

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

Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector

Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached

Sunday – June 9, 2019

Vol. 36 No. 23

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 6. Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Afterfeast of the Ascension

Saturday, June 8 - 5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, June 9

9:15 am Hours – Reader Michael Luc

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

EPISTLE: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 GOSPEL: John 17:1-3

MEMORIAL SATURDAY

Friday, June 15 -6:00 pm Vespers and General Panakhida

8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 7 HOLY PENTECOST, FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY Father's Day

Saturday, June 15 - 5:00 pm Vigil of Pentecost

Sunday, June 16

9:15 am Hours – Bud Graham

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

EPISTLE: Acts 16:16-34 GOSPEL: John 9:1-38

Pentecost Vespers and Keeling Prayers

REMEMBER THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr, Don and Popadia Donna Freude
Egor Cravcenco, son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravcenco

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Mickey Stokich
Leonora Evancho
Larissa Freude
Anastasia Haymon
Joseph Boyle
Phyllis George
Connie Pysell
Lisa Nastoff
Elaine Pedder
Sandra Dodovich, (mother of Tony Dodovich)
Angelo and Florence Lambo
Carl Palcheff
Gary Turner (father of Joseph Turner)
Infant Child Aria

COFFEE HOUR: Frances Samir and Penny Pletikapach

PROSPHORA: Veronica Bilas

OUR STEWARDSHIP: June 2, 2019

Sunday Offering:	\$687.00
Candles:	26.00
Special Offering:	10.00
Bookstore: "Spirit Wear"	34.00
TOTAL	\$663.00

PARKING LOT

To Date: \$17,450.00

FURNACE/AC

To Date: \$8,150.00

SUPPORT ST. ELIA

Step 1: Go to: www.smile.amazon.com

Step 2: search and select "St. Elia the Prophet Eastern Orthodox Church" as your preferred charity. There are several St. Elia churches listed. We are the only one in Akron

The Parable of the Mouse

Unfortunately, we often show little interest in the issues of struggles of others unless they concern us. As children of God we should be concerned about our brothers and sisters in the Lord. The following parable illustrates that point:

“A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. What food might this contain? The mouse wondered – he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning: ‘There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!’ The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, ‘Mr. Mouse, this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequences to me. I cannot be bothered by it.’

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, ‘There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mouse trap in the house!’ The pig sympathized, but said, ‘I and so very sorry Mr. .Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers.’

The mouse turned the cow and said, ‘There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap n the house.’ The cow said, ‘Wow, Mr. Mouse: I’m sorry for you, but it’s no skin off my nose.’ So the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the famers mousetrap...alone

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house – like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmers wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught.

The snake bit the farmer’s wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital and she returned home with a fever. Everyone knows who feed a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup’s main ingredient – chicken. But his wife’s sickness continued, so friends and neighbors cam to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer’s wife did not get well; she unfortunately died.

So many people came for her funeral. The farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them. The mouse looked upon it from his crack in the wall with great sadness. So the next time you hear someone facing a problem and think it doesn’t concern you, remember – when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in this short journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another, and make an extra effort to encourage one another. When our brother and sister hurts, we all hurt.

THIS WEEK'S FEAST DAYS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, June 10 – Afterfeast of the Ascension. Hieromartyr Timothy

Epistle: Acts 21:8-14 Gospel: John 14:27-15:7

Tuesday, June 11 - Afterfeast of the Ascension.

Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas

Epistle: Acts 21:26-32 Gospel: John 6:2-13

Wednesday - June 12 - Afterfeast of the Ascension.

