



SAINT ELIAS

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

408 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TX 78701

(512) 476-2314

www.sainteliaschurch.org

VERY REVEREND FATHER DAVID G. BARR, PASTOR
REVEREND FATHER DAVID LEWIS, ASSISTANT PASTOR
VERY REVEREND FATHER TRAIAN BUICAN
REVEREND DEACON NIKETAS SANDERS
SUBDEACON JOHN SEABOLT-DOTY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2008

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Commemoration of the Holy and Glorious Apostle Andrew the First Called, Frumentios, archbishop and enlightener of Ethiopia; Alexander, bishop of Methymna.

Tone 7

Eothinon 2

WELCOME...to all our visitors worshipping with us!

Please be sure to fill out a Visitor's Card and drop it in the collection plate (or give it to a greeter). And we would like you to be our guest downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments after the service is over this morning. We look forward to meeting you and personally welcoming you to Saint Elias. *We're glad you're here!*

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday–Friday	10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Church Office email:	st Elias_austin@sbcglobal.net
Bulletin Deadline:	Thursday at 10:00 AM
Fr. David Barr's email:	frdavidbarr@sbcglobal.net
Fr. Dave Lewis' email:	frdavelewis@sbcglobal.net

Check out www.sainteliaschurch.org for information!

Our web page has updated messages and calendars as well as downloadable versions of current and past Sunday bulletins. Check it out!

Sacraments: Baptism, Matrimony, Adult Initiation

Contact the Church Office and set up an appointment with the Pastor to discuss the arrangements for these sacraments.

Become a Member of St. Elias

We would love to have you be a part of our community! Please talk to the Pastor or call the Church Office to get an information packet on becoming a member of the parish.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the Parish Office with names of the sick and hospitalized of the parish so they can receive proper pastoral care.

Times for Confession:

Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings at least 15 minutes prior to the Divine Liturgy, before or after Vespers on Wednesday evenings, on Saturday evenings following Great Vespers and by appointment during the week. To indicate your desire to go to Confession on Sunday morning during Orthros, come to the front right pew and wait for the priest.

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

8:30 AM Liturgy: Congregational Singing

We will be using the Congregational Liturgy books found in the pews this morning for the 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy. Check the Early Liturgy supplement for music for the Troparia of the day.

10:30 AM Liturgy: St. Elias Choir

The Divine Liturgy begins in the red Service Book on page 91 or you may use one of the white Visitor's Liturgy books. When we reach the point in the service for Antiphons and hymns, the ones for today's service are listed below and on the next page.

1st Antiphon — page 94

It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name, O Most High.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Upright is the Lord our God, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

2nd Antiphon — page 95

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

O Son of God who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

For He established the world which shall not be shaken.

O Son of God who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.

O Son of God who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

and "Only-begotten Son..." — page 95

3rd Antiphon–Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7)

The Daily Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the mourning of the myrrh-bearing women into joy, and didst bid thine apostles proclaim that thou hast risen, O Christ, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion of the Apostle Andrew (Tone 4)

As the first-called of the Apostles, and brother of their leader, O Andrew, entreat the Master of all that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls

Troparion of the Prophet Elias (Tone 4)

O angelic of body, pillar of the Prophets and their cornerstone, the forerunner of the Second Coming of Christ, the venerable and glorious Elias, thou didst send grace from on high to Elisha to dispel sicknesses and to purify lepers. Wherefore, he ever overfloweth with healing to those who honor him.

Kontakion of Preparation for Christ's Nativity (Tone 3)

Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth ineffably to the pre-eternal Word. Hearing this be of good cheer, O inhabited earth, and with the angels and the shepherds glorify him whose will it was to be made manifest a young child, the pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon in Tone 8 (from Psalm 19)

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.

The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (4:9-16)

Brethren, I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we

try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the offscouring of all things.

I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

Alleluia Verses in Tone 1

The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of saints.

God who is glorified in the council of the saints is great and terrible towards all that are round about Him.

The Holy Gospel —St. John (1:35-51)

In those days, John was standing with two of his disciples; and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him, and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Sermon: Father David Barr

Today's Commemorations

Holy Bread is offered by David and Elaine Schele and by Natalia Smith for her son Ian, whose name day is celebrated December 4.

Prayers are requested for the health of Manuel Estrada.

Prayers are requested by the Norman Family for the healing and health of James Norman.

Departed remembered from the Parish Dyptichs: for the repose of Dushan (Dan) Koprivinik (+11/30/1964), Mike Jacobs (Houston) (+12/6/1954), George Arnakis (+12/6/1976) and Alexandra Zegub (+12/6/1996). These names come from the parish dyptichs—the record of those who have been buried from St. Elias. May their memory be eternal.

