

WEEKLY BULLETIN

February 7, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 6



St. ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301
Church Hall: 330-724-7129
Office: 330-724-7009

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'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Timothy 1:15-17

¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O LORD, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. ²³ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crys after us. ²⁴ But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ²⁵ Then came she and worshipped him, saying, LORD, help me. ²⁶ But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. ²⁷ And she said, Truth, LORD: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Troparion *Resurrection*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life,
Christ our God, glory to You!"

Troparion *Meeting of our Lord in the Temple*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From you
shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and
be glad, O righteous Elder, you accepted in your
arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the
Resurrection!

Kontakion *Resurrection*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, seeing the
miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb! The
dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and
rejoiced with You, and the world, my Savior, praises
You forever.

Kontakion *Meeting of our Lord in the Temple*

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb
and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God. Now
You have come and saved us through love. Grant
peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of
Man!

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

35th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 2
Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple.
Saint Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus
Saturday, February 6

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 7

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17 Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Tuesday, February 9

**LEAVETAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE MEETING
OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE**

Coupled today with this Meeting of our Lord by the Elder Simeon in the Temple is the Meeting of our Lord desired by the little man Zacchaeus on the road from Jericho to Jerusalem. With Zacchaeus we are being led to meet our Lord in His Passion, death and Resurrection

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3
SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS. Ven. Auxentius of Bithynia
Repose of St. Cyril, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Teacher of the Slavs

Saturday, February 13

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 14

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Joshua Wherley

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Joshua Wherley

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15 Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Our Parish Annual Meeting will be held this **Sunday, FEBRUARY 7, 2021**, following the Divine Liturgy (approximately 11 am).

For those who are unable to attend the meeting at Church, it will be accessible by "Zoom". To attend by "Zoom", please email Fr. Don (prophetelia@sbcglobal.net) your email address so that the link can be forwarded to you

The meeting will conclude with the **Installation of the 2021 Parish Council** – President: Subdeacon Terrence A. Bilas; Vice President: John Bohush IV; Secretary: Reader Aaron Gray; Treasurer: Anthony Dodovich. Members: Veronica Bilas, John Cheese, Sarah Niglio, Joshua Wherley. COCA Representative: Mary Marcin

REMEMBER THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

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

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 Kovaiak and Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak

Matushka Christine Zebren; Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

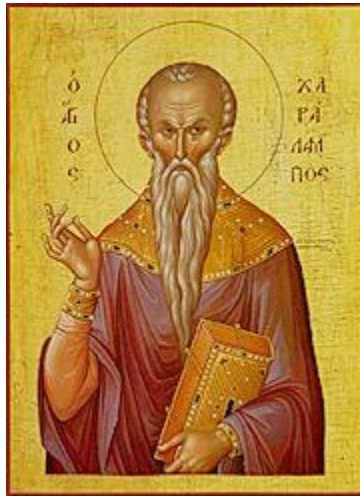
SUNDAY, January 31, 2021

Candles: \$ 27.00

Sunday Offering: 412.00

TOTAL: \$439.00

Hieromartyr Haralambos, Bishop of Magnesia in Thessaly, the Martyrs Porphyrius and Baptus, and three women Martyrs



Commemorated on February 10

The Hieromartyr Charalampus, Bishop of Magnesia, the martyrs Porphyrius and Baptus and three women martyrs suffered in the year 202.

Saint Charalampus, Bishop of Magnesia (Asia Minor), successfully spread faith in Christ the Savior, guiding people on the way to salvation. News of his preaching reached Lucian, the governor of the district, and the military commander Lucius. The saint was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed his faith in Christ and refused to offer sacrifice to idols.

Despite the bishop's advanced age (he was 113 years old), he was subjected to monstrous tortures. They lacerated his body with iron hooks, and scraped all the skin from his body. During this the saint turned to his tormentors, "I thank you, brethren, that you have restored my spirit, which longs to pass over to a new and everlasting life!"

Seeing the Elder's endurance and his complete lack of malice, two soldiers (Porphyrius and Baptus) openly confessed Christ, for which they were immediately beheaded with a sword. Three women who were watching the sufferings of Saint Charalampus also began to glorify Christ, and were quickly martyred.

The enraged Lucius seized the instruments of torture and began to torture the holy martyr, but suddenly his forearms were cut off as if by a sword. The governor then spat in the face of the saint, and immediately his head was turned around so that he faced backwards.

Then Lucius entreated the saint to show mercy on him, and both torturers were healed through the prayers of Saint Charalampus. During this a multitude of witnesses came to believe in Christ. Among them also was Lucius, who fell at the feet of the holy bishop, asking to be baptized.

Lucian reported these events to the emperor Septimus Severus (193-211), who was then at Pisidian Antioch (western Asia Minor). The emperor ordered Saint Charalampus to be brought to him in Antioch. Soldiers twisted the saint's beard into a rope, wound it around his neck, and used it to drag him along. They also drove an iron nail into his body. The emperor then ordered them to torture the bishop more intensely, and they began to burn him with fire, a little at a time. But God protected the saint, and he remained unharmed.

Many miracles were worked through his prayer: he raised a dead youth, and healed a man tormented by devils for thirty-five years, so that many people began to believe in Christ the Savior. Even Galina, the daughter of the emperor, began to believe in Christ, and twice smashed the idols in a pagan temple. On the orders of the emperor they beat the saint about the mouth with stones. They also wanted to set his beard on fire, but the flames burned the torturer.

Full of wickedness, Septimus Severus and an official named Crispus hurled blasphemy at the Lord, mockingly summoning Him to come down to the earth, and boasting of their own power and might. The Lord sent an earthquake, and great fear fell upon all, the impious ones were both suspended in mid-air held by invisible bonds, and only by the

prayer of the saint were they put down. The dazed emperor was shaken in his former impiety, but again quickly fell into error and gave orders to torture the saint.

And finally, the emperor sentenced Saint Charalampus to beheading with a sword. During Saint Charalampus' final prayer, the heavens opened and the saint saw the Savior and a multitude of angels. The holy martyr asked Him to grant that the place where his relics would repose would never suffer famine or disease. He also begged that there would be peace, prosperity, and an abundance of fruit, grain, and wine in that place, and that the souls of these people would be saved. The Lord promised to fulfill his request and ascended to heaven, and the soul of the hieromartyr Charalampus followed after Him. By the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed. Galina buried the martyr's body with great honor.

Troparion — Tone 4

You became a firm column in the Church of Christ, wise Haralampus; a lamp of everlasting light to the world: Well known to the world through your martyrdom, you dispelled the dark night of idolatry. Boldly intercede with Christ God that He may save our souls.

Important Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services

All services will continue to be *live streamed* by visiting our website 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 at 330-724-7009