



ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

15000 N. May, Oklahoma City, OK 73134

Church Office: 755-7804

Church Website: www.stelijahokc.com

Church Email: stelijah@steljahokc.com

MAY 2, 2021

Issue 33
Great and Holy Pascha

Number 18

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 ORTHOS & 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:

Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

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

Sing to His name; give glory to His praises.

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

Say to God: "How awesome are Thy works."

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

Let all the earth worship Thee and sing to Thee.

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

Glory...Both now...

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

B

The 2nd Antiphon:

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

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

That Thy way be known upon the earth, Thy salvation among all nations.

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

Let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks unto Thee.

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

May God bless us and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

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

Glory... Now...

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

C

The 3rd Antiphon

Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.

Christ is risen...

So let sinners perish before God, but let the righteous rejoice.

Christ is risen...

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Christ is risen...

D

The Entrance Hymn

In the churches bless ye God, the Lord from the well-springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing unto Thee, Alleluia.

E

Paschal Troparia

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Arabic

AL MA-SIH U-QAM MIN BAI NIL AM WAT
WA WA TI AL MOWT A-BIL MOWT WA
WA HA BAL HI YA LIL LA DHI NA FIL QU-
BUR.

Greek

CHRISTOS ANESTI EK NEKRON,
THANATO THANATON PATEE-SAS, KAI
TEES EN TEES MNEE-MA-SI ZOEEN
KHARISAMENOS.

Hypakoe of Pascha – Tone 4

They who were with Mary came before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, and heard the angels say unto them, “Why seek ye Him as man with the dead, who dwells in light eternal? Behold the grave wrappings; make haste and declare to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath caused death to die; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.

Kontakion for Pascha – Tone 8

Down to the grave though Thou wentest immortal Lord, yet didst Thou there hurl down death by Thy throne of might and art risen with victory crowned, O Christ our true God, and hast hailed with glad greeting the women that came with myrrh; and unto Thine Apostles hast graciously sent thy peace, O Lord, that grantest the fallen to rise with Thee.

F **Anti-Trisagion (Instead of the Trisagion)**

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

G **THE READINGS**

Epistle for Great and Holy Pascha

This is the Day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

The reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles
(Chapter 1:1-8)

In the first words, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. To them he presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, having been seen by them for forty

days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God. And having assembled together with them, He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said: “You heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

So when they had come together, they asked Him: “Lord, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them: “It is not for you to know the time or seasons, which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.”

Gospel of Holy and Glorious Pascha

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (Chapter 1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but was to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own, and his own received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, “This is he of whom I said, ‘he who comes after me ranks

before me, for he was before me.”) And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

PASCHAL SERMON
St. John Chrysostom
Archbishop of Constantinople 398-404 AD

Whoever is a devout lover of God, let him enjoy this beautiful bright Festival. And whosoever is a grateful servant, let him rejoice and enter into the joy of his Lord. And if any be weary with fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have toiled from the first hour, let him receive his due reward. If any have come after the third hour, let him with gratitude join in the Feast. And he that arrived after the sixth hour, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. And if any have delayed to the ninth hour, let him not hesitate, but let him come too. And he that has arrived only at the eleventh hour, let him not be afraid by reason of his delay; for the Lord is gracious and received the last even as the first. He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to him that has toiled from the first. Yea, to this one he gives and upon that one he bestows. He accepts works as he greets the endeavor. The deed he honors and the intention he commends.

Let all then enter into the joy of our Lord. You first and last receiving alike your reward; you rich and poor, rejoice together. You sober and you slothful, celebrate the day. You that have kept the fast and you that have not, rejoice today; for the Table is richly laden. Fare royally on it. The calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake all of the cup of faith. Enjoy all the riches of his goodness. Let no one grieve at his poverty; for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death; for the Death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it. He spoiled Hades when he descended thereto. He vexed it even as it tasted his flesh. Isaiah foretold this when he cried,

“Thou, O hell, hast been vexed by encountering him below.” It is vexed; for it is even done away with. It is vexed; for it is made a mockery. It is vexed; for it is destroyed. It is vexed; for it is annihilated. It is vexed; for it is now made captive. It took a body and, lo! It discovered God. It took earth, and behold, it encountered heaven. It took what it saw, but was overcome by what it did not see. O death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is risen and thou art annihilated. Christ is risen, and the evil ones are cast down. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life is liberated. Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of the dead; for Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those that have fallen asleep. To him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

H The Megalynarion

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again I say, Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised all the dead. Rejoice, rejoice, O ye people. Shine! Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem. The glory of the Lord has shown on you. Exult now, exult and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the resurrection, the resurrection of your Son.

I Communion Hymn

Receive ye the Body of Christ, taste ye the Fountain of immortality. Alleluia.

