

St. George's News

February 2012

A Monthly Publication

Volume 13 Issue 2

BISHOP'S VISIT

We are blessed to have our father in Christ, Bishop Anthony, making his first pastoral visit to us the first weekend in February.

His Grace was just recently consecrated a bishop at the Balamand in Lebanon. The following words of Bishop Hilarion of the Patriarchate of Moscow give us the understanding of this holy action:

“Episcopal ordinations are especially solemn. A priest who is to be ordained bishop enters the altar through the ‘royal doors’ and goes three times around the holy table, kissing its four corners; the clergy and the choir sing the *troparia* from the rite of Marriage. The one being ordained then bends his knees before the holy table, and the hierarchs lay their hands on his head, with the presiding celebrant reading the prayer of ordination: ‘The grace divine, which always healeth that which is infirm and completeth that which is wanting, through the laying-on of hands elevateth thee, the most God-loving Archimandrite, (name), duly elected, to be the Bishop of the God-saved cities, (names). Wherefore let us pray for him, that the grace of the All-holy Spirit may come upon him’. Following this, while *Kyrie eleison* (‘Lord, have mercy’) is sung by the clergy and the choir, the first
(continued on p. 2



Through the generosity of the members of St. George, we have purchased an Engolpion as a gift for our new Bishop Anthony. You can see the Engolpion, which we will present to our father in Christ at the end of the Hierarchal Liturgy, in the picture above. The following is a description of an Engolpion and its use, edited from Wikipedia.

An **Engolpion** or **Enkolpion** (**Greek**: ἐγκόλπιον, *enkólpiōn*, "on the chest"; plural: ἐγκόλπια, *enkólpiā*) is a general term for something worn on the chest. *Engolpion* is nowadays used for a medallion with an **icon** in the center, worn around the neck by **Orthodox** and **Eastern Catholic bishops**. The icon is normally surrounded by jewels and topped by an Eastern-style **mitre**, and will often have a small jeweled

pendant hanging down at the bottom. The engolpion is suspended from the neck by a long gold chain, sometimes made up of intricate links. A portion of the chain will often be joined together with a small ring behind the neck so that it hangs down the back. Engolpia come in many different shapes, including oval, rhombus, square, or a [double-headed eagle](#).

All bishops wear a particular kind of engolpion called a ***Panagia*** (**Greek**: Παναγία), which depicts the **Theotokos** (**Virgin Mary**). All **primates** and some bishops below primatial rank have the dignity of wearing a second engolpion, which usually depicts **Christ**. The engolpion may be worn at all times as part of the bishop's street dress or in **the** divine services. When the bishop **vests** for Divine Services, he will wear also a pectoral cross.



LAST MINUTE ITEM FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Email to: FtBegley@Aol.com
By 2/23/2012

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday in February

- 1 - Joe Dragich
- 3 - Jason Patton
- 3 - Grace Anne Ablan
- 5 - Philip Begley
- 5 - George Khoury
- 5 - Dahab Haile
- 5 - Kate Melchert
- 7 - Michael Tangen
- 8 - Aaron Lehmann
- 13 - Deanna Burbank
- 15 - Jennifer Kangas
- 15 - Katie Price
- 17 - Gianni Khoury
- 20 - Eias Jweid
- 21 - John Khoury
- 21 - George S. Awada
- 21 - Michael B. Awada
- 23 - Joshua Apman
- 24 - Jeffrey Awada
- 24 - John Hutchens
- 25- Wyatt Tennis
- 27 - George James Damian
- 27 - Suzanne Droubie



HOUSE BLESSINGS

If you would like to have your house blessed please set-up an ap-

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Adam and Christine Quam on the baptism of their son Nathaniel on January 22. Nathaniel's godparents are Tom and Sue Perry. Many years to Nathaniel, his parents and godparents!

