



ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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APRIL 18, 2021

Issue 33

Number 16

**Fifth Sunday of Great Lent (Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt);
Saints of the Day: Venerable John, disciple of Gregory of Decapolis; Venerable Euthymios and
Athanasios of Aegina; Cosmas the Confessor, Bishop of Chalcedon**

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

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Attached

Anthony Ruggerio 847-721-5192
Youth Director

Mom's Day Out & Pre-K
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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. BASIL THE GREAT

A

The 1st Antiphon:

As usual...

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 4

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

D

The Entrance Hymn

O come let us worship...

E

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 4

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Troparion of Mary of Egypt – Tone 8

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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 for 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 Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

**Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.
God is known in Judaea, His name is great in Israel!**

The reading is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews (Chapter 9:11-14)

Brethren, Christ having appeared a High Priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say not of this creation; neither through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having found eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of bulls and goats and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal

Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Gospel 5th Sunday of Great Lent

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (Chapter 10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and scourge him, and spit upon him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again"

And James and John, the sons of Zeb'edee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And Jesus said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

H **The Megalyrnarion**
In thee rejoiceth, O thou who art full of

grace, every created being – the Hosts of the angels and all mankind. O consecrated temple and paradise endowed with speech, glory to virgins of whom God was incarnate and became a little child. And is our God before all the ages. For he made of thy womb a throne and thy body did he make more spacious than the Heavens. In thee doth all creation rejoice, O thou who art full of grace, Glory to thee.

I **Communion Hymn**
Praise the Lord....Alleluia.

J We have seen the true light...

OFFERINGS

HOLY BREAD is offered by Irene Massad for the good health of the Massad, Osipenko, Mlekoday, Abraham, and Abrusley families. It is especially offered for her loving husband Bobby on the occasion of his birthday (4/14). May God grant him many years!

HOLY BREAD AND WHEAT is offered by Kathi and John Larson for their good health and the good health of their family. It is especially offered **as a one-year memorial service** for Venice Yeager and in memory of Gerry Larson. May their memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Todd and Tina Lewis for their good health and the good health of their children. It is especially offered for Lauren and Austin David on the removal of their crowns, which took place yesterday at Liturgy. May God grant them many years!

HOLY BREAD is offered by Al and Marlene Mamary for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren, Greg and Alex, Mark, Samantha, and Luke Nassief. It is especially offered for Greg on the occasion of his 50th birthday (4/19). May God grant them a ll many years!

HOLY BREAD is offered by Eddie and Susan Harroz and Glenn and Deanne Isbell for their good health and the good health of their children

and grandchildren. It is also offered for the good health of the Harroz, Simon, and Elkouri families. It is especially offered in memory of Eddie and Dorothy Harroz. May their memory be eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO COFFEE HOUR

WELCOME TABLE. We welcome all visitors. We are delighted you are worshipping with us and look forward to meeting you personally.

CONGRATULATIONS to Austin and Logan Keener, who were received into the Orthodox Church by the Sacrament of Chrismation on Saturday, April 10. May God grant them many years!

CONGRATULATIONS to Amanda Suellentrop, who was received into the Orthodox Church by the Sacrament of Chrismation on Saturday, April 10. May God grant her many years!

CONGRATULATIONS to Luke and Kelsey (Abraham) Abrusley on the birth of their twin daughters on Monday, April 12, in Louisiana. Lillian Marie weighed 6 lbs. 5 oz. and Mary Lula weighed 5 lbs. 15 oz. May God grant them many years!

EASTER LILIES – Please contact the church office if you would like to offer Easter Lilies this year for the good health of your loved ones or in memory of the departed.

GREAT LENT continues this week. The traditional fast in Lent is to abstain from meat, fish (though allowed for Palm Sunday, and in Slavic Tradition, on Sundays), dairy products, and alcoholic beverages (though allowed in moderation on weekends).

GREAT COMPLINE will be celebrated this Tuesday at 6pm in the main Sanctuary. Join us for this special service of the season of repentance.

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY will take place this Wednesday, April 21, at St. George; 6pm 9th Hour and Typika; 6:30pm Presanctified Liturgy.

