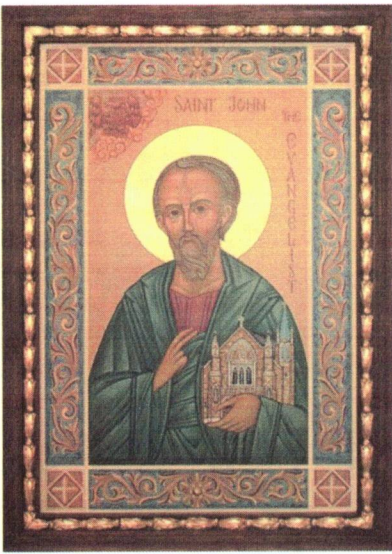


JULY 20, 2025





*ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST*  
*ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH*

1501 8TH AVENUE  
BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

[WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG)

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND  
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA  
HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE  
OF OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

**REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER**

=====

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23 )  
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

\*\*\*\*\*

***We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshipping with us.***

***Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Fr. Seraphim***

***The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.***

=====

# **DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025**

## **TONE 5 / EOTHINON 6; PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE THESBITE & SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

**RIGHTEOUS ILIYA CHAVCHAVADZE OF GEORGIA**

### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

### **APOLYTIKION OF PROPHET ELIAS IN TONE FOUR (\*\*Be quick to anticipate\*\*)**

The incarnate Angel, and the Prophets' summit and boast, \* the second forerunner of the coming of Christ our God, Elias, the glorious, \* from above sent down his grace upon Elisseus; \* he doth cast out sickness and doth also cleanse lepers; \* and unto all that honor him, he poureth forth streams of cures.

### **APOLYTIKION FOR ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast. Will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech Him then, O wise and holy Theologian, Dispel from us the dark and ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us his peace and great mercy.

### **ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

+++++

### **THIS SPECIAL DONATION IS STILL BEING ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JULY**

A special charitable account has been set up at the Archdiocese Headquarters. The proceeds will be forwarded to His Beatitude Patriarch John X for distribution to the survivors and families of those who were killed at Prophet Elias Church near Damascus, Syria on 6-22-25.



**THE EPISTLE**  
**(For Prophet Elias)**

*Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.  
The Lord said unto my Lord:  
Sit Thou on my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. James. (5:10-20)**

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those blessed who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elias was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

**THE GOSPEL**  
**((For Sixth Sunday of Matthew))**

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:1-8)**

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

## THE SYNAXARION

**On July 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the fiery ascent as it were into the Heaven of the holy and glorious Elias (Elijah) the Thesbite.**

### **Verses**

*He withheld the rain and thrice brought down fire from Heaven;*

*Now Elias parteth the stream and upwards hasteth.*

*On the twentieth, thou wast caught up in a chariot, O horseman Elias.*

Elias was born in the town of Tishba for which he was called the Thesbite. When Elias was born, his father Savah saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and giving him a flame to eat. This foreshadowed Elias's fiery character and his God-given fiery power. Elias confronted the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel. They worshipped idols and were turning the people away from serving the One and Living God. Jezebel, a Syrian, persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the Syrian god Baal. Through great miracles Elias displayed the power and authority of God: he closed up the heavens, so that there was not any rain for three years and six months; he lowered a fire from heaven and burned the sacrifice to his God which the pagan priests of Baal were unable to do; he accurately prophesied to Ahab that the dogs will lick up his blood and to Jezebel that the dogs will consume her flesh. Before his death Elias took Elisseus (Elisha) and designated him as his successor in the prophetic calling. Elias was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot by flaming horses. He appeared on Mount Tabor to our Lord Jesus Christ with Moses on the Transfiguration. Before the end of the world Elias will appear again to put an end to the power of the anti-Christ (Revelation, Chapter 11).

+++++

### **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

“God .....has given to all men spiritual knowledge and every good thing. For these good things we ought all of us to always give thanks to him, especially those who have received from Him the power to renew their holy baptism through repentance, because without repentance, no one can be saved.”

