

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 26, 2022

Vol. 39, No. 26

ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA



## 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](http://www.saintelia.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron](https://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*

# **SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1**

**ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA**

**Saturday, June 25 - 5:00 pm**

**Profession of Faith and Chrismation of Jefferson  
Tikhon Hodge**

**Great Vespers**

**Sunday, June 26**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Aaron Gray**

**9:30 am Baptismal Divine Liturgy of Saint John**

**Chrysostom**

**Baptism of Katherine Hodge and**

**August Theodosius Hodge**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Aaron Gray**

**Epistle: Romans 2:10-16**

**Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23**

**THE HOLY GLORIOUS, AND ALL-PRAISED LEADERS  
OF THE APOSTLES, PETER AND PAUL**

**Tuesday, June 28**

**6:00 pm Vespers Divine Liturgy of Saint John**

**Chrysostom**

**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 2**

**Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia**

**Saturday, July 2**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

**Sunday, July 3**

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

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John**

**Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak**

**Epistle: Romans 5:1-10**

**Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33**

## PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS



**As a Parish Family we warmly welcome the Hodge Family, the newest members of our Parish Family.**

**Jefferson Hodge, is being received into the Church on Saturday, June 25, having gone to Confession, making a Profession of Faith and then Chrismated in the *"Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit."* Jefferson has taken St. Tikhon as his heavenly patron. Bud and Sandy Graham are his sponsors.**

**The Baptismal Liturgy is on Sunday, June 26, with the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation being celebrated for Katherine Hodge and August Hodge. Katherine has taken the Martyr Katherine as her heavenly patron. August has received Saint Theodosius of the Kiev Lavra Caves as his heavenly patron.**

**Katherine's Sponsors are Bud and Sandy Graham. August Theodosius' Sponsors are Reader Aaron and Kathryn Gray.**

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**We congratulate Martin and Rose Marie Vronick on their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. May God grant them peace, health and happiness for MANY YEARS!**

# Synaxis of the Saints of North America

Commemorated on June 26

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I.

Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, Saint Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetov died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Bellavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and

capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was “How to expand the mission.” Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937. In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

**OUR STEWARDHIP – June 19,2022**

**Candles:** \$ 46.00

**Bookstore:** 20.00

**Sunday Offering:** 1,165.00

**TOTAL:** \$ 1,231.00

**Tithely Donations:** \$ 139.52

**PayPal Donations:** 21.10

**TOTAL:** \$ 216.87

**REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING  
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 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  
Matushka Patricia Bohush-aunt of John Bohush  
Sarah Niglio  
Eve Tavenier  
John Cheese

\*Angelo Lambo is presently in rehab at  
Timberland Ridge, 3558 Ridgewood Rd.  
Fairlawn, Ohio 44333



## **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**

### **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.

# ZOE FOR LIFE



**ZOE for Life!® is an Orthodox Christian ministry which affirms the value of all life by providing nonjudgmental, confidential support and education during and after an unplanned pregnancy.**

**ZOE for Life!® maximizes a birthmother's options by providing:**

- **Pregnancy Testing**
- **Limited Obstetrical Ultrasounds (to confirm the viability of a pregnancy after a positive pregnancy test)**

- Emotional Support
- Referrals for Professional Counseling
- Orthodox Christian Adoption Options
- Housing Referrals
- Baby Clothing and Layette Items
- Medical Referrals
- Referrals for Prenatal Care
- Spiritual Support
- Peer Mentoring
- Post Abortion Recovery
- Pregnancy Testing
- Limited Obstetrical Ultrasounds (to confirm the viability of a pregnancy after a positive pregnancy test)
- Emotional Support
- Referrals for Professional Counseling
- Orthodox Christian Adoption Options
- Housing Referrals
- Baby Clothing and Layette Items
- Medical Referrals
- Referrals for Prenatal Care
- Spiritual Support
- Peer Mentoring
- Post Abortion Recovery

## **ZOE FOR LIFE Exciting Opportunity for Executive Director of Women's Center**

We are seeking a Dedicated Christian and a passionate defender of life to serve as the Executive Director of our Women's Center. She should maintain a consistent life affirming belief, have strong interpersonal communication skills, organizational skills, and be comfortable with public speaking and media relations. The Executive Director will be responsible for efficiently guiding the organization in the successful realization and management of the Women's Center, under the guidance of the Board of Directors and Medical Director, adhering to the Mission Statement and Statements of Faith and Principles.

This is a full time position.

Resumes may be sent to:  
[paulamk@roadrunner.com](mailto:paulamk@roadrunner.com)

### **Accounting Assistant Needed**

ZOE for Life!<sup>®</sup> needs your help! If you have a background in Accounting and have a few hours a month to help with some basic Financial Statements, please contact Karen Contoveros, cell phone 440-759-6215. Please consider sharing your time and talent with this essential ministry. Thank you.

## Vesper Litija Verses

*(for All Saints of America)*

Rejoice, all Saints of North America,  
precious adornments of our lands;  
the unshakable pillars of our Church;  
the glory of the Orthodox, the fountains of wonders;  
inexhaustible streams of love and virtue; brilliant  
lights and humble instruments of the Holy Spirit;  
heavenly men and earthly angels; the true friends of  
Christ! Fervently beseech Him to grant mercy to  
those who honor you!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Most glorious saints and guardians of the North  
American lands, spiritual and heavenly City of Zion  
on high; beacons for those who dwelt in the darkness  
of despair; sacred coals of repentance; precious pearls  
of virtue; defenders of widows and orphans and the  
oppressed; exemplary followers of the teachings of  
the Church, and joyful keepers of abstinence:  
Pray without ceasing to Christ, beseeching Him to  
grant unity and stability to our Church, and peace  
and great mercy to our land!