

WEEKLY BULLETIN

July 4, 2021

Vol. 38, No. 27

2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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 Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached*

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1 ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA *Independence Day*

Saturday, July 3

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, July 4

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Sandy Graham

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16 Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

Rejoice, O mountains of Pennsylvania; leap for joy, O waters of the Great Lakes; rise up, O fertile plains of Canada; for the elect of Christ who dwell in you are glorified, men and women who left their homes for a new land! With faith, hope, and patience as their armor, they courageously fought the good fight. Comforted by the beauty of the Orthodox Faith, they labored in mines and mills, they tilled the land, they braved the challenges of the great cities enduring many hardships and sufferings. Never failing to worship God in spirit and truth and unyielding in devotion to His most pure Mother, they erected many temples to His glory. Come, O assembly of the Orthodox, and with love let us praise the holy men, women, and children, those known to us and those known only to God, and let us cry out to them: "Rejoice, all Saints of North America and pray to God for us!"

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 2 Greatmartyr Euphemia the All-praised

Saturday, July 10

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, July 11

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

TODAY'S EPISTLE - Romans 2:10-16

(But) glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For^d there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for ^mnot the hearers of the law *are* just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their ^oconscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*) ^pin the day when God will judge the secrets of men ^aby Jesus Christ, ^raccording to my gospel.

TODAY'S GOSPEL - Matthew 4:18-23

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

REMEMBERING THOSE ARMED FORCES

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

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Metropolitan Herman
Archbishop Paul
Archbishop Benjamin
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Sandra Dodovich (mother of Tony Dodovich)
Phyllis (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo
Florence Lambo
Larissa Freude Newman
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Reader William Paluch
Martin Vronick
Rose Marie Vronick
Niki Bober (President of Orthodox Christian Women)
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

PRAYER

At times prayer seems over-slow in bringing results, and life is so short. Instinctively we cry, ***“Make haste unto me.”*** But He (God) does not always respond at once. Like fruit on a tree, our soul is left to scorch in the sun, to endure the cold wind, the scorching wind, to die of thirst, or be drowned in the rain, but if we do not let go of the hem of His garment, all will end well.

Saint Sophrony +(1993)

Synaxis of the Saints of North America

Commemorated on July 4, 2021



On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last

surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into

the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York

on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was “How to expand the mission.” Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness



St. ELIA

ORTHODOX  CHURCH

This coming **LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2021 - SEPTEMBER 4-5**, our Parish will celebrate **75 YEARS** - as a Christ centered Parish Community! Our Father and Archbishop Alexander will be with us for this weekend of our Anniversary celebration.

Plans are being made for this 75th Anniversary celebration.

We need your help... we are collecting photos to create a video of St. Elia Parish Family memories. Please send or share any photos from **past years to the present** to Kathy Gray. We need all the photos by **August 10th**. Your photos will be returned to you.

Tentative Schedule

Saturday, September 4:

5:00 pm Great Vespers with Social following

Sunday, September 5

**9:30 am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Archbishop Alexander and Clergy**

**Tonsuring of Joshua Herman Wherley
as Reader and Cantor**

Social Meal to follow.

More details to come

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church and an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops. The mission of OCPM is to serve those who are incarcerated and their families, and provide resources, training and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) proclaims the love of Christ to men and women who are incarcerated. We do this by applying the teachings of the Orthodox Faith to correspond with thousands of prisoners, providing them personalized spiritual care, Bibles, books, icons, catechism, and study courses. For those wishing to live an Orthodox way of life, we advocate on their behalf for correctional facilities around the country to recognize the Orthodox faith, so that priests can enter prison facilities and administer the Sacraments and services.

As the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church, we provide resources and training to local parishes and clergy, enabling them to offer local solutions and fulfill Christ's command to visit Him in prison. As a result, families are reunited, marriages are healed, and thousands of incarcerated men and women have a new sense of peace and restored order in their lives.

OCPM Sunday 2021 is July 25. Please make your offerings for this Ministry during the month of July. Our charitable offerings at St. Elia will be matched by our Diocese. For further information please contact Joshua Wherley.

PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have been taking ever PRECAUTION to protect the health and well-being of all our people. In accordance with the CDC, the State of Ohio, and our Diocesan Directives, St. Elia Parish will follow these directives:

- 1) If you are sick and/or exhibit coronavirus symptoms, you must refrain from attending services.
 - 2) While the CDC and the State of Ohio have lifted the mask mandate, the social distancing and capacity restrictions, the State officials recommend that unvaccinated people continue to wear the masks indoors. The Diocesan Directives stress that everyone is welcome to continued wearing face coverings if there is any level of discomfort with this new guidance.
 - 3) The kissing of Icons, the Cross, the Gospel Book, the Chalice and the priest's hand when receiving the blessing is permitted if you are comfortable doing so,
 - 4) The sanitizer and masks will still be available in the vestibule for your convenience
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OUR STEWARSHIP - June 27, 2021

Candles:	\$ 16.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>536.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$552.00

BEATITUDES FOR PARENTS

Blessed are parents who make their peace with mud and spilled milk, for such is the kingdom of childhood.

Blessed are parents who refuse to compare their children with others, for each is precious.

Blessed are fathers and mothers who have learned to laugh, for it is music of the child's world.

Blessed are parents who can say no without anger, for comforting to the child is the security of a firm decision.

Blessed are parents who acknowledge the awkwardness of their growing children, letting each grow at his own speed.

Blessed are parents who are teachable because knowledge brings understanding and love.

Blessed are parents who love their children in the midst of a hostile world, for love is the greatest of all gifts.