

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
Phone: 404-268-6359 **Email:** fatherdutko@gmail.com
www.stelizabethga.org



Sunday of Gregory Palamas
 2nd Sunday of Lent
Epistle: *Hebrews 1:10-14, 2:1-3*
Gospel: *Mark 2:1-12*



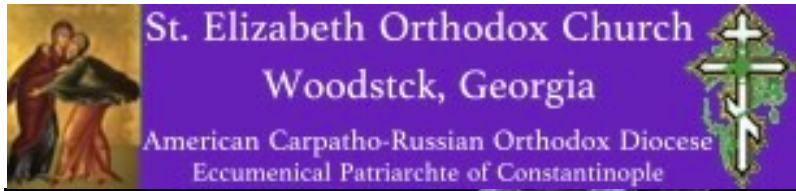
Christ is Among us!

Christ is among us! He is and always shall be! Welcome to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church and thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us!! What a joy it is to be together in God's House. If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before, you are about to participate in the Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy is the work of the people and that means that all of your prayers are necessary and you have a job to do this morning! We hope you will stay and join us for coffee hour in the atrium. Please feel free to ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May God's blessing be with all of you!



This Week's Music...

Tropar & Kondak Tone 2 - Page 84
 Tropar & Kondak For the 2nd Sunday of Lent- Page 181



The Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas



Tuesday 4/02 9 am- Presanctified Liturgy
Wednesday 4/03- *No Adult Catechism Class*
Sunday 4/07 10 am- Deacons Service - Homily from Seminarian Alex Hursteller
Wednesday 4/10 5:15-6:15- Presanctified Liturgy
6:15-7:15- Adult Catechism Class
Friday 4/12 5:30 pm- Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday 4/13 9 am- Divine Liturgy
4pm- Great Vespers
Sunday 4/14 10 am- Divine Liturgy
Wednesday 4/17 5:15-6:15- Presanctified Liturgy
6:15-7:15- Adult Catechism Class
Friday 4/19 5:30 pm- Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday 4/20 4pm- Great Vespers
Sunday 4/21 10 am- Divine Liturgy
Wednesday 4/24 5:15-6:15- Presanctified Liturgy
6:15-7:15- Adult Catechism Class
Friday 4/26 5:30 pm- Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday 4/27 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Lazarus Saturday
4pm- Great Vespers for Palm Sunday
Sunday 4/28 10 am- Divine Liturgy: The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem
1 pm- Bridegroom Matins
Monday 4/29 9 am - Presanctified Liturgy
5:15 pm- Bridegroom Matins

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
using the Blue Pew Book

“Blessed Is the Kingdom”;2
 The Great Litany of Peace2
 First Antiphon.....5
 Second Antiphon.....7
 Hymn of the Incarnation.....10
 The Beatitudes14
 Hymn at The Little Entrance16
 Resurrection Tropar and Kondak Tone 284
 Tropar & Kondak for the Sunday of Orthodoxy.....179
 The Trisagion (#2).....19
 Prokimenon (Tone 4)181
 Epistle Hebrews 1:10-14, 2:1-3
 Alleluia (#2)23
 Verses181
 Glory to You, O Lord.....24
 The GospelMark 2:1-12
 The Sermon.....Fr. Matthew
 The Triple Litany.....25
 Cherubic Hymn #1.....27
 The Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn (Continued)33
 The Creed37
 The Anaphora39
 Holy, Holy, Holy (#1).....41
 The Hymn of Praise45
 Hymn to the Birthgiver of God.....47
 The Litany of Supplication.....50
 The Lord’s Prayer (#1).....53
 The Communion Prayer58
 Communion Hymns.....59-62
 In the Fear of God Come Forward.....63
 The Reception of Communion61
 We have seen the True Light (#1).....64
 Thanksgiving Hymn (#1)65
 Thanksgiving Litany67
 Amvon Prayer.....180
 Blessed be the Name of the Lord (#4).70
 Announcements.....Fr. Matthew
 The Dismissal.....71
 Intonation for the Living.....72
 Post Communion Prayers of Thanksgiving.....73
Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, non-Orthodox visitors and inquirers are invited to come forward at the end of the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).

