

ST. ELIJAH SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

2200 Irwin Street Aliquippa, PA 15001

Parish Office: 724-375-4074

Email: stelijah@comcast.net

Center Office: 724-375-9894

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Branislav Golic

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Webpage: stelijahaliquippa.com

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SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE; VENERABLE PAUL OF THEBES

The Venerable Paul of Thebes

Paul was born of wealthy parents in Lower Thebes in Egypt during the reign of Emperor Decius. Paul, with his sister, inherited all the property of their parents. But his brother-in-law, an idolater, wanted to confiscate Paul's share of the property and threatened to betray Paul before the judge as a Christian if he did not cede his property to him. This misfortune, coupled with the heroic examples of self-sacrifice by the Christian martyrs that Paul saw with his own eyes, motivated him to give his share of the property to his sister. Then he, as a pauper, withdrew into the desert, where he lived an ascetic life until his death. To what spiritual heights this ascetic giant reached was witnessed by no less a person than St. Anthony the Great, who once visited Paul and saw how the wild beasts and the birds of the air ministered to him. Returning from this visit, Anthony said to his monks: "Woe is me, my children! A sinful and false monk am I, a monk only in name. I saw Elias, I saw John in the wilderness—and in truth, I saw Paul in Paradise!" St. Paul lived 113 years and peacefully reposed in the Lord in the year 342.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: EPISTLE: 2 TIMOTHY 3: 10-15 GOSPEL: LUKE 18: 10-14

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FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON-Sponsored by our St. Elijah Mother's Club- **MENU:** Pulled Pork Sandwich, rice, salad and assorted cookies, texas sheet cake, yellow torte and chocolate nut torte, coffee or tea. Donation \$6.00. The students who are free will have: hot dog on a bun, chips, dessert and a beverage. Please join us downstairs after Divine Liturgy.



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Our sincere appreciation is extended to the parents, grandparents, kumovi and friends of the Church School students for encouraging and assisting the children in preparation for this years` **St. Sava Program** that was held last Sunday. We also thank them for their continuous effort in bringing them to the Divine Liturgy and Church School every Sunday.



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**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!
ST. ELIJAH CHOIR'S 16th ANNUAL BOWLING "BALL"**



On **Saturday, February 10, 2018** the choir will host its **16th Annual Bowling "Ball"** fundraiser at Baden Bowl starting at 2:00 PM. Cost is \$25 per person. **ENTRY FORMS ARE BESIDE THE BULLETIN.** Not a bowler?? Please come and join us at 5:30 PM in the center for a delicious homemade meal. Donation for non-bowlers for the dinner is \$15.00 if you cannot attend, donations are always welcome!

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A SPECIAL COLLECTION will be taken for **THE ST. SAVA SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**-Libertyville **NEXT SUNDAY.** This collection is done every year following St. Sava. **PLEASE** make your check payable to: **ST. SAVA THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL FOUNDATION** memo **SEMINARY SUNDAY** and we will then forward it to them. Thank You!

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HOME BLESSING SCHEDULE: Please note from the Christmas Bulletin...the schedule for home blessings from day to day may change due to weather, church services and funerals. Therefore Fr. Branislav will call you a day or two in advance when he is to arrive to bless your home.