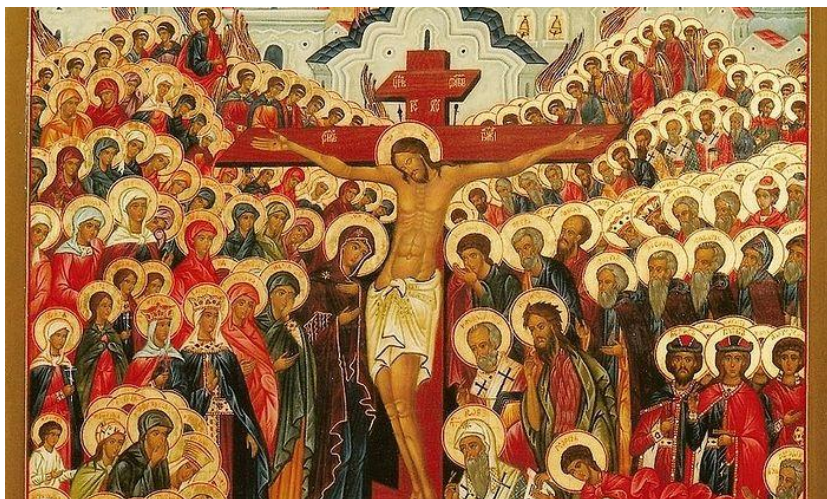


# WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 11, 2023, • Vol. 40, No. 22

First Sunday After Pentecost

ALL SAINTS



## 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](http://www.saintelia.com)

[www.facebook.com/sainteliakron](https://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, June 11 Sandy Graham

Sunday, June 18 Reader Michael Luc

Sunday, June 25 Reader Nicholas Morelli

Sunday, July 2 - Reader Joshua Wherley

Sunday, July 9 - Hours – Mary Beth Gray

Epistle – Subdeacon Aaron Gray

# SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

## **1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8 ALL SAINTS**

**Saturday, June 10**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

**Sunday, June 11**

**9:15 am Eighth Day Naming of Nora Elizabeth  
Keathley and Prayers of Thanksgiving and Blessing  
of mother Jessica and new born Child Nora**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom  
Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham**

**Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2**

**Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33,37-38; 19:27-30**

**Reception into the Catechumenate of  
Daniel Slife and Kristopher Barnhart**

***APOSTLE FAST – June 12-28***

## **2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1 ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA - *Father's Day***

**Saturday, June 17**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

**Sunday, June 18**

**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 2:10-16**

**Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23**

## ***TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS***

### **Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2**

**33** (to tell of) who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, **34** quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to fight the armies of the aliens. **35** Women received their dead raised to life again.

Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. **36** Still others had trial of mocking and scourings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. **37<sup>e</sup>**They were stoned, they were sawn in two, <sup>2</sup>were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented **38** of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

**39** And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, **40** God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

### ***The Race of Faith***

**12** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## **Gospel: Matthew 10:32-38; 19:27-30**

<sup>10:32</sup> Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. <sup>34</sup> Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup> And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. <sup>37</sup>

He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

<sup>19:27</sup> Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have, therefore?

<sup>28</sup> And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup> And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. <sup>30</sup> But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

# Synaxis of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been always saints, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...." The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The **Apostles are listed first**, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The **Martyrs** come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the **Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs.** **This is** because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The **holy Hierarchs** comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The **Monastic Saints** are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: “Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men” (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, **the Righteous**, are those who attained holiness of life while living “in the world.” Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Saints Joachim, and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, \*Saint Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

\*St. Juliana is the Patroness of St. Elia’s Sisterhood!

## **FOR CONSIDERATION**

*By St. Nikolai Velimirovic*

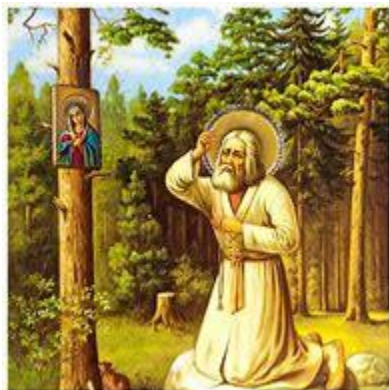
A true friend prays to God for his friend. A true friend cares about the salvation of his friend's soul. To draw a friend back from false ways and set him on the true path- that is precious friendship. The saints of God are a man's greatest friends.

The two young men, Barnabas, and Paul were friends and went together to Gamaliel's school. When Barnabas became a Christian, he persistently and with tears prayed to God that he would enlighten Paul's understanding and turn his heart, that he too might become a Christian. Barnabas often spoke to Paul about Christ the Lord, but Paul mocked him and thought him misguided. But the gracious Lord did not leave Barnabas's prayer unfruitful. He appeared to Paul, turned him from the false way and set him on the way to the truth. The converted Paul fell at the feet of his friend and cried: 'O Barnabas, teacher of the truth, now I am convinced of the truth of what you said to me about Christ!' Barnabas wept for joy and embraced his friend. The friend saves his friend's soul by his fervent prayers. If Barnabas had succeeded in making Paul Emperor of Rome, he would have done less than he did in fact did by bringing him to the truth by his prayers.

