

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



733 Starkweather Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Mailing:
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Cleveland, Ohio 44113

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www.sttheodosius.org

- Archpriest John Zdinak
Dean
- Archpriest Pavel Soucek
Attached/Retired
- Subdeacon Theodore Lentz
Sacristan
- Reader Julius Kovach -
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

Divine Services

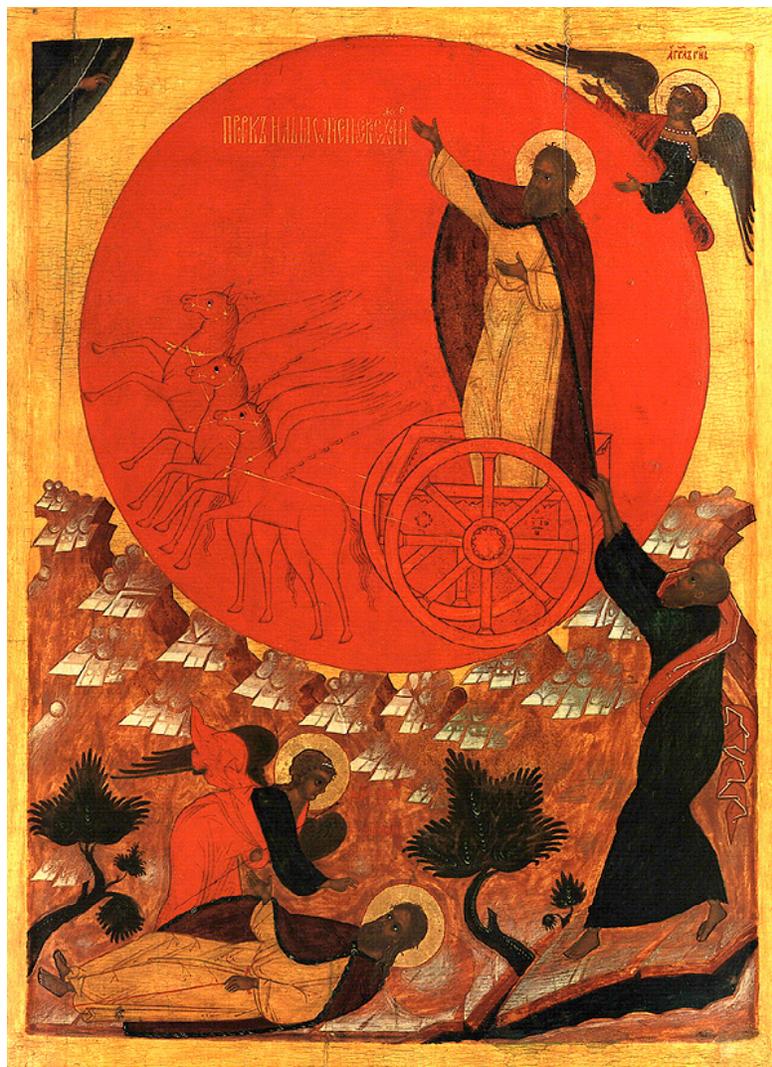
Eve Sundays & Feast Days
5:00 PM Confessions
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

JULY 20, 2008

5th Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH



Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah

The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and the first dedicated to virginity in the Old Testament. He was born in Tishba of Gilead into the Levite tribe 900 years before the Incarnation of the Word of God.

St Epiphanius of Cyprus gives the following account about the birth of the Prophet Elijah: "When Elijah was born, his father Sobach saw in a vision angels of God around him. They swaddled him with fire and fed him with flames." The name Elijah (the Lord's strength) given to the infant defined his whole life. From the years of his youth he dedicated himself to the One God, settled in the wilderness and spent his whole life in strict fasting, meditation and prayer. Called to prophetic service, which put him in conflict with the Israelite king Ahab, the prophet became a fiery zealot of true faith and piety.

During this time the Israelite nation had fallen away from the faith of their Fathers, they abandoned the One God and worshipped pagan idols, the worship of which was introduced by the impious king Jereboam. Jezebel, the wife of king Ahab, was devoted to idol worship. She persuaded her husband to build a temple to the pagan god Baal, which led many Israelites away from the worship of the true God. Beholding the ruin of his nation, the Prophet Elijah began to denounce King Ahab for impiety, and exhorted him to repent and turn to the God of Israel. The king would not listen to him. The Prophet Elijah then declared to him, that as punishment there would be neither rain nor dew upon the ground, and the drought would cease only by his prayer. Indeed, the word of Elijah was a torch (Eccles. 48: 1) The heavens were closed for three and a half years, and there was drought and famine throughout all the land.

During this time of tribulation, the Lord sent him to a cave beyond the Jordan. There he was miraculously fed by ravens. When the stream Horath dried up, the Lord sent the Prophet Elijah to Sarephta to a poor widow, a Sidonian Gentile who suffered together with her children, awaiting death by starvation. At the request of the prophet, she prepared him a bread with the last measure of flour and the remainder of the oil. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elijah, flour and oil were not depleted in the home of the widow for the duration of the famine. By the power of his prayer the prophet also performed another miracle: he raised the dead son of the widow.

After the end of three years of drought the Merciful Lord sent the prophet to appear before King Ahab, and promised to send rain upon the earth. The Prophet Elijah told the king to order all of Israel to gather upon Mount Carmel, and also the priests of Baal. When the nation had gathered, the Prophet Elijah proposed that two sacrificial altars be built: one for the priests of Baal, and the other for the Prophet Elijah who served the True God.

The Prophet Elijah told them to call on their gods to consume the sacrificial animals with fire, and he would call on his. Whichever was first to send fire on the sacrifice would be acknowledged as the true God. The prophets of Baal called out to their idol from morning till evening, but the heavens were silent. Towards evening the holy Prophet Elijah built his sacrificial altar from twelve stones, the number of the tribes of Israel. He placed

the sacrifice upon the wood, gave orders to dig a ditch around the altar and commanded that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked with water. When the ditch had filled with water, the prophet turned to God in prayer. Through the prayer of the prophet fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water. The people fell down to the ground, crying out: "Truly, the Lord is God!" Then the Prophet Elijah had all the pagan-priests of Baal put to death, and he began to pray for rain. Through his prayer the heavens opened and an abundant rain fell, soaking the parched earth.

King Ahab acknowledged his error and repented of his sins, but his wife Jezebel threatened to kill the prophet of God. The Prophet Elijah fled into the Kingdom of Judea and, grieving over his failure to eradicate idol worship, he asked God to let him die. An angel of the Lord came before him, strengthened him with food and commanded him to go upon a long journey. The Prophet Elijah traveled for forty days and nights and, having arrived at Mount Horeb, he settled in a cave.

The Lord told him that the next day Elijah would stand in His presence. There was a strong wind that crushed the rocks of the mountain, then an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in them. The Lord was in "a gentle breeze" (3 Kings 19: 12). He revealed to the prophet, that He would preserve seven thousand faithful servants who had not worshipped Baal.

Later, the Lord commanded Elijah to anoint Elisha into prophetic service. Because of his fiery zeal for the Glory of God the Prophet Elijah was taken up alive into Heaven in a fiery chariot. The Prophet Elisha received Elijah's mantle, and a double portion of his prophetic spirit.

According to the Tradition of Holy Church, the Prophet Elijah will be the Forerunner of the Dread Second Coming of Christ. He will proclaim the truth of Christ, urge all to repentance, and will be slain by the Antichrist. This will be a sign of the end of the world.

The life of the holy Prophet Elijah is recorded in the Old Testament books (3 Kings; 4 Kings; Sirach/Ecclesiastes 48: 1-15; 1 Maccabees 2: 58). At the time of the Transfiguration, the Prophet Elijah conversed with the Savior upon Mount Tabor (Mt. 17: 3; Mark 9: 4; Luke. 9: 30).

Orthodox Christians of all times, and in all places, have venerated the Prophet Elijah for centuries. The first church in Russia, built at Kiev under Prince Igor, was named for the Prophet Elijah. After her Baptism St Olga (July 14) built a temple of the holy Prophet Elijah in his native region, at the village of Vibuta.

In iconography the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to Heaven in a fiery chariot, surrounded with flames, and harnessed to four winged horses. We pray to him for deliverance from drought, and to ask for seasonable weather.

PRAYER REQUESTS

DEPARTED:

Sue Pyeha + 7/3/08

Peter Dereschuk + 7/7/08

ILL-AFFLICTED:

Archpriest Pavel Soucek
and Mat. Paula
Subdeacon Theodore Lentz
Alice Artino
Helen Baldner
Carol Bohurjak
Martha Bondor
Mary Chrewan
John Conrad
Bernice Ferencz
Joseph Gammalo

Henry & Julia Grabowski
Maria Hanzel
Christina Helle
Jason Kleps (cousin of Maca Tyler. Jason is in Kirkuk, Iraq)
Marian Kluchnik
Mary Ann Kovach
Dorothy Laskovich
John Matson
Olga Michailuk
Dan O'Donnell
Rebekah Samol
Julia Sankovic(child)
Mary Ann Silberhorn
William J. Spurlock
Elsie Sudnick
Harrison Ward (Child)
Helen Zawisza (Joe Rusynyk's sister)

William & Suzanne Frazier
& Unborn Child

Cara Ann Gartman
& Unborn Child

Tom & Nancy Mitchell
& Unborn Child

William George & Mara Oprisko &
Unborn Child



Edward & Carol Jacak
& Newly Born Annaliese Benay
6/30/08

Robby & Jacqui Prock
and Newly Born Hailey
Ann 6/23/08

GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Weekly expenses: | \$6,538.00 |
| Last week's collection: | <u>\$2,914.00</u> |
| Over/Under | < \$3,624.00 > |

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any one speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any one ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies: that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."
1 Peter 4: 10-11

FOCA MEETING TODAY

There will be an FOCA meeting today
after church in the Parish Hall.

LCBA BRANCH 17 PICNIC TODAY

St. Michael's "Shanty," 5025 E. Mill Rd,
Broadview Hts. Afternoon activities will begin
at 12:00 noon.

Sixth Annual A Taste of Tremont

A Taste of Tremont street
festival will take place **TODAY**
from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

The street fair will be held in
the heart of Tremont's "resta-
urant district" and showcase the
best of Tremont's food, art and
entertainment. The best part is
that admission is free.

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes you and thanks you for joining us at today's Divine Liturgy. While only Orthodox Christians may approach the chalice for Holy Communion, everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after Liturgy.



Dome Lighters

Donations to offset the cost of lighting the domes can be made for the health of or in memory of your loved ones. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

COFFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

Coffee Hour Hosts:

7/20/08 Karen Felon
7/27/08 Donna Jacak
8/03/08 Dan & Lavinia Morris
8/10/08 Joyce Tabelaing/Albert Casey

Greeters:

Phyllis Gindlesperger/Virginia Medvec
Maca Tyler
Debbi Pinta/Maria Browlawik
Eileen Bondor



For your convenience, we will have **HOMEMADE APRICOT, NUT and POPPYSEED ROLLS** for sale at every Sunday's *Coffee Hour*. Homemade rolls are also available at the Ridge Manor Party Center. Please call Sharon Glagola

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY:

In honor of **GRACE MARY PARHAMOVICH'S 80th birthday** by the Felon Family, Subdeacon Leon, Karen and Leonora.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Father John will be away from the office beginning Friday, July 18 and will return Saturday, July 26.

In case of any immediate emergency, please contact the Parish office at 216-741-1310 or contact Father John Memorich, Archangel Michael Church, Broadview Hts.

Home: 216-524-9795
Office: 440-526-5192

Finance Committee
Meeting Monday,
August 11, 2008
5:30 PM
@Ridge Manor

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, **August 12, at 6:00 PM**
@ Ridge Manor

NOTICE

Effective July 1, 2008, there was a price increase for the purchase of cemetery lots at the St. Theodosius Orthodox Cemetery.

*Price increases for St. Theodosius parishioners will take effect **August 1, 2008***



NEXT SUNDAY JULY 27

Please bring one of your favorite side dishes to share!



SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5
ST. MARY OF EGYPT
ORTHODOX MONASTERY
is sponsoring its
ANNUAL BENEFIT
at ST. PAUL GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH
1:00PM - 3:30PM
\$20.00 PER PERSON

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, July 20

Holy Prophet Elijah

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

FOCA Meeting after Liturgy

12:00 noon LCBA Branch 17

Picnic @ St. Michael's Shanty

1:00 PM A Taste of Tremont

Monday, July 21

Prophet Ezekiel

Tuesday, July 22

Holy Myrrbearer Mary Magdalene

Equal-To-The-Apostles

Holy Myrrbearer Mary Magdalene



Wednesday, July 23

**Martyrs Trophimus, Theophilus and
Their Companions**

Thursday, July 24

Martyr Christina

Martyrs Boris & Gleb, Passionbearers

Friday, July 25

**Dormition Of Righteous
Anna, Mother Of
The Theotokos**

Saturday, July 26

**St. Jacob Netsvetov
6:00 PM Vespers**

Sunday, July 27

**Greatmartyr and Healer
Panteleimon**

**9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
CHURCH PICNIC**



SPECIAL COLLECTION

JULY, 2008

ST. JOHN'S MONASTERY



St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

733 Starkweather Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44113