

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 15, 2023, • Vol. 40, No. 40  
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## THE VOICE



## SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America  
64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

Church Hall: 330-724-7129

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 Niglio

**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, October 15 - Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

Sunday, October 22 - Reader Joshua Wherley

Sunday, October 29 - Hours - Subdeacon Terrence Bilas  
Epistle – Anastasia Bilas

Sunday, November 5 - Sue Ellen Turscak

Sunday, November 12 - Hours – Mary Beth Gray  
Epistle – Subdeacon Aaron Gray

# *SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES*

**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 2**

**Venerable Euthymius the New of Thessalonica, Monk of Mt. Athos. Martyr Lucian the Presbyter of Antioch**

**Saturday, October 14**

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

**Sunday, October 15**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Deaconisa Heidi Gresh**

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

**Epistle Reader: Deaconisa Heidi Gresh**

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9**

**Gospel: Luke 8:5-15**

**Monday, October 16**

**Martyr Longinus, who stood at the Cross of our Lord.**

**Tuesday, October 17**

**Prophet**

**Hosea**

**Wednesday October 18**

**Apostle and Evangelist Luke**

**Thursday, October 19**

**Prophet Joel**

**Friday, October 20**

**Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch**

**20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3**

**Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Abercius, Bishop and Wonderworker of Hieropolis**

**Saturday, October 21**

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

**Sunday, October 22**

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

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

**Epistle Reader: Reader Joshua Wherley**

**Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19**

**Gospel: Luke 16:19-31**

# TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

## **Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9**

<sup>31</sup> The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. <sup>32</sup> In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; <sup>33</sup> but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.

### **The Vision of Paradise**

**12** It is <sup>[a]</sup>doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: <sup>2</sup> I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. <sup>3</sup> And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—<sup>4</sup> how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. <sup>5</sup> Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. <sup>6</sup> For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me *to be* or hears from me.

### **The Thorn in the Flesh**

<sup>7</sup> And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to <sup>[b]</sup>buffet me, lest I

be exalted above measure. <sup>8</sup> Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. <sup>9</sup> And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

### **Gospel: Luke 8:5-15**

“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?” And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches,

and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

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### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

A Nominating Committee was elected at the Parish Meeting on Sunday, September 17, to prepare the slate of officers for the 2024 Parish Council. Please present your Nominees to the **Nominating Committee:**  
**Tony Dodovich. Mary Marcin, Tylert McKelvey.**

**Just a reminder: nominations will not be taken at the General Parish Meeting on November 12.**

### **GENERAL PARISH MEETING**

A General Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, **November 12, 2023**, following the Divine Liturgy, to elect the 2024 Parish Council Members as presented by the Nominating Committee.

### **COCA - CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX COUNCIL OF AKRON**

The Monthly Meeting of COCA will be held at St. Elia on Monday, October 16, at 6:30 pm. Representing our Parish is Reader Joshua Whereley, Mary Marcin and Sandy Graham representing the OCW – the Orthodox Christian Women.

# **Venerable Euthymius the New of Thessalonica, and Monk of Mount Athos**

## **Commemorated on October 15**

Saint Euthymius the New of Thessalonica and Mt Athos, in the world was named Nicetas, and he was a native of the city of Ancyra in Galatia. His parents, Epiphanius and Anna, led virtuous Christian lives, and from childhood their son was meek, pious, and obedient. At age seven he was left fatherless, and he soon became the sole support of his mother in all matters. Having entered military service, Nicetas married, on the insistence of his mother. After the birth of a daughter, he secretly left home to enter a monastery. For fifteen years the venerable Euthymius lived an ascetic life on Mount Olympus, where he learned monastic deeds from the Elders.

The monk went to resettle on Mount Athos. On the way he learned that his mother and wife were in good health. He informed them that he had become a monk, and he sent them a cross, calling on them to follow his example. On Mt Athos he was tonsured into the Great Schema and lived for three years in a cave in total silence, struggling with temptations. Saint Euthymius also lived for a long time as a stylite, not far from Thessalonica, instructing those coming to him for advice and healing the sick.

