### WEEKLY BULLETIN

July 17, 2022 • Vol. 39, No. 29 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost



### 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

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 4 Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils Saturday, July 16

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions Sunday, July 17

9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Sandy Graham 9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

**Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham** 

**Epistle:** Romans 10:1-10 Hebrews 13:7-16 **Gospel:** Matthew 8:28-9:1 John 17:1-13

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, July 18-22

July 20 - HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIA – Patronal Feast of our Holy Temple

6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 5 Holy Martyrs and Passionbearers Boris and Gleb Martyr Christian of Tyre Saturday, July 23

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions Sunday, July 24

9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Michael Luc 9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John

Chrysostom

**Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc** 

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14 Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

# TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

#### Prokeimenon

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

(Song of the Three Holy Children,)

### **Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16**

- <u>7</u> Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.
- <u>8</u> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
- <u>9</u> Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.
- <u>10</u> We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.
- <u>11</u> For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp.
- <u>12</u> Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.
- <u>13</u> Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.
- <u>14</u> For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.
- <u>15</u> Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.
- <u>16</u> But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

### **Gospel: John 17:1-13**

#### **Jesus Prays for Himself**

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, <sup>2</sup> as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He <sup>[a]</sup>should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. <sup>4</sup> I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, O Father, glorify Me together <sup>[b]</sup>with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

### **Jesus Prays for His Disciples**

<sup>6</sup> "I have <sup>[c]</sup> manifested 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. <sup>7</sup> Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. 8 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. 9 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. <sup>10</sup> And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep<sup>[d]</sup> through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them [e] in the world, I kept them in [f] Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is <sup>[g]</sup>lost except the son of <sup>[h]</sup>perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

# The 20th All-American Council Theme: Becoming Vessels of Grace

The 20th All-American Council is scheduled to take place Monday, July 18th - Friday, July 22nd, 2022, in Baltimore, Maryland at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel. Saint Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church will be represented by Mitred Archpriest Don Anthony Freude and the lay delegate, Popadia Donna Marie Freude, was elected at the Parish Meeting held on Sunday, May 15

The first plenary session of the 20th All-American Council is slated to convene at 7:00 pm on Monday, July 18.

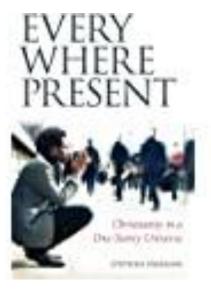
Hierarchical Divine Liturgies will be served every day from Tuesday to Friday with the Synodal Liturgy being served, as in the past, on Thursday morning.

The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Wednesday morning will be concelebrated by His Grace Bishop Andrei, Auxiliary Bishop of the Romanian Episcopate, and clergy of the non-territorial Dioceses: Albanian, Bulgarian, and Romanian.

A Panikhida for all the departed clergy and laymen of the Orthodox Church in America since the last AAC will be served on Wednesday at 5:30 PM.

On Thursday evening, the Grand Banquet is scheduled to begin at 7 PM. The final plenary session will convene on Friday, July 22 slated to conclude by 1pm.

### SAINT ELIA FALL BOOK STUDY



Have you ever referred to God as the Man upstairs?

Most Christians living in a secular society have unwittingly relegated God and all things spiritual to the second story of the universe: a realm we cannot reach except through death. The effect of this is to banish God, along with the saints and angels, from our everyday lives.

In *Everywhere Present*, popular blogger and podcaster Fr. Stephen Freeman makes a compelling case for becoming aware of God s living and active presence in every moment of our lives here and now. Learning to practice your Christian faith in a one-story universe will change your life and make possible the living, intimate relationship with God you always dreamed of.

Interested? Target date: September 2022.

Please contact Reader Joshua Wherley: (330) 714-8804 josh.wherley@gmail.com

### Holy, Glorious Prophet Elia

Patronal Feast - Commemorated on July 20



The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and the first dedicated to virginity in the Old Testament. He was born in Tishba of Gilead into the Levite tribe 900 years before the Incarnation of the Word of God.

Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus gives the following account about the birth of the Prophet Elijah: "When Elijah was born, his father Sobach saw in a vision angel of God around him. They swaddled him with fire and fed him with flames." The name Elijah (the Lord's strength) given to the infant defined his whole life. From the years of his youth he dedicated himself to the One God, settled in the wilderness and spent his whole life in strict fasting, meditation and prayer. Called to prophetic service, which put him in conflict with the Israelite king Ahab, the prophet became a fiery zealot of true faith and piety. During this time the Israelite nation had fallen away from the faith of their Fathers, they abandoned

the One God and worshipped pagan idols, the worship of which was introduced by the impious king Jereboam. Jezebel, the wife of king Ahab, was devoted to idol worship. She persuaded her husband to build a temple to the pagan god Baal, which led many Israelites away from the worship of the true God. Beholding the ruin of his nation, the Prophet Elijah began to denounce King Ahab for impiety, and exhorted him to repent and turn to the God of Israel. The king would not listen to him. The Prophet Elijah then declared to him, that as punishment there would be neither rain nor dew upon the ground, and the drought would cease only by his prayer. Indeed, the word of Elijah was a torch (Eccles. 48: 1). The heavens were closed for three and a half years, and there was drought and famine throughout all the land.

