



# ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

15000 N. May, Oklahoma City, OK 73134

Church Office: 755-7804

Church Website: [www.stelijahokc.com](http://www.stelijahokc.com)

Church Email: [stelijah@steljahokc.com](mailto:stelijah@steljahokc.com)

AUGUST 28, 2022

Issue 34

Number 35

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost;**

*Saints of the Day:* Righteous Father Moses of Ethiopia;

Martyrs Diomedes, Damon and Laurence; Martyr Susanna of Georgia

## DIRECTORY

**V. Rev. Fr. John Salem**  
Parish Priest 405-410-9399

**V. Rev. Fr. Elias Khouri**  
Assistant Priest 405-640-3016

**V. Rev. Fr. Constantine Nasr**  
Emeritus

**Rev. Dn. Ezra Ham**  
Administrator 405-602-9914

**Anthony Ruggerio** 847-721-5192  
Youth Director

**Mom's Day Out & Pre-K**  
Sara Cortez – Director 405-639-2679  
Email: [mndo@steljahokc.com](mailto:mndo@steljahokc.com)  
Facebook: "St Elijah Mom's Day Out"  
Twitter: StElijahMDO

**Ancient Faith Radio**  
[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:**

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**D**

### **The Entrance Hymn**

O come let us worship...

**E**

### **Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 2**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life glory to Thee.

### **Troparion of Moses the Ethiopian – Tone 1**

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Moses, our God-bearing Father. By fasting,

vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

### **Troparion for 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 Nativity of the Theotokos – Tone 4**

By thy holy nativity O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

**F**

### **The Thrice Holy Hymn**

**G**

### **THE READINGS**

#### **Epistle for the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Lord is my strength and my song.  
With chastisement has the Lord chastened me!**

The reading is from St. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians (Chapter 9:2b-12)

Brethren, the seal of my apostleship are you in the Lord. My defense to those who would examine me is this: Do we have no authority regarding what to eat and what to drink? Do we have no authority to lead about a wife, who is a sister, as the rest of the apostles, even as the

brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no authority to refrain from working? Which soldier ever served at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit thereof? Or who shepherds a flock and does not eat from the milk of the flock?

Do I speak of these things according to human nature? Or does not the Law say the same also? For it is written in the Law of Moses: “Thou shalt not muzzle an ox which treads out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God cares, or does He say it altogether for our sakes? Indeed, for our sakes it was written: Because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope, so that the same might partake in hope. If we have sown in you spiritual things, is it a great matter if we should reap your carnal things? If others are partakers of this authority over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this authority, but we endure all things, in order that we may cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ.

#### **Gospel of 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (Chapter 18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his

fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>H</b> | <b>The Megalynarion</b><br>It is truly meet...        |
| <b>I</b> | <b>Communion Hymn</b><br>Praise the Lord... Alleluia. |
| <b>J</b> | We have seen the true light...                        |

### **OFFERINGS**

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Todd, Libby, Justin, Monique, Blair, and Stephanie and their children for their good health and the good health of the Naifeh family. It is especially offered in memory of Connie Naifeh (13 years). May her memory be eternal.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Cookie and Roger Deeba for their good health and the good health of their children and grandchildren. It is especially offered in memory of Connie Naifeh (13 years). May her memory be eternal.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by the Choir for their good health. It is also offered in memory of the members who have come before them and all who have celebrated the sacraments for 100 years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Reggie Jaime for his good health. It is especially offered for his wife Janet on the occasion of her birthday. May God grant her many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Adam Krejci for his good health and the good health of Chelsea

and Joseph. It is especially offered for Melissa on the occasion of her birthday (8/29). May God grant her many years.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered by Dr. Paul and Jennifer Shadid and family, Jessica and Bryan Beavers, Dr. Paul, Jr., and Erika, Peter and Lauren, Ainsley, Colt, and Trip for their good health and for the blessings bestowed to their family and for all the families of St. Elijah in honor of our 100th year as a House of the Lord. It is also offered for the continued good health of Jennifer's parents, Charlie and Jimmie Lou Shadid, who have been faithful servants to this parish for many years. It is also offered in memory of Paul's parents, Sam and Nadia, and all of our founders who established and served this Holy Temple. May their memories be eternal.

**HOLY BREAD** is offered in memory of Sam and Nadia Shadid on the occasion of Saint Elijah's 100th anniversary by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. May their memory be eternal.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BANQUET**  
for those who RSVP'd will follow Divine Liturgy today.

**NO VESPERS ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
on Monday, September 5, due to Labor Day. The office will re-open on Tuesday, September 6.

**ADOPTED AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY** - We were asked a couple of weeks ago to help resettle another refugee family from Afghanistan. Thanks to our Charity Committee and the many volunteers who answered the call with finances, goods, and appliances on such short notice!

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE.** To date we have received 141 Intention To Give cards, for a total

of \$558,463. Thank you so much for your prompt responses. If you have not returned your Membership Form, please do so soon.



