

St. Elias Byzantine Church, PA Greek Catholic 4200 Homestad Duquesene Rd. Munhall, PA www.steliasmunhallpa.weebly.com 412-461-1712

Pastor: Rev. Eugene P. Yackanich Hungarian Church Services: no Hungarian Congregation: n.a

Church History

On May 4, 1905 a convention of Mon Valley Hungarians met to establish a Hungarian Byzantine Catholic Church in Homestead. Ecclesiastical approval was granted in April, 1907.



Rev. Julius Orosz was assigned as the first pastor. The Markovics Hall on Eighth Avenue was rented for church services. During that year, a rectory and church located at Ninth Avenue and McClure Street were purchased from St. Matthew Episcopal Church.

The parish took formal occupancy on December 29, 1907, and the first Liturgy was celebrated in January of 1908.

In March, 1928 the church was destroyed by an early morning fire. Through the efforts of the community, businesses and friends as well as the congregation, the edifice was reconstructed in the same year.

In 1962 a 13 acre lot on Homestead-Duquesne Road was purchased for a new church and rectory. Ground-breaking for the new church was held May 19, 1963, and the first Liturgy was celebrated October 24, 1964, in the partially completed building. By July 24, 1966 the church was dedicated and in full use.

During his American visit, Cardinal Joseph Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, visited St. Elias Church and blessed the Mindszenty Garden on the church grounds on July 27, 1974.

Fund raisers were initiated in 1985 to pay for a new church roof. On November 20, 1994 the first Thanksgiving Parish Dinner was held. On February 26, 1995 an Open House was held to show the versatility of the Social Hall for wedding receptions, anniversaries, parties, etc.

The present facilities of St. Elias include a chapel to the Mother of Perpetual Help, a library, four ECF classrooms and an office for the ECF coordinator.

Map: http://g.co/maps/7rksn