

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

## SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET ORTHODOX CHURCH

*A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

64 West Wilbeth Road, Akron, Ohio 44301      Church Hall: 330-724-7129

Office: 330-724-7009

[www.saintelia.com](http://www.saintelia.com)      [www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron](http://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 – August 9, 2020

Vol. 37

## SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

All Services are “Lived Streamed”

August 1-14 – Dormition Fast

**9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8- – Afterfeast of the Transfiguration. Glorification of Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America**

Saturday, August 8

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, August 9

9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas

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

Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17    GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-34

**THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST-HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

Friday, August 14

6:00 pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

**10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1 – Afterfeast of the Dormition. Translation of the Image “Not-made-by-hands” of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople**

**Saturday, August 15**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

**Sunday, August 16**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Bud Graham**

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

**Epistle Reader: Bud Graham**

**EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 GOSPEL: Matthew 17:14-23**

**Panakhida** (40<sup>th</sup> day) for the repose of the soul of Mary Christa as requested by her family

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## **The Glorification of Saint Herman the Wonderworker of Alaska**

Today, August 9, we celebrate the glorification of St. Herman of Alaska, the first Saint of America. Saint Herman (his name is a variant of Germanus) was born near Moscow in 1756. In his youth he became a monk, first at the Saint Sergius Hermitage near Saint Petersburg on the Gulf of Finland; while he dwelt there, the most holy Mother of God appeared to him, healing him of a grave malady. Afterwards he entered Valaam Monastery on Valiant Island in Lake Ladoga; he often withdrew into the wilderness to pray for days at a time. In 1794, answering a call for missionaries to preach the Gospel to the Aleuts, he came to the New World with the first Orthodox mission to Alaska. He settled on Spruce Island, which he called New Valaam, and here he persevered, even in the face of many grievous afflictions mostly at the hands of his own countrymen in the loving service of God and of his neighbor. Besides his many toils for the sake of the Aleuts, he subdued his flesh with

great asceticism, wearing chains, sleeping little, fasting and praying much. He brought many people to Christ by the example of his life, his teaching, and his kindness and sanctity, and was granted the grace of working miracles and of prophetic insight. Since he was not a priest, Angels descended at Theophany to bless the waters in the bay; Saint Herman used this holy water to heal the sick. Because of his unwearying missionary labors, which were crowned by God with the salvation of countless souls, he is called the Enlightener of the Aleuts, and has likewise been renowned as a wonderworker since his repose in 1837.

In March of 1969, the Holy Synod of Bishops of what was then called the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church (soon after to be granted autocephaly and given the name The Orthodox Church in America) gathered together. At their meeting they proclaimed that Father Herman would be glorified as a Saint for having faithfully toiled in the “spiritual work of Apostolic service among the natives whom he illumined by the light of the truth of the Gospel.” The bishops continued: “in a short encyclical it is impossible to describe in detail all the deeds of his holy life in Alaska. Those who met him once, those who had contact with him could never forget him. He is remembered by hierarchs. Priests and believers living in America today remember him as an intercessor before God.” Fifty years ago, on August 9, 1970, St. Herman was glorified by the Orthodox Church in America.

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## **FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THEOTOKOS**

On August 15<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. The Vesperal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated for this Feast on **Friday evening, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** Please remember to bring your **flowers and Herbs** for blessing following the Divine Liturgy

## **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 for helping to beautify the grounds of our Parish Temple..

## **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 Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services**

**We have 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](http://www.saintelia.com). Saturday Evening Vespers @ 5:00 p.m. and Sunday Divine LToday, August 9iturgy 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*

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**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, SCRIPTURE READINGS – next page**

### **Epistle Reading: Corinthians 3:9-17**

<sup>9</sup> For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are* God's building. <sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. <sup>14</sup> If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If anyone <sup>[a]</sup> defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.

### **GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-34**

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. <sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." <sup>28</sup> "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." <sup>34</sup> When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret.