WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 7, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 14
Third Sunday of Great Lent
Veneration of the Holy Cross

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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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, April 7 - Sandy Graham
Sunday, April 14 - Reader Michael Luc
Sunday, April 21 - Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, April 28 - Reader Joshua Wherley
Sunday, May 5 - Subdeacon Aaron Gray
Sunday, May 12 - Mary Beth Gray

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

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: Sandy Graham
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great
Epistle Reader: Sandy Graham
Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

5:00 pm LENTEN VESPERS AT ST. ELIA THE PROPHET CHURCH

Wed., 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

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

GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

LAZARUS SATURDAY

Saturday, April 27

9:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom 5:00 pm Vigil of Palm Sunday

Blessing of Palms and Willows

PALM AND FLOWERY SUNDAY

The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem

***Sunday*, April 28**

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: Philippians 4:$-9 Gospel: John 12::1-18

5:00 pm Matins of the Bridegroom

Sad Sunday

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Our Compassionate High Priest

14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. **15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin. **16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Qualifications for High Priesthood

5 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things *pertaining* to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. **2** He can [a]have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. **3** Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer *sacrifices* for sins. **4** And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron *was.*

A Priest Forever

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but *it was* He who said to Him:

“You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.”
6 As *He* also says in another *place:*
“You *are* a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek”.

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Take Up the Cross and Follow Him

34 When He had called the people to *Himself,* with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **35** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. **36** For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? **37** Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? **38** For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

The Transfiguration of Christ

9 And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God [a]present with power.”

3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross

Commemorated on April 7

The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross. The cross stands amid the church in the middle of the Lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ's redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Mt.10:38). For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both "the power of God and the wisdom of God" for those being saved (1 Cor.1:24).

BEFORE THY CROSS, O MASTER,
WE BOW DOWN IN WORSHIP,
AND THY HOLY RESURRECTION WE GLORIFY

Repose of Saint Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America

Commemorated on April 7

Troparion -=Saint Tikhon

Let us praise Tikhon, the Patriarch of All Russia, and Enlightener of North America, an ardent follower of the apostolic tradition, and good pastor of the Church of Christ, who was elected by Divine Providence, and laid down his life for his sheep!
Let us sing to him with faith and hope and ask for his hierarchical intercessions: keep the Church in Russia in tranquility, and the Church in North America in peace; gather her scattered children into one flock, bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith, preserve our lands from civil strife, and entreat God's peace for all people!

Kontakion – St. Tikhon

A gentle manner adorned you:
You showed kindness and compassion to those who repented; you were firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith, and zealous in loving the Lord. O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God, which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord.

AKRON LENTEN SERVICES

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

The Lenten Vespers:

April 7 - St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church
April 14 - St. Thomas Eastern Orthodox Church
April 21 - **Holy Unction**: St. Nicholas Church

PARISH COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING
Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 pm

OUR STEWARDSHIP, MARCH 31, 2024	
Candles:	**$ 86.00**
Special Donation:	**100.00**
Sunday Offerings:	**460.00**
TOTAL	**646.00**
Tithely Donations:	**207.87**
PayPal	**31.40**
TOTAL	**$239.27**
TOTAL OFFERINGS:	**$885.27**

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
Sacramental Wine ($48.00 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
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
Halina Woroncow
Louis Hakim
Mary Elizabeth Marcin
Carl Nickoloff
Joseph Taylor (nephew of DiPuccio Family)

PANAKHIDA (1 year) for the repose of the soul of +Rose Marie Vronick after 5 pm Vespers, April 13, at St. Nicholas Church.

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.

Items can be brought to church **until April 28th** 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)