

WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 5, 2022

Vol. 39, No. 23

**Commemoration of the First
Ecumenical Council
Afterfeast of the Ascension**



SAINT 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

7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA-Tone 6 – Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Afterfeast of the Ascension

Saturday, June 4

5:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, June 5

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18,28-36 Gospel: John 17:1-13

8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA-Tone 7– HOLY PENTECOST. FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Saturday, June 11

5:00 pm VIGIL OF PENTECOST

Sunday, June 12

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Joshua Wherley

Epistle: Acts 2:1-11 Gospel: John 7:37-52; 8:12

**VESPERS OF PENTECOST and
KNEELING PRAYERS**

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

On Sunday, May 29, the Holy Mystery of Matrimony was celebrated for Kostadin Georgiev Kostadinov and Sarah Juliana Niglio uniting them in holy wedlock. Congratulations to them and their Sponsors Bud Graham and Sandy Graham. May God grant them Many Years. Chestito!

Today's Scripture Readings

Epistle Acts:20 16-18, 28-36

¹⁶ For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. ¹⁷ From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. ¹⁸ And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you,²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church ^{of} God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking ^{of} perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ Therefore watch and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. ³² "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ ^{of} Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. ³⁵ I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Gospel John 17:1-13

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He ^ashould give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together ^bwith Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was." I have ^cmanifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep^d through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*. While I was with them ^ein the world, I kept them in ^fYour name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is ^glost except the son of ^hperdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

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The First Ecumenical Council

Commemorated on June 5

On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ. Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the most pernicious of these heresies was Arianism. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, was a man of immense pride and ambition. In denying the divine nature of Jesus Christ and His equality with God the Father, Arius falsely taught that the Savior is not consubstantial with the Father but is only a created being. A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria presiding, condemned the false teachings of Arius. However, Arius would not submit to the authority of the Church. He wrote to many bishops, denouncing the decrees of the local

Council. He spread his false teaching throughout the East, receiving support from certain Eastern bishops. Investigating these dissensions, the holy emperor Constantine (May 21) consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova (Aug. 27), who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental dogma of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In the year 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea. Among the assembled bishops were many confessors who had suffered during the persecutions, and who bore the marks of torture upon their bodies. Also participating in the Council were several great luminaries of the Church: Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (December 6 and May 9), Saint Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos (December 12), and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers. With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius [who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and January 18)]. He is called "the Great," for he was a zealous champion for the purity of Orthodoxy. The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his speech, responding to the welcome by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea, he said, "God has helped me cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any blood spilled in battle is for a soldier, is the internal strife in the Church of God, for it is more ruinous

.”Arius, with seventeen bishops among his supporters, remained arrogant, but his teaching was repudiated, and he was excommunicated from the Church. In his speech, the holy deacon Athanasius conclusively refuted the blasphemous opinions of Arius. The heresiarch Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan’s knees, or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep (Rev. 13). The Fathers of the Council declined to accept a Symbol of Faith (Creed) proposed by the Arians. Instead, they affirmed the Orthodox Symbol of Faith. Saint Constantine asked the Council to insert into the text of the Symbol of Faith the word “consubstantial,” which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion. In the Nicene Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ’s divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and repudiated as an error of haughty reason. After resolving this chief dogmatic question, the Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox (which occurred on March 22 in 325).

CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX COUNCIL

OF AKRON

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of (COCA) the Christian Orthodox Council of Akron. President -Judge Kathryn Michaels (St. George Church); Vice President – Michele Lambo (St. Elia Church); Secretary – Mary Marcin (St. Elia Church); Treasurer = Lou Poplos (Annunciation Church) The Installation will be held on Monday, June 13, at St. Nicholas Church, at the COCA Picnic. To confirm attendance call Pati Malish-Nuzum no later than Friday, 5:00 pm, for food reservations: 330-780-1852.

OUR STEWARDHIP – May 29, 2022

Candles:	\$ 27.00
Improvement Fund:	50.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>795.90</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 872.90

Tithely Donations: \$ 40.00

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.

**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 SHUTINS

Metropolitan Herman
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Phyllis (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo
Florence Lambo
Martin Vronick
Rose Marie Vronick
Nicoletta (Nikki) Bober
Pani Dolores Zuder
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Sarah Niglio
Gregory Sugden
Eve Tavenier
Sue Ellen Turscak

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, June 14 at 7:00 pm.**

PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have been taking every PRECAUTION to protect the health and well-being of our people. 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 if you are unvaccinated, sanitizing your hands 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

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Understand two thoughts and fear them.

One says, 'You are a saint,' The other, 'You won't be saved.'
Both of these thoughts are from the enemy, and there is no truth in them.

But think this way: 'I am a great sinner, but the Lord is merciful. He loves people very much, and He will forgive my sins.'

St. Silouan of My Athos