

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

## SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET ORTHODOX CHURCH

*A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

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[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 30, 2020

Vol. 37

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

All Services are “Lived Streamed”

**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3 – Afterfeast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet John the Baptist**

Saturday, August 29 - 5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, August 30

9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Michael Luc

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

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 GOSPEL: Matthew 19:16-26

Panakhida for the repose of the soul of +Nadesda Dodovich as request by her grandson Tony Dodovich

**Tuesday, September 1: Church New Year**

**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4 – Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae**

Saturday, September 5 - 5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, September 6

9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Joshua Wherley

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

Epistle Reader: Joshua Wherley

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-42

## **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 beautifying 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.

**Sunday, August 23, 2020**

**Candles: \$ 39.00**

**Offerings; 633.50**

**Special Offering: 300.00**

**TOTAL: \$972.50**

## **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

## **PARISH LIBRARY**

**We have been gifted with two new books to our Parish Library:**

**“Royal Monastic, Princess Ileana of Romania”**, the story of Mother Alexandra, who was called to build the first English language women’s monastery in the United States – The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration in Elwood City, Pennsylvania. This book was donated from the library of +Elaine Pedder by her daughter Barbara Di Puccio.

**“Chosen For His People - A Biography of Patriarch Tikhon”**, also known as the Enlightener of North America, who humbly accepted the call of God and the people to guide the Church in Russia during the most turbulent times of the Communist persecution of the Church. This book was donated to our Parish Library by Veronica Bilas.

# Church New Year September 1

The First Ecumenical Council decreed that the Church's year should begin on September 1st. According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2), the Savior proclaimed, *“The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord...”* .

The month of September is also noted in the history of Christianity because it was during September that Constantine the Great was victorious over Maxentius, the enemy of the Christian faith, a victory that happened in 312 when the Emperor Constantine (May 21) saw a miraculous vision of the Cross in the sky with the words *“In this Sign conquer.”* In 313 followed the granting of freedom of confession of the Christian faith throughout the whole Roman Empire

## **Troparion — Tone 2**

O Creator of the universe, Thou didst appoint times by Thy power; bless the crown of this year with Thy goodness, O Lord. Preserve in safety Thy rulers and cities: and through the intercessions of the Theotokos, save us!

## **Kontakion — Tone 4**

O Creator and Master of time and the ages, Triune and Merciful God of all: grant blessings for the course of this year, and in Thy boundless mercy save those who worship Thee and cry out in fear: “O Savior, grant blessings to all mankind!”

# Saint Simeon Stylites, the Elder

September 1



Saint Simeon the Stylite was born in the Cappadocian village of Sisan of Christian parents, Sisotian and Martha. At thirteen years of age he began to tend his father's flock of sheep. He devoted himself attentively and with love to this, his first obedience.

When Simeon was eighteen, he received monastic tonsure and devoted himself to feats of the strictest abstinence and unceasing prayer. His zeal, beyond the strength of the other monastic brethren, so alarmed the igumen that he told Simeon that to either moderate his ascetic deeds or leave the monastery.

**Saint Simeon then withdrew from the monastery and lived in an empty well in the nearby mountains, where he was able to carry out his austere struggles unhindered. After some time, angels appeared in a dream to the igumen, who commanded him to bring back Simeon to the monastery.**

**Elders living in the desert heard about Saint Simeon, who had chosen a new and strange form of ascetic striving. Wanting to test the new ascetic and determine whether his extreme ascetic feats were pleasing to God, they sent messengers to him, who in the name of these desert fathers were to bid Saint Simeon to come down from the pillar. In the case of disobedience they were to forcibly drag him to the ground. But if he was willing to submit, they were to leave him on his pillar. Saint Simeon displayed complete obedience and deep Christian humility. The monks told him to stay where he was, asking God to be his helper. Simeon spent 80 years in arduous monastic feats, 47 years of which he stood upon the pillar. Many pagans accepted Baptism, struck by the moral staunchness and bodily strength which the Lord bestowed upon His servant.**

**The first one to learn of the death of the saint was his close disciple Anthony. Concerned that his teacher had not appeared to the people for three days, he went up on the pillar and found the dead body stooped over at prayer. They buried him near his pillar. At the place of his ascetic deeds, Anthony established a monastery, upon which rested the special blessing of Saint Simeon.**

**We pray to Saint Simeon for the return to the Church of those who have forsaken Her, or have been separated from Her.**

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

**We have the blessing from our Diocese for Stage 4 for our faithful to attend liturgical services. Pews have been roped off for available and not available seating. There will be an usher to assist you and/or your family to be seated (it may not be in your ‘usual’ place). In accordance with the State of Ohio, CDC, and Diocesan Guidelines we all must follow these mandatory steps when attending:**

- 1) If you or your family member is sick please stay home.**
- 2) Accordance with Governor’s state mandate ALL must wear masks in Church (disposable masks are provided in the vestibule).**
- 3) Sanitize your hands before entering and exiting the church building.**
- 4.) All are required to keep 6 feet social distancing.**
- 5.) No physical contact with icons, cross, chalice, gospel book, and/or Father’s hand.**

**Due to limited seating PLEASE pre-register for Sunday Divine Liturgy by calling Fr. Don at (330) 724-7009 or (330) 472-6456 by Saturday.**

**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 Liturgy at 9:30**

*“Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I with them” says our Lord. (Mathew 18:20)*