

WEEKLY BULLETIN

September 11, 2022, • Vol. 39, No. 37

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost



St. ELIA
ORTHODOX  CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

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www.saintlia.com

www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron

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

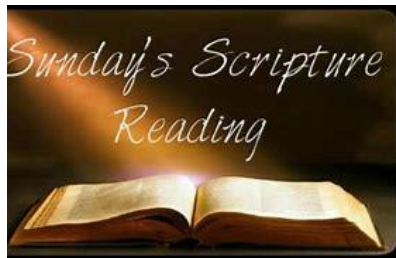
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector

Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached



President: John Bohush
Vice President: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
Secretary: Reader Aaron Gray
Treasurer: Reader Joshua Wherley
Members: Veronica Bilas Bud Graham
Sarah Costadinova
COCA Representative: Mary Marcin

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
September 20 – 7:00 pm



Sunday, September 11 – Reader Michael Luc
Sunday, September 18 – Reader Joshua Wherley
Sunday, September 25 - Hours – Mary Beth Gray
Epistle =- Reader Aaron Gray
Sunday, October 2 – Hours - Subdeacon Terence Bilas
Epistle – Anastasia Bohush
Sunday, October 11 - Sue Ellen Turscak

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross.

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Saturday, September 10

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confession

Sunday, September 11

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: Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel: John 3:13-17

Panakhida for the repose of the souls of Fr. John

Bohush and Matushka Patricia Bohush

Church School and Q and A

THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

Tuesday, September 13

6:00 pm Vespers Divine Liturgy of Saint John

Chrysostom (*Sept. 14 – Strict Fast Day*)

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5

Afterfeast the Exaltation of the Cross.

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Saturday, September 17

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confession

Sunday, September 18

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: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Panakhida for the repose of the souls of Fr. John

Bohush and Matushka Patricia Bohush

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

¹¹ See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! ¹² As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these *would* compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by ^awhom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy *be* upon them, and upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁸ Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.

Gospel: John 3:13-17

¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man ^awho is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should ^bnot perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on [September 14 – Strict Fast Day](#)



The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord, and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler of its Eastern part. In the

year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to Saint Makarios, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings, and where the Mother of God was buried after her Dormition.

Although the holy Empress Helen was no longer young, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. In her search for the Life-giving Cross, she questioned both Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, she was directed to a certain elderly Jew named Jude who stated that the Cross was buried beneath the temple of Venus. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Lord's Tomb was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, and a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discover on which of the three crosses the Savior had been crucified, Patriarch Makarios alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead man, he was restored to life. After witnessing the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-giving Cross had been found.

Christians came in huge crowds to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching Saint Makarios to lift the Cross, so that those far off could see it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders lifted the Holy Cross, and the people prostrated themselves before the Honorable Wood, saying "Lord have mercy." This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-giving Cross another miracle took place: a woman who was close to death was healed by the shadow of the Holy Cross. The elderly Jude (October 28) and other Jews believed in Christ and were baptized. Jude was given the name Kyriakos, and later he was consecrated as the Bishop of Jerusalem. He suffered a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363).

Saint Helen took part of the Life-giving Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. Saint Constantine ordered a majestic and spacious church to be built at Jerusalem in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The church was built in ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the church, she reposed in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross was established.

Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Phokas (602-610) the Persian king Khosrōēs II attacked Constantinople, defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem, capturing both the Life-giving Cross of the Lord and

the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633). The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years, and only under Emperor Herakleios (610-641), who defeated Khosrōēs and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Lord's Cross returned to the Christians. With great solemnity the Life-giving Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Herakleios, wearing a crown and his royal purple garments carried the Cross of Christ. The Emperor was accompanied by Patriarch Zachariah. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the Emperor stopped suddenly and was unable to proceed. The holy Patriarch explained to the Emperor that an Angel of the Lord was blocking his way. Herakleios was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Herakleios donned plain clothes, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, Saint Andrew of Crete (July 4) says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true is gathered together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast."

Tuesday, September 13, the Vespereal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 6:00 pm with the bringing forth of the Holy Cross for veneration.