Why We Remember Saint Gregory Palamas on the 2nd Sunday in Lent

Saint Gregory Palamas is known as “Church Father”, a Church Father is saint in the Orthodox Church who is recognized as a significant theologian and spiritual guide whose teachings and writings profoundly influence the faith and practices of the Church. St. Gregory was born in 1296 in Constantinople. After becoming a monk and spending time on Mt. Athos, Saint Gregory became the Archbishop of Thessaloniki and was a prolific theologian. His teachings and defense of the Orthodox Faith on prayer and contemplation of God's divine essence versus His energies were highly influential on Orthodox spirituality. Understanding Saint Gregory's teachings helps us today as we journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb of our Lord.

Saint Gregory Palamas was appointed for the Second Sunday of Great Lent in 1368 as a second “Triumph of Orthodoxy.” Saint Gregory's teaching preserved Orthodoxy during conflict between him and a group of theologians known as the Barlaamites. The Barlaamites taught that God's grace was created. Saint Gregory contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise, it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. This conflict came to a head in 1341 at the Council of Constantinople, where Saint Gregory Palamas defended his teachings against the Barlaamites, and preserved the fullness of the Faith.

Saint Gregory's teachings on hesychasm or unceasing prayer, in the tradition of the monks from Mount Athos, were deeply rooted in his own spiritual experience and the spiritual tradition of Orthodox Monasticism. He taught that through prayer and contemplation, we can experience God's presence and enter into a deeper relationship with Him. For Saint Gregory, hesychasm was not simply a technique or a method of prayer, but a way of life, a way of orienting oneself towards God and living in constant communion with Him and His Saints.

The commemoration of Saint Gregory Palamas on the second Sunday of Lent is a reminder of the importance of prayer and contemplation in our spiritual lives. It is also a reminder of the importance of staying true to our beliefs, even in the face of opposition. Saint Gregory's example reminds us that standing up for Christ is always worth it, even if it means facing challenges and opposition. Christ doesn't just tell us to take up a cross and follow Him, He shows us how on the road to Golgatha.

Saint Gregory's life and teachings offer inspiration and guidance. Through unceasing prayer and the cultivation of inner stillness and silence, we can experience the essence of God and become more like Him. Let us look to Saint Gregory's example and teachings as we seek to deepen our relationship with God and become more like Him in all aspects of our lives, especially during the Lenten Season.

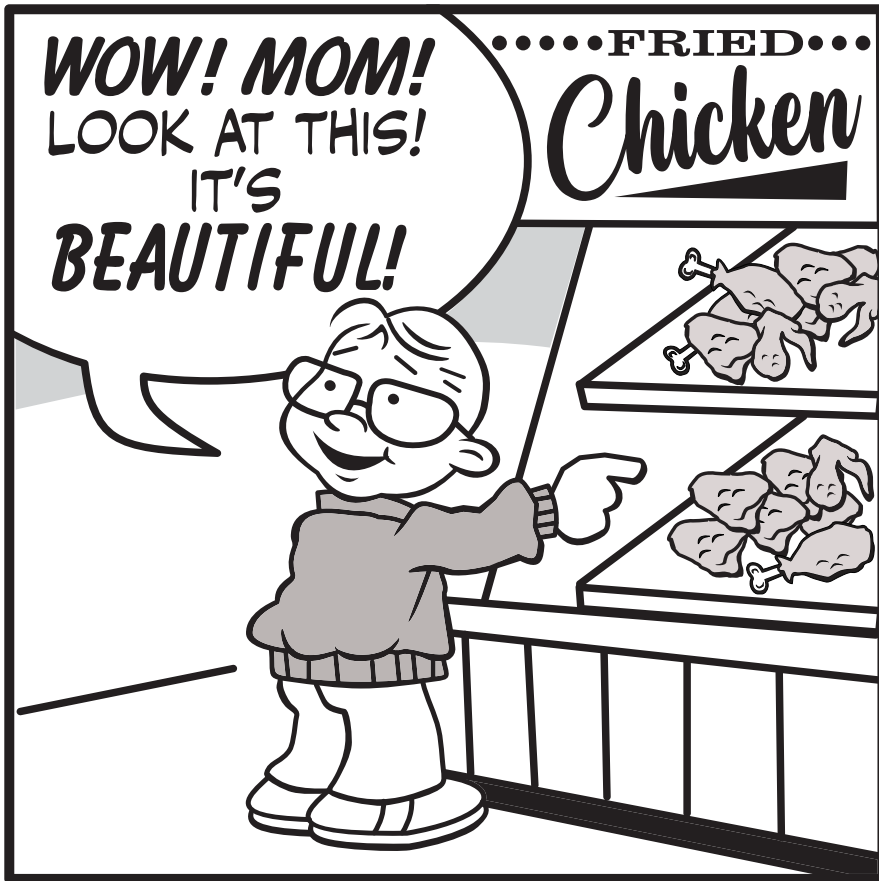
In 1347 Saint Gregory was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359.

