



ERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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September 20, 2026

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The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary: The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness. The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren. Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly but never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family. The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World. The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

Divine Liturgy will be served tomorrow at 9:30 am

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A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO CAME

TO PREPARE STUFFED CABBAGE THIS WEEK!

PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAILS FOR FURTHER

WORK SESSIONS!

PURSE BASH IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

**TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP FORMS NEXT
TO BULLETIN**

Any questions contact Samantha Baldwin
724-462-1402 smilosh14@gmail.com

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St. Elijah Fellowship & Ministry Committee continues its efforts with the Darrelle Revis Foundation Power Pak program this fall. All signup dates for the school year at Aliquippa HS are in the link below and we need your help! We meet every other Thursday at 6PM in the high school CAFETERIA (moved from the library) to pack snacks for qualifying kids so they have food on weekends. Please consider helping; it's fun and takes about an hour! Thank you!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F44ACAF22A0F49-aliquippa>
Together with our brothers and sisters in Christ from Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church, St. Elijah Fellowship & Ministry will be preparing a Soup and Sandwich lunch for our neighbors at Sheffield Towers on **Saturday, October 24**. Will you consider helping us? We need: help with food preparation in the morning (between 9:30-11:30AM) help with delivery of the lunches to Sheffield Towers (between 11:30-1:00PM) donations of sandwiches and bottles of water For details and to sign up, please access the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FAAAC28A1FAC25-65907573-soup> Thank you!
Thank you for your donations of nonperishables for St. Elijah Fellowship & Ministry. We appreciate your continued support! Our need is ongoing for easy-open containers of shelf stable meats, fish, vegetables, soups, ramen noodles, etc.

The donation box is too small for extra large containers. Also, ingredients (sugar, flour, cooking oils), sauces, and condiments are not needed. We are also no longer taking donations of clothing. Thank you again for your generosity!

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NOMINATION FORMS FOR CHURCH EXECUTIVE BOARD ARE LOCATED NEXT TO THIS BULLETIN
FOR THE 2026-2027 CALENDAR YEAR!
PLEASE SUBMIT THEM TO ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
ON THE COMMITTEE ONCE COMPLETED- DO SO BY SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1ST !

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WELCOME BACK STUDENTS HAVE A BLESSED YEAR!