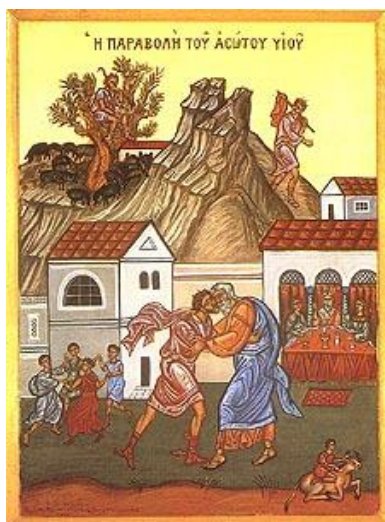


WEEKLY BULLETIN

February 20, 2022 Vol. 39, No. 8
35th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



SAINT ELIA

ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

Church Hall: 330-724-7129

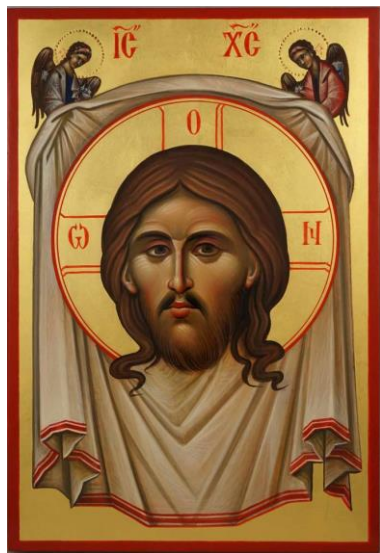
Office: 330-724-7009

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

FEBRUARY
SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES
THE LENTEN TRIODION



35TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 2
Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Saturday, February 19

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 20

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

**40th Day Panakhida for the repose of the soul of
Larissa Anne Freude-Newman, wife of David
Newman, daughter of Fr. Don and Popadia
Donna, sister of Anthony (Anya), Juliana, and
Teta "L" of Luke, Anthony, Eve, Leo**

MEMORIAL SATURDAY - MEATFARE SATURDAY

Friday, February 25

**6:00 pm Vespers and Panakhida for all
the Faithful Departed**

**MEATFARE SUNDAY - Tone 3 - Sunday of the Last
Judgment**

Saturday, February 26

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 27

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: 1 Cor.8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew. 25:31-46

**40th Day Panakhida for the repose of the soul of
Archpriest John Bohush, grandfather of John
Bohush (Ana), great-grand father of Natalia and
John**

Meat Fast Week - March 8-13

MARCH

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY - Tone 4 - Forgiveness Sunday

Saturday, March 5

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, March 6

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Reader Joshua Wherley

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Joshua Wherley

Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matt.6:14-21

**40th Day Panakhida for the repose of the soul of
Samir E. Hakim, husband of Frances, father of
Nicholas and Louis, and uncle of Penny**

**5:00 pm Vespers and Mutual
Forgiveness Service**

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Glorify God in Body and Spirit

¹² All things are lawful for me, but all things are not ^{la}helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of ^{lb}any. ¹³ Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body ^{la}and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹ Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with ^[a]prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the ^[b] pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” ’

²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ^[g]“Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³ And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

²⁸ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

³¹ “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Commemorated on February 20

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.

Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

INTRODUCTION TO GREAT LENT

Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassilou

THERE IS MORE TO LENT THAN FASTING and there is more to fasting than food. This principle lies in the heart of the ***Lenten Triodion***, the main hymnbook of Orthodox Lent. For the Orthodox Church, Lent is without the richest and most distinctive season of the ecclesiastical year. The Lenten Services, the spiritual lessons of the Triodion and the biblical readings for the season invite us to simplify our lives and to immerse ourselves in the ***“bright sadness”*** of repentance.

Orthodox Lent begins seven weeks before Pascha, when Orthodox Christians celebrate the Lord’s Resurrection. But before Lent begins, it is announced in advance. This preparation for Lent is made above all through the Lenten Triodion, which makes its appearance in the liturgical life of the Church three weeks prior to Lent on the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee. The Triodion remains a regular feature of the Church’s liturgical life until the end of Holy Week. Written for the devout Christian, the Triodion is full of warnings against pride and hypocrisy – the ultimate spiritual sins to which religious folk are susceptible. Its hymns teach us the true nature and purpose of fasting and Lent itself.

