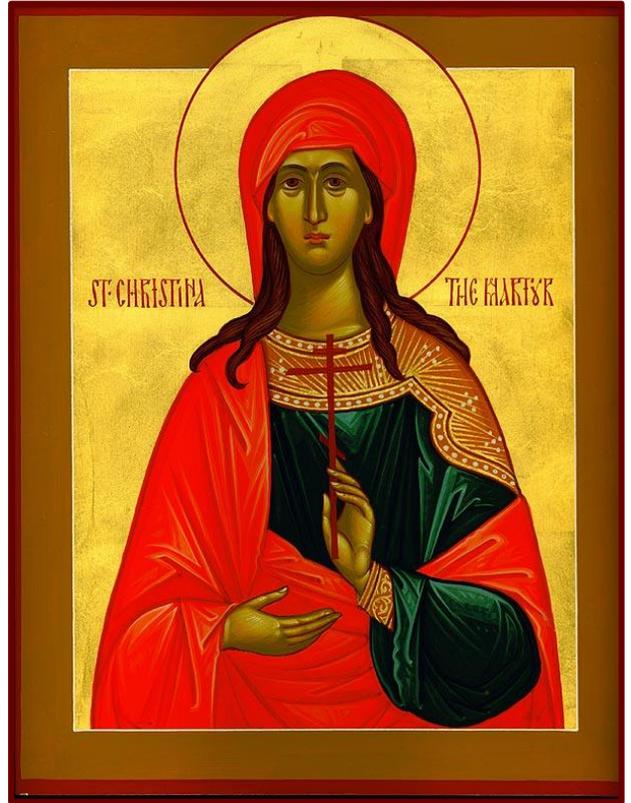


HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

140 Horseheads Blvd., Elmira Heights, NY • 607-732-3980

Rector: Fr. David Cowan • Deacon S. Michael Karney

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Sunday, July 24, 2022 – Tone 5

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Martyrs Boris and Gleb; Martyr Christina of Tyre



**VEHICLE BLESSING –
TODAY, 11:45 AM**

The Sunday After the

Feast of the Prophet Elijah

Cars, trucks, boats, bicycles, tricycles...

**Line them up outside, and we'll ask the Lord
to bless whatever gets you from Point A to B!**

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Most Services May Be Joined by Live Stream at Web Address www.facebook.com/htocelmiraheights or go to www.YouTube.com and search for "Holy Trinity Church Elmira Heights NY"

Today

- 8:40 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:00 AM Reception Into the Catechumenate of Stephen Rustyak
Divine Liturgy, Followed by Fellowship Hour Downstairs
11:45 AM Blessing of Vehicles, Outside

Monday, July 25

- 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting – in the Church (Note Start time of 7:00 PM)

Tuesday, July 26

- 6:30 PM Akathist to Saint Panteleimon, the Unmercenary Healer and Great Martyr

Saturday, July 30

- 5:00 PM Great Vespers, followed by Memorial Service for + Jaime Gomez, father of Kevin Gomez
Private Confession Available Afterward

Sunday, July 31

- 8:40 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy, Followed by Choir Rehearsal and Fellowship Hour Downstairs

Remember: The Dormition Fast begins Monday, August 1, and continues until the Divine Liturgy on Monday, August 15, the Great Feast of the Dormition (Falling-Asleep) of the Most-Holy Theotokos, the Ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of God. During the fast we are called to abstain from meat, from dairy as best we can, and from unnecessary partaking of food, drink, entertainment, and spiritually unproductive conversation and conduct.

AN INVITATION FROM ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL:

Tomorrow, Monday, July 25, from 2:30 to 5:00 PM, His Eminence Archbishop Michael will be presenting a 2 ½ hour Scripture seminar at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY, as part of the Hartwick Seminary Annual Summer Institute of Theology. Faithful from our parishes are invited to attend.

Here is the description of His Eminence's presentation:

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: An Introduction In Word and Picture!

- Background of John and his Gospel
- Unique Elements of John vis-à-vis the Synoptics
- An Outline of the Theology of the Beloved Disciple
- The Book of Signs -- and -- The Book of Glory

AND - A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land:

A Slide Presentation of the Sacred Sites of Jesus' Life

Hartwick College is located at **1 Hartwick Drive, Oneonta, NY 13820**. The staff at the college tells me, "Clark Hall is behind the chapel. As you enter the main entrance it is straight ahead, up the hill! There is a parking lot across from the campus chapel on the right. Parking is free."

His Eminence looks forward to seeing all those who can attend this exciting event!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

EPISTLES Romans 12:6-14 Brethren: Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Romans 8:28-39 Brethren: We know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom He predestined He also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For Thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPELS Matthew 9:1-8 At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

John 15:17-16:2 The Lord said: "These things I command you, that you love one another. If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, 'They hated Me without a cause.' But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning. These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service."

Read the Scriptures appointed for each day, at www.o.ca.org/readings

Prayer List

Memory Eternal: Elaine; Paul, Susan; Valeriy; John, Kevin, Dorothy, Ann, Nadja, Nadja, Charatina, Mary, Mary; Nikolai; Edward; Reader Symeon; Matushka Marion; Mary; Kathy; Thomas. All those taken from us by the Coronavirus, by sickness, violence, injury and disaster. All the departed named for the Holy Martyrs Boris, Gleb & Christina, whose feast we celebrate today.

For Health: Stephen Rustyak, received as a Catechumen today; Fr. Jason Kappanadze, Fr. Nicholas Harris, Fr. Daniel & Mat. Myra Kovalak, Fr. Herman & Mat. Cynthia Schick, Fr. Moses Berry; Fr. Joseph Chupeck; Rdr. Thomas & Mildred, Rdr. Samuel & Kathryn; Catechumen Sarah; James; Dmitri; Kathleen; Larissa and Rachel and the children to be born to them; Julie; Julie; Michael & Many; John; Nancy; Christa; Ilsa; Scott & Casey, Steven; Antonina; Ryan; Child Hannah, Joshua, Helen, Kevin, Erica, Sherri, Ruth, Harriet, Katherine, Kristin, Sierra, Kate, David, Kyriakos; and catechumens Charles, Sue, Amy, and Verity.

Diocesan Prayer Requests: Archbishop BENJAMIN; Archpriest Volodymyr Zablotsky; Archpriest Dennis Swencki; Archpriest John Duranko; Fr. Kyril Riggs; Fr. Samuel & Mat. JoAnne Kedala; Fr. Andreja Damjanovski; Fr. Maryan & Matushka Svitlana Chaykivsky; Dn. John Holoduek; Matushka Margaret Brady and the child to be born to her; Matushka Patricia Bohush; Matushka Mary Buletza; Rdr. Fredric; Rdr. Michael Mellin; Constantine; Ray; Catechumen Laura; Ellinor, Sheldon, David, Mary, Margaret, John, Elizabeth; Vladimir, Candice, Mary Margaret; Konstantinos, Kyriaki; Roman, and Frank. All the clergy, faithful and their families of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey. All those afflicted with the Coronavirus and those caring for them, those afflicted by sickness, violence, injury, and disaster. **Name Day:** All named for Martyrs Boris, Gleb & Christina (7/24); Angelina McKane (St. Angelina of Serbia, 7/30). **Birthdays:** Emilia Karney (7/29); Brianna Lyon (7/30).

Parish Children:

Lucia	Hannah	Jeremiah	Andrew	Myra	Ezekiel	Anysia
Lydia	Natalie	Emilia	Patrick	Sophia	Dmitri	Jonah
Gabriel	Angelina	John	Thomas	Nikolai	Melania	Alexei
Larissa	Julianna	Nadia	Gabriel	Justus	Samuel	Gabriel
Michael	Hannah	Raphael	Verity	Anna	Julie	Michelle

College Students: Anna McKane – Duke University •

Katherine McKane – Sarah Lawrence College Year Abroad at Oxford University, England •

Nathan Devens – Elmira College • Larissa Cheplick – Daemen College • Magdalena Botrous – LECOM Elmira
Please give prayer requests to Fr. David, Dn. Michael, Subdcn. Walter, or a Reader.

Typically, parish prayer requests remain on this list for 40 days.

READERS' SCHEDULE

July 23-29: Mary Carol Haluszczak

July 30 – August 6: Reader Alexander (Transfiguration – August 5-6)

August 7-12: Reader Dmitri • August 13-19: Reader Samuel (Dormition – August 14-15)

August 20-26: Reader William • August 27 – September 3: Mary Carol Haluszczak

SUMMER 2022 FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

Contact Mat. Tamara or Mat. Katie if you need a different date.

JULY: 7/24 Charlanow Family; 7/31 Gomez & O'Brien Families

AUGUST (August 1-14 is the Dormition Fast; no meat or dairy at Fellowship Hour except for small children):

8/7 Weeks & Turic Families; 8/14 Angelo & McKane Families; 8/21 Cowan Family; 8/28 Karney Family

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 20TH ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

On July 18-22, the 20th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America took place in Baltimore. More than 700 clergy and laity delegates and observers, and youth, from across the OCA – the USA (including Alaska and Hawaii), Canada and Mexico – met to worship together ... to discuss and decide on matters affecting the vision and practice of the OCA ... to gather our children for learning, fun, and the forging of friendships ... and to better appreciate the “unity in diversity” that flourishes among the tens of thousands of members of the OCA.

Here are two important Resolutions presented to, and overwhelmingly approved by, the 20th All-American Council. Following them is a newly issued statement by our Holy Synod of Bishops, making very clear the Orthodox Christian teaching on a set of moral issues that are very much on the minds of many people in our place and time.

RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT FOR THE DIOCESE OF ALASKA

Whereas Alaska is the cradle of Orthodoxy in America: Be it resolved that the 20th AAC asks the Holy Synod of Bishops to designate annually the Sunday closest to the December feast of St. Herman, for a free-will collection from each parish in the Orthodox Church in America to support the Diocese of Alaska Clergy Endowment.

RESOLUTION ON THE AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

The 20th All-American Council:

- Expresses support for the statements by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and the Holy Synod condemning the aggression against Ukraine;
- Expresses support for His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry of Kyiv and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church;
- Condemns the attacks upon parishes, monasteries, and temples whether by military action, seizure by other religious groups, or pressure and interference by civil authorities or occupying forces; and
- Remembers with love the visit of His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry to the 18th All-American Council in Atlanta.

Notably, at the same session where these Resolutions were passed, Metropolitan Tikhon, addressing the assembled delegates, pledged \$10,000 per year from his own salary, for 10 years, to support the Diocese of Alaska, and \$10,000 per year from his own salary, for 10 years, to assist the Diocese of Mexico, including helping build an academy in Mexico to train young men for the Holy Priesthood.

Statement by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America on same-sex relationships and sexual identity

The Orthodox Church teaches that the union between a man and a woman in marriage reflects the union between Christ and His Church (Eph. 5). As such, marriage is by this reflection monogamous and heterosexual. Within this marriage, sexual relations between a husband and wife are an expression of their love that has been blessed by God. Such is God’s plan for male and female, created in his image and likeness, from the beginning, and such remains His plan for all time. Any other form of sexual expression is by its nature disordered, and cannot be blessed by the Church in any way, whether directly or indirectly.

That said, the Holy Synod of Bishops expresses its pastoral concern and paternal love for all who desire to come to Christ and who struggle with their passions, temptations, and besetting sins, whatever those might be. The Church is a hospital for the sick; our Lord has come as a physician to heal those who are ailing. Imitating our Savior, who stretched his arms wide on the Cross, we welcome with open arms all who desire the life of repentance in Christ.

Over the course of recent years, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America have made numerous pronouncements affirming the Orthodox Christian teaching on marriage and sexuality. Metropolitan Tikhon, at the 18th All-American Council in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 20, 2015, in his opening address, stated that:

“... the Orthodox Church must continue to proclaim what she has always taught: that marriage is the union between one man and one woman and the Orthodox Church in America can in no way deviate from this teaching...”

Among the Holy Synod’s affirmations of the same teaching are the “Synodal Affirmations on Marriage, Family, Sexuality, and the Sanctity of Life,” from the 10th All-American Council, Miami, Florida, taking place from July 26-31, 1992; the “Synodal Reaffirmation of the SCOBA statement titled ‘On the Moral Crisis in our Nation,’ issued May 17, 2004; and the synodal “Statement concerning the June 26 US Supreme Court decision,” issued June 28, 2015.

Therefore, in accord with the timeless plan of God our Creator, the unchanging teaching of Christ the Savior announced through His holy apostles and their successors, and the consistent witness of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America, the Holy Synod affirms what the Scriptures clearly and plainly proclaim and the Holy Fathers unerringly confess, namely: that God made human beings in two sexes, male and female, in His own image, and that chaste and pure sexual relationships are reserved to one man and one woman in the bond of marriage.

As such, we affirm that sexual relationships are blessed only within the context of a marriage between one man and one woman. Motivated by love and out of sincere care for souls, we call those who suffer from the passion of same-sex attraction to a life of steadfast chastity and repentance, the same life of chastity and repentance to which all mankind is called in Christ.

We call upon all clergy, theologians, teachers, and lay persons within the Orthodox Church in America never to contradict these teachings by preaching or teaching against the Church’s clear moral position; by publishing books, magazines, and articles which do the same; or producing or publishing similar content online. We reject any attempt to create a theological framework which would normalize same-sex erotic relationships or distort humanity’s God-given sexual identity. The holy apostle Paul writes that such teachings will “increase to more ungodliness,” and that such a “message will spread like gangrene” (2 Tim 2:16-17), misleading the faithful and inquirers seeking the truth.

Any clergy, theologian, teacher, or lay person who contravenes our directive thus undermines the authority of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America by disregarding the Holy Synod’s consistent and unwavering teaching on these matters. We call on any such persons to cease their disruptive activities, which threaten the peace and tranquility of the Orthodox Church in America, cause scandal and uncertainty, and tempt those who struggle against their disordered passions to stumble. Consequently, those who teach these errors become participants in the sin of those whom they have tempted or whom they have failed to correct, and thus should seek remission of this sin in the Mystery of Holy Confession. Those who refuse correction open themselves to ecclesiastical discipline.

Thus, we, the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, conclude by once again affirming that all clergy, theologians, teachers, and lay persons of the Orthodox Church in America should teach nothing other than the fullness of the Orthodox Faith, which is the fullness of the saving truth.

We remind our faithful and clergy that every person of goodwill is welcome to visit our parishes. However, reception into the Church, and continued communion in Christ at the sacred Chalice, is reserved for those who strive to live a life of repentance and humility in light of these God-given truths, conforming themselves to the commandments of God as the only path of salvation in Christ. All of us are sinners, but it is for precisely this reason that our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to “Repent and believe in the Gospel, for the kingdom of God is at hand” (Mk. 1:15).

For more highlights from the AAC, including video clips and slide shows, see www.oca.org