

# THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Volume XVI

Number 52

31 August / 13 September 2015

**THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Tone 6)**  
**The Deposition of the Precious Cincture of the All-Holy Theotokos**

### THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

**15th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (Tone 6)**

**Sash of the Most Holy Theotokos**

**Saturday, 12 September (30 August o.s.)**

6:00 PM Vigil Service;  
Confessions

**Sunday, 13 September (31 August, o.s.)**

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;  
Trapeza (coffee hour)

**Church New Year; Venerable Symeon the Stylite**

**Monday, 14 September (1 September o.s.)**

9:00 AM New Year Moleben  
9:30 AM Lesser Blessing of Water

**16th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (Tone 7)**

**Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross**

**Saturday, 19 September (6 September o.s.)**

6:00 PM Vigil Service;  
Confessions

**Sunday, 20 September (7 September, o.s.)**

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;  
Trapeza (coffee hour)

**NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**Sunday, 20 September (7 September, o.s.)**

6:00 PM Vigil Service;  
Confessions

**Monday, 21 September (8 September, o.s.)**

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

### FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
Wednesday	16 September (3 Sept, o.s.)	HM Anthimus & those with him
		Normal Fast Day ( <i>No oil</i> )
Friday	Ss Zacharias & Elisabeth	Ss Zacharias & Elisabeth
		Fast: Wine & Oil permitted

### SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

15th Sunday after Pentecost		
<i>Su</i>	4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §112 (24:1-12)	
	2 Cor. §176 (4:6-15)	Matt. §92 (22:35-46)
16TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
<i>M</i>	Gal. §211 (4:28-5:10)	Mark §27 (6:54-7:8a)
<i>Tu</i>	Gal. §212 (5:11-21)	Mark §28 (7:5-16)
<i>W</i>	Gal. §214 (6:2-10)	Mark §29 (7:14-24a)
<i>Th</i>	Eph. §216 (1:1-9)	Mark §30 (7:24-30)
<i>F</i>	Eph. §217 (1:7-17)	Mark §32 (8:1-10)
<i>Sa</i>	1 Cor. §146 (10:23-28)	Matt. §101 (24:34-44)
16th Sunday after Pentecost		
<i>Su</i>	5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)	
	2 Cor. §181 (6:1-10)	Matt. §105 (25:14-30)
Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross		
	Gal. §215 (6:11-18)	John §9 (3:13-17)

### NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### LAST WEEK

**Namedays** – 8th (Martyr Natalia): Natalia (Natasha) Prokopenko;

**Birthdays** – 8th: Sasha (Alexander) Ghandour.

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

#### THIS WEEK

**Namedays** – 13th (St Aidan of Lindisfarne): Aidan O'Beirne; 16th (St Phoebe the Deaconess): Phoebe (Addie) O'Beirne; 18th (St Elizabeth): Elizabeth Lieuwen.

**Birthdays** – 14th: Mat. Hannah Barker; 18th: Noah George Hotz.

**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** – 20th: Claudia Maxey; 25th: Andrew Kostadis.

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

## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Church School program** for our younger children (aged 4-10) at St Elizabeth's begins today. The teacher is 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.) 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!

**The Parish Council meets today** (the 2nd of the month) during coffee hour. All parish council members are asked to attend.

**Please take a look in the wardrobe in the narthex** and remove any garments belonging to you (Readers' cassocks excepted). There are many forgotten articles of clothing. At the end of September all remaining unclaimed garments will be donated to a thrift store to make room for parishioners' coats and jackets during the cold weather months.

**Happy New Year?** Some may not many know that the Church Year began 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 7524 on 1 / 14 September 2015. 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. It's not too late your New Year resolutions!

**A Moleben for the beginning of the Church Year** will be served on the morning of 14 September, followed by the Lesser Blessing of Water. Let all of us who are able gather in church to 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.

**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.

**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.

**Concerning Confession and Holy Communion:** Those who have been to any time during the two weeks prior to Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, may receive Holy Communion on the Feast, 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 two Sundays 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.