

THE ST. ELIZABETH NEWS

A loving Community of Orthodox Christians

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Mission Church

2265 E. Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188

A parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Ruling Hierarch: His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa



Reverend Father Matthew Dutko Pastor/Administrator

Father Deacon Steven Hanes

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www.stelizabethga.org



Christ is among us! He is and always shall be! Welcome to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church! Thank you for being here to worship our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ! If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before, you are about to participate in the Divine Liturgy. The Divine Liturgy is celebrated every Sunday of the year. Liturgy means the work of the people. That means that we all have special and holy work to do this morning, and that all of your prayers are necessary! We hope you will stay after the Liturgy and join us in fellowship next door. Please feel free to ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May the joy, hope, and salvation found in Christ's Resurrection be with you always and may God grant you many happy and blessed years!

Sunday of The Precious & Life Giving Cross

3rd Sunday of Lent

Epistle: [Hebrews 4:14-5:6](#)

Gospel: [Mark 8:34-9:1](#)



Glory be to Jesus Christ!

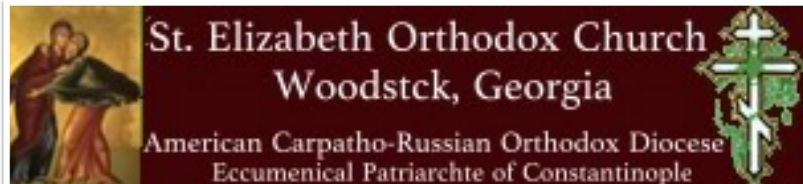
This Week's Music...

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For the Sunday of Holy Cross- Page 182



Your Cross We Adore!





Monthly Schedule

Tuesday 3/21 9 am- Food Prep- Poppy and Apricot Roll Baking

Wednesday 3/22 5:30 pm- Presanctified Liturgy

6:30 pm- Adult Class on the Book of Acts taught by Dr. Timothy Furnish

Friday 3/24 4-6 pm- Food Sales & Pascha Baking Prep

6pm- Great Vespers: Feast of the Annunciation

Saturday 3/25 8 am- Divine Liturgy: Feast of the Annunciation

9:30 am- Pascha Baking

11-3:30- Food Sales

4pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 03/26 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 03/29 9 am- Food Prep- Getting Cabbage Leaves Ready for Halupki (Cabbage Rolls)

5:30 pm- Moleben to the Cross

6 pm- Adult Class on the Book of Acts taught by Dr. Timothy Furnish

Thursday 03/30 9 am- Halupki Rolling

Friday 03/31 9 am - Halupki Packing

4-6 pm- Food Sales

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy

7 pm- ACRY Hosting Potluck Dinner and Game Night

Saturday 04/01 11-3:30- Food Sales

4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 04/02 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Announcements:

- **Sunday School Today!** - Dismissal Before Announcements
- **Half Way Through Lent-** The Cross is presented to us on this third Sunday of Lent to encourage us on our Lenten Journey. If we have fallen short in our efforts to draw nearer to Christ, we still have time ahead of us. Don't be discouraged, take up your cross and follow after Christ!
- **Baking Pascha (Easter Bread) This Saturday!**- Join with your parish family this Saturday (3/25) to bake Pascha Bread for our food sale. This is happening in conjunction with a food sale pick up, so we could really use some extra hands.
- **The ACRY will meet following the Presanctified Liturgy on Friday 3/31.** The Liturgy will begin at 5:30 pm and be followed by a Potluck hosted by the ACRY and a family game night with board games. Bring your own game to share with the group! The ACRY will also be hosting a Bright Friday Cookout on 4/21!
- **Coffee Hour: Every Sunday will be potluck Sunday!** You do not need to bring something each Sunday. Choose a Sunday you would like to participate i.e. (1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th or all). Your contribution can be simple as a bag of chips. If you are not able to bring food, note that there is an Agape Donation Box on the wall in the serving area. Money collected in the Agape Donation box is used to purchase necessary coffee hour supplies. When you do bring food, please plan to clean up your serving dishes and help with the general clean up.
- **Altar Society Lenten Project** -The Altar Society will be collecting NEW Men's socks and NEW Men's underwear to be given to an organization who supports the homeless community. There will be boxes set up in the atrium for your donations.
- **New Saint Elizabeth Monthly Magazine - Thank you to all the folks who already turned in articles! This is very exciting and I'm looking forward to publishing the finished product in conjunction with the Paschal Bulletin!** All parishioners are encouraged to participate in this new ministry. Write an article on anything related to the Orthodox Church and submit to Fr. Matthew for review and publication. Your article could be about theology, Church History, personal experience, parenting, spirituality, or really anything that would be appropriate in an Orthodox Magazine. Please consider writing an article for the first issue! The deadline to submit an article has been pushed back to April 6th.