## COFFEE HOUR

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

<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
4 - Adult Fellowship	2 - Parish Council
11 - St. Ignatius	9 - Adult Fellowship
18 - MDO	16 - St. Ignatius
25 - Antiochian Women	23 - MDO
	30 - Antiochian Women

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 3

Gabriel Hare	Francis Shadid
Todd Naifeh	Ashley Tohlen
Petra Sweiss	Trae Rahill
Barbara Wise	Sally Limber
Melissa Krejci	Ann Ozan Willis
Jeff Pritchard	Courage Chan
Nancy Farha	Jude Harroz
Janet Jaime	Jeff Shadid
Jackie Radford	

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

Mable (Maheeba) Nayfa	Steve C. Vetoyanis
Eddie Jacob Bird	Bahia D. Raysee
Hanne Burgess	Angelene Mary Hazer
Saida Farha	Bill G. George
Woodrow Farris	Pamela Sue Shadid
Michael Chumo	Louise Nayfa Andeel
Mulu Esheta	

## **Ladies of St. Elijah!**

Our Fall Kick-Off Event will be here soon!

**September 13, 2022, at 6:00 pm**

We'll have wine, food,  
and a fun *surprise* program!

Cost: \$18

Sign up *next week* at Coffee Hour or  
register online today!

## **ST. ELIJAH FOOD FESTIVAL**

The Food Festival and Bake Sale will be held on November 4th and 5th. We are very excited to bring this event back to our community and city. There is an updated Food Festival Information Packet on a table in the hallway. This includes an updated calendar of work days, event chairs, and other information. Please make plans to help with food prep when you are available. There will be an information and sign up booth the next two Sundays, September 4th and 11th. If you have any questions, please ask the Executive Committee: Malek Massad, Mona Spivey, Sam Homsey, Trey Kouri, Amos Ham, Charlie Ward, Stacey Naifeh, Megan Gonzalez, Samson Tesfaselassie, and Craig Abraham.

*We are so blessed to be celebrating our Centennial today (although a couple of years delayed), so blessed to be with our family both biological and spiritual, so blessed to feast with each other after service today. Celebrations end and we go back to the news of war, drought, famine and natural disasters and sometimes forget or do not see that there are still many blessings. With this in mind I thought it appropriate to print a portion of the Akathist of Thanksgiving written by the Very Reverend Gregory Petroff while in a prison camp under the former Soviet Union. His crime was being a priest and serving the faithful people.*

## Akathist of Thanksgiving

### **Kontakion 1**

Incorruptible King of all the ages, holding in Your hand every path of human life through the power of Your saving Providence, we thank You for all the good things You do, those we know and those we do not know, for earthly life and for heavenly joy of Your Kingdom to come. Hold us in Your mercy now and ever, we who sing: Glory to You, O God, unto ages of ages.

### **Ikos**

Into the world I was born as a weak, helpless child, but Your Angel spread wings over me, guarding my crib. Ever since then Your love lights all my paths, wonderfully guiding me towards the light of eternity. Gloriously, the generous gifts of Your Providence have been manifest from the very first day. I am thankful to You and with all who have come to know You, call out:

Glory to You, who called me to life,

Glory to You, who have shown me the beauty of the universe,

Glory to You, who have opened before me the sky and the earth as an eternal book of wisdom,

Glory to You, for Your hidden and evident goodness,

Glory to You, for every sigh of my sadness,

Glory to You, for every step of my life, for every moment of joy,

Glory to You, O God, unto ages of ages.

## Youth Ministry Updates

### Teen SOYO

Teen Chats will continue alongside Family Night this week. We will gather on Wednesday, August 30th, at 7pm. We will start planning for the basketball tournament and other activities for the year.

### DOWAMA SOYO Basketball Tournament

We are planning to have our annual Basketball tournament return this year! All Teen SOYO are invited to participate. It will be the weekend of September 30th - October 2nd.

1. Everyone needs a medical release form. The link to these forms is at the bottom of the Google Form.
2. Everyone (that includes advisors) will still need to pay either by check made out to DOWAMA Teen SOYO or cash when they arrive. The \$45 covers meals for the weekend, snacks, t-shirts, and helps pay to bring our speaker. If anyone needs scholarships, and your parish is unable to help, please let me know and we will make sure finances don't prevent anyone from attending.

### Sunday School Registration

The new Sunday School year is right around the corner. We will begin Sunday School Classes on Sunday, September 11th. Sunday School is open to all students from Pre-K to 12th grade.

Students will gather after they receive communion and then head to their classes with their teachers. This year we will be following the archdiocese curriculum: Like the Stars of Heaven, where we will be learning about the stories and lessons from the book of Genesis.

You may scan the QR code below to register.



### JOY Night Returns

As the school year begins, we start to look towards the month of September. We will have our first JOY night of the year on Friday, September 23rd, from 6-7pm.

JOY ministry is for all youth from 1st-6th grade. Each month we have a specific lesson on the church, with an accompanied craft and time for fellowship.

Feel Free to contact me with any questions

[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.

### August 28, 2022

#### USHERS:

#### ALTAR SERVERS:

#### EPISTLE READER:

#### ELDERS:

BOOKSTORE: Michael Cole

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

### CALENDAR

#### *Sunday*

Aug. 28      Orthros      8:45 am  
Divine Liturgy      10:00 am  
Centennial Celebration Lunch

#### *Monday*

Aug. 29

#### *Tuesday*

Aug. 30

#### *Wednesday*

Aug. 31      Vespers      6:00 pm  
Family Night & Teen Chats      7:00 pm

#### *Thursday*

Sept. 1      Orthodox Study Fellowship      10:30 am

#### *Friday*

Sept. 2      Divine Liturgy for the Feast      6:00 pm  
of the Transfiguration of  
Our Lord

#### *Saturday*

Sept. 3      **NO VESPERS**