

# St. Elias Orthodox Church

*Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in the USA*

## A Monthly Newsletter

St. Elias Orthodox Church  
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## PASTOR

Very Rev. Archpriest Lawrence Bacik  
529 Cynthia, Galesburg, MI 49053  
269.665.9313  
Cell Phone (Emergencies  
Only): 269.716.3752

## ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR

Rev. Protodeacon Samuel Beronja,  
289 Thelma Drive,  
Battle Creek, MI 49014  
269.968.9883

## Issue Number 6 - August 2009

3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> HOURS: 9:40 am  
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL:  
Sundays Following Services

GREAT VESPERS:  
Saturdays & Eves of Feasts 6:00 pm

HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION  
(PENANCE):

Following Great Vespers,  
Preceding Divine Liturgy, or  
By Appointment

  
Saint Elias  
Eastern Orthodox Church  
5066 "B" Drive South, Battle Creek, MI 49015

## From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Glory to Jesus Christ!  
Glory forever!

As our humble parish marks its 43rd Anniversary, I can't begin to tell you how beautiful and meaningful it was on our patronal feast of St. Elias 20 July! For a minor feast observance on a Monday, we were really blessed with visiting clergy, area faithful and of course, our devoted parishioners! Clergy included Central States Dean, Archpriest Roman Star (Redford, MI); Archpriest Stephen Holowach (Youngstown, OH); Archpriest Dusan Koprivica (Jackson, MI); Priest Dennis Hefner (Rives Junction, MI); Priest Lev Kopistiansky (Detroit, MI); Priest Michael Carney (Lake Odessa, MI); Protodeacon Sam Beronja (Battle Creek, MI) and Deacon John Wesner

(Albion, MI). Kristen Dinsmore and the parish choir were absolutely splendid! Somehow 65 worshipers filled our temple dedicated to this remarkable prophet St. Elias! Glory to God for all things!

I wish to sincerely thank all of you for your participation and making an effort in parish life; you're truly contributing to this profound and uplifting joy not only for this particular feast, but throughout the entire liturgical year! An abundance of thanks to everyone who brought delicious foods to share on this glorious day or perhaps donated necessary items such as beverages, paper products, etc.! Your efforts did not go unnoticed! Thank you for making St. Elias Day a huge success!

May God richly bless you and your wonderful families! With my prayers for all of you that you truly experience a spiritually beneficial Dormition Fast, I most sincerely remain,

Yours in Christ Jesus,

**Archpriest Lawrence Bacik**

## LESSON

### The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulcher, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with



them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens.

These things has the Church received from the traditions of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God

--Courtesy of Narthex Press

### Dormition of the Mother of God

*In giving birth you preserved your virginity, in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Birthgiver of God. You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, and by your prayers deliver our souls from death.*

- Tropar of the Dormition

## REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS, CARDS, VISITS

- ♥ Archpriest Roman Star
- ♥ Protodeacon Sam Beronja
- ♥ Matushka Marilyn Beronja
- ♥ Zachary Beronja
- ♥ Tyler Beronja
- ♥ Jeanie Hanchar
- ♥ Olympia & Aurelia Pietrariu
- ♥ Mary McCarthy
- ♥ Michelle Slone
- ♥ Judi Yost
- ♥ Peggy Hanchar
- ♥ George & Mary Nickolaou
- ♥ Carina Gunnerson
- ♥ Anne Bowden
- ♥ Louis Adamov
- ♥ Anna Gagye
- ♥ George Spriggs
- ♥ Shimasse Vivian Miles
- ♥ Margaret Amato
- ♥ Domnica Mito

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### Summary of Operating Fund

-by Paul Meloff, Treasurer, Parish Executive Board

### June Summary:

See the printed version for our financial report

### August Newsletter Sponsored By:

Pando & Zivka Nanos

### Hall Rental:

Parish Members may make Hall Rentals only. For reservations for use of the hall: Call Paul Meloff @ 269.963.4748.

### Meijer's Report:

No report



## PHONE DIRECTORY

Chris Popovich Parish Executive Board President (269) 963-0358

Paul Meloff Parish Executive Board Treasurer (269) 963-4748

Judi Yost St. Mary's Sisterhood President and Sunshine Girl (269) 962-9680

Peggy Hanchar St. Mary's Sisterhood Publicity Chairman (269) 623-5079



**Volunteers Needed:**

Battle Creek Right to Life is seeking volunteers for its Calhoun County Fair booth from 16 August through 22 August. Volunteers are needed for two different shifts: 10:00AM to 2:00PM and 2:00PM to 6:00PM. You are urged to contact Patrick Hirzel (269) 963 - 8585 weekdays 9:00AM to 5:00PM or e-mail: [Phirzel@aol.com](mailto:Phirzel@aol.com)

**Upcoming Fundraiser Meeting:**

Our Cabbage Roll Dinner Meeting will be held in the church hall Tuesday 11 August 7:00PM. Everyone is cordially welcome!

Please remember that the Cabbage Roll Dinner will be held on Saturday 7 November 2009. Mark your calendars to help support this important fundraising event!

