

Saint Nikolai Orthodox Church

Temporarily at 8277 N Nickel Plate St., Louisville, Ohio 44641

Sunday October 15th

19th Sunday after Holy Pentecost (Tone 2)

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

Upcoming Services:

Sat. Oct. 14th - Union UMC - Vespers, 5pm

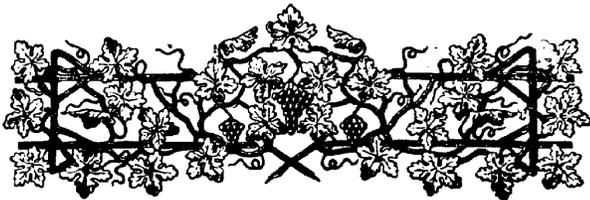
Sun. Oct. 15th - St. Elias - Liturgy, 10:00am

Wed., Oct. 18th - Hill's - Bible Study, 6pm

Fri., Oct. 20th - Retreat at St. Gregory's

Sat., Oct. 21st - Ladies Retreat to Saxonburg

Please visit our website:
www.stnikolaiorthodoxchurch.org
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 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,/ Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead./ And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,/ all the powers of heaven cried out:// "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Troparion for the Holy Fathers - Tone 8

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

Kontakion of the Resurrection - Tone 2

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

Kontakion for the Holy Fathers - Tone 6

The Son who shone forth from the Father/ was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman./ Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form,/ but depict it piously and revere it faithfully./ Thus, keeping the True Faith,// the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

Prokeimenon of the Resurrection - Tone 2

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.

Prokeimenon for the Holy Fathers - Tone 4

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers and praised and glorified is

Thy Name forever!

The Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (II) (11:31-12:9)

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands. It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago – whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows – such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows – how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me. And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Hebrews 13:7-16 (Fathers)

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 Second Tone (Resurrection)

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

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

The Alleluia in the First Tone (Holy Fathers)

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 Saint Luke (8:5-15)

“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?” And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.’ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

John 17:1-13 (Fathers)

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.

The Sunday Communion Hymn

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

The Communion Hymn for the Holy Fathers

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Today we are remembering the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council (843 AD), who defended the veneration of icons on the grounds that icons manifest the truth that God has taken flesh and redeemed all creation.



A Spiritual Work-Out Routine

At our last Bible Study, the need for a personal encounter with God, enabling a relationship with Him to develop, was discussed. One of the most effective ways that we can prepare for such an encounter is daily, private prayer. Here is the “Prayer recipe for beginners” that was mentioned:

- 1) Immediately after waking up, go to a room where the door can be shut for privacy. Preserve as much quiet as you can (i.e. no phones, TV, music, etc.)
- 2) Stand in front of the icon(s)-try to clear your mind, cross yourself, and say (slowly):

“Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.”

“Glory to Thee, O God, Glory to Thee!”

“O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere present and filling all things, treasury of blessings and giver of life, come and abide in us and cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One.”

“Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us” (3x)

“Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen”

O Most Holy Trinity have mercy on us, O Lord cleanse us from our sins, O Master pardon our transgressions, O Holy One visit and heal our infirmities for your Name’s sake.”

Lord have mercy (3x)

“Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen”

Our Father, Who are in heaven, hallowed by your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins and we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

“Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.”

- 3) Say Psalm 50 (“Have mercy on me, O God . . .”)
- 4) “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me” (5min.)
- 5) “Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on your servants (names).

Altogether, this should take no more than 10-15 minutes.
Repeat Daily-If you miss a day—No sweat, Try again!

Special Announcements:

This Sunday, we will join our bishop, His Eminence ALEXANDER, at St. Elias’ in Akron for Divine Liturgy. Please bring a covered dish to share afterwards. Liturgy begins at 10am.

The men of our community will make a pilgrimage to St. Gregory Palamas Monastery near Mansfield, OH next Friday and Saturday. We will meet at the Hill’s on Friday at 3:30pm.

The ladies of our community will likewise make a pilgrimage to Nativity Women’s Monastery near Saxonburg, PA next Saturday. Please see Fr. Mikel for details if you would like to join either trip.

On Sunday, Oct. 22nd and 29th we will hold a short “Reader’s Review” session after social hour. Anyone (men or women) interested in helping read hours and the Epistle are invited to participate.

On Sunday, Oct. 22nd immediately before the Liturgy, we will formally receive several catechumens that wish to become Orthodox. Please keep them in your prayers.

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

Richard R.	Larissa
Fr. Joseph	Steve and Sandy
Arika, Renee,	Anthony
Ashley, and Chloe.	Joan
Valentina	Slavco
Josh W.	Anthony
The Minnick Family	Thomas
The Gresh family	Mat. Rebecca
Kathy Jo, Michael	Rebecca
Kelli	Thomas
Liz and Carla	Marsha
Kim, Dale, Helen,	Jackie
Larissa, and Niki	Dorothy

For The Departed Soul of:

+June