

Ambo

ST. THEodosius ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Lentz, Sacristan
- Reader Julius Kovach,
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster
- Reader Paul Pangrace,
Ambo Editor

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

* AMBO: Articles for publication should be submitted to: sttheocemetery@yahoo.com by Wednesday of each week before noon.

* CALENDAR: Event dates must be submitted by the 15th of each month.

JULY 17, 2016
ROYAL PASSIONBEARERS
GREATMARTYR MARINA
(MARGARET)

PROPHET EZEKIEL



JULY 21

The Holy Prophet Ezekiel lived in the sixth century before the birth of Christ. He was born in the city of Sarir, and descended from the tribe of Levi; he was a priest and the son of the priest Buzi. Ezekiel was led off to Babylon when he was twenty-five years old together with King Jechoniah II and many other Jews during the second invasion of Jerusalem by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnessar.

The Prophet Ezekiel lived in captivity by the River Chebar. When he was thirty years old, he had a vision of the future of the Hebrew nation and of all mankind. The prophet beheld a shining cloud, with fire flashing continually, and in the midst of the fire, gleaming bronze. He also saw four living creatures in the shape of men, but with four faces (Ez. 1:6). Each had the face of a man in front, the face of a lion on the right, the face of an ox on the left, and the face of an eagle at the back (Ez. 1:10). There was a wheel on the earth beside each creature, and the rim of each wheel was full of eyes.

Over the heads of the creatures there seemed to be a firmament, shining like crystal. Above the firmament was the likeness of a throne, like glittering sapphire in appearance. Above this throne was the likeness of a human form, and around Him was a rainbow (Ez. 1:4-28).

According to the explanation of the Fathers of the Church, the human likeness upon the sapphire throne prefigures the Incarnation of the Son of God from the Most Holy Virgin Mary, who is the living Throne of God. The four creatures are symbols of the four Evangelists: a man (St Matthew), a lion (St Mark), an ox (St Luke), and an eagle (St John); the wheel with the many eyes is meant to suggest the sharing of light with all the nations of the earth. During this vision the holy prophet fell down upon the ground out of fear, but the voice of God commanded him to get up. He was told that the Lord was sending him to preach to the nation of Israel. This was the beginning of Ezekiel's prophetic service.

The Prophet Ezekiel announces to the people of Israel, held captive in Baylon, the tribulations it would face for not remaining faithful to God. The prophet also proclaimed a better time for his fellow-countrymen, and he predicted their return from Babylon, and the restoration of the Jerusalem Temple.

There are two significant elements in the vision of the prophet: the vision of the temple of the Lord, full of glory (Ez. 44:1-10); and the bones in the valley, to which the Spirit of God gave new life (Ez. 37:1-14). The vision of the temple was a mysterious prefiguring of the race of man freed from the working of the Enemy and the building up of the Church of Christ through the redemptive act of the Son of God, incarnate of the Most Holy Theotokos. Ezekiel's description of the shut gate of the sanctuary, through which the Lord God would enter (Ez. 44:2), is a prophecy of the Virgin giving birth to Christ, yet remaining a virgin. The vision of the dry bones prefigured the universal resurrection of the dead, and the new eternal life bestowed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The holy Prophet Ezekiel received from the Lord the gift of wonderworking. He, like the Prophet Moses, divided the waters of the river Chebar, and the Hebrews crossed to the opposite shore, escaping the pursuing Chaldeans. During a time of famine the prophet asked God for an increase of food for the hungry.

Ezekiel was condemned to execution because he denounced a certain Hebrew prince for idolatry. Bound to wild horses, he was torn to pieces. Pious Hebrews gathered up the torn body of the prophet and buried it upon Maur Field, in the tomb of Sim and Arthaxad, forefathers of Abraham, not far from Baghdad. The prophecy of Ezekiel is found in the book named for him, and is included in the Old Testament.

St Demetrius of Rostov (October 28 and September 21) explains to believers the following concepts in the book of the Prophet Ezekiel: if a righteous man turns from righteousness to sin, he shall die for his sin, and his righteousness will not be remembered. If a sinner repents, and keeps God's commandments, he will not die. His former sins will not be held against him, because now he follows the path of righteousness (Ez. 3:20; 18:21-24).

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 17

July 17 Rom. 6:18-23
Matt. 8:5-13

July 19 Rom.14:9-18
Matt. 12:14-16,22-30

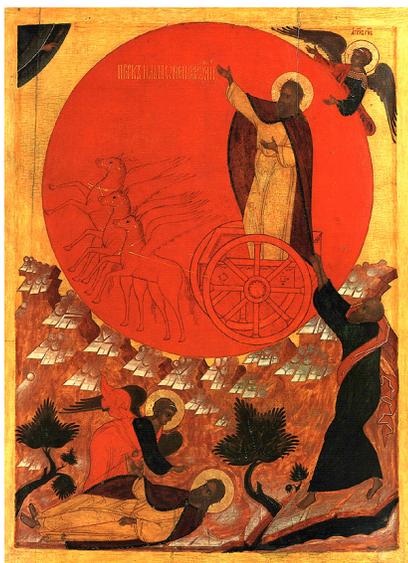
July 22 Rom. 16:1-16
Matt. 13:4-9

July 18 Rom. 12:4-5, 15-21
Matt. 12:9-13

July 20 Rom. 15:7-16
Matt. 12:38-45

July 23 Rom. 8:14-21
Matt. 9:9-13

July 21 Rom.15:17-29
Matt. 12:36-13:3



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.