His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.

Saint Gregory performed many miracles in the three years before his death, healing those afflicted with illness. On the eve of his repose, Saint John Chrysostom appeared to him in a vision. With the words “To the heights! To the heights!” Saint Gregory Palamas fell asleep in the Lord on November 14, 1359. In 1368 he was canonized at a Constantinople Council under Patriarch Philotheus (1354-1355, 1364-1376), who compiled the Life and Services to the Saint.

PARISH LIFE (THE KIDS OF ST. ELIZABETH'S)

BY FR. MATT & JOHNNY



ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

2265 East Cherokee Drive
Woodstock, GA 30188
Phone: 404-268-6359
Email: fatherdutko@gmail.com
Fr. Matthew Dutko
Pastor/Administrator
www.stelizabethga.org



March 31, 2024

Dear Parish Family Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church,

As we journey through the Lenten season, reflecting on the eternal significance of the cross and the empty tomb of our Lord, we are called to remember God's blessings freely bestowed upon us as a growing Orthodox Christian family. All that we have is not our own, but is lent to us for a time by our Creator. It is with a heart filled with gratitude and hope that I write to you today, seeking your generous consideration for a special contribution to our building fund. Last week we approved the spending of \$30,000 to renovate our Church Hall, but in the life of the Church there is always more that God is calling us to do for His glory.

Saint Elizabeth's Orthodox Church in Woodstock, Georgia, stands as a testament to the faith and generosity of those who have come before us. The ongoing renovation of our Church Hall is a tangible expression of our commitment to continue the mission entrusted to us—to share the Gospel of Christ and the Orthodox Faith with the world around us.

The transformation of our Church Hall into a larger and more comfortable space for fellowship and community gatherings is more than just a physical renovation; it is an investment in the spiritual growth and unity of our parish family. This space will not only provide comfort but also serve as a hub for nurturing relationships and deepening our understanding of the Orthodox faith as we break bread together, share in the ministries of Christ's Church, and collectively carry our own crosses.

The fact that we have been able to undertake this project with a cost of \$30,000 is only possible because God is with us, and He has blessed our community with so many talented and generous parishioners. Just like we are thankful for the efforts of all the founders, builders, and benefactors of Saint Elizabeth's, we are blessed that in this moment we have talented individuals who are willing to use their skills to glorify God by selflessly contributing their construction expertise, efforts, and resources for the continued development of Saint Elizabeth's.

It is also important to acknowledge the work of past and present parishioners whose stewardship and generosity have built the foundation upon which we stand today. Your ongoing support is essential as we continue to grow as an Orthodox Christian family and embark on various capital building projects and kitchen upgrades essential for the growth and vitality of our community.

Continued on the Next Page...

ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

2265 East Cherokee Drive
Woodstock, GA 30188
Phone: 404-268-6359
Email: fatherdutko@gmail.com
Fr. Matthew Dutko
Pastor/Administrator
www.stelizabethga.org



As I was packing up my office to move down the hall, I rediscovered some items from our Church's early days. Next to my filing cabinet was poster board of special pledges made by parishioners towards the building fund, which was established to erect a permanent Church building. The generosity of our founders is a testament to their faith in Christ and commitment to build an Orthodox Christian Church in the Woodstock area.