Anniversary in February

- 2 – Joseph & Debby Etoll
- 8 - Richard & Brenda Hafiz
- 13 – Joshua & Michelle Apman
- 17 - Michael & Denise Ferraro



CONGRATULATIONS

Our heart felt congratulations to Archdeacon Russell and Phyllis Hodge who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 13th. We had a special blessing for them in church. May God grant them many years!

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Kayla Burbank and Sambo Thuet on the baptism of their daughter Savanna on January 29. Savanna's godparents are Richard Heuer and Ashley Apman. Many years to Savanna, her parents and godparents!

MEMORY ETERNAL!

Our condolences to Maria Golden and her family on the falling asleep of her brother Nicholas Marinkov. May his memory be eternal!

DIRECTORY CORRECTION

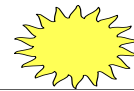
ATHEY, Roseanne
1961 E. 4th St.
St. Paul, MN 55119
ace39MN@hotmail.com

(651) 739-1253

The Parish of St. George joins in wishing each of the celebrants congratulations and best wishes for a joyful, peaceful, healthful year.

(Updated 2/2008)

Each month we endeavor to provide a complete list of Birthdays and Anniversaries so that we will know who to commemorate in our prayers and to greet on their special day. If we have inadvertently omitted someone, please let Father Tom know so that we can include you. The purpose of the list is to be inclusive rather than exclusive. Please help us keep the list updated. Thank you and all our prayers on your special day!



“SUNSHINE LADY”

ROSA NEIMY

would appreciate being called at 651-457-6173 if you know of anyone to whom a card should be sent.

(continued from p.1)

hierarch reads other prayers. The newly-ordained bishop is then clothed in episcopal vestments, while the people (or the choir) exclaim *Axios* (‘He is worthy!’). This exclamation is the only trace of the ancient practice of the election of bishops by all the faithful.”

The bishop is our shepherd who prays for us and looks after the welfare of His Churches. However, it is my prayer that we will pray for our bishop and desire to work with Him for the welfare of our church. Let’s all plan to spend time with our bishop to hear His words of wisdom and to get to know him better!

Many Years Master! *Axios!*



ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN CHURCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER February 2012

“The Bible fills us with Eternal Joy”
St. John of Damascus

Where have all the Children Gone?

The Church school attendance has dramatically decreased since Christmas. Parents please try to get your kids to church school each Sunday. Often times the lessons build off of the previous week’s lesson. Getting to the classes on time is also important. It makes it hard to teach a class when kids are walking in at all different times. I ask that you try to treat Church school the way you do their Monday through Friday school. Showing up regularly and on time is a combination that will benefit your child the most!

We Need Your Help!

The Church is known as the Body of Christ. Each part of the body is important and crucial to the whole. The head of the church is Christ Himself. We make up all the many other parts. Some of these parts include the Priesthood, serving the Altar, cooking, evangelism, mission works, leadership positions (like being on the council or heading fundraisers), financial advisers, carpenters, chanters, and teachers. Often times we have talents that cross over into more than one area. At the present time our church school is in need of some persons who would be willing to help fill in for some church school classes. We have had one teacher step down due to a work conflict and another class that, due to size, really needed splitting into two, creating the need for an extra teacher. If you would be willing to fill in as a substitute please see Lisa Mikhail or JoAnne Droubie so we can add you to our list of helpers. Teaching the Orthodox Faith to the next generation is certainly a rewarding and worthy part of the Body of Christ!

Creative Arts Festival Topic

This year’s creative art festival topic is “The Bible fills us with eternal joy.” The Bible is the Word of God and it is our guidebook to help us live united with Him now and forever. The Bible brings us the joyful message that Jesus has won salvation and eternal life for us. It is also there for us to gain encouragement, courage, and comfort in troubling times. On Feb. 5th, the topic will be discussed with the students and project ideas brainstormed. Entries will be due by mid-March.

Creative Arts Festival-New Awards

The Creative Arts festival program has been modified this year. The certificates of appreciation for all grades, except Preschool and Kindergarten, have been replaced by achievement-level ribbons according to grading rubrics. All participants scoring 85% or above will receive a gold ribbon; those scoring 75%-84% earn a silver ribbon and below 74% earn a bronze ribbon. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards for each grade in each category will remain as well. The hope is that this new ribbon system will encourage those students who don’t want to enter because they don’t win.

