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:** <u>fatherdutko@gmail.com</u> www.stelizabethga.org



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 7- Page 99

Kondak of Preparation for the Nativity Tone 3- Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave* where she will give birth in a manner beyond understanding* to the Word Who is in all eternity* Rejoice, therefore, universe, when you hear it heralded.* With the angels and the shepherds, glorify Him* Who chose to be seen as a newborn babe* while remaining God in all eternity.

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





24th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22 **Gospel:** Luke 12:16-21



Christ is Among us!



The Entrance of the Mother of God into the Holy Temple

The St. Elizabeth News Christ is Among us!



Monthly Schedule

Monday 11/20 5:30 pm- Great Vespers: Entrance of the Mother of God into the Holy Temple

Tuesday 11/21 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Entrance of the Mother of God into the Holy Temple

Wednesday 11/22 5:30 pm- Akathist of Thanksgiving

Thursday 11/23 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Thanksgiving Day

Saturday 11/25 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 11/26 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 11/28 8:30 am- Divine Liturgy

10 am- Nut Roll Making

Wednesday 11/29 5:30 pm- Moleben & Class

Thursday 11/30 9 am- Divine Liturgy

10 am- Food Prep

Saturday 12/02 10 am- Christmas Decorating

4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 12/03 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Monday 12/04 8:30 am- Divine Liturgy

10 am Nut Roll Making

Tuesday 12/05 5:30 pm- Great Vespers & Class

Wednesday 12/06 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Feast of Saint Nicholas

Thursday 12/07 9 am- Halupki Making

Saturday 12/09 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 12/10 10 am- Divine Liturgy: Special

Parish Celebration of Saint Nicholas Day

Tuesday 12/12 8:30 am- Divine Liturgy

10 am- Pirohi Making

Wednesday 12/13 9 am- Divine Liturgy

5:30 pm- Moleben & Class

Thursday 12/14 9 am- Food Prep

Saturday 12/16 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 12/17 10 am- Divine Liturgy-

Woodstock, GA

November 19, 2023

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

using the blue rew book	
"Blessed Is the Kingdom"	2
The Great Litany of Peace	2
First Antiphon	5
Second Antiphon	7
Hymn of the Incarnation	10
The Beatitudes	14
The Little Entrance (Sunday Alternate)	16
Resurrection Tropar and Kondak (Tone 7)	99
Seasonal KondakFront Pag	
Trisagion (#1)	
Prokimenon (Tone 7)	
Epistle <u>E</u>	phesians 2:14-22
Alleluia (#2)	•
Verses	101
Glory to You, O Lord	24
The Gospel	
The Sermon	Fr. Matthew
The Triple Litany	25
Cherubic Hymn- Print out with special melody in	back of chairs 30
The Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn (Continu	
The Creed	
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 (#1)	53
The Communion Prayer	58
Communion Hymns	59-62
In the Fear of God with Faith and Love Come For	rward63
The Reception of Communion / Receive the Body	of Chris61
We have seen the True Light (#1)	64
Thanksgiving Hymn (#1)	65
Thanksgiving Litany	67
Amvon Prayer	
Blessed be the Name of the Lord (#1)	
Announcements	Fr. Matthew
The Dismissal	71
Intonation for the Living	
Post Communion Prayers of Thanksgiving	73
Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who h	navre properly

Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who havre properly prepared themselves, non-Orthodox visitors and inquirers are invited to come forward at the endif the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).

Advent and Thanksgiving

The days have become shorter. The clocks have been changed back. In the north, the first snowflakes have already fallen. Here in the south, the warmth of the sun has faded away and the first frost of the season has turned the early morning grass from green to a glistening white. The brilliant colors of the Autumn leaves have already lost their luster.

The beautiful autumnal changes loudly proclaim the passage of time. Watching the leaves change into their brilliant colors is something we all enjoy. There is something wondrous and childlike inside us that instantaneously draws us towards the

beauty of these seasonal changes. One day, the green leaves of summertime change, and suddenly, in the blink of an eye, they are transformed. Those very same leaves on those very same trees are filled with dynamic reds and yellows and a type of grandeur that we didn't notice the day before. Psalm 65 tells us that the Lord crowns *the year with goodness*. When we gaze upon the beauty of God's creation in the brilliant colors of the fall leaves it's so easy to see how our Lord truly crowns the year with goodness.

As we enter into this season of Thanksgiving, this season of Advent (Nov. 15), the changing leaves can remind us of so much more than the momentary beauty they share with us before they fall to the ground. Much like the leaves show us their majesty before they wane and suddenly drop to the ground below, so too, when compared with eternity, our life passes by like a flash of lightening.

As the seasons of the year change, it should always remind us just how short our time on this earth is, and how Christ is calling us to Him, to make this short time He's given us count.

