

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



10th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 1st Corinthians 4:9-16
Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23



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...

Topar & Kondak Tone 1 pg. 81

Tropar and Kondak, Tone 7- for the Transfiguration on pg. 167

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!



O Marv Mother of God. Pray for Us!



Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

“Blessed Is the Kingdom” 2

The Great Litany of Peace2

First Antiphon5

Second Antiphon7

Hymn of the Incarnation.....10

The Beatitudes14

The Little Entrance16

Resurrection Tropar and Kondak (Tone 1).....81

Tropar and Kondak for the Transfiguration.....167

Trisagion (#2).....18

Prokimenon (Tone 1) 83

Epistle 1st Corinthians 4:9-16

Alleluia (#2)23

Verses 83

Glory to You, O Lord.....24

The Gospel Matthew 17:14-23

The Sermon.....Fr. Matthew

The Triple Litany.....25

Cherubic Hymn (#4).....30

The Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn (Continued)33/34

The Creed37

The Anaphora 39

Holy, Holy, Holy (#2).....42

The Hymn of Praise 45

Hymn to the Birthgiver of God.....47

The Litany of Supplication..... 50

The Lord’s Prayer (#3).....54

The Communion Prayer 58

Communion Hymns.....59-62

In the Fear of God with Faith and Love Come Forward.....63

The Reception of Communion / Receive the Body of Chris...61

We have seen the True Light (#1).....64

Thanksgiving Hymn (#1)65

Thanksgiving Litany67

Amvon Prayer.....163

Announcements.....Fr. Matthew

The Dismissal.....71

Intonation for the Living.....72

Post Communion Prayers of Thanksgiving.....73

Monthly Schedule

Monday 08/14 6 pm- Great Vespers: Eve of the Dormition of the Mother of God

Tuesday 08/15 9 am- Divine Liturgy: The Falling Asleep of the Mother of God

Wednesday 08/16 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Adult Catechism Class

Saturday 08/19 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 08/20 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 08/22 9 am- Pirohi Making

Wednesday 08/23 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Adult Catechism Class

Thursday 08/24 9 am- Divine Liturgy

Saturday 08/26 4 pm- Great Vespers
5 pm- *Evangelism and Greeter Meeting / Welcome Bag Assembly - Everyone is Invited and Encouraged to Participate!*

Sunday 08/27 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 08/29 9 am- Divine Liturgy: The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist

10 am- Pirohi Making

Wednesday 08/30 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Adult Catechism Class

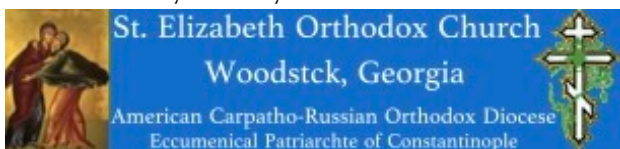
Sunday 09/03 10 am- Deacon’s Service

Tuesday 09/05 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Patronal Feast of Saint Elizabeth

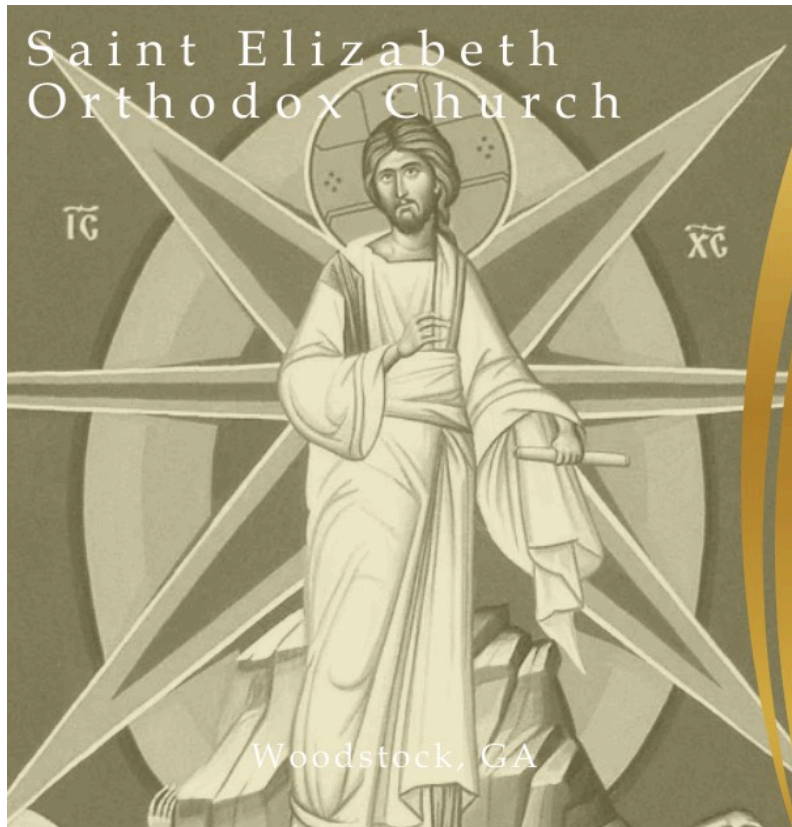
Saturday 09/09 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 09/10 10am- Divine Liturgy: Parish Celebration of our Patron Saint Elizabeth: Parish Family Sunday

