

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Volume XVI

Number 1

1 / 14 September 2014

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Tone 5)

Beginning of the Indiction, which is the New Year; St Symeon the Stylite

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

14th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (Tone 5)

Church New Year; St Simeon the Stylite

Saturday, 13 September (31 August o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 14 September (1 September o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Moleben for the New Church Year
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

15th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (Tone 6)

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Saturday, 20 September (7 September o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 21 September (8 September o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

Su	14th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>3rd Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Mark §71 (16:9-20)	
	2 Cor. §170 (1:21-2:4)	Matt. §89 (22:1-14)
15TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
M	Gal. §202 (2:11-16)	Mark §21 (5:24b-34)
Tu	Gal. §204 (2:21-3:7)	Mark §22 (6:1-7)
W	Gal. §207 (3:15-22)	Mark §23 (6:7-13)
Th	Gal. §208 (3:23-4:5)	Mark §25 (6:30-45)
F	Gal. §210 (4:8-21)	Mark §26 (6:45-53)
Sa	Saturday before the Exaltation of the Cross	
	1 Cor. §126 (2:6-9)	Matt. §39 (10:37-11:1)
Sa	1 Cor. §132 (4:17-5:5)	Matt. §97 (24:1-13)
Su	NATIVITY OF THE ALL-HOLY THEOTOKOS	
	<i>Vespers Paramia:</i> (1) Genesis 28:10-17 •	
	(2) Ezekiel 43:27-44:4a • (3) Proverbs 9:1-11	
	<i>Matins Gospel:</i> Luke §4 (1:39-49, 56)	
	Phil. §240 (2:5-11)	Luke §54 (10:38-42; 11:27-28)
Su	Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross	
	Gal. §215 (6:11-18)	John §9 (3:13-17)
	15th Sunday after Pentecost	
	2 Cor. §176 (4:6-15)	Matt. §92 (22:35-46)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
Wednesday	17 September (4 Sept, o.s.)	St Joasaph, Bp of Belgorod Fast: Wine & Oil permitted
Friday	19 September (6 Sept, o.s.)	Miracle of Archangel Michael Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

Namedays – 8th (Martyr Natalia): Natalia (Natasha) Prokopenko; 13th (St Aidan of Lindisfarne): Aidan O'Beirne.

Birthdays – 8th: Sasha (Alexander) Ghandour.

Wedding Anniversaries – 9th: Sbdcn Daniel & Elizabeth Lieuwen (2012).

THIS WEEK

Namedays – 16th (St Phoebe the Deaconess): Phoebe (Addie) O'Beirne; 18th (St Elizabeth): Elizabeth Lieuwen.

Birthdays – 14th: Mat. Hannah Barker; 18th: Noah George Hotz; 20th: Claudia Maxey.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 19th: Michelle Straut (+1996), George Schidlovsky (+2009).

THE REST OF SEPTEMBER

Namedays – 22nd (St Anna): Anya Fitzgerald, Mat. Anna Komleski, Zydrune Ann Mladineo; 30th: (Martyr Sophia): Sofia Fitzgerald; 30th: (Martyr Faith): Mat. Faith Straut; 30th: (Martyr Hope): Nadezhda Sexton.

Birthdays – 25th: Andrew Kostadis.

Wedding Anniversaries – 23rd: Peter & Zydrune Ann Mladineo.



THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have begun a new Church School program for our younger children (aged 4-10) at St Elizabeth's this September. The teacher will be Elizabeth Lieuwen. (We are looking for volunteers to help with teaching, as it will be helpful to divide the children into at least two classes by age.) There will be a class for all students with Mrs Elizabeth today, 14 September. Class will begin immediately after Holy Communion, when the teachers lead their pupils downstairs to the church hall. The lesson will continue until after the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion, when Fr David comes downstairs to bless the food. Many parents have their children engaged in sports, music, and foreign languages; but spiritual education is far more important!

Happy New Year? Some may not many know that the Church Year begins on 1 September, old style (14 September, new style). The ancient Christian computation of years also differs from the standard Western reckoning. The years are counted from Adam, and so we begin the Church year 7523 on 1 / 14 September 2014. This computation was the official calendar of the Christian Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire. It was also used in Russia until Tsar Peter the Great changed the New Year to 1 January and began counting years A.D. like the rest of Europe. So make your New Year resolutions!

A Moleben for the beginning of the Church Year will be served at the end of the Divine Liturgy today, Sunday, 14 September 2014, the Church New Year on the Julian Calendar. Let us praise God for this New Year and beseech His blessing upon it.

Two of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church fall in the month of September. These are the Feasts of the Nativity of the Theotokos (8 / 21 September) and the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross (14 / 27 September). All faithful Orthodox Christians should be in church to celebrate these important Feasts, so do please plan ahead to be present in church for the festal services.

Father can provide written excuses for absence or lateness for students attending Liturgy for a Great Feast. Just let him know you need it in advance.

The Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God (8 / 21 September) begins the cycle of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church. It comes one week after the Ecclesiastical New Year (1 / 14 September). Thus Our Lady's Birth begins the cycle of these Great Feasts and another of her Feasts, her glorious Dormition, brings the cycle to a close, just two weeks before the end of

the Liturgical Year. Thus we begin and end the year with the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady teaches us that our salvation in Christ begins with the conception and Birth of His All-Pure Mother. Without her existence and her acceptance to voluntarily become the Ever-Virgin Mother of our Saviour, His incarnation would not have taken place. So the miraculous birth of the Theotokos of her aged parents, Joachim and Anna, is a source of rejoicing for all Christians.

The Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos is celebrated for five days, from the Feastday itself through the *Apodosis* (Leave-taking) of the Feast on 25 September (n.s). The festal period of this Feast is shorter than the usual eight days, because of the close proximity of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. The troparion and kontakion of the Nativity are chanted or read at all the services of the Church on each of the five days. The texts for these hymns may be found in the *Jordanville Prayer Book*. To celebrate the Feast at home, the troparion of the Feast ('*Thy nativity, O Theotokos Virgin ...*') can be sung instead of the 'Our Father' before meals, while the kontakion of the Feast ('*Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness...*') can be sung instead of the usual thanksgiving troparion after each meal. It would also be most appropriate to sing the troparion and kontakion of the Feast at the end of our morning and evening prayers at home.

Concerning Confession and Holy Communion: Those who have been to Confession for the Feast of the Beading of St John the Baptist or this weekend may receive Holy Communion on the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, 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 Our Lady's Nativity may receive Holy Communion at the Liturgy the following Sunday morning and on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, under the same conditions.

Donations are sought for flowers to adorn the Holy Cross on the Feast of the Exaltation (14 / 27 September). If you would like to make a donation toward flowers for that day, please place it in the collection basket marked 'flowers.' You may certainly include a commemoration list so that your loved ones may be remembered at the Liturgy on that day.