WEEKLY BULLETIN

The Voice

May 25, 2025, Vol. 42, No. 21

Sixth Sunday of Pascha – Man Born Blind

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: opadia 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 25- Hours: Subd Terrence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush
Sunday, June 1- Reader Nicholas Morelli
Sunday, June 8–Reader Joshua Wherley

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN

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 24
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May 25
9:10 am 3rd and 6th Hours: Subd. Terrence Bilas
9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom
Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush
Epistle: Acts 16:16-34
Gospel: John 9:1-38

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
Wednesday, May 28
6:00 pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA. Tone 6
HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL. Afterfeast of the Ascension
Saturday, May 31
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, June 1
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: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36
Gospel: John 17:1-13

THIS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 16:16-34

Paul and Silas Imprisoned

16 Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave
girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her
masters much profit by fortune-telling. 17 This girl followed Paul and
us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most
High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." 18 And this she
did for many days.
But Paul, greatly [a]annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I
command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And
he came out that very hour. 19 But when her masters saw that their
hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas
and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.
20 And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men,
being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; 21 and they teach customs
which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or
observe." 22 Then the multitude rose up together against them; and
the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be
beaten with rods. 23 And when they had laid many stripes on them,
they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them
securely. 24 Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner
prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

The Philippian Jailer Saved

25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to
God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was
a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken;
and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains
were loosed. 27 And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and
seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew
his sword and was about to kill himself. 28 But Paul called with a loud
voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."
29 Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before
Paul and Silas. 30 And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must

I do to be saved?"
31 So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his *family* were baptized. 34 Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

Gospel: John 9:1-38

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

9 Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. **2** And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. **4** I[a] must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. **5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."**6** When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. **7** And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. **8** Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was [b]blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"

9 Some said, "This is he." Others *said,* [c]"He is like him."He said, "I am *he.*"**10** Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"**11** He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to [d]the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

12 Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man

13 They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. **14** Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. **15** Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, “This Man is not from God, because He does not [c]keep the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

17 They said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?”He said, “He is a prophet.”**18** But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. **19** And they asked them, saying, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”**20** His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; **21** but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.” **22** His parents said hese *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that* He *was* Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. **23** Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.”

25 He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.”

26 Then they said to him again, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?”

27 He answered them, “I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear *it* again? Do you also want to become His disciples?”

28 Then they reviled him and said, “You are His disciple, but we are Moses’ disciples. **29** We know that God spoke to Moses; *as for* this *fellow,* we do not know where He is from.”

30 The man answered and said to them, “Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! 31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. 32 Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. 33 If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

34 They answered and said to him, “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” And they [f]cast him out.

True Vision and True Blindness

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, “Do you believe in the Son of [g]God?”

36 He answered and said, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”

37 And Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”

38 Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.

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HOLYDAY: ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

The Vesperal Divine liturgy for the Feast of our lord’s Ascension into heaven will be celebrate on Wednesday, May 28th at 6:00pm

GENERAL PARISH MEETING

A General Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 8, following the Divine Liturgy to elect a delegate to the All American Council, July 14-18

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING

A Church School Staff 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 d 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.

OUR STEWARDSHIP
MAY 18, 2025

Candles:	**$ 82.00**
Sun Tray Offerings:	**1,515.00**
Tithely Offerings:	**736.62**
PayPal Offerings:	**2.84**
TOTAL:	**$2,336.46**

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 Eml 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
MelissTrace
Frances Hakim
Louis Hakim
Joey Gresh
Halina Woroncow
JosephTaylor
Brian Gable
EllenRees
DavidElioff
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, you can download the book at saintelia.com/news/bookstudy/

If you are attending by zoom, please contact Bill DiPuccio by email before Thursday, May 22, to obtain thelink: wlliamdipuccio@sbcglobal.net

Bill DiPuccio PhD