



ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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JULY 26, 2020

Issue 32

Number 30

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost & The Holy Righteous Martyr Paraskeva of Rome;

Saints of the Day: Hieromartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippus and Hermocrates of Nicomedia;
Venerable Gerontios, first settler of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Moses the Hungarian; Sabbas III,
Archbishop of Serbia; Priest Jacob Netsvetov, enlightener of the peoples of Alaska

DIRECTORY

V. Rev. Fr. John Salem

Parish Priest 410-9399

Rev. Fr. Elias Khouri

Assistant Priest 640-3016

V. Rev. Fr. Constantine Nasr

Emeritus

Rev. Dn. Ezra Ham

Administrator 602-9914

Rev. Fr. Ambrose Perry

Attached

Anthony Ruggerio 847-721-5192

Youth Director

Mom's Day Out & Pre-K

Sara Cortez – Director 639-2679

Email: mdo@steljahokc.com

Facebook: "St Elijah Mom's Day Out"

Twitter: StElijahMDO

Ancient Faith Radio

ancientfaith.com

WELCOME

We welcome all our visitors. It is an honor to have you worshipping with us. You may find the worship of the Ancient Church very different. We welcome your questions. Please join us for our Reception held in the Church Hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

We understand **Holy Communion** to be an act of our unity in faith. While we work toward the unity of all Christians, it regrettably does not now exist. Therefore, only baptized Orthodox Christians (who have properly prepared) are permitted to participate in Holy Communion. However, everyone is welcome to partake of the blessed bread that is distributed at the end of the service. We look forward to meeting you during the Reception that follows the service.

NEW ORTHROS & LITURGY BOOK

- Orthros: p. 4
- The Divine Liturgy p. 35
- Memorial Service p. 103
- Churching Service p. 102
- Removal of Crowns p. 106

St. Elijah is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.
His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop BASIL, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America

VARIABLES IN TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

A

The 1st Antiphon:

As usual...

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory... Now...

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

B

The 2nd Antiphon:

As usual...

Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee, Alleluia.

Glory...Now...

O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

C

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

D

The Entrance Hymn

O come let us worship...

E

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of St. Paraskeva – Tone 1

Showing a diligence befitting thy calling, O namesake of preparedness, thou hast gained, as thy dwelling, a faith worthy of thy name, O prize-winning Paraskeva. Hence, thou pourest forth healing and intercedest for our souls.

Troparion of St. Elijah – Tone 4

Angelic Body, Pillar of Prophets and their Corner Stone, Forerunner of the Second-Coming of Christ; Thou didst send Grace from on high to Elisha, to dispel sickness and to purify lepers, Glorious Elijah, thou dost overflow with healing to those who honor thee.

Kontakion of the Theotokos – Tone 4

O Undisputed Intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix, who is unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

F

The Thrice Holy Hymn

G

THE READINGS

Epistle for St. Paraskeva the Great-Martyr

**God is wondrous in His saints.
In the churches bless ye God!**

The reading is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians (Chapters 3:23-29; 4:1-5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were preserved under the Law, enclosed within, until the faith would afterward be revealed. The Law then was our tutor leading us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is no male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.

Gospel of 7th Sunday after Pentecost

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (Chapter 9:27-35)

At that time, when Jesus was passing by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud and saying, "Have mercy on us, O Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then Jesus touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Jesus. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in

Israel.” But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity of the people.

H

The Megalynarion

It is truly meet...

I

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the highest. Alleluia.

J

We have seen the true light...

OFFERINGS

HOLY BREAD AND WHEAT were offered yesterday by the Frost family for their good health and the good health of Pierre, Gabriel, and Antonia. It was especially offered **as a 40-day memorial** for Daria. May her memory be eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO COFFEE HOUR

TODAY IS ST. TIMON SUNDAY (THE HAURAN CONNECTION), the day on which all parishes of DOWAMA (Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America) collect alms for our “Sister Diocese” of Bosra-Hauran. We will have special collection baskets out to support this Archdiocese’s desperately needed relief work. You may make checks out to St. Elijah with “Bosra-Hauran” in the memo line. For more information go to www.antiochian.org/hauran. **We are asked to pray for the Clergy of the Archdiocese of Bosra-Hauran and the communities they serve:** His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA, Priest George (Dara’a), Priest Peter (Znebe), Priest Philip (Al-Osilha, A-Dara & Shahba), Priest George (Salkhad, Aramman, Malah, Anz & Om Aromman), Priest Simeo (Al-Korayya, Tisiya & Maarbeh), Priest Elia *Izraa & Mothbeen), Priest Timon (Kharabaa & Ira), Priest Nicola (Al-Sweda), Priest Paul (retired), Deacon Spyridon (Al-Sweda), Novice Ora (al-Frehat), Novice Basem (al-Frena). May God bless them all and their ministry in Christ’s Vineyard! Many of these clergy serve multiple communities.

TODAY IS ALSO PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY. To learn more, go to www.theocpm.org. The Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry gives hope for those who have committed crimes and are now confined in the deep isolation of prison! With awareness and Christian charity, this ministry is able to do the work commanded by our Lord and reach these often forgotten brethren.

