

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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 Father Deacon Steven Hanes
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www.stelizabethga.org



6th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16
Gospel: John 17:1-13



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 5 pg. 93
Tropar and Kondak for the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils pg. 164

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!



Icon of the Church Fathers in Council



Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

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Monthly Schedule

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: Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

Wednesday 08/09- 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Adult Class (*Catechism*)

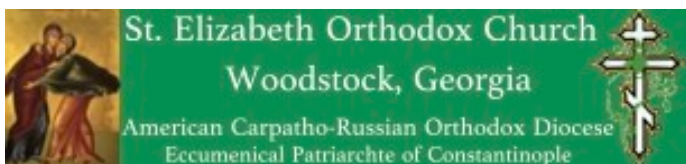
Thursday 08/10 9 am- Divine Liturgy

Saturday 08/12 4 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday 08/13 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Monday 08/14 6 pm- Great Vespers: Eve of

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).



Proskomedie – Prayers for the Living and Departed

Did you know that each and every member of our church family is commemorated (remembered) during the Proskomedie? This sacred service of preparation before the beginning of the Divine Liturgy involves the offering of particles of bread to God for Holy Communion, representing the entire Church. We invite you to actively participate in this prayerful tradition by submitting sheets of paper (available in the Narthex) with the names of living and departed loved ones that you would like remembered in prayer during the Liturgy.

By including the names of our loved ones, we acknowledge their presence within the community of God's Church and seek His blessings and intercession on their behalf. In the Proskomedie we are all remembered on one common plate, *the discos*, and placed next to our Lord, His Mother, the Saints, the Angels, the Martyrs, and the whole community of the Church both living and departed.

In the Proskomedie we are offering the very best of ourselves to the Lord and asking that He remember us always in His Kingdom. This is a beautiful way to care for one another spiritually and foster unity among our church family, as all of us stand together next to our Lord along with our loved ones on *the discos*.


Everyone is invited to write down the names of those who are living and those who have departed and give them to Fr. Matthew.


Through this act of remembrance, we unite and lift up our hearts and souls in worship before the Altar of our God. As we come together to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, the offering of these names is a reminder of the love and spiritual support we offer to one another.

Please consider taking the time, along with the members of your family, to fill out and return one of the *Proskomedie* Sheets available in the Narthex by the candles.

Proskomedie Prayer Sheet

<u>For the Living</u>	<u>For the Departed</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____





Remembering the Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Within the Orthodox Christian Tradition, the remembrance of the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils is celebrated on a Sunday in the middle of July. This commemoration provides an opportunity for the faithful to honor and reflect upon the contributions of these holy men who valiantly defended the Orthodox Faith against heresy.

At every Divine Liturgy we sing the hymn, "We have seen the true light, we have received the Heavenly Spirit, we found the true faith, we adore the Undivided Holy Trinity, Who has saved us!" We are able to sing this hymn with joy because the faith of the Apostles that these Holy Fathers of the first Six Ecumenical Councils preserved to be passed down at all of us.

Throughout the early centuries of Christianity, numerous heresies threatened to distort the fullness of the Orthodox Faith. The Church Fathers, inspired by the teachings of the Apostles and guided by the Holy Spirit, convened in Ecumenical Councils to address these challenges and preserve the fullness of the faith. These Holy Fathers sought to safeguard the authenticity and integrity of the Orthodox Christian faith, ensuring that future generations would continue to have access to the true light of Christ's teachings.

The First Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea in 325 AD, was a response to the Arian heresy. Led by St. Athanasius and St. Nicholas, the council affirmed the divinity of Christ, countering the notion that Jesus was a created being. The formulation of the Nicene Creed during this council has stood as a pillar of the Orthodox Faith to this day.

The Second Ecumenical Council, held in Constantinople in 381 AD, confronted the heresy of Macedonianism, which denied the divinity of the Holy Spirit. The council affirmed the consubstantiality of the Holy Spirit with the Father and the Son, affirming the Triune nature of God.

