praise forever. Amen.

The Holy Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and his wife Apphia lived in the city of Colossa in Phrygia. After they were baptized by the holy Apostle Paul, they converted their house into a house of prayer, where all those who believed in Christ gathered and attended services. They devoted themselves to serving the sick and downcast.

St Philemon became bishop of the city of Gaza, and he preached the Word of God throughout Phrygia. The holy Apostle Paul continued to be his guide, and addressed to him his Epistle filled with love, and in which he sends blessings "to Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellow laborer, and to our beloved Apphia, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in thy house" (Phil 1:1-3). St Onesimus (February 15), also mentioned in the Epistle, was St Philemon's former slave.

Sts Philemon and Apphia, and also St Archippus (who also lived at Colossa), all received the crown of martyrdom during the persecution of Nero (54-68). During a pagan festival an enraged crowd rushed into the Christian church when services were going on. All fled in terror, and only Sts Philemon, Archippus and Apphia remained. They seized them and led them off to the city prefect. The crowd beat and stabbed St Archippus with knives, and he died on the way to the court. Sts Philemon and Apphia were stoned to death by order of the prefect. The memory of the holy Apostles Archippus, Philemon, and Apphia is celebrated also on February 19.

Thanksgiving thoughts:

*Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves.

*We are blessed in so many ways; many things we take for granted but we should stop and be thankful each and every day.

*Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.

*Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action.

*"In all things give thanks." *1 Thessalonians 5:18*

PRAYERS requested

For The Health and Salvation of:

Doreen Wishnok

Stefanie Waseman

The Knoll Family
Ann Cervo (Fr. Joe's sister-in-law, diagnosed with optical melanoma)
Roland Augspurger
Leslie and Tim Kocevar
Joan Downey
Beth Plocher
Susan Smith Miller (Heidi' Gresh's sister)
Brenda Grey
Wally and Debby Borojevich and family
Jennifer White
J. P. Cervo
Renee Young
Mother Ana
Julian Farian
Larry Gainer

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

+ Walter Borojevich (Walley's father)
+ Robert White (Friend of Kate White)
+Bruce Abraham
+Mildred "Peggy" Borojevich

ANNUAL MEETING: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE!

The annual meeting for our Parish will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2015 following the Divine Liturgy. Please see Father Joe or Deacon James if you have any questions prior to the meeting.

SATURDAY VESPERS:

Vespers will be held every Saturday at 4 pm until the clocks move forward in the Spring.

ADULT EDUCATION:

Book study/Christian Education will follow the vespers service and take place in the fellowship area at the church.

CHOIR PRACTICE:

Choir practice will take place on the first 3 Tuesdays of December to prepare for our Christmas services. We will have our practices at the church at 7 pm. The choir dates are December 1, 8, 15.

CAROLING:

The Choir is planning on Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 19 following vespers. Please see Helen Blebea to schedule a stop at your home!

COFFEE HOUR AND CHURCH CLEANING:

There will be sign-up sheets 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 maintain the church. November is covered. If we do not have anyone signed up for coffee hour on any week, we will simply have coffee during fellowship.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HOSTED COFFEE HOURS!!!!
A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE DORDEAS AND WASHINGTONS FOR ORGANIZING COFFEE
HOOR FOR THE PAST YEAR!!!!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS :

Tom Krupko – 21st

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES :

Josh and Kate White -18th