**ANYONE CAN
WEAR A
CROSS...**



BUT CAN YOU CARRY ONE?

Sunday of the Holy, Precious, and Life Giving Cross

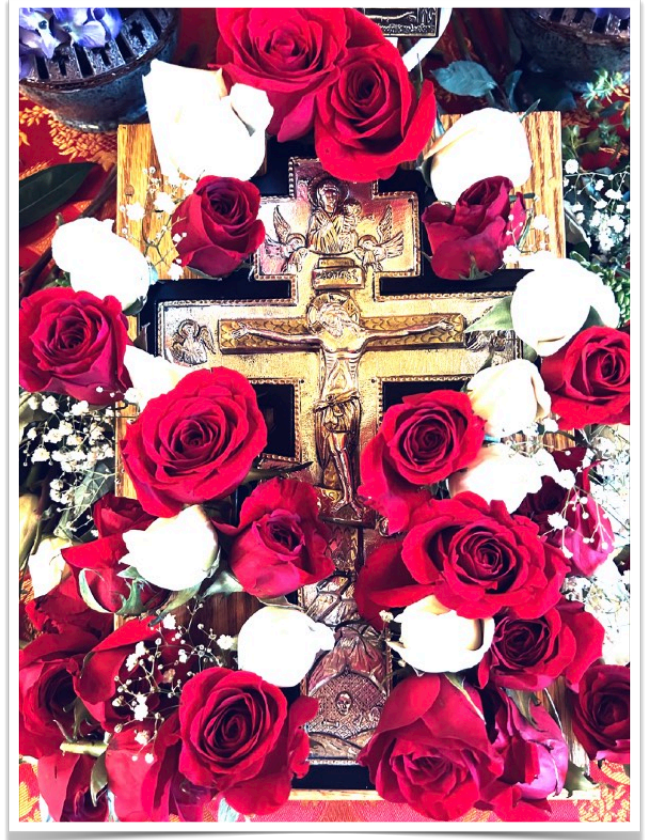
The third Sunday of Lent marks a significant milestone on our Lenten journey. It's a day dedicated to the veneration of the precious and life-giving Cross of our Lord, reminding us of the sacrifice that Christ made for us and encouraging us to continue on the path of repentance towards the resurrection.

As we reach the midway point of Lent, it can be a time when we begin to struggle, especially if we've increased prayer, fasting, attending Church services, made a good confession, or utilized any of the other tools provided by the Church. If Lent feels challenging, the Cross becomes a symbol to redouble our efforts and persevere on the path of repentance towards the life-giving Cross. If Lent feels easy or if we haven't made much progress on our Lenten journey, the Cross still provides a powerful message. The Cross a signpost that points towards the foot of the Cross, where we have the opportunity to lay aside our sins, choose to repent, take up our Cross, and follow after Christ. The Cross reminds us of the hope and joy that we have in Him and serves as a compass, guiding us towards eternal life.