The Third Ecumenical Council, held in Ephesus in 431 AD, combated the Nestorian heresy. Led by St. Cyril of Alexandria, the council affirmed that the Virgin Mary is truly the Theotokos, the Birthgiver of God in the flesh, safeguarding the unity of Christ's personhood as both fully divine and fully human.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council, held in Chalcedon in 451 AD, addressed the Monophysite controversy. It defined the orthodox doctrine of the hypostatic union, affirming that Christ possesses two distinct natures, divine and human, without confusion or division.

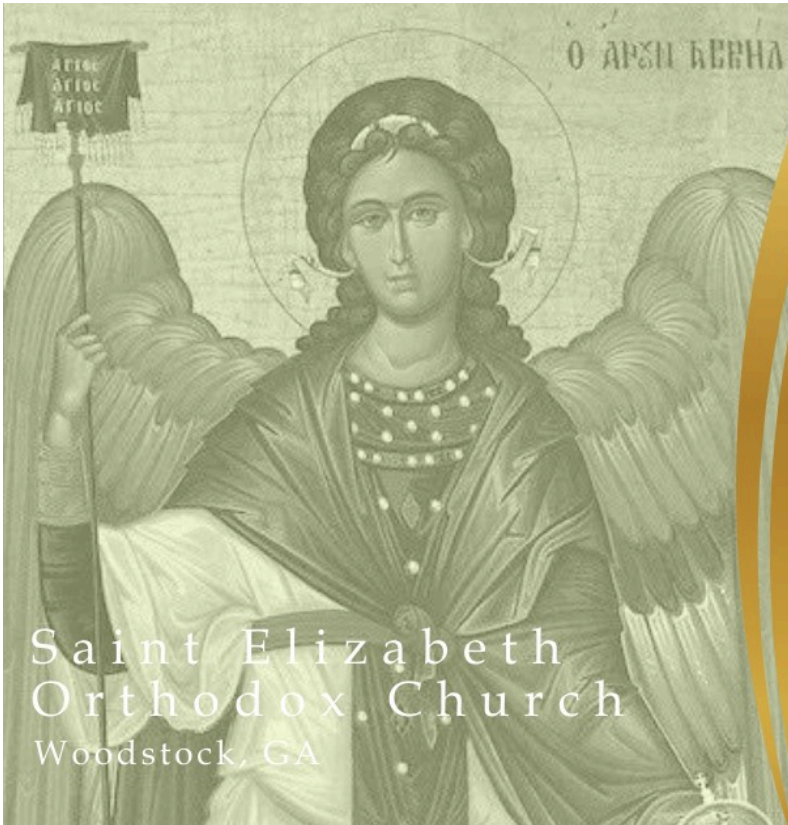
The Fifth Ecumenical Council, held in Constantinople in 553 AD, condemned the heresy of Origenism, which distorted the teachings on the resurrection and the nature of the soul. The council reaffirmed the Church's belief in the resurrection of the body and condemned certain teachings of Origen.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council, held in Constantinople in 680-681 AD, confronted the Monothelite heresy. The council affirmed that Christ has two wills, divine and human, united in perfect harmony, preserving the integrity of Christ's human and divine nature.

The commemoration of the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils serves as a reminder of the unbroken chain connecting the Orthodox faithful with the teachings of the Apostles. These holy men fought tirelessly against heresy, ensuring the preservation of the Orthodox Faith and the transmission of the true light of Christ's teachings to future generations.

As we gather together to commemorate the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils the hymn, "We have seen the true light, we have received the Heavenly Spirit, we found the true faith, we adore the Undivided Holy Trinity, Who has saved us!" from the liturgy resonates in the walls of the Church with renewed significance. This hymn encapsulates the tireless efforts and the faith of the Church Fathers in defending the Orthodox Faith against heresy. Their unwavering commitment to upholding the teachings of the Apostles and preserving the fullness of the Orthodox Faith is a testament to their holiness and light for us on the narrow road of faith in Christ that leads to Paradise.





