WEEKLY BULLETIN

December 29, 2024, Vol. 41, No. 51
Sunday After Christmas

THE VOICE

SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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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, 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 - 2024 - 2025

Sunday, December 29 – Sue Ellen Turscak
Sunday, January 5 - Daniel Slife
Sunday, January 12 - Bud Graham
Sunday, January 19 - Sandy Graham
Sunday, January 26 - Reader Michael Luc
Sunday, February 2 - Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, February 9 - Reader Joshua Wherley

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 2
SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY.
Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King and James the Brother of the Lord
Saturday, December 28
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, December 29
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Sue Ellen Turscak
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak
Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia
Tuesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve
5:00 pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great. Prayers for the New Year 2025

28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3
SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY. EVE OF THE THEOPHANY
Saturday, January 4
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, January 5
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Daniel Slife
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Daniel Slife
Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:5-8 Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Sunday Evening, January 5

5:00 pm Vigil of Theophany – Compline and Matins

Matins Gospel: Mark 1:9-11

Great Sanctification of Water

Monday, January 6

8:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

THE GREAT SANCTIFICATION OF WATER

Following the Vigil of Theophany on Sunday evening, January 5, the Great Sanctification of Water will be celebrated. As the Holy Cross is plunged into the waters the Troparion of the Baptism of our Lord is sung:

When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of Father bare witness to Thee and called Thee His Beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 4
SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY.
AFTERFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY

Saturday, January 11

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 12

9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Bud Graham

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Bud Graham

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

(Weather Permitting) Blessing of the Canal at Towpath

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Call to Apostleship

11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught *it,* but *it came* through the revelation of Jesus Christ.
13 For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried to* destroy it. 14 And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.
15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called *me* through His grace, 16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those *who were* apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.
Contacts at Jerusalem
18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see [a]Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. 19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-23

The Flight into Egypt

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son."

Massacre of the Innocents

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. 17 Then what was fulfilled was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

18 "A voice was heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning,
Rachel weeping *for* her children,
Refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more."

Home in Nazareth

19 Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." 21 Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene.

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**
- **Hygiene items, either full or travel size, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap shampoo, deodorant, lotion, razors, feminine products, hand sanitizer, hygiene wipes (very much needed)**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Backpacks - news gently used**
- **Flashlights, including batteries**

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

OUR STEWARDSHIP, December 22 , 2024

Candles:	**$ 44.00**
Tray Offerings:	**705.00**
Christmas Offering:	**225.00**
Christmas Flowers:	**20.00**
PayPal:	**70.00**
Tithely:	**707.46**
TOTAL OFFERINGS:	**$1,771,46**

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Father Don and Popadia Donna
Egor Cravecenco, son of Sergehi and Ludmila
Kristopher Barnhart, son of Diego and Chanelle

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Mitred Archpriest Daniel
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Archpriest Andrew Moulton
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Priest Gabriel Bilas
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Matushka Valeria Zahersky
Pani Dolores Zuder
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Reader John Paluch
Florence Lambo
Mary Magensky
Sarah Niglio
Melissa Trace
Louis Hakim
Halina Woroncow
Joseph Taylor
Brian Gable
Hilda Ralich
Joey Gresh