

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



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5th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: *Romans 10:1-10*
Gospel: *Matthew 8:28-9:1*



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!

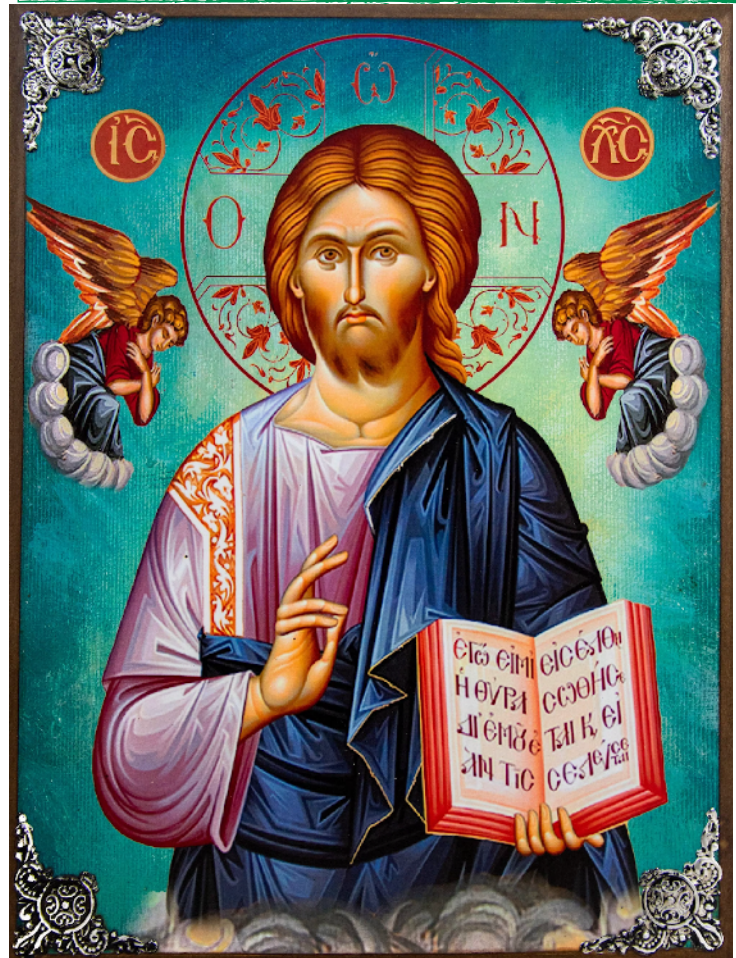
This Week's Music...

Tropar & Kondak Tone 4 pg. 90

Kondak, Tone 6- O unashamed intercessor of Christians, * ever loyal advocate before the Creator, * do not disregard the prayerful voice of sinners * but in your goodness* hasten to assist us who trustfully cry out to you: ** Intercede always, O Mother of God, in behalf of those who honor you!

Look on page two for more details on how to follow the order of the Divine Liturgy with the Blue Pew Book.

Join us next door for
Coffee, Food, and
Fellowship in Christ!



Christ the Teacher



Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

Monthly Schedule

Wednesday 07/12 5:30 pm- Moleben

followed by Catechism Class

Thursday 07/13 9 am- Divine Liturgy

Saturday 07/15 1 pm -7 pm - Little Saints

Day Camp & Community Dinner (6pm)

5 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 07/16 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 07/18 9 am- Pirohi Making

Wednesday 07/19- 5:30 pm- Vespers

followed by Adult Class (Catechism)

Thursday 07/20 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Feast of Saint Elijah

Saturday 07/22 4 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday 07/23 10 am- Divine Liturgy:

Followed by the Blessing of Cars in Honor of the Feast of Saint Elijah

Tuesday 07/25 9 am- Pirohi Making

Wednesday 07/26- 5:30 pm- Moleben

followed by Adult Class (Catechism)

Thursday 07/27 9 am- Divine Liturgy

Saturday 07/29 4 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday 07/30 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Monday 08/01- Dormition Fast Begins

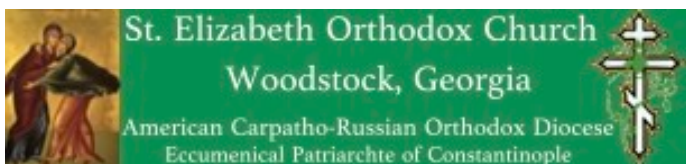
Wednesday 08/02 5:30 pm- Blessing of Water followed by Catechism Class

Saturday 08/05 4 pm- Great Vespers on the Eve of the Transfiguration

Sunday 08/06 10 am- Divine Liturgy

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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).



Building a Mansion in Paradise

In the depths of our souls, we all carry a terminal disease. Just like all illness, when left untreated, this sickness festers and grows. While we are not born with it, we choose to embrace it. Last week, St. Paul reminded us of the dire consequences of this disease: death. This may sound scary, but Christ has blessed us with all the tools we need to combat this sickness. This deadly disease is sin, but Christ has not left us to suffer, he offers healing and transformative medicine within the walls of His Holy Church.



