



St. Elias the Prophet

Greek Orthodox Church

November 2009

Newsletter

St. Elias the Prophet Greek Orthodox Church, 46 Calle Electra, Santa Fe, NM 87508
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Orthodoxy is life; one cannot talk about it, one must live it.

For Sickness or For Health

Many of us are concerned about the H1N1 virus that is working its way through our community. We have been advised to take extra precautions to avoid infection such as washing our hands, limiting physical contact with others, getting flu shots, etc. Some of us may be concerned about coming to church for fear that the Divine Liturgy may expose us to the flu. Some denominations have altered their worship practices to lessen the likelihood of contracting the flu. What is the Orthodox Church going to do to stop the spread of the flu, and what, specifically, are we at St. Elias going to do? We'll do what we've always done. Worship God in Trinity, glorify Him, and receive the body and blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and for eternal life.

Why should we be unconcerned? Because we receive communion in order to be healed. We receive the body and blood of Christ, and nothing harmful can be contained in that. In the prayer at the bowing of the heads before Communion, I say the following prayer:

We give thanks to You, invisible King. By Your infinite power You created all things and by Your great mercy You brought everything from nothing into being. Master, look down from heaven upon those who have bowed their heads before You; they have bowed not before flesh and blood but before You the awesome God. Therefore, Master, guide the course of our life for our benefit according to the need of each of us. Sail with those who sail; travel with those who travel; and heal the sick, Physician of our souls and bodies.¹

We ask God, the Physician of our souls and bodies, to heal those who are sick, and we know that He answers our prayers. We also know that each of us is sick in some way, and that receiving Communion is the remedy to heal us. We cannot possibly be sickened by receiving Communion.

I have never heard of any disease being more prevalent in Orthodox Churches where communicants share the common cup. I have never heard of a priest becoming ill because he consumes what remains in the chalice. We get sick, but we get sick at the same rate, more or less, as everyone else.

Let us, then, protect ourselves from the real danger that faces us, not H1N1 but "the virus of impiety and a lack of faith."² Let us receive Holy Communion frequently to restore our faith and piety and protect us from this "virus." Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, our God, hear us from Your holy dwelling place and from the glorious throne of Your kingdom. You are enthroned on high with the Father and are also invisibly present among us. Come and sanctify us, and let Your pure Body and precious Blood be given to us by Your mighty hand and through us to all Your people.¹

Yours in Christ,
+Fr. Demetri

[¹ From the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Holy Cross translation.]

[² Metropolitan Nikolaos of Mesogaia and Lavrentios, a Harvard-trained astrophysicist and MIT-trained biomedical engineer.]

Dates to Remember

3 November: Adult Education – 6::30pm in the Hall
10 November: Adult Education – 6::30pm in the Hall
13-14 November: Fr. Demetri is in Farmington
14 November: IOCC fundraiser – 5:00pm at St. George
15 November: Parish Council Meeting following Liturgy
17 November: Adult Education – 6::30pm in the Hall
18-19 November: Fr. Demetri is in Denver
22 November: Fall General Assembly following Liturgy
24 November: Adult Education – 6::30pm in the Hall

Sacraments and Services

Memorial

A Memorial Service was sung on 11 October for the repose of the soul of George Nickles (1 year). May his memory be eternal.

Website!

Visit our website for more information on what's happening at St. Elias: www.stelias.nm.goarch.org.

St. Elias Online Bookstore

We have opened an online bookstore in association with the Orthodox Marketplace. Go to our website, <http://www.stelias.nm.goarch.org>, and click on the link to the St. Elias Bookstore. You can shop on line for books, icons, gifts, cards, and many other things. St. Elias will receive a 10% commission on each purchase at our store.

St. Elizabeth's Shelter

Let's not forget those who are less fortunate than us. There will be a basket on the table at the entrance to the Church for monetary donations to St. Elizabeth's Shelter. All donations will be used to buy food to feed the residents of the shelter. Thank you for your understanding and your generosity.

2009 Parish Council

Kerry Tramontanas Parish Council President, Niki Constantaras Vice President, Anastasia Stevens Secretary, Eva Kurtz Treasurer, Mary O'Brien Assistant Treasurer, Irene Krokos, and Diane Tintor.

