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Clergy

**His Eminence, the Most Reverend SABA,
Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
www.Antiochian.org**

**Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Jeremy (Davis), Archiepiscopal Vicar for the
Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest**

**Rev. Fr. Ephraim Vest, Pastor
Pastor.SaintEliasOH@gmail.com**

August 10, 2025

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost & Ninth Sunday of Matthew
After-feast of the Transfiguration of Christ**

**Martyr and Archdeacon Laurence of Rome, Hieromartyr Sixtus, bishop of Rome & those with them;
Venerable Laurence of Kaluga, the Fool for Christ's sake**

To our Visitors...

Welcome! We hope your time with us is healing and worshipful. Please fill out the "Connection Card" located on the Narthex Visitor Table so we can stay in touch with you.

Please note that although we have much respect for other Christian traditions, Holy Communion is reserved for properly prepared members of the Orthodox Christian faith. Everyone is invited to partake of the blessed bread after Communion and also at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy. Please also join us for coffee hour after liturgy.

If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox Christian Church or St. Elias parish, please reach out to Fr. Ephraim (Pastor.SaintEliasOH@gmail.com). May God's blessing be upon you!

The Orthodox Church is the one Church founded by Jesus Christ and his Apostles at the day of Pentecost with the descent of the Holy Spirit in the year 33 A.D.

Since the day of Pentecost, the Orthodox Church has maintained a continuity of faith and teachings, which were founded by Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

We, here at St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, hold this very same faith, live it, and preserve it for the generations to come.

VARIABLES IN TODAY'S LITURGY

The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

The First Antiphon

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. Who settest fast the mountains by Thy strength, Who art girded about with power.

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

Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment. The mountains shall rejoice at the presence of the Lord, for He cometh; yea, He is come to judge the earth. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

The Second Antiphon

His foundations are in the holy mountains. The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast transfigured on Mount Tabor, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. (Refrain)

A man will say: Mother Sion; and: That man was born in her; and: The Most High Himself hath founded her. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now...

O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

The Third Antiphon

Of Thy mercies, O Lord, will I sing forever. The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of saints. Blessed is the people that knoweth jubilation. O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance shall they walk, and in Thy Name shall they rejoice all the day long.

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration - Tone 7

When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.

The Entrance Hymn

Come let us worship and all down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who arose from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia!

Resurrectional Apolytikion - Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Transfiguration - Tone 7

When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.

Troparion of St. Elias - Tone 4

O angelic of body, pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone, forerunner of the Second Coming of Christ, venerable and glorious Elias, thou didst send grace from on high to Elisha, dispelling sickness and purifying lepers. Wherefore he doth overflow with healing for those who honor him.

Kontakion of the Transfiguration - Tone 7

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Epistle

Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.

God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise architect I laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. Let each one take heed how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; everyone's work will become manifest; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire itself will test each one's work of what sort it is. If anyone's work which was built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as by fire. Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone corrupts the temple of God, God will corrupt him. For the temple of God is holy, whose temple you are.

Alleluia Verses

(please stand)

The Gospel

(remain standing)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

The Pre-Communion Prayers are found on p.108 in the Red Spiral Service books or on the pew card

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia!

Prayer List

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord

Living

Fadwa Abood,
Cynthia Brooks,
Subdeacon Charles Cassis,
Chuck Cassis
Diana Cooper,
Ford Cooper,
Christa Cornell
Leila Crestani
Bill Darah
Ashley DeFalco,
Jacob DeFalco,
Jane Devine,
Quinn Devine,
Jacques Eid,
George Ellis,
Georgeann Ellis,
Kelly Fingerle,
Michelle Franks
Farris Genide
Jon Jaffe
Jerry Jamra,
Larry Jamra,
David Joseph,
Shirley Karam,
Connor Kenyon,
Jeff Managhan,
Marie Molden
Steve Murphy,
Fred Nassar,
Louise Pospisil,

Linda Prephan,
Marilyn (Ziton) Reeves,
Isaac Roznowski,
Joe Shamy,
Irene Thomson,
Emmy Vest
Abby Wackenheim,
Earl Wackenheim,
Carol Lee Webb,
Eldon Webb,
John Williams
Laura Wisniewski,
Brenda Wurzell,

Catechumens

Andrew Lesinszki,
Eric Henkel
Autumn Henkel
Levi Henkel,
Cyrus Razmgar,
Shawn Patterson,
Chris Gore,
Phillip Ropp,
Brazden Brown,
Matthew Czech
Stephanie Lautz
Jacob Premo
Abigail Barshel
Malachy Barshel
Joshua Shinaver
Presley Stephens
Lily Ivy

