

## ST. ELIAS THE PROPHET CHURCH BULLETIN

January 12, 2014

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### Apolytikion Resurrection

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and had rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world. Ὁ φαιδρὸν τῆς Αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

### Apolytikion Baptism of Christ

In the Jordan You were baptized O Lord and the worship of the Trinity was manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to You, Beloved Son calling You. And the Spirit in the form of a Dove confirmed the certainty of the Word. You Who has appeared, O Christ our God and enlightened the World glory to You.

Ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ βαπτιζομένου σου, Κύριε, ἡ τῆς Τριάδος ἐφανερώθη προσκύνησις· τοῦ γὰρ Γεννήτορος ἡ φωνὴ προσεμαρτύρει σοι, αγαπητὸν σε Υἱὸν ὀνομάζουσα· καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐν εἶδει περιστρᾶς βεβαίον τοῦ λόγου τὸ ἀσφαλές· ὁ ἐπιφανείς, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τὸν κόσμον φωτίσας, δόξα σοι.

### Church Apolytikion

The incarnate Angel and the Prophets' summit and boast, the second fore-runner of the coming of Christ, Elias, the glorious, from above he has sent down his grace upon Elisha; he doth cast out sickness and also doth cleanse the lepers; and unto all that honor him, streams of cures he poureth forth.

### Contakion

You appeared today unto the world. And Your light, O Lord is marked upon us, who in knowledge chant unto to You. You have appeared O Light unapproachable

Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, καὶ τὸ φῶς σου, Κύριε, ἐσημειώθη ἡμᾶς, ἐν ἐπιγνώσει ὑμούντας σε· Ἥλθες, ἐφάνης, τὸ φῶς τὸ πρόσσιτον.

**Epistle** Ephesians 4:7–13

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

### GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-17

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

### PARISH NEWS

#### Recycling for St. Elias

We have found another outlet for used toner cartridges and inkjet cartridges, and his company will pay us directly for what we give them. When it's time to get a new cartridge, please bring the used one to church, in its packing if possible, and we will recycle it. Every bit that we recycle means more funds for our parish.

Please help with this free and painless way to raise money and protect the environment.

#### Albertson's Community Partners Cards

The new cards are available and are on the candle table. Please pick one up and use it whenever you shop for groceries at Albertson's. We get money back for each dollar we spend there when using our cards.

#### Parish Council

We would like to welcome are new members of the Parish Council, Paul Proestos, Aaron Steven, and Frederika Vaupen. Today after church we will have a Parish Council meeting to elect the new officers for 2014. Also continuing in the Parish Council are Peter Manos, Susan Proestos, Anastasia Stevens, and Kerry Tramountanas. We wish them all good health and happiness.

## Why do we get baptized?

We were commanded to be baptized by Jesus himself. He himself, though sinless, was baptized in the Jordan River. After His resurrection He commanded His Apostles saying, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mat. 28:19)

During Holy Baptism a death and resurrection take place. In the Orthodox Church we totally immerse, because such total immersion symbolizes death. What death? The death of the "old, sinful man". After Baptism we are freed from the dominion of sin, even though after Baptism we retain an inclination and tendency toward evil. This inclination and tendency remain so that the Christian may struggle to achieve his rebirth. From the Holy Font, and with the triple immersion in the blessed water, those that are baptized emerge reborn into a new life, resurrected into the life in Christ, children of God, citizens and members of God's Kingdom. The Apostle Paul said, "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism unto death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin". (Romans 6:3-6)

The actual service of Baptism begins with the rejection of Satan and the acceptance of Christ. Before being baptized, the person- or his sponsors or godparents for him- officially proclaims the symbol of Christian faith, the Creed. The baptismal water is then prayed over and blessed as the sign of the goodness of God's creation. The person to be baptized is also prayed over and blessed with sanctified oil as the sign that his creation by God is holy and good. And then, after the solemn proclamation of "Alleluia" (God be praised), the person is immersed three times in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The baptized person is then clothed with the "garments of salvation", symbolized by the white baptismal robe. The words of the Apostle Paul are then chanted as the newly-baptized is led in procession around the baptismal font three times as the symbol of his procession to the Kingdom of God and his entrance into eternal life: For as many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia." (Galatians 3:27)

Baptism is a very joyous occasion, because with Baptism we become members of the Church, a Church that will lead us to our salvation and bring us peace and joy.

## SERVICES AND INFORMATION

### This Week's Liturgical Schedule

#### JAN 2014

12 Jan (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour **Anna Patsalis**

9 Jan (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour **Eugenia Parry**

6 Jan (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour, **April Dellas**

#### February 2014

1 Feb (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour **Niki Constantaras**

1 Feb (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour **Eva Kurtz**

6 Feb (Sunday) prosforon **Diane Tintor**, coffee hour **Judy Brophy**

13 Feb (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour **April Dellas**

#### March 2014

1 March (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour

1 March (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour

6 March (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour

13 March (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour

15 March (Tuesday) prosforon and coffee hour

30 March (Sunday) prosforon and coffee hour

Prosforon must be at the church by 9:00 a.m. To change your day YOU must find and give sufficient notice to someone to take your place. You're also responsible for coffee room CLEAN UP—rinse coffee urns, wipe down counters and tables, sweep floor, replace soiled table cloths, place bag of garbage in green bin outside and wheel it down to the church mailbox (important detail to avoid mice) Questions? Call Eugenia Parry 424-402

### They are Done!

What exciting news for all of us. The Iconographers **Maria Sigala** and **Niko Spanopoulos** have completed the North and South wings and the back wall of the church. Now we have to wait for next year, until we can complete the rest of the church. We will be installing the Desert Fathers and Mothers and one saint from each Orthodox country like Serbia, Russia, China, Ethiopia, America, etc. Also on the ceiling the Dormition Assumption) of the Theotokos and Pentecost. Plus 70 half saints will be going around the church. If you would like to be part of this historic endeavor please call and speak to Fr. Dimitrios or send in your donations to the church. Thank you for all those who have come forth.

**Welcome to all visitors:** Please join us for fellowship immediately following the liturgy in the Social Hall. For those visiting an Orthodox Church for the first time, please be aware that Holy communion is a sign of unity of faith which is only offered to Baptized or Chrismated orthodox Christians. All present are welcome, however, to partake of the antidoron (or blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the service. Those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please feel free to