Coffee Hours and Prospora

There will be a sign up sheet in the hall for volunteers to bake Prospora for the Divine Liturgies in November and December, and to host the coffee hours. Please sign up for whatever you can do in August and September. Please remember that the coffee hours do not need to be fancy nor do they have to be lunch. The whole point of the coffee hour is fellowship not food.

We also need more people to help with baking Prospora. Please consider signing up once a month. If you don't know how to bake the Prosporon, see Fr. Demetri for a recipe. We should have seals available at the agora this month.

Adult Education Sessions

We are continuing a series of Adult Education classes to help us learn more about our faith. The classes are being held each Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is invited to participate. We will begin reading *The Orthodox Way* by Metropolitan Kallistos Ware.

From the Stewardship Committee

November is upon us and it's time for the 19th Annual "Where are we going to get the money to keep our doors open?" Celebration. The various Departments of Despair have been chiming in early including the "We are only 20 people" department, the "I've done all that I am going to do" department and the infamous community-destroying "Let's just open the church once or twice per month." department. Every year we get through the difficult times because of the generosity of people who love this community. They love it so much that they figure out a way to give more. So instead of spreading despair, this year, let's do something different. Let's spread the love of God that has given life to this community. Let's give joyously. Let's give a lot. Let's give more than what we are willing to give. Let's get past our miserable doubts and believe in God's judgment. The Lord sees. Come to church. Do good. Please.

The Lord's peace and comfort be upon you, -DJ
[As of 25 October, we have 55 "stewardship units" (individuals or families). We have received pledges totaling \$42,670.00 and payment totaling \$53,144.00. We can do better!]

Parish Council News

A regular meeting of the Parish Council of St. Elias the Prophet Greek Orthodox Church was held beginning at 12:12 p.m. on September 6, 2009, at the Church, 46 Calle Electra, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

PRESENT: Fr. Demetrios, Kerry Tramontanas, Eva Kurtz, Mary O'Brien, Diane Tintor and Anastasia Stevens. ABSENT: Niki Constantaras.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Eva Kurtz reported that the profit from the St. Elias feast day lamb roast was \$9,569. There were no expenses to the church except for \$200 for the band. Ordinarily, the Greek Festival nets between \$13,000 and \$14,000, but it involves a lot more work and effort. It was helpful that St. George's and St. Juliana's were closed for Sunday.

As of September 2, 2009, the balance in the general account was (\$227.94). The iconography account is at \$4,384.16, and the Raymond James account balance is \$15,777.99.

Eva has had trouble making payments. The Health Plan is paid through August, at \$1720 per month. She was able to make four back payments to the Archdiocese, bringing us up through May, but \$3,928 is still past due.

Father reported on stewardship as follows: we have collected \$40,000 plus as of the end of August. This is \$27,000 short of the projected/budgeted amount through the end of the year, which is not bad. He does not believe that pledges count; a number of people make donations without submitting pledge cards. We seem to be on target.

The meeting adjourned at 1:12pm.

Bake Sale

The order forms for the bake sale are available. Please fill yours out and send it in with your payment for the delicious pastries offered. They make excellent gifts for Christmas and are the best cure for sweets deprivation.

Prospora and Coffee

November:

Sunday, 1st: Prosporon and Coffee: Eva Kurtz	5th Sunday of Luke
Sunday, 8th: Prosporon and Coffee: Presbytera Meredith	7th Sunday of Luke
Sunday, 15th: Prosporon: ? Coffee: ?	8th Sunday of Luke
Saturday, 21st: Prosporon: ?	Entrance of the Theotokos
Sunday, 22nd: Prosporon: ?	9th Sunday of Luke Coffee: ?
Wednesday, 25th: Prosporon: Fr. Demetri	St. Katherine the Great Martyr
Sunday, 29th: Prosporon: ?	13th Sunday of Luke Coffee: ?
Monday, 30th: Prosporon: Fr. Demetri	St. Andrew the Apostle

December:

Friday, 4th: Prosporon: ?	St. Barbara
Sunday, 6th: Prosporon: ?	10th Sunday of Luke, St. Nicholas Coffee: ?
Wednesday, 9th: Prosporon: ?	Conception of the Theotokos
Saturday, 12th: Prosporon: ?	St. Spyridon the Wonderworker
Sunday, 13th: Prosporon: ?	11th Sunday of Luke Coffee: ?
Tuesday, 15th: Prosporon: ?	St. Eleutherios
Sunday, 20th: Prosporon: ?	Sunday Before the Nativity Coffee: ?
Thursday, 24th: Prosporon: ?	Eve of the Nativity
Friday, 25th: Prosporon: ?	The Nativity of the Lord
Saturday, 26th: Prosporon: ?	Synaxis of the Theotokos
Sunday, 27th: Prosporon: ?	Sunday After the Nativity, St. Stephen the First Martyr Coffee: ?

Sunday Bulletins and Announcements

In order that everyone be notified of announcements, and receive the weekly Sunday Bulletin, we need your email addresses. If you have not received the Sunday Bulletins by email and want to be included in the listserv and receive the bulletins and be included in the parish email directory, send your email address to frdemetri@zianet.com. Fr. Demetri is the only one with access to the listserv and to the email directory.

Albertson`s Community Partners

The new cards are available at the Church. They can be picked up during any scheduled service, or contact Fr. Demetri for other arrangements.

Present the card when purchasing groceries at any Albertson's, and St. Elias will receive a percentage of the purchase price. This is an excellent way to give back to the community while doing essential shopping.

Recycling for St. Elias

We have an opportunity to raise money for our community by recycling toner cartridges and inkjet cartridges. When it's time to get a new cartridge, please bring the used one to church, in its packing if possible, and we will recycle it. Every bit that we recycle means more funds for our church. Please help with this free and painless way to raise money and protect the environment.

Wanted: Weather-beaten Adobe Blocks

Roy Wroth is looking for weather-beaten adobe blocks or bricks to use in lining sections of the church grounds. If you have access to anything he may be interested in, please contact him at 660-9476.

From the Parish Council President

Dear Fellow Church Members of the St. Elias Greek Orthodox Church,

I address all of us regarding the challenging issue of the church's need for its financial support. These days with the economy struggling, times are tough. We are having a significant challenge in meeting the operating costs of the church by the money funds that we have collected. I suggest that we all consider the vital need for each of us to add as much donation to the church as possible. Our church truly needs our financial support, **/now/**.

Thank You,
Parish Council President,
Kerry Tramontanas

Travels with Father

Fr. Demetri will be away from the Parish from Friday afternoon, 13 November, through Saturday, 14 November, so that he can celebrate the Divine Liturgy in Farmington. Great Vespers on Saturday, 14 November will be held at 5:00pm at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Albuquerque, in association with the IOCC dinner. Sunday services will be celebrated as usual. He will also be away on Wednesday, 18 November and Thursday, 19 November, to give a lecture at a clergy meeting in Denver.



**Liturgical Calendar
November 2009**

**Εορτολόγιον
Νοεμβρίου 2009**

Sun	1	Fifth Sunday of Luke Sts. Cosmas and Damian the Unmercenarys, St. David of Euboea Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Sat	7	Great Vespers – 6:00pm
Sun	8	Seventh Sunday of Luke Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel and the other Bodiless Powers. Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Sat	14	Great Vespers – 5:00pm at St. George, Albuquerque
Sun	15	Eighth Sunday of Luke Sts. Gourias, Samonas, and Abibos the Martyrs. St. Thomas Patriarch of Constantinople Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am The Nativity Fast Begins Today
Fri	20	Great Vespers – 7:00pm
Sat	21	Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Great Vespers – 6:00pm
Sun	22	Ninth Sunday of Luke St. Philemon the Apostle and those with him: Sts. Archippos, Apphia, and Onesimos. St. Cecilia and those with her. St. Kallistos Patriarch of Constantinople. Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Tue	24	Great Vespers – 7:00pm
Wed	25	St. Katherine the Great Martyr Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Sat	28	Great Vespers – 6:00pm
Sun	29	Thirteenth Sunday of Luke Sts. Paranomos and Philoumenos the Martyrs, St. Nicholas Archbishop of Thessaloniki, St. Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth, the Hieromartyr. Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Great Vespers – 7:00pm
Mon	30	St. Andrew the Apostle, the First Called Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am