St. John of Damascus reminds of this in his beautifully inspired hymns that we sing at every funeral service: "As the flower withers, as the shadow passes, so every man dies." The changing of the seasons, the shortening of the daylight, and the leaves falling all remind us of this same reality—

Continued on the Next Page...

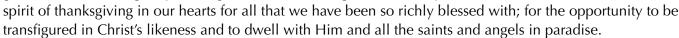




our time in this life is short and we must cherish it in thanksgiving to our Lord who pours forth everything He has so that we can have life in Him. In this season of thanksgiving, as we enjoy the changing of the leaves and special time with our loved ones, we should also be reminded that each and every breath that we take is a precious gift from our God in Heaven.

Our time on earth is short. Our life is a precious gift that we must cherish with thanksgiving and gratitude to our God for all that He has so richly blessed us. St. Paul reminds us in his first epistle to the Corinthians that we were bought for a price; he is reminding us that Christ gave everything He could give for us on the Cross so that we could have life in Him. Christ poured out every drop of Himself so that we could have life, and...have it more abundantly (John 10:10). When we recognize the fact that our time is short and that our life is a precious gift from our Saviour, the only proper response is to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow after Christ.

When we see our life as not our own, but as a gift that was bought with a price, only then can we truly cherish it. When we see our life as a precious gift, we care for that gift by looking at the world through *Christ-like* eyes; with a





When we do this, the beauty of creation all around us becomes obvious, just like the beauty and splendor of the colorful autumn leaves. But the fall leaves don't last forever. Their time is short, and so is our time here in this life. The beauty of the leaves is just like the beauty of the life that Christ offers to us as Orthodox Christians. We should cherish this time that God has given us and take advantage of it by living with love for our neighbor, living with forgiveness, living with joy, living with peace, living with repentance, and living with thanksgiving; for the leaves are beautiful, but soon they will fall.

Our life is a precious gift and soon, just like the leaves that change color and fall to the ground, our time will be up. Our Lord warns us to be prepared for our end to come in the *Parable of the Ten Virgins* in the Gospel of St. Matthew (25:1-13). Our Lord tells us in the parable, "*Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*" The wise ones prepared beforehand, they took advantage of the time that God gave them, and when the Bridegroom came, they were ready to greet Him with the light of their lamps. The foolish ones were not ready and, in the end, after they plead with the Bridegroom, he tells them 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' The Bridegroom will come in the middle of the night, at a time when we least expect it. Just as the flower withers, the shadow passes, and the leaves fall from the heights of their trees; the time will come for our soul to be judged, whether we are ready or not.

If we don't change now like the leaves above us change from green to golden, we will pass away from this life just like the leaves fall to the ground. We must ask ourselves—are we prepared; are we ready to take up our cross and do the work of being a member of the Body of Christ? Or will we be foolish like the five virgins who didn't prepare beforehand to meet the Bridegroom? When we fall into our blessed repose, will we reflect the image of Christ on the way down to the ground or the image of something else?

As we enter into this beautiful season of Advent and Thanksgiving and see the seasonal changes all around us, my prayer is that they remind all of us that our time on this earth is short and precious. Our life is a gift that we must cherish. The way to do this is to deny ourselves, our own ego, our own idea of what is right, and in turn focus on Christ, and love Him with all our heart, soul, and mind as He loves us. We have so much to be thankful for; let's be thankful now in the time that we have been given by Our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. During this Advent season if we move toward Christ and become more like him, we offer him the gift of our whole self, as He lay in the manger for our salvation.

MEET SAINT NICHOLAS!

AT SAINT ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

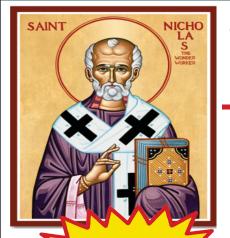
Hear his TRUE story that became a legend!

Santa Claus is known and loved by us all, but have you heard the true story?

Saint Nicholas of Myra was an early Christian bishop from the city of Myra in Asia Minor during the Roman Empire. Because of the many miracles attributed to him, he is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. His reputation spread, and his legendary practice of secret gift-giving gave rise to the tradition of

..... Santa Claus.





Come and Celebrate this Great Saint's Day!

Sunday, December 10th

Divine Liturgy at 10am Following Liturgy:

HEAR THE STORY OF SAINT NICHOLAS

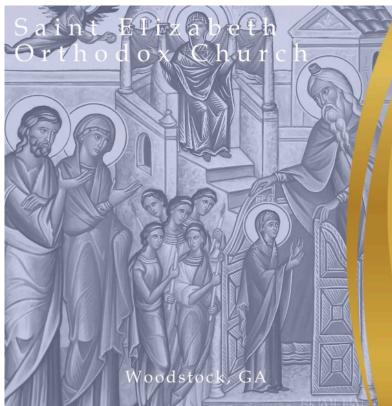
A VISIT FROM SAINT NICHOLAS

BREAKFAST!

