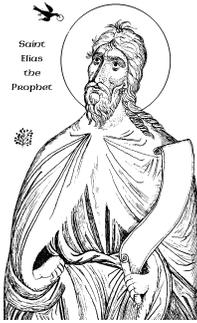


## St. Elias the Prophet



Elias of great fame was from Thisbe or Thesbe, a town of Galaad (Gilead), beyond the Jordan. He was of priestly lineage, a man of a solitary and ascetical character, clothed in a mantle of sheep skin, and girded about his loins with a leathern belt. His name is interpreted as "Yah is my God." His zeal for the glory of God was compared to fire, and his speech for teaching and rebuke was likened unto a burning lamp. From this too he received the name Zealot. Therefore, set aflame with such zeal, he sternly reprov'd the impiety and lawlessness of Ahab and his wife Jezebel. He shut up heaven by means of prayer, and it did not rain for three years and six months. Ravens brought him food for his need when, at God's command, he was hiding by the torrent of Hor-rath. He multiplied the little flour and oil of the poor widow of Sarephtha of Sidon, who had given him hospitality in her home, and when her son died, he raised him up. He brought down fire from Heaven upon Mount Carmel, and it burned up the sacrifice offered to God before all the people of Israel, that they might know the truth. At the torrent of Kisson, he slew 450 false prophets and priests who worshipped idols and led the people astray. He received food wondrously at the hand of an Angel, and being strengthened by this food he walked for forty days and forty nights. He beheld God on Mount Horeb, as far as this is possible for human nature. He foretold the destruction of the house of Ahab, and the death of his son Ohozias; and as for the two captains of fifty that were sent by the king, he burned them for their punishment, bringing fire down from Heaven. He divided the flow of the Jordan, and he and his disciple Elisseus passed through as it were on dry land; and finally, while speaking with him, Elias was suddenly snatched away by a fiery chariot in the year 895 B.C., and he ascended as though into heaven, whither God most certainly translated him alive, as He did Enoch (Gen. 5:24; IV Kings 2: 11). But from thence also, after seven years, by means of an epistle he reproached Joram, the son of Josaphat, as it is written: "And there came a message in writing to him from Elias the Prophet, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the way," and so forth (II Chron. 21:12). According to the opinion of the majority of the interpreters, this came to pass either through his disciple Elisseus, or through another Prophet when Elias appeared to them, even as he appeared on Mount Tabor to the disciples of

## Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN  
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50<sup>TH</sup>  
Anniversary  
1965-2015

July 19, 2015

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 7 Ecumenical Councils

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Commemoration of: Macrina the Righteous, sister of St. Basil; Dios, Abbot of Antioch

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Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

*Angelike thinamis* (Hymn of the Day) Tone 6

*Iperthethoxamenos i Hriste* (Holy Fathers) Tone 8

*You are greatly glorified, O Christ our God, who established our Fathers as luminaries upon the earth, and through them led us all to the true Faith: O most Compassionate, glory to You.*

*Tu Stavru su ton tipon* (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

*Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which you guard in peace forever, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.*

Kontakion Tone 2

*Prostasia ton Hristianon*

*O Protection of Christians unshamable, mediation with the Creator immovable, we sinners beg you, do not despise the voices of our prayers, but anticipate, since you are good, and swiftly come unto our aid as we cry out to you with faith: Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who defend now and ever those who honor you.*

Epistle Reading Titus 3:8-15

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill can-

not be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

**Announcements**

Today

✦ SUN, 7/19– *Holy Fathers of the 7 Ecumenical Councils; Philoptochos is holding a fundraiser luncheon for Greece, Cyprus & Guatemala O.C.M.C. in the Social Hall. Please support these worthy causes. A donation of \$10.00 and \$5.00 for children under 12 for a Gyro luncheon plate is appreciated. Please join us!*

This Week.

✦ MON, 7/20– *St. Elias the Prophet: Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.*

✦ FRI & SAT 7/24 & 7/25– *Moussaka Preparations. Help is needed!*

✦ SUN, 7/26– *8th Sunday of Matthew*

**Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers**

*"Do not steal anything from anyone, and take nothing, and be content with what you earn by your own labors. Be diligent and avoid idleness. For as diligence is pleasing to God, so idleness on the contrary, as a source of every evil, is a sin very offensive to God."*

~ St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

*"The goodness of God is so rich in graces, that it seeks a cause to have mercy on a person. Every minute God forgives us, and we should thus forgive one another. This is the greatest virtue, if you say, 'May God forgive my brother for whatever he did to me.'"*

~ St. Anthimos of Chios

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**To Our Visitors:**

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

*Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*