In a world full of distractions and sinful habits that only lead us further into the darkness, the Cross serves as a beacon of light, illuminating the way towards salvation. As St. Cyril of Jerusalem wrote, "The Cross is a sign of victory and a trophy of salvation. It is the means by which the devil was defeated and death was destroyed." The Cross is a sign of guidance for the lost, a reminder that we need to keep our eyes fixed on Christ and His sacrifice, rather than being led astray by the temptations of the world. As we journey through Lent, make sure to keep your eyes fixed on the prize of the Cross and the "trophy of salvation". The Cross was not always seen as a symbol of hope and victory. In fact, it was originally a means of the most horrific and humiliating execution. The Cross symbolized all the horrors of death. Christ transformed the Cross into a symbol of life and hope by His life-giving death. Christ's victory over sin and death on the Cross gave new meaning to this once-symbol of shame and humiliation. Now, the Cross is a tangible symbol of the love that God has for us and the hope that we have in Christ. "O Lord...protect your people by Your Cross!"

The Cross is a reminder that no matter how lost we may feel, there is always hope in Christ and that through His sacrifice on the Cross, we can be redeemed and find our way back to the light. The Cross is a signpost on the road to paradise. It points us in the direction of eternal life, guiding us towards the Kingdom of God. It reminds us that the path to salvation is not always easy, but it is worth it. The Cross encourages us to persevere in our spiritual journey, even when the road ahead is difficult.

Continued on the Next Page...



Sunday of the Holy, Precious, and Life Giving Cross Continued

So, how can we apply these reminders to our daily lives during Lent?

1. Focus on the hope of the resurrection: During Lent, we are called to repent and to turn away from our sins. However, we should also focus on the hope of the resurrection, and the joy that we will experience when we are united with Christ. Try reading the Bible every day and reflecting on the promises of eternal life.
2. Pray for guidance: The Cross serves as a compass, pointing us in the direction of eternal life. We can pray for guidance as we journey through Lent, asking God to help us stay on the right path and to avoid temptation.
3. Seek the support of others: We do not have to journey through Lent alone. We can seek the support of our priest and our Church Family. We can encourage one another in our spiritual journey and offer support and guidance when needed.
4. Practice self-reflection: Lent is a time for self-reflection and introspection. We can use this time to examine our lives and to identify areas where we need to grow and change. If we are always talking, we can't listen for the voice of God calling to us. Be quiet, be still, and look upon the Cross.

St. Ignatius of Antioch, a 1st century bishop who wrote these words on his way to martyrdom said , "The Cross is the way that leads to the kingdom." These words ring just as true today as they ever have! The Cross continues to guide us towards the ultimate destination of our spiritual journey - the kingdom of God. It is a reminder that the path to salvation is not an easy one, but it is a path that we must follow if we are to be united with Christ.

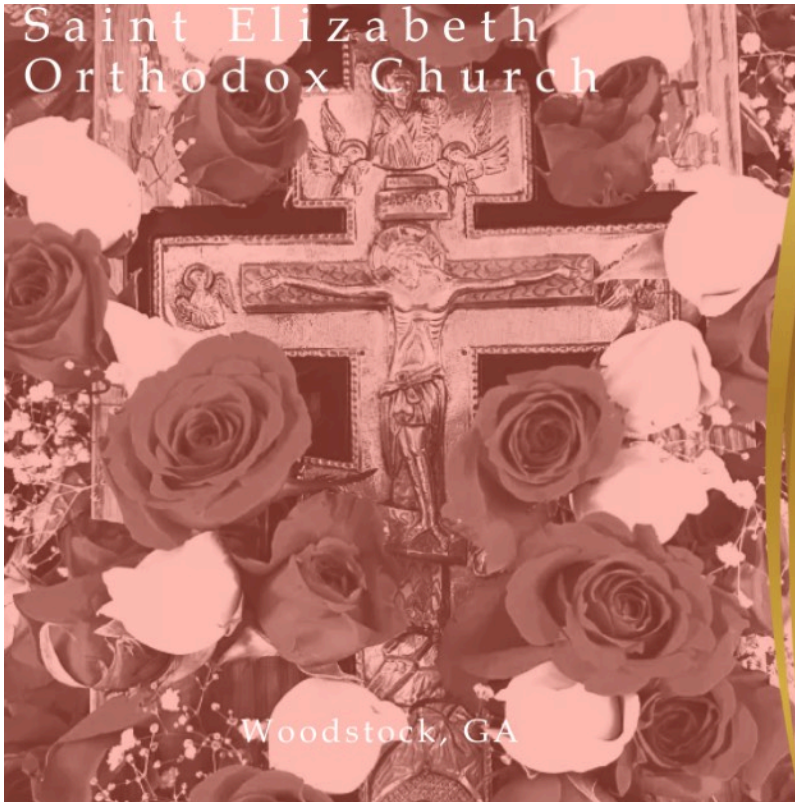
The Cross is like a signpost, guiding us through Lent and through life, pointing us towards the Resurrection. As St. John Chrysostom wrote, "The Cross is a sign of victory over the devil, a sign of protection for the faithful, and a sign of guidance for the lost." May we always look to the Cross as a symbol of hope and redemption, and may we be guided by its light towards the kingdom of God and the joys of Pascha!



