WEEKLY BULLETIN

The Voice

May 11, 2025, Vol. 42, No. 19

Fourth Sunday of Pascha - Paralytic

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

Sun. May 11 – Hours: Subd. Terrence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush
Sunday, May 18 - Sue Ellen Turscak
Sunday, May 25 – Reader Michael Luc

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

4th SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 3
SUNDAY THE PARALYTIC. HOLY EQUAL-TO-THE- APOSTLES CYRIL AND METHODIUS, FIRST TEACHER OF THE SLAVS. ***Mother's Day***
Saturday, May 10
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May 11
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Subdeacon Terrene Bilas
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush
Epistle: Acts 9:32-42 Gospel: John 5:1-15

Wednesday, May 14 – MIDEAST OF PENTECOST

5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 4 SAMARITAN WOMAN
Afterfeast of the Midfeast of Pentecost
Saturday, May 17
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May 18
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: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 Gospel: John 4:5-42

6th SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 5 BLIND MAN
Third Finding of the Honorable Head of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John
Saturday, May 17
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May 18
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: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 Gospel: John 4:5-42

THIS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

Aeneas Healed

32 Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all *parts of the country,* that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. **33** There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. **34** And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. **35** So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

Dorcas Restored to Life

36 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named [a]Tabitha, which is translated [b]Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. **37** But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room. **38** And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring *him* not to delay in coming to them. **39** Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they took *him* to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. **40** But Peter put them all out and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. **41** Then he gave her *his* hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. **42** And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

Gospel: John 5:1-15

A Man Healed at the Pool of Bethesda

5 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to
Jerusalem. **2** Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a
pool, which is called in Hebrew, [a]Bethesda, having five
porches. **3** In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind,
lame, [b]paralyzed, [c]waiting for the moving of the water. **4** For an
angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up
the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of
the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. **5** Now a
certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight
years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he
already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to
him, "Do you want to be made well?" **7** The sick man answered
Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the
water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down
before me." **8** Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and
walk." **9** And immediately the man was made well, took up his
bed, and walked.

And that day was the Sabbath. **10** The Jews therefore said to
him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to
carry your bed." **11** He answered them, "He who made me well
said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.' " **12** Then they asked
him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and
walk'?" **13** But the one who was healed did not know who it
was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being
in *that* place. **14** Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and
said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a
worse thing come upon you."

15 The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who
had made him well.

A BLESSED MOTEHR'S DAY

Let us pray to the Lord for our mothers:

"O Lord our God, look down with merciful eyes upon our humble and earnest petition which we fervently offer to You today on behalf of all our mothers. Shower Your heavenly graces upon them. Grant that they may always behold the joy of their children and their children's children. Fill them with that same maternal love that our most holy Lady, the God-bearer and ever-Virgin Mary showed to Your only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. And grant that all our mothers may ever be sustained by the image of our heavenly mother, the Pure Virgin Mary. We pray to You, O heavenly Master, on this special day honoring our mothers to graciously hear us and have mercy on them and grant them Many Years!

And grant blessed repose, O Lord, to all our mothers who have fallen asleep in the hope of the Resurrection and make their Memory Eternal!

Equals of the Apostles and Teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius
Commemorated on May 11

Saints Cyril and Methodius, Equals of the Apostles, and Enlighteners of the Slavs came from an illustrious and pious family living in the Greek city of Thessalonica. Saint Methodius was the oldest of seven brothers, Saint Constantine [Cyril was his monastic name] was the youngest. At first Saint Methodius was in the military and was governor in one of the Slavic principalities dependent on the Byzantine Empire, probably Bulgaria, which made it possible for him to learn the Slavic language. After living there for about ten years, Saint Methodius later received monastic tonsure at one of the monasteries on Mount Olympus (Asia Minor).

Saint Constantine distinguished himself by his great aptitude, and he studied with the emperor Michael under the finest teachers in Constantinople, including Saint Photius, the future Patriarch of Constantinople (February 6).

Saint Constantine studied all the sciences of his time and also knew several languages. He also studied the works of Saint Gregory the Theologian. Because of his keen mind and penetrating intellect, Saint Constantine was called "Philosopher" (wise). Upon the completion of his education, Saint Constantine was ordained to the holy priesthood and was appointed curator of the patriarchal library at the church of Hagia Sophia. He soon left the capital and went secretly to a monastery.

