

WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 22, 2023, • Vol. 40, No. 41
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

THE VOICE



SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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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

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Presides at Bulgarian Diocesan Assembly



On Friday, October 6, **His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon** traveled to Saint Nicholas Cathedral in Fort Wayne, IN to attend the 60th Annual Diocesan Conference of the Bulgarian Diocese at the invitation of **His Eminence Archbishop Alexander**.

On Saturday, October 7, His Beatitude attended the Divine Liturgy followed by a Panakhida for the Departed Clergy and Wives and the Diocesan Assembly. His Beatitude offered the keynote address and held a question-and-answer session. The Assembly concluded with Great Vespers. .

On Sunday, October 8, His Beatitude presided at the celebration of the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Concelebrating with him were Archbishop Alexander and various Diocesan clergy. Before the beginning of the Liturgy, His Eminence tonsured Taras Butrie to the rank of Reader. .

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

20th 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 3rd and 6th 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

Monday, October 23

Holy Apostle James, the Brother of the Lord.

Tuesday, October 24

Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him

Wednesday October 25

Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius the Notaries

Thursday, October 26

Holy and Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrhgusher

Friday, October 27

Martyr Nestor

Saturday, October 28

Martyrs Terence and Neonila

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4

**Martyr Anastasia the Roman. Venerable Abramius the
Recluse**

Saturday, October 28

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, October 29

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Call to Apostleship

¹¹ But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. ¹² For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught *it*, but *it came* through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹³ For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried to* destroy it. ¹⁴ And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

¹⁵ But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called *me* through His grace, ¹⁶ to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, ¹⁷ nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those *who were* apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Contacts at Jerusalem

¹⁸ Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see ^[a]Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. ¹⁹ But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 The Rich Man and Lazarus

¹⁹ “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and ^[a]lived sumptuously every day. ²⁰ But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, ²¹ desiring to be fed with ^[b]the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’ ²⁷ “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, ²⁸ for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”

F **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.**

November 2023

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.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

“Let us come into His Presence with thanksgiving” (Psalm 95:2a). A Service of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on the **Eve of Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 22, at 6:00 pm at St. Elia.** Let us plan now to come together in the joy of this holyday and offer our praise to God for all He has given us.

FOR THE ALASKAN DIOCESE - OCA

“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart.. God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:6). During the month of November, we will make our charitable offerings for Saint Herman’s Seminary in Alaska and for the Priests (annual salary \$7,800) serving the Parishes in the Diocese of Alaska.

OUR STEWARDSHIP, October 15, 2023

Candles:	\$ 74.00
Special Offering:	10.00
Sunday Offering:	\$1,285.65
TOTAL:	\$1,369.65

Titheley Donations:	\$ 663.34
PayPal Donations:	150.25
TOTAL:	\$ 813.59

TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$2,183.24

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 Alexander

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

Sarah Nigilo

Melissa Trace

Gerald Gray (father of Subdeacon Aaron Gray)

Louis Hakim

Daniel Sugden

Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

Gregory Yova (Project Mexico)

Saint Abercius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Hieropolis, Equal of the Apostles

Commemorated on October 22

Saint Abercius, Bishop and Wonderworker of Hieropolis lived in the second century in Phrygia. The city of Hieropolis was inhabited by many pagans and very few Christians. The saint prayed to the Lord for the salvation of their souls and that they might be numbered among God's chosen flock. An angel appeared and bade Saint Abercius to destroy the idols in the pagan temple. He fulfilled the command of God with zeal. Hearing that the idol-worshippers wanted to kill him, the saint went to the place where the people had gathered and openly denounced the failings of the pagans. The pagans tried to seize the saint. At this moment three demon-possessed youths in the crowd cried out. The people were dumbfounded, as the saint expelled the devils from them by his prayers. Seeing the youths restored to normal, the people of Hieropolis asked Saint Abercius to instruct them in the Christian Faith, and then they accepted Holy Baptism. After this the saint went to the surrounding cities and villages, healing the sick and preaching the Kingdom of God. With his preaching he made the rounds of Syria, Cilicia, Mesopotamia, he visited Rome and everywhere he converted multitudes of people to Christ. For many years he guarded the Church against heretics, he confirmed Christians in the Faith, he set the prodigal upon the righteous path, he healed the sick and proclaimed the glory of Christ. Because of his great works, Saint Abercius is termed "Equal of the Apostles."

