

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVIII

Number 48

31 July / 13 August 2017

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 1*)

**Forefeast of the Procession of the Precious and Life-giving Cross;
Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Eudocimus of Cappadocia**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 1*)

Forefeast of the Procession of the Cross; St Eudocimus

Saturday, 12 August (30 July, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 13 August (31 July, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORDS

Friday, 18 August (5 August, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Saturday, 19 August (6 August, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Blessing of Fruit

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 2*)

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration; Martyr Dometius

Saturday, 19 August (6 August, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 20 August (7 August, o.s.)

9:30 AM Meeting & Vesting of Bp Nicholas
9:40 AM Third and Sixth Hours
10:00 AM Hierarchal Divine Liturgy;
Special Lenten Trapeza

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Week of 6 August

Baptism Anniversaries – 9th: Dcn Seraphim Komleski (1976)

Week of 13 August

Birthdays – 13th: Mat. Anna Gail Komleski; 19th: John Whitacre, Elena Golikova.

Baptism Anniversaries – 19th: Nicolas Straut (1995).

THE REST OF AUGUST

Birthdays – 20th: Vassili Golikov; 27th: Elizabeth Bibas; 28th: Andrew O'Brien.

Wedding Anniversaries – 29th: Daniel & Nadezhda Sexton (2010).

SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of 13 August

Su	10th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>10th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John §66 (21:1-14)</i>	
	1 Cor. §131 (4:9-16)	Matt. §72 (17:14-23a)
11TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
<i>M</i>	2 Cor. §171 (2:3b-15a)	Matt. §94 (23:13-22)
<i>Tu</i>	2 Cor. §172 (2:14-3:3)	Matt. §95 (23:23-28)
<i>W</i>	2 Cor. §173 (3:4-11)	Matt. §96 (23:29-39)
<i>Th</i>	2 Cor. §175 (4:1-6)	Matt. §99 (24:13-28)
<i>F</i>	2 Cor. §177 (4:13-18)	Mt §100 (24:27-33, 42-51)
Sa	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	
	<i>Vespers Paramia: (1) Exodus 24:12-18 • (2) Exodus 33:11-23; 34:4-6, 8 • (3) III Kingdoms 19:3-9, 11-13, 15-16</i>	
	<i>Matins Gospel: Luke §45 (9:28b-36)</i>	
	2 Pet. §65 (1:10-19)	Matt. §70 (17:1-9)
<i>Sa</i>	1 Cor. §123 (1:3-9)	Matt. §78 (19:3-12)
Su	11th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>11th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John §67 (21:15-25)</i>	
	1 Cor. §141 (9:2b-12)	Matt. §77 (18:23-35)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK Week of 13 August

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Monday</i>	14 August (1 Aug, o.s.)	Procession of the Cross Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Tuesday</i>	15 August (2 Aug, o.s.)	Protomartyr Stephen Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Wednesday</i>	16 August (3 Aug, o.s.)	St Isaac, Dalmatus, & Faustus Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Thursday</i>	17 August (4 Aug, o.s.)	Holy Seven Sleepers of Ephesus Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Friday</i>	18 August (5 Aug, o.s.)	Forefeast of the Transfiguration Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Saturday</i>	19 August (6 Aug, o.s.)	TRANSFIGURATION Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	20 August (7 Aug, o.s.)	St Dometius of Persia Fast: wine, & oil permitted

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Dormition Fast begins on 14 August (n.s.) and continues for fourteen days until the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God on 28 August (n.s.). We eat no animal products (meat, meat products, eggs, and dairy products) throughout the two weeks. The general rules for this period are as follows: weekdays, Monday through Friday are normal fast days; on Saturdays and Sundays, wine and oil are permitted. The only day on which we may eat fish, wine is the Feast of the Transfiguration, 19 August (n.s.).

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (6 / 19 August) is the second of the three Feasts of the Saviour in August (the first being the Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross on 1 / 14 August and the last being the Feast of the Icon of Christ Made-Without-Hands on 16 / 29 August) and is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ took with Him His three Apostles Peter, James, and John to the top of Mount Tabor and was transfigured before them, thereby revealing to them His Divine Nature. The Apostles witnessed the Prophets Moses and Elias conversing with the Saviour in glory, thereby coming to a knowledge of Christ as the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. And finally the Apostles heard the voice of the Father from heaven proclaiming the Lord Jesus as His Son in Whom He was well pleased, and thereby understood the unity of essence between the Father and the Son. This vision of the God-Man was given to the Apostles a short while before His saving Passion to strengthen their faith in the face of His seeming defeat. May the celebration of this Great Feast also strengthen our faith in our Saviour Who triumphed over sin, death, and Satan. May we 'hear Him' today.

It is customary to bless grapes on the Feast of the Transfiguration. In northern climes like Russia, where grapes historically were in short supply, the blessing of apples replaced the blessing of grapes. At St Elizabeth's we bless grapes, apples, and all other types of fruit on this Holy Day. Parishioners are urged to bring a basket of fruit to be blessed at the end of the Divine Liturgy on the morning of the Feast.

The Feast of the Transfiguration is also called by Russians the 'Apple [Feast of the] Saviour'. Many of the faithful follow the pious custom of waiting each year to eat apples and other fruits until this day, in order that new fruit of the summer season be sanctified in church, as an image of participation in the celebration of the future transfiguration of all flesh, when there will be a new earth and a new heaven.

We do not kneel or make prostrations either in services at church or during prayer at home on the

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. The Great Feasts of the Saviour, (Christmas, Theophany, the Ascension, the Transfiguration, etc.) are the same as all the Sundays of the year in this respect. Following a tradition that comes down from the holy Apostles, Orthodox Christians have ever held that kneeling is incompatible with the Resurrection joy we experience on the Lord's Day. The Great Feasts of the Master are so important that their liturgical services completely displace the Resurrectional service if they fall on a Sunday. Our joy in celebrating these Feasts is as incompatible with kneeling as the Resurrection joy of Sunday. Whenever we would ordinarily kneel or make a prostration during prayer on these days, we make a bow from the waist (*metania*) instead.

Concerning Confession and Holy Communion: Those who have been to Confession during the past two weeks may receive Holy Communion at the Liturgy on the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, provided that no serious sin has been committed which would require another Confession and that the other usual preparations for Holy Communion are observed (i.e. attendance of the Vigil Service the evening before Holy Communion, reading the Pre-Communion Prayers, and the forgiveness of others). Likewise, those who have been to Confession for the Feast of the Transfiguration may receive Holy Communion at the Liturgies the following two Sundays and on the Feast of the Dormition under the same conditions.

NEXT SUNDAY

Bishop NICHOLAS will be with us next Sunday for the Divine Liturgy. This will be our annual Hierarchal visitation. Please make every effort to come to church early to support our parish during the visit of Bishop Nicholas, who is the Vicar Bishop in the Eastern American Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia.

We have a slight change of schedule next Sunday morning: the meeting and vesting of the Bishop should take place at 9:30, followed by the Hours. The Hierarchal Divine Liturgy should begin at 10:00.

We will have a special lenten Trapeza next Sunday. We are hoping that each family in the Parish will contribute by donating funds for catered food and/or providing dishes that the Sisterhood has planned to serve at the meal. Monetary donations may be placed in the collection basket, marked 'Bishop's Meal.'

The Ladies of the Parish (and others who are interested) will have a brief meeting at coffee hour this Sunday to make final plans for our Trapeza following the Divine Liturgy next Sunday.