

WEEKLY BULLETIN

July 3, 2022

Vol. 39, No. 27

Third Sunday After Pentecost



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*

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

3rd 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 3rd and 6th 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

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 3

Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves

Saturday, July 9

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, July 10

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Bud Graham

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John

Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

***Mary's hands steadied
the first steps of Him,
Who steadied the earth to walk upon;
Her lips helped the Word of God,
[made flesh in her virginal womb]
To form His first human words.***

St. John Damascene (676 AD)

Today's Scripture Readings

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Faith Triumphs in Trouble

5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, ^[a]we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces ^lperseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, ^lcharacter; and character, hope. ⁵ Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Christ in Our Place

⁶ For when we were still without strength, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5%3A1-10&version=NKJV-fen-NKJV-28054d> in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death

of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? “Therefore, do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of

God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Statement on the overturning of Roe v. Wade

**Archpastoral Message of His
Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon**

Monday, June 27, 2022

To the Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America: Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!



On June 24, the American people received the news that the Supreme Court of the United States, in its opinion concerning the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*,

has overturned the right to abortion created by the court in its 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

Undoubtedly, this should be a cause for rejoicing for all Orthodox Christians. As I affirmed in my recent archpastoral message for the feast of the Annunciation, “The Orthodox Church in America has always believed, upheld, preached, and defended the sanctity of human life from the time of conception in the womb.” From the earliest times, the shepherds of the Church have taught that abortion and the exposure of infants, even when accepted by the wider culture, are violations of the sanctity of human life and an offense against God and man. The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* is the first step towards a society and culture that recognizes the value of all human life and every human being made in the image of the Creator.

As such, in the wake of the *Dobbs* decision, in many jurisdictions, the dignity of unborn human persons is or will be recognized by law, affording them protection from violence and death in the womb. Broadly speaking, this, too, should be a cause for rejoicing.

Furthermore, it has not escaped our notice that this decision was handed down on the feast of the Nativity of the Forerunner, whose leaping in the womb of his mother Elizabeth is, for us, a miraculous sign of the divine value of the lives of the unborn: God, who knows us even before we were formed in the womb, accepts not just the praise of babes and infants, but even the adoration of an unborn child (Jer. 1:5; Ps. 8:2; Lk. 1:42).

However, we must avoid all triumphalism. Though we disagree with those who believe that legal abortion is necessary to protect the rights of women, we must recognize that this belief,

however mistaken, is sincerely held by many people of goodwill. For those of us in the United States, these people are our fellow-citizens. They, too, bear the image of God.

As Orthodox Christians, we are called to be peacemakers, and to do good even to those who hate us. Christians have been and may continue to be targets of anger and even violence on the part of those who believe that the right to abortion should be enshrined in law. We should never respond with anger of our own, but with love, forgiveness, and prayer.

Our society is deeply riven by the fault lines of partisanship and polarization. However, as Orthodox Christians, we do not desire the defeat of our perceived political enemies; our goal is not to crush their arguments and force them to submit to our righteous will. Rather, we must seek in every way to share the healing and hope found in Jesus Christ with all people, including the proponents of abortion. We must extend our compassion even to those with whom we profoundly disagree, acknowledging that their pain and anger, however misguided, are nevertheless real afflictions.

And so, though we rejoice that the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* may allow our civil authorities to pass more just laws to protect the lives of the unborn, we recognize that the court's decision is, as I have stated, but the first step in building a culture and society that value human life unreservedly. Such a culture and society would not merely satisfy the demands of justice by protecting human beings in the womb; it would also do everything possible to ensure that mothers and children are

provided with all the conditions and means to flourish throughout their lives.

As such, it is heartening that politicians from both of our major political parties have increasingly turned their attention to crafting policies that support children and families. We should pray always that God give our political leaders wisdom and prudence while strengthening them in their good intentions.

However, a society and culture that truly recognizes the dignity of all human life is not just a question of laws and government policies. Such a society and culture must also be the result of our decisions and efforts as individuals, families, and parishes on the local, civil level to do all that we can to support women, children, and families in our communities. The *Dobbs* decision, as has been observed widely, is not the end of the pro-life cause, but its beginning.

Now is a time to heal and a time to build (Eccl. 3:3). May God strengthen us all in love for one another. May this court decision become a reason for us to love all our neighbors more fervently: the unborn, mothers, families, people of all political beliefs, the happy and the angry, the jubilant and the hurting. May we speak the truth in love and suffer with all the suffering. May we temper our passions—now and always—through fasting and prayer, self-reflection and self-reproach. And may the Lord Almighty bless all of our efforts to work together for a more just and more compassionate society and culture, one that welcomes all human life with joy.

Yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and
Canada

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
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- 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

Accounting Assistant Needed

ZOE for Life![®] 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.

**REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING
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
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

OUR STEWARDHIP – June 26, 2022

Candles:	\$ 34.00
Bookstore:	7.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>595.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$636.00

Tithely Donations:	\$ 217.07
<u>PayPal Donations:</u>	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 267.07