

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

January 24, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 4



## St. ELIA 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 Anthon Freude, Parish Rector  
Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached*

## SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Colossians 3:4-11

<sup>4</sup> When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.<sup>5</sup> Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, <sup>7</sup> in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.<sup>8</sup> But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, <sup>11</sup> where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

### Luke 18:35-43 A Blind Man Receives His Sight

<sup>35</sup> Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. <sup>36</sup> And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. <sup>37</sup> So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. <sup>38</sup> And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"<sup>39</sup> Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"<sup>40</sup> So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, <sup>41</sup> saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."<sup>42</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." <sup>43</sup> And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

# SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

**33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8**

**Venerable Xenia of Rome. SANCTITY OF LIFE**

**SUNDAY**

**Saturday, January 23**

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

**Sunday, January 24**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Aaron Gray**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John**

**Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Aaron Gray**

**Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel: Luke 18:35-43**

**SYNAXIS OF THE GREAT ECUMENICAL TEACHERS**

**AND HIERARCHS: Basil the Great, Gregory the**

**Theologian, and John Chrysostom**

**Friday, January 29**

**6:00 pm Vespers and Divine Liturgy**

**34<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1**

**Holy Wonderworkers, Unmercenaries, Cyrus and John**

**Saturday, January 30**

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

**Sunday, January 31**

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

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John**

**Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush**

**Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

**THE MEETING OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS**

**CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE**

**Monday, February 1**

**6:00 pm Vespers and Divine Liturgy**

# **Synaxis of the Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom**

Commemorated on [January 30](#)

**Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom:** During the eleventh century, disputes raged in Constantinople about which of the three hierarchs was the greatest. Some preferred Saint Basil (January 1), others honored Saint Gregory the Theologian (January 25), while a third group exalted Saint John Chrysostom (November 13)

Dissension among Christians increased. Some called themselves Basilians, others referred to themselves as Gregorians, and others as Johnites.

By the will of God, the three hierarchs appeared to Saint John the Bishop of Euchaita (June 14) in the year 1084, and said that they were equal before God. “There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another.”

They ordered that the disputes should stop, and that their common commemoration should be celebrated on a single day. Bishop John chose January 30 for their joint Feast, thus ending the controversy and restoring peace.

The Vesperal Divine Liturgy of the Feast will be celebrated on Friday evening, January 29 at 6:00 pm.



# Sanctity of Life Sunday 2021

## Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

Sunday, January 24, 2021

To the Esteemed Clergy, Reverend Monastics, and  
Beloved Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

Over the past year, Orthodox Christians have become urgently aware of the need to protect the most vulnerable members of our society. In the face of a global pandemic, it became necessary for the world and even our Church to take a series of extraordinary measures in

**order to safeguard the life and the health of the elderly, the infirm, the defenseless, and the weak. In doing so, we pray that we were given the grace to fulfill the prophetic word, the evangelical command, and the apostolic exhortation not only to show mercy to one another, but also to defend the well-being of all members of the Church and of the world.**

**In exactly the same spirit, as the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America, I take this Sunday – the Sunday that we as a Church dedicate to the proclamation of the Sanctity of Life – as an opportunity to reiterate unequivocally our commitment to the defense of the defenseless, and the protection of the most vulnerable, and thus our opposition to abortion. As Christians it cannot be any other way. Our Lord has taught us throughout the Holy Scriptures to be merciful as He is merciful, to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill His law, to defend the widow and the orphan, to welcome the stranger and the sojourner, and to love one another even as He has loved us. This essential message found throughout Scripture must be all-encompassing and extend to the precious lives carried in the womb. If we are to love even our enemies, as He has commanded us, surely we must also love, defend, and seek to protect precious lives being formed within their mothers' wombs.**

**Beloved children in the Lord, following the example of our response to the pandemic, we can look to concrete ways in order to fulfill what our Lord has commanded us to do. In other words, the teaching of the Lord should**

**inspire us to seek out ways to provide necessary support for mothers or families who might otherwise consider having an abortion. I, together with the members of the Holy Synod, exhort our clergy and faithful to consider different ways that we might be able to serve and assist pregnant mothers, especially within our own local communities. To this end, we should extend the right hand of fellowship to these mothers and their families, provide material support when needed, and assist them in caring for the children who will be born of them. Above all, I believe, we should affirm to the world – to anyone considering an abortion, to anyone counseling someone to have an abortion, or to anyone who supports this practice – the lessons we have been taught by our Master: the ways of mercy, compassion, and love. In so doing, I pray that we will enkindle in their hearts and minds a change, so that they too will learn to walk in these same ways, and will be moved to protect and defend the most vulnerable among us. May our Lord Jesus Christ inspire us to remain faithful to the vision of human life as a sacred gift, as we recommit ourselves to defending the lives of the unborn, to offering acts of mercy and kindness to struggling single mothers and families facing hardship, and to praying for the salvation of all of mankind.**

**Sincerely yours in Christ,**

**+Tikhon**

**Archbishop of Washington**

**Metropolitan of All America and Canada**

# ***THE RIGHT TO LIFE***

## ***The development of an unborn child from conception to birth***

### **Fertilization! A new, unique human being is formed!**

**Day 1: fertilization:** all human chromosomes are present; unique human life begins.

**Day 6:** embryo begins implantation in the uterus.

**Day 22:** heart begins to beat with the child's own blood, often a different type than the mothers'.

**Week 3:** By the end of third week the child's backbone spinal column and nervous system are forming. The liver, kidneys and intestines begin to take shape.

