

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

September 5, 2021

Vol. 38, No. 34

11<sup>TH</sup> 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**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 2**  
**Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous**  
**Elizabeth, parents of Saint John the Baptist**

**Saturday, September 4**  
**5:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, September 5**  
**9:30 am Greeting of the Archbishop**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Aaron Gray**

**TONSURING of Joshua Herman Wherley**

**Hierarchial Divine Liturgy of Saint John**  
**Chrysostom - Archbishop Alexander**

**Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12**  
**Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 3**  
**Celebrating the Feast of the Nativity of the**  
**Theotokos. Sunday Before the Elevation of the**  
**Holy Cross.**

**Saturday, September 11**  
**5:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, September 12**  
**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Subd. Terrence Bilas**  
**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom**  
**Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush**

**Panakhida for the repose of the soul of +Nadesda**  
**Dodovich as requested by Anthony Dodovich**

**Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18**  
**Gospel: John 3:13=17**

## **TODAY'S EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 9:2-12**

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

## **TODAY'S GOSPEL – Matthew 18:23-35**

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'

*Continued on next page*

Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'

So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.

So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done.

Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.

Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?'

And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

# Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of Saint John the Baptist



The Holy Prophet Zachariah and the Righteous Elizabeth were the parents of the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John. They were descended from the lineage of Aaron: Saint Zachariah, son of Barach, was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Saint Elizabeth was the sister of Saint Anna, the mother of the Most Holy Theotokos. The righteous spouses, “walking in all the commandments of the Lord” (Luke 1:6), suffered barrenness, which in those times was considered a punishment from God.

Once, during his turn of priestly service in the Temple, Saint Zachariah was told by an angel that his aged wife would bear him a son, who “will be great in the sight of the Lord” (Luke 1:15) and

**“will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elia” (Luke 1:17).**

**Zachariah doubted that this prediction would come true, and for his weakness of faith he was punished by becoming mute. When Elizabeth gave birth to a son, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit she announced that his name was John, although no one in their family had this name.**

**They asked Zachariah and he also wrote the name John down on a tablet. Immediately the gift of speech returned to him, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, he began to prophesy about his son as the Forerunner of the Lord.**

**When King Herod heard from the Magi about the birth of the Messiah, he decided to kill all the infants up to two years old at Bethlehem and the surrounding area, hoping that the new-born Messiah would be among them.**

**Herod knew about John’s unusual birth and he wanted to kill him, fearing that he was the foretold King of the Jews. But Elizabeth hid herself and the infant in the hills. The murderers searched everywhere for John. Elizabeth, when she saw her pursuers, began to implore God for their safety, and immediately the hill opened up**

and concealed her and the infant from their pursuers.

In these tragic days Saint Zachariah was taking his turn at the services in the Temple. Soldiers sent by Herod tried in vain to learn from him the whereabouts of his son. Then, by command of Herod, they murdered this holy prophet, having stabbed him between the temple and the altar (MT 23: 35). Elizabeth died forty days after her husband, and Saint John, preserved by the Lord, dwelt in the wilderness until the day of his appearance to the nation of Israel.

**Tone 4      Troparion    (*Prophet Zachariah*)**

Robed in the vestments of the priesthood, according to the Law of God you offered whole-burnt offerings in a sacred manner, wise Zachariah. You became a luminary and a seer of the mysteries, bearing within yourself the signs of grace, all-wise one. Slain by the sword in the temple of God, O prophet of Christ, intercede together with the Forerunner that our souls may be saved!

