

WEEKLY BULLETIN

SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA

Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector

January 28, 2018

Vol. 34 No. 4

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

1st Pre-Lenten Sunday

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – *Fast Free Week*

Saturday, January 27 –

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 28

9:45 am Hours: Bud Graham

10:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Great Sanctification of Water

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 GOSPEL: Luke 18:10-14

2nd Pre-Lenten Sunday

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON - Tone 2

Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple

Saturday, February 3 - 5:00 pm –

Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 4

9:45 am – Hours – Sarah Niglio

10:00 am – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader – Sarah Niglio

EPISTLE: 1Cor. 6:12-20 GOSPEL: Luke 15:11-32

ST. ELIA ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

REMEMBER THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Anthony Freude, son of Fr. Don and Popadia Donna Freude
Egor Cravenco, son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravenco

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Mickey Stokich
Leonora Evancho
Larissa Freude
Anastasia Haymon
Joseph Boyle, (Kathy Gray's brother)
Joseph Boyle (Kathy Gray's father)
Phyllis George (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Connie Pysell
Lisa Nastoff
Matushka Laryssa Hnntyan (St. Andrew Church, Maple Heights OH)
Elaine Pedder
Sandra Dodovich – (mother of Tony Dodovich)
Angelo Lambo
Gary Turner (father of Joseph Turner)
Rose Chris
Klavdia - (mother of Ludmila Cravenco in Maldova)
Barbara Di Piuccio

COFFEE HOUR: Gray Family

PROSPHORA: Veronica Bilas

OUR STEWARDSHIP – January 21, 2018

Sunday Offering: \$ 835.00

Candles: 27.00

Furnace/AC Fund - 500.00

Candle Desk Donation: 385.00

TOTAL: \$1,747.00

PARKING LOT DONATIONS

To Date: \$17,239.20

FURNACE /AC DONATIONS

To Date: \$6,700.00

2018 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your Offering Envelopes for 2018 will be available on the front pew. Please pick your box up along with your Membership Pledge Card.

ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

The **DATE of the Annual Meeting of St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church** whas beenc changed to following the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, January, February 4, 2018**. There will be a covered dish dinner following the Liturgy. **The 2018 Parish Council Members and the 2018 Sisterhood Officers will be installed.**

2018 Parish Council:

President: Subdeacon Terence Bilas; Vice President: Michele Lambo; Secretary: Kathy Gray; Treasurer: Tony Dodovich; Communications Officer: Reader Joseph Turner; Advisors: Veronica Bilas, Sue Ellen Turscak, Anastasia Bohush, Sarah Niglio, Mary Marcin. Many Years!

2018 Sisterhood of St. Juliana Officers:

President: Veronica Bilas; Vice President: Sandy Graham; Secretary: Sarah Niglio; Treasurer: Mary Magensky

2018 MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE CARDS

Please fill out your membership/pledge card for **2018**. Your 2018 Pledge will enable the Council to establish a Budget for the year. Please turn in your **2018 Membership/Pledge Card** before the Annual Meeting on **February 4, , 2018**

In true stewardship, we are giving back to God with joy in thanksgiving for what He has done for us. Stewardship cheerfully offers back to God a portion of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

FURNACE – AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

At the emergency Meeting held on Sunday, December 17, the Parish Council recommended the replacement of our Furnace/AC unit at the cost of \$11,875.00, and a positive vote was taken. Loans are being investigated. In addition to your regular pledge, PLEASE consider a special donation for this needed project even before a loan is taken so that the amount of the loan can be reduced. The **COST** for a new Furnace/AC: **\$11,875.00. TO DATE: \$6,200.00** has been donated. Thank You!!!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

A combined meeting of the 2017 and 2018 Parish Council Meeting will be held **TODAY, JANUARY 28**, following the Divine Liturgy



ZOE for Life

ZOE for Life is a non-profit, Christ centered organization with three major goals:

- 1. to help women who need confidential emotional n spiritual support during crisis pregnancy*
- 2. to assist Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt*
- 3. to provide an Orthodox Christian education for Pure Living and other resources,*

On **Saturday, February 10th**, ZOE for Life! is hosting a Volunteer Training. We are bringing in a specialist from Heartbeat international, who will give us the tools we need to be of more assistance to those who reach out to us for help, both at ZOE House, and at the forthcoming ZOE Women's Center. This is an amazing opportunity for growth; to be better Servants as well as to share His love with more of His children. We would truly love to have you share this with us. The training will take place from 9:00 to 4:00, and we will provide lunch. If you know someone who has been talking about volunteering with us, this will be an amazing introduction to them. PLEASE CALL CINDY GEORGE AT 330-309-9491 to reserve your spot!

Opening Prayer Offered by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon 45th Annual March for Life - January 19, 2018

I don't come here to represent an ideology or to put forth a new thought.

I am not here to disclose a new insight or to speak for others.

I don't even come here to speak for myself.

I come here to speak out the Gospel, to speak for the One Who died "for the life of the world." In this phrase I see the summary of all that our communion today is about.

And so, together with my brothers from the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions, I ask you to join me in offering a prayer to the One Who died, not for the lives of the world, but for the life of it.

