

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

139 HORSEHEADS BLVD, ELMIRA HEIGHTS NY 14903

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Tone 6 || **Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation.** Martyr Sophia, and her three daughters: Faith (Vera), Hope (Nadézhdá), and Love (Liubóv', Charity), at Rome (ca. 137).

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:35-46

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Administrator:

Archpriest Alexey Karlgut
607-759-1833

Parish Council Warden:

Sdn. Shawn Michael Karney
607-481-8063

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TODAY:

8 :40AM - Hours, 9:00AM - Divine Liturgy,
Blessing of Students, Opening of Church
School, Fellowship Hour. 11AM: Christian
Education Family Meeting

THURSDAY, SEPT., 21st:

Leavetaking of the Holy Cross

SATURDAY, SEPT., 23rd:

5PM - Great Vespers

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24th:

8 :40AM - Hours, **9:00AM - Divine
Liturgy**, Fellowship Hour. 10:30AM:
Christian Education Programs, **11:00AM:
Parish Council Meeting**

Welcome to all our visitors and guests who participate in our celebration of the Divine Liturgy today. We are glad you are here. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Liturgy. We also hope you will join us for the Fellowship Hour.

Christian Education Begins TODAY. All Children and Parents are invited to gather downstairs following the Divine Liturgy for a brief introductory meeting regarding the Christian Education program.

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR HURRICANE RELIEF:

Thank you to all who gave generously today for the Special Collection for IOCC Hurricane Relief. Additional Donations will be accepted next Sunday as well. Please give your donation directly to Parish Treasurer, Alexander Charlanow.

Parish Council Meeting: The Parish Council will meet Next Sunday at approximately 11:00AM. All Council Members are asked to please be in attendance. Parishioners are also welcome to attend.

Parish Picnic: Please remember the Annual Parish Picnic is **Sunday, October 1st** following Divine Liturgy. Grilled meats will be provided, please bring a side dish and invite your family, friends and neighbors.

Prayer List

Living:

Priest James
 Liane
 Archpriest Jason
 Archpriest Stephen
 Archpriest Herman
 Mat. Myra
 Rdr. David
 Rdr. Thomas
 Elizabeth
 Kathleen
 Peter
 Helen
 Leon
 Katherine
 Kate
 Kristen
 Anna

All those suffering from
 Natural Disasters

Reposed:

Archpriest John U.
 Archpriest Alexander A.
 Priest John B.
 Deacon Mark H.
 Parker
 Lindsay

Catechumen:

Theresa P (Tess)

Parish Children:

Lucia	Nathan
Jeremiah	Thomas
Andrew	Nikolai
Myra	Melania
Anthony	Alexei
Anysia	Nadia
Lydia	Caleb
Natalie	Elijah
Emilia	Shiloh
Patrick	
Dimitri	
Jonah	
Gabriel	
Anna	
Katherine	
Angelina	
John	
Julianna	
Larissa	

The Holy Martyrs Saint Sophia and her Daughters Faith, Hope and Love were born in Italy. Their mother was a pious Christian widow who named her daughters for the three Christian virtues. Faith was twelve, Hope was ten, and Love was nine. Saint Sophia raised them in the love of the Lord Jesus Christ. Saint Sophia and her daughters did not hide their faith in Christ, but openly confessed it before everyone.

An official named Antiochus denounced them to the emperor Hadrian (117-138), who ordered that they be brought to Rome. Realizing that they would be taken before the emperor, the holy virgins prayed fervently to the Lord Jesus Christ, asking that He give them the strength not to fear torture and death. When the holy virgins and their mother came before the emperor, everyone present was amazed at their composure. They looked as though they had been brought to some happy festival, rather than to torture. Summoning each of the sisters in turn, Hadrian urged them to offer sacrifice to the goddess Artemis. The young girls remained unyielding.

Then the emperor ordered them to be tortured. They burned the holy virgins over an iron grating, then threw them into a red-hot oven, and finally into a cauldron with boiling tar, but the Lord preserved them.

The youngest child, Love, was tied to a wheel and they beat her with rods until her body was covered all over with bloody welts. After undergoing unspeakable torments, the holy virgins glorified their Heavenly Bridegroom and remained steadfast in the Faith.

They subjected Saint Sophia to another grievous torture: the mother was forced to watch the suffering of her daughters. She displayed adamant courage, and urged her daughters to endure their torments for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. All three maidens were beheaded, and joyfully bent their necks beneath the sword.

In order to intensify Saint Sophia's inner suffering, the emperor permitted her to take the bodies of her daughters. She placed their remains in coffins and loaded them on a wagon. She drove beyond the city limits and reverently buried them on a high hill. Saint Sophia sat there by the graves of her daughters for three days, and finally she gave up her soul to the Lord. Even though she did not suffer for Christ in the flesh, she was not deprived of a martyr's crown. Instead, she suffered in her heart. Believers buried her body there beside her daughters.

The relics of the holy martyrs have rested at El'zasa, in the church of Esho since the year 777.

Fellowship Schedule:		Readers Schedule:	
September 24:	King and Lyon	Sept. 23rd	Rdr. William
October 1:	PARISH PICNIC	Sept. 30th	A. Melnik and Sdn Michael
October 8:	Dudek and DeSocio	October 7:	Rdr. Thomas
October 15:	Haluszczak and Plummer	October 14:	Sdn. Michael
October 22:	Karney and McKane	October 21:	Alexander Charlanow
October 29:	Cusick and Urda	October 28:	Rdr. William