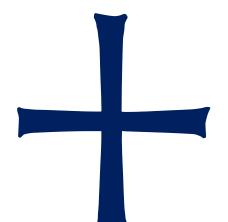
Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

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Sunday Bulletin March 10, 2024—Sunday of the Last Judgment



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Welcome to St. Elizabeth

WELCOME VISITORS! We are delighted you are here. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. Please join us after the service for coffee and refreshments in our fellowship hall. If you have questions about any facet of Orthodox worship, our priest—Father John Strickland—would be very happy to meet and assist you in any way possible.

If you are not familiar with the Orthodox Church, you may see some things that are new to you—icons and incense, the sign of the cross, veneration of the saints, and a lot of standing. These elements have been part of traditional Christian worship from ancient times. They reflect the heavenly nature of the Church.

If you would like to learn more about Orthodoxy, we have a small bookstore where Orthodox publications may be purchased and a lending library where many Orthodox books and periodicals can be borrowed. If you would like to learn more about our parish, please visit our website at https://stelizabethorthodox.org. There, you can find a link to our parish YouTube page where you can view Father John's Sunday homilies.

Please note that Orthodox priests may serve Communion only to baptized and chrismated members of the Orthodox Church. The Eucharist is the paramount expression of unity among Christians; but the reality today is that many Christians are not united in matters of doctrine and practice. While some Christians are content to agree to disagree, we believe true unity will occur only when modern Christians are reconciled to the ancient Church, with its faith and life delivered "once, and for all." In light of this, we respectfully request that rather than partaking of the Eucharistic Chalice, our non-Orthodox guests join us in receiving the *antidoron*—or blessed bread—served at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Please feel free to contact Fr. John any time at (360) 598-9700 or rector@stelizabethorthodox.org.

-Thank you for joining us today. Glory to Jesus Christ!

Bulletin News

- Parish E-mail List—If you are not already receiving parish-wide email updates and announcements, and if you would like to do so, please email Bryan Telegin at bulletin@stelizabethorthodox.org.
- 2024 Parish Picnic—In lieu of a camping trip this year we will be holding a parish picnic on July 27th at the Salsbury Point picnic shelter at 3160 NW Wheeler Street in Poulsbo. St. Herman parish of Port Townsend will be joining us. For more details, please see Danielle. You can contact her at Chantrieri@hotmail.com.
- 2025 Parish Camping Trip Coordinators Needed—Looking ahead to 2025, we will need a coordinator/planning group in place by August of 2024 to begin arrangements for a camping trip next year. If you are interested in helping us coordinate next year's camping trip, please contact Danielle at Chantrieri@hotmail.com.

March Name Days, Anniversaries, and Birthdays

- Name days—St. Gregory Dialogus, Pope of Rome (Mar. 12); Annunciation of the Theotokos (Mar. 25); St. Larissa (Mar. 26); St. Innocent of Alaska (Mar. 31)
- Birthdays—Nancy Conrad (Mar. 18)
- Anniversaries— John & Pam Alcantra (Mar. 13); Josh & Allison Toth (Mar. 27)

This Week at St. Elizabeth

Mar. 11 th —Monday	Mar. 16 th —Saturday
6:30pm Catechesis	3:00pm Showing of <i>Sacred Alaska</i> at
Mar. 13 th —Tuesday 6:30pm Vespers & Orthodox Studies	Firehouse Theater, Kingston 6:00pm Great Vespers

Today's Hymns

Sunday of the Last Judgment—Tone 7.

Tone 7 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

By Thy <u>Cross</u> Thou didst destroy <u>death</u>. To the thief Thou didst open <u>Par</u>adise. For the <u>Myrrh</u>bearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O <u>Christ</u> God, to pro<u>claim</u> that Thou art <u>risen</u>,//

granting the <u>world</u> great <u>mer</u>cy.

Tone 5 Troparion (Church)

O God-wise Elizabeth,

with humility thou didst hide thy nobility and <u>honor</u> Christ especially by imitating the labors of Martha and Mary.

As a <u>sac</u>rifice to God, thou didst arm thyself with works of mercy, <u>patience</u>, and love.

Seeing thy life of good works and suffering, we sincerely beseech thee, our true <u>teacher</u>.

O Venerable Martyr, Grand Duchess Elizabeth, //

entreat Christ our God to enlighten and save our souls.

Glory . . .

Tone 2 Kontakion (Church)

Who can tell of thy great acts of faith,

O long suffering Grand Duchess Elizabeth,

while enduring death in the depths of the earth,

thou didst radiate the brightness of Paradise.

Rejoicing in psalms and hymns, thou didst pray with the angels for thy torturers,

"O Lord forgive them for they know not what they do." //

O Christ our God, through her prayers, have mercy, and <u>save</u> our souls.

Now and Ever . . .

Tone 1 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

When <u>Thou</u>, O God, shalt come to earth with <u>glo</u>ry, all things shall <u>trem</u>ble,

and the <u>river</u> of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; the books shall be opened, and the hidden <u>things</u> disclosed; then deliver me from the un<u>quench</u>able fire,//

and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O <u>Right</u>eous Judge!

Today's Scripture Readings

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, His understanding is beyond measure. (Ps. 146:5)

Epistle Reading—1 Corinthians 8:8–9:2

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Reading—Matthew 25:31–46

"When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, `Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?'

"And the King will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, `Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?' Then he will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Today's Commemorations

The Holy Martyr Codratus and Others with Him

During the time of the persecution of Christians, many of the faithful fled to the mountains and into the caves. So did the mother of Codratus. She was pregnant at the time, gave birth to Codratus in the forest, and died shortly thereafter. Growing up alone in the wildernes, Codratus was nurtured, fed and guided by divine providence and guardian angel. He Who gave manna from heaven to the Israelites in the wilderness dropped from the clouds a sweet dew onto the mouth of the child Codratus. When he was twelve years old, he entered town. There a benevolent man took a liking to him and provided him with an education. He studied medicine and healed the sick with natural cures and, more often, with the spiritual power of prayer, which had been present with him from childhood. When a new persecution arose under Decius, Codratus was brought to trial and cast into prison. Five companions joined him and confessed the name of Christ. They were Cyprian, Dionysius, Anectus, Paul and Crescens. They were all dragged through the streets by the pagans, especially by their children. They were beaten with rods and stoned until they were eventually dragged to the scaffold. There, the martyrs prayed to God and were beheaded. A spring of water gushed out of the ground at that spot, which is called "Codratus" even today and is a reminder of the heroic deaths of these six holy innocents of Christ. They honorably suffered for the truth in the year 250 A.D., in Corinth, during the reign of Emperor Decius and his governor, Jason.

The Venerable Mother Anastasia

Anastasia was a patrician and lady-in-waiting of the imperial palace of Emperor Justinian. After she was widowed, she perceived that Empress Theodora could not tolerate her, so she immediately slipped out of Constantinople and went to the wilderness of Egypt. The renowned spiritual father Abba Daniel tonsured her a nun and presented her as the monk Anastasius the eunuch. This was done according to her wishes so that, as a woman under the guise of a man, she could easily be protected and hidden from imperial pursuit. Anastasia then closed herself off in a narrow cell, where she spent twenty-eight years, and died there in the year 563 A.D. Before her death, the Elder Daniel saw her face shine like the sun.

-Prologue of Ohrid

The Nicene Creed: the Symbol of Faith (sung together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages: Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

In one Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pre-Communion Prayers (said together)

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

