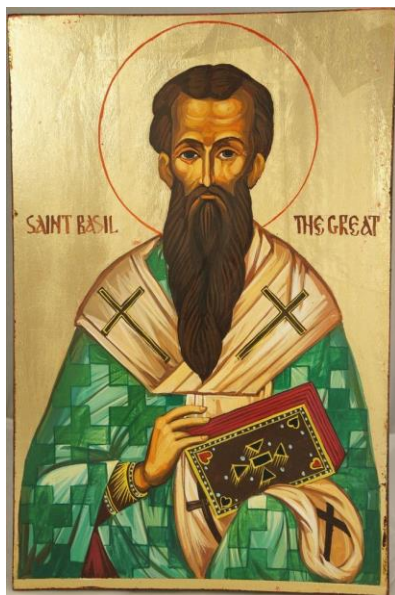


WEEKLY BULLETIN

The Voice

January 1, 2023, Vol. 40, No. 1



SAINT 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*

SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET PARISH

2022 Parish Council

President: John Bohush

V. President: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas

Secretary: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Treasurer: Reader Joshua Wherley

Members: Veronica Bilas, Bud Graham

Sarah Costadinova

COCA Representative: Mary Marcin

Choir Director: Subdeacon Terrence A. Bilas

Assistant Directors: Anastasia Bohush

Deaconisa Heidi Gresh, Reader Michael Luc

Church School: Anastasia Bohush

Sisterhood of St. Juliana:

President: Veronica Bilas, Vice President, Sandy Graham, Secretary: Sarah Niglio; Treasurer: Mary Magensky

Workers of St. Elizabeth the New Martyr:

Coordinators: Subdeacon Aaron Gray, Veronica Bilas

Scheduled Readers

Sunday, December 25 - Reader Michael Luc

Sunday, January 1, 2023 - Reader Joshua Wherley

Sunday, January 8, 2023 –Hours – Mary Beth Gray

Epistle - Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Sunday, January 15, 2023 – Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

JANUARY 2023

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 4

Forefeast and Sunday Before the Theophany

The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia

Saturday, December 31

4:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 1, 2023

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Prayers for the New Year 2023

Epistle Reader: Reader Joshua Wherley

Epistle: Colossians 2:8-12

Gospel: Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 Mark 1:1-8

**THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD GOD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

Thursday, January 5

6:00 pm Vespereal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

30TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 5

Afterfeast and Sunday After the Theophany

Saturday, January 7

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 8

9:10 am - 3rd and 6th Hours: Mary Beth Gray

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Great Sanctification of Water

**(weather permitting) Blessing of Canal at
Towpath**

Epistle Reader: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Colossians 2:8-12

Beware lest anyone ^scheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For ^kin Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all ^zprincipality and power.

In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Gospel: Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

^lAnd the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

^lAnd when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the Child, His name was called JESUS, who was so named by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

And the Child grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him. Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the Feast.

And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and His mother knew not of it. But they, supposing Him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances. And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him.

And it came to pass that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.

And when they saw Him they were amazed, and His mother said unto Him, "Son, why have You thus dealt with us? Behold, Your father and I have sought You sorrowing."

And He said unto them, "How is it that you sought Me? Knew you not that I must be about My Father's business?" And they understood not the saying which He spoke unto them.

And He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was subject unto them. But His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in ^[a]the Prophets:

*“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,
Who will prepare Your way before You.”*

*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the LORD;
Make His paths straight.’ ”*

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

***CHRIST IS BAPTIZED IN THE JORDAN!
GLORIFY HIM!***

14,000 Infants (the Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem

Commemorated on December 29

14,000 Holy Infants were killed by King Herod in Bethlehem.

When the time came for the Incarnation of the Son of God and His Birth of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, Magi in the East beheld a new star in the heavens, foretelling the Nativity of the King of the Jews. They journeyed immediately to Jerusalem to worship the Child, and the star showed them the way. Having worshipped the divine Infant, they did not return to Jerusalem to Herod, as he had ordered them, but being warned by God in a dream, they went back to their country by another way. Herod finally realized that his scheme to find the Child would not be successful, and he ordered that all the male children two years old and younger at Bethlehem and its surroundings be killed. He thought that the divine Infant, Whom he considered a rival, would be among the dead children.

The murdered infants thus became the first martyrs for Christ. The rage of Herod fell also on Simeon the God-Receiver (February 3), who declared before everyone in the Temple that the Messiah had been

born. When the holy Elder died, Herod would not give permission for him to be properly buried.

The Christian Church very rightly proclaimed these murdered children as Saints, because they died at an innocent age, and were, in some way, the first martyrs of Christianity. They may not have been baptized in water, but they were baptized in the blessed blood of their martyrdom.

Holy Innocents

Troparion

As acceptable victims and freshly plucked flowers, as divine first-fruits and newborn lambs, you were offered to Christ who was born as a child, holy innocents. You mocked Herod's wickedness; now we beseech you: "Unceasingly pray for our souls."

Kontakion

When the King was born in Bethlehem, the Magi came from the east. Having been guided by the star on high, they brought Him gifts. But in his exceeding wrath, Herod mowed down the infants as wheat; lamenting that the rule of his kingdom had come to an end.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR



O Master, Lord and God, Fountain of life and immortality, the Creator of all things visible and invisible, Who governs the seasons and the years and guides all things with Thy providence; we thank Thee for all the blessings Thou hast poured out upon us during the past years of our lives, and we beg Thee, O all-bountiful Lord, bless this coming year with Thy goodness, direct our civil authorities in the path of goodness, bestow Thy heavenly blessings upon all Thy people: health, salvation, and growth in virtue. Deliver Thy Holy Church, this city and countryside from every assault of the devil, and grant us peace and tranquility; and grant that we may always offer thanksgiving unto Thee, the Father who is from everlasting, together with Thine only-begotten Son, and Thy most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit: God glorified in three Persons, and may joyfully praise Thine all Holy Name. Glory to Thee, O God our Savior, unto ages of ages.

Amen!

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

The Feast of Theophany is on January 6. The Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast will be celebrated on Thursday, January 5, at 6:00 PM



THE GREAT SANCTIFICATION OF WATER

On **Sunday, January 8**, following the Divine Liturgy. The Great Sanctification of Water will be celebrated at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

“Weather permitting”. We will then proceed to the Canal at the Towpath Trail on Wilbeth Road for the blessing of the Canal.

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)
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
Kalie Obeng-Fiorg

Rose Marie Vronick

Village of St. Edward
at Green, 3813 Fortuna Drive 44312



SISTERHOOD OF ST JULIANA

The Sisterhood Monthly Meeting will be held next Sunday, January 18, 2023.

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Candles: \$ 73.00

Memorial Offering: 40.00

Christmas Flowers: 135.00

Christmas Offering: 535.00

Sunday Offering: \$ 1,151.00

TOTAL: \$ 1,934.00

Tithley Offerings: \$ 137.77

Sisterhood Fundraiser: \$589.36

Orthodox Christian Women

Winter Mini-Retreat
Saturday January 21, 2023
9:30 am to noon

St. George Antiochian
Orthodox Church

3204 Ridgewood Road, Fairlawn 44333
Free Event - Everyone Welcome!
Continental Breakfast provided

“Breaking Christian
Education Paradigms”
Speaker: Robert Snyder

Contact: Nancy Studebaker 330-655-9638 or
nlstudebaker@gmail.com
Sandy Menhorn 330-354-7792 or
sandy.menhorn@gmail.com

For questions or additional information