**(St. Peter of Damascus)**



## JULY/ AUGUST SERVICES

ANNOUNCEMENT: FROM MAY 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 30TH  
WE WILL NOT BE HAVING SATURDAY GREAT VESPERS

(Fr. Seraphim has too many Saturday's away)

+++++

JULY 20TH SUNDAY — THE PROPHET ST. ELIAS

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

***COUNCIL MEETING AT 12 NOON***

JULY 27TH SUNDAY — ST. PANTELEIMON GREAT MARTYR & HEALER

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

AUGUST 1ST FRIDAY — DORMITION FAST BEGINS

AUGUST 1ST THRU TO AUGUST 15TH

AUGUST 3RD SUNDAY —MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

AUGUST 6TH WEDNESDAY— TRANSFIGURATION SERVICE WILL

BE CELEBRATED AT THE MONASTARY OF THE

TRANSFIGURATION IN ELLWOOD CITY.

REFER TO ***PATRONAL FEAST*** ON PAGE 7 FOR SERVICE TIMES

AUGUST 10TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

AUGUST 14TH THURSDAY — DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

SERVICE WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 6PM.

AUGUST 16 SATURDAY—COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 8:30-10:30AM

AUGUST 17TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

AUGUST 24TH SUNDAY — MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

**PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:**

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Harriet, Perry Sassic & family, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Margaret, Carrie, Lori, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, John, and Bonnie.

Welcome to our newest members: Connor, Mira, Asher, Benjamin

**FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:**

Prayers are offered in memory of .....

+++++

***PATRONAL FEAST (PAGE 7)***

***ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE AT MONASTERY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION***

**Presiding Hierarchy**

His Grace the **Right Reverend Benedict**

Bishop of Hartford and New England

The Orthodox Church in America

**Tuesday, August 5**

**Eve of Transfiguration**

**6:00**      Feast of Vigil Service

**Wednesday, August 6**

**Feast of Transfiguration**

**9:00**      Akathist

**9:30**      Procession and Hierarchical Liturgy

**12:00**      Catered Luncheon

**2:30**      Holy Unction with Paraklesis



## THE EBB AND FLOW OF LIFE

**B**ecause of his willingness to confront King Ahab for his unrighteous and pagan ways, the **PROPHET ELIJAH** often found himself fleeing for his life. In the First Book of Kings, we read how God sends him to the safety of the Brook Cherith, where he not only finds shelter, but food and refreshing waters. Elijah's fortunes change quickly, however, and soon that brook, which brought him much-needed relief, dries up and is utterly worthless to him. For the Prophet, joy had become despair.

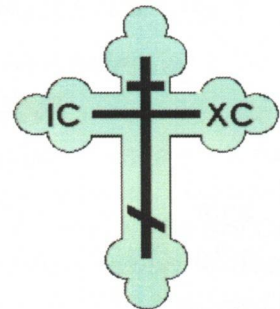
How often do we see this happening in our own lives? How many times has our good fortune turned to bad almost overnight? Our once-thriving business suddenly fails . . . our high-value stocks suddenly plummet . . . the "love of our life" forsakes us. Yes, life is truly filled with "dried up brooks."

Yet we must believe that things always happen for a reason. As the old saying goes, **"When God closes a door, He always opens a window somewhere."** When the Brook Cherith dried up and the outlook for Elijah was at its bleakest point, we read in the First Book of Kings that the word of God came to him. God had not led him there so that he could die. No, He had other plans for him, setting Elijah on a path that would eventually take him back to the king so that he could show the power of the one true God of Israel. Elijah listened to the voice of God, and so must we. We must be receptive to what His new plan for us may be, just as Elijah was. When our world seems to be falling apart, this is precisely the time to put our trust in the Lord. When darkness engulfs us, we must seek the true Light to brighten our path. Yes, **"dried up brooks"** can be transformed very quickly, if we recognize the right **"Source"** needed to fill them!

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.*

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1501 8TH AVENUE  
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010**

**CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES  
[WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG)**



**OFFICE HOURS**