The St. Elizabeth News



Christ is Among us!



"The cross is the door to mysteries, the sum of all blessings, the sign of God's mercy and the proof of forgiveness. By it we are freed from Satan's grip and reconciled to God; it is the source of grace and the gift of salvation."

-Saint John Chrysostom

"The cross of Christ is the sign of God's love for us. It is the means by which He has reconciled us to Himself and granted us eternal life."

-Saint Gregory Palamas

Become a Member of Saint Elizabeth's!
www.stelizabethga.org

Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

SPRINGTIME

Lenten & Easter

FOOD SALE

Pickup's on select Fridays & Saturdays

In March, & April

Fresh & Frozen Pierogi
 Nutrolls
 Poppy & Apricot
 Halupki
 Cabbage Rolls
 Pascha Bread

Order Today!

www.WoodstockInternationalFoodFestival.com

LENTEN FOOD SALES
 WANT TO HELP, BUT DONT HAVE THE TIME?

make a special donation!

Potatoes - \$150	Poppy- \$75
Butter - \$200	Raisins- \$50
Milk- \$75	Onions- \$80
Eggs- \$75	Olive Oil-\$50
Sugar- \$100	Flour- \$150
Cheese- \$200	Propane- \$150
Nuts- \$200	Containers- \$200
Apricot-\$75	Beef- \$200
Cabbage- \$75	Rice- \$100
Tomato Sauce-\$100	