Saint Elizabeth
Orthodox Church
Woodstock, GA

A Prayer to Gabriel the Archangel

You look upon God's glory in heaven, and bring grace from on high to earth, wise Gabriel, leader of angels, minister of God's glory, and divine defender of the world! Save and preserve those who cry to you: "Be our defense, so that no one can be against us!"

-Kondak for The Archangel Gabriel
Become a Member of
Saint Elizabeth's!

www.stelizabethga.org

Announcements:

- **Little Saints Day Camp-** Thank you to the SisterHood of Saint, the parents, and all the members of our parish family who helped make this such a joyful and uplifting event!
- **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

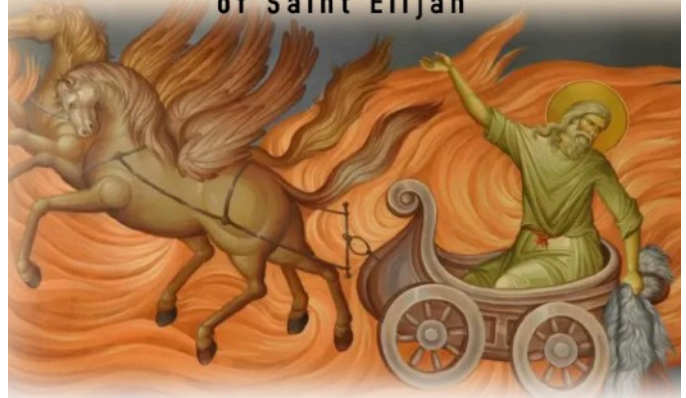
SUNDAY
JULY
23rd



11:30 am

Following the Divine Liturgy

In Remembrance of the Feast Day
of Saint Elijah



2265 E. CHEROKEE DRIVE - WOODSTOCK

Little Saints Day Camp: A Joyful Day of Faith, Fun, and Fellowship

Yesterday, Elizabeth Orthodox Church hosted the much-anticipated "Little Saints Day Camp,". The day camp and community dinner was organized by the Sisterhood of Saints, and proved to be a resounding success, leaving children and their families with cherished memories and food for both the body and soul. It was a joyful day in fellowship with one another and Christ.

The central lesson at the day camp was on the significance of prosphora, the bread used in Holy Communion. The children discovered that "prosfhora" means offering. The bread is the offering that we God for Holy Communion, but it also represents the act of giving oneself as an offering to God. Through hands-on activities, the children and their parents actively participated in baking the prosphora, further deepening their understanding and connection to the Divine Liturgy. The Phosphor made by our children was used in this morning's Divine Liturgy.

In addition to the educational and spiritual elements, the Little Saints Day Camp offered a range of exciting activities that kept the young participants entertained and engaged throughout the day. A scavenger hunt challenged their problem-solving skills and teamwork, while the potato sack race ignited their competitive spirit. Laughter and joy filled the air as they enjoyed water balloons and the always exhilarating slip n' slide, providing refreshing relief from the Georgia summer heat.

To further foster a sense of community and togetherness, the camp attendees had the opportunity to attend and sing the Saturday Great Vespers. The solemn and awe-inspiring service allowed the children to experience the beauty of Orthodox worship along with some rest from the heat and busyness of the day. Following the service, a delightful meal was shared with the parish family.

The success of the Little Saints Day Camp can be attributed to the dedicated efforts of the Sisterhood of Saints along with all of the parents, and faithful members of our parish family who participated in the day, the Vespers, and the meal afterwards. Their commitment, organizational skills, and enthusiasm ensured that every detail was taken care of, creating an atmosphere where children and their families felt love offered to us by our Lord when we faithfully gather together in His House. The camp provided a nurturing environment where faith, friendship, and fellowship flourished.

The Little Saints Day Camp serves as a shining example of the transformative and saving power of Faith in Christ. Our community is grateful for the dedication of those who strive to nurture the next generation in their spiritual journey to communion with God.



The Memory of Something Good...

"You must know that there is nothing higher and stronger and more wholesome and good for life in the future than some good memory...if one has only one good memory left in one's heart, even that may sometime be the means of saving us." -The Brothers Karmazov



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!