**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

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
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan
Ted Theodore
Sarah Costadinova
Geoffrey Michael Lubic

2022 DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

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

**Delegates: Father Don Freude Reader Joshua
Wherley**

MEMORY ETERNAL

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman, fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday, September 6. Funeral arrangements are at St. Tikhon Monastery with Burial Service at 7:00 pm for a Hierarch on Thursday, September 15 and Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am on Friday, September 16, followed by burial at St. Tikhon Cemetery

Orthodox Christian Victims of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks

Remembering 9/11

Memory eternal to all the victims

Joanna Marie Ahladiotis (27)
Anastasios (Ernest) Alikakos (43)
Arlene T. Babakitis (47)
Tatiana Bakalinskaya
Katerina Bantis (48)
Yelena Belilovsky
Nicholas Bogdan
Alan Bondarenko
Gennady Boyarsky
Alexander Braginsky
Panagiotis (Lt. Peter) Brennan (30)
Thomas A. Damaskinos (33)
Anthony Demas (61)
Konstantinos (Gus) Ekonomos (41)
Michael J. Elferis (27)
Alexander Filipov

Ana Fosteris (58)
Jimmy Grekiotis
Kenneth G. Grouzalis (56)
Barbara Habib
Peter Hansen
Steven M. Haggis (31)
Vasilios Bill G. Haramis (56)
Stephen Huczko
Daniel Ilkanayev
Nicholas John (42)
Anthony Jovic
John Katsimatidis (31)
Evgeny Knyazev
Irina Kolpakova
Suzanne Kondratenko
Bojan Kostic
Danielle Kousoulis (29)
Lyudmilla Ksido
Thomas Kuveikis (48)
John Lezowsky
Alexandru Liviu Stan
Corina Liviu Stan
James Maounis (42)
Edward Joseph Mardovich
Philip William Mastrandrea, Jr (42)
Yelena Melnichenko
George Merkouris (35)
Stilianos Mousouroulis
Iuriy Mouchinsky
Peter Constantine Moutos (44)
Nikos Papadopoulos/Papas (29)
James Nicholas Papageorge (29)
George Paris (33)
Theodore Pigis (60)
Daphne Pouletsos (47)
Richard N. Poulos (55)
Stephen E. Poulos (45)

Tatiana Ryjova
Anthony (Tony) Savas (72)
Alena Sesinova
Gregory Sikorsky
Muriel Fay Siskopoulos (60)
Timothy Patrick Soulas (35)
Andrew Stergiopoulos (23)
Derek Statkevicius
Michael Tarrou (38)
Michael Theodoridis (32)
Vladimir Tomasevic
Vassilis P. Tselepis (33)
Jennifer Tzemis (26)
Aleksandr Valeryevich Ivantsov
Prokopios Paul Zois (46)

(courtesy of Fr John Erickson)

PARISH CALENDAR

BEGINNING OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

On **Sunday, September 11, 2022**, we will have a Blessing for all our students for this new school year.

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CHURCH SCHOOL will begin on **this Sunday, September 11.**

BLESSING OF VEHICLES

This year on **September 18**, following the Divine Liturgy there will be a Cross Procession with the singing of a Molieben (Prayer Service) to Saint Elia and the blessing of all vehicles (cars, trucks, motorcycles, bicycles, skates, skateboards, etc.

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.

St. Elia Book Study dates:

September 12, 2022 – 7:00 pm at St. Elia: Forward & Chapter

September 27, 2022 – 7:00 pm “Zoom”: Chapters 2 and 3

October 11, 2022 – 7:00 pm at St. Elia: Chapters 4 and 5

October 25, 2022 – 7:00 pm: “Zoom”: Chapters 6 and 7

November 8, 2022 – 7:00 pm at St. Elia: Chapters 8 and 9

November 22, 2022 – 7:00 pm “Zoom”: Chapters 10 and 11

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



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.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Candles:	\$ 32.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>800.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$832.00

Tithley Offerings:	\$ 81.50
<u>PayPal:</u>	<u>24.25</u>
TOTAL:	\$105.75

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN

Annual Welcome and Fellowship Tea

Sunday, October 9, 2022 2 pm
St. Thomas Eastern Orthodox Church
555 South Cleveland-Massillon Rd.
Fairlawn

*Please join us for an afternoon of faith
and friendship. All are welcome!*

MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Presented by
Very Rev.Fr. Vladimir Bakurdzhiev

Fr. Vlado shares his experiences in the secular
and spiritual worlds from his beginnings in
Bulgaria to his life in America as a long -
distance truck driver and a priest. He currently
serves the Parish of St. Thomas Eastern
Orthodox Church

*Orthodox Woman of the Year Award
will be presented to Rose Marie
Vronick of our St. Elia Parish!*

ORTHODOX MISSION WALK

October 15 9am - 1 pm_Where?
Akron Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 7
2610 Ley Drive, Akron, OH 443319

FREE WILL OFFERINGS ACCEPTED

*Proceeds go to
OCMC, IOCC, & Shelter Care*

*LUNCH INCLUDED!
FAMILY & PET FIRENDLY*

Register and Donate \$10 or more by
Sept. 18
And you will get the highly collectible
T-shirt!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MARY
O'CONNOR KITS AO@AOL.COM