At the Divine Liturgy during the Great Entrance, we normally commemorate only Orthodox Christians by name among the living and departed since this is the Church praying for the Church. Non-Orthodox are remembered liturgically in prayers at Vespers and other intercessory services of the Church.

On Receiving Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church:

Only Orthodox Christians who are prepared through prayer, fasting, and a recent sacramental confession should approach the Chalice for the Eucharist. The Orthodox Church does not practice “open communion” and has no intercommunion with other churches (non-Orthodox). If you have any questions concerning this, please talk to one of the priests before taking communion.

And Remember... to receive Holy Communion, one should be present at the Divine Liturgy no later than the time for the Epistle and Gospel readings. We feed both our minds and our hearts as part of the Orthodox Christian life.

The ushers will dismiss you by rows to take communion. Please allow the Church School children and teachers to go first so they can go to their classes. All others (including infants and small children not attending Church School) should wait until their row is dismissed. At the end of the Liturgy, the ushers will dismiss you to come forward to venerate the cross. Your help in this will help limit the congestion in the aisles. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Our Greeters this morning are...

... Barbara Kounelias (8:30) Alexandru Apostol 10:30 . *Next week's greeters Michael and Victoria Friends (8:30) and Erick Knowles (10:30).*

Please Join us for Coffee Hour Refreshments...

...in the Church Hall after the Liturgy. Today's refreshments are provided by those with last names beginning with Q-Z. Thank you.

Sign Up for Holy Bread

Sign up for offering Holy Bread on the bulletin board in the church hall. It is a wonderful way to commemorate those you love.

Coffee Hour Schedule:

For December:

December 7: A-C

December 14: D-I

December 21: J-P

December 28: Q-Z

Mark your calendars for your week and participate in this ministry of fellowship in our parish.

Annual Meeting: January 18, 2009

The Annual General Meeting of St. Elias will take place on Sunday, January 18, 2009 after the 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy. *Because of the General Meeting, there will only be one Liturgy at 10:30 AM that Sunday.* To be a Voting Member of St. Elias, one must be 18 years of age or over, a baptized and/or chrismated member of the Orthodox Church, a Steward of St. Elias by having fulfilled a 2008 Stewardship pledge and submitted a Stewardship pledge for 2009, a communicant in good standing in the Church, having been to a sacramental confession to one of the parish priests at least once during 2008 and having received holy communion at least once in 2008.

Saint Elias needs YOU!

Every year, we elect two members to the parish council at our annual meeting in January. This coming year is no exception. We encourage every parishioner who is interested in serving on the parish council to speak with Father David Barr, Emile Sayegh, Alex Apostol, Barbara Kounelias or Anthony Gehrels, who will serve as this year's nominating committee. Serving on the parish council is a great way of offering your time and talents to the Church, as well as helping to provide leadership and guidance for our parish. To be on the Parish Council, a candidate must be eighteen (18) years of age or over, have been a Voting Member of the parish for a period of at least one year, and be in good standing in the Church (as described above).

No Church School This Sunday, November 30

BISHOP BASIL ENDOWMENT FUND

Honor Bishop BASIL on his name day, the Feast of St. Basil the Great, January 1, with a gift to the Endowment Fund that bears his name for establishing and maintaining missions within the Diocese of Wichita and Mid America.

To donate towards this Fund, please make checks to "Bishop BASIL Missions Endowment Fund". Please take this opportunity to honor Bishop BASIL on his names day.

News from our Parish Organizations:

Church School

Church School is not meeting today. For more information on Church School, see Barbara Kounelias.

Teen SOYO

Teen SOYO is going to have a St. Nicholas Party at Church immediately after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday December 6. The Liturgy begins at 9:00 AM.

UT OCF

The next meeting of the OCF at UT is on Tuesday December 2 at 6 pm at *St. Elias*.

Orthodox Young Adults (OYA)

"*Falafel Night*" hosted by Mia Tannous on Wednesday December 3rd at 7:00 PM at 12516 La Paz Lane in Del Valle, 512-264-5546.

Married with Children

Watch for the next outing.

Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 P.M.

Fellowship of St. John the Divine (Adult Fellowship)

For more information on the Adult Fellowship activities, see Fellowship President Sara Cook.

Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild is planning a church clean up & decorating after the St. Nicholas Liturgy on Saturday morning December 6th. For more information see President Martha Dent.