**Week 4:** By the end of week four the child is ten thousand times larger than the fertilized egg.

**Week 5:** Eyes, legs, and hands begin to develop.

### **Unborn baby at approximately 7 weeks after conception.**

**Week 6:** Brain waves are detectable; mouth and lips are present; fingernails are forming.

**Week 7:** Eyelids, and toes form, nose distinct. The baby is kicking and swimming.

**Week 8:** Every organ is in place, bones begin to replace cartilage, and fingerprints begin to form. By the 8<sup>th</sup> week the baby can begin to hear.

**Weeks 9 and 10:** Teeth begin to form, fingernails develop. The baby can turn his head, and frown. The baby can hiccup.

**Weeks 10 and 11:** The baby can "breathe" amniotic fluid and urinate. Week 11 the baby can grasp objects placed in its hand; all organ systems are functioning. The baby has a skeletal structure, nerves, and circulation.

**Week 12:** The baby has all of the parts necessary to experience pain, including nerves, spinal cord, and thalamus. Vocal cords are complete. The baby can suck its thumb.

### **Unborn baby at approximately 12 weeks.**

**Week 14:** At this age, the heart pumps several quarts of blood through the body every day.

**Week 15:** The baby has an adult's taste buds.

**Month 4:** Bone Marrow is now beginning to form. The heart is pumping 25 quarts of blood a day. By the end of month 4 the baby will be 8-10 inches in length and will weigh up to half a pound.

**Week 17:** The baby can have dream (REM) sleep.

**Week 19:** Babies can routinely be saved at 21 to 22 weeks after fertilization, and sometimes they can be saved even younger.

**Week 20:** At 20 weeks the baby recognizes its' mothers voice. At 20 weeks, the unborn child is capable of feeling pain. This is also the earliest at which partial-birth abortion is performed.

### **The unborn child at 20 weeks (5 months)**

**Months 5 and 6:** The baby practices breathing by inhaling amniotic fluid into its developing lungs. The baby will grasp at the umbilical cord when it feels it. Most mothers feel an increase in movement, kicking, and hiccups from the baby. Oil and sweat glands are now functioning. The baby is now twelve inches long or more, and weighs up to one and a half pounds.

**Months 7 through 9:** Eyeteeth are present. The baby opens and closes his eyes. The baby is using four of the five senses (vision, hearing, taste, and touch.) He knows the difference between waking and sleeping, and can relate to the moods of the mother. The baby's skin begins to thicken, and a layer of fat is produced and stored beneath the skin. Antibodies are built up, and the baby's heart begins to pump 300 gallons of blood per day. Approximately one week before the birth the baby stops growing, and "drops" usually head down into the pelvic cavity.

*Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that established a woman's legal right to an abortion, was decided on January 22, 1973. The Court ruled, in a 7-2 decision, that a woman's right to choose an abortion was protected by the privacy rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

**REMEMBER THOSE SERVING IN  
THE ARMED FORCES**

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr .Don and Popadia Donna  
Egor Cravenco. Son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravenco

**REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS**

Metropolitan Herman  
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)  
Sandra Dodovich (mother of Tony Dodovich)  
Phyllis George (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)  
Angelo Lambo and Florence Lambo  
Larissa Freude Newman  
Reader William Paluch  
Martin and Rose Marie Vronick  
Matushka Myra Kovalik  
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalik  
Matushka Chrisitne Zebren  
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan  
Matushka Suzanne Senyo

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**The Parish Council changed the date of the**  
**Annual Meeting to**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021**

<b><u>PARISH STEWARDSHIP</u></b>	
<b><u>SUNDAY,</u></b>	<b><u>January 17, 2021</u></b>
<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$ 13.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>1,100.00</b>
<b>Memorial Donation:</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b><u>Bookstore:</u></b>	<b><u>2.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,135 .00</b>

**2021 CHURCH CALENDARS & OFFERING**  
**ENVELOPES**

**Please pick up yours from the front pew**

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

All services will continue to be *live streamed* by visiting our website [www.saintelia.com](http://www.saintelia.com).

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) All must wear masks in church (disposable masks are provided in the vestibule).
- 3) Sanitize your hands before entering the church (sanitizer is located in the vestibule).
- 4) All are required to keep 6 feet social distancing. Pews are marked for available and not available seating.

5) Please... **THERE WILL BE NO GATHERING IN THE VESTIBULE, OFFICE OR PARISH HALL**

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 (330) 472-6456 or 330-724-7009**