



The Weekly Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd

Campbell, OH 44405

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest



JULY BULLETIN SPONSOR

In memory of Joanie Puharich Kovach – Given by Michael Kovach & Robert Puharich Families

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, July 21

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Blessing of Vehicles /

Wednesday, July 24

6:00 PM: Fire Department meeting

Saturday, July 27

6:00 PM: Vespers / Confessions

Sunday, July 28

9:00 AM: Greet His Beatitude @ St. Nicholas in Mogadore followed by Primatial Divine Liturgy & Banquet (Father will be attending and serving)

9:35 AM: Hours (Here at St. John's)

10:00 AM: Readers Service (Here at St. John's)

2024 - COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Tusinac (President)

Phone- 724-456-7366

Melenie Rusnak (Vice-President)

Phone- 330-398-3700

Cindy Ferrick (Treasurer)

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Nadine Sabo (Secretary)

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Phone 330-774-8860

Natalia Simko (Council) (Cemetery issues)

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Linda Livosky (Council) (Kitchen issues)

Phone- 330-402-6573

Maintenance Issues:

Michael Simko - 330-565-0084

Michael Centofanti - 330-544-3518

JULY Special Monthly Charity

St. Herman's Seminary

Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah / Commemorated on July 20

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.

Saint 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 Jezebel. 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 **Con't Pg 8**

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

<https://www.stjohnthebaptist-campbell.org/>

padrebartek@gmail.com

PLEASE KEEP OUR ELDERS OF THE CHURCH & SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS– UPDATED 5-8-24

Send a “Thinking of You” card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

Many Years to His Beatitude Celebrating his 58th Birthday!

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon celebrates his 58th birthday July 15th.

The Holy Synod of Bishops, Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America wish His Beatitude many more blessed years!

Eis polla eti, Despota!

One Year to the 21st All-American Council

The Orthodox Church in America is one year away from convening the 21st All-American Council, set to take place from July 14-18, 2025, in Phoenix, AZ. The theme of the 21st AAC is “Gathered Together By Christ.” Clergy and laity from across the Orthodox Church in America will meet at the Arizona Grand Resort, a premier destination in the American Southwest which offers ample meeting space and excellent amenities, including the largest water park in Arizona, multiple dining options, a golf course, spa, and athletic club. The visit of the Pre-Conciliar Commission to the location in March 2023 confirmed its suitability for the work of the AAC, the exhibition hall, presentations, youth program, and the social life of the delegates which comes along with gathering in Council. As defined in the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, “the All-American Council is the highest legislative and administrative authority within the Church. The Council brings together the various elements of the Church to bear witness to her identity, unity, and mission.” More information will be provided as it becomes available.

PRAYER LIST– Updated 7-16-24

PARISHIONERS: Achilles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Donna Chiarelli / Helen Colaluca / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / George Horodnic / Anthony Jesko, Jr. / Paula Kennedy / Sue Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Matushka Helen Psinka / Mary Jane Puskas / Carol Ruff / Kenny Ruff / Sub-deacon Vladimir Rusnak / Joanna Shepelevich / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Emilia Yannitto / Andy Zenko / Marion Zwinski

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FAMILY & FRIENDS: David (Willison) / Dominic (Centofanti) / Ellen (Clark) / Genna & her un-born baby (Koval) / Melinda Dubiec (Fr.) / Trudy Ellmore (Fr.) / John Galpin (Fr.) / Bruce Harris (Sabo) / Karen (Gommel) / Katie (Garrity) / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Ellen (Kessler) / Paul (Kolesar) / Karen (Vansuch) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Jonathan Leso (Fr.) / Mea (Mahan) / Mary (Mahan) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raissa (Nicoloff) / Eugene (Pallai) / Teri Petroff (Fr.) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / William Romanchak (Fr.) / Julia Shirilla / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Richard (Tusinac) / Brian (Shirilla) / Joseph (Vansuch) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Paula (Voytilla) / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Patty Bozichovich (Vansuch) / Drew (Willison) / Ron Zenko / Catherine Zile (Fr.) / Brenna & her unborn baby (Fr.)

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

MISCELLANEOUS: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive & Metropolitan Arseny imprisoned / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

Prophet Ezekiel Commemorated on 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 Nebuchadnezzar.

