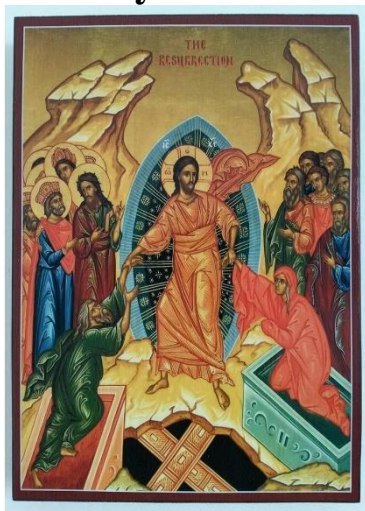


WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 16, 2023 • Vol. 40, No. 14

Holy Pascha



SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

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Office: 330-724-7009

www.saintelia.com

www.facebook.com/sainteliakron

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

2023 Parish Council

President: Veronica Bilas

V. President: Sandy Graham

Secretary: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Treasurer: Reader Joshua Wherley

Members: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas,
Bud Graham, Sarah Kostadinova,
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: Anastasia Bohush,

V. President: Sandy Graham

Secretary: Katherine Hodge

Treasurer: Mary Magensky

Workers of St. Elizabeth the New Martyr:

Coordinators: Subdeacon Aaron Gray, Veronica Bilas

Scheduled Readers - 2023

Sunday, April 16 Sandy Graham

Sunday, April 23 Reader Michael Luc

Sunday, April 30 Reader Joshua Wherley

Sunday, May 7 Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

Sunday, May 14 Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 13

8:00 am Vespers Divine Liturgy St. Basil the Great

6:00 pm Matins of Great and Holy Friday with the
Twelve Passion Gospels

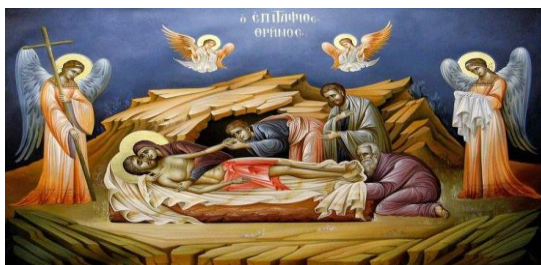
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

Friday, April 14

9:00 am Royal Hours – *Christ Hangs on the Cross*

6:00 pm Great Vespers and Lamentations

*Christ dies on the Cross, is taken down from the Cross,
is buried and descends into hell.*



GRAVE WATCH

On Good Friday evening, following the Services, a **Vigil** will be kept at the tomb of our Lord, remembering His sufferings and death for our salvation. A Sign-up sheet is located on the counter in the vestibule of the Church. Please sign up for your hour of watch.

GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday, April 15

9:00 am Vespers Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil
the Great

11:30 pm Nocturnes

Removal of the Shroud from the Grave

THE HOLY PASCHA

*The Holy Resurrection of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ*

Sunday, April 16

12:00 Midnight

Resurrection Matins

Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

11:00 am

Agape Vespers of Holy Pascha

BRIGHT WEEK

BRIGHT MONDAY

Monday, April 17

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Paschal Procession**

BRIGHT TUESDAY

Tuesday, April 18

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Paschal Procession**

2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 1- St. Thomas

Sunday. Holy Glorious Greatmartyr George

Saturday, April 22

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, April 23

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: Acts:5:12-20 Gospel: John 20:19-31

HOLY PASCHA – FEAST OF FEASTS

Before midnight (11:30 pm) on Saturday evening, the Canon of Holy Saturday Matins are repeated and the Shroud is lifted out of the tomb as we sing:

Do not lament Me, O Mother, seeing Me in the Tomb, the Son conceived in the womb without seed. FOR I SHALL ARISE AND BE GLORIFIED WITH ETERNAL GLORY AS GOD. I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and in love”...

ushering the stroke of midnight.