O Lord Jesus Christ, we know that all things and all people of all times share a kinship, a oneness that even surpasses our understanding. They all have one life and one life only, flowing through everything that breathes and everything that exists. When You came into the world, You did not just become human, but You also took on this one life and clothed Yourself with it, making it Your seamless tunic.

As life is one, all violence of any kind is of the same essence, the tearing of the one tunic. The tearing of the tunic will take many forms, abortion, execution, war, racism, genocide, oppression, slavery, hatred of any kind, but the essence of all is one and the same. All such acts are only symptoms of one and the same illness, "the sin of the world," of which we are all part, which is self-love. It is tempting to place blame for death only on some, but to be pro-life means to understand that violence is not the sin of some, but of all, that all violence of all time is the sin of all.

The truth is that every human being is Your image and everyone's life finds infinite value in You, regardless of one's sins. Lord, You show us that life has only one source and only one victory: self-sacrificial love. Help us to be self-sacrificial love for all and we will conquer death. As the great Syrian saint, Saint Isaac, said:

Be persecuted, but persecute not.

Be crucified, but crucify not.

Be wronged, but wrong not.

Be slandered, but slander not.

Have clemency, not zeal, with respect to evil.

Lay hold of goodness, not justice.

Justice does not belong to the Christian way of life, and there is no mention of it in Christ's teaching.

Rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep: for this is the sign of limpid purity.

Suffer with the sick, and mourn with sinners; with those who repent, rejoice....

Be a partaker in the sufferings of all men, but keep your body distant from all.

Rebuke no man, revile no man, not even those who live very wickedly.

Spread your cloak over the man who is falling and cover him.

My Brothers and Sisters,

Let us be pro-life and thus not oppose Christ's dying for the life of the whole world.

Let us be pro-life and be against anything that injures life, against any violence, under any circumstances.

Let us be pro-life and understand the kinship of all people and even of all other creatures and all things.

Let us be pro-life and thus become unable to endure the injury done to any creature.

May we be all this to the glory of our Almighty God, revealed in Trinity at the river Jordan, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. AMEN

FEAST DAYS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS- FAST FREE WEEK

Monday, January 29 – Translation of the Relics of St. Ignatius of Antioch

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:20-2:9 Gospel: Mark 13:9-13

Tuesday, –January 30 – Synaxis of the Ecumenical Teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16 Gospel: Matthew 5:14-19

Wednesday, January 31 – Holy Wonderworkers, Cyrus and John

Epistle: 2 Peter 3:1-18 Gospel: Mark 13:24-31

Thursday, February 1 – Martyr Tryphon of Campsada

Epistle: 1 John 1:8-2:6 Gospel: Mark 13:31-14:2

Friday, February 2 – THE MEETING OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Epistle: Hebrews 7:7-17 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Saturday, February 3 – Afterfeast of the Meeting. Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-received and Anna the Prophetess

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:1-9 Gospel: Luke 20:46-21:4

Prepare for Pascha by Praying the Psalms!

The Goal: To draw nearer to Christ and one another during this Lenten Fast by praying the Psalms together as a community, as we journey together toward holy Pascha.

How It Works

The Orthodox Church has divided the book of Psalms into 20 sections. In our St. Elia prayer group, we will all be praying a new section each day throughout the 40 days of the fast, beginning on **February 19**, so that we all will pray through the entire book of Psalms *twice* during the course of the fast.

Added Bonus

As we all join together in prayer, we can use this opportunity to pray for one another, for our parish, and for any special intentions that any of us may have. If you have an e-mail address, we will be able to share prayer requests with one another via e-mail. (However, if you don't, we can still use good old-fashioned word of mouth!)

What You Need

Nothing more than a Bible and a little bit of time to set aside each day.

How Do I Join?

Any time before the beginning of the fast, write your name on the sign-up sheet at church or go to **www.saintelia.com/sign-up-for-the-lenten-prayer-group** on the web and fill in the online form. On the Sunday before Great Lent begins, February 18, printouts will be available at church and an e-mail will be sent out with a schedule of which Psalms to pray each day, and the names of everyone else who is participating in the prayer group, so that we can remember one another in our daily prayers.

Spread the Word!

This does not need to be limited only to members of St. Elia. Pass along this information to friends and relatives elsewhere and have them get in touch to join.

One Last Thing May God bless us as we pray the Psalms together, and may He draw us nearer to Himself and to one another during this Lent. Have a blessed 40 days!

SAINT ELIA BOOK STUDY- CHURCH HALL
THE NEXT BOOK STUDY- TO BE ANNOUNCED

The book, “**The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Orthodox Spirituality,**” by **Kyriacos C. Markides**. The book combines elements of memoir, travelogue, and history as the author journeys to the island of Cyprus and makes the acquaintance of a monk named Fr. Maximos. Traveling and talking with Fr. Maximos as he establishes churches, convents, and monasteries in this divided land, the author receives answers to questions on topics ranging from angels and demons to the role of icons in worship and the place of hell in Christian belief, and is awakened anew to the spirituality of the Orthodox Church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: 2017-2018
Church School classes are held on Sunday mornings in the Church Hall following Holy Communion. Questions and Answers with Father Don for the adults follow the Divine Liturgy in the Church.



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