

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

September 19, 2021, Vol. 38, No. 36  
13<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**

**13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4**  
**Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.**

**Saturday, September 18**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, September 19**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Sue Ellen Turscak**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak**

**Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1**

**14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5**  
**Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John**

**Saturday, September 25**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, September 26**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Bud Graham**

**9:30 am Typika Service with Presanctified  
Gifts – Protodeacon James Gresh**

**Epistle Reader: Bud Graham**

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 Gospel: Luke 5:**

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**SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY  
CROSS – TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Galatians 2:16-20**

**Knowing that a man is not <sup>la</sup>justified by the works of the  
law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in  
Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ  
and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the**

law no flesh shall be justified. "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, *is* Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup> For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. <sup>19</sup> For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

## **Mark 8: 34-9:1**

### **Take Up the Cross and Follow Him**

When He had called the people to *Himself*, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? <sup>38</sup> For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

9 And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God <sup>9a</sup>present with power."

# The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross



The Elevation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there. Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord,

and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to Saint Makarios, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Helen journeyed to the holy

places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings, and where the Mother of God was buried after her Dormition. Although the holy Empress Helen was no longer young, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. In her search for the Life-giving Cross, she questioned both Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, she was directed to a certain elderly Jew named Jude who stated that the Cross was buried beneath the temple of Venus. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Lord's Tomb was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, and a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discover on which of the three crosses the Savior had been crucified, Patriarch Makarios alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead man, he was restored to life. After witnessing the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-giving Cross had been found. Christians came in a huge crowd to venerate the Holy Cross,

beseeking Saint Makarios to lift the Cross, so that those far off could see it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders lifted the Holy Cross, and the people prostrated themselves before the Honorable Wood, saying "Lord have mercy." This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-giving Cross another miracle took place: a woman who was close to death was healed by the shadow of the Holy Cross. The elderly Jude (October 28) and other Jews believed in Christ and were baptized. Jude was given the name Kyriakos, and later he was consecrated as the Bishop of Jerusalem. He suffered a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363). Saint Helen took part of the Life-giving Wood and nails with her to Constantinople.

Saint Constantine ordered a majestic and spacious church to be built at Jerusalem in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The church was built in ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the church, she reposed in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross was established.

**PARISH COUNCIL “ZOOM” MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 21 at 7:30 pm**

**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 – September 12, 2021**

<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>
<b>Improvement Fund:</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>1,022.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,067.00</b>



**BULGARIAN DIOCESE,  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE SAINTS CYRIL  
AND METHODIUS CHURCH, LORAIN, OHIO**

**Saturday, September 25**

9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Memorial Trisagion for all departed  
Diocesan Clergy at Sts. Cyril and Methodious Church

11:00 am Brunch & Conference Registration

11:30 am Keynote:

"Tradition and New Forms of Orthodoxy," Fr. Silviu Bunta

1:00 pm Break

2:00 pm Conference Business Session at Cambria Hotel (two  
hours allotted)

5:00 pm Vespers at Sts. Cyril and Methodious Church

7:00 pm Dinner at local restaurant (optional)

**Sunday, September 26**

(At Sts. Cyril and Methodious Church)

9:45 am Greeting of His Eminence Archbishop Alexander

10:00 am Pontifical Divine Liturgy — Archbishop Alexander and  
Diocesan Clergy

12:00 pm Closing Dinner

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**Mr. Tyler McKelvey is the St. Elia Parish Lay Delegate  
to the Annual Diocesan Conference.**

**Protodeacon James Gresh will serve the Typica  
Service with the Presanctified Gifts at St. Elia on  
Sunday, September 26 at 9:30 am.**

**There will be no Vespers on Saturday, September 25.**

## **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:**

**If you are sick and/or exhibit coronavirus symptoms, you must refrain from attending services.**

- 1) 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.**
- 2) 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**