WEEKLY BULLETIN

November 24, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 46
22nd 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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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 Rev. Deacon Aaron Gray

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, Reader Nicholas Morelli. Frances Hakim, 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, November 24 –Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, December 1 - Reader Joshua Wherley
Sunday, December 8 - Marybeth Gray
Sunday, December 15 - Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Sunday, December 22 - Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES.

ADVENT - THE NATIVITY FAST

22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5
Afterfeast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple. Greatmartyr Catherine of Alexandria

Saturday, November 23

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25

Sunday, November 24

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Reader Nicholas Morelli
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Reader Nicholas Morelli
Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17
Lighting of the Second Candle on the Advent Wreath

TROPARION OF THANKSGIVING

We, Your Servants, O Lord, are grateful for Your benefits bestowed upon us. And glorifying You, we praise, bless You and give thanks as we sing hymns to You . Extolling Your loving kindness we cry out: Glory to You, our Benefactor and our Savior.

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6

Saturday, November 30

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Matins Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday, December 1

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: Ephesians 2: Gospel: Luke 18:18-27
Lighting of the Third Candle on the Advent Wreath

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Glory Only in the Cross

11 See with what large letters I have written to you with
my own hand! **12** As many as desire to make a good
showing in the flesh, these *would* compel you to be
circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution
for the cross of Christ. **13** For not even those who are
circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you
circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. **14** But
God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of
our Lord Jesus Christ, by [a]whom the world has been
crucified to me, and I to the world. **15** For in Christ
Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails
anything, but a new creation.

Blessing and a Plea

16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace
and mercy *be* upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

17 From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my
body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

18 Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with
your spirit. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

A Spirit of Infirmity

10 Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on
the Sabbath. **11** And behold, there was a woman who
had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent
over and could in no way [a]raise *herself* up. **12** But
when Jesus saw her, He called *her* to *Him* and said to
her, "Woman, you are loosed from
your infirmity." **13** And He laid *His* hands on her, and
immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

14 But the ruler of the synagogue answered with
indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath;
and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which
men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on
them, and not on the Sabbath day."

15 The Lord then answered him and
said, [b]"Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the
Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and
lead *it* away to water it? **16** So ought not this
woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan
has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed
from this bond on the Sabbath?" **17** And when He said
these things, all His adversaries were put to shame;
and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things
that were done by Him.

THE ADVENT WREATH

To help in our preparation for the Feast of Christmas, we have an Advent Wreath in Church. The Wreath, made of evergreens, has six candles on it: one for each Sunday in Advent. After the homily, the children will come up to light the candles on the wreath each Sunday.

Today, Sunday, November 24, we will light the second candle on the wreath along with our Advent Prayers.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

At the General Parish Meeting held last Sunday**, November 17, following** the Divine Liturgy, the following members of our Parish Family have been elected to the 2025 Parish Council: Deacon Aaron Gray, Veronica Bilas, Bud Graham, Sandy Graham, Jefferson Hodge, Anthony Dodovich, Daniel Slife, Daniel Ralich.

CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Church School Classes are held on Sunday morning following the Divine Liturg**y.**

Preschool: Mrs. Natalie Slife, Mrs. Eve Tavenier;
School Age: Reader Nicholas Morelli, Mrs. Frances Hakim
High School: Subdeacon David Trace
Coordinator: Popadia Donna Freude

OUR CATECHUMENS

Let us pray for our Catechumens who have been entrusted to our Parish Family:
Daniel Williamson, Randy Warner and his daughter Marceline, as they prepare to be received into the Church.

SISTERHOOD OF ST. JULIANA MEETING

Today, Sunday, **November 24,** St. Elia's Sisterhood of St. Juliana will meet following the Divine Liturgy

2025 CHURCH CALENDARS

Through the kindness and generosity of Anthony Funeral Home, our Parish Family has been provided with 2025 Church Calendars. They are available on the front pew to be picked up.