THE DORMITION FAST begins this Saturday, August 1. During this Fasting Season, it is traditional to abstain from meat, dairy products, fish and alcohol. Alcohol in moderation is allowed on Saturday and Sundays; fish and alcohol are permitted on August 6 for the Feast of the Transfiguration. The fast ends with the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE. To date, we have received 126 Intentions to Give, totaling \$619,587. If you have not already done so, please take a few moments to prayerfully consider what you can give to support St. Elijah and return your Membership Form to the church as soon as possible.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

JULY 26-AUGUST 1

Derek Cohlma

Ruby Rahill

Richard Samara
Mona Rahal Bahou
Abby Marusa
Kathryn McMillan
Rose Naifeh
Robert Abraham
Sherry Hutchison
Ella Powers
Mike Sleem
Sima Swaiss
Arsine Basmadjian
Eric Marusa
Paul Shadid
Susan Wilson
Bobby Prater
Falon Prater

Today we remember those who reposed in the Lord during this week in years past:

Josephine Naify
Albert Abdallah Cohlma
James D. Wehba
Lucille Barkett
Stephen Pristash
Mary Jamil Dakil
Saleem A. Rahhal
Anna Chirolek
Najeeba Nellie Shadid
Victor R. Razook
Michael J. Semenoff
Neimer Henry Bird
Nicholas Addy Adwon
Salwa D Sweis

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 1 –

10:00 am – Divine Liturgy
(Families M-Z)

Saturday, August 1 –

5:00 pm – Great Vespers
(No restrictions)

Sunday, August 2 –

8:45 am – Orthros
10:00 am – Divine Liturgy
(Families A-L)

Youth Ministry Updates

In today's Gospel reading, we see in the midst of his ministry of healings and miracles. In this particular story that Matthew recounts, Christ approaches the two blind men and, before healing them, asks the blind men, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" This can be read in a similar context as when Christ approaches the paralytic in the Gospel of John and asks, "Do you want to be healed?"

In both cases, we see God approaching the gates of the heart; but instead of imposing himself, he is waiting for permission to be invited in. Just as St. Paul says in his Letter to the Philippians, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Christ shows that great acts can be achieved through one's faith, but that faith must come from a willingness to be close to God and a pure heart in where God can reside.

The difference between the two instances is that, in the case of the paralytic, Jesus is asking if he wants to take on Christ, in the sense of baptism. Do you want to be healed? Do you want to take on this identity of faith in Christ? In today's Gospel, the question posed is asking, "Do you believe I have authority of this world?" Both aspects of faith are necessary to let Christ into our hearts.

I know our Covid cases have been rising. We will only be meeting with SOYO once a month at this time. I am still making individual appointments with families so we can continue to build relationships with our youth and families!

Our next SOYO event will be in August. More details will be available as I look into other outdoor and social distancing activities that we can safely partake in. If you have any questions about our Teen SOYO activities, please do not hesitate to reach out!

a.ruggerio@gmail.com

We are continuing our 20-40 Book Study. We will be beginning a new book for our next session of Book Study. If you are interested in joining us over our Zoom discussions, please contact me!

I am still scheduling individual meetings with our families and parents. This has been greatly beneficial to building relationships with our parents and youth while we have been practicing social distancing. If you are interested in scheduling a time to meet for dinner or coffee or even just at the church, please reach out!

You can call or text me at 847-721-5192 or email at anthony@stelijahokc.com or fill out the Google form at <https://tinyurl.com/youthdirectormeet>.

Worship and Spiritual Life

Sunday – Orthros at 8:45 am – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am Wednesday – Vespers at 6:00 pm (except during Lent)
Saturday – Vespers at 5:00 pm
Confessions throughout the week. Call one of the Fathers for an appointment.

Study

Sunday – Sunday School: Children's Classes after Communion. **No classes during the summer.**

Wednesday – Family Night 7-9 pm. Runs in 8-week blocks. Look for announcements of upcoming sessions. A full program of seminars and classes for adults, children and youth, for both Orthodox and Non-Orthodox.
Bible Study – Thursdays at 10:30 am; nursery provided

Fellowship & Parish Development

Coffee Hour – Sundays following the Divine Liturgy	20/40 Fellowship – events as announced
Ladies Aid – Meetings as announced	Teen Chats – Wednesday Nights
Adult Fellowship – Meetings as announced	Antiochian Women – every 4th Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Parish Council – every 3 rd Tuesday at 7 pm	Choir – see Kasey Cohlmi (405-245-1444)

Membership

To become a member, you need to pray with us at our worship services, complete the Inquirer’s Classes, and talk with our priests about your interest in the Orthodox faith. This process normally takes 12 months. We welcome you on your journey of faith and invite you to learn of the ancient and unchanging Holy Orthodox Church.

July 26, 2020

USHERS:

ALTAR SERVERS:

EPISTLE READER:

ELDERS:

BOOKSTORE:

**DEADLINE FOR THE BULLETIN IS
5:00 PM ON TUESDAY**

CALENDAR

		<i>Sunday</i>
July 26	Orthros	8:45 am
	Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
	(Families with last names beginning with M-Z)	
		<i>Monday</i>
July 27		
		<i>Tuesday</i>
July 28		
		<i>Wednesday</i>
July 29		
		<i>Thursday</i>
July 30		
		<i>Friday</i>
July 31		
		<i>Saturday</i>
Aug. 1	Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
	(Families with last names beginning	

with M-Z)
Great Vespers 5:00 pm
(No alphabetical restrictions)