GENERAL PANAKHIDA

On Friday, February 25 at 6:00 pm, we will celebrate the Vespers of Meatfare Saturday, followed by a Panakhida for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed. Father Don has the list from previous services. However, if you have names to add, or if you have never given names of your deceased loved ones, please give them to Father Don before the Friday evening Panakhida.

Prepare for Pascha by Praying the Psalms!



The Goal

To draw nearer to Christ and one another during this Lenten Fast by praying the Psalms together as a community, as we journey together toward holy Pascha.

How It Works

The Orthodox Church has divided the book of Psalms into 20 sections. In our St. Elia prayer group, we will all be praying a new section each day throughout the 40 days of the fast, beginning on March 7, so that we all will pray through the entire book of Psalms *twice* during the course of the fast.

Added Bonus

As we all join together in prayer, we can use this opportunity to pray for one another, for our parish, and for any special intentions that any of us may have by sharing prayer requests with one another via email.

What You Need

Nothing more than a Bible and a little bit of time to set aside each day.

How Do I Join?

Go to <http://saintelia.com/news/lenten-prayer-group/> and fill in the online form. Shortly before Great Lent begins, an email will be sent out with a schedule of which Psalms to pray each day, and the names of everyone else who is participating in the prayer group, so that we can remember one another in our daily prayers.

Spread the Word!

This does not need to be limited only to members of St. Elia. Pass along this information to friends and relatives elsewhere and invite them to join.

One Last Thing

May God bless us as we pray the Psalms together, and may He draw us nearer to Himself and to one another during this Lent. Have a blessed 40 days!

Psalm 103 begins: "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits³ Who forgives all thine iniquities; who heals all thy diseases;⁴ Who redeems thy life from destruction; who crowns thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;....."

St. Elia Prayer Group

A ministry of [St. Elia Orthodox Church](#)

Prayer group moderator: Aaron Gray

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

St. Elia’s Parish Annual Meeting has been re-scheduled and will be held following the Divine Services on Sunday, February 27. Reports and updates will be given, including the 2021 Treasurers Report and 2022 Budget. The newly elected 2022 Parish Council will be installed. Please plan to attend this important meeting. Thank You!

Visit the St. Elia shop

If you haven’t visited the little St. Elia “shop” downstairs in the parish hall lately, we are carrying a number of new items including coffee mugs with quotes from the saints, and St. Elia T-shirts and baseball caps. If you are interested in a piece of St. Elia “spirit wear” in a certain size or style that’s not currently available, please see Aaron Gray about a special order. All proceeds go toward the life and ministry of our parish. Thank you for your support!

OUR STEWARDHIP – February 13, 2022

Candles:	\$ 40.00
Memorial Donations:	175.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>1,085.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,300.00

Tithely Donations: (2/9-2/13)	\$161.72
PayPal Donations: (2/8-2/13)	<u>58.93</u>
TOTAL:	\$220.65

ORTHODOX COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

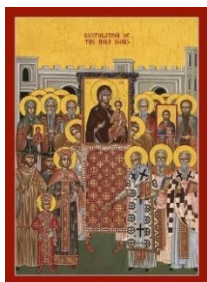
MARCH 13 – Saint Elia Church – Vespers 5 pm

MARCH 20 – St. Archangel Michael Church–Vespers 5 pm

MARCH 24 – Annunciation Church – Vespers – 7 pm

APRIL 3 – St. Thomas – Vespers 5 pm

APRIL 10 - St Nicholas Church – Holy Unction – 5 pm



SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

March 13, 2022

Vespers at 5:00 pm

**St. Ella the Prophet Orthodox Church
64 West Wilbeth Road, Akron, Ohio**

Guest Homilist

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

Sponsored by:

***The Orthodox Clergy Association
Christian Orthodox Council of Akron
Orthodox Christian Women***

Program Booklet

**Please make your donations in support of the
Sunday of Orthodoxy to Mary Marcin**

Benefactors: \$50 Supporters: \$25

Patrons: \$10 Sponsors: \$5

REMEMBERING THOSE IN THE
ARMED FORCES

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

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUTINS

Metropolitan Herman
Archbishop Paul
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Phyllis (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo
Florence Lambo
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

***“Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing,
in everything give thanks; for this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus for you.”
1Thessalonians 5:16-18***

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

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves is born of God, and knows God.”

1John 4:7