

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

August 6, 2023, • Vol. 40, No. 30  
*The Transfiguration of our Lord*



## SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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[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, August 6 - Reader Michael Luc

Sunday, August 13 - Reader Nicholas Morelli

Sunday, August 20 – Reader Joshua Wherley

Sunday, August 27 – Sue Ellen Turscak

Sunday, September 3 - Hours – Mary Beth Gray

Epistle – Subdeacon Aaron Gray

# *SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES*

## *The Dormition Fast- August 1-14*

**9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8**  
**THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR**  
**LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

**Saturday, August 5**

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

**Sunday, August 6**

**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**  
**BLESSING OF FRUIT**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc**

**Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19      Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9**

**10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 1**  
**Leavetaking of the Feast of the Transfiguration**

**Saturday, August 12**

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

**Sunday, August 13**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Nicholas Morelli**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Nicholas Morelli**

**Epistle: 1Corinthians 4:9-16**

**Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23**

**THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY**  
**THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

**Monday, August 14**

**6:00 pm Vigil - Matins and Lamentations**

**BLESSING OF FLOWERS AND HERBS**

**Tuesday, August 15**

**8:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom**

# TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

## **Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19**

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things, you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup> for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### **Peter's Approaching Death**

<sup>12</sup> For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. <sup>13</sup> Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this <sup>Ⓜ</sup>tent, to stir you up by reminding *you*, <sup>14</sup> knowing that shortly I *must* <sup>Ⓜ</sup>put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. <sup>15</sup> Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my <sup>Ⓜ</sup>decease.

### **The Trustworthy Prophetic Word**

<sup>16</sup> For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. <sup>17</sup> For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were

with Him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> <sup>[a]</sup>And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

## **Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9**

### **Jesus Transfigured on the Mount**

**17** Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; <sup>2</sup> and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, <sup>[a]</sup>let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" <sup>6</sup> And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> When they had lifted their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup> Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."

# FEAST OF THE HOLY TRANFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

The Transfiguration of Christ is one of the central events recorded in the Gospels. When our Lord was recognized by His apostles as the Christ the Messiah – the Son of the Living God, He told them that...He must go up to Jerusalem... and suffer many things...and be killed ... and on the third day be raised from the dead. (*Matthew 16*)

The announcement of Christ's approaching passion and death upset the disciples. And then, after correcting them, the Lord took Peter, James, and John up to the high mountain, by tradition, Mt. Tabor, and was *“transfigured before them and His Face shown like the sun and His garments became white as snow and behold there appeared to them Moses and Elia talking with Him.”*

The event of the Transfiguration teaches us that God fulfills His promise to man. But the fulfillment is greater than any man could possibly realize. The Savior was sent not just a messenger but the Son of God in human flesh. The mystery of the Transfiguration teaches us that the fulness of the Godhead is found in Jesus and that the *dwelling place of God is with man.*

In the Transfiguration, the apostles see the glory of God present in majesty and in the person of Jesus the Christ. They see this before the Crucifixion so that in the

*continued on next page*

Resurrection they might know Who He is Who suffered for them, and what it is that this Jesus – Who is both God and Man – has prepared for those who love Him and His Heavenly Father.

The Church's liturgical calendar connects the Feast of the Transfiguration, celebrated on August 6<sup>th</sup> with the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated **forty days** later on September 14.

The **summer** celebration of this Feast lends itself very well to the theme of the transfiguration.

*“The Blessing of Grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables, on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in the paradise of God's unending Kingdom of Life where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.”*

Fr. Thomas Hopko, The Orthodox Faith,  
Volume 2. WORSHIP

**Following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, fruits and vegetables will be blessed. Please bring your baskets and bowls and place them on the side table under the Icon of Saint Herman of Alaska for blessing.**

The glory of God has appeared in Jesus!

***GLORY TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS!***

**OUR STEWADSHIP, July 30, 2023**

<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$ 44.00</b>
<b>Orthodox Prison Ministry:</b>	<b>280.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>520.50</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 844.50</b>

<b>Tithely Donations:</b>	<b>\$250.68</b>
<b>PayPal Donations:</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$275.68</b>

**TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$ 1,120.18**

**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 OUR CATECHUMENS**

Daniel Slife; Kristopher Barnhart

## **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

Mitered Archpriest Daniel & Matushka Myra Kovalak

Matushka Christine Zebren

Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan

Subdeacon Martin Paluch

Barbara Harp (sister of Veronica Bilas)

Ted Theodore

Sarah Kostadinova

Melissa Trace

Gerald Gray (father of Subdeacon Aaron Gray)

Kalie Obeng Fiorg

Louis Hakim

Daniel Sugden

Deaconisa Heidi Gresh