WEEKLY BULLETIN

September 29, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 38
14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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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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 Coordinator: Popadia Donna Freude
Staff: Natalie Slife, Eve Tavenier, Martha Morelli.
Subdeacon David Trace

Sisterhood of St. Juliana:

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

Sunday, September 22 Mary Beth Gray
Sunday, September 29 –Subdeacon Aaron Gray
Sunday, October 6 – Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
Sunday, October 13 – Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Sunday, October 20 - Sue Ellen Turscak

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES.

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5

Saturday, September 28

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, September 29

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Subdeacon Aaron Gray

Epistle:2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

PROTECTION OF OUR MOST-HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

Monday, September 30

6:00 pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6

Glorification of St. Innocent, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas

Saturday, October 5

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Opening of the 61st Diocesan Conference

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, October 6

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

9:00 am Greeting of Archbishop Alexander

9:30 am Pontifical Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom. Diaconal Ordination of Subdeacon Aaron Innocent Gray

Epistle Reader: Subdeacon Terence Bilas

Epistles: 2 Cor. 4:6-15; Hebrews 7:26-8:2

Gospels: Luke 7:11-16; John 10:9-16

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Paul Urges Forgiveness

but I determined this within myself, that I would not
come again to you in sorrow. For if I make
you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but
the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote
this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have
sorrow over those from whom I ought to have
joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is *the*
joy of you all. For out of much [a]affliction and
anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not
that you should be grieved, but that you might know
the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to
them likewise. "But if you love those who love you,
what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those
who love them. And if you do good to those who do
good to you, what credit is that to you? For even
sinners do the same. And if you lend *to those* from
whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to
you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as
much back. But love your enemies, do good,
and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your
reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most
High. For He is kind to the unthankful and
evil. Therefore, be merciful, just as your Father also is
merciful.

The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary –

Commemorated on October 1

The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos: "Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church, and with choirs of Saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and Bishops venerate Her, Apostles and prophets rejoice together, since for our sake she prays to the Eternal God!"

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All-Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ Saint Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. Saint John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming

near the Bishop's Throne, she continued her prayer. After completing her prayer, she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church. The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession.

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we do not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."

The Vesperal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos will be celebrated on Monday, September 30, at 6:00 pm

RECEPTION INTO THE CATECHUMENATE

By the Providence of God, our Parish Family of St. Elia has been entrusted with those who have been sent to us to love them and nourish them in the faith.

Let us pray for our Catechumens:

Daniel Williamson, Randy Warner and his daughter Marceline, as they prepare to be received into the Church.

61st ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE
BULGARIAN DIOCESE OF TOLEDO
October 5, 6, 2024

SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET CHURCH

Saturday, October 5

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Panakhida for the repose of the souls of the Clergy and Popadias who have served in our Diocese

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Business Session of the 61st Diocesan Conference

5:00 pm Great Vespers

6:00 pm Dinner and Casual Social Evening

Sunday, October 6

9:00 am Greeting of our Father and Archbishop Alexander

9:30 am Pontifical Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom.
Deaconal Ordination of Subdeacon Aaron Innocent Gray

12 noon Banquet

DEACONATE ORDINATION

The **Deaconate Ordination of Subdeacon Aaron Gray** will take place at the Annual Conference of the Bulgarian Diocese of Toledo on the weekend of October 4 - 6, 2024, here at Saint Elia.

Subdeacon Aaron Innocent Gray was received into the Holy Orthodox Church and Chrismated here at Saint Elia on **November 10, 2002**.

On **Sunday, October 6**, **2024**, the Feast of Saint Innocent, at the Pontifical Divine Liturgy **Subdeacon Aaron Innocent Gray**, of our Parish Family, will be ordained a Deacon of the Orthodox Church in America by His Eminence our Father and Archbishop Alexander.

Subdeacon Aaron Innocent was tonsured a Reader by Metropolitan Herman on October 8, 2006, and ordained a Subdeacon by Archbishop Alexander on December 11, 2022.
Let us remember Subdeacon Aaron as he prepares for his Diaconal ordination.

The Archbishop laying his hand on the Subdeacon's head prays:

The grace divine, which always heals that which is infirm, and supplies that which is lacking, ordains the most pious Subdeacon to be a Deacon: Therefore, let us pray for him that the grace of the All-holy Spirit may come upon him.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN (OCW)

ANNUAL WELCOME and
FELLOWSHIP TEA
Sunday, October 13, 2024 – 2 pm
St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA:
An Orthodox Christian Perspective
Presented by Protodeacon James Gresh
of Saint Elia Orthodox Church

Fr. Deacon James will discuss his experience with mission work in China

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OUR STEWARDSHIP September 22, 2024

Candles:	**$ 105.00**
Air Conditioner Donation:	**20.00**
Bookstore:	**17.00**
Tray Offerings:	**1,555.00**
TOTAL:	**$1,697.00**
PayPal Donations:	**$ 45.77**
Tithely Donations:	**249.77**
TOT\AL:	**$295.44**
TOTAL OFFERNGS	**$1,992.54**

CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Twenty-five classes are planned for our Church School Program for 2024-2025**, beginning on Sunday, October 13 and ending on St. Thomas Sunday, April 27,** with Popadia Donna as Coordinator.

Our children will be separated into three groups: –
Preschool: Mrs. Natalie Slife and Mrs. Eve Tavenier;
School Age: Mrs. Martha Morelli;
High School: Subdeacon David Trace

On Sunday, October 13, our children and our Church School Staff will begin the year with Prayer and Blessing for the Opening of Church School.

MEMORY ETERNAL

Our Parish Family is saddened by the passing of a long standing loyal, warm, gentle member, **Carl Nickoloff.** Carl was 97 and until recently he attended the Divine Liturgy and received Holy Communion every Sunday. Strengthened with the Sacrament of Holy Unction, he fell sleep in the Lord on Tuesday, September 24.

As requested by his family, the Funeral Service will be held at the Billow Funeral Home, 85 N. Miller Road, on Tuesday, October 1, at 1:00 pm.
Visitation: 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm.

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
Kristopher Barnhart: son of Diego and Chanelle - Naval Station Great Lakes in Chicago

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Archbishop Alexander
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Archpriest Andrew Moulton
Florence Lambo
Martin Vronick
Pani Dolores Zuder
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Mary Magensky
Sarah Nigilo
Melissa Trace
Halina Woroncow
Joseph Taylor (nephew of DiPuccio Family)
Brian Gable (Protodeacon James' nephew)