

Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah

(July 20)

The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and the first dedicated to virginity in the Old Testament. Born in Tishba of Gilead from the tribe of Levi, he lived about 900 years before the Incarnation of Christ.



Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus records that when Elijah was born, his father Sobach saw angels swaddling the child in fire and feeding him with flames. His name, Elijah (“The Lord is my God”), defined his whole life. From youth, he devoted himself to the One God, living in the wilderness in fasting, prayer, and contemplation. His prophetic ministry brought him into conflict with King Ahab and the idol-worship introduced by Queen Jezebel.

Israel had turned from God to Baal. Elijah denounced this apostasy, warning Ahab that no rain or dew would fall except at his word. For three and a half years, drought and famine ravaged the land. During this time, the Lord fed Elijah by ravens and then sent him to a poor widow in Sarephta, where God miraculously sustained them with flour and oil. Elijah also raised the widow’s son from the dead.

After three years, Elijah challenged the priests of Baal on Mount Carmel. He proposed a test: each would call upon their god to send fire upon a sacrifice. Baal’s priests failed. Elijah then prayed, and fire from heaven consumed his water-soaked offering. The people cried, “Truly, the Lord is God!” Elijah had the false prophets slain and prayed for rain, which came in abundance.

Fleeing Jezebel’s wrath, Elijah journeyed to Mount Horeb, where he encountered God not in wind, earthquake, or fire, but in a gentle breeze. God revealed that 7,000 in Israel had not bowed to Baal. Elijah was then told to anoint Elisha as his prophetic successor.

Elijah was taken up to heaven alive in a fiery chariot. According to Church Tradition, he will return before Christ’s Second Coming.

His life is found in 3 and 4 Kings, Sirach 48, and 1 Maccabees 2. He appeared with Moses at Christ’s Transfiguration. His feast is July 20. Orthodox Christians pray to him for rain and revere him as a fiery defender of the true God.

Text & icon from oca.org

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

◆◆

His Grace Bishop THOMAS

◆◆

Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

215-954-9286

◆◆

Father James Thayer

215-692-0890

July 20, 2025

PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE
THESBITE & SIXTH SUNDAY OF
MATTHEW

COMMEMORATIONS:

THE GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH),
SYNAXIS OF THE RUSSIANS WHO WERE
PERFECTED IN FRANCE: PROTOPRESBYTER
ALEXIOS MEDNEDKOV, PRESBYTER DIMITRII
KLEPININ, MOTHER MARIA SKOBTSOVA, HER SON
YURI SKOBTSOV, AND ILIA FONDAMINSKII,
MOTHER MARIA SKOBTSOVA, NEW-MARTYR OF
FRANCE

Tone 5 - Eothion 6
Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53
Epistle: St. James 5:10-20
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 5 - Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF PROPHET ELIAS -Tone 4 - The incarnate Angel, and the Prophets’ summit and boast, the second forerunner of the coming of Christ our God, Elias, the glorious, from above sent down his grace upon Elisseus; he doth cast out sickness and doth also cleanse lepers; and unto all that honor him, he poureth forth streams of cures.

TODAY:

- ✦ **ORTHROS & Confessions - 8:15 a.m.**
- ✦ **Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy - 9:00 a.m.**
- ✦ **Divine LITURGY - 9:30 a.m.**
- ✦ **Coffee Hour - 11:15 a.m.**
- ✦ **Eisenhuth Marriage Blessing - 1:00 p.m.**

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Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. Please contact them directly or call the church office.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (July 27):
COFFEE HOUR:	Potluck	Potluck
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala
ALTAR CANDLES:	<i>Sign Up on the Bulletin Board</i>	Atkinson-Lily & Jonathan Anniversary
USHERS:	Nick M. & Radu C.	John Nicholson & Steve Kulp
CLEANING TEAM:	Nick T., Gabi T., Dave & Darby	Nick M., Chris H., Shirley D., Sarah M.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kendra, Mark, Mary	Eric M. & Zach W.,

Mark Your Calendar:

VCS 2025
July 28-Aug 1

Dormition Fast Begins
August 1

Holy Transfiguration
August 6

Dormition of the Theotokos
August 15

Beheading of the Forerunner
Strict Fast Day
August 29

Ecclesiastical New Year
September 1

International Food Festival
September 19-20

JULY OUTREACH
COLLECTION:
Oral Care Products

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria and all the holy land	+ Jaroslav
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	+ Gehrman
Fathers of St Catherine Monastery on Mt Sinai	+ Olga
Survivors of the Damascus Church Attack	+ Edgar
	+ Rene
	+ Maxim
	+ Martyred in Damascus
Newly Illumined Child Silas	(July Parish Diptychs)
Newly Crowned Sofia and James	+Asma
New Crowned Nektarios and Susanna	+Albert
Nun Sergeia	+Dorothy
Child Timothy-Gabriel	+Dorothea
John	+Irene
Doris	+Stavros
James	<u>Catechumens</u>
Steven	Ryan
Paraskevi	Kassandra
Elizabeth	Jasper
Michaela	Matthew
Elias	Mary
Mary	Martin
Alexander	Photini
	John
Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, Michael, Xenia, & all Missionaries	Steven
	Robert
	Liara
Dn Nathan, Jacob, John, Samuel & all seminarians and their families	Asher
	Sarah
	Andrew
	Carolyn
Those searching for housing, jobs and spouses	Martin & Gabriella
	James
	Anthony
Engaged Couples	Slavek
Families trying to conceive	Nevada
Expectant mothers	Josiah,Casie & Ray
New mothers and their babies	And our inquirers
Those in mourning	
The people of our land,	

This Week:

- Mon, July 21:** - - -
- Tues, July 22:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Wed, July 23:** Little Compline, 6:30 p.m.
Patristic Reading, 7:00 p.m.
FOCUS Philadelphia (Norristown), 7:00 pm
- Thurs, July 24:** FOCUS Philadelphia (Aviator), 8:00 p.m.
- Fri, July 25:** Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, July 26:** Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Q&A w/ Fr. Luke, 5:00 p.m.
GREAT VESPERS, 6:00 p.m.
Confessions, 7:00 p.m.
- Sun, July 27:** **ORTHROS, 8:15 a.m.**
Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.

SPECIAL APPEAL for VCS

- Four ways you can help as we are gearing up for another **Vacation Church School**, of growth in faith and love for God: 1) See Kate Gohl about volunteering; 2) Pray for Fr. Noah, leaders, and students; 3) Consider offering a financial gift to cover expenses. 4) **Snack Donations.**

PROSPHORA BAKING CLASS — Mark your calendar!

When: August 2 between 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Where: Great room and kitchen.

Who: Anyone interested in joining the Prospora baking team. Please ask for Fr. Noah's blessing and then contact Gabi or Catalin Tinjala for details:
ctinjala@yahoo.com

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 7/12: 88

Liturgy 7/13: 285

OFFERINGS 7/13: Candles, \$299. Collections, \$1,709.51. Book Shelf Ministry, \$85. Library, \$20. Teen Fund, \$1,000. Building Fund, \$150. One Time Projects, \$7,000. Mission Chapel, \$150. Stewardship, \$6839.97. Total received: \$17,253.48.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!