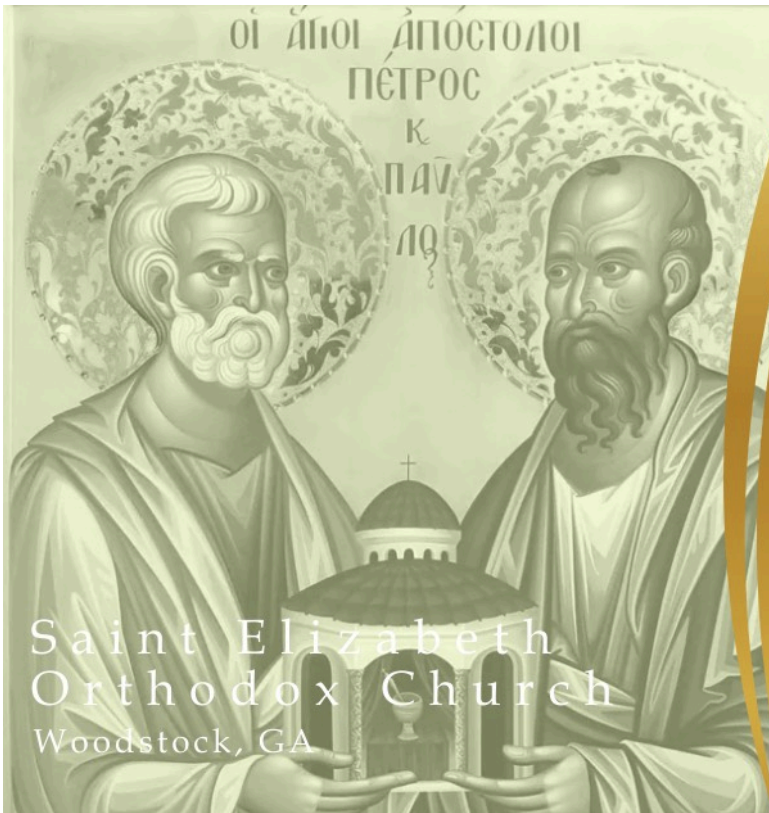
In today's Gospel, we witness Christ encountering demon-possessed men emerging from dark and desolate tombs. Similarly, each of us creates a cold and lonely tomb within our souls where we attempt to bury and hide the sickness of our own sinfulness. Our gravest sins, the ones we repeatedly commit, are often buried deep within our souls because we justify or ignore them, allowing them to fester and grow. This inner tomb becomes a breeding ground for the sickness of sin. If we are unwilling to look deep into ourselves and examine our consciences, how can we find the messes that need cleaning? Recognizing our sinfulness, we turn to Christ and His Church for guidance, healing, and salvation.

Christ, in His love and mercy, has given us His Church as a source of strength, mercy, healing, and salvation. Within the Church, we find the sacraments as means of grace filled medicine. Confession is a transformative and healing mystery given to us to expel the terminal sickness of sin from our souls. Through confession, we acknowledge our sins, seeing where we have fallen short, and seek forgiveness, allowing us to break free from the chains of death that bind us through sin.

As members of the Church, we are not called to fight this battle alone. We gather as a community, supporting and encouraging one another in our pursuit of holiness. Together, we work out our salvation, inspiring and motivating each other through shared experiences and collective prayers. In community, we find solace and strength, knowing that we are not alone in our struggles. Knowing that we are together and that Christ is among us offering us His very Body and Blood as a means to heal us and unite us in Him.

The duty of cleansing our souls can seem daunting if we've been neglectful. We might not even see the point in beginning. But every great building begins with a single brick or a single nail. We must not allow the enormity of the work to deter us from taking the first steps. By acknowledging our worst sins—the ones we bury and ignore—we begin to confront our own sinfulness head-on. Denying ourselves, we turn our focus away from our egos and listen instead to Christ's words. We take up our crosses and commit to the difficult task of combating the sins trapped in the tomb of our own creation.

Our journey toward salvation, the cleansing of our souls, and becoming like Christ requires effort. The time to do that work is now. Just like constructing a great mansion begins with a single nail, the work of cleansing our souls begins with one thought, one prayer, and one action. Each time we engage in this labor, we lay another brick, building a heavenly abode for ourselves in paradise. Let us embrace the gifts bestowed upon us by Christ and His Church, gathering as a community, united in our pursuit of holiness. Together, by the Grace of God, we can conquer the terminal disease of sin and cultivate a life of everlasting joy and communion with God. Christ is among us!



The Feast of Saints Peter & Paul

"O Peter, leader of the apostles, Who received the keys of the kingdom, pray to the Master of all that He may save our souls." -Vespers of the Feast

"O great apostle Paul, preacher of truth and teacher of the Gentiles, intercede with the merciful God to grant us His great mercy." -Vespers of the Feast

Become a Member of Saint Elizabeth's!

www.stelizabethga.org

Announcements:

- **Little Saints Day Camps!** Saturday July 15th 1-7 pm with a community dinner after Vespers at 5- pm- I am looking for volunteers to help for food, programs, and lessons for two other dates over the summer months. The idea would be to host a day camp for the kids with a parent/guardian present at the event. They could be hosted any day of the week during the summer. If you want to pick a day and help plan an event let me know.



- **Sunday School Today!**
- **Adult Catechism Classes-** on Wednesday evenings continue this week.
- **Are You Receiving The Saint Elizabeth News-** and other Church emails?- Sign up on our website by using this QR code. If you are still not receiving emails please check your spam folder.



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

CAR BLESSING

SUNDAY

JULY

23rd

11:30 am
Following the Divine Liturgy

In Remembrance of the Feast Day of Saint Elijah

2265 E. CHEROKEE DRIVE - WOODSTOCK

SAINT ELIZABETH LITTLE SAINTS



1pm - 7pm

Saint Elizabeth
Orthodox Church
Day Camp



Saturday
July 15

Register
Today!
Parents Must
Attend.
FREE!

Educational
and Fun for
the Whole
Family!



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, 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 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 Olaru 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, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel

For the Departed: Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jeane+, 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 Milesenko+, 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 Jospeh+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+, Sarah Elizabeth +

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!