Saint Abercius returned home to Hieropolis, where he soon rested from his labors. After his death, many miracles took place at his tomb. He wrote his own epitaph, and it was carved on his tombstone, which is now in the Lateran Museum

7 Holy Youths

“Seven Sleepers” of Ephesus”

Commemorated on October 22

The Seven Youths of Ephesus: Maximilian, Iamblicus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus (Constantine) and Antoninus, lived in the third century. Saint Maximilian was the son of the Ephesus city administrator, and the other six youths were sons of illustrious citizens of Ephesus. The youths were friends from childhood, and all were in military service together. When the emperor Decius (249-251) arrived in Ephesus, he commanded all the citizens to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Torture and death awaited anyone who disobeyed. The seven youths were denounced by informants and were summoned to reply to the charges. Appearing before the emperor, the young men confessed their faith in Christ. Their military belts and insignia were quickly taken from them. Decius permitted them to go free, however, hoping that they would change their minds while he was off on a military campaign. The youths fled from the city and hid in a cave on Mount Ochlon, where they spent their time in prayer, preparing for martyrdom. The youngest of them, Saint Iamblicus, dressed as a beggar and went into the city to buy bread. On one of his excursions into the city, he heard that the emperor had returned and was looking for them. Saint Maximilian urged his companions to come out of the cave and present themselves for trial. Learning where the young men were hidden, the emperor ordered that the entrance of the cave be sealed with stones so that the saints would perish from hunger and thirst. Two of the dignitaries at the blocked entrance to the cave were secret Christians. Desiring to preserve the memory of the saints, they placed in the cave a sealed container containing two metal plaques. On them were inscribed the names of the seven youths and the details of their suffering and death. The Lord placed the youths into a miraculous sleep lasting almost two centuries. In the meantime, the persecutions against Christians had ceased. During the reign of the holy emperor Theodosius the Younger

(408-450) there were heretics who denied that there would be a general resurrection of the dead at the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some of them said, "How can there be a resurrection of the dead when there will be neither soul nor body, since they are disintegrated?" Others affirmed, "The souls alone will have a restoration, since it would be impossible for bodies to arise and live after a thousand years, when even their dust would not remain." Therefore, the Lord revealed the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead and of the future life through His seven saints. The owner of the land on which Mount Ochlon was situated, discovered the stone construction, and his workers opened up the entrance to the cave. The Lord had kept the youths alive, and they awoke from their sleep, unaware that almost two hundred years had passed. Their bodies and clothing were completely undecayed. Preparing to accept torture, the youths once again asked Saint Iamblicus to buy bread for them in the city. Going toward the city, the youth was astonished to see a cross on the gates. Hearing the name of Jesus Christ freely spoken, he began to doubt that he was approaching his own city. When he paid for the bread, Iamblicus gave the merchant coins with the image of the emperor Decius on it. He was detained, as someone who might be concealing a horde of old money. They took Saint Iamblicus to the city administrator, who also happened to be the Bishop of Ephesus. Hearing the bewildering answers of the young man, the bishop perceived that God was revealing some sort of mystery through him and went with other people to the cave. At the entrance to the cave the bishop found the sealed container and opened it. He read upon the metal plaques the names of the seven youths and the details of the sealing of the cave on the orders of the emperor Decius. Going into the cave and seeing the saints alive, everyone rejoiced and perceived that the Lord, by waking them from their long sleep, was demonstrating to the Church the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead. Soon the emperor himself arrived in Ephesus and spoke with the young men in the cave. Then the holy youths, in sight of everyone, lay their heads upon the ground and fell asleep again, this time until the General Resurrection. The emperor wanted to place each of

the youths into a jeweled coffin, but they appeared to him in a dream and said that their bodies were to be left upon the ground in the cave. In the twelfth century the Russian pilgrim Igumen Daniel saw the holy relics of the seven youths in the cave. There is a second commemoration of the seven youths on August 4. According to one tradition, which entered into the Russian PROLOGUE (of Saints' Lives), the youths fell asleep for the second time on this day. The Greek MENAION of 1870 says that they first fell asleep on August 4, and woke up on October 22



You trained yourselves mightily for the struggles of
suffering, O Saints.
You hid in a cave, entreating the Lord.
With unceasing supplications, you sought power and
might from Him
through His wisdom and judgments as the Lover of
man.
In a godly manner He commanded all of you to fall
asleep in peace.

7 Holy Youths Vesper Verse



“Virtues are formed by prayer.
Prayer preserves temperance.
Prayer suppresses anger.
Prayer prevents emotions of pride and envy. Prayer
draws into the soul the Holy Spirit
and raises man to heaven.” *St, Ephraim the Syrian*



**FALL FAMILY FUNFEST
NEXT 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