Creative Festival Rules

Art: No tracing allowed. Maximum size including matting is 18”X24”, max depth 6”.

Photography: Photo’s must be taken by student. No photos of photos. May use 1 or more photos with finished size no larger than 11X14”

Poetry: Typewritten on white paper, double-spaced in Times New Roman, font size 12.

Writing: No paraphrasing. Must be typewritten on white paper, double-spaced in Times New Roman font size 12. Grades 3-12 have a 3-page maximum and 50-word minimum.

2012 Middle Eastern Festival News

Dear Parishioners,

We will host our 5th Annual Middle Eastern Festival on July 20th, 21st, and 22nd of 2012. The festival is being held in conjunction with our 99th anniversary as a parish.

Highlights of the festival include Middle Eastern cuisine, live entertainment, a traditional marketplace, a silent auction, games for children, and camel rides. Admission to this family fun three-day event is free! The menu includes: roast lamb, chicken kabobs,

kafta, falafel, hummus, gyros, tabouli, homemade traditional pastries, and our famous Syrian bread. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will also be served. The nationally renowned John Khoury Band will perform, in addition to the St. George Dabke Dance Troupe.

The times for the Middle Eastern Festival are Friday, July 20, from 12 noon to 10 pm; Saturday, July 21, from 12 noon to 10 pm; and Sunday, July 22, from 12 noon to 6 pm. Please mark these dates on

your calendar so that you and your family are able to volunteer.

For more information, please visit our website at www.mideastfest.com

With your help, I am looking forward to making this year our best festival yet!

Tony Khoury
Festival Chairman

2012 Middle Eastern Festival Committee Leaders

Chairman - Tony Khoury

Food - George Dahmah, Assaad Haddad, and Youssef Haddad

Bake Sale - Mary Rudquist

Syrian Bread - Pat Percy

Sitty's Café - Vacant

Beverages - Paul Ablan

Marketplace - Raja and Elma Ghanem

Silent Auction - Sarah Larson

Games for Kids - Sean and Lisa Rudquist

Live Music - John Khoury

Camel Rides - Paul Ablan

Dance Group - Rola Bshara, Elma Ghanem, and Sue Perry

Orthodox Expression

- Cindy and Paul Karos
-

Finance & Reporting - Craig Michaels and Rana Jubran

Donations - Anne Ablan

Ticket Sales - Brigitte Khoury

Scheduling - Vicky Michaels

Advertising - Anne Ablan

Security, Sanitation & Logistics - Tony Khoury

Outdoor Set-up & Aesthetics - Mike Hartwig

Bookstore - Kh. Beth Begley

Internal Communications - Grace Ablan

Purchasing - George Khoury

OUR HOLY FATHER AUXENTIUS

OUR HOLY FATHER AUXENTIUS - February 14th.

A very distinguished administrator in Constantinople, among the officials and courtiers of the Emperor Theodosius the Younger, he was set aflame by the love of Christ. Auxentius became a monk and remained only a short time in Constantinople. When men began to praise him, he fled and settled on a mountain near Chalcedon that later became known as Auxentius' mountain. He could not realize his desire to remain there permanently, hidden from men, as some shepherds found him and made his whereabouts known. They began to bring the sick to him to be healed, and he healed many of them. He restored sight to the blind and cleansed lepers, anointing them with oil. He also raised up the palsied and freed many who had been possessed of demons. All this was cause for wonder, but his humility was more wonderful. When he was asked to pray for the healing of someone, he excused himself with the words: 'I also am a sinful man.' But, constrained by many requests, he approached the healing in the following way: either he called all present to pray with him for the sick person, or he first stirred up the faith of the people and told them that God would give according to their faith, or he said over the head of the sick person: 'The Lord Jesus Christ heals you.' He did this that the wonder worked should not be attributed to him but to almighty God. He took part in the Fourth Ecumenical

Council at Chalcedon and powerfully defended Orthodoxy against the Eutychian and Nestorian heresies. He lived to a great age; then, in 470, God took his youthful soul to Himself and left his aged body on the earth from which it was made.

