

WEEKLY BULLETIN

December 31, 2023, Vol. 40, No. 51

29th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday After the Feast of the Nativity

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

www.facebook.com/sainteliakron

*His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese,
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, December 31 – Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas

Epistle: Anastasia Bohush

Sunday, January 7 - Sue Ellen Turscak

Sunday, January 14 - Bud Graham

Sunday, January 21 - Sandy Graham

Sunday, January 28 - Reader Michael Luc

SUNDAY 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: Matthew 2:13-23

The Flight into Egypt

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

¹⁴ When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, ¹⁵ and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

Massacre of the Innocents

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning,
Rachel weeping *for* her children,
Refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more.”

The Home in Nazareth

¹⁹ Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. ²³ And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 5

**Sunday After the Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones:
Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, James, the
Brother of the Lord**

Saturday, December 30

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confession

Sunday, December 31

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 1:11-19

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

*Christos razdajetsja! Christos Gennataí!
Christos se rodi! Mir Boze! Buon Natale!
C Rozdectvom Christovím! Joyeux Noel!
Feliz Navidad! Masheeh Wuleda!
Wesoly Swiat! Krisztus Születik!
Froliche Weihnachten! Chestita Koleda!*

JANUARY 2024

**THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. Saint Basil the Great,
Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia**

Sunday, December 31, 2023

5:00 pm Great Vespers *Prayers for the New Year 2024*

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

*THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR
LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
The Baptism of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ*

*Christ is Baptized in the Jordan!
Glorify Him!*

Friday, January 5 - *Strict Fast Day*

**6:00 pm Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
the Great**

Great Sanctification of Water

**30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6
Sunday After the Theophany. Synaxis of the Holy
Glorious Prophet Forerunner and Baptist John**

Saturday, January 6

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confession

Sunday, January 7

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Sue Ellen Turscak

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak

Epistles: Ephesians 4:7-13 Acts 19:1-8

Gospels: Matthew 4:12-17 John 1:29-34

**Panakhida for the repose of the soul of Sandra Lucia
Dodovich as requested by Anthony Dodovich**

Righteous Juliana the Merciful Patroness of our Sisterhood Commemorated on January 2



Righteous Juliana presents an astonishing example of a self-denying Russian Christian woman. She was the daughter of the nobleman Justin Nediurev. From her early years she lived devoutly, kept the fasts strictly and set aside much time for prayer. Having been orphaned at an early age, she was given over into the care of relatives, who did not take to her and laughed at her. Juliana bore everything with patience and

without complaint. Her love for people was expressed by nursing the sick and sewing clothing for the poor.

The pious and virtuous life of the maiden attracted the attention of the Lazarevo village owner, Yurii Osoryin, who soon married her. The husband's parents loved their gentle daughter-in-law and left the running of the household in her hands. Domestic concerns did not disrupt the spiritual efforts of Juliana. She always found time for prayer and she was always prepared to feed the orphaned and clothe the poor. During a harsh famine, she herself remained without food, having given away her last morsel to someone begging. When an epidemic started after the famine, Juliana devoted herself completely to the nursing of the sick.

Righteous Juliana had six sons and a daughter. After the death of two of her sons she decided to withdraw to a monastery, but her husband persuaded her to remain in the world, and to continue to raise their children. On the testimony of Juliana's son, Kallistrat Osoryin, who wrote her Life, at this time she became all the more demanding towards herself: she intensified her fasting and prayer, slept not more than two hours at night, and then laying her head upon a board.

DONATION ENVELOPES

Everyone's donations for the support of Saint Elia Church is very important and greatly appreciated by all of our members. In the past we have ordered donation envelopes from the Church Budget Envelope Co. The Parish Council has decided not to order them this year. Donations can be made by Tithely, PayPal, Bill Pay or by mail. **Offering Envelopes that are packaged are available on the front pew.**

OUR STEWARDSHIP, December 24-25, 2023

Candles: \$ 197.00

Christmas Offerings: 695.00

Christmas Flowers: 50.00

Sunday Offering: 1,105.00

TOTAL: \$2,047.00

Tithely Donations: \$388.25

PayPal Donations: 176.42

TOTAL: \$564.67

TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$2,611.67

WISH LIST

If you are able, please consider making special donations of the Parish needs of items listed on the:

WISH LIST

Paper towels, Kleenex, Bathroom Tissues

Dishwasher Soap

Incense (\$20.00 for a half pound)

Censor Charcoal (\$35.50)

4-hour votive candles (\$38.50 a gross)

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

REMEMBERING OUR CATECHUMEN

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

Phyllis (sister of +Rose Marie Vronick)

Florence Lambo

Martin Vronick

Nicoletta (Nikki) Bober

Pani Dolores Zuder

Mitered Archbishop Daniel & Matushka Myra Kovalak

Matushka Christine Zebren

Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

Subdeacon Martin Paluch

Sarah Nigilo

Melissa Trace

Louis Hakim

Mavis Sugden

Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

Gregory Yova (Project Mexico)

**Orthodox Christian Women
Present**

Winter Mini-Retreat

Saturday January 20, 2024 – 9:30am to noon

**St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church
64 West Wilbeth Road, Akron 44301**

**Free Event - Everyone Welcome!
Continental Breakfast Provided**

“Question the Clergy”

**Featuring a Panel of our
Beloved Local Priests**

Advance Questions Encouraged!

Please send your queries to:

info@stteoc.com by January 17th.

**All questions remain anonymous. Questions
may also be submitted at the event**

**Contact: Nancy Studebaker 330-655-9638 or
nlstudebaker@gmail.com or Sandy Graham 330-988-8107
or sgraham@bright.net For questions or additional
information**
