



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, MAY 24, 2009

6TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

Venerable Stylites Simeon the Younger of the Mountain of Wonders and Nikitas of Pereyaslavl-Zaleski; Martyr Meletios the General ('Stratelates') of Galatia; Vincent of Lerins.

Tone 5

Eothinon 8

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 welcoming you personally to Saint Elias. *We're glad you're here!*

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday–Friday

10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Church Office email:

stelias_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!

Weekday Parking:

If coming to the Church or Church Office on weekdays (between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM), please use the Visitor Parking spaces in the Texas Association of Broadcaster's building next door to the Church. All the parking spots in the Church side of the lot are rented out or reserved and violators could be towed.

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 Sunday morning Divine Liturgies, 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 before liturgy, come to the front right pew and wait for the priest.

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

The Divine Liturgy begins in the red Service Book on page 91 or use one of the new 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.

Singing of "Christ is Risen...."

Immediately after "Blessed is the Kingdom...", the priest will sing the Paschal Troparion (Christ is risen...) once, with the choir (and congregation) singing it again twice.

1st Antiphon (from Psalm 66) — page 94

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise!

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

Say to God: How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that Thy enemies cringe before Thee!

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

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O Most High!

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

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

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

2nd Antiphon (from Psalm 115) — page 95

God be bountiful to us and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us!

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

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations!

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

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to Thee!

*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: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

and "Only-begotten Son..." — page 95

3rd Antiphon — Paschal Troparion (from Psalm 68) — pp. 96-7

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Entrance Hymn — Page 97

In the congregations bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

The Daily Hymns — page 98:

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5)

Let us the faithful praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of a Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

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 for Pascha (Tone 8):

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal. Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming rejoice to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon in Tone 5 (from Psalm 12)

Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us from this generation, and forevermore.

Save me, O Lord, for a righteous man there is no more.

The Epistle Reading — Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Alleluia Verses in Tone 5 (from Psalm 89)

Of Thy mercies, O Lord, will I sing forever. Unto generation and generation will I declare Thy truth with my mouth

For Thou hast said: Mercy shall be built up forever. In the Heavens shall Thy truth be established.

The Holy Gospel — St. John 9:1-38

At that time, when Jesus was passing, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" [which means "Sent"]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his

disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshipped him.

The Sermon: Father David Lewis

Today's Commemorations

Prayers are requested for the repose of Helen Droupy (+5/25/1948), Constantina Chrysomalis (+5/27/1982), and Despina Psaloudis (+5/29/1993). 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.

REMEMBER...

...there is no kneeling (or prostrations) between Pascha and Pentecost as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection.

Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 1) — page 115

Instead of "It is truly meet...":

The angel cried to the Lady full of Grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead! Rejoice, all ye people!

Shine! shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

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.

Communion Hymn— page 120

Receive ye the body of Christ. Taste ye of the fountain immortal.

1. Great is the mystery of Thy resurrection, O Christ.
2. From the supper the Immortal One willingly cometh to the passion.
3. Then was Hades, who accounted and demanded of souls, embittered at the encounter.
4. Then was Mary, who anointed and worshipped God before the tomb, made glad.
5. Tell Peter and the other apostles that the Immortal One hath risen from the dead.

Instead of “We have seen the true Light...” — page 123

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (*once*)

Concluding Dialogue during the Paschal Season:

The following dialogue takes place following the dismissal during the Paschal Season:

PRIEST: Christ is risen. (*thrice*)

PEOPLE: Indeed, he is risen. (*thrice*)

PRIEST: Glory to his holy third-day resurrection.

PEOPLE: We adore his third-day resurrection.

PRIEST: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs

PEOPLE: bestowing life.

PASCHAL GREETINGS & RESPONSES:

Arabic: Al-Masseeh Qam! *Haqan Qam!*

English: Christ is Risen! *Indeed, He is Risen!*

Eritrean: Christos ten-si-ou! *Ba-ha-ke ten-si-ou!*

Greek: Christos Anesti! *Alithos Anesti!*

Romanian: Hristos a înviat! *Adevarat c-a înviat!*

Slavonic: Christos Voskrese! *Voistínu Voskrese!*

Spanish: ¡Cristo Resucitó! *¡En Verdad Resucitó!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 24

Our Greeters this morning are...

... Mark Cherry (8:30 AM) and Adrian Gencia (10:30 AM).

Please Join us for Coffee Hour...

...in the Church Hall after the Liturgy. Today's refreshments are provided by parishioners whose last names begin with Q-Z. Thank you for this service of hospitality!

Coffee Hour Schedule:

For May:

May 24: Q-Z

May 31: Everyone

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

Church School... is no longer in session for the Summer. Don't forget about Vacation Bible Camp, and Church School will start back up again in the fall!

Welcome!

Gerry, Leigh and Jean Tilma are being received as catechumens at the 10:30 Divine Liturgy. We're excited to have them as part of our family.

News from our Parish Organizations:

Church School

Please see Barbara Kounelias for more information about Church School.

Teen SOYO

End of School Year Party! Can you believe it? Saturday, June 6, at 1:00pm, 7402 Greenhaven Dr., Austin, 78757. You can eat lunch before you come, but feel free to bring chips, sodas or snacks. We'll have fun with water, and the first annual Great Marshmallow War. Contact Nicholas Oldziej for details.

OCF

OCF will resume in the fall. Ask Fr. Dave for details.

Orthodox Young Adults (OYA)

We're recruiting members for an adult Bible Bowl team from St. Elias! The Parish Life Conference (June 10-13) is a great time, and a great way to meet people from other churches in our diocese. Come regardless, but contact Fr. Dave if you'd like to participate in the Bible Bowl!

Parish Council

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

Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild will be holding elections for new officers on Sunday, May 31, after the second liturgy. For details, see 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, June 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 Director Bill Attal.

Fellowship of St. John the Divine (Adult Fellowship)

For information on the Fellowship of St. John the Divine contact Sara Cook.

RETURN YOUR ALMS BOXES

Remember to return your FULL Lenten Alms Box for the Food For Hungry People program and/ or Orthodox Christian Missions Center (OCMC). What? you forgot to fill one up? Checks are also welcome for this worthwhile program. We are ready to send in the proceeds.

Mediterranean Festival 2009

October 16-17

Save the Date!!!!

Contact - *Gene Attal, MedFest Chair, to volunteer*
327-3724 or gattal@seton.org

Scholarship Funds:

The Arthur and Theodore Jabour Scholarship

St. Elias has set up a scholarship fund in the names of Arthur and Theodore Jabour available for Orthodox high school seniors and college students in Central Texas. For more information on this scholarship, download the application at www.sainteliaschurch.org/announce or call the Church Office.

Antiochian Women's Scholarship

Each year, the Antiochian Women of North America are able to award scholarships, usually in the amount of \$500 each, to help women continue their education in order to improve their circumstances and those of their families. Anyone interested may request an application from the Parish Office.

Diaper Drive

Laura and Cliff Young are expecting their FOURTH child due to arrive on JUNE 8, 2009. Let us celebrate BABY BOY YOUNG by bringing practical treasures to the parish hall. Any baby gifts, especially diapers, wipes, & gift cards would be a great blessing to their growing family. For more information, contact Kh. Shannon at shannongail@gmail.com.

Your Statement is available...

...in the Church Hall. If you pick it up the Church saves a stamp!

Great Feast of the Ascension

Vesperal Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, May 27 at 6:30 PM



We will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Christ on **Wednesday evening, May 27 at 6:30 PM** (*Thursday is the actual feast day!*). We will join together in this feast with a potluck dinner immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

Bring a dish or two to share (*non-fasting food is fine*).

Remember, to receive holy communion at an evening Divine Liturgy, you should fast from after the noon meal.

Sunday Parking Announcement:

The Texas Teachers Retirement System parking lot is open on Sundays between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The 11th Street entrances will be closed. **Use the Trinity Entrance, it will be open.** If your car is not out of the lot by 2:00 PM, it may get locked in. For those who like to stay downtown for lunch on Sundays and park in the TTRS lot, move your car before heading out to lunch. In addition, we can now park in the TASA (Texas Association of School Administrators) next door and the TASB (Texas Association of School Boards) on the corner, although it will be best to use the lot across the street at present. It is also a good practice to reserve the spots at the front of our lot for visitors to our parish.

Help Needed!

We have a forest of weeds on the west side of the church. Would you be willing to come and mow/cut/weed, etc.?

Weekday Parking at St. Elias

If coming to the Church or Church Office on weekdays (between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM), please use the Visitor Parking spaces in the Texas Association of Broadcasters' (TAB) building next door to the Church. All the parking spots in the Church side of the lot are rented out or reserved and violators could be towed. Where are the visitor spaces? They are the first 10 spots on the left when you drive into the TAB lot.

Are you on the Church Email List?

If not, simply email the Church Office at stelias_austin@sbcglobal.net and we will be sure to put you on it.

Unto the least of these...Deadline June 7!!!

Subdeacon (1st Lieutenant) Jason Falcone recently wrote to us:

"So many of the Arab villages here are so poor, with a low literacy rate, and even lack of clean drinking water. I really want to ask if any of the people in the Orthodox churches in the states would be willing, as an act of Christian love, to send clothes (i.e. t-shirts and sweatpants) and toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, etc. for the kids. It would be such a way to share the love of God, especially during the season of Lent and Pascha. I can make sure that everything is distributed with one of the patrols; I already made arrangements with one of the commanders. The only consideration is that none of the children's clothing have potentially offensive images, such as minimally-clothed celebrities, etc."

This is a wonderful way to help out our brother Subdeacon Jason while he is in Iraq, and offer true Christian charity to those in need. Bring items to the parish and leave them on the marked table in the Church Hall. We will forward them on to Subdeacon Jason.

If you would like to contribute any items to this effort, bring them to the Church hall by Sunday June 7, and we will send them all together. For more information contact Vasiliki Oldziej at vas@austin.rr.com or (512)904-0372.

. Vacation Bible Camp—“Moses: The Musical”

Mark Your Calendars and plan to attend Vacation Bible Camp at St. Elias this **August 3-7**. All ages are needed to make this a success. We'll be following Moses as He follows God's call to help save His people and bless His inheritance. Along the way, we'll see the connections between Passover/Pascha; Old Covenant/New Covenant; Heavenly food (manna/Eucharist); and more! Songs, costumes, and crafts/props will fill our days—culminating in a Friday performance. Needed: Videographer; teen helpers; adult helpers; and campers! If you can help, contact Fr. Dave, Geri Farman (gerifarman@earthlink.net), or Sylvia Jabour (sjabour@twinliquors.com). Registration forms will be available soon.

This Week at St. Elias

Wednesday, May 27	6:30 PM — Vespersal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension
Saturday, May 30	6:00 PM — Great Vespers
Sunday, May 31	<u>Sunday of the Holy Fathers</u> 8:10 AM — 3 rd and 6 th Hours 8:30 AM — Divine Liturgy 10:05 AM — Prayers before Holy Communion 10:30 AM — Divine Liturgy