Discovered there, he returned to Constantinople, where he was appointed as instructor in philosophy. The young Constantine's wisdom and faith were so great that he won a debate with Ananias, the leader of the heretical iconoclasts. After this victory Constantine was sent by the emperor to discuss the Holy Trinity with the Saracens, and again he gained the victory. When he returned, Saint Constantine went to his brother Saint Methodius on Olympus, spending his time in unceasing prayer and reading the works of the holy Fathers.

The emperor soon summoned both holy brothers from the monastery and sent them to preach the Gospel to the Khazars. Along the way they stayed in the city of Korsun, preparing for their missionary activity. There the holy brothers miraculously discovered the relics of the hieromartyr Clement, Pope of Rome (November 25).

There in Korsun Saint Constantine found a Gospel and Psalter written in Russian letters [i.e. Slavonic], and a man speaking the Slavic tongue, and he learned from

this man how to read and speak this language. After this, the holy brothers went to the Khazars, where they won a debate with Jews and Moslems by preaching the Gospel. On the way home, the brothers again visited Korsun and, taking up the relics of Saint Clement, they returned to Constantinople. Saint Constantine remained in the capital, but Saint Methodius was made igumen of the small Polychronion monastery near Mount Olympus, where he lived a life of asceticism as before.

Soon messengers came to the emperor from the Moravian prince Rostislav, who was under pressure from German bishops, with a request to send teachers to Moravia who would be able to preach in the Slavic tongue. The emperor summoned Saint Constantine and said to him, "You must go there, but it would be better if no one knows about this."

Saint Constantine prepared for the new task with fasting and prayer. With the help of his brother Saint Methodius and the disciples Gorazd, Clement, Savva, Naum and Angelyar, he devised a Slavonic alphabet and translated the books which were necessary for the celebration of the divine services: the Gospel, Epistles, Psalter, and collected services, into the Slavic tongue. This occurred in the year 863.

After completing the translation, the holy brothers went to Moravia, where they were received with great honor, and they began to teach the services in the Slavic language. This aroused the malice of the German bishops, who celebrated divine services in the Moravian churches in Latin. They rose up against the holy brothers, convinced that divine services must be done in one of three languages: Hebrew, Greek or Latin.

Saint Constantine said, "You only recognize three languages in which God may be glorified. But David sang, 'Praise the Lord, all nations, praise the Lord, all peoples (Ps 116/117:1).' And the Gospel of Saint Matthew (28:18) says, 'Go and teach all nations....'" The German bishops were humiliated, but they became bitter and complained to Rome.

The Holy Brothers were summoned to Rome for a decision on this matter. Taking with them the relics of Saint Clement, Saints Constantine and Methodius set off to Rome. Knowing that the holy brothers were bringing these relics with them, Pope Adrian met them along the way with his clergy. The holy brothers were greeted with honor, the Pope gave permission to have divine services in the Slavonic language, and he ordered the books translated by the brothers to be placed in the Latin churches, and to serve the Liturgy in the Slavonic language.

At Rome Saint Constantine fell ill, and the Lord revealed to him his approaching death. He was tonsured into the monastic schema with the name of Cyril. On February 14, 869, fifty days after receiving the schema, Saint Cyril died at the age of forty-two.

Saint Cyril commanded his brother Saint Methodius to continue with their task of enlightening the Slavic peoples with the light of true Faith. Saint Methodius entreated the Pope to send the body of his brother for burial in their native land, but the Pope ordered the relics of Saint Cyril to be placed in the church of Saint Clement, where miracles began to occur from them.

After the death of Saint Cyril, the Pope sent Saint Methodius to Pannonia, after consecrating him as Archbishop of Moravia and Pannonia, on the ancient

throne of Saint Andronicus (July 30). In Pannonia Saint Methodius and his disciples continued to distribute services books written in the Slavonic language. This again aroused the wrath of the German bishops. They arrested and tried Saint Methodius, who was sent in chains to Swabia, where he endured many sufferings for two and a half years.

