



# ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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The Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple;  
*Saints of the Day:* Venerable Columban of Ireland

## DIRECTORY

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[ancientfaith.com](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> Antiphon:**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised: in the city of our God and in His holy mountain. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

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

God is known in her palaces as a refuge. As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts in the city of our God.

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

Glory... Now...

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

**B**

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Antiphon:**

The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle. Holiness and majesty are in His sanctuary.

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

This is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter in thereat.

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

Holy is Thy temple, and wonderful in righteousness.

**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**

*Verse: Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor. The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. Virgins shall be brought to the*

*King after her: her companions shall be brought unto Thee.*

**Troparion of the Entrance of the Theotokos - Tone 4**

**Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying, Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.**

**D**

### **The Entrance Hymn**

O come let us worship...

**E**

### **Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**Troparion of the Entrance of the Theotokos - Tone 4**

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying, Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

**Kontakion of the Entrance of the Theotokos – Tone 4**

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefined, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the

grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her, do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

**F**

**The Thrice Holy Hymn**

**G**

### **THE READINGS**

#### **Epistle for the Entrance of the Theotokos**

**My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden!**

The reading is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews  
(Chapter 9:1-7)

Brethren, the first tabernacle had ordinances of the divine services and an earthly sanctuary. For the first tabernacle was prepared, in which were the candlestick, and the table, and the bread of the offering, which is called the Sanctuary. And behind the second veil stood the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies; having a golden altar of incense, and the ark of the covenant overlaid roundabout with gold, which contained a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the two tablets of the covenant; and above it the two Cherubim of glory overshadowing the Ark's lid; of these things, we cannot now speak in particular. now these things having been thus prepared, the priests go in continually into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the divine services; but into the second the high priest enters alone, once in the year, not without blood, which he offers for himself, and for the ignorance of the people.

#### **Gospel for the Entrance of the Theotokos**

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (Chapter 10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou

not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

**H**

**The Megalynarion of the Entrance of the Theotokos - Tone 4**

*Verse: The angels beholding the entrance of the all-pure one were overtaken by surprise; how hath the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?*

**Since thou art a living temple of God, O Theotokos, no impure hand shall touch thee. But the lips of believers, let them ceaselessly laud thee, crying unto thee joyfully with the voice of the angels, Verily, O undefiled Virgin, thou art more exalted than all the creatures.**

**I**

**Communion Hymn**

I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the names of the Lord. Alleluia.

**J**

We have seen the true light...

## **OFFERINGS**

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by the Chancey, Cox, and Waters families for their good health. It is especially offered for David and Andrea Williams and family. May God grant them many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Joe and Jill Andrews for their good health and the good health of their children Christi, Don, and Mollie and for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May God grant them many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by David and Andrea Williams for their good health and the good health of their daughters Julie and Joscelyn, their

family, church family, godparents, and godchildren. It is especially offered on the occasion of their 18th wedding anniversary (11/22) and for David's departure to Texas, then Mississippi, for training with the Air National Guard (11/22). May God grant them many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Alexis and John Robert Simon for their good health. It is especially offered in memory of their mother Stephanie Simon (3 years). May her memory be eternal.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Dr. David and Tami Simon for their good health and the good health of their family - Kouri, Mark, Grayson, Jacob, Elaine, and Rachel. It is also offered for the Simon, Kouri, Ajalat, and Cooper families. It is especially offered for Jacob (11/6) and Elsie (11/19) on the occasion of their birthdays. May God grant them many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Thomas and Christan Resz for their good health and the good health of their children Mayah, Elie, Lucile, Arabella, and Thomas. It is especially offered on the occasion of their 19th wedding anniversary. May God grant them many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Courtney and Naji Karam for their good health and the good health of their children Emile, Alec, Gabriella, and Petra. It is especially offered for Gabriella on the occasion of her 19th birthday (11/19). May God grant her many years.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME TABLE.** We welcome all visitors. We are delighted you are worshipping with us and look forward to meeting you personally. Please join us in the hall at the table with the burgundy colored table cloth; someone from our Welcome Ministry would love to greet you.

**COFFEE HOUR** is hosted today by the Parish Council. Please join us immediately following Divine Liturgy. Visitors are especially welcome.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Sydney Ore, who was received into the Orthodox Church by the Sacrament of Chrismation on Saturday, November 20. May God grant her many years!

