WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 12, 2025, Vol. 42, No. 41
18th Sunday After Pentecost
Fathers of 7th Ecumenical Council

THE VOICE

SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301
Church Hall: 330-724-7129
Office: 330-724-7009
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

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, Deaconisa Heidi Gresh

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, October 12 – Deaconisa Heidi Gresh
Sunday, October 19 – Sue Ellen Turscak
Sunday, October 26 - Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas
Epistle: Anastasia Bohush

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 1
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL
Saturday, October 11
5:00 pm Vespers - Protodeacon James Gresh
Sunday, October 12
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: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Gospels: Luke 7:11-16 John 17:1-13

Tuesday, October 14
Venerable Paraskeva of Serbia
Thursday, October 16
Martyr Longinus the Centurion, who stood at the Cross of our Lord
Saturday, October 18
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 2
Prophet Joel. Translation of the Relics of Venerable John, Abbot of the Rila Monastery in Bulgaria
Saturday, October 18
5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Matins Gospel: John 20:11-18
Sunday, October 19
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: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9
Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

The Cheerful Giver

6 But this *I say:* He who sows sparingly will also reap
sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also
reap bountifully. 7 *So let* each one *give* as he purposes in
his heart, not grudgingly or of [c]necessity; for God loves
a cheerful giver. 8 And God *is* able to make all grace
abound toward you, that you, always having all
sufficiency in all *things,* may have an abundance for
every good work
. 9 As it is written:

"He has dispersed abroad,
He has given to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever."

10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and
bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you
have *sown* and increase the fruits of
your righteousness, 11 while *you are* enriched in everything
for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to
God.

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

Jesus Raises the Son of the Widow of Nain

11 Now it happened, the day after, *that* He went into a city
called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a
large crowd. 12 And when He came near the gate of the city,
behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of
his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from
the city was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, He
had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not

weep." [14] Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." [15] So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.
[16] Then fear [a]came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

Gospel: John 17:1-13

Jesus Prays for Himself

17 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, **2** as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He [a]should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. **3** And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. **4** I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. **5** And now, O Father, glorify Me together [b]with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

6 "I have [c]manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. **7** Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. **8** For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them,* and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.
9 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those

whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. **10** And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. **11** Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep[d] through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We *are.* **12** While I was with them [e]in the world, I kept them in [f]Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is [g]lost except the son of [h]perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. **13** But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Commemorated on October 12

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius (February 25).

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because “no man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18).

CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Twenty-six classes are planned **2025-2026, October 5 – April 26**

Coordinator: Popadia Donna Freude
Music Program: Deaconisa Heidi Gesh

Classes are separated into three groups:
Preschool: Mrs. Natalie Slife and Mrs. Eve Tavanier;
School Age: Reader Nicholas Morelli and Mrs. Frances Hakim;
High School +: Subdeacon David Trace

DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

The Annual Conference of our Diocese, the Bulgarian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America, will be held on **Friday, October 10, and Saturday, October 11,** at St. Nicholas Church in Burton (Flint), Michigan.

Attending the Conference from our Parish will be Fr. Don Freude, Deacon Aaron Gray, Subdeacon David Trace as our elected delegate and Daniel Ralich serving on the Diocesan Council.

OUR STEWARDSHIP – October 5, 2025

Candles:	**$ 61.00**
Sunday Tray Offerings:	**655.00**
Improvement Fund:	**5.00**
PayPal:	**4.85**
Tithely Offerings:	**367.62**
TOTAL:	**$1,108.47**

“BLESSING BAGS” for those in need

This fall, our Parish Family will be collecting items to include in “blessing bags” containing necessities for those who are homeless or otherwise in need. Look for the bin located near the entrance of the church and drop off your items as you come each week. **The blessing bags will be assembled following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 12,** so all items must be turned in by then. The bags will be given to **Peter Maurin Center** to be distributed to those living in tents in the Akron area and otherwise in need, with any extra loose items to be made available through their twice-a-month toiletry pantry. **Below is a list of ideas of items that may be contributed. Thank you for doing your part to help those in need.**

Baby Wipes
Hand Sanitizer (travel size)
Deodorant (travel size)
ToothbrushesJ
Toothpaste (travel size)
Shampoo (travel size)
Conditioner (travel size)
Combs
Chapstick
Tissues (travel size)
Feminine Products
Socks
Small Water Bottles
Small Packs of Trail Mix/Granola, etc.
Gum/Mints

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FALL FAMILY FUNFEST
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
Followed by
Covered Dish Luncheon
And
OUR ANNUAL TRUNK-A-TREAT

EVERYONE IS ASKED TO BRING
A TREAT TO SHARE WITH ALL
THE KIDS – young and older

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ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER'S
PASTORAL VISIT

Our Father and Archbishop Alexander will be with us on **Saturday, November 8, for Vespers, and on Sunday, November 9** for the celebration of the Pontifical Divine Liturgy.

On Sunday, the Archbishop will Tonsure Daniel Slife as a Reader, who, with the encouragement and blessing of the Archbishop, has entered our Diocesan Deaconal Program

Akron SK Walk/Run Event To Benefit IOCC

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Check In 8:15 am • Opening Prayer/Photo 8:45 am
Walk/Run 9:00 am• Fellowship, refreslunents immediately to follow

HOSTED BY

St. Elia the Prophet Orthodox Church

64 W. Wilbeth Road, Akron OH 44301

SK will begin at the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail Wilbeth Road Trailhead (380 W. Wilbeth Road) and follow the towpath to the Manchester Road Trailhead and back.

- *Any distance or level of participation* is *welcome* -

Registration

ST. GREGORY CLASSICAL ACADEMY

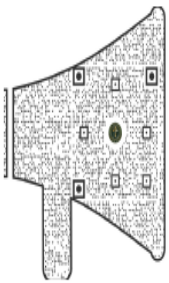
PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS

TWO OPTIONS:

Wednesday, October 22
@ 6:30 p.m.
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
755 S. Cleveland Ave.
Mogadore, Ohio 44260

Thursday, November 13
@ 6:30 p.m.
St. Matthew Orthodox Church
10383 Albion Rd
North Royalton, Ohio 44133

Tentative Agenda:
Introduce Headmaster, Matushka Christine DiGiacobbe
What is an Orthodox Classical School
School Location
Curriculum& Book Review
Tuition & Financial Aid
Enrollment Launch Date & Links



If you cannot attend in person, we will offer a virtual Zoom option at the October 22 session at St. Nicholas Please use your camera and point to the QR code to join the live meeting.

Call/text the Headmaster, Matushka Chris DiGiacobbe, with any questions about these informative meetings
330-207-9486 Cell
330-333-6680 School

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

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

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUTINS

Archbishop Onuphry of the Ukraine
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Andrew Moulton
Archpriest Emil Huntyan
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Priest Gabriel Bilas
Priest John Manuel
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Valerie Zahersky
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 Wsevolodov