

**Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church
1250 Oakdale Avenue
West Saint Paul, Minnesota 55118**

Parish Website: <http://www.saintgeorge-church.org>

Very Reverend Archpriest Thomas Begley, *Pastor*

Right Reverend Archimandrite Duane Pederson, *attached*

Reverend Priest John Chagnon, attached

V. Rev. Archpriest Paul Hodge, Assisting Priest

Reverend Archdeacon Russell Hodge, *Assisting Deacon*

Reverend Deacon John Mikhail, Assisting Deacon

Reader Leonard Soroka, *Director of Music*

Church Phone - 651-457-0854

Pastor's Phone - 651-882-7809 cell: 612-723-0681

March 2, 2014

THE SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (Cheesefare)

TONE: 3

EOTHINON: 3

*Commemorations: Martyr Hesychios the Senator; Theodotos, bishop of Cyrene in Cyprus;
Virgin-martyr Euthalia of Sicily; Arsenios, bishop of Tver.*

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Now sing the apolytikion of St. George, or patron saint.

KONTAKION FOR FORGIVENESS SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, and givest understanding and intelligence, the Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father; for behold, I shall not refrain my lips from crying to Thee, O merciful One, have mercy upon me who am fallen.

Prokeimenon:

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.

Clap your hands, all you nations.

EPISTLE: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (13:11-14:4).

B

rethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the

day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (6:14-21)

The Lord said to His Disciples: “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

“And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you openly.”

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

HOLY BREAD

Holy bread is offered for the health and welfare of George and Kim Dahmah, their children Andrew, Aaron, Leila and Elias, Farooz and Tony Demello, Mariam and Joseph, for Elias Dahmeh and all the members of the Dahmah family. And in memory of Farooz and Mariam Hanna, Naiem Dahma and all of the departed members of the Dahma family.

MEMORIAL

Memorial wheat today is in remembrance of Mariam Hanna, Naiem Dahma and all of the departed members of the Dahma family.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is offered by George and Kim Dahmah, Farooz Demello and family, and Elias Dahmeh. Please join us for this time of fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to all our guests and visitors. We are delighted to have you visiting and worshipping with us this morning and hope that you return soon. We invite you to participate in the Divine Liturgy, but, sadly, due to the divisions in Christianity, **only baptized/chrisdated members of the Orthodox Church who have made their Confession before an Orthodox priest and prepared themselves by fasting may receive Holy Communion.** Please come forward after Liturgy to venerate the Cross and partake of the *Antidoron* - Holy Bread. Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour after the Liturgy. Also, please **turn off your cell phones and all electronic devices.**

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for Lorraine DeFlorin, Wally & Maria Golden, Allen Golden, Yasmin Kakish, Jakob Kakish, Carol & Joe Haddad, Betty Ablan, Ted Goll, Ben, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Kyle Krache, Mary Saba, Erma Ziton, John Etoll, Jackson & Hunter Golden, Mavis Aussey, Margaret Boalbey, Gracie Holmes, Dn. Russell & Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Kh. Vera Proctor, Rick, Kh. Amy Hodge, Buryl Toms, Mya Lee, Pat Burbank.

If you are ill and wish to be remembered in the Liturgy and daily prayers of the priest, please contact Fr. Tom.

THIS WEEK

FASTING

CHEESEFARE (or Forgiveness) SUNDAY is March 2nd, the final day on which cheese, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and in some traditions olive oil are consumed until Holy Pascha on April 20th except for the following exceptions when there is limited *katalysis*: Fish, wine and oