



Weekly Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Community of the Orthodox Church in America

Witnessing to the Apostolic Faith in Lake County for over 45 Years

Father Andrew Clements, Pastor

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Sunday	Jun 6	<i>6th Sunday of Pascha / Tone 5 / The Blind Man</i>
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour
Wednesday	Jun 9	<i>Eve of Ascension</i>
		6:30 pm Vespereal Liturgy
Saturday	Jun 12	<i>Venerable Onuphrius the Great</i>
		4:00 pm Mirauntz Memorial
		5:30 pm Great Vespers
Sunday	Jun 13	<i>7th Sunday of Pascha / Tone 6 / Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</i>
		Readings: Acts 16:16-34 John 9:1-38
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP / May 30

Operating	\$2,060.00
OCA Assessments	110.00
Zoe	25.00
Icons	20.00
Uganda	70.00
Charities	60.00

ADULT CLASS

Our Evening Class continues this week on Tuesday, June 8 at 6:30 pm, via ZOOM.

LITURGY NEXT SUNDAY

Fr John Zdinak, our former Chancellor, will be with us next week to serve Liturgy. This will be his first visit to St Nick's. Please make him feel at home.

MIRAUNTZ MEMORIAL

The 40 Day Memorial for Richard will be served this Saturday, June 12 at 4:00 pm. A Reception will follow in the Hall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are planning a Vacation Bible School July 26-30 at the Church. We will have two groups based on age. Please let Sarah Schlafer (s.schlafer95@gmail.com) know if your children will participate. Also, anyone is welcomed to help or be part of the Staff.

YOUTH GROUP

We are hoping to start a Youth Group. Several people have agreed to help but we still need someone to head

up the Committee. Please let Fr A know.

NEW BOOKLET

The Lives of the American Saints which you received today was supposed to be distributed during Great Lent of 2020. It is made possible by your contributions to the Cleveland Deanery.

PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Perry (Capitan), Sbdcn Leonard, Ted Geletka, Julian, John Clements, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn D's dgtr), our Parish Faithful, the Furman family, Marie Gaydos (Maryann S' csn), Fred Bessel (Jean M's frnd), Mike Nadolski (Gloria H's frnd), Tim Price, Francis James (Anna D's frnd), Kim H (Maryann S's friend), suffering Christians in the Middle East.

Anniversaries: Tom & Heidi Darrah (6/9)

Birthdays: Charles Kirouac (6/9), Emilia Rausch (6/10), Anastasia Kisha, Collin Moore, Ashley Brzozowski (6/11), Bob Wick (6/12).

Expecting: Bobby & Juliana, Brian & Katya, Greg & Grace, John & Michelle.

Newborns: Alina (David & Maria).

Newly Departed: Helen Bobosh (Frnd of Debbie, 5/31), Michael Kochan (Greg's uncle, 5/12), Richard Mirauntz (5/2), Marsha (Maureen M's frnd, 4/29).

Newly Illumined: Lisa Bowden (5/1).

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Ascension

The Acts of the Apostles records the Ascension of Christ in a very simple narrative. "He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from theirsight." (1:9) Our Church celebrates this event of Christ's glorification. It celebrates all that Christ has done and accomplished for us.

The Kontakion of the Feast summarizes all of Christ's work:

When You fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, and united earth to heaven: You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love You, but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you!

The Icon of the Ascension is an icon of joy. It celebrates the meaning of this event for the Church and the world.

The Ascension took place on the Mount of Olives. Thus, the mountainous background of the panel, dotted with images of scattered olive trees. The figure of Christ ascending in glory is surrounded by a circular nimbus composed of various bands of color, symbolic of the heavens. This nimbus itself is supported by angels whose presence is yet another indication of the glory and divinity of Christ. It recalls the Old Testament image of God enthroned upon the Cherubim.

In the foreground of the Icon, the image of the Mother of God is seen surrounded by two groups of Apostles. Of prime importance is her position - directly below Christ. This entire grouping, the Mother of God and the Apostles,

stands as an expression of the establishment and role of the Church. The Icon includes not only those who actually witnessed the Ascension. It also includes the Apostle Paul, in the Icon at the head of the group on the right, who historically could not have been there. What is intended is that the Church witnesses to this event.

The Mother of God, she who had once carried the Christ within herself and was therefore the temple of the Incarnate Son of God, stands here as a personification of the Church, the body of Christ, whose head is the ascending Savior. The gesture of her hands, uplifted in faith and prayer, expresses the role of the Church, ceaselessly interceding for the salvation of the world. The direction of movement of this whole group, their gestures, the focus of their eyes and postures, everything

is directed upward: toward the Source of Life of the Church, its head Who abides in heaven. For:

He led them out near Bethany, and with hands upraised, blessed them. As He blessed, He left them, and was taken up to heaven. They fell down to do Him reverence, then returned to Jerusalem filled with joy.

There they were to be found in the temple constantly, speaking the praises of God. (Lk. 24:50-53)

Our worship of the Father is one with Christ. Through the Church we are joined with Christ, our hope of glory.

TROPARION

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that you are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

