



ST. ELIJAH ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Number 37

Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross & the After-Feast of the Nativity of the
Theotokos; *Saints of the Day*: Venerable Theodora of Alexandria;
Righteous Euphrosynos the Cook

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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:

O Lord, remember David and all is meekness. Lo, we heard of it at Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the wood.

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

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her, and that right early.

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:

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not turn from it. Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

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

There will I make the horn of David to bud; I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

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

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

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: Here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. The Most High hath hollowed His tabernacle. Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness.

Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos – Tone 4

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing the death and granting us life everlasting.

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 the Nativity of the Theotokos – Tone 4

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing the death and granting us life everlasting.

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 celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying unto thee: "The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life."

F

The Thrice Holy Hymn

G

THE READINGS

Epistle for the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!

The reading is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians (Chapter 6:11-18)

Brethren, see how large a letter I have written to you with my own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not be persecuted for the Cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised do themselves keep the Law; but they desire to have you circumcised, that they boast in your flesh.

But God forbid that I should boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world.

For in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Henceforth, let no one trouble me; for I bear in my body the brand-marks of the Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Gospel of the Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (Chapter 3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the

Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

H

The Megalynarion

It is truly meet...

I

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord.... Alleluia.

J

We have seen the true light...

OFFERINGS

HOLY BREAD is offered by Mona Spivey for her good health. It is especially offered in memory of Michael Spivey. May his memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Mona Spivey, George, Karla and Kasey Cohlmiia, Adam, Alexandra, Sophie, Charlie, Demi and Livie Cohlmiia for their good health. It is especially offered in memory of Minerva Cohlmiia. May her memory be eternal.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Rob Sandlin for his good health. It is especially offered in memory of Esther Massad Samara (11 years) and her parents, Fr. George Massad and Khouria Bedyia Massad. It is also offered for the good health of her children, Pam, Richard and Mark, and her sister-in-law, Jacque Massad and Dee Massad.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Samson and Azieb Tesfaselassie for their good health and the good health of their children Robel and Feven. It is especially offered for Robel on the occasion of his 20th birthday. May God grant him many years.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Amos and Brittany Ham for their good health and the good health of their children Sophia, Grady, and Katarina. It is especially offered for Esper (8/15) and Amos, Jr. (9/11) on the occasion of their birthdays. May God grant them many years.

HOLY BREAD is offered by Jeff, Alexandra, Samia, and Levi Massad for their good health. It is especially offered for Sherrie (8/21), Erich (8/21), and Sophia (9/12) on the occasion of their birthdays. May God grant them 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 St. Ignatius. Please join us immediately following Divine Liturgy. Visitors are especially welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jarrad and Kathryn McMillan. Kathryn and their daughter Halsey Simon are being churched today. May God grant them many years!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Sunday School students who placed in last year's Diocesan Creative Arts Contest; their awards will be given today. **Creative Photography:** 1st place 3rd grade - Than Cox; **Creative Art:** 3rd place 3rd grade - Cora Chancey; **Creative Art:** 2nd place 5th grade - Sophia Ham; **Oratorical:** 1st place Senior Division - Christina Salem. Congratulations to all who placed and participated. We anticipate even more entries from St. Elijah for this year's upcoming Parish Life Conference.

DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS will be celebrated this Wednesday morning, September 14, at 9am in the chapel.

LADIES AID will meet at Johnnie's on Britton Road on Wednesday, September 14, at noon.

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.

VIGIL CANDLE is lit by the Ladies Aid for their good health and good health of their families.



COFFEE HOUR

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 11-17

Roman Almazan
Amos Ham, Jr.
Greg Johnston
Cole Powers
John Raschtschenia
Donald Bolen
Lisa Dunkin
Sophia Massad
David Miller
Mariela Rosales
Gavin Shawareb
Michael Cole
John Wilson
Esther Hicks
Rena Shadid
Jay Cohlmi
Ilya Dzialendzik
Si Simon
Shannon Ward
Milan Gonzalez
Bruce Harroz
Sam Kakish
Brynn Prater

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

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Mitchell M. Ablah | Renee' Marie Moorad |
| Richard Kraker | Fayad H. Barkett |
| Dr. Philip Kent Kraker | Dewey Swyden |
| Monty Thomas | Lina Nabil Haddadin |
| Melia Massad | Namitallah John Kraker |
| Rosa Mettry Adwon | LeRoy V. Shadid |
| Anne H. Marody | Henry Massoud Nayfa |
| Minerva Massad Cohlmi | Maggie Samara |
| T. J. Salamy | McDonald |
| Charlie Mack Nayfa | |

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 at Coffee Hour or 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 today, September 11. 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.

Cabbage Rolls, Cabbage Rolls Cabbage Rolls:

We will be rolling cabbage rolls starting next week. Whether you can come and help for 1 hour, 2 hours, or the whole day, we just need your help.

Friday, September 16th, 9-3

Saturday, September 17th, 9-3

Sunday, September 18th, 11:30-6

Monday, September 19th, 12-6

How to roll training will be provided. Look forward to seeing everyone.



This Wednesday, we will commemorate

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross

Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha, to defile and cover with oblivion the place where the saving Passion had been suffered. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the venerable Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Cross to their own country (see Jan. 22, Saint Anastasius the Persian). Late, in the year 628, Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Cross, and after bringing it to Constantinople, himself escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he restored it to its place.

Youth Ministry Updates

Teen SOYO

Teen Chats will continue alongside Family Night this week. We will gather on Wednesday, September 14th, at 7pm. We will continue our discussion on mental health and the role of the church and prayer.

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

Sunday School begins today! Students will go to their first class after Fr. John says a prayer for the beginning of the new year. 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

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.

September 11, 2022

USHERS:

ALTAR SERVERS: Emerson Wyrick, Gabriel Calderon Nikolovski, Noah Calderon Nikolovski, Blaise Cox, Than Cox, Henry Davis, Amos Ham, Esper Ham, Andrew Ham, Elijah Pedford

EPISTLE READER:

ELDERS:

BOOKSTORE: Zach Jacobs

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

CALENDAR

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| | <i>Sunday</i> | |
| Sept. 11 | Orthros | 8:45 am |
| | Divine Liturgy | 10:00 am |
| | <i>Monday</i> | |
| | <i>Tuesday</i> | |
| Sept. 13 | Antiochian Women Kick-Off Event | 6:00 pm |
| | MDO Board | 6:30 pm |
| | <i>Wednesday</i> | |
| Sept. 14 | Divine Liturgy for the Elevation of the Holy Cross | 9:00 am |
| | Vespers | 6:00 pm |
| | Family Night & Teen Chats | 7:00 pm |
| | <i>Thursday</i> | |
| Sept. 15 | Orthodox Study Fellowship | 10:30 am |
| | <i>Friday</i> | |
| Sept. 16 | | |
| | <i>Saturday</i> | |
| Sept. 17 | Great Vespers/Confessions | 5:00 pm |