After being set free by order of Pope John VIII of Rome, and restored to his archdiocese, Saint Methodius continued to preach the Gospel among the Slavs. He baptized the Czech prince Borivoi and his wife Ludmilla (September 16), and also one of the Polish princes. The German bishops began to persecute the saint for a third time, because he did not accept the erroneous teaching about the procession of the Holy Spirit from both the Father and the Son. Saint Methodius was summoned to Rome, but he justified himself before the Pope, and preserved the Orthodox teaching in its purity, and was sent again to the capital of Moravia, Velehrad.

Here in the remaining years of his life Saint Methodius, assisted by two of his former pupils, translated the entire Old Testament into Slavonic, except for the Book of Maccabees, and even the Nomocanon (Rule of the Holy Fathers) and Paterikon (book of the Holy Fathers).

Sensing the nearness of death, Saint Methodius designated one of his students, Gorazd, as a worthy successor to himself. The holy bishop predicted the day of his death and died on April 6, 885 when he was about sixty years old. The saint's burial service was chanted in three languages, Slavonic, Greek, and Latin. He was buried in the cathedral church of Velehrad.

CHURCH SCHOOL APPECIATION

With the completion of our 2024-2025 Church School Year on St. Thomas Sunday, our Parish Family thanks the Church School Staff for their weekly dedication in the spiritual formation of our children: **Coordinator**: Popadia Donna Freude and **Staff:** Natalie Slife, Eve Tavenier, Reader Nicholas Morelli. Frances Hakim, Subdeacon David Trace.

A CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER MEETING will be held on **Sunday, June 1,** following Divine Liturgy to discuss and share thoughts and reflections as we continue to build a firm Orthodox Formation Program for our Parish and children.

Grass-Cutting Help Needed

Please watch for the sign-up sheet in the parish hall and choose any dates that you would be able to assist with cutting the grass using our parish riding mower. Please see Subdeacon Terry Bilas if you have any questions.

Bookstore Volunteer(s) Sought

We are looking for one or more people who would be interested in overseeing and growing our parish bookstore/gift area in the Parish Hall. If this interests you, please contact Deacon Aaron Gray.

Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday, May 20 – 6:30 pm

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
Frances Hakim
Louis Hakim
Joey Gresh
Halina Woroncow
Joseph Taylor
Brian Gable
Ellen Rees
David Elioff
Sofia Wsevolodovna

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:**

Bill DiPuccio, Ph.D.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Candles:	**$ 49.00**
Sun. Tray Offerings:	**1,247.00**
Improvement Fund:	**5.00**
Tithely Offerings:	**708.62**
PayPal:	**30.00**
TOTAL:	**$,2,034.62**

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN

Christos Voskrese! Voistinnu Voskrese - Church Slavonic
Hristos voskrese! Vo isitna voskrese! Bulgarian
Kristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese! Russian
Khristos voskres! Voistinu voskres! Ukranian
Khrystos uvaskros1 Saprawdy uvaskros! Byelorussian
Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! - Greek
Al Masseh Qam! Hakken kahm! - Arabic
Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat! - Romanian
Krishti U Ngjail! Vertet U Ngjall - Albanian
Hristos Vaskrese! Vaistinu voskrese! - Serbian
Christos e' risorto! Verament e' risorto! - Italian
Kristos Feltamad! Valoban feltamadt! - Hungarian
Christos Resurrexit! Vere resurrexit! Latin
Christus ist Auferstandent! Wahrlich Er ist auferstandent! German
Le Christ est Ressucite! En verite il ressuscite! French
Christo Ressuscitou! Em verdade ressuscitou!
Portugese
Cristo se ha resucitado!En Verdad ha resucitado!
Spanish
Kriste aghsdga! Chesmaritad aghsdga! Georgian
Kristus Zmartvikstau! Zaprawde zmartwyckwstal!
Polish
Kristus vital z mrtvych! Vpravde vstal z martych! Slovak
Ta Criosd ar eiright! Godeimhu, ta ar eiright!
Gaelic Irish
Tha Criosad air eiridt! Gu dearbh, taha e air eiridt!
Gaelic Scottish!
Khristus anahgrecum! Alhecum anahgrecum! Aleut
Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq! Iluumun Ung-uixtuq! Yupik
Krisdos ***kug wudigut! X'eiga kug wudigut!*** Tlingit