- Taken from the **Prologue from Orhid, Vol. 1, p.172**

FOR CONSIDERATION

St. John Chrysostom quotes the following example from the life of St. Meletius, demonstrating the true nobility of this great hierarch: Meletius was unjustly exiled from Antioch. When the governor got into the coach, seated the saint beside him and then began to drive hurriedly through the square, the citizens rushed from all sides with pebbles, which fell like hail on the governor's head, the people being loath to part with their archbishop, and being ready to part with life rather than with this saint. But what did the blessed man do? Seeing the stones flying, he covered the governor's head with his cloak. He thus shamed his enemy by his great meekness and gave his followers a lesson in the goodness we must show to those who insult us; how it is not enough just to do them no evil, but to use our strength to protect them from those dangers that threaten them. On Meletius' outward appearance, Chrysostom writes further: 'It was truly the greatest delight to see his holy face, and not only when he taught or spoke; when people only looked at him he brought virtue to the soul of the beholder.'

- Taken from **The Prologue of Ochrid, p. 166**

Council Corner

The Parish Council approved the minutes of 12-22-11.

Among the items discussed: There is \$19,876.23 in the checkbook as of 12-22-11. Mortgage balance is \$120,450.95.

A motion was made and seconded by Jane and Mary to change the lighting in the choir loft to track lighting. Motion carried.

Men's Club will be hosting a Superbowl Party on 2-5-12. Constitution committee will meet and report back to the Council by the March meeting. Tony to order box for the defibrillator. Discussed hall rental charges for members of St. George. A motion was made and seconded by Michelle and Mary for hall rental costs to be \$50.00 for members with events under 50 people, excluding weddings, with a cleaning deposit of \$150.00. If cleaning is done by the users, the deposit will be refunded. If not cleaned, the deposit is forfeited. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded by Michelle and Mary for hall rental costs to be \$100.00 for members with events between 50 and 100 people, excluding weddings, with a cleaning deposit of \$150.00. If cleaning is done by the users, the money will be refunded. If not cleaned, the deposit is forfeited. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded by Michelle and Mary for weddings to be \$450.00 plus a

Continued on Page 6....

Announcements

FESTIVAL CHAIRMAN

Our congratulations to Tony Khoury who has been selected as our festival chairman. Let's all work with Tony for a successful festival!

DEFIBRILLATOR The AED, automated external defibrillator, is located at Church when you walk in the church office; go to the right, on the shelf behind the main door. This will be the location until the AED storage box arrives.

Stewardship Envelopes - For those parishioners who use envelopes, 2012 stewardship envelopes are located outside the Church Hall. If you do not see envelopes assigned to you, please contact Habte Techlehaimanot or Pat Percy. If your child was not assigned envelopes and you would like them to participate in the child stewardship program, let Habte or Pat know.

Archdiocese Assessment - To help our Church meet the Archdiocese assessment, an envelope is included in the stewardship envelopes for this purpose. The suggested amount per parishioner is \$40. If you do not use envelopes, please mark your check as Archdiocese Assessment. Thank you to those parishioners who already have contributed!

Mortgage Balance - As of January 1, 2012, the balance for our mortgage is \$110,450.95

2011 Donation Statements

- The 2011 donation statements have been prepared and will be distributed over the next several weeks. Financial donations to our Church are only one part of being a member at St. George -- your time and talents are appreciated also! For your information, the following table shows a breakdown of the giving at St. George for 2011. The first column shows the number of families who contributed the amount in column 2 (yearly total). Column 3 shows the yearly total broken down to a weekly amount. Thank you to all who financially contribute to St. George!

