

WEEKLY BULLETIN

March 3, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 9

39th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

THE VOICE



SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

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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

2024 Parish Council

President: Veronica Bilas

V. President: Sandy Graham

Secretary: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Treasurer: Reader Joshua Wherley

Members: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas, Bud Graham,
Jefferson Hodge, Nicholas Morelli

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 - 2024

Sunday, March 3 - Mary Beth Gray

Sunday, March 10 - Hours: Subdeacon Terence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush

Sunday, March 17 - Sue Ellen Turscak

Sunday, March 24 - Daneil Slife

Sunday, March 31 - Bud Graham

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

LENTEN TRIODION

2nd Pre-Lenten Sunday

39TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Saturday, March 2

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, March 3

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Mary Beth Gray

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Mary Beth Gray

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke: 15:11-20

MEMORIAL SATURDAY OF MEATFARE

Friday, March 8

6:00 pm Vespers of Memorial Saturday

Panakhida for all the Faithful Departed

(If you have not already done so, please give Father Don all the names of the Departed you wish to be remembered)

3rd Pre-Lenten Sunday

**SUNDAY OF MEATFARE. SUNDAY OF THE
LAST JUDGMENT – Tone 7**

Saturday, March 9

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, March 10

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

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-42

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Glorify God in Body and Spirit

¹² All things are lawful for me, but all things are not ^{la}helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of ^{lb}any. ¹³ Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body ^{la}and in your spirit, which are God's.

Gospel Luke 15:11-32

The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹ Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far

country, and there wasted his possessions with ^[a]prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the ^[b]pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” ’

²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² “But the father said to his servants, ^[c]‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³ And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it and* let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ ²⁸ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

³¹ “Anhe said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

MEATFARE - MEMORIAL SATURDAY

The Saturday before Meatfare Sunday is a day of remembering all those who have passed from this life in the hope of the Resurrection.

On Friday evening, March 8, the Vespers of the deceased, followed by a Panakhida for all the faithful departed this life, will be served at 6:00 pm.

Father Don has the names of the deceased that were given to him before. However, if you have new names to add, or if you have never given him the names, please do so before the Divine Services.

Forms for the listing of the names are available on the counter in the vestibule. Please list your family name on the top of the form.

HYMN OF ST. JOHN DAMASCENE Contemplating Death

***What earthly delight endures unmingled with grief?
What earthly glory remains immutable?
All things are less than a shadow, more deluding
than a dream.***

***In a single moment all these are effaced by death, but
in the light of Thy Countenance, O Christ, and in
the enjoyment of Thy beauty,
grant rest to the one Thou hast chosen.***

AKRON LENTEN SERVICES

Great Lent begins this year on Monday, March 18, 2024

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the **Sunday of Orthodoxy**, celebrating the “*Triumph of Orthodoxy*” over Iconoclasm and the restoration of the veneration of Icons. On the **Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 24, the Eve of the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos**, the Akron Orthodox Churches this year will gather to celebrate **Vespers at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church at 5:00 pm.**

A **Sunday of Orthodoxy Program Booklet** is being prepared and your donations will support the work of the Orthodox Clergy Association, Christian Orthodox Council of Akron, and Orthodox Christian Women. Please give your donations to **Mary Marcin by Friday, March 15:**
Benefactor \$100; Supporter \$50; Patron \$25; Sponsor \$10.

The **Combined Lenten Vespers** will be served each Sunday during Great Lent at **5:00 pm:**

March 24 – Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

March 31 – Presentation of our Lord Orthodox Church

April 7 - St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church

April 14 - St. Thomas Eastern Orthodox Church

April 21 - **Holy Unction** at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church at **5:00 pm.**

JOURNEY TO PASCHA WITH THE PSALMS

We will continue our annual tradition at St. Elia of praying the Psalms together as a parish community during Lent. It's an opportunity for us to draw nearer to Christ and one another during the fast, as we journey toward Holy Pascha.

The Orthodox Church has traditionally divided the book of Psalms into 20 sections. In our St. Elia prayer group, we will all pray a new section each day throughout the 40 days of Lent, beginning on March 18, so that we will pray through the entire book of Psalms twice during the course of the fast.

As we all join together in praying the Psalms, we can use this opportunity to pray for one another, for our parish, and for any special intentions that any of us may have by sharing prayer requests with one another via email. Additionally, you will receive Lenten reflections throughout the fast via email with quotes from the saints and other edifying material.

To participate, all you need is a Bible and a little bit of time to set aside each day. You can join by going to <http://saintelia.com/news/lenten-prayer-group/> and filling in the online form. Shortly before Great Lent begins, you will receive an email with a schedule of which Psalms to pray each day and the names of everyone else who is participating in the prayer group, so that we can remember one another in our daily prayers.

May the Lord bless us as we pray the Psalms together, and may He draw us nearer to Himself and to one another during this Lent. Have a blessed 40 days!

**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 Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Sarah Nigilo
Melissa Trace
Subdeacon David Trace
Louis Hakim
Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Mary Elizabeth Marcin

Time Change: Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 am

DONATIONS

Donations can be made by Tithely. PayPal, Bill Pay or by mail. Offering

Envelopes that are packaged are also available on the front pew.

OUR STEWARDSHIP, February 25, 2024

Candles:	\$107.00
Special Offerings:	620.00
<u>Tray Offering:</u>	<u>225.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$952.00

Tithely Donations:	\$448.58
<u>PayPal Donation:</u>	<u>41.69</u>
TOTAL:	\$490.27

TOTAL OFFERINGS: \$1,442.27

WISH LIST

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

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)

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

