

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 – July 19, 2020

Vol. 37

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

All Services are “Lived Streamed”

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: Reader Sandy Graham

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

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6 – Repose of St. Jacob, Enlightener of the People of Alaska

Saturday, July 25 –5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, June 26

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Reader Michael Luc

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

EPISTLE: Romans 15:1-7 GOSPEL: Matthew 9:27-35

FEAST OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIA

Our Temple Feast of St. Elia is observed on Monday, July 20th. **TODAY, Sunday, July 19th the Blessing of Vehicles** will take place following the Divine Liturgy.

The Prayer for the Blessing of Vehicles will take place in the Church. A Procession with the Molieben to St. Elia and the Blessing to follow.

A special *“Tale-Gate Coffee Hour” for our Patronal Feast will follow.* A box-lunch will be provided. Free will offering would be appreciated. Bring your lawn chairs for outside seating - weather permitting.

On the Feast Day, **Monday, July 20th**, 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).

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Elia Hated and Confronted Evil

Jezebel coaxed her husband, King Ahab, into Baal worship versus God worship. Ahab did evil in the eyes of the Lord, forsaking the Lord's commandments. It was an ugly scene in Israel.

Enter Elia. God sent him to offer hard words, to bring accountability and warning where both proved due, and to champion belief in the Almighty. The Prophet Elia confronts Ahab then challenges the followers of Baal to make a sacrifice to their god, but the fire never came to consume the sacrifice. Elia had water poured over his sacrifice and the LORD GOD sent fire down and consumed the sacrifice.

Elia answered, "I have not troubled Israel; but you, and your father's house, in that you have forsaken Yahweh's commandments, and you have followed the Baals. [1 Kings 18:18](#)

Elia was Taken Up to Heaven

One moment Elia walked this earth, the next he was taken up into heaven. Elisha, his successor, watched it unfold. We can only wonder what emotions Elisha encountered at that moment.

As they continued on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated them, and Elia went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

[2 Kings 2:11.](#)

Elia Appeared with Jesus at the Transfiguration

Imagine the view: Elia standing alongside Moses, the two conversing with Jesus. A hushed holiness washes straight over us whenever we consider it. Elia didn't have to imagine. Peter, John, and James witnessed this spiritual wonder.

Jesus was about to experience the jeers of many, the pain of crucifixion. The three together, Moses, Elia, and Jesus, represented fulfillment of the promise of salvation. Moses symbolized the law. Elia represented the prophets, the restoration of all things. And we know that Jesus fulfilled the promise of salvation beautifully.

Behold, Moses and Elijah appeared talking with Jesus. [Matt. 17:3](#)

The prophetic mission of the prophet lasted fifteen years and made a profound impression on the imagination of the people of Israel. Later generations remembered Elia and expected him to return as the forerunner of the coming day of the Lord. ([Malachi 4:5](#))

In the New Testament. People during the times of Jesus thought He was Elia himself ([Matt.16:14](#), [Luke.8](#))

Others thought John the Baptist was Elia ([John 1:21](#)).

The Church honors his name day on July 20th.