Κυρ	1	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ε΄ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ Τῶν Ἁγ. Ἀναργύρων Κοσμά καὶ Δαμιανοῦ, τοῦ Ὁσ. Δαυῖδ τοῦ ἐν Εὐβοίᾳ Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ
Σαβ	7	Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 6:00μμ
Κυρ	8	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ζ΄ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ Ἡ Σύναξις τῶν Ἀρχιστρατῆγων Μιχαὴλ καὶ Γαβριὴλ καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν Ἀσωμάτων Δυνάμεων. Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ
Σαβ	14	Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 5:00μμ St. George, Albuquerque
Κυρ	15	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ζ΄ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ Τῶν Ἁγ. Μαρτύρων Γουρία, Σαμωνᾶ καὶ Ἀβιβου. Τοῦ Ἁγ. Θεωμᾶ, Πατριάρχου Κωνσταντινουπόλεως. Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ Ἄπο σήμερα ἄρχεται ἡ νηστεία τῶν Χριστουγέννων.
Παρ	20	Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 7:00μμ
Σαβ	21	Ἡ ἘΝ ΤῶΙ ΝΑῶΙ ΕἰΣΟΔΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 6:00μμ
Κυρ	22	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Θ΄ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ Τοῦ Ἁγ. Ἀποστόλου Φιλήμονος καὶ τῶν σὺν αὐτῷ Ἀφίας, Ἀρχίππου καὶ Ὀνησίμου. Τῆς Ἁγ. Μάρτυρος Κικιλίας καὶ τῶν σὺν αὐτῇ. Τοῦ Ἁγ. Καλλίστου, Πατριάρχου Κωνσταντινουπόλεως. Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ
Τρι	24	Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 7:00μμ
Τετ	25	Τῆς Ἁγίας Μεγαλομάρτυρος Αἰκατερίνης. Ὁρθρος 8:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00πμ
Σαβ	28	Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 6:00μμ
Κυρ	29	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΙΓ΄ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ Τῶν Ἁγ. Μαρτύρων Παρανόμου καὶ Φιλουμένου. Τοῦ Ὁσ. Νικολάου, Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Θεσσαλονίκης, τοῦ Ἁγ. Ἱερομάρτυρος Διονυσίου, Ἐπισκόπου Κορίνθου. Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ Μέγας Ἑσπερινός – 7:00μμ
Δευ	30	Τοῦ Ἁγ. Ἀποστόλου Ἀνδρέου τοῦ Πρωτοκλήτου Ὁρθρος 9:00πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ

FRESH, HOMEMADE GREEK PASTRIES

for the Holidays

GIFT BOXES

+Classic Assortment (15 PIECES)

6 pcs. **baklava**, 3 **kourabiedes** (powdered sugar covered shortbread) 3 **melomacarona** (honey-soaked, ground walnut loafs),
3 **koulourakia** (dipping cookie twists with sesame) **\$30. each**

how many?

total

\$ _____

+Baklava (12 pieces)

\$30. each

\$ _____

BY THE PAN

+Baklava ½ pan (24 pieces)

\$40.

\$ _____

+Baklava full pan (40 pieces)

\$65.

\$ _____

Total order \$ _____

PICK-UP (check preference)

Tomasita's Restaurant

Saturday, December 12 (9-noon) _____ Saturday, December 19 (9-noon) _____

St. Elias Greek Church

Sunday, December 13 (12-2:00) _____ Sunday, December 20 (12- 2:00) _____

We will gladly deliver any order over \$300.

Your Name _____ Phone _____ [ESSENTIAL]

Address plus zip code _____

Send with a check, payable to **ST. ELIAS GREEK CHURCH** to:

St. Elias the Prophet Greek Orthodox Church

46 Calle Electra

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 (ATTN. BAKE SALE)

DEADLINE for ORDERS: DECEMBER 6, 2009

More information? call Nia **505-424-1402**, or Niki **505-989-8763**

*** * * *℞* NEW THIS YEAR *℞* * * ***

FOR THANKSGIVING

Whole and half-pans of fresh baklava.

Call above numbers to order