Today, as we continue to carry our cross and build up God's House, I humbly ask you this Lent to prayerfully consider making a special contribution towards the renovation of our Church Hall, building fund, the burning of our mortgage, or any other project that resonates with your heart. The Church remembers forever the founders, builders, and benefactors of the Church in the Great Entrance during the Divine Liturgy. Contributing to this campaign makes you a builder and a benefactor of God's House here at Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church. That means that the Church will remember you and pray for you forever in her holy prayers.

Donor	Pledge	Donor	Pledge
1	10,000.	23	100.
2	2,000.	24	50.
3	25,000.	25	500.
4	25,000.	26	10.
5	1,000.		
6	905.		
7	500.		
8	10,000.		
9	5,000.		
10	10,000.		
11	1,000.		
12	1,000.		
13	500.		
14	2,500.		
15	500.		
16	5,000.		
17	10.		
18	120.		
19	500.		
* 20	1,000.		
21	500.		
22	200.		

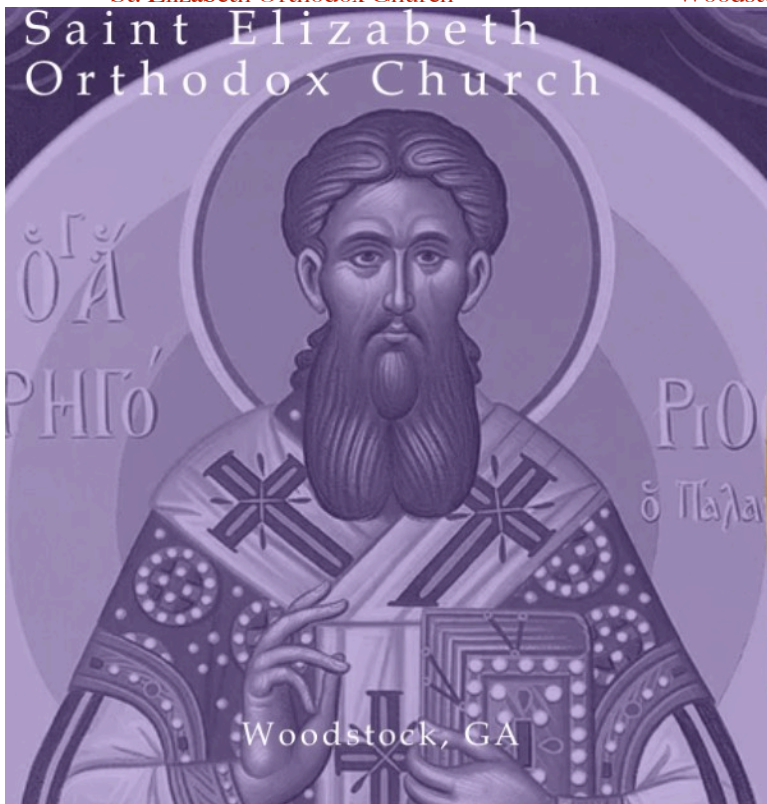
The endeavor to renovate our Church Hall stands as one of our most important current building projects, yet there is still much work to be done. Some of those specific projects include the parking lot, driveway, kitchen equipment—encompassing the stove hood, new mixer, and large freezer—outdoor storage sheds, an outdoor pavilion, additional Church Dome/Dome on the Bell Tower, and expanded outdoor lighting. Each of these initiatives are important parts of our ongoing mission and the ministry of Saint Elizabeth's. Yet with the expense of our Church Hall renovation, and without your additional financial support, these important projects will need to be placed on hold for a time.

As we move heavenward towards Christ, every contribution, every gift, regardless of its size, moves us closer to our shared objective of serving Christ, sharing the Orthodox Faith with our greater community, and nurturing our parish family here at Saint Elizabeth's.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). May our contributions be a reflection of our love for God, the Orthodox Faith, and Saint Elizabeth's.

Thank you for your continued support, generosity, and dedication to the health and growth of the parish family of Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church.