No. of Families	Yearly Amount	Weekly Amount
29	\$10 - \$130	25 c - \$2.50
40	\$131 - \$550	\$3 - \$11
31	\$590 - 1350	\$12 - \$25
29	\$1400 - \$5500	\$27 - \$105
2	\$7500 - \$8500	\$145-\$155
2	\$10k -\$13k	\$200-\$255
1	> \$20,000	\$385

TOTAL 134



THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS

Every year, across our Archdiocese, the month of December is designated as St. Ignatius month. We celebrate the feast day of St. Ignatius on December 20. We are reminded of the philanthropic arm of our Archdiocese, The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch. The Order takes the name St. Ignatius, one of our first bishops, because of his martyrdom and example. Order accomplishments include supporting local parishes, funding summer camp scholarships, helping Teen Special Olympics, and contributing to clergy retirement. It would be wonderful to see more St. George faithful inducted into the Order by our newly consecrated Bishop. I am sure it would please His Grace to have new members on his first visit to our parish. Please contact Life Member Christina Worrall (952-920-8020) with questions.

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\$225.00 damage/cleaning deposit. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded by Michelle and Sarah to have the old copy machine hauled away. Motion carried.

A request was made that an inventory be done of all items in the church. One room to be done at a time. A committee will oversee the process. Committee will consist of: Sarah Larson, Sue Perry, Mary Rudquist, Tony Khoury and George Khoury.

Next meeting: February 16, 2012.

Coming Events ...



If you would like to host a coffee hour by yourself or with someone, sign up on the sign-up sheets located in the rear of the church hall to reserve a date. All that is asked

is that hosts strictly follow the Fasting traditions of our Holy Orthodox Church. And as always everyone is invited for this period of fellowship.

HOLY BREAD

SCHEDULE –Joannie Alevizos

If you would like to offer the Holy Bread in memory of loved ones or for the health of your family, etc., call Joannie Alevizos - 651-453-1894 to secure a date in advance. The same is true for the Memorial Wheat.

NOTE: STAMP FOR HOLY BREAD NOW RESIDES IN THE CHURCH KITCHEN.

GENERAL INFORMATION IN CASE OF ILLNESS OR NEED,

please be sure our Priest and the Sunshine Lady are aware. Only then can they carry out their duties! Also, if you would like to have your home blessed, call the Priest to make arrangements.

MOVING??

OR

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Don't forget to tell your church about your new address. Please contact Joannie Alevizos so she can update our mailing list.

THE WORD MAGAZINE

Anyone interested in receiving the WORD Magazine please contact Fr. Tom. Any member of St. George may receive the WORD free.

Please be sure to visit our church website for important news and related information.

Antiochian Village Summer Camp Registration Now Online!

Are you ready for summer 2012? We are! Registration is open for campers who will be between the age of 9 (or entering 4th grade) through 17 next summer. Register online now... it's the best Christmas gift there is!

DIRECTORY CHANGES

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Cell (612) 309-7063

APMAN, Josh and Michelle
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Ashley
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South St. Paul, MN 55075-2902
joshuaapman@yahoo.com
(651) 455-0723

Teen SOYO

On Saturday January 14th, the teens and their families enjoyed a fun time bowling at Park Tavern in St Louis Park. We filled four lanes and posted some awesome scores! Just as importantly, though, we had a good time socializing, eating, and just hanging out. Several bowlers even learned new techniques like adding spin to their ball or using the arrows on the lanes. A special thanks to those who donated the certificate for this fun day!

Next Month

In February we have our monthly SOYO night on Wednesday February 8th. All teens are encouraged to come for a night of fun and fellowship! We are also in the process of planning Lenten Lock-in for March!
In Christ,
SOYO

To Contact SOYO Advisors:
Deanna Badman: 651-270-6650
Jody Adams: 651-341-6541

Announcing :

St. George Church Arabic Divine Liturgy
February 24, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. The Liturgy will be celebrated by Fr. Nicholas Dahdal. Everyone is invited to come and hear the St John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy in the Arabic Language using the Byzantine chant.

Fr. Tom