The monk cleansed his mind and heart to such an extent that he was granted divine visions and revelations. At the command of the Lord, Saint Euthymius founded two monasteries in 863 on Mount Peristeros, not far from Thessalonica, which he guided for 14 years, with the rank of deacon. In one of these his wife and mother received monastic tonsure. Before his death he settled on Hieria, an island of Mt Athos, where he reposed in 898. His relics were transferred to Thessalonica. .

## **Martyr Lucian the Presbyter of Antioch Commemorated on October 15**

The Hieromartyr Lucian, Presbyter of Antioch, was born in the Syrian city of Samosata. At twelve years of age, he was left orphaned. Lucian distributed his possessions to the poor and went to the city of Edessa to confessor Macarius, under the guidance of whom he diligently read Holy Scripture and learned the ascetic life. For his pious and zealous spreading of Christianity among the Jews and pagans, Lucian was made a presbyter.

In Antioch Saint Lucian opened a school where many students gathered. He taught them how to understand the Holy Scriptures, and how to live a virtuous life. Saint Lucian occupied himself with teaching, and he corrected the Greek text of the



Septuagint, which had been corrupted in many places by copyists and by heretics who deliberately distorted it to support their false teachings. The entire Greek text of the Bible which he corrected was hidden in a wall at the time of his confession of Christ, and it was found during the lifetime of Saint Constantine the Great.

During the persecution of Diocletian, Saint Lucian was arrested and was sent to prison in Nicomedia, where for nine years he encouraged other Christians with him to remain steadfast in their confession of Christ, urging them not to fear tortures or death.

Saint Lucian died in prison from many terrible tortures and from hunger. Before his death, he wished to partake of the Holy Mysteries of Christ on the Feast of Theophany. Certain Christians who visited him brought bread and wine for the Eucharist. The hieromartyr, bound by chains and lying on a bed of sharp potsherds, was compelled to offer the Bloodless Sacrifice upon his chest, and all the Christians there in prison received Communion. The next day the emperor sent people to see if the saint was still alive. Saint Lucian said three times, "I am a Christian," then surrendered his soul to God. The body of the holy martyr was thrown into the sea, but after thirty days dolphins brought it to shore. Believers reverently buried the body of the much-suffering Saint Lucian.

**OUR STEWARDSHIP, October 8, 2023**

<b>Candles:</b>	<b>\$ 37.00</b>
<b>Sunday Offering:</b>	<b>211.15</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$248.15</b>

**Tithley Donations: \$516.00**

**TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$764.15**

**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. If you are able, please consider making 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)

Cleaning Supplies

## **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

## **REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS**

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)

Louis Hakim

Daniel Sugden

Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

Gregory Yova (Project Mexico)

## **PRAYERS FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM THE EVIL OF VIOLENCE**

**Again we pray for those who are being persecuted for their faith, especially for the abducted Archbishops John and Paul, and for all the Christian faithful of (Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Israel, Palestine, Africa, Pakistan), and across the Middle East and the Far East, that the Lord God will send down upon them every spiritual weapon to endure their tribulations; and that He will grant that peace which passes all understanding upon the regions, and throughout the whole world, as a foretaste of His Heavenly Kingdom.**

**Again, we ask Your great mercy on our brothers and sisters who are presently involved in the war in the Ukraine. Remove from their midst all hostility, confusion, and hatred. Lead all along the path of reconciliation and peace, we pray You hear us and have mercy.**

## ***ON INWARD PEACE***

***There is nothing better than  
peace in Christ,  
for it brings victory over all 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 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.***

***St. Seraphim of Sarov***



**FALL FAMILY FUNFEST  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29**

***9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY***

***Followed by***  
**LUNCHEON**  
**and**  
**OUR ANNUAL TRUNK-A-TREAT**  
**FOR ALL AGES!**

***EVERYONE IS ASKED TO BRING***  
**A TREAT TO SHARE WITH ALL THE**  
**KIDS - young and older**

**NON-SCARY COSTUMES ARE**  
**WELCOME**