CONFESSION – Orthodox Christians should make a sacramental confession during the Lenten Season to prepare for Pascha. Please do not put this off until the last minute. Confession is usually available after Saturday Vespers; alternatively, an appointment can be made during the week.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE. To date we have received 116 Intentions to Give cards, for a total of \$470,480. 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

APRIL 18-24

Austin Keel	Woodie Berry
Alexandria Raschtschenia	Dru Farris
Catelyn Farhood	Ivo Lupov
Reggie Jaime	Marlee Morrow
Liberty Pedford	Tami Simon
Harry Wallace	Brian Swearingen
Tony Abdo	Nick Hathaway
Nathan Shadid	Jim Kamas
Nicole Shadid	Denice Karousos
David Williams	Barrett Pratt
Roni Alasad	Sela Taylor
Anna Harris	Cassidy Tran

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

John Kraker
Lemya Massad
Johann H. Marks
Rose Homsey Naifeh
Jennie Harroz Greene
Edward Harroz, Sr.
William Scott Shdeed
William S. Shadid

**SEE BACK PAGE FOR
UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE**

*Food for Hungry People 2021
47th Anniversary*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APRIL 18 "Hey Big Spender" drop a coin in the slot – give unto others what they haven't got! Put in a coin or bill of your choice.	19 How many heads of lettuce are in your refrigerator? Pay .30 for each. "Lettuce" show the hungry that we care.	20 Count the cans in your cupboard. Pay .05 for each. Don't let their cupboards be like "Old Mother Hubbard's!"	21 How many friends do you have on Facebook? Pay .05 for each friend. Let's be-"friend" those in need.	22 How many sweaters do you have? Pay .10 for each. Sweaters keep you warm. This is one time they won't mind if we "pull the wool over their eyes."	23 How many chairs are in your home? Pay .15 per chair. We can't just "sit" around when so many people are hungry.	24 How many cookbooks do you own? Pay .20 for each. We will be able to "cook up" a better recipe for the hungry to live by.

"Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works. If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him. Do not let your mouth fast, but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands and all the members of our bodies. Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice. Let the feet fast by ceasing to run after sin. Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful. Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip. Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism. For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers and sisters? May He who came to the world to save sinners strengthen us to complete the fast with humility, have mercy on us and save us.

St. John Chrysostom

Youth Ministry Updates

On the Last Sunday of Great Lent, we remember St. Mary of Egypt. A brief story of St. Mary of Egypt: One day, St. Mary met a group of young men heading toward the sea to sail to Jerusalem for the veneration of the Holy Cross. Mary went along for the ride, seducing the men as they traveled for the fun of it. But when the group reached Jerusalem and actually went towards the church, Mary was prohibited from entering by an unseen force. After three such attempts, she remained outside on the church patio, where she looked up and saw an icon of the Theotokos.

She began to weep and prayed with all her might that the Theotokos might allow her to see the True Cross; afterwards, she promised, she would renounce her worldly desires and go wherever the Theotokos may lead her. After this heart-felt conversion at the doors of the church, she fled into the desert to live as an ascetic. She survived for years on only three loaves of bread and thereafter on scarce herbs of the land. For another seventeen years, Mary was tormented by "wild beasts—mad desires and passions." After these years of temptation, however, she overcame the passions and was led by the Theotokos in all things.

Following 47 years in solitude, she met the priest St. Zosima in the desert, who pleaded with her to tell him of her life. She recounted her story with great humility, while also demonstrating her gift of clairvoyance; she knew who Zosima was and his life story, despite never having met him before. Finally, she asked Zosima to meet her again the following year at sunset on Holy Thursday by the banks of the Jordan.

The story of St. Mary of Egypt reminds us that it is never too late to turn back towards Christ. No matter how sinful of a life we have led to this point, Christ will still welcome us into his arms. As we begin the final week of Great Lent, if we have not prepared ourselves properly for Holy Week and the Passion of Christ, we still have time to pray, fast, and repent. And turn back towards Christ.

Spring SOYO Gathering: We are meeting this month on Monday, April 19th, for a drive-in movie night at the Winchester! We will meet at 7 p.m. and we will be watching *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. We will have a short discussion about the Christian themes throughout the movie. The Winchester is located at 6930 S Western Ave, Oklahoma City.

Seniors Pay it Forward: High School Seniors will be meeting this Tuesday at 5 p.m. to discuss their pay it forward project for this year and receive their funds for it. If you have any questions on our pay it forward program, please email me.

anthony@steljahokc.com

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 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm Choir – see Kasey Cohlmiia (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.

April 18, 2021

CALENDAR

USHERS:

ALTAR SERVERS:

EPISTLE READER:

ELDERS:

BOOKSTORE:

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

	<i>Sunday</i>	
Apr. 18	Orthros	8:45 am
	Divine Liturgy (Families M-Z)	10:00 am
	<i>Monday</i>	
Apr. 19	Teen Outdoor Gathering @ The Winchester	7:00 pm
	<i>Tuesday</i>	
Apr. 20	Great Compline	6:00 pm
	Parish Council	7:00 pm
	<i>Wednesday</i>	
Apr. 21	9 th Hour and Typika	6:00 pm
	Presanctified Liturgy at St. George	6:30 pm
	<i>Thursday</i>	
Apr. 22		
	<i>Friday</i>	
Apr. 23		6:00 pm
	<i>Saturday</i>	
Apr. 24	Lazarus Saturday – Divine Liturgy (No Restrictions)	10:00 am
	Great Vespers (No Restrictions)	5:00 pm