Venerable Onuphrius the Great

Epistle: Acts 23:1-11 Gospel: John 16:15-23

Thursday, June 13 - Afterfeast of the Ascension

Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria

Epistle: Acts 25:13-19 Gospel: John 16:23-33

Friday, June 14 - Leavetaking of the Ascension. Prophet Elisha

Epistle: Acts 27:1-44 Gospel: John 17:18-26

Saturday, June 15 – Memorial Saturday. Prophet Amos

Epistle: Acts 28:1-31 Gospel: John 15:21-25

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00 pm

MEMORIAL SATURDAY

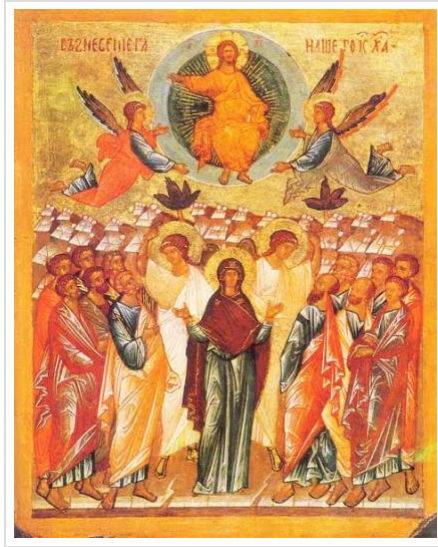
Saturday, June 15, is a Memorial Saturday. On Friday evening, June 14, the Vespers will be served followed by a Panakhida for all the faithful departed. Please give Father the new names to be added

ST. ELIA PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORMS

The Parish Council asks everyone to fill out and sign a Membership Form and will be used to establish voting eligibility and quorums for Parish Meetings. Contact information will be used to maintain communications. Your house address, email addresses, and phone numbers are vital for our Parish unity and development. Please take the time to pick up a Membership Form, fill it out and hand it in to Father Don or to a Parish Council Member. Thank you!!!

Saint Nikolai Velimirovic

Sermon on the Ascension of the Lord



Thus did the One ascend to Heaven Who held heaven within Himself. He who carries hell within himself will end up in hell, but he who bears heaven within his soul will ascend to heaven. And truly, no one can ascend to heaven other than those who have heaven within; and no one can end up in hell besides those who have hell within. The familiar is drawn to what is familiar and unites with the familiar; but it rejects what is not familiar. Matter submits to the spirit to the extent that the human soul is filled with the Divine Spirit; and the laws of nature are obedient to moral laws, which govern the world. Because the Lord Jesus Christ is the fullness of the Holy Spirit and the perfection of moral law, to Him is subject all matter—the entire physical world, with all the laws of nature.

Any person, as a spirit, can be victorious in his life over a certain law of nature, with the help of another law of nature—that is, he can overcome it

with his own spirit. Christ, as the God-Man, could subject the laws of nature to Himself through the law of the Spirit, which is the supreme law of the created world. However, this concept, just as any other spiritual concept, can be but partially explained by ordinary earthly conceptualizations and reasoning—and that only by examples and comparisons.

Spiritual things only become clear beyond a doubt when the spirit sees them and perceives them. In order to see and feel the manifestations of the spiritual world, long and exhausting spiritual practice is needed, after which, by God’s grace, spiritual vision may be opened in a person; this vision allows him to see what seems unbelievable and impossible to ordinary mortals. Nevertheless, a person must first believe those who have seen the unbelievable, and strengthen their faith from day to day, striving to see what is inaccessible to the common gaze.

Not in vain does the Lord say, “Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed” [John 20:29]. The Lord God rejoices in their faith just as a father on earth rejoices that his children believe his every word. All the apostles were present at the Ascension of the Lord, gathered on the hill. This was their last collective meeting. However, this was not the last appearance of Christ. Later He appeared in a vision to the Apostle Paul on the road to Damascus, to the Apostle John on the island of Patmos, and to other apostles, as well as to martyrs, holy hierarchs, and confessors, over the course of the entire history of the Christian Church. But the day will come—and that day is not far off—when all the righteous men and women who firmly believed in Him throughout their lives will see Him. And around Him in the heaven will gather all those who were baptized on earth in His name—not only with water, but also with the Spirit and Fire. And they will enter into His joy, which the Heavenly Father has prepared for all His chosen, and will inherit a joy that they have never known before.