

WEEKLY BULLETIN

January 2, 2022

Vol. 39, No. 1

Sunday Before the Theophany of Christ



SAINT ELIA

ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

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www.saintelia.com

www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron

His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA

Very Rev. Mitred Archbishop Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector

Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached

January 2022

**THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST.**

**St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in
Cappadocia**

Friday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve

**6:00 pm Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
the Great *Prayers for the New Year***

SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST -Tone 3 –

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY. Forefeast of the
Theophany of our Lord**

Saint Juliana the Merciful

Repose of Ven. Seraphim Wonderworker of Sarov

Sunday, January 2

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

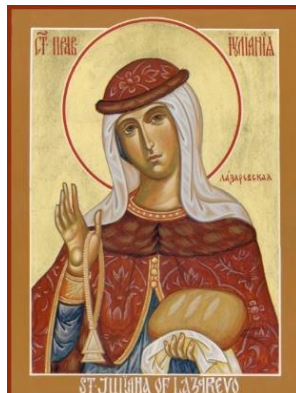
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:5-8 Gospels: Mark 1:1-8

SLAVA OF SAINT JULIANA THE MERCIFUL

Patroness of St. Elia Sisterhood





**FEAST OF THEOPHANY
CHRIST IS BAPTIZED IN THE JORDAN
GLORIFY HIM!**

**THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

Wednesday January 5 – *Strict Fast*

**6:00 pm Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
the Great
Great Sanctification of Water**

**29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST -Tone 4 -
Afterfeast of Theophany & Sunday After Theophany.**

Saturday, January 8

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 9

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13 Gospel: Matt. 4:12-17

3:00 pm Holy Mystery of Matrimony for

Kostadin Kostadinov and Sarah Niglio

SISTERHOOD OF ST. JULIANA NAME DAY

Our Parish Sisterhood of St. Juliana the Merciful

Name Dayis today, Sunday, January 2. Following the Divine Liturgy today, we will honor St. Juliana with a SLAVA. *Through the prayers of St. Juliana the Merciful, O Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.*

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church will be held following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 23, 2022

On Sunday, November 28, 2021, a Parish Meeting was held following the Divine Liturgy to elect the 2022 Parish Council. Sandra Graham of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of those Nominated and accepted their nomination.

Elected were:

President: John Bohush IV

Vice President: Subdeacon Terence A. Bilas

Secretary: Reader Aaron Gray

Treasurer: Reader Joshua Wherley

Members: Veronica Bilas, Bud Graham, Sarah Niglio.

Mary Marcin - COCA Representative

The Parish Council 2022 will be presented to His Eminence Archbishop Alexander for approval and then will be installed at the Annual Meeting. All are encouraged to attend and participate in the important past-year assessment and the next year planning session for our parish.

A special word to the 2021 Parish Council. We thank you for your willingness to serve this past year. *Many Years!*



St. Elia Christmas Ornament

Designed by Reader Aaron Gray, as a fundraiser for St. Elia Church, and is available now for purchase in our bookstore for \$10.00.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The boxes of Offering Envelopes are being sent this year directly by mail by the Church Budget Envelope Co, of Salem, Ohio. They are to be mailed directly to your home in December of this year, 2021. If you do not receive them, please inform Father Don so that the envelope company can be informed.

OUR STEWARDSHIP – December 25- 26, 2021

Candles:	\$ 51.75
Christmas:	385.00
Bookstore: :	5.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>860.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,301.75

“Tithley” Donations - December 1-26: \$585.97

Feast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Commemorated on [January 6](#)

Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine “those who sat in darkness,” and “in the region of the shadow of death” (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace

On the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, the Holy Church proclaims our faith in the most sublime mystery, incomprehensible to human intellect, of one God in three Persons. It teaches us to confess and glorify the Holy Trinity, one in Essence and Undivided. It exposes and overthrows the errors of ancient teachings which attempted to explain the Creator of the world by reason, and in human terms.

The Church shows the necessity of Baptism for believers in Christ, and it inspires us with a sense of deep gratitude for the illumination and purification of our sinful nature. The Church teaches that our salvation and cleansing from sin is possible only by the power of the grace of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is necessary to preserve worthily these gifts of the grace of holy Baptism, keeping clean this priceless garb, for “As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ” (Gal 3:27).

The Workers of St. Elizabeth!

We are looking for interested individuals to help this ministry of St. Elia in planning a schedule of charitable activities and initiatives that we can all participate in throughout the year.

Talk to Aaron Gray (330-413-8324) or grayaaron@outlook.com if you are interested, and we will schedule a date and time to meet and share ideas.

The Workers of St. Elizabeth is named after St. Elizabeth the New Martyr, a grand duchess of Russia who, following the assassination of her husband, took monastic vows and founded a convent dedicated to serving those in need. She was killed by the Bolsheviks in 1918 and later glorified as a martyr of the Church.



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
Archbishop Nathaniel
Fr. Moses Berry
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
Pani Dolores Zuder
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Sarah Niglio



Orthodox Christian Women

presents

Our Annual Winter Mini-Retreat

Saturday, January 22, 2022

9:30 am to Noon

St. Thomas Orthodox Church

Free Event-Everyone welcome

***“Race, Life, People & Faith:
Addressing the Racial Divide”***

**Speaker: Fr. Martin Johnson,
Butler, Pa.**

Fr. Martin holds an MDiv in Theology and Philosophy from Bryn Athyn College, a MS in Business Management from Colorado Technical University, and a Doctor of Ministry in Practical Theology from Barry University. After completing his service in the US Navy Chaplain Corps, Fr. Martin converted to Eastern Orthodoxy. He was ordained a Deacon in 2018 and elevated to the Holy Priesthood in 2020. He is Staff Chaplain at Allegheny General Hospital.



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 St. Elia Parish will follow these directives:

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

- 2) The CDC recommends masking while indoors for both vaccinated and unvaccinated and to maintain social distancing.**

- 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**