WEEKLY BULLETIN

March 31, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 13
Second Sunday of Great Lent

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
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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 31 - Bud Graham
Sunday, April 7 - Sandy Graham
Sunday, April 14 - Reader Michael Luc
Sunday, April 21 - Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, April 28 - Reader Joshua Wherley

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

THIRD WEEK OF GREAT LENT

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT – Tone 2
St. Gregory Palamas. Repose of St. Innocent

Saturday, March 30
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, March 31
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Bud Graham
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great
Epistle Reader: Bud Graham
Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12
5:00 pm Lenten Vespers at Presentation of our Lord Orthodox Church

Wednesday, April 3
6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, April 5 - 6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Lenten Covered Dish

***FOURTH WEEK OF GREAT* LENT**

THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT – Tone 3
VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS.

Saturday, April 6
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, April 7
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Bud Graham
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great
Epistle Reader: Bud Graham
Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1
5:00 pm LENTEN VESPERS AT ST. ELIA THE PROPHET ORTHDOX CHURCH

Wednesday, April 10
6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, April 12 - 6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Lenten Covered Dish

FIFTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT – Tone 4

Saint John Climacus

Saturday, April 13

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, April 14

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Reader Michael Luc

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

5:00 pm Lenten Vespers at St. Thomas Eastern Orthodox Church

Wednesday, April 17

6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, April 19

6:00 pm Akathist to the Most-Holy Theotokos

SIXTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT – Tone 5

Saint Mary Egypt

Saturday, April 20

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, April 21

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Reader Nicholas Morelli

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Epistle Reader: Reader Nicholas Morelli

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

5:00 pm Holy Unction at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Wednesday, April 24

6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, April 26

6:00 pm Vigil of Lazarus Saturday

Beginning of Great and Holy Week

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

11 They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

2 Therefore we ought to give more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

2 For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;

3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralytic

2 And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house. **2** [a]Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them,* not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. **3** Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four *men*. **4** And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

5 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

6 And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, **7** "Why does this *Man* speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? **9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, '*Your* sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? **10** But that you may know that the Son of Man has [b]power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, **11** "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." **12** Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw *anything* like this!"

Repose of Saint Innocent, Enlightener of the Aleuts, Apostle to the Americas

Commemorated on March 31

Saint Innocent (Veniaminov), Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomensk (August 26, 1797—March 31, 1879), was glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church on October 6, 1977. He was born in the village of Anginsk in the Irkutsk diocese. The Apostle of America and Siberia proclaimed the Gospel “even to the ends of the earth”: in the Aleutian islands (from 1823), in the six dialects of the local tribes on the island of Sitka (from 1834), among the Kolosh (Tlingit); in the remotest settlements of the extensive Kamchatka diocese (from 1853); among the Koryak, Chukchei, Tungus in the Yakutsk region (from 1853) and North America (in 1857); in the Amur and the Usuriisk region (from 1860).

Having spent a large part of his life in journeys, Saint Innocent translated a Catechism and the Gospel into the Aleut language. In 1833, he wrote in this language one of the finest works of Orthodox missionary activity INDICATION OF THE WAY TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

In 1859, the Yakut first heard the Word of God and divine services in their native language. Twice (in 1860 and 1861) Saint Innocent met with Saint

Nicholas the Apostle to Japan (February 3), sharing with him his spiritual experience.

A remarkable preacher, Saint Innocent said, "Whoever abounds in faith and love, can have mouth and wisdom, and the heart cannot resist their serving it."

Having begun his apostolic work as a parish priest, Saint Innocent completed it as Metropolitan of Moscow (January 5, 1868—March 31, 1879). He obeyed the will of God all his life, and he left behind a theme for the sermon to be preached at his funeral: "The steps of a man are rightly ordered by the Lord" (Ps 36/37:23).

With what songs of virtue shall we exalt our Father Innocent?
By his word he brought heathen worship to an end in the distant reaches of Alaska and Siberia.
Then, like the Holy Apostle Paul before him, bound in chains of obedience to the will of God, he brought comfort to believers in the ancient capital, who through his prayers and exhortations
receive great mercy from Christ our God.

AKRON LENTEN SERVICES

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

The Lenten Vespers:

March 31 – Presentation of our Lord Orthodox Church

April 7 - St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church

April 14 - St. Thomas Eastern Orthodox Church

Holy Unction:

April 21 - St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OUR STEWARDSHIP, March 24,2024

Candles:	**$136.85**
Special Offering:	**105.00**
Tray Offerings	**350.00**
TOTAL:	**$591.85**

Tithely Donations:	**$524,33**
PayPal Donations:	**61.69**
TOTAL:	**$586.02**

TOTAL OFFERINGS: $1,177.87

WISH LIST

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

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

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
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Phyllis (sister of +Rose Marie Vronick)
Florence Lambo
Martin Vronick
Pani Dolores Zuder
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Sarah Nigilo
Melissa Trace
Helena Woroncow
Louis Hakim
Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Mary Elizabeth Marcin
Carl Nickoloff
Joseph Taylor (nephew of DiPuccio Family)

4th annual

NATIONAL ORTHODOX BABY SHOWER

ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS FOR LIFE

Our community outreach group, ***The Workers of Saint Elizabeth***, is joining with Orthodox parishes across the country to hold a "baby shower" to support mothers who choose life for their unborn children. Join us in collecting the listed items below to benefit ***Zoe for Life*** located in Cleveland.

Bring your items to church **from March 17th to April 7th** and place them in the Pack and Play located in the Church Hall.
Questions? Please contact Veronica Bilas or Subdeacon Aarron Gray

Diapers sizes Newborn to 6
Pullups (any size)
Baby Wipes
Baby Clothes (new up to 2T)
Blankets
Toys (new)
Cribs (new)
Target/Walmart gift cards
Pacifiers (new)
Baby Socks
Bottles (new)
Diaper Bags
Car Seats (new)