Willow Ivy
Olympia Shinaver
Atlas Shinaver
John Fifer
Breanne Fifer
Trinity Fifer
Sam Fifer

The victims of violence and disaster, especially in our communities and throughout the world, and those who are afflicted by the bombing at the Prophet Elias Orthodox Church in Damascus, Syria

Departed

Shirley DeVictor 1 year Memorial
Joseph Blockinger
Denise Jacoby
Angela Franks

The victims of violence and disaster throughout the world, especially in our communities and throughout the world

This Week At St. Elias

Office Hours Monday - Friday 10am-3pm

Confession Available Saturday at 4:30, and by appointment

Today	9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy , followed by Coffee Hour Altar Server Training and (Re)Orientation
Monday August 11	
Tuesday August 12	1pm Bible Study on the book of The Book of Acts 7pm Catechumen Class. & 7pm Sweepstakes Dinner planning meeting
Wednesday August 13	6pm Daily Vespers
Thursday August 14	5pm Festal Orthros 6pm Divine Liturgy for the Great Feast of the Dormition
Friday August 15	<i>The Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos</i>
Saturday August 16	4:30 Confession 5pm Great Vespers
Sunday, August 17	9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy , & Back to School Blessings followed by Coffee Hour & Presentation by Subdeacon Charles Cassis

Announcements

- There will be a **Special Collection** to fund new Altar Cloth Sets for the Sanctuary, Nave, & Narthex.
- Today following Divine Liturgy, we are having an **Altar Server Training and (Re)Orientation**.
- Attention Students, teachers, and youth workers! We will have our **Back to School Blessing and Prayer** following Liturgy on Sunday August 17.
- Also, on Sunday, August 17th, our Subdeacon and Seminarian Charles Cassis will give a **presentation** on his pilgrimage through Jordan and Lebanon with Metropolitan SABA.
- **The Mantle** will be meeting Saturday, August 23 after Vespers for a potluck followed by a bonfire. Join us for a fun evening as we plan out the next events for The Mantle!

Upcoming Events & Feasts

- **Thursday, August 14**, 6pm Divine Liturgy for the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
- **August 15-17** St. George Summer Festival
- **Sunday, August 17** - Back to School Blessings for all Students & Teachers
- **Saturday, August 23** - The Mantle Potluck & Bonfire
- **Saturday, August 30** - PanOrthodox Vespers, Potluck and Project Mexico Presentation
- **September 5-7** Holy Trinity Greek Festival

St. Elias's Sainly Friends

“The interior walls of our temples are adorned with the icons and frescoes of the saints as a reminder that we are surrounded by the cloud of witnesses, the saints, and that the Church Militant (here on earth) is not separated from the Church Triumphant (in heaven). In Christ, death does not divide us, for the saints are not dead, but alive in Christ Jesus.” - Abbot Tryphon

Today, we meet St. Stephen. His icon is on the north wall, closest to the front of Nave of the Church. He is commemorated on December 27.

The Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen was the eldest of the seven deacons, appointed by the Apostles themselves, and therefore he is called “archdeacon.” He was the first Christian martyr, and he suffered for Christ when he was about thirty years of age. In the words of Asterias, he was “the starting point of the martyrs, the instructor of suffering for Christ, the foundation of righteous confession, since Stephen was the first to shed his blood for the Gospel.”

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Saint Stephen preached Christianity and defeated Jewish teachers of the Law in debate. The Jewish leaders of the temple maligned Saint Stephen, saying that he had uttered blasphemy against God and against Moses. Saint Stephen came before the Sanhedrin and the High Priest to answer these charges. He gave a fiery speech, in which he recounted the history of the Jewish nation, and denounced the leaders and unfaithful Jews for persecuting the prophets and also for executing the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ (Acts ch. 7).

During his speech, Saint Stephen suddenly saw the heavens opened and Jesus Christ standing at the right hand of God. His persecutors shouted and covered their ears and rushed at him. They dragged him out of the city and stoned him, but the holy martyr prayed for his murderers. Far off on the heights stood the Mother of God with the holy Apostle John the Theologian, and she prayed fervently for the martyr. Before his death Saint Stephen said, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. O Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.” Then he joyfully gave up his pure soul to Christ.

The body of the holy Protomartyr Stephen, left to be eaten by beasts, was secretly taken up by the Jewish teacher Gamaliel and his son Habib, who buried Stephen on his estate. They both believed in Christ and later received holy Baptism.

Saint Stephen is also commemorated on August 2 (Translation of his relics) and on September 15 (Uncovering of his relics in the year 415).

Tab 2

Tab 3