**OFFICE CLOSED** - The Church Office will be closed Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to Jim Fox, Mona Spivey, Frank Sweiss, Adult Fellowship, Antiochian Women, and other volunteers for all the help in putting on the luncheon last Sunday. On behalf of all the parish, we sincerely thank you for your efforts! Yours in Christ, Trey Kouri

**THE NATIVITY (ADVENT) FAST** began November 15 and continues through December 24. The traditional fast is to abstain from meat, fish, dairy products, and alcoholic beverages (though fish and alcohol in moderation are permitted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays). All kinds of food and drink may be consumed with gratitude to God on Thanksgiving Day.

**THANKSGIVING PIE SALE** - Teen SOYO and Fr. John will be baking 8-inch pies (Strawberry/Rhubarb, Rum-Raisin Mince Meat, and Caramel Apple) - \$20.00 per pie. Teen SOYO will give a portion to charity to help those in need. Please email or text your order to Fr. John and/or Anthony by **TODAY**, Sunday, November 21, and specify your preferences and quantity. Pies will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, November 24, during office hours. Payment can be made at pick up, payable to St. Elijah Teen SOYO.

**THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE:** Thank you to all who brought food or made donations to help fill the Thanksgiving Baskets. We made donations to the Homeless Alliance, YWCA Women's Shelter, Latino Development Agency, Greenvale School, church family members in need, and people calling in to the church looking for assistance. Your generosity has helped a lot of people in need. Thank you. A special thank you goes to the teens for their help in sacking the

groceries. Watch the bulletin for the Christmas Food Drive.

**I.O.C.C. SUNDAY** - International Orthodox Christian Charities is recognized by the Canonical Assembly of Orthodox Bishops. Our St. Elijah Charities Committee donates yearly to this well-regarded humanitarian organization. If you would like to learn more, go to [www.iocc.org](http://www.iocc.org).



## **COFFEE HOUR**

Below is the schedule of those who will host Coffee Hour on upcoming Sundays.

<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
28 - Adult Fellowship	5 - St. Ignatius
	12 - MDO
	19 - Antiochian Women
	26 - Parish Council

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK**

**NOVEMBER 21-27**

Katherine Johnston	Kory Warr
Wiley Marusa	Virginia Ferreira
Jackson Naifeh	Jim Fox
Andrew Sweis	Samuel Wise
Alexandra Addison	Logan Brooks
Damiana Frangie-Massad	Hannah Duel
Lillian Badeen	Sam Kamas
Darlene Boyce	Jeff Kasenurm
Fr. Deacon Ezra Ham	Laura Tait
Carletta Simon	Isaac Warr

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

Afanazi J. Choroszajlo	William Robert Saied
Mitchell Simon	Ana Cosma
Stephanie Ann Simon	Dr. Labib Sam
Daher Wehba	Musallam
Sam George	Jill Lynn Willey Stacy
Saied E. Samara	Betty Jo Toma

## **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN**

Please join us for Canterbury's production of Handel's Messiah!

DATE: December 5, 2021  
TIME: 7:00 pm  
VENUE: Civic Center Music Hall

We have a discounted group rate of \$29.50 a ticket, so reserve your spot today! There are 30 tickets available now!

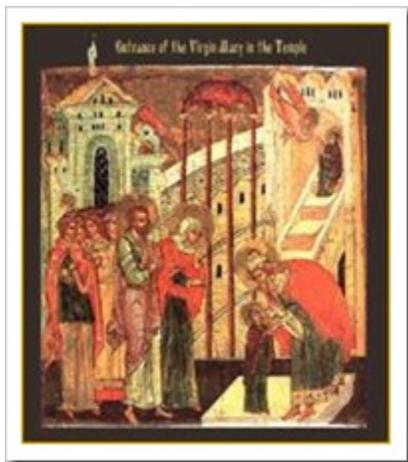
Make your check out to Antiochian Women.

Also be on the lookout for another get together in January!