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 (Saint Matthew), a lion (Saint Mark), an ox (Saint Luke), and an eagle (Saint 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 Babylon, 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 **Con't Pg 7**

JULY Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

NOTE: If anything is missing from the Sponsorships please contact Fr. Andrew ASAP

Bulletin: In memory of Joanie Puharich Kovach– Given by Michael Kovach & Robert Puharich Families

Wine: In honor of our mother & Baba, Julia Simko on her 90th B-day– Given by Cheryl & Bill Dubos & Family

Incense: In memory of Steve Sveda– Given by Mr. & Mrs. George Kolesar

Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In honor of our mother & Baba Julia Simko– Given by Cheryl & Bill Dubos & Family vercko / In memory of Michael & Ethel Dudzik– Given by Mike & Lynn Polewan

Altar Candles: In memory of Ruth Libertin– Given by Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch / In honor of Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch’s wedding anniversary– Given by Reader Nicholas & Monica Vansuch / In memory of Andrew Cvercko on the 7th anniversary of repose on July 3rd– Given by Ann Cvercko

Tetrapod Candles: In memory of Robert Kennedy’s 30th anniversary of repose on July 10th & Eugene Kennedy on July 3rd– Given by Debiec & Kennedy Families

St. Herman Candles: Commemorating all who participate in maintenance of the church, the teachers, singers & those who participate in social events. Praying for everyone to love one another.

St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: In memory of my family & friends– Given by AP Andrew Bartek

Protection Icon Candles: In memory of AP John Psinka– Given by AP Andrew Bartek

St. John the Baptist Candles: In honor of George Kolesar on his 87th B-day- Given by Barbara Kolesar

Flowers: In memory of my father, Robert Fredericks, on his 94th B-day– Given by Sherrie Fredericks

<u>\$50 per month</u>	<u>\$30 per month</u>	<u>\$25 per month</u>
*Wine	*St. Herman candles	Incense
*Bulletin	*St. Panteleimon Icon candles	
*Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light	*Protection Icon candles	Flowers - \$50 for 2 weeks at a time– Updated
*Altar Candles	*St. John the Baptist candles	
*Tetrapod Candles		

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - <i>JULY</i>	2023	2024
1st week		
Vespers	10	No Vespers
Divine Liturgy	72 / 50	60 / 34
2nd Week		
Vespers	32	No Vespers
Divine Liturgy	57 / 40	70 / 43
3rd Week		
Vespers	8	No Vespers
Divine Liturgy	66 / 37	
4th Week		
Vespers	No Vespers	
Divine Liturgy	45/ No record	
5th Week		
Vespers	9	
Divine Liturgy	61 / 43	

JULY FINANCIALS	
Expenses	\$7,445.22
Income	\$10,394.00
TOTAL	\$2,948.78
Weekly Tithe	\$9,120
Weekly Candles	\$189
Weekly Flowers	\$50
Un-needed Gifts	\$675
Wine	\$50
St. John the Baptist Candles	\$30
Altar Candles	\$150
Icon Screen & Eternal Light Candles	\$100
Tetrapod Candles	\$50
Pre-Advent Social	\$10
Charity: St Herman Seminary	\$369

40 DAY REMBRANCE
July 21– Suzanne / Ronald (Thomas) Moore)
August 11– Dan O’Brien
August 25– Betty Ewenish / AP Alexis

Reposed List for JULY

- 1- Veronica Graban (1998) ©
- 1- Ann Zastany Crowi (2019) ©
- 1- Mike Smyrnios (1960) ©
- 2- Vasil Fecik (1921) ©
- 3- Andrew Cvercko (2017) ©
- 3- John Kaschak (1920) ©
- 4- Alice Sutko (2020)
- 4- Helen Arvan Kusmanov (2013) ©
- 4- Anna Gozur (1957) ©
- 5- George Hostal (2001) ©
- 5- George Vavlas (1945) ©
- 5- Andrew Harvischak (1951) ©
- 6- Steve Sveda (1928) ©
- 6- Nick Galouzis (1961) ©
- 7- Luba Raseta (1929) ©
- 8- Marian Shepelevich (2020)
- 9- Mary Zanos (1926) ©
- 10- Anna Roman (1926) ©
- 10- Robert Kennedy (1994) ©
- 10- Pete George (1939) ©
- 10- Nick Despetarich (1959) ©
- 12- Anna Berdy (1980) ©
- 12- Ruth Libertin (2008) ©
- 12- John Bolescak (1926) ©
- 13- Marilyn Fasiline (1972) ©
- 13- John Borsic (1987) ©
- 13- Andrew Holubauich (1930) ©
- 14- Edward Gorol (1961) ©
- 15- Catherine Harvischak (1977) ©
- 15- Floyd Dweesy (1985) ©
- 15- Mary Sykola (2005) ©
- 16- Mary Macala (1971) ©
- 16- Julian Marsteler (1920) ©
- 17- Mary Bartek (1984)
- 17- Eleanor Graban (1986) ©
- 17- Elizabeth Zelena (1991) ©
- 18- Steve Paroh (1979) ©
- 18- Still Born Cmur (1923) ©
- 19- Helen Bohish (1988) ©
- 19- Helen Livosky (2015) ©
- 19- Mary Balak (1925) ©
- 19- Mike Olsavsky (1931) ©
- 19- Margaret Bilehik (1955) ©
- 19- Walter Litzie (2023)
- 20- Joseph Sirilla, Sr (1979) ©
- 20- Fr. Dc. John Youhas (2012)
- 20- Anna Zavada Bartek (1924)
- 20- Nicholas Papas (1949) ©
- 20- Maria Karas (1956) ©
- 21- Anna Tsagros (1929) ©
- 22- Elizabeth Zilena (1985) ©
- 22- Mary Kennedy (2000) ©
- 22- Stephen Kalafut (1956) ©
- 22- William Petrosky (2020) ©
- 23- George Patzakis (1961) ©
- 25- Walter Lee Wilfong (2007) ©
- 25- John Konik (2009) ©
- 26- Faith Simko (2016) ©
- 26- John Poulas (1925) ©
- 26- Catherine Pavlos (1949) ©
- 26- Charles Xenakis (1960) ©
- 27- Ignatius Sosnowchik (1973) ©
- 27- Frank Zwinski (2013) ©
- 27- Christ Samjos (1930) ©
- 27- Panagiotis Sarris (1953) ©
- 28- Stella Graban Kurtiak (2013) ©
- 28- A.P. John Psinka (1996)
- 29- MaryAnn Such (1972) ©
- 30- Anna Krut (1924) ©
- 30- Sophia Oshelski (1959) ©