During this time of tribulation, the Lord sent him to a cave beyond the Jordan. There he was miraculously fed by ravens. When the stream Horath dried up, the Lord sent the Prophet Elijah to Sarephta to a poor widow, a Sidonian Gentile who suffered together with her children, awaiting death by starvation. At the request of the prophet, she prepared him a bread with the last measure of flour and the remainder of the oil. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elijah, flour and oil were not depleted in the home of the widow for the duration of the famine. By the power of his prayer the prophet also

performed another miracle: he raised the dead son of the widow.

After the end of three years of drought the Merciful Lord sent the prophet to appear before King Ahab and promised to send rain upon the earth. The Prophet Elijah told the king to order all of Israel to gather upon Mount Carmel, and also the priests of Baal. When the nation had gathered, the Prophet Elijah proposed that two sacrificial altars be built: one for the priests of Baal, and the other for the Prophet Elijah who served the True God.

The Prophet Elijah told them to call on their gods to consume the sacrificial animals with fire, and he would call on his. Whichever was first to send fire on the sacrifice would be acknowledged as the true God. The prophets of Baal called out to their idol from morning till evening, but the heavens were silent. Towards evening the holy Prophet Elijah built his sacrificial altar from twelve stones, the number of the tribes of Israel. He placed the sacrifice upon the wood, gave orders to dig a ditch around the altar and commanded that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked with water. When the ditch had filled with water, the prophet turned to God in prayer. Through the prayer of the prophet fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water. The people fell down to the ground, crying out: "Truly, the Lord is God!" Then the

Prophet Elijah had all the pagan-priests of Baal put to death, and he began to pray for rain. Through his prayer the heavens opened and an abundant rain fell, soaking the parched earth.

King Ahab acknowledged his error and repented of his sins, but his wife Jezebel threatened to kill the prophet of God. The Prophet Elijah fled into the Kingdom of Judea and, grieving over his failure to eradicate idol worship, he asked God to let him die. An angel of the Lord came before him, strengthened him with food and commanded him to go upon a long journey. The Prophet Elijah traveled for forty days and nights and, having arrived at Mount Horeb, he settled in a cave.

The Lord told him that the next day Elijah would stand in His presence. There was a strong wind that crushed the rocks of the mountain, then an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in them. The Lord was in "a gentle breeze" (3 Kings 19: 12). He revealed to the prophet, that He would preserve seven thousand faithful servants who had not worshipped Baal.

Later, the Lord commanded Elijah to anoint Elisha into prophetic service. Because of his fiery zeal for the Glory of God the Prophet Elijah was taken up alive into Heaven in a fiery chariot. The Prophet

Elisha received Elijah's mantle, and a double portion of his prophetic spirit.

According to the Tradition of Holy Church, the Prophet Elijah will be the Forerunner of the Dread Second Coming of Christ. He will proclaim the truth of Christ, urge all to repentance, and will be slain by the Antichrist. This will be a sign of the end of the world.

The life of the holy Prophet Elijah is recorded in the Old Testament books (3 Kings; 4 Kings; Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-15; 1 Maccabees 2: 58). At the time of the Transfiguration, the Prophet Elijah conversed with the Savior upon Mount Tabor (Mt. 17: 3; Mark 9: 4; Luke. 9: 30).

Orthodox Christians of all times, and in all places, have venerated the Prophet Elijah for centuries. The first church in Russia, built at Kiev under Prince Igor, was named for the Prophet Elijah. After her Baptism Saint Olga (July 11) built a temple of the holy Prophet Elijah in her native region, at the village of Vibuta.

In iconography the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to Heaven in a fiery chariot, surrounded with flames, and harnessed to four winged horses. We pray to him for deliverance from drought, and to ask for seasonable weather.

## REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THEARMED 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

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

### PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

Since the beginning of the <u>Covid-19 Pandemic</u> 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 – July10, 2022	
Candles:	\$ 37.00
<b>Bookstore:</b>	2.00
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	625.00
TOTAL:	\$ 664.00
<b>Tithely Donations:</b>	\$ 201.62
<b>PayPal Donations:</b>	153.62
TOTAL:	\$ 355.24



### Visit the St. Elia Bookstore etc.

If you haven't visited the little St. Elia "shop" downstairs in the parish hall lately, we are carrying several 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.

### **2022 DIOCESAN CONFERENCE**

Saturday, October 8 and Sunday, October 9 St. George Cathedral, Rossford (Toledo)