

WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 25, 2023, • Vol. 40, No. 24
Third Sunday After Pentecost



SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

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*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 25 Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, July 2 - Reader Joshua Wherley
Sunday, July 9 - Hours – Mary Beth Gray
Epistle – Subdeacon Aaron Gray
Sunday, July 16 - Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 2 **Afterfeast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

Saturday, June 24

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, June 25

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Reader Nicholas Morelli

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Nicholas Morelli

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

THE HOLY GLORIOUS AND ALL-PRAISED **LEADERS OF APOSTLES, PETER AND PAUL**

Wednesday, June 28

**6:00 pm Vespersal Divine Liturgy of Saint John
Chrysostom**

Kontakion: O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest and to the enjoyment of Your blessings the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles, for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, for You alone know what lies in the hearts of men.

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3

Saturday, July 1

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, July 2

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: Romans 6:18-23 Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance.

4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

The Lamp of the Body

²² “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is ^[a]good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is ^[b]bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If

therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great *is* that darkness!

You Cannot Serve God and Riches

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and ^[c]mammon.

Do Not Worry

²⁵ “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is life not more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ Which of you by worrying can add one ^[d]cubit to his ^[e]stature?

²⁸ “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹ and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not ^[f]arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

³¹ “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

“Thus, the quality of holiness is shown not by what we say, but by what we do in life.”

St. Gregory of Nyssa

PARISH NEWS

APOSTLE'S FAST (Saints Peter and Paul Fast)

The Apostle's Fast began on Monday, June 12 and continues this week through June 28.

The Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul will be celebrated on Wednesday evening, June 28, at 6:00 pm.

PARISH COUNCIL

Saint Elia Parish Council will meet this week 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 Vespereal 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.**

Please sign the list in the hall indicating what you will be bringing for the picnic luncheon.

“When in doubt tell the truth. It will confound your enemies and astound your friends.” Mark Twain

OUR STEWARDHIP – June 18, 2023

Candles:	\$ 40.00
Special Intentions:	30.00
Sunday Offering:	<u>1,825.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,895.00

Tithely Donations:	\$ 412.68
Paypal Donations:	<u>25.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 437.68

Computer Donations \$ 290.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$2,622.68

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)

**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
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

SABBATH RENEWAL

Another reason why the Sabbath day was blessed is that He who formed this world in six days foresaw that man would turn to evil and would, as a result, go back to the ground, descend to Hades, and be imprisoned there; and the whole world would grow old and useless because of man, but would be renewed by God becoming man. This renewal was affected when God incarnate descended into Hades through death and declared there on the Sabbath the recall of souls. It was because He foresaw that this would happen on the Sabbath that He rightly deemed it the only day worthy to be blessed. However, although this work was secretly made ready on the seventh day, the Sabbath, everything was clearly brought to light and accomplished when the body too had been summoned to immortality through the Lord's Resurrection on the eighth day. This is why we call it Lord's Day. As Friday, the day of preparation, stands in relation to the Sabbath, so is the Sabbath in comparison with Sunday, which is obviously superior to it. As perfection and reality surpass beginning, pattern, and shadow, so is Sunday more excellent and honorable, because on it the exceedingly blessed work was finished and on it we await the General Resurrection of all, the perfect entry of the saints into the divine rest...

St. Gregory Palamas