

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XIX

Number 52

27 August / 9 September 2018

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 6*)

Our Venerable Father Pœmen the Great

SERVICES THIS WEEK

15th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 6*)

Our Venerable Father Pœmen the Great

Saturday, 8 September (26 August, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 9 September (27 August, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;

Coffee Hour

12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

BEHEADING OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Monday, 10 September (28 August, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Tuesday, 11 September (29 August, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;

Litias for the Departed

CHURCH NEW YEAR

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

9:30 AM Moleben for the Church New Year

16th SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 7*)

HM Anthimus of Nicomedia & Ven. Theoctistus

Saturday, 15 September (2 September, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 16 September (3 September, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;

Coffee Hour

FASTING DAYS Week of 9 September

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Tuesday</i>	11 September (29 Aug, o.s.)	BEHEADING OF FORERUNNER Strict Fast: Wine & Oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	12 September (30 Aug, o.s.)	St Alexander Nevsky Fast: Wine & Oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	14 September (1 Sept, o.s.)	Church New Year; St Symeon Fast: Wine & Oil permitted

SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of 9 September

<i>Su</i>	15th Sunday after Pentecost	
	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>	Beheading of St John the Baptist	
	Vespers Paramia: (1) Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18,45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 • (2) Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7,12,18; 4:4-6 • (3) Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-20; 5:1-7	
	Matins Gospel: Matt. §57 (14:1-13)	
	Acts §33 (13:25-33a)	Mark §24 (6:14-30)
<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)
<i>Su</i>	16th Sunday after Pentecost	
	5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)	
	2 Cor. §181 (6:1-10)	Matt. §105 (25:14-30)

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Metropolitan Hilarion has directed a special collection to be taken on the second Sunday of September to benefit the Synodal Music Commission, which oversees the Synodal Church Singer's School and the organization of the Church Singer's Conferences. The XXVII Church Singer's Conference will take place at the Nativity of the Mother of God Church in Albany, New York, from 3-7 October of this year. At St Elizabeth's we will be collecting for this good work in our Church during the Sundays of September.

A Moleben for Students and Teachers will be served after the Holy Liturgy today. It is important to begin the academic year with supplication and thanksgiving to the Lord. All students and teachers are asked to step forward at the end of the Moleben for a special blessing with Holy Water.

September is the beginning of both the school year and the Church year, and so marks a time of new beginnings. Let us resolve to improve our spiritual lives. We are never too old to learn our Faith. Let us learn along with our children this new Church School year.

Remember to update your Commemoration Book, The beginning of the Church year is a good time to take a moment to look over your Commemoration Book (*Pomyannik*). Are there any changes? Do you wish to add any names for Health and Salvation? Have any of your relatives reposed? Are all the names Orthodox? Please use proper baptismal names, and avoid nicknames or shortened diminutive names (e.g. use Constantine not Costa or Gus, Natalia not Natasha, Elizabeth not Lisa or Liz.) If someone's secular name and baptismal names are different, use the baptismal name. If you include non-Orthodox names, please clearly mark them as such, using parentheses or an asterisk. Prospora should not be given for the unbaptised or for non-Orthodox. For non-Orthodox loved ones it is proper to light candles before the icons and to pray that the Lord enlighten them and have mercy on them.

The Feast of the Beheading of St John the Baptist (29 August / 11 September) is also a fast day on whatever day it falls. On this day we celebrate the memory of the Saint whom our Saviour was the greatest born of woman (cf. St Luke 7:28), but we also mourn his death at the hands of the iniquitous Herod through the wicked machinations of Herodias and Salome. We abstain from all animal products and fish on this Holy Day. In Russian practice wine and oil are always permitted on this day. In Greek practice, wine and oil are generally not permitted unless the Feast falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

Concerning Confession and Holy Communion: Those who have been to any time during the two weeks prior to Feast of the Beheading of the Forerunner, 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 Beheading of St John the Baptist may receive Holy Communion at the Liturgy the following two Sundays and on the Feasts of the Nativity of the Mother of God and the Exaltation of the Cross, under the same conditions.

We all remember the horrific events of 11 September 2001. So many lives were lost in the terrorist attacks on our Nation at the hands of Islamic extremists. September 11th should be a national day of mourning and prayer for those who met painful and sudden death on that day. How appropriate that Orthodox Christians who adhere to the Church Calendar already observe this day as a fast in memory of St John the Forerunner!

A Litya (*Trisagion*) for the Departed will be served immediately after the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Beheading of St John the Baptist. We will be specially remembering those who lost their lives in the attacks on 11 September 2001 on this anniversary of their deaths. Orthodox Christians who were killed on that day will be commemorated by name at the Liturgy and the Litya.

St Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Howell (Lakewood), New Jersey, is celebrating its Patronal Feast on 12 September. Vigil will be served on the eve of the Feast at 6:00 p.m.. Divine Liturgy will be served on the morning of the Feast at 9:30, followed by a festal trapeza. All of St Elizabeth's parishioners are invited to Lakewood to celebrate the memory of this important Russian Saint and to support our sister Parish.

The Cathedral of St Alexander Nevsky is located at 200 Alexander Avenue in Howell, New Jersey 07731. For additional information, the Cathedral's website is: <http://www.stalexandernevskycathedral.org>

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 7527 on 1 / 14 September 2018. 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 on the morning of 14 September. Let all of us who are able gather in church to praise God for this New Year and beseech His blessing upon it.

St Elizabeth's Annual Picnic will be held on the 5th Sunday of September instead of our usual Sunday coffee hour. Please plan to attend. It will be a great opportunity for Parish fellowship. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and buns will be provided by the parish. We need salads, baked beans, chips, drinks, and other accompaniments brought by parishioners. Please let Matushka know if you plan to attend and what you plan to bring. The Parish also needs to borrow an additional gas grill with fuel. Please speak to Father if you can bring one. The grills can be brought to church on Saturday evening or on Sunday morning.

