

**St. Nikolai Orthodox Church  
9837 State Street, Louisville, Ohio 44641  
Divine Liturgy, 9:30**

**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)**

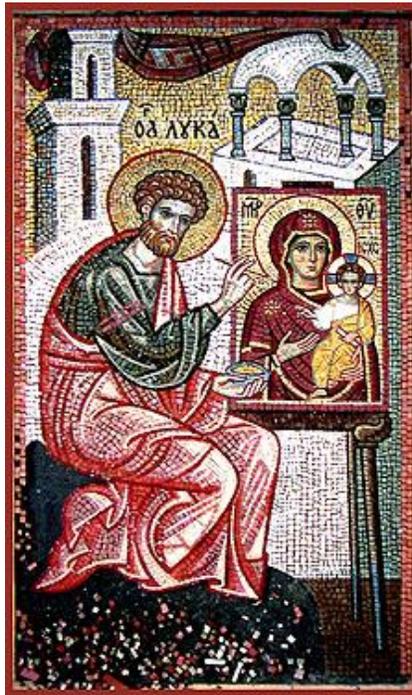
**October 17 & 18, 2015: 20th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke**

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

**Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SaintNikolaiOrthodoxMissionOfAlliance](http://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 at the Jonathan Casteel hall, directly through the alley way behind the church. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith.*



#### **DEDICATION WEEKEND SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, October 17, 4 pm. The Service of the Opening of the Door, followed by Great Vespers, presided by, His Grace, Bishop Alexander.**

**Reception to follow in the large tent next to the building.**

**Sunday, October 18, 9:30 am. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, followed by a full course catered meal, in addition to roast lamb and pig (no charge, donations requested, open to those who made reservations).**

*“For if God does not for a moment tire of giving us good things, how can we tire of thanking Him for these good things?”*

**— St. Nikolai Velimirovic**

**Tone 3            Troparion        (Resurrection)**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world// great mercy.

**Tone 3\*            Troparion \* (Apostle Luke)**

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, 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 3            Kontakion        (Resurrection)**

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs//  
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

**Tone 2            Kontakion        (Apostle Luke)**

Let us praise the godly Luke; he is the true preacher of piety,  
the orator of ineffable mysteries and the star of the Church,  
for the Word, Who alone knows the hearts of men,//  
chose him, with the wise Paul, to be a teacher of the Gentiles!

**Tone 3            Prokeimenon    (Resurrection)**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
v: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**Tone 8            Prokeimenon**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the  
universe!

Epistles: Galatians 1:11-19; Colossians 4:5-9, 14, 18 **(Apostle Luke)**

**Tone 3 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

v: In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

v: Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!

Tone 1

v. The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the congregation of the  
saints.

**Gospels:** Luke 8:5-15, Luke 10:16-21 **(Apostle Luke)**

**Communion Hymns**

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

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the  
universe!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia



**The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke**, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul (Phil. 1:24, 2 Tim. 4:10-11), and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, St Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Sts Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied St Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, St Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

Tradition credits St Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. "Let the grace of Him Who was born of Me and My mercy be with these Icons," said the All-Pure Virgin after seeing the icons. St Luke also painted icons of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul. St Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (1:1-3), St Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (1:4). He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him (2:19, 51).

In St Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance.

St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Holy Apostles at Rome around 62-63 A.D. The Book of Acts, which is a continuation of the four Gospels, speaks about the works and the fruits of the holy Apostles after the Ascension of the Savior. At the center of the narrative is the Council of the holy Apostles at Jerusalem in the year 51, a Church event of great significance, which resulted in the separation of Christianity from Judaism and its independent dissemination into the world (Acts 15:6-29). The theological focus of the Book of Acts is the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide the Church "into all truth" (John 16:13) until the Second Coming of Christ.

The holy relics of St Luke were taken from Constantinople and brought to Padua, Italy at some point in history. Perhaps this was during the infamous Crusade of 1204. In 1992, Metropolitan Hieronymus (Jerome) of Thebes requested the Roman Catholic bishop in Thebes to obtain a portion of St Luke's relics for the saint's empty sepulchre in the Orthodox cathedral in Thebes.

The Roman Catholic bishop Antonio Mattiazzo of Padua, noting that Orthodox pilgrims came to Padua to venerate the relics while many Catholics did not even know that the relics were there, appointed a committee to investigate the relics in Padua, and the skull of St Luke in the Catholic Cathedral of St Vico in Prague.

The skeleton was determined to be that of an elderly man of strong build. In 2001, a tooth found in the coffin was judged to be consistent with the DNA of Syrians living near the area of Antioch dating from 72-416 A.D. The skull in Prague perfectly fit the neck bone of the skelton. The tooth found in the coffin in Padua was also found to fit the jawbone of the skull.

Bishop Mattiazzo sent a rib from the relics to Metropolitan Hieronymus to be venerated in St Luke's original tomb in the Orthodox cathedral at Thebes.

***St. Nikolai Velimirovich: It is not of any value to us how the world is going to regard or call us . . .***

“We are fools for Christ's sake” (1 Corinthians 4:10).

Thus speaks the great Apostle Paul who in the beginning was guided by worldly wisdom, which is against Christ, until he recognizes the falsehood and decay of the wisdom of the world and the light and stability of the wisdom of Christ. Then, the holy apostle did not become angry with the world because they called him “a fool for Christ's sake” neither did he, in defiance of the world, hesitate to be called by this name.

It is not of any value to us how the world is going to regard or call us. However, it is important, and extremely important, how the holy angels in the heavens will regard and call us when, after death, we meet with them. This is of crucial importance and everything else is nothing.

Either we are fools for the world because of Christ or we are fools for Christ because of the world. O how short-lived is the sound of a word of the world! If the world would say to us “fool,” the world will die and its word will die! What then is the value of its word? But if the heavenly, immortal ones say to us “fool,” that will neither die nor is it removed from us as eternal condemnation.

Whoever does not believe in the Living God, nor in eternal life, nor in the Incarnation of the Lord Christ, nor in Christ's Resurrection nor in the truth of the Gospel nor in God's eternal mercy and justice – is it any wonder if he considers that one a fool who does believes in all of this?

O, may every one of us who cross ourselves with the Sign of the Cross not only find it easy to endure but with satisfaction receive the name “fool” for Christ's sake! Let us rejoice and be glad if the non-believers call us such, for that means that we are close to Christ and far away from the non-believers. Let us rejoice and be glad and repeat with a powerful echo in the ears of the world: yes, yes, indeed we are fools for Christ's sake!

O Lord Most-wise, strengthen us by Your power that we not fear the non-believing world neither when they lash us with whips nor when they insult us with words for Your sake.

+ ***St. Nikolai Velimirovich***

***St. Nikolai Velimirovich: Let us remember our ancestors, the Holy Christian Martyrs of the early Church . . .***

“Let us remember our ancestors, the Holy Christian Martyrs of the early Church, as well as our.....New Martyrs, who refused, despite painful penalties and horrendous persecution, to worship, venerate or pay obeisance in any way to idols who are angels of Satan. The foundation of our Holy Church is built upon their very blood. In today’s world of spiritual apathy and listlessness, which are the roots of atheism and turning away from God, one is urged to disregard the spiritual roots and origins of secular practices when their outward forms seem ordinary, entertaining and harmless. The dogma of atheism underlies many of these practices, denying the existence of both God and Satan.

Our Holy Church, through Jesus Christ, teaches that God alone stands in judgment over everything we do and believe and that our actions are either for God or against God. No one can serve two master.”

— ***St. Nikolai Velimirovich***

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**Welcome, to our Father in Christ, His Grace, Bishop Alexander.  
God grant you Master, Many Blessed Years!**

**Welcome to all our family, friends and guests who are joining us for the blessing of our new Chapel dedicated to the honor of St. Nikolai of Zica & South Canaan.**

**Thank you for all your prayers and support.  
Please, know that you are always welcome to come and worship with us.**

**PRAYERS requested**

**For The Health and Salvation of:**

Doreen Wishnok (friend of the Krupko’s who is battling breast cancer)  
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  
Barbara Eline  
Janice Raber  
Wally and Debby Borojevich and family  
Jennifer White

**Heightened prayers are requested for Mother Anna,** abbess of Monastery Marcha, Richfield Ohio. She has been diagnosed with inoperable bladder cancer. May God comfort and strengthen her in the days and months ahead.

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

Archpriest +Vasilije Sokolovich  
Archpriest +Rastko Trbuhovich  
Archpriest +Svetozar Veselinovic  
+ Walter Borojevich (Walley's father)  
+ Robert White (Friend of Kate White)

**ADULT EDUCATION:**

Our weekly study group at the Gresh house is meetings at 6:00 pm on Saturdays.

**COFFEE HOUR:**

Please see Deanna and Larry Dordea if you are interested in hosting a Coffee Hour. There are plenty of dates available. Thank you to Deanna, Larry and Georgie for chairing our Coffee Hours.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HOSTED COFFEE HOUR!!!!**

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS (remaining):**

Tom Krupko – 27th  
Amy Catania – 30<sup>th</sup>

**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES (remaining):**

Tom & Cathy Krupko – 23rd  
Larry & Deanna Dordea – 30th

**May the Lord bless all our endeavors to glorify His Holy Name and bring others to the fullness of the truth.**

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P.O. Box 193  
Maximo, Ohio 44650