Archpriest Alexis W. Fedec

Archpriest Alexis W. Fedec fell asleep in the Lord on July 14, 2024, at age 86, after a brief illness.

A native of Philadelphia, PA, Father Alexis graduated from Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH. He attended Christ the Savior Seminary, Johnstown, PA, and Saint Tikhon's Seminary, South Canaan, PA, from which he graduated in 1962. He was ordained to the priesthood on Sunday, February 13, 1966 by His Eminence, the late Metropolitan Ireney, at Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral, New York, NY.

In addition to serving Saint Nicholas Church, from which he retired as Pastor Emeritus in 2005, Father Alexis faithfully served the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church, Madison, IL; Three Saints Church, Ansonia, CT; Saints Peter and Paul Church, Minersville, PA; and Saints Cyril and Methodius Church, Jeannette, PA. He also served as Chicago Deanery Treasurer for the Diocese of the Midwest for many years.

Father Alexis and his wife, Matushka Alexandra, have six children, Alexios (Elizabeth), Matthew, Martha, Kyra, Serge (Elizabeth) and Andrew (Jamie), and five grandchildren.

During retirement, he enjoyed reading books on Church history, mystery novels, and watching his grandchildren play and grow.

2nd Annual Picnic UPDATED

Saturday, August 17

Plans for our 2nd Annual Picnic are underway.

Please sign up at candle desk by
AUGUST 4th
that you are coming
so we can plan accordingly.

Also, there is a food sign-up
sheet at candle desk.

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New Leadership Team Brings Renewed Focus to St Vladimir's Seminary

St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary (SVOTS) has entered a new phase of leadership, following this summer's retirement of seminary president The Very Rev. Dr Chad Hatfield. The new leadership team is undertaking steps to ensure a smooth transition and renewed focus on the seminary's mission during this important stage for SVOTS' future.

Effective July 1, Academic Dean Dr Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie has assumed the additional role of interim president and CEO of SVOTS, to which he was unanimously appointed by the seminary's Board of Trustees.

"It is always difficult and challenging when a long-tenured and respected leader, such as Fr Chad Hatfield, who has worked tirelessly and faithfully for the Church and the seminary, moves on," said Dr Tudorie. "We find ourselves at a crossroads as we look ahead to new leadership. It is not the seminary's first such moment, nor will it be the last; but we do have the opportunity for a fresh look at how best to do our work as an academic institution at the service of the Church. We find ourselves in a position to recommit to a model of teaching in service to the Church that is Christ-centered, student-focused, and education-driven."

Dr Tudorie will lead the faculty and staff as SVOTS continues its comprehensive search for Fr Chad's successor, led by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon as chairman of the Board. His Beatitude is chairing a President Search Committee, as mandated by SVOTS' bylaws. The Board of Trustees also appointed a Transition Committee to assist with and ensure a seamless transition.

"I've come to know Alex Tudorie as a brilliant, skillful, and dedicated man of the Church, and I'm thrilled to be a part of the seminary's future under his leadership," remarked seminary professor Dr Peter Bouteneff, a long-serving faculty member of SVOTS. "I am also deeply grateful for Fr Chad's solid tenure as president over these seventeen years, laying the foundation for an exciting new chapter in the seminary's life—and his own in his well-earned retirement."

