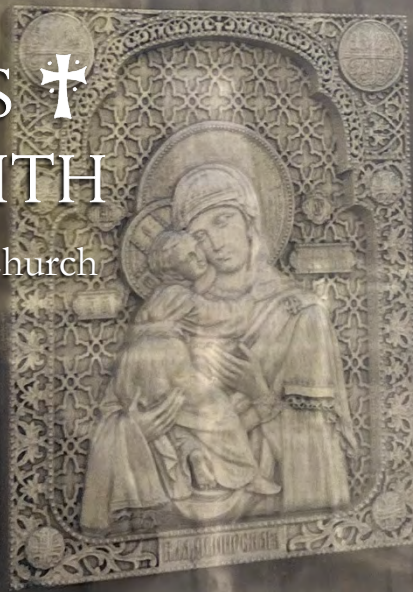


# ✠ THE NEW WITNESS ✠ TO THE ANCIENT FAITH

A Newsletter of St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church

JANUARY 2023



This month, we complete the Winter Pascha with the blessing of waters and Holy Theophany on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Later, we celebrate the last liturgical service of the cycle begun at Pentecost,

Zacchaeus Sunday on January 29<sup>th</sup>—signaling the approach of Great Lent.

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*When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest:*

*For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His Beloved Son;*

*And the Spirit in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His Word.*

*O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!†*

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† Troparion for Holy Theophany.

## Parish Life & Announcements

### Crowning of Nicholas Ferrenberg & Christen Thomas

Our former parishioners Nicho and Christen will be crowned at St. Elizabeth on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 p.m. A potluck meal will follow the ceremony and a sign-up sheet will be posted on the back bulletin board. If you have questions, please contact Susan Ferrenberg at [susansophia.f@gmail.com](mailto:susansophia.f@gmail.com).

You can find Nicho and Christen's wedding announcement at the end of this newsletter.

### Reception of Pietys

On Christmas Day, Blake, Chris, Brooklyn, and Emelia Piety became members of the Orthodox Church through holy chrismation and, in the case of Emelia, baptism. If you haven't taken the time to welcome them yet, be sure to do so!

### Annual Parish Assembly

Our annual parish assembly will occur on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> following the Divine Liturgy at 12:00 p.m. This year one position on the parish council will be vacated by Grier

Jefferis and will be filled with a vote at the assembly. Any parishioners desiring to nominate someone for this position should contact Fr. John well in advance of assembly.

## Holy Theophany

As always, we will conduct the service of the Great Blessing of the Waters during the Divine Liturgy on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to make time to attend the services that day to participate!

## Bridal Shower for Christen Thomas

Let us shower Christen with love on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. after coffee hour in the parish hall. All ladies and girls are invited to join in. We'll have some dessert and fun fellowship. Please bring Christen your favorite recipe on a recipe card as well as your favorite housekeeping tip. If you have any questions please contact Terri Adkins ([adkinsterri7@gmail.com](mailto:adkinsterri7@gmail.com)) or Susan Ferrenberg ([susansophia.f@gmail.com](mailto:susansophia.f@gmail.com)).

## IOCC Charity Opportunity

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, during the parish assembly, the children of the parish will help to assemble health and hygiene kits to donate to IOCC to distribute worldwide. This is a great opportunity for the children of our parish to get involved and do something tangible to help others. If you would like to know more about the organization, please visit their website [here](#).

We need donations to help build the kits and a bin will be set up in the parish hall for collection. Items needed include:

- One-gallon plastic bags with a zipper closure
- Cotton hand towels (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or microfiber)
- Cotton washcloths (no microfiber)
- Wide-tooth combs
- Fingernail or toenail clippers
- Bath-size bars of soap in the wrapper
- Toothbrushes in the package
- Standard size Band-Aids

At the end of this newsletter you will find a packing list for the hygiene kits published by IOCC. Thank you in advance for your support and donations.

## Total Charity Collections for 2022

Thanks to your generous donations, our parish was able to raise close to \$1,800 for Fishline's Christmas Child Campaign. This means we were able to help roughly 36 families buy presents and holiday meals for their families this year. In addition, we collected and donated two large food bins during the Nativity Fast. Thank you so much for your support of these two programs offered through Fishline, which help our local community.

In addition, here is a breakdown of all charity donations in our parish for 2022:

- St. Elizabeth Internal Charity: \$765
- Kitsap Homes of Compassion: \$817
- St. Nicholas Children's Fund: \$1,208
- Fishline: \$2,612, including Christmas Child donations

## Women's Fellowship

The women's fellowship group has not yet decided on the next book. Under consideration is *Acquiring the Mind of Christ: Embracing the Vision of the Orthodox Church* by Archimandrite Sergius (Bowyer), which you can read about on the Ancient Faith website [here](#).

From the Ancient Faith website:

“St. Paul clearly states: ‘Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus . . .’ (Phil 2:5.) How do we acquire this Mind of Christ and where is it to be found? For the Orthodox Christian, salvation is the acquisition of this Mind of Christ which is to be found in the Church. This acquisition moves us from the image of God to the likeness of God; through our obedience to this call we begin to know God and this knowledge is eternal life (John 17:3). This small book hopes to begin to answer how acquiring the Mind of Christ is possible and why it is necessary in our lives today.”

Please consider what you would like to read and let Terri know at 360-286-9097 or [adkinsterri7@gmail.com](mailto:adkinsterri7@gmail.com). We would like to make a decision on the book in time to order for our February meeting, so please let us know if you have any other suggestions.

The women's fellowship meets this month on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Men's Fellowship

The men's fellowship group is reading *Rock and Sand* by Fr. Josiah Trenham, an Orthodox appraisal of the protestant reformers and their teachings. We meet every other Saturday at 9:00 a.m. If you are

interested in attending, we'd love to have you! Our first meeting this month will be January 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Leaders of Ministries Needed

Suzanna Jefferis is composing a brief history and description of the ministries of St. Elizabeth Church. If you have helped in directing any ministries (church school, altar service, charity, coffee fellowship, groundskeeping) please make contact with her or Fr. John to help fill in the story of our parish

## Tithe Appeal

The tithe appeal campaign is ongoing. Tithe forms are on the table in front of the tithe box. If you have not done so yet, please fill one out. Contact Nancy with any questions at [nancyjuno53@gmail.com](mailto:nancyjuno53@gmail.com).

## Game Night Suspended

Monthly game night is indefinitely suspended due to low attendance. Contact Jim Bennett with any questions.

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## Charity Sunday

January 1<sup>st</sup> – After Liturgy we will be collecting for our parish. This fund is to assist members of the parish, their family members, and those in the community who have asked for assistance.

You can give to this fund on the first Sunday of the month, January 1<sup>st</sup>, or anytime throughout the month of

January. Please indicate “charity” on the memo line of your check so we can ensure the money goes to the appropriate fund.

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## Recurring Dates

### Catechesis

Father John continues in-person Monday catechesis from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. All of our catechumens are attending this important part of preparing for entry into the Orthodox Church. Parishioners and inquirers are invited to attend to learn more about the faith.

Sunday catechesis also continues during the second half of the Divine Liturgy—except the fourth Sunday of each month, when there is no Sunday catechesis. Parishioners who have invited non-Orthodox to visit are encouraged to let them know they are welcome to participate.

The schedule for Sunday catechesis is below.

Jan. 1	Imperial Russia
Jan. 8	Being Faithful Among the Faithless
Jan. 15	To Be Determined
Jan. 22	No Catechesis (fourth Sunday)
Jan. 29	No Catechesis (fifth Sunday)

### Orthodox Studies

Come pray with your fellow parishioners at vespers, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.—and then stay after for a half-hour or so discussing interesting and important topics of our Orthodox faith. This is a particularly good time for introducing family members and acquaintances to the Church. Come with questions for Father John!

### Choir Practice

Christine Adam will be meeting with the choir each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. for warm-ups before liturgy.

### Confessions

Father John is available for confessions every Saturday after vespers—and anytime by appointment. Email him at [rector@stelizabethorthodox.org](mailto:rector@stelizabethorthodox.org).

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## Classifieds

### Computer Desk

Free computer desk looking for a good home. Lovingly handmade redwood and pine desk. Free to anyone who would like it and will treat it kindly. It is currently located at our mother’s home in Poulsbo. I’ll help you load it.

For more information, contact Francis Spillane at [kingstonpacific@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonpacific@gmail.com)

Photos below:



## Prayer List

### Living

Michael  
Jeff Seraphim  
Irina  
Allison  
Adrienne CSB  
Carrie CSB  
Denise  
Michael

*ND: Newly Departed*  
*CSB: Child She Bears*



*Sts Peter & Paul Church*  
*St Paul Island, Alaska, c. 1909*  
*By Sam McClain*

## Miscellaneous

### Covid Precautions

Everyone is reminded that, with continued concerns about Covid, parishioners should keep four particular precautions in mind:

- Everyone who wishes to do so should feel free to wear a mask, but masks are not required;
- Windows can be opened to improve ventilation;
- Doors to the parish hall can be left open during services;
- If anyone tests positive for Covid and has recently been to the church, please be sure to let Father John know.

### Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit any materials, announcements, classifieds, or requests for this monthly newsletter, please contact Bryan Telegin at [teleginb@gmail.com](mailto:teleginb@gmail.com).

### Contact Us

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church  
26580 Briedablik Pl NW  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Archpriest John Strickland  
(360) 598-9700  
[rector@stelizabethorthodox.org](mailto:rector@stelizabethorthodox.org)

Website • Facebook • YouTube

# January 2023 Daily Readings

1/1	<b>2 Tim 4:5-8</b>	<b>Mk 1:1-8</b>
1/2	Hebrews 8:7-13	Lk 20:27-44
1/3	Heb 9:8-10, 15-23	Lk 21:12-19
1/4	Heb 10:1-18	Lk 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24
1/5	Heb 10:35-11:7	Lk 21:28-33
1/5	1 Cor 9:19-27	Lk 3:1-18
1/6	Tit 2:11-14; 3:4-7	Mt 3:13-17
1/7	Eph 5:1-8	Lk 13:18-29
<b>1/8</b>	<b>Eph 4:7-13</b>	<b>Mt 4:12-17</b>
1/9	Heb 11:17-23, 27-31	Mk 8:11-21
1/10	Heb 12:25-26, 13:22-25	Mk 8:22-26
1/11	Jas 1:1-18	Mk 8:30-34
1/12	Jas 1:19-27	Mk 9:10-16
1/13	Jas 2:1-13	Mk 9:33-41
1/14	Col 1:3-6	Lk 14:1-11
<b>1/15</b>	<b>1 Tim 1:15-17</b>	<b>Lk 18:18-27</b>
1/16	Jas 2:14-26	Mk 9:42-10:1
1/17	Jas 3:1-10	Mk 10:2-12
1/18	Jas 3:11-4:6	Mk 10:11-16
1/19	Jas 4:7-5:9	Mk 10:17-27
1/20	1 Pet 1:1-2, 10-12, 2:6-10	Mk 10:23-32
1/21	1 Thess 5:14-23	Lk 16:10-15
<b>1/22</b>	<b>1 Tim 1:15-17</b>	<b>Lk 18:35-43</b>
1/23	Jas 2:14-26	Mk 10:46-52
1/24	Jas 3:1-10	Mk 11:11-23
1/25	Jas 3:11-4:6	Mk 11:22-26
1/26	Jas 4:7-5:9	Mk 11:27-33
1/27	1 Pet 1:1-2, 10-12, 2:6-10	Mk 12:1-12
1/28	1 Thess 5:14-23	Lk 17:3-10
<b>1/29</b>	<b>1 Tim 4:9-15</b>	<b>Lk 19:1-10</b>
1/30	1 Pet 2:21-3:9	Mk 12:13-17
1/31	1 Pet 3:10-22	Mk 12:18-27

*Sundays in red*

<https://www.oca.org/readings/monthly/2023/01>

# Health Kit Checklist

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES



- One cotton hand towel measuring approximately 15"x 28" to 16"x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or microfiber)



- One cotton washcloth (no microfiber)



- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package



- One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package



- One bath-size bar of soap in the wrapper



- One toothbrush in the package



- Ten standard size Band-Aids

Place all items inside a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.



Pack all assembled kits in a box.  
Print IOCC return label for each box and mail to:



**IOCC / CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**  
Brethren Service Center Annex  
601 Main St. • P.O. Box 188  
New Windsor, MD 21776-0188

 **IOCC**  
[iocc.org/kits](http://iocc.org/kits)

TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES

CHRISTEN THOMAS  
&  
NICHOLAS FERRENBURG

JOYFULLY INVITE YOU TO  
CELEBRATE THE HOLY  
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY



I HAVE FOUND THE ONE  
WHOM MY SOUL LOVES.

*Song of Songs 3:4*



THE CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON

SUNDAY

22

AT 4 PM

JANUARY

AT

ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

26580 BREIDABLIK PL. NW  
POULSBO, WA 98370

*Reception to Follow*



Holy Matrimony is the Sacrament of the Orthodox Christian Church by which a man and a woman are united together "in faith and in oneness of mind, in truth and in love," acknowledging that their love is rooted in the God Who Himself is Love.

*We Hope You Can Join Us!*