J Paschal Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead...

K English: Christ is risen! / Truly He is risen!

Arabic: **Al-Maseeh qam! / Haqqan Qam!**

Greek: **Christos Anesti! / Alethos anesti!**

Slavic: **Khristos voskrese! / Vo-istinu voskrese!**

Ethiopian: **Kristos Tenestwal! / Bewnetem Tenestwal!**

Armenian: **Krisdos Hariav Ec Merlotz! / Orhniale Haroutium Krsdosee!**

Romanian: **Hristos a inviat! / Adeverat a inviat!**

Eritrean: **Christos tensiou! / Bahake Tensiou!**

Spanish: **Cristo ha resucitado! / En verdad ha resucitado!**

Albanian: **Krishti ungjall! / Vertete Ungjall!**

German: **Christus ist auferstanden! / Er ist wahr-haftig!**

Swahili: **Kristo Amefufukka! / Kweli Amefufukka!**

Georgian: **Kriste agsdga! / Cheshmaritad agsdga!**

Scots Gaelic: **Criosda a tha a 'pris air Eirigh! / Gu dearbh tha E a Eirigh!**

OFFERINGS

HOLY BREAD was offered last week by Balgees Sweis for her good health and the good health of William, Hiba, Haitham, Einas, Hiam, Jarred, Bashar, Ashley, Jacob, Elizabeth, Cade, Grant, Mason, and Maddox. It was especially offered in memory of Muhsen, Mousa, Bana, and Naeim. May their memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by the Cohlmia, Spivey, and Kinney families for their good health and for the continued good health of Leyla. It is especially offered in memory of Gorden Cohlmia (18 years). May his memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Farouk and Lamees Shawareb for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren. It is especially offered for the good health of Farouk and Laith and on the occasion of the birthdays of Farris (4/30) and Raya (4/28). May God grant them many years.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Dn. Ezra and Sh. Kathy in thanksgiving to God for Woodie and Carla Berry bringing them to St. Elijah (Lazarus Saturday, 1991) and in memory of Nabeeha Andrews' hospitality in giving up her pew. May

God grant them many years and may her memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Dr. Christopher, Christina, and Elizabeth Waters for their good health. It is especially offered for Alexandra on the occasion of her 1st birthday (4/29). May God grant her many years.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Samson and Azieb Tesfaselassie for their good health and the good health of their children Robel and Feven and their families. It is especially offered in memory of Samson's newly departed grandmother Tsagi of Asmara, Eritrea. May her memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD AND EASTER LILIES are offered by Esber and Leslie Samara for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren. They are especially offered in memory of their parents Nabeeh and Adeeba Samara and Benny and Dolores Homsey. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Mona Spivey in memory of Mike Spivey. May his memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Gorden and Minerva Cohlmia. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Woodie and Carla Berry for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren. They are also offered on the occasion of Woodie's birthday (4/23) and for the protection of Jayme. They are especially offered in memory of their daughter Tasha. May her memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Robert and Irene Massad for their good health and the good health of Julia, Michael, Taryn, Joseph, Genevieve, and Raya and especially for Tamara's health and full recovery. They are especially offered in memory of Peter and Valentin. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Anna Harris for her good health and the good health of the Harris and Raschtschenia families. It is

especially offered in memory of her husband Terry, Stefan and Stefania Raschtschenia, Mindy Raschtschenia, and Joyce Council. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Kathleen Callesen for the good health and safety of Becky and Billy Boyd, Shirley and Randall Casey, and Talia and Julius Lane. May God grant them many years.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Kathleen Callesen in memory of Khairy and Alena Shadid, Pammy Shadid, and John Callesen. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Kathleen Callesen for the complete recovery of Jacob Callesen. May God grant him many years.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Kathi Yeager for the good health of the Larson, Shadeed, and Yeager families. They are especially offered in memory of Ralph and Badia Shadeed, Venice Yeager, Richard Yeager, and Michael Shadeed. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Marie Chumo in memory of her husband Michael Chumo, Jr. May his memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by the St. Elijah Choir for the good health of all choir members and in memory of those who have come before us.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Shirley and Randall Casey for their good health and the good health and healing of Kathleen Callesen, Becky and Billy Boyd, and Talia and Julius Lane. They are especially offered in memory of Khairy, Alena, and Pammy Shadid and John Callesen. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Karla and George Cohlmiya for the grandmothers who shaped our lives. They are especially offered in memory of Najeeba, Bedyah Alexandra, Minerva, and Adeeba. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Nida Sweis for her good health and the good health of her

husband Monty and her children Ramez and Randy. They are especially offered for her mom Victoria on the occasion of her 91st birthday (4/29) and in memory of her father Zaki (26 years). May his memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Jan and John Klopp for their good health and the good health of the Klopp, Farha, and Holzer families. They are especially offered in memory of Ralph and Blanche Farha, Josephine and George Klopp, and Minette Kelson. May their memory be eternal.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Gary and Sue Homsey for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren. They are especially offered on the occasion of the birthdays of Gary (4/29) and Kristin (5/15). They are also offered for the Homsey, Carson, Grabowski, and Shadid families. May God grant them many years.

EASTER LILIES are offered by Florene Deebea for her good health and the good health of her children and grandchildren. They are especially offered in memory of Elmer M. Deebea. May his memory be eternal.

HOLY EASTER EGGS are offered in loving memory of Harry and Yevonne Homsey by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. May their memory be eternal.

THE CROWN OF CHRIST for Holy Thursday evening was offered in memory of John and Fran Samara by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. May their memory be eternal.

INCENSE FOR PASCHA is offered by Imad and Dolas Eid for their good health and the good health of their children Mary and Joseph. It is also offered for the St. Elijah Faithful. May God grant them many years!

FRIDAY EVENING FLOWERS for the Bier (Tomb) of Christ were offered by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Homsey, Mr. & Mrs. Mickey Homsey, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Deebea, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Homsey, and Dr. & Mrs. Scott Samara in

memory of all their loved ones. May their memory be eternal. A special "thank you" to Larry Shaded for his help and decoration of the Bier.

OIL FOR HOLY WEEK is offered by Franklin and Eddi Naifeh and Jeaneen Naifeh for their good health and the good health of their families. It is especially offered in memory of Zeak, Rose, Selma, Paul, Robert Zeak, Connie, and James Thomas. May their memory be eternal.

CARNATIONS for Friday night services during Great Lent were offered by Randy and Kathy Rahill for the good health of their family and in memory of their departed loved ones!

FLOWERS for weekend services during Great Lent were offered by Michael and Brenda Haggai for the good health of their family and in memory of their departed loved ones!

VIGIL CANDLE is lit by Teese Mullings for our military serving in harm's way. May they be kept safe from every enemy and adversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO PASCHAL FEAST OR COFFEE HOUR. Sadly, due to the health crisis, we will **NOT** have our usual post-Pascha gathering in the hall. We eagerly look forward to feasts and celebrations to come in the future. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

BRIGHT WEEK (the week following Pascha) is a fast-free period of celebration. All kinds of food and drink may be consumed with thanksgiving throughout the week.

AGAPE VESPERS tonight (Sunday) at 5pm!

CONGRATULATIONS to Pierce and Emily Marks, who were received into the Orthodox Church by the Sacrament of Chrismation on Saturday, April 24. May God grant them many years!

OFFICE CLOSED tomorrow and Tuesday, **May 3 and 4!** The office will re-open Wednesday morning, May 5.

LITURGY FOR ST. GEORGE FEAST DAY will take place on Wednesday, May 5, at 9am.

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE (ALMS BOXES). You may send in your Food For Hungry People donations to the church this week. We prefer that you count the money collected in your box and submit a check for the total, made out to "St. Elijah" and earmarked "FFHP."

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE. To date we have received 120 Intentions to Give cards, for a total of \$481,580. 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

MAY 2-8

Michele Manning	Karen Hanna
Holly Tacheny	Grace Hathaway
Todd Lewis	Dimitri Marusa
Jim Kirkpatrick	Samara Pedford
Trey Kouri	Christina Salem
Valerie Naifeh	Rachel Stoitzev
John Simon	Anne Baskerville
Bret Keel	Mike Dean
Ruby Pendergraft	Leilah Naifeh
Mike Worku	Debbie Williams
Syrak Worku	Tyler Williams

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

Ida M. S. Yeager	Victoria C. Samara
Leenda Delores Farha	Walter
Joseph John Nayphe	Meheret Zewdu
Rose Hazer	Jimmy David Farris
R. J. Massad	Anna Kostankevich
Mark Koss	(Saida) Sadie Taylor

Food for Hungry People 2021

47th Anniversary

May 2 PASCHA

Christ is Risen!

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 Cohlmlia (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.

May 2, 2021

USHERS:

ALTAR SERVERS:

EPISTLE READER:

ELDERS:

BOOKSTORE:

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

CALENDAR

	<i>Sunday</i>	
May 2	Agape Vespers	5:00 pm
	<i>Monday</i>	
May 3	OFFICE CLOSED AFTER NOON	
	<i>Tuesday</i>	
May 4	OFFICE CLOSED	
	<i>Wednesday</i>	
May 5	Liturgy for St. George Feast	9:00 am
	Day	
	<i>Thursday</i>	
May 6		
	<i>Friday</i>	
May 7		
	<i>Saturday</i>	
May 8	Great Vespers	5:00 pm