.The Matins of the Resurrection begins in complete darkness. The priest takes the light from the vigil light, (at St. Elia this light is from the Holy Fire in Jerusalem-1917), and gives it to the faithful who are holding candles. The priest chants:

“Come ye and receive the light from the unwaning light and glorify Christ, Who is risen from the dead.”

All the people join together singing the hymn again and again: ***“Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven sing. Enable us on earth to glorify Thee in purity of heart.”***

From this moment, every Christian holds the paschal candle as a symbol of his vivid, deep faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as Savior. The priest leads the faithful outside circling the Temple three times and coming before the doors the Gospel is proclaimed:

“He is Risen; He is not here.” (Mark 16:1-8)

Then comes the breathless moment as the faithful wait for the priest to start the hymn of the Resurrection, which they join in singing repeatedly: ***“Christ is Risen***

from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.”

From this moment the entire service takes on a joyous Paschal atmosphere. The hymns of the Odes and Praises of Resurrection which follow are of superb meaning and expression as we confess: ***“This is the Day of Resurrection, let us be illumined by the Feast, let us embrace each other and let us call brothers even those that hate us; and forgive all by the resurrection, and so let us cry, Christ is risen from the dead!***

By this hymn we admit that love of one’s fellowman is the solid foundation of the faith in the Resurrection of Christ.

As part of this marvelous festival the sermon of St. John Chrysostom is read, which calls upon us to:

“Take part in this fair and radiant festival. Let no one be fearful of death, for the death of the Savior has set us free... O death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is risen and Thou art overthrown. To Him be glory and power from all ages to all ages.”

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is then celebrated.

**Al Masseh Qam! Hristos a Inviat! Krishti U Ngjail!
Christus ist auferstanden! Cristo e’ risorto!
Hristos vaskrse! Krisztus feltamadt!
Le Christ est ressucite! Christus resurrexit!**

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN

AGAPE VESPERS

Later on Sunday, the faithful gather once more for Agape Vespers. The Gospel according to St. John (20:19-25) is read in various languages, proclaiming the Good News of Resurrection all over the universe to all peoples. The fruit of faith in the Resurrection of the Lord is love in His Name; therefore, this day is called “Sunday of Agape” (love feast), a day dedicated to Christian principles, especially to forgiveness and charity.

BLESSING OF THE ARTOS

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha, the **ARTOS** will be blessed. The Artos is a Paschal Bread and bears on it the Icon of the Resurrection. In the Old Covenant the Jews commemorated the Passover from bondage in Egypt by sacrificing a Passover Lamb. Christ is our Passover Who has freed us from the bondage of sin and death. The Artos is offered and blessed on Holy Pascha and symbolizes the Angelic Bread, the Bread of Eternal Life – our Lord Jesus Christ. We will break the Bread and partake of it on the eighth day of Pascha, St. Thomas Sunday.

RED EGGS

Please ring a half-dozen of Red Eggs to the midnight Service of Pascha. Bring them to the Church Office and Father Don will bless them, along with the Artos, and distribute them to everyone in church at the end of the Liturgy. **RED EGGS** symbolize the New Life in the Risen Christ granted to us through His Precious Blood shed on the Cross.

PASCHAL BASKET BLESSING

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha, the Paschal Baskets will be blessed in the Church Hall. Our children are encouraged to bring their Paschal baskets.

FLOWER DONATIONS

Please make your donations at the Candle Desk for the flowers and decorations for Holy Pascha.

OUR STEWARDHIP – April 9, 2023

Candles:	\$ 96.00
Flower Fund:	80.00
Sisterhood:	250.00
Bookstore:	1.00
Improvement Fund:	20.00
Insurance System:	133.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>420.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,000.00
Tithely Donations:	\$ 300.59
PayPal:	\$ 25.00
<u>TOTAL OFFERINGS:</u>	<u>\$1,325.59</u>

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.

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
Melissa Trace
Gerald Gray (father of Subdeacon Aaron Gray)

Rose Marie Vronick

Village of St. Edward
at Green,
3813 Fortuna Drive