Additionally, The Right Rev. Archimandrite Jeremy Davis, an alumnus of SVOTS ('04), is now serving as the executive chair of the Board of Trustees. He was recently elected to succeed outgoing executive chair Dr Nicholas Pandelidis, who has devoted many years of faithful service to the seminary on the Board (as a trustee from 2005–2020 and 2022–24, serving as executive chair since 2023). Fr Jeremy is the incoming archiepiscopal vicar for the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest, in the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

"As a seminary alumnus, an avid reader of SVS Press,

and an archdiocesan administrator who depends on the seminary to meet the needs of our parishes, I am committed—heart and soul—to St Vladimir's Seminary's mission," stated Fr Jeremy. "We are facing some big challenges, but our board of engaged and talented trustees, our world-class faculty, our diligent staff, and especially our tireless and selfless interim president are up to task."

Dr Tudorie and Fr Jeremy have begun the initial steps of transition at the seminary by working in collaboration with SVOTS employees, the Transition Committee, and other consultants. A key emphasis of the new leadership team is strengthening working relationships within a conciliar and transparent model of governance, with greater attention to balance between the mutually dependent, mutually supporting roles of faculty and staff.

Jeffrey Hoff, a longtime trustee and former treasurer, is chair of the Transition Committee. "As we forge ahead into the future at St Vladimir's Seminary, we are blessed to have Dr Tudorie's leadership, complemented by the vast and deep pastoral leadership of Fr Jeremy, executive chair," he said. "Since first joining SVOTS in 2018, Dr Tudorie has brought renewal and strength to the academic department. His respect for our community—students, faculty, and staff—and his unwavering commitment to SVOTS' mission herald a bright period of transition for our beloved institution, promising a legacy of academic excellence and spiritual growth."

"We seek your prayers as we work to ensure the seminary's educational priorities can be fulfilled by a team that works collaboratively in the service of Christ and His Gospel," added Dr Tudorie.

More information regarding the succession search will be made available in coming weeks.

Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle)

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Celebrations in July

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Julia Smiko
- 11 Joan Cross
- 12 Pauline Fesz
- 15 His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
- 17 Jonah Bremer, Kathleen Jesko
- 19 David Konik
- 23 Mat. Helen Psinka
- 30 Mat. Christine Hryb, Maureen Koval , George Kolesar

ANNIVERSARY

- 3 Bob & Elizabeth Willison
- 8 Nick & Monica Vansuch
- 12 Thomas & Balaci Kristian
- 13 Marcus & Marcia Kubancsek
- 19 Thomas & Deborah Zelinsky
- 24 Frank & Lori Batura
- 25 Andy & Michelle Basile
- 27 Dennis & Kim Konik, Ken & Lynn Krause
- 28 James & Sandra Bufalini

NAMES DAY

- 31- AB Benjamin of San Francisco

Prophet Ezekiel Con't from pg 3

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.

Saint 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).

Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

THANK YOU RECEIVED

Dear Parishioners,

Thank You! For your donation to St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary of \$887. It has been a remarkable year indeed a remarkable semester! We received the great news from our accrediting agency, ATS, that we have been re-accredited for the longest possible time: ten years! Glory to God! By the end of the semester, Lord-willing, we will add 12 new priests into the fields to labor for the Lord. We have begun the efforts to create a new curriculum for the sake of ministry not only today, but for the coming decade. We have hired a new Scripture professor and are working on enhancing our wonderful team at Seminary. Such Great news!

And this is possible because YOU are generous to St. Tikhon's Seminary. Thank you for your generosity! Thank you for your partnership with St. Tikhon's Seminary to do the work of the Gospel! In a word: THANK YOU!

Your servant in Christ, Fr. John Parker, Dean

Dear Fr. Andrew & members of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church,

Thank you for your continuous support, commitment to and most recent donation to St. Vladimir's Camp! Your generosity and love for the camp is well known and I pray that this wonderful institution will be around for generations to come! FR. John M.

Elijah con't from pg 1

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/ Ecclesiasticus 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 Saint Olga (July 11) built a temple of the holy Prophet Elijah in her 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.

Pre-Advent Social Help is Needed

The Parish Council is spearheading the annual Pre-Advent Reverse Raffle Social this year. In support of this major fundraiser for our church, generous donations are needed. How can you help?

Donations of:

- Lottery Tickets for the tree
- Gift Cards
- Gift Certificates

OR

Monetary Donations toward:

Advertising Ticket Printing
Food Refreshments
Prizes

Gather friends and family, purchase tickets and attend the raffle. Donations can be made in memory or honor of a special someone.

Thank You, Parish Council

Pre-Advent Social – Sunday, November 10, 2024

Doors Open – 4:00 pm

Dinner – 5:00 pm

Raffle - 6:00 pm

At St. Michael's Hall – Robinson Road, Campbell

Please Contact Cindy Ferrick @ 333-531-1119 with donations or to reserve tickets.