GAMES! ACTIVITIES!

AII Are Welcome!

RSVP to fatherdutko@gmail.com



The Entrance of the Mother of God into the Holy Temple

"O holy Temple and living Paradise, tabernacle of the glory of Christ, virgin pure, blameless bride! You became the very dwelling place of God, and today you are led with joy into the Temple of the Lord, bringing with you the grace that is the divine Spirit." - From Vespers of the Feast

"O pure Virgin, by the light of your entrance, the holy place of the world is illumined. Today the uncreated Essence of God comes into the created temple of your womb. O pure one, you are shown forth as a holy temple, the most pure tabernacle, more exalted than the heavens." - From Matins of the Feast

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

Announcements:

- Children's Christmas Play Practice Today! Please text or email me this week your availability for Christmas Play Participation: Potential Dates 12/17, 12/24, & 12/31
- Parish Council Meeting this Monday morning, 11/20 at 9 am on zoom.
- Become A Distinguished Diocesan Donor, see the letter on the next page!
- Christmas Food Sales- The time has come to get ready for this years Christmas food sale! Please take a look at the food making schedule in the bulletin and see how you might be able to help your Church with this years Christmas fundraiser. Can't help make food? Consider making a special donation to offset the cost of supplies for this years sale!
- **Eternal Memory!** God grant rest to His newly departed servant Evelyn, our beloved sister in Christ, friend, and founder of Saint Elizabeth's. Today following the Liturgy we will remember Evelyn's 40th day after her falling asleep in the Lord.
- Sisterhood of Saints- This group is for any woman in the church! We will be meeting twice a month, one Wednesday morning and one Friday night. You do not have to make all the meetings to be a part of this group, please join as often as you are able! We will be reading "Seven Holy Women" and discussing the book together as a group. If you are interested in joining us please email Rachel Prince at Rachelbprince@gmail.com. She would be happy to order you a book if needed! Dates: Nov. 8th- 9am, Dec. 13th- 9am, and Dec. 29th 6:30 pm.
- Parish Testimonial Booklet- Take a look at the stories people shared for the Festival Booklet and considering adding your own. This will be an ongoing project. If you submitted your story, please send me a picture of yourself that you would like to be included in the booklet.
- Are You Receiving The Saint Elizabeth News and other important emails?- Sign up on our website or by using this QR code. If you are still not receiving emails please check your spam





SAINT ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

HOLIDAY HELI FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

FILLING A CHRISTMAS WISHLIST AS A PARISH FAMILY

The list on the next page is a Christmas wishlist for a family in need. This Christmas wishlist was provided to us by Kasi Williams for a family of 7 that attends the local school were Kasi works

Bring a gift to help make their Christmas a memorable one!

DROP-OFF BY 12/10

We are the only ones who have this list and we have a special opportuniy as a parish family to help this family to experience Christ's love this Holiday Season. Use the Sign up Genius or let Kasi know that you got an item on the list. If you wrap the gift, please mark which person the gift is for. Thank you!

Click Here to See the List!

kasi.sponhaltz@gmail.com



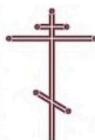




Eternal

Evelyn

Born: March 12, 1936



Memory

Melnikoff

Reposed: October 3, 2023









May Christ our God grant rest to the soul of His departed servant Evelyn in the place where there is no pain sorrow or suffering, but life everlasting!























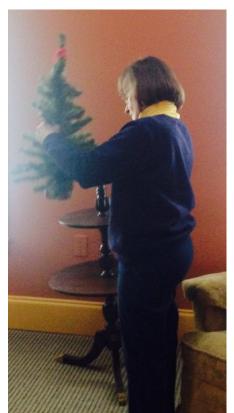












The St. Elizabeth News Christ is Among us! 14

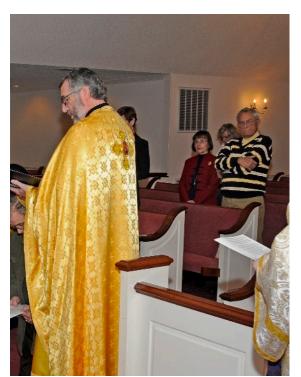








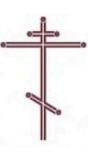








May Christ our God grant rest to the soul of His departed servant Evelyn in the place where there is no pain sorrow or suffering, but life everlasting and make her memory eternal!













St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Church Traditional Christmas Eve Holy Night Supper, Christmas Eve Vigil, and Christmas Day Divine Liturgy

Please be our guests and join with the St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church family for a traditional Christian celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. In the Orthodox Church, the forty days before Christmas

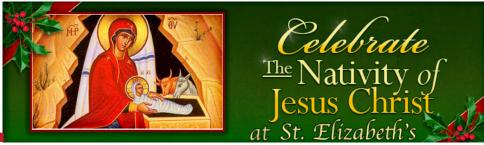
is known as the Nativity Fast, or Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Orthodox Christians participate in a fast from certain foods during this time of preparation which includes abstinence from meat and dairy products on most days. The fast culminates on Christmas Eve with a meat and dairy free dinner known as Holy Night Supper. At this traditional dinner, born out of the mountains of eastern Europe, the family gathers together to celebrate and give thanks for the good tidings of great joy that the birth of Christ brings into the world. All are welcome to attend a similar dinner at no cost. hosted by the St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church Parish Family starting at 4:30 pm on Christmas Eve. Since St. Elizabeth's is an international community fasting dishes from all over the world will be represented at our version of the Holy Night Supper. In the Old



World, after finishing the Holy Supper on Christmas Eve, the family would walk over to the Church for the celebration of the Christmas Eve Vigil, at St. Elizabeth's you will have the same opportunity to walk next door to the Church and celebrate the birth of Christ with your family. On Christmas morning the faithful will gather together once again to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, which is the central liturgical service in the Orthodox church. Come and see this ancient Christian celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! St. Elizabeth's is located at 2265 East Cherokee Drive in Woodstock. The dinner will begin at 4:30 PM with the Christmas Eve Vigil Service to follow at 6:30 PM. Also, please join us on Christmas morning as we celebrate the Birth of our New Born King with the traditional Orthodox Divine Liturgy at 10AM! If you have any questions please call at 404-268-6359.

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church 2265 East Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188





St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church A Mission Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

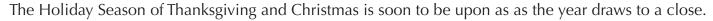
2265 East Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188 Phone: 404-268-6359

Email: <u>fatherdutko@gmail.com</u> <u>www.stelizabethga.org</u>

October 29, 2023

Christ is Among us! He is and Always Shall be!

Dear Parish Family,



Are you looking for a special way to give back to God this Holiday Season? Become a Distinguished Diocesan Donor! Your Diocese invites you to become a part of the Distinguished Diocesan Donors Program. The Distinguished Diocesan Donors Program (DDD) which was founded By His Grace, Bishop John of Thrice-Blessed-Memory, offers the faithful and friends of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese an opportunity to assist, in a meaningful way to our Diocesan apostolates and ministries.

ORTHODOX

WOODSTOCK

CHURCH

GEORGIA

The Distinguished Diocesan Donors Program has become an instrumental source of funding for the expansion and maintenance of Camp Nazareth, the Information Technology Ministry, Christ the Saviour Seminary, Mission & Evangelization, and other Diocesan Apostolates and Ministries, having raised over \$2.5 million dollars.

The seminary is soon to receive brand new facilitates to house and educate our future priests. With a new seminary building project soon to be underway, supporting the DDD Fund during this time is very important. As a Mission Parish we have greatly benefited from the funds given out of love by the many members of our Diocese. What better way to say *thank you* this holiday season than by become a *Distinguished Diocesan Donor*.

To be an Orthodox Parish is to be part of an Orthodox Diocese. Just like we support our local Church as best as we are able, we are also all invited to support the important efforts of our Diocese as well. When we look at the beauty around us here at Saint Elizabeth's, we should feel gratitude for the steadfast support of our

Diocese over the years. They have helped us take out loans to grow, supported our priests financially, and blessed us in so many ways.

For over 25 years the faithful members of our Diocese have helped us, so that by the Grace of God we can flourish and grow. This *Thanksgiving Season,* I invite you to say *thank you,* become a *Distinguished Diocesan Donor, and support important Diocesan institutions like Christ the Saviour Seminary and Camp Nazareth.* Click Here to Give!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Matthew Dutko



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 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, 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, Gerorge, & 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, Serge, Mark, Johnny, Yvette Christine, Johanna, Nicole, Caroline

For the Departed: Evelyn & Boris Melnikoff+, 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+, Saddie+, 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+, 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+, Iulie+

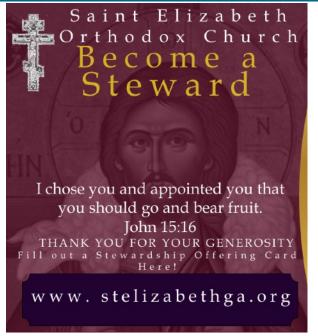
Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers & Mothers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!

Holy Saint Elizabeth Pray for us!





Eternal Memory!



Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Christ is Among us!