WEEKLY BULLETIN

The Voice

April 27, 2025, Vol. 42, No. 17

Saint Thomas Sunday-

St. ELIA
ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Rev. Deacon Aaron Gray

SAINT ELIA THE PROPHET PARISH

2025 Parish Council

President: Veronica Bilas
V. President: Sandy Graham
Secretary: Deacon Aaron Gray
Treasurer: Daniel Slife
Members: Anthony Dodovich Bud Graham,
Jefferson Hodge, Daniel Ralich

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:

President: Sandy Graham
V. President: Kathy Gray
Secretary: Katherine Hodge
Treasurer: Mary Magensky
Assistant Treasurer: Anastasia Bohush

Workers of St. Elizabeth the New Martyr:

Coordinators: Subdeacon Aaron Gray, Veronica Bilas

Scheduled Readers 2025

Sunday, April 27 Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Sun. May 4 – Hours: Subd. Terrence Bilas
. Epistle: Anastasia Bohush
Sunday, May 11 – Daniel Slife

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 1
ST. THOMAS SUNDAY
Saturday, April 26
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, April 27
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Epistle: Acts 5:12-20 Gospel: John 20:19-31

3rd SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 2
HOLY MYRRHBEARING WOMEN
Saturday, May 3
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May April 4
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush
Epistle: Acts 5:12-20 Gospel: John 20:19-31

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN
Christos Voskrese! Christos Anesi! Al Masseh Qam!
Hristos a Inviat! Krishti U Ngjail! Hristos Vaskrese!
Christos e'resorto! Kristos Feltamad! Christos Reurrexit!
Christus ist Aufrsandent! Le Christ est Ressucite!
Christo Ressuscitou! Cristo se ha resucitado!
Kriste aghsdga! Taw Creest Ereen!
Kristus Zmartvikstau! Kristus vital zmr'tvych!
Tha Criosad aur eiridh

THIS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20
Continuing Power in the Church
12 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and
wonders were done among the people. And they were all
with one accord in Solomon's Porch. 13 Yet none of the rest
dared join them, but the people esteemed them
highly. 14 And believers were increasingly added to the
Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they
brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds
and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by
might fall on some of them. 16 Also a multitude gathered
from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick
people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits,
and they were all healed.

Imprisoned Apostles Freed
17 Then the high priest rose up, and all those who *were* with
him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were
filled with [a]indignation, 18 and laid their hands on the
apostles and put them in the common prison. 19 But at
night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and
brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and
speak to the people all the words of this life."

Gospel: John 20: 19-31
The Apostles Commissioned
19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the
week, when the doors were shut where the disciples
were [a]assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and
stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace *be* with

you.” [20] When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[21] So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” [22] And when He had said this, He breathed on *them,* and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”
Seeing and Believing
[24] Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. [25] The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”
So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”
[26] And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” [27] Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here,* and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”
[28] And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”
[29] Jesus said to him, [b]“Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.”
That You May Believe
[30] And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; [31] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have lif

THE BREAKING OF THE ARTOS

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha, the ARTOS was blessed. The Artos is a Paschal Bread and bears on it the Icon of the Resurrection.

In the Old Covenant the Jews commemorated the Passover from bondage in Egypt by sacrificing a Passover Lamb.

Christ is our Passover Who has freed us from the bondage of sin and death. The Artos Bread is offered and blessed on Holy Pascha and symbolizes the Angelic Bread, the Bread of Eternal Life – our Lord Jesus Christ, our Passover.

Why all this? According to one version, this custom dates back to the apostolic tradition: when the disciples of Christ gathered after His Resurrection for a meal, they put part of the bread on the table for Him, as they always did during His earthly life.

The Fathers of the Church carried on this tradition, and on the Feast of feasts – on Pascha – to remind us that Jesus is Himself the True Bread of life and is always invisibly present with the Church***, even to the end of the age,*** as He promised.

The Artos today symbolizes the invisible presence of Jesus Christ with us. The Artos is a symbol of eternal life. Our Lord Jesus said of Himself***: I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will never hunger*** (John 6:35).

We will break the bread and partake of it today, the eighth day of Pascha – St. Thomas Sunday.

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr Don and Popadia Donna
Egor Cravcenco, son of Serghei and Ludmila
Khristopher Barnhart, son of Diego and Chanelle

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUTINS

Archbishop Onuphry of the Ukraine
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Anderew Moulton
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Priest Gabriel Bilas
Priest John Manuel
Mitered Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Matushka Valerie Zahersky
Subdeacon Martin Paluch,
Reader John Paluch
Florence Lambo
Mary Magensky
Sarah Niglio
Melissa Trace
Martin Vronick
Frances Hakim
Louis Hakim
Joey Gresh
Halina Woroncow
Joseph Taylor
Brian Gable
Ellen Rees
David Elioff
Sofia

Book Study: Living as an Orthodox Christian in American Society

7:00-8:15 PM, Thursdays, May 22 - July 10, St. Elia Church (a Zoom connection will also be available)

Orthodox Christians are often unaware of how profoundly American culture affects their beliefs and spiritual practices. American ideas and habits regarding individualism, democracy, progress, politics, sexuality, and wealth are frequently at odds with the teachings of Holy Tradition. This study is intended to shed light on these secular attitudes and philosophies, and compare them, in a side-by-side format, to the theology and spiritual practices of the Eastern Orthodox Church. The goal of our class is not simply to know what Orthodoxy teaches, but to achieve an Orthodox *phronema* or mindset.

The class is based on an eBook (PDF) by the same name. For those without computer access, black and white printed copies can be made in advance by request (about $8 for an unbound copy). But most people will benefit by using the searchable electronic version which contains hundreds of online links.

If you are interested in joining this class, **please contact Bill DiPuccio in person or by email: williamdipuccio@sbcglobal.net**

Bill DiPuccio, Ph.D.

OUR STEWARDSHIP
Sunday, April 20, 2025

Candles:	**$ 163.00**
Sun. Tray Offerings:	**1.465.00**
Paschal Flowers:	**140.00**
Tithely Offerings:	**607.12**
PayPal:	**34.80**
TOTAL:	**$2,409.92**