ST. ELIA CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

A Christmas Ornament, designed by Deacon Aaron Gray, as a fundraiser for St. Elia Church, is available for purchase in our bookstore for $10.00. ***Spread the word!***

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATIONS

With the celebration of Christmas just weeks away, please consider making a donation for poinsettias and decorations. Christmas Flower Offering Envelopes are available on the candle desk. Thank you for your generosity. The envelope has a space, if you wish, to make your offering "in memory

AWAKE YOU SLEEPERS

"And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer that when we first believed. (Romans 13:11)

Our Advent disposition is one of attentiveness. The quote from St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans has a sense of urgency in that we are called to be watchful, to stay awake, to be on guard. Jesus is constantly breaking into our lives ***through the Sacraments and Scripture,*** **through our encounter with others and in the inner movements of our hearts.** By responding in obedience to the Lord's advances of grace, we deepen our relationship and our friendship with our Lord. And it is by living Gospel values that we come to know the Lord Jesus, not abstractly but with a knowledge that is experiential and enduring. Our call is to be God-like, putting on the mind and heart of Jesus. We are to put into action the Christian values of love, forgiveness and compassion.

Advent is about friendship; it's all about how God is in His love for us in Jesus. Advent is a ***time to wake out of sleep*** and respond to God's initiative and by so doing come to know that peace and joy that are beyond all understanding.

Prayer: ***O Lord, continue to gift us with watchful hearts so that as You come into our daily lives by Your grace and friendship, we might be open to Your love and come to witness that love in our concern for others. Come, Lord Jesus, come!***

FOR THE ALASKAN SEMINARY – OCA

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart.. God loves a cheerful giver." (2Cor 9:6)

During the month of November – **November 1-December 1**- we will make our charitable offerings in support of the Seminarians and Catechists at St. Herman's Seminary Kodiak, Alaska.

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

From November 15 to January 6, our parish charitable group, the Workers of St. Elizabeth, the New Martyr, will be collecting **for the Peter Maurin Center**. **Here is an updated list of needs**:

- **Hand warmers (many needed!)**
- **Socks, large athletic type (many needed!)**
- **Gloves and hats**
- **Underwear, men and women, all sizes**
- **Hoodies-size L-XXXL**
- **Boots-new or gently used, men and women, all sizes**
- **Hygiene items, either full or travel size, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, razors, feminine products, hand sanitizer, hygiene wipes (ALL hygiene items very much needed!)**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Backpacks-new or gently used**
- **Flashlights, including batteries**

Please place your donated items in the bin located in Church Vestibule.

THE FEAST DAY OF ST. NICHOLAS

OUR ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY SAINT NICHOLAS CELEBBRATION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

6:00 PM VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY for the Feast

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

Followed by a Lenten Luncheon

Please bring a meatless covered dish and/or a dessert

AND

A VISIT FROM SAINT NICHOLAS

O who loves Nicholas the saintly,

O who serves Nicholas the saintly,

Him will Nicholas receive

and give help in time of need.

Holy Father Nicholas

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
Kristopher Barnhart: son of Diego and Chanelle

Kristopher Barnhart's address:
440 Roberts Avenue
Pmb #1593
Pensacola, Florida
32511

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Archbishop Alexander
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Archpriest Andrew Moulton
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Matushka Valeria Zahersky
Pani Dolores Zuder
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Reader John Paluch
Florence Lambo
Mary Magensky
Sarah Nigilo ***continued on next page***

Melissa Trace
Louis Hakim
Halina Woroncow
Joseph Taylor (nephew of DiPuccio family)
Brian Gable (Protodeacon James' nephew)
Hilda Ralich (Dan Ralich's mother)

OUR STEWARDSHIP, November 17, 2024

Candles:	**$ 40.00**
St. Herman's Seminary:	**193.00**
Special Donation:	**1,000.00**
Tray Offerings:	**$1,278.00**
TOTAL:	**$2,511.00**
PayPal Donations:	**28.00**
Tithely Donations:	**594.81**
TOTAL:	**$622.81**
TOTAL OFFERNGS	**$3,133.81**