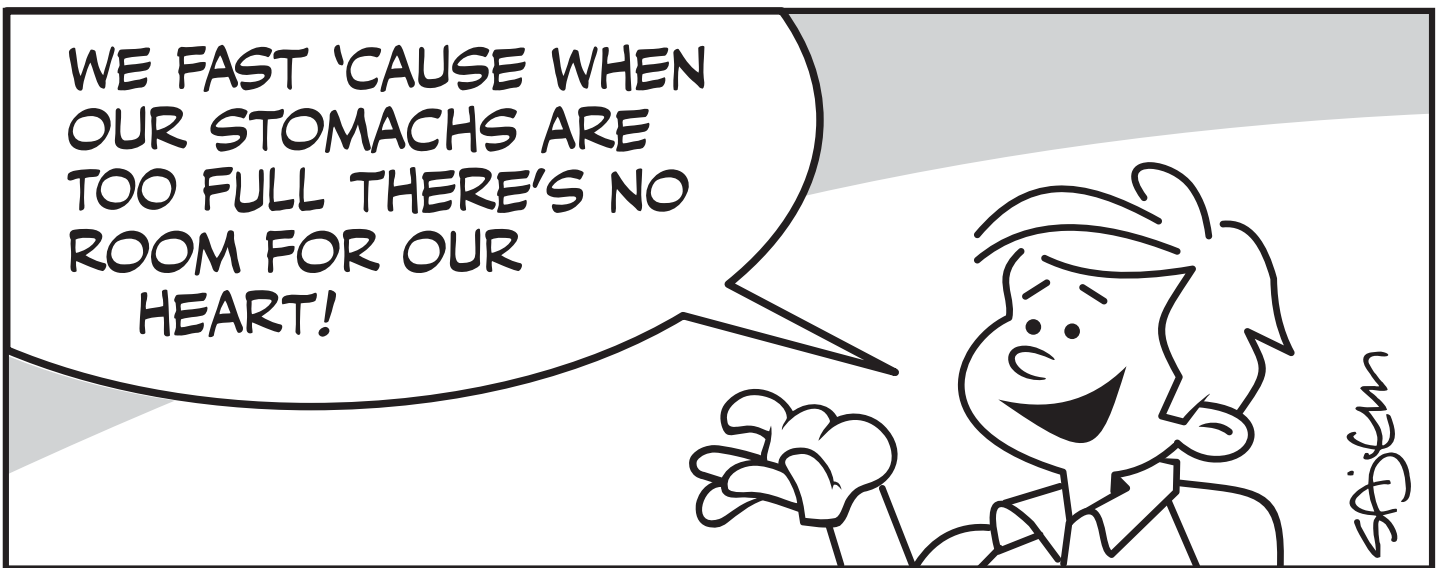
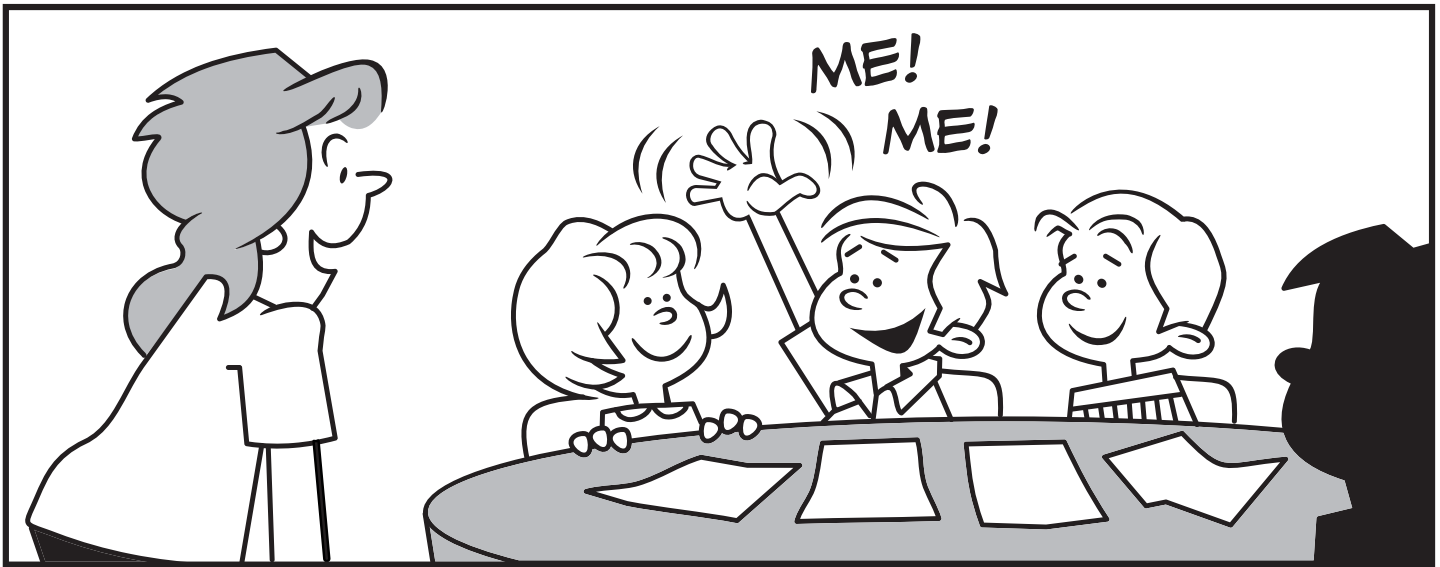
BECOME A FOOD SALE SPONSOR!