**Sunday School News:**

Following the coffee/social hour on Sunday 2 August, our youth and their parents will gather for lunch at CiCi's Pizza (540 Beckley Rd.) and then head to Krystal Falls Golf Land (15190 S. Helmer) for a fun afternoon of miniature golf! All welcome!

Just a quick reminder for all parents and children that Sunday School will begin 13 September. Please mark your calendars!

**Fall Foliage Amish Dinner Field Trip Scheduled:**

We've been invited to the Wickey's homestead, a local Amish family residing in nearby Leonidas, for a delicious supper on Thursday 8 October. Rosie Wickey and her dedicated family staff sincerely look forward to your visit and will be preparing a traditional Amish supper for your delight. Adults \$16.00

& Children ages 5 - 12 only \$7.00. Please make your reservation with Father Lawrence. This outing is just a short hop (scenic too!) from our church. On the day of the event, we will leave the church premises "caravan" style, simply following one another. Last year we didn't get lost, arriving and returning safely; glory to God! The Wickey's are located west of Athens off of Route M-60 on Correll Road.

**An Abundance of Thanks:**

Many thanks to Tomka Nicolich for baking proshpora several times during the summer for divine services. Many thanks to Chris Popovich and Paul Meloff for various maintenance around the church and hall. Many thanks to Rudi and Judi Yost for trimming shrubs around the church and to Vicki Welk for donating and planting rose bushes. Many thanks to Steve Hanchar for his dedication and directing the choir so well. Many thanks to Alex Hanchar for cleaning and polishing various items in the altar. Many thanks to Matushka Marie and Alexander for donating flowers and mulch in front of the temple. Everything looks so neat and grrrrrrrrreat! May God bless all of you!

**We welcome**

Very Rev. Archpriest Paul and Matushka Kathrine Waters as they join us for Divine Liturgy and Christian fellowship 23 August. Father Paul is pastor of Holy Dormition of the Theotokos Catholicon (Benld, IL) and is a active member of the Central States Deanery. May God richly bless Father and Matushka in their ministry!

**Greek, Russian Orthodox Christian Leaders Show Unity**

The National Herald, July 9, 2009 Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople said the two churches must overcome differences, though he stressed his church's status as "first among equals" with the historic role of coordinating between the various Orthodox branches, of which Russia's is the largest. "From time to time, clouds have temporarily overshadowed ties between the brethren churches," Bartholomew said after the service, addressing newly elected Patriarch Kirill of Moscow. "These must immediately be sent to their places in the pages of history." The Ecumenical Patriarchate dates back to the Greek Orthodox Byzantine Empire, which collapsed when the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople, today's Istanbul, in 1453.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:****Newly-Illumined Servants-of-God:**

Congratulations to the members of the Beronja family on the occasion of the Baptism/Chrismation of four young and delightful children: Nathan and Krista Beronja's children: Ashley (Alexis) and Jake (Jacob); and Gabriel and Cynthia Beronja's children: Zachary and Tyler (Gabriel). Many thanks to Father Sam, Matushka Marilyn, Fred, Debbie and their families for making 19 July so special and meaningful! May our Lord God richly bless the newly-illumined servants of God as they begin their new life in Christ Jesus! Many years!

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME:**

If you would like to take your family out for a fun and enjoyable evening, the Battle Creek Bombers (vs. Green Bay Bullfrogs) are hosting a home game at C.O. Brown Stadium (1392

Capital Ave. NE) on Thursday 6 August at 7:35PM (Gates Open 6:05PM). Marilyn Scullion (218 N. Helmer Rd.) and her State Farm Insurance colleagues of Battle Creek are picking-up the tab for General Admission! In other words, tickets are absolutely free! Please contact Father Lawrence for your tickets ASAP! Batter up! On the Internet: [www.BattleCreekBombers.com](http://www.BattleCreekBombers.com)

**Priest to Observe Anniversary:**

On the great feast of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos ("Uspenije") 15/28 August, Father Lawrence was ordained to the Diaconate 22 years ago. Bishop Clement (Kapalin) of Serpukhov and Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes performed the Apostolic "laying-on-of-hands" (ordination) at St. Nicholas Cathedral in New York City. Currently, Vladyka Clement is Metropolitan of Kaluga and Borovsk and Chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate. Axios!

**Pastor & Family Vacation:**

Father Lawrence will begin his vacation 18 August and will return home 29 August. If an emergency arises during his absence, whereby a priest is needed, please contact either Father Joshua Frigerio (517.554.0105 or 517.629.4873), Father Michael Carney (616.374.8596) or our Central States Dean, Father Roman Star (313.538.1142 or 313.319.0590).

**City Hall Chambers:**

Father Lawrence has been asked to bless the Honorable Mayor Mark A. Behnke and the City Commissioners of Battle Creek during their proceedings at City Hall 4 August.

**IN MEMORIAM:**

On behalf of St. Elias Church, I wish to express my deepest sympathy to Fred Martin, Mary McCarthy and their respective families. May our Lord Jesus comfort them during this most difficult time of loss. May God give a blessed repose to the newly-departed servants of God, +Rose and +Rocky and may their memory be eternal, vecnaja pamjat! Bog da prosti!

**Rose Ellen Martin (February 10, 1921 - July 9, 2009)**

Rose Ellen Martin passed away peacefully in her sleep on July 9, 2009 in Kenmore, Washington, where she and her husband Jack have resided for the last ten years.



Rose was the daughter of Henry and Ellen Plutchak and grew up in Mass City, Michigan. She and her husband and children lived in Rockland, Michigan for many years before moving to Detroit in 1960.

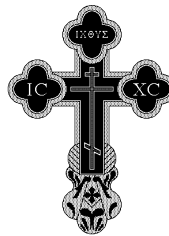
Rose and her husband made their corner grocery store a community center for their Detroit neighborhood for twenty years. She will be remembered as a great baker who fed multitudes of friends and family, a lover of all children and babies, and a teacher of generations of Sunday School students. She delighted in her rose garden and placed beautiful bouquets on the alter of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church every Sunday in summer. She lived a life of kindness, hard work, fierce determination, self-sacrifice, and unwavering

faith and she will be remembered with great love by her family and friends.

Rose is survived by her beloved husband of 66 years Jack Porter Martin, her daughters Kathleen, Susanne, Peggy and Mary, her sons John and Fred, her grandchildren Rebecca, Andrew, Jessica, Jack, Elizabeth and Thomas, her great-grandchildren Jaiden, James, and Annalise, her brother Richard Plutchak and her sister Dixie Ann Penman as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews and extended family.

**Rocky McCarthy, age 66. (11 September 1942 - 22 July 2009)**

Rocky was born in Battle Creek, Mich. to Melvin J. McCarthy and Mary Mladenoff McCarthy. He served in military intelligence in Vietnam, Korea, Japan and Germany. He retired in Fort Benning, Ga., in 1981 after 21 years of service. After retiring, he worked at Southern Water for several years and various security jobs, including Solutia. Rocky enjoyed his work, his dogs, camping and playing computer games. The family requests in lieu of flowers donations may be made to Hospice of the Valley, P.O. Box 2745, Decatur, AL 35602. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Nancy Davenport McCarthy of Decatur; his mother, Mary McCarthy of Battle Creek, Mich.; his daughter, Stacey McCarthy Scoggins and husband Michael, and step-granddaughter, all of Rome, Ga.; and a cousin, Susan Mladenoff of Battle Creek.



**22-nd Annual Pilgrimage  
August 14-15, 2009**

**Holy Dormition Monastery  
3389 Rives Eaton Rd.  
Rives Junction, MI  
(517) 569 - 2873  
[www.dormitionmonastery.org](http://www.dormitionmonastery.org)**

**Guest Hierarch and Homilist  
His Beatitude Metropolitan JONAH  
Schedule of Services**

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**Friday, August 14**

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06:00 am	Matins
12:00 am	Lunch
05:00 pm	Light Supper
06:30 pm	Vigil of the Feast with Lamentations

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**Saturday, August 15**

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09:00 am	Akathist, 3rd & 6th Hour
09:45 am	Procession to the Pavilion
10:00 am	Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
12:30 pm	Lunch
02:30 pm	Mystery of Holy Unction Service
05:00 pm	Vespers Service
06:30 pm	Supper

# August 2009

# St. Elias Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Dormition Fast Begins
2 Divine Liturgy 10 am Fellowship to follow <b>Youth Outing</b> Prosphora/Donuts by Luba Illich	3	4 City Hall Blessing 7:00PM	5 Great Vespers 6:00PM	6 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord (Blessing of fruits)	7	8 Great Vespers 6:00PM
9 Divine Liturgy 10 am Fellowship to follow Prosphora/Donuts by Anna Gagye	10	11 Cabbage Roll Mtg. 7:00PM	12	13	14 Great Vespers 6:00PM	15 Annual Pilgrimage to Dormition Monastery
16 Divine Liturgy 10 am Fellowship to follow Prosphora/Donuts by Alex Hanchar	17	18 Father Lawrence & Family on Vacation	19	20	21	22
23 Divine Liturgy 10 am Fellowship to follow Prosphora/Donuts by Nora Keathley	24	25	26	27	28	29 A Strict Fast is traditionally observed on the feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist
30 Divine Liturgy 10 am Fellowship to follow Prosphora/Donuts by June Slavoff	31					



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Michael Nicolich
- Mary Nickolaou
- 3 Sasha Meloff
- 5 Julia Spriggs
- 7 Christian Pietrariu
- 12 Tony Yost
- Vasile Pietrariu Jr.
- Natalia Yosifovski
- 13 Jake Beronja
- 15 Eric Hanchar
- 17 Nikola Krstev
- 18 Katherine Vrantsidis
- Alexandra Bell
- 22 Pando Yosifovski
- Chris Yosifovski
- 23 Eunice Slavoff
- Michael Graf
- 24 John Illich
- 26 Zivka Nanos
- 28 Greg Gusching
- 29 Visnu Sookhai
- 30 Michael Illich
- 31 Krista Beronja



## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



- 23 Gary & Ramona Busch
- 26 Mark & Marty Graf
- 28 Michael & Philomena Graf
- 29 Paul & June Slavoff