WEEKLY BULLETIN

SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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www.saintelia.com www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron

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 – July 12, 2020

Vol. 37

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

All Services are "Lived Streamed"

5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4 – Martyrs Proclus and Hilary of Ancyra

Saturday, July 11 - 5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions Sunday, June 12

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

EPISTLE: Romans 10:1-10 GOSPEL: Matthew 8:29-9:1

6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5 – Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Saturday, July 18 –5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions Sunday, June 19

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. Blessing of Vehicles!

Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham

EPISTLE: Romans 12:6-14 GOSPEL: Matthew 9:1-8

TEMPLE FEAST OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIA

Monday, July 20 – 8:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

ETERNAL MEMORY

Hieromonk Father Peter Didun fell asleep in the Lord this past week. Father was a monk of our Holy Cross Monastery in Castro Valley, California. Archbishop Alexander will be serving his funeral this week. TBA

BIBLE STUDY – PASCHAL GOSPELS OF ST. JOHN

Our "Zoom" at- home Bible Study will conclude with this session on Wednesday, July 15: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. To join the Bible Study go to the Parish Website. There is a post on the website and click on the link provided.

FEAST OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIA

Our Temple Feast of St. Elia is observed on July 20th. Next **Sunday, July 19th the Blessing of Vehicles** will take place following the Divine Liturgy, followed by a special "*Tale-Gate Coffee Hour*"

On the Feast Day, **Monday**, **July 20**th, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 8:00 am.

VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 21 AT 7:00 PM

"SUMMER CLEAN-UP"

We are in need your help during the "summer" months for grass cutters, flower beds cleaners, wood choppers and weed pullers. Thank you Tony Dodovich for cutting the grass and trimming this week.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Your maintaining your stewardship to St. Elia is astounding. THANK YOU! Your regular generous donations have enabled the Parish to meet the bills and maintain stability during these unprecedented times.

- Support St. Elia

Step 1: Go to: AMAZON SMILE

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

Important Update on Current Service Schedule & Gradual Reopening

We have been the blessing from our Diocese for Stage 4 reopening for our faithful to attend liturgical services. Please read completely as there are important procedures and guidelines we all must follow. All services will continue to be live streamed by visiting our website www.saintelia.com. Saturday Evening Vespers @ 5:00 p.m. and Sunday Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.

In accordance with the State of Ohio, CDC, and Diocesan guidelines we all must follow these simple steps when attending:

- 1) If you or your family member is sick please stay home.
- 2) Only enter and exit through the front church door.
- 3) Please... there will be no gathering in the vestibule/office/and in the parish hall.
- 4) All side and hall doors will be locked (in keeping with AFD and codes all of our church doors can be exited from the inside).
- 5) Sanitize your hands before entering the church (sanitizer is located in the vestibule).
- 6) All must wear masks in church (disposable masks are provided in the vestibule).
- 7) Sanitize your hands before exiting the church building. In church: it is required to keep 6 feet social distancing. Therefore, pews will be marked for available and not available seating. There will be ushers to assist you and/or your family to be seated (it may not be in your 'usual' place).

So sorry to say... but we cannot kiss the icons, cross, chalice, gospel book, and/or Father's hand.

Lastly, due to limited seating to ensure safe distancing and Diocesan guidelines, parishioners must pre-register to attend liturgical services. Please call Fr. Don at (330) 724-7009 or (330) 472-6456 by Saturday morning before 12 noon to attend."

...where two or three are gathered together there am I," says our Lord according to St. Matthew's Gospel.

THE MERCY JESUS PROCLAIMED

What tongue can describe the heart of the divine mercy? What mind is not amazed by the riches of such great love? The psalmist was thinking of these riches of divine love when he said: "My helper, I will sing a psalm to You. It is You, O God, Who are my protector, my God, my mercy." Carefully weighing the labors surrounding our humanity, he called God his helper. He called his "protector" the One Who protects us in the midst of our present distress until we come to eternal rest. But bearing in mind that God sees our evil deeds and bears with them, that He puts up with our sins and still preserves us for His rewards because of repentance, he could not just speak of God as being merciful but called Him mercy itself: My God, my mercy. Let us then recall before our eyes the evil deeds we have done, let us consider with how much goodness God puts up with us, let us bear in mind the depth of His love. He is not only lenient towards our sins, but even promises the heavenly kingdom to those who repent after sinning. Let each of us from the very depths of our hearts, let us all say, My God, my mercy. St. Gregory the Great 540-640AD