BECOMING A FOOD & SUPPLY SPONSOR WILL HELP TO OFFSET COSTS AND HELP OUR PARISH FAMILY TO REACH OUR YEARLY FUNDRAISING GOAL FASTER!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THE LOVE, GENEROUSITY, AND SUPPORT! YOUR SUPPORT OF THE FOOD SALES HELPS TO ALLOW OUR PARISH TO THRIVE!

10% OF THIS YEARS SALE WILL BE GOING TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUILDING FOR OUR DIOCESAN SEMINARY: CHRIST THE SAVIOUR SEMINARY IN JOHNSTOWN, PA

THE KIDS OF SAINT ELIZABETH



Parish Family Prayer List

For the Health of: Evelyn & the Melnikoff Family, Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Kara, Joanna, James, Anna, Basil, Dianna, Denise, Alex, Jason, Athanasia, Ethel, Tyler, Maria, Page Family, Dean, Margaret, Metropolitan Gregory and his family, Rick, James, David, Joseph, Maria Starcova, David & Paulette Novak, Suzette, Bob, David, Marilyn & family, Mark, Fr. Dcn. Stephen, Michelle, James, Rachel, Kate, Fr. Blaschak & Family, Larry, Alexandra, Tammy, Trahan & Skiba Family, The Hood Family, the Mileshko Family, the Blanar Family, Burt, Sandy, Stephanie, Mary, Tommy, Stephen, Emilia, Simon, Alisha, & Aaron Zak, the Puziculiks Family, Fr. Andy, Davina, & Alexandra, Stan, Fr. Dcn. Charlie & Family, Justin, Charlie, Herbert and Mary Schleining, Spencer, Julie, Anna, Galina & Family, Irinia & Family, Fr. Jim & Pani Kathy Dutko, Rick, Katlain, Elenor, Teddy, Mark, Robert & Cindy, Melissa, Ben, Anthony, Rachel, Christine, Cora, Rick, Michelle, Tim, Robert, Tripp, Rachel & Family, The Kelemecz Family, Leonard, Leo, & the Oлару Family, Joanna Price, Kim, Isaiah, the Wells Family, Dave, Ashley & family, Mary, Tim, Andrew, Robert, Derrick, Michael, Eli, Ean, Ellie, Amber, Christopher, Deborah, Ethan, Rosemary, Mike, Elaiane, Roy, Lin, Dave, Sarah, George, & Edward, Stephen, Caleb, Amelia, Simon, David, the Gdovin Family, the Rodgers Family, Mike & the Kundrat Family

For the Departed: Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jeanne+, Vera+, George+, George+, Ernie+, Eddie+, Maria+, Carl+, Mark+, Barry+, Jospeh+, Phillip+, Jenny+, Peter+, Bryan+, Rebecca+, Fr. Paul+, Maria+, Fr. Hazuda+, George Smisko+, Helen Spanovich+, Bob+, Alma+, Bo+, Saddle+, Fr. William George+, Violet+, Fr. Kozar+, Benjamin+, John Haddad+, Fred & Helen Mileshko+, Anna+, Natalie+, Lilly+, Christine+, Anna+, Tamara+, Anastasia+, Yvonne+, John+, Betty+, Ada+, Peter+ & Wanda+, George+, Jerry+, Barb+ & Harry+, Beth+, Louise+, Nikolay+, Boris Melnikoff+, David+, Fr. Michael+, Natalie+, Helen+, Ted+, Tom+, Mike+, Madeline+, Tim+, Fr. John Baranek, Reader Stephen+, Dean+, Fr. Larry+, Kris+, Wathen+, Pani Elenor+, Fr. Michael+, Sally+, David+, Gene+, Kenny+, Ava+, Fr. Tony Joseph+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+

Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers & Mothers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!

Holy Saint Elizabeth Pray for us!



Eternal Memory!

Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church
Become a Steward

I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.
 John 15:16
 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
 Fill out a Stewardship Offering Card Here!

www.stelizabethga.org

Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Christ is Among us!