**Tone 3      Kontakion    (*Prophet Zachariah*)**

Today the prophet Zachariah, priest of the Most High and parent of the Forerunner, has prepared a banquet to his memory to nourish the faithful, mixing the drink of righteousness. Therefore we praise him as a divine initiate of the grace/

# The Beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year 2021

**To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox  
Church in America,**

**My beloved children in the Lord, and to all who read this encyclical at the beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year, on the day when the Church also reflects on the created world: I greet you in the Name of the Lord and pray that God bestows upon you “every good and perfect gift from above” (James 1:17). May the God who has revealed Himself to us as “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness” (Ex 34:6) once again have mercy on us and upon His whole creation.**

**Just a few days ago, Hurricane Ida slammed into the Gulf Coast of the United States, and inflicted untold damage to property, and—to our great sadness—human life. This hurricane happened while at the same time unrelenting fires have likewise cut a swath of death and destruction throughout this same country, as well as in Canada, Europe, Russia, and Turkey. Even further, we hear that parts of our world have suffered from either extreme drought or unprecedented rainfall. We mourn those who have died in these tragedies and ask that God keep them eternally in His memory. We grieve with their friends and families. We are also concerned for those who have been displaced, or lost property or homes; we have become saddened by what has befallen them. As always, as Christians, we should stand**



**with them and seek ways to support any and all who have been afflicted by these natural disasters.**

**With these events that have taken place in just the past few days, we witness the awesome power of nature, and also the fragility and preciousness of human life. We should be reminded not only to fulfill our Christian vocation of love, of mourning, and of standing in solidarity with the weak and the vulnerable; but also, that we should “number our days, so that we get a heart of wisdom” (Ps 90:12). When we learn the painful and heart-wrenching lessons that we are not invulnerable, we are not almighty, we are not immortal, we learn that we are men and women who are called to love one another as God has loved us, according to the teaching of the very Wisdom and Word of God, Jesus Christ (Jn 13:34; 15:12, 17).**

**At the beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year, on the day when we consider the created world, I call upon the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to remember those who have died, and those suffering from these recent natural disasters, and to seek ways to support them. May the God of every consolation and compassion be with you!**

**With my archpastoral blessings and love in the Lord,**

**+ Tikhon**

**Archbishop of Washington**

**Metropolitan of All America and Canada**

# HOW TO GREET AN ORTHODOX PRIEST OR BISHOP

1) Cup your hands in front of you.

Place your right hand over your left, and turn your palms to face upward.



2. Bow slightly at the waist and say,  
“Father/Master bless.”

Asking for a blessing lets the priest or bishop know that you wish to greet him, and he will bless you with the **sign of the cross**, extend his hand to you, and place it in your cupped palms.

3. Kiss the back of the priest or bishop’s hand.

This kiss serves as both a greeting and an acceptance of the blessing the priest/bishop has given you.

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**DIOCESAN CONFERENCE**  
**Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church**  
**Lorain, Ohio - September 25 and 26, 2021**



# St. ELIA

ORTHODOX  CHURCH

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

Dear Faithful and Friends of St. Elia,

This Labor Day weekend, September 4-5, 2021, we at St. Elia are celebrating 75 years of witnessing to Jesus Christ as a Parish community.

## 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 . Tonsuring of Joshua Herman Wherley as Reader  
Pontifical Divine Liturgy with Archbishop and Clergy

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

We welcome Our Father and Archbishop Alexander as he serves the Hierarchial Divine Liturgy, along with Father Gabriel Bilas from Michigan, Protodeacon James Gresh from Ohio, Protodeacon Luke Gonser from Michigan, and Deacon Mark Bohush from New York; Subdeacon Andrew Bohush from New York; and our Servers: newly tonsured Reader Joshua Wherley, Reader Aaron Gray, John Bohush and Andrew Gray.

**PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS**

**To Cody and Jessica (Paluch) Keathley on the birth of their new daughter, Harper Faye, born on August 3, 2021 - 6 pounds and 9 ounces**

**REMEMBERING THOSE IN THE 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 29, 2021**

<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$28.00</b>
<b>Special Donations:</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>911.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$959.00</b>

## **PANDEMIC GUIDELINES**

**Since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have been taking every PRECAUTION to protect the health and well-bring 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 ae comfortable doing so**
  
- 4) The sanitizer and masks are available in the vestibule for your convenience.**