## *Adopt-A-Family for Christmas*

*If you would like to help provide Christmas for "Family in Need," there will be a table set up on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> in the hallway after church to pick up a family's name. This program offers a great opportunity to take care of those less fortunate during the Christmas Season. Please see Craig Abraham or Erin Ghata at the table in the hallway to get a family's information or call Craig at 405-640-2600 to sign up.*

## The Entrance of the Theotokos + November 21



*Today is the prelude of God's goodwill and the prophecy of the salvation of men. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. So let us cry to her with loud voices: Rejoice, thou who are the fulfillment of the Creator's providence.*

*+Troparion of the Feast, Tone 4*

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple. Leading the procession into the Temple were virgins with lighted tapers in their hands, then the three-year-old Most-holy Virgin, led by her father and mother. The virgin was clad in vesture of royal magnificence and adornments as was befitting the "King's daughter, the Bride of God" (Psalm 44:13-15).

Following them were many kinsmen and friends, all with lighted tapers. Fifteen steps led up to the Temple. Joachim and Anna lifted the Virgin onto the first step, then she ran quickly to the top herself, where she was met by the High Priest Zachariah, who was to be the father of St. John the Forerunner. Taking her by the hand, he led her not only into the Temple, but into the "Holy of Holies," the holiest of holy places, into which no one but the high priest ever entered, and only once each year, at that. Zachariah "was outside himself and possessed by God" when he led the Virgin into the holiest place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain - otherwise, his action could not be explained.

The Most-holy Virgin remained in the Temple and dwelt there for nine full years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often. When God called her parents from this world, the Most-holy Virgin was left an orphan and did not wish to leave the Temple until death or to enter into marriage. The Most-holy Virgin Mary was the first of such life-vowed virgins, of the thousands and thousands of virgin men and women who would follow her in the Church of Christ.

Through her intercessions, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

## Youth Ministry Updates

### JOY Ministry Night

Our next JOY Ministry will be Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, from 6-7 p.m. We will meet for faith, fellowship, and crafts. On our next meeting, we will talk about the Nativity feast and what we are preparing for during this season.

### Family Night & Teen Chats!

Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, will be our next Teen Chats. All youth from grades 7-12 are welcome to join us as we grow in faith and fellowship! We will have some planning and discussion on our upcoming events through the Holidays! We will continue our talk on the origins of the scriptures.

### Senior Leadership Council

**Senior Leadership Council** will be meeting Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, after Sunday School in the Teen Room. We will follow up with our upcoming events and fundraisers.

### Sunday School Updates

In-person Sunday School continues today, Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>! Students will receive Communion with their families. Our teachers will guide them to their classrooms. If you have any questions, please contact myself or Fr. John.

### Upcoming Events

- November 21<sup>st</sup> - Thanksgiving Food Drive
- November 22<sup>nd</sup> - Cooking for Sister BJ's
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> - SOYO Movie Day/Pie Baking
- December 5<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> - Teen SOYO Gift Wrapping Fundraiser
- December 17<sup>th</sup> - JOY Ministry
- December 19<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Caroling
- January 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> - WAMP 2022
- January 30<sup>th</sup> - Teen SOYO Blood Drive

### Teen SOYO Thanksgiving Break Activities & Outreach

This week, while we are off from school, we will have opportunities to give back and come together in fellowship. On Monday, from 10 a.m. - about 2 p.m., we will be cooking chili to donate to Sister BJ's Pantry. Jim Fox will be guiding us through the process. On Tuesday, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., we have our pie baking fundraiser and movie day in the Teen Room. If you want to sign up for Pie Baking, talk to Christina Salem.

Feel free to contact me with any questions

847-721-5192

[anthony@stelijahokc.com](mailto:anthony@stelijahokc.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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## November 21, 2021

**USHERS:** Teen SOYO

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Xander Ewbank, Amos Ham, Jacob Sweis, Benjamin Davis, Blaise Cox, Than Cox, John Baskerville

**EPISTLE READER:**

**ELDERS:**

**BOOKSTORE:**

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

## CALENDAR

	<i>Sunday</i>	
Nov. 21	Orthros	8:45 am
	Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
	<i>Monday</i>	
Nov. 22	Cooking for Sister BJ's Pantry	10:00 am
	<i>Tuesday</i>	
Nov. 23	SOYO Movie Day/Pie Baking	10:00 am
	<i>Wednesday</i>	
Nov. 24	<b>NO VESPERS NO FAMILY NIGHT</b>	
	<i>Thursday</i>	
Nov. 25	<b>OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>	
	<i>Friday</i>	
Nov. 26	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	
	<i>Saturday</i>	
Nov. 27	Great Vespers/Confession	5:00 pm