

WEEKLY BULLETIN

August 15, 2021

Vol. 38, No. 31

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7 THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

Saturday, August 14

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, August 15

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

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

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

Monday, August 16

**Translation of the Image “*Not-Made-By-Hands*” of
our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople**

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8 AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

Saturday, August 21

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, August 22

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Monday, August 23: Leavetaking of the Dormition

TODAY'S EPISTLE: Philippians 2:

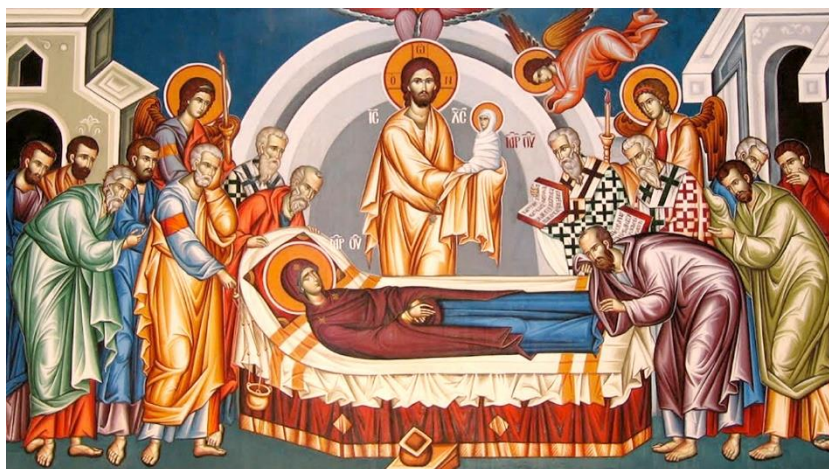
Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

TODAY'S GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

And ¹Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.

As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you."⁸He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."



THE DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

The Lord who, on Sinai, gave the Fifth Commandment: ‘Honor Thy father and they mother,’ showed by His own example how one must reverence one’s parents. Hanging in agony on the Cross, He remembered His mother, and, indicating the Apostle John, said to her: ‘Woman, behold thy son!’, and to John: ‘Behold thy mother!’ And, with this concern for His mother, He breathed His last breath. John had a home on Sion in Jerusalem, where he settled the Mother of God and left her to pass her remaining days on earth. By her prayers, her kindly advice, her meekness and patience, she was of immense help to her Son’s apostles.

She spent virtually the rest of her life in Jerusalem, often going around to the places that reminded her of the great events and the great works associated with and performed by her Son. She especially visited Golgotha, Bethlehem and Mount of Olives. Of her journeys farther afield, her visit to St. Ignatius the God-bearer is recorded, as to those to St. Lazarus the Four-days-dead, Bishop of Cyprus, to the Holy Mountain (Athos), to which she gave her blessing, and her stay in Ephesus with John during a fierce persecution of Christians in Jerusalem.

In her old age, she often prayed to her Lord and God on the Mount of Olives, on the spot from which He ascended, to take her from this world. One day, the Angel Gabriel appeared to her and revealed that she would enter into rest in three days' time, and the angel gave her a palm-branch to be carried in her funeral procession.

She returned home with great joy, with the heartfelt hope that she would see the Apostles once more in this life. The Lord fulfilled her desire and all the apostles, brought by angels and clouds, gathered together at John's house on Sion. It was with great joy that she saw the holy apostles, and she encouraged, advised and upheld them, and then peacefully gave her soul into God's hands without the slightest physical pain or struggle. The apostles took the coffin containing her body, from which an aromatic fragrance arose, and, accompanied by many Christians, took it to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the grave of Saints Joachim and Anna...

It was left to the Apostle Thomas, who was delayed, again by God's providence, to reveal a new and glorious mystery about the Mother of God. He arrived about the third day, and desired to embrace the body of the holy and spot pure. When the apostles opened her grave, they found only the winding sheet – the body was not in the grave. That evening, she appeared to the apostles, surrounded by a multitude of angels and said to them: 'Rejoice I will be with you always!'

It is not known exactly how old the Mother of God was at the time of her falling-asleep, but the prevailing belief is that reached she age of sixty.

The Prologue of Ochrid – St. Nikolai Velimirovic

Troparion - Dormition of the Mother of God

In giving birth you preserved your virginity. In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated to life O Mother of Life, and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

***Blessing of Flowers
and
Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos***

Now towards the end of the summer season, at a time when the flowers are in bloom, the Church celebrates the most glorious festival in the Communion of Saints. Mary, the Mother of God, the supremely blessed one among women; Mary, the most fragrant flower that has blossomed in God's Kingdom, is taken by her Son into the heavenly realm.

The events that surround the death of the Theotokos are handed down to us from the early church. We are told that when Mary ***"fell asleep in the Lord"*** the Apostles placed her body in a tomb. Thomas, not present for the burial, came later and asked to see Mary one last time. When the Apostles arrived at the tomb, they found flowers were present where she laid. As a reminder of this event, flowers and herbs are blessed on this day. The blessed flowers are seen now as a sign of God's Presence in the world. **Flowers will be blessed following the Divine Liturgy.**

In a grave they laid you, yet, O Christ, you are life and they now have laid the Mother of Life as well: both to angels and to men a sight most strange!

We exalt you greatly, Theotokos most pure, and we glorify your holy dormition now, as we bow before your honored precious tomb.

You brought forth, Pure Maiden, God the heavenly King, and today in manner royal are carried forth to the Kingdom of the Heavens as a Queen.

Holy Theotokos, You have passed from this world, in departing not forsaking those left on earth, but delivering this world from every ill.

Lamentations



St. ELIA

ORTHODOX CHURCH

‘FOR NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD’ 1 Cor. 16:13

Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Elia,

This coming Labor Day weekend, September 4-5, 2021, we at St. Elia will be celebrating 75 years of witnessing to Jesus Christ as a Parish community. Our Father and Archbishop Alexander will be with us for the Anniversary weekend.

75th CELEBRATION SCHEDULE:

Saturday, September 4:

5:00 PM Great Vespers followed by Hor d’oeuvres/ Wine Reception in the parish hall.

Sunday, September 5:

9:30 AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Archbishop and Clergy. Tonsuring of Joshua Herman Wherley as Reader

12 Noon BBQ ‘Family -Style’ luncheon catered by Waterloo Restaurant

Adults (16 yr. and up) \$15.00

Youth (7-15 yr.) \$10.00

Children (6 yr. and under- free)

Luncheon tickets are by Pre-Paid ONLY by August 31st.

PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS

to Krystal and Benjamin Powell on the birth of
their new daughter, Arabela Macrina - 5 pounds 2
ounces

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 and Florence Lambo

Larissa Freude Newman

Subdeacon Martin Paluch

Reader William Paluch

Martin Vronick and Rose Marie Vronick

Niki Bober (President of Orthodox Christian Women)

Pani Dolores Zuder

Matushka Myra Kovalak

Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak

Matushka Christine Zebren

Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

Geoffrey Michael Lubic

Sue Ellen Turscak

OUR STEWARDSHIP – August 8, 2021

Candles: \$ 6.00

Special Donation: 40.00

Sunday Offering: 585.00

TOTAL: \$631.00

PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have been taking every 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 are available in the vestibule for your convenience**