In iconography the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to Heaven in a fiery chariot, surrounded with flames, and



PRAYER REQUESTS

Departed:

Valerie Rolls (*Fr. John's cousin*)
06-14-16

Donna Pelton
06-16-16

Predrag Mirolovich (*Fr. Svetislav's brother*)
06-16-16

Lawrence Moriak (*Bishop Matthias's father*)
06-17-16

Jach Schmoll (*friend of Darrell Felon*)
06-22-16

Anna Mysiw (*friend and neighbor of Helen Antonik*)
06-30-16

Paul Edines Webb (*Paul Webb's father*)
07-05-16

Ill Afflicted & Special Intentions:

Matushka Catherine Jula
Archpriest Theodore Bobosh
Nina

Mary
Michael
Iris Agin (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Pauline Alexander (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)
Judith Allgire (*friend of Sonia Vorell*)

Betty Balasz
David C. Baringer (*friend of Karen Felon*)
Judy Baughman

Christopher Baymiller (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Paula Baymiller (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Karen Beech (*friend of Jerry Czajkowski & Arlene Neale*)

Tony Boccheccio

Carol Bohurjak

Margaret Brooks (*friend of Steve Rusnak*)

Julie Byndas

Elsie Conrad

John Conrad

Jerry Czajkowski

Metodije Damljanovic (*Child*)

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia Morris's brother*)

Cindy Durkalski

Nadine Ellis

Nashwa Fam

Dorothy Fowler

Gayle Franks (*Judy Schwind's cousin*)

Roger Haupt (*Lisa Theodore's cousin*)

Janet Hennig (*friend of Judy Schwind*)

Sandee Holod

Matthew Hunley (*Phyllis Gindlesperger's brother-in-law*)

Donna Jacak

Victor Jacak

Kevin Jackam (*Sonia Vorell's cousin*)

Joy Jahans (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Stephen Jahans (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's sister*)

Maher Khalil

Thomas Khalil

Frances Kovalski (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

John Kovalski (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Dorothy Laskovich

Joseph Laskowski (*Dorothy Laskovich's nephew*)

Jethro Miles

Paul Mihal

Andy Mytrohovich

Maude Palumbo (*Michelle Rajisch's mother*)

Debra Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's sister*)

Grace Parhamovich (*Karen Felon's mother*)

Cindy Powkowski

Cheryl Regrut (*Deb Ellis's sister-in-law*)

Dorothy Romig

Julia Sankovic (*Child*)

Debbie Seguin (*friend of Leon Felon*)

Elaine Sudnick (*Joy Pfeiffer's mother*)

Janice Tkacz

Elisabeth Wright (*friend of Paul Pangrace*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Elizabeth Zimmerman

Peter Zimmerman

Theodore Zolikoff (*Nick Zolikoff's father*)

Alice Zdinak (*Fr. John's Mother*)

Emilee McPhillips (**Wayne & Gayle Vidovich's niece**) & **Unborn Children**

Matt & Loren Finnerty (**James & Kathy Spickler's daughter**) & **Unborn Child**

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. You are also invited to join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall following Liturgy.

COFFEE HOUR & GREETERS SCHEDULES

Coffee Hour:



7/17/16	Joyce Tabeling & Judy Schwind
7/24/16	Nick & Kate Zolikoff
7/31/16	Cathy Weber & Mat. Jenn Boerio
8/7/16	Mat. Cindy Zdinak & The Van Sickles
8/14/16	Lauren Miklos & Chandra Czaruk
8/21/16	Michael Tabeling & Michael Udell
8/28/16	Steve Rusnak & Jim Schwind

Greeters:

Karen Felon & Virginia Medvec
Linda Smotzer & Sonia Vorell
Michael Tabeling & Igor Gajewsky
Nina & Elizabeth Antonik
Tammy & Eva Ponomarenko
Karen Felon & Virginia Medvec
Michael Tabeling & Igor Gajewsky

GOD'S GIFTS TO US - OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly expenses:	\$ 6,538.00
Last week's collection	<u>\$ 3,338.00</u>
Over/Under	< \$ 3,200.00 >

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry ministry continues through Merrick House. They currently use the bags in their Moms First program. We can always use your help by "sponsoring a bag". Envelopes are in the foyer, \$10 fills a bag. Thank you and God bless you for helping those in need. - Dan Morris



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.

For the entire 2016 year:

In loving memory of Olga Fritskey
from John & Ruth Fritskey



International Orthodox Christian Charities Baseball Night at Progressive Field

Saturday, July 30, 2016

7:00 P.M.



Cleveland Indians vs. Oakland A's

Mezzanine Seats - \$ 25.00

- Fireworks Night
- First 15,000 receive a bobble head
- Indians hall of fame night



See your parish representative, or contact Frank Tkacz at 216-789-3267



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

2016

Sunday, July 17

ROYAL PASSIONBEARERS
GREATMARYR MARINA
(MARGARET)

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday, July 18

NUN MARTYRS
GR. DUCHESS ELIZABETH
AND BARBARA

7:00 PM Bible Study w/Deacon
Jacob @ Parish Hall

Tuesday, July 19

RELICS VEN. SERAPHIM
OF SAROV

Wednesday, July 20

HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH



Thursday, July 21

PROPHET EZEKIEL
VEN. SIMEON OF EMESA,
FOOL-FOR-CHRIST

Friday, July 22

HOLY MYRRHBEARER
MARY MAGADELENE,
EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES

Saturday, July 23

MARTYRS TROPHIMUS
THEOPHILUS AND THEIR
COMPANIONS

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, July 24

MARTYR CHRISTINA
MARTYRS BORIS & GLEB,
PASSIONBEARERS

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Panahida for Michael, Paul &
Michael Mytrohovich and Mary &
Jacob Habinak following Divine
Liturgy

Panahida for Donna Pelton following
Divine Liturgy

JULY
Special Collection
**ST. JOHN'S
MONASTERY**



St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

733 Starkweather Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

JULY