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 if the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church



"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of our God, and behold the glory of His Transfiguration, the glory of the Only-begotten Son of the Father! Let us receive light from His light! Let us be uplifted in spirit, and forever sing the praises of the consubstantial Trinity!"-From Vespers on the Feast of the Transfiguration

**Christ is in our Midst!
He is and Always Shall Be!
Become a Member of
Saint Elizabeth's!**

www.stelizabethga.org

Announcements:

- **Flower Blessing-** Next Sunday at the Conclusion of the Divine Liturgy - in honor of the Feast of the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God
- **Sunday School Today!**
- **Interested in learning how our bells are rung?-** Want to be an evangelist to the rest of the world with their sound? Become an Orthodox bellringer! Ideal skills/qualities: good sense of rhythm, basic understanding of music theory, must be tall enough to comfortably control the bell system. Reach out to Graham Greene for more information (grahamgreene22@gmail.com).
- **Festival Testimonial Booklet-** Do you remember the beautiful articles written by the members of our parish family that were published in the Paschal Bulletin? This was such a beautiful gift and I am hoping that you are all willing to do this again. I am asking that everyone in the parish write a short (2 page maximum) article about what the Orthodox Faith means to them. How has the Church helped you to know Christ? Why did you become or remain Orthodox throughout your life? What do you love about the Church? How does has the Church enabled you to use your talents to glorify God? These are just some ideas to give you a starting point. The purpose of this is to be able to share part of what you have gained in your life in the Church with a newcomer. The goal will be to have all of our stories printed in a booklet to have in the Narthex all year round and especially to share with people at our Festival. Please send your article to me by the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross on September 14th.
- **Welcome Bag for Visitors and Greeter Training Meeting-** Moved to Saturday August 26th at 5 pm following Vespers.- We all need to be greeters who welcome newcomers with love and faith to our parish family. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate!
- **6th Annual Woodstock International Food Festival** - Please see the information on pages 8 and 9 in the bulletin about placing an add in the commemorative booklet. If you would like to participate please speak with Johnny Sajem ASAP!
- **Are You Receiving The Saint Elizabeth News-** and other Church emails?- Sign up on our website or by using this QR code. If you are still not receiving emails please check your spam folder.



Blessed Are Those Who Mourn- St. Anthony the Great said, “Whoever hammers a lump of iron, first decides what he is going to make of it, a scythe, a sword, or an axe. Even so, we ought to make up our minds what kind of virtue we want to forge, or we labor in vain.”

Christ told us what virtues to emulate when He gave us His famous [*Sermon on the Mount*](#). Every Sunday in the Divine Liturgy as we sing Christ’s very words, we are called upon to emulate the virtues our Lord extols. Each of us is given the opportunity to implant these spiritual lessons in our hearts, minds, and souls. When we listen to Christ’s words and give them a home inside of us, they guide us on our spiritual pilgrimage to be more and more transfigured in our Lord’s Image; they guide us to Salvation.

One of these lessons that Christ teaches us is “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted”. What does it mean to mourn? Is it just to be sad? Sad about the state of the world? Sad about our own lives? Is this what Christ means when he says blessed are those who mourn?

[Think of the famous story of the life of St. Mary of Egypt.](#) What did she do when she wasn’t able to enter the Church? She wept and lamented over her own sins. Saint Mary mourned over her own sinfulness and received mercy, healing, and forgiveness from God.

In the *Sermon on the Mount* Christ is saying *blessed are those who mourn over their own sins*. Christ is saying that when we sin, we turn away from God and all the blessings He so freely pours out upon us, we need to be sad over what we have done. Sin should cause us to grieve at how far we’ve fallen and desire a return to our Heavenly Father’s loving embrace. In order to mourn over our sins we first need to be honest with ourselves, see out own sins, and admit that we’ve turned away from God.

This is how we show our love for God. This is how we become his servants, just like St. Mary of Egypt did. When we mourn over our own sins, we show God how much we love Him; how much we love His teachings and His commandments and how sorry we are that we have fallen short of who He has called us to be.

Think about when someone hurts us and says they’re sorry but they don’t mean it. Or when we say that we’re sorry to someone, but don’t really mean it. Think about what happens after? Nothing is fixed because the apology wasn’t real. It wasn’t heartfelt or sincere.

We can’t be like this in our relationship with God. When we sin we need to mourn. We need to feel real sadness and sincere sorrow deep in our souls. We need to be sad because we’ve gone against our Father in Heaven. Our Father who loves us more than we can ever understand. Our Father who gives us everything, every good and perfect gift. We need to feel sorrow because of what Christ has done for all of us through His cross.