With heartfelt gratitude and love in Christ,



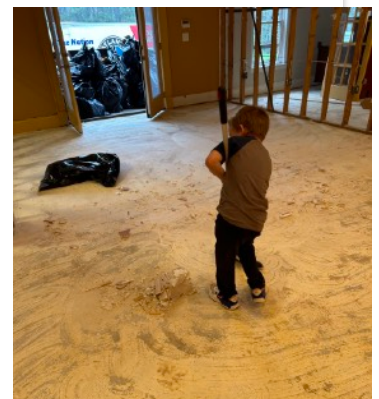
"Prayer is the breath of the soul, the light of the mind, the fire of the heart...Prayer is the ladder that leads us from earth to heaven, from the visible to the invisible, from the temporal to the eternal...Through prayer, we participate in the life of God and become co-workers with Him in the work of salvation...Prayer is the union of the mind with God."

-Saint Gregory Palamas

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

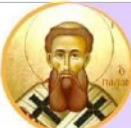






Announcements:

- **Lent is Here!**- This time of year is meant to prepare us for Great Lent, which is meant to prepare us for Holy Week, which is meant to prepare us for the Great Day of our Lord's Resurrection! It's time for us all to reflect and take our faith more seriously. *Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!*
- **Coffee Hour During Lent-** Make sure to prepare lenten, fasting appropriate dishes that are meat and dairy free. Every Sunday is potluck, so bring a dish, and don't forget to make an offering in the coffee hour area to cover coffee hour supplies!
- **Sunday School Today - No Toddler Class This Morning**
- **Help Your Parish Continue to Grow by Making a Special Lenten Contribution to the Building Fund!**
- **Church Hall Renovation-** The Work is Underway!
- **Saint Elizabeth Magazine** to be published in the Paschal Bulletin with articles written by you! All parishioners are encouraged to participate in this fruitful 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 during lent for everyone to enjoy on Pascha! The deadline to submit an article is Palm Sunday, April 28th.



OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 31st	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent APRIL 7th	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent APRIL 14th	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 21st	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY MAY 3rd	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! MAY 5th NO FASTING!	 HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!



Sunday of Orthodoxy
Icon Procession



Parish Family Prayer List

For the Health of: The Melnikoff Family, Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Kara, Joanna, James, Athanasia, Ethel, Tyler, Maria, Page Family, Dean, Margaret, Metropolitan Gregory and his family, 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 Milesenko Family, the Blonar 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 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, The Kelemecz Family, Leonard, Leo, & the Olaru Family, Joanna Price, Kim, Isaiah, the Wells Family, Dave, Ashley & family, Mary, Tim, Andrew, Robert, Derrick, Michael, Eli, Ean, Ellie, Amber, Christopher, Deborah, Nick & Rosemary, Mike, Elaiane, Roy, Lin, Dave, Sarah, George, & Edward, Stephen, Caleb, Amelia, Simon, David, the Gdovin Family, the Rodgers Family, the Kundrat Family, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel, Ethan, Tripp, Rachel, Lilly, Emmie, Charlie, Michelle, Serge, Mark, Johnny, Yvette Christine, Johanna, Nicole, Caroline, Alexander, Kelly, Henery, & Benjamin

For the Departed: Evelyn & Boris Melnikoff+, Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jean+, Vera+, George+, George+, Ernie+, Eddie+, Maria+, Carl+, Mark+, Barry+, Josph+, Phillip+, Jenny+, Peter+, Bryan+, Rebecca+, Fr. Paul+, Maria+, Fr. Hazuda+, George Smisko+, Helen Spanovich+, Bob+, Alma+, Bo+, Saddy+, Fr. William George+, Violet+, Fr. Kozar+, Benjamin+, John Haddad+, Fred & Helen Milesenko+, Anna+, Natalie+, Lilly+, Christine+, Anna+, Tamara+, Anastasia+, Yvonne+, John+, Betty+, Ada+, Peter+ & Wanda+, George+, Jerry+, Barb+ & Harry+, Beth+, Louise+, Nikolay+, 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 Josph+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+, Sarah Elizabeth+ Ester+, Julie+, +Michael, +Joe, Mary+

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!



Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Eternal Memory!



Christ is Among us!

ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

Stewardship Offering / Membership Form



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church Become a Steward

I chose you and appointed you that you
should go and bear fruit.

John 15:16

All parishoners and regular
attendees are asked to fill out
our new online membership
form here!