

The Prophet Elias

Celebrated on July 20th

The Prophet Elias (the Greek rendering of Elijah) is honored by the Orthodox Church on July 20th. Along with this festival many traditions and customs have become associated with his name, not only in Slavic lands, Bulgaria and Serbia, but especially in Greece, with its hundreds of monasteries, churches, chapels and shrines dedicated to him, particularly on mountaintops and high places.

In many regions of Greece, especially Thrace and Macedonia, the Prophet Elias is considered the overseer of rain, thunder, lightning, and the wind. This likely comes from the Old Testament, where it says that Elias prevented from falling on the land of Israel in his days by the word of his mouth for three years, at which time by his word he was able to make it rain and relieve the land of its drought. Folklore says that lightning and thunder are his weapons and he unleashes them as he chases the devil, or variously, the dragon, across the heavens in his chariot, and he also prevents insects from destroying crops. It is perhaps this reason why the Prophet Elias has almost a monopoly on churches closest to the heavens.

Excerpt from the Mystagogy Resource Center

Apolytikion

The angel incarnate and the Prophets' pedestal, the second Forerunner of the coming of Christ, Elias the glorious, sent down to Elisha the divine grace from heaven. He drives away diseases and he cleanses lepers. Therefore he pours out healings to those who honor him.

Kontakion

O Prophet and seer of the great deeds of God, renowned Elias, who stayed the rain clouds by your word, intercede on our behalf with the Lord who alone loves humanity.

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



July 19, 2020

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

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

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Ton sinanarhon Logon (Hymn of the Day) Tone 5

*Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate * with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born * for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. * For in His goodness He was pleased * to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, * and to raise up those who had died, * by His glorious Resurrection.* (AgesIntitiatives.com)

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. (Translation from Kevin Lawrence)

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 forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the Lover of mankind.

Kontakion Tone 2

Prostasia ton Hristianon

O protection of Christians that can not be put to shame, mediation to the Creator immovable. Do not over look, the pleading voices of those in sin, but be in time as a kind one to our help, who in faith cry out to You: Hasten to intercede and be quick to beseech. You who always protect, Theotokos, 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 cannot 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 4th Ecumenical Council; Adult Religious Education via Zoom: "A Journey to Fullness– Orthodox Worship" 1:30 p.m.*

This Week

- ✘ MON, 7/20– *Elias the Prophet (Services via Zoom)– Orthros 8:30 a.m., Liturgy 9:30 a.m.*
- ✘ THU, 7/23– *Prayer Ministry, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*
- ✘ FRI, 7/24– *Metropolis Clergy Zoom Meeting 9:30 a.m.; Akathist Hymn 6 p.m. supporting Ayia Sophia (Holy Wisdom)*
- ✘ SAT, 7/25– *Great Vespers via Zoom 5:30 p.m.*
- ✘ SUN, 7/26– *7th Sunday of Matthew; Adult Religious Education via Zoom: "A Journey to Fullness– A Beautiful Rhythm" 1:30 p.m.*

Facebook Link to Sunday Services: Please check the "footers" of your email in which you received this Electronic Weekly Bulletin.

Zoom Link for all Weekday Services (Monday thru Saturday)- Meeting ID: 645 401 0911; Password: 990890

Special Akathist Hymn– Friday, July 24th, at 6 p.m. in support of Ayia Sophia (Great Church of Holy Wisdom in Constantinople) originally built to be a Christian House of worship, as it has been recently converted into a mosque unjustly by the President of Turkey.

Words of Wisdom from St. Porphyrios (1906-1991)

"Christ is life, the source of life, the source of joy, the source of the true light, everything. Whoever loves Christ and other people truly lives life. Life without Christ is death; it is hell, not life. That is what hell is -- the absence of love. Life is Christ. Love is the life of Christ. Either you will be in life or in death. It's up to you to decide."