*The Prologue from Ochrid, June 11,  
the Feast of St. Barnaba*



## *On Inward Peace*



*St. Seraphim of Sarov*

**“There is nothing better than peace in Christ,  
for it brings victory over all the evil spirits  
on earth and in the air.**

**When peace dwells in a man’s heart,  
it enables him to contemplate the grace of the  
Holy Spirit from within.  
He who dwells in peace collects spiritual gifts  
as it were with a scoop,  
And he sheds the light of knowledge on others.**

**All our thoughts, all our desires, all our efforts and  
all our actions should make us  
say constantly with the Church:  
*“O Lord, give us peace!”***

**When a man lives in peace,  
God reveals mysteries to him.”**

# **PARISH NEWS**

## **PRAYERFUL BIRTH CONGRATULATIONS**

**Nora Elizabeth Keathley**, was born on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2023. She is 6lbs and 12 ozs. Congratulations to her parents, Jessica, and Cody Keathley and to her sisters, Vivian and Harper. May God grant her and her family. **Many Years!**

## **RECEPTION INTO THE CATECHUMENATE**

The Catechumenate consists of a time period for spiritual, liturgical and instructional formation in the faith. A catechumen is a student of the Way of Christ who is preparing for entrance into the Church. Becoming a catechumen means that you believe in Jesus Christ and commit yourself completely to being an Orthodox Christian and to living His Way. After this formational period, a catechumen is then received into the Church – either through Baptism or Chrismation – and the is admitted to Holy Communion.

It is with great joy and a true blessing to our Parish to receive Daniel Slife and Kristopher Barnhart into the Catechumenate this Sunday, June 11. **Many Years!**

## **APOSTLE'S FAST (Saints Peter and Paul Fast)**

Today, Sunday, June 11, is All Saints Sunday and the Apostle's Fast begins on the following Monday, June 12 and continues through the Eve of the Feast of St. Peter and Paul, June 28.

## PARISH COUNCIL

St. Elia Parish Council Meeting for the month of June will be held on Tuesday evening, June 27, at 7:00 pm

## TEMPLE FEAST OF ST. ELIA THE PROPHET

The Feast Day of St. Elia is on July 20 and will be celebrated with a Vesperal Divine Liturgy on **Wednesday, July 19 at 6:00 pm**

Continuing our Feast Day celebration, we will welcome His Eminence, our Father, and Archbishop Alexander, on the following **Sunday, July 23**, to celebrate the Pontifical Divine Liturgy followed by a picnic style luncheon. **Please mark your calendars.**

### OUR STEWARDHIP – June 4, 2023

<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$ 61.00</b>
<b>Improvement Fund</b>	<b>45.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>1,205.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,311.00</b>

<b>Tithely Donations:</b>	<b>\$218.17</b>
<b>PayPal Donations:</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$243.17</b>

**TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$1,554.17**

*“As no darkness can be seen by anyone surrounded by light, so no trivialities can capture the attention of anyone who has his eyes on Christ.”*

*St. Gregory of Nyssa*

## **WISH LIST**

With the rising costs in almost everything, our Parish of St. Elia, along with everybody else, is also facing financial difficulties in the present and more in the future to meet the daily bills on time. Thank you to all who faithfully donate and are willing to help the Treasurer meet these responsibilities on our behalf. If you are able, please consider increasing your offerings by monetary donations and/or by special donations of the Parish needs of items listed on the **WISH LIST**:

Paper towels

Bathroom Tissues

Kleenex

Dishwasher Soap

Incense (\$20.00 for a half pound)

Censor Charcoal (\$30.00)

4-hour votive candles (\$36.50 a gross)

7 Day Votive Candles (\$52.00 for a case of 12)

### **Visit the St. Elia Shop**

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.

**REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE  
ARMED FORCES**

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr Don and  
Popadia Donna Freude  
Egor Cravenco, son of Serghei and Ludmila  
Cravenco

**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  
Nicoletta (Nikki) Bober  
Pani Dolores Zuder  
Matushka Myra Kovalak  
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak  
Matushka Christine Zebren  
Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan  
Subdeacon Martin Paluch  
Barbara Harp (sister of Veronica Bilas)  
Ted Theodore  
Sarah Costadinova  
Melissa Trace  
Gerald Gray (father of Subdeacon Aaron Gray)  
Kalie Obeng Fiorg  
Louis Hakim