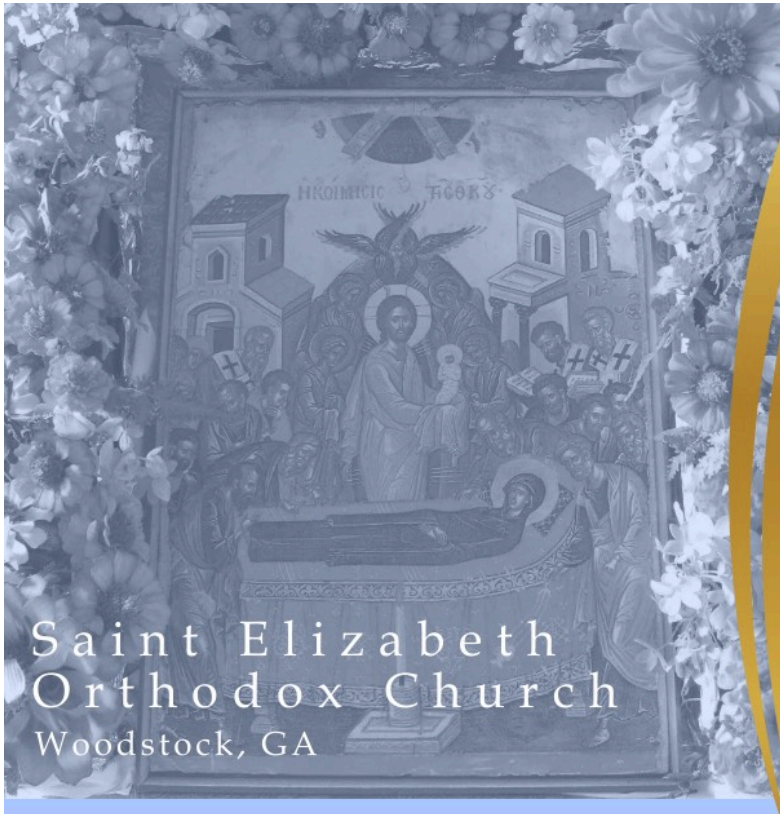
We should mourn over our sins; but God loves us so much that we *don’t need to stay sad!* Blessed are those who mourn – for they shall be comforted!

Christ comforts and forgives all of us in so many ways. Christ offers healing through the Sacrament of Confession, when we receive Holy Communion, when we are anointed with Holy Unction, when we cry out to Him in prayer, and in so many mysterious ways. When we come to Christ in humility with true sadness and true sorrow in our hearts for all the wrongs, all the sins we have committed against him He (unlike us) always forgives us!

But we need to mean it. We need to be truly sad when we miss the mark and sin against our loving creator. When we are, our Lord always forgives us and in turn we always receive His love and His comfort.

If this is ever hard for you- just look at the cross. Look at the love Christ shows through his sacrifice for each and every one of us. Look at the Cross and see how much Christ loves you.

Come to him and be his servant with sincere sorrow in your hearts and he will always forgive you and always comfort you. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.



The Blessing of Flowers

Did you know that on the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God the Church blesses flowers? Bring flowers to decorate the Church, to be blessed, and then taken back to your homes next Sunday as we will be continuing the celebration of this solemn feast day in the Church year.

www.stelizabethga.org

Fill One Out Today!

In the Proskomedia 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. 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.

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 *Proskomedia Sheets* available in the Narthex by the candles.

Proskomedia Prayer Sheet

For the Living



For the Departed



Coming Soon!



6th Annual Saint Elizabeth's



— October 7th and 8th, 2023 —

Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

**You Can
Help Our Festival
SUCCEED!**

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Help Our Festival
SUCCEED!**

You can help make our Festival Souvenir Booklet a success this year, by placing a small **note / comment / commemoration / thought / family photo / ad**

in the booklet for yourself or your family or by passing this information on to a friend or someone you do business with.

**Make a
MEMORY!**

Help Our Festival Succeed!

You can help make our Festival Souvenir Booklet a success this year, by placing a small ***note / comment / commemoration / thought / family photo / ad*** in the booklet for yourself or your family or by passing this information on to a friend or someone you do business with.

(See page 2 for formatting and cost))

You can submit your completed art in jpg, png or pdf format (at least 200dpi, please)

OR

you can write out a description, or scribble it on a piece of paper and we will do the art for you at no additional charge.

Send information to sajem@aol.com or if scribbled on a napkin, bring it to church.

Payment can be made at:

<https://www.woodstockinternationalfoodfestival.com/advertisements>

Be sure to note "Festival Ad" and your name.

Deadline for inclusion in the booklet is August 1, 2023

Deadline Extended!

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, 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, Mike & the Kundrat Family, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel, Ethan, Tripp, Rachel, Lilly, Emmie, Charlie, Michelle

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+, Saddie+, 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+ Ester+

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!