AMEN (*Antiochian Men Eating at Noon [or 1:00 PM]*)

The men of the parish are invited to a no-host lunch on **Tuesday, December 2 at 1:00 PM** at Central Market on Lamar. We have lunch and a great time of fellowship. If you have any questions or suggestions, give Fr. David a call.

Choir

The Choir rehearses at 7:00 PM on Wednesday evenings. The Choir is always looking for new members. If you are interested in singing in the choir, talk to Bill Attal.

When was the last time you went to Confession?

If it has been more than six months, it has been too long! Every Orthodox Christian should go to Sacramental Confession **at least three-four times a year** unless otherwise directed by your Spiritual Father (who is normally your parish priest). If you have a Spiritual Father other than one of our priests to whom you are regularly confessing, you should let Father David know. Confession is available after Vespers every Saturday evening, Sunday mornings at least 15 minutes prior to the Liturgies and by appointment with Father David or Father Dave. *Don't know what to confess? Father David or Father Dave will gladly give you some literature on preparing for Confession.*

THE ADVENT FAST!

KEEPING THE ADVENT FAST—NOVEMBER 15-DECEMBER 24

The Advent Fast, sometimes called the Little Lent in the Orthodox Church, begins on Saturday, November 15 and continues through Christmas Eve, December 24. We break the fast after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy of the Nativity of Christ at midnight. Advent offers us a time of preparation for our Lord's birth. In the midst of all the commercialism, hustle and bustle, and emotional roller-coaster of the Christmas season, we need the Advent Fast now more than ever. Advent should be more than just a fast, it should also be a time of intensified prayer and scripture reading as well as a quiet time of preparation. There is plenty of time to party after the feast!

Fasting Rules for Advent:

Wednesdays and Fridays are strict fast days as usual (abstain from meat, meat products, dairy products, eggs, fish, wine and alcohol, and olive oil). On other days of the week we are permitted fish, wine and olive oil through December 12. Starting on December 13, the discipline of the fast is stricter for the final days of the fast. During this period, no fish is to be eaten and wine (all alcohol) and olive oil are permitted only on Saturdays and Sundays.

Are You Interested in Becoming Orthodox?

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Orthodox Church either through baptism or chrismation, please talk to Father David in the next few weeks. He would like to begin enrolling people as catechumens in the Church by next month. If you aren't ready to make a decision now, that's OK, we can enroll catechumens at any time during the year. We have started the Inquirer's Classes for those interested in joining the Orthodox Church.

Become a Sponsor!

We have large group of catechumens here at St. Elias, and will be in need of sponsors for them to come into the Church. Would you be willing to be a sponsor for someone coming into the Church? Talk to Father David or Father Dave if you are interested in sponsoring someone into the church. It is at this point in the process that it is best to find sponsors..

2008-09 Inquirer's & Catechism Classes

Each fall and winter, St. Elias holds a series of Inquirer's Classes twice a month on Saturday afternoons in the Parish Library at 4:30 PM. These classes are for those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Church and are designed to introduce people to the basic beliefs of the Orthodox Faith. There will be 12 sessions to the class. We hope to have catechumens ready to enter the church by Holy Saturday.

<u>Session</u>	<u>Date*</u>	<u>Topic**</u>
6	12/6	The Bible: New Testament
7	12/20	Sacraments & Worship
8	1/17	Church History, Part 1 The Seven Ecumenical Councils
9	1/31	Church History, Part 2
10	2/14	The Divine Liturgy
11	2/28	Prayer and Spirituality
12	3/14	Confession and Entering the Church

**Dates are subject to change. **Topics may be adjusted as needed for the specific class.*

This class would also be great for anyone (teens, young adults, adults, etc.) who would like to learn more about the Orthodox Church and its beliefs.

*St. Elías Antiochian Orthodox Church Presents
in aid of the Assistant Pastor Fund*

Soumaya Deeb, Soprano

Eddie Hobizal, Piano

St. Elías Choir

Saturday, December 27, 2008 at 5:30 PM

St. Elías Antiochian Orthodox Church

408 East 11th Street ♦ Austin, Texas ♦ 512.476.2314

Concert followed by a seated dinner

Ticket Price: \$100.00 ♦ Tickets now available.

This Week at St. Elias

Wednesday, December 3

6:00 PM—Vespers

Saturday, December 6

9:00 AM—Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas

6:00 PM — Great Vespers

Sunday, December 7

25th Sunday after Pentecost

8:10 AM — 3rd & 6th Hours

8:30 AM — Divine Liturgy

9:45 AM — Church School

10:05 AM — Service of Preparation for Holy
Communion

10:30 AM — Divine Liturgy

11:45 AM — Church School