❖ Connect ❖

Parish Priest: Fr. John Oliver

- *Calendly* meetings and appointments:

Church Office:

- Office Email: info@stelizabethtn.org
- Office phone: 615-785-5285

❖ Giving ❖

❖ Year-to-Date Pledging:
Budgeted: $267,100
Actual: $236,190

Donate:

Pledge:

❖ From the Synaxarion ❖

" The Nativity of Christ.—He has come upon earth, He Who in the beginning created us from earth and breathed His Divine breath into us; He has come Who "giveth to all life, and breath, and all things" (Acts xvii. 25.); He has come, He Who by a single word called all things visible and invisible from non-existence into existence, Who by a word called into being birds, fishes, quadrupeds, insects, and all creatures, existing under His almighty providence and care; He has come, He Whom the innumerable hosts of Angels continually and joy. And in what humility has He come! He is born of a poor Virgin, in a cave, wrapped in poor swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger. Riches, honours, glory of this world! fall down, fall down in humility, tearful devotion, and deep gratitude before the Saviour of men, and share your riches with the poor and needy. Thus, let us all humble ourselves; let us all fall down in the dust before the boundless humility and exhaustion of the Sovereign of all, of God, Who has come to heal our infirmities, to save us from pride, vanity, corruption, and every sinful impurity." - St. John of Kronstadt

St Elizabeth Orthodox Church ❖ 7004 Burnt Knob Road Murfreesboro, TN 37129
❖ www.stelizabethtn.org ❖
Fr John Oliver, Parish Priest
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan SABA ❖ Bishop NICHOLAS

✣ St Elizabeth Orthodox Church ✣

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

22 November 2026

After-feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos
Apostles Philemon, Apphia, Archippos and Onesimos of the Seventy;
Martyr Cecilia of Rome and those with her; Venerable Iakovos of Evia

❖ WELCOME! ❖

Peace be to all who gather at St Elizabeth's this morning,
and a special welcome to our visitors and guests!
Please join us for refreshment immediately following the service.

❖ Liturgical Notes ❖

DIVINE LITURGY SERVICE BOOK

A word-for-word service book of The Divine Liturgy, with biblical and explanatory notes, is available on the table in the Narthex.

❖ *The Apolytikion of the Resurrection - Tone 8*

From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three day burial; that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

❖ *The Apolytikion to St Elizabeth the New Martyr*

Concealing the rank of a princess with humility, O divinely-wise Elizabeth, thou didst honor Christ with the two-fold service of Mary and Martha, having purified thyself by charitable works, patience, and love, thou wast brought to God as an offering of righteousness; as we venerate thy virtuous way of life and thy sufferings, we earnestly ask thee as our true teacher: O holy martyr and grand duchess Elizabeth, entreat Christ our God to save and enlighten our souls.

❖ *The Kontakion of the Entrance of the Theotokos - Tone 4*

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

❖ *The EPISTLE of St Paul to the Ephesians (2:14-22)*

"Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift."

The PRAYER before the Reading of the HOLY GOSPEL

Illumine our hearts, O Master who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy Gospel teachings; implant in us also the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

❖ *The HOLY GOSPEL according to St Luke (10:25-37)*

"The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear.'"

❖ *The KISS of PEACE*

The Kiss of Peace happens this way: 1) we turn only to those only on our left or right, never turning our backs toward the Holy Altar; 2) one quietly says, "Christ is in our midst!," while the other quietly replies, "He is and ever shall be!" It should be kind, but also quiet and orderly.

❖ *The Megalynarion*

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word, True Theotokos: we magnify thee.

❖ On Receiving Holy Communion ❖

For Orthodox Christians, Holy Communion is not only a bridge toward unity but also the expression of unity already achieved - the seal of a common baptism, common belief, common practice, essentially a common Church. For this reason, only Orthodox Christians, properly prepared, may receive Holy Communion

❖ Calendar ❖

This Week

❖ *Tuesday*

10am - Divine Liturgy

❖ *Wednesday, 6pm* - Thanksgiving Service: Glory to God for all Things

❖ *Thursday ~Thanksgiving~*

7pm - Thanksgiving Desserts'n'Leftovers Bonfire at the Oliver Gardens (see any Oliver family member for details)

❖ *Friday*

6pm - Candlelight Compline

7:30pm - YAoSE Book Club (see Evangeline Zendejas for details)

❖ *Saturday*

5pm - Great Vespers and CGS

6pm - Teen Class

❖ *Sunday ~ Third Sunday of Advent ~*

9am - Matins and CGS

10am - Divine Liturgy

12pm - Agape Meal and Fellowship

❖ Ministry Highlight ❖

❖ *Ella's Cafe:* Serving a hot meal to the residents of Westbrooks Towers

❖ *Coordinator(s)*: Lauren Fleming, Bennie Pandorf

❖ *Description*: This ministry provides a hot meal and fellowship to the elderly residents of a local low-income nursing home. Ella's Cafe meets monthly at Westbrooks Towers and purchases, prepares, and serves a hot meal while ministering to and conversing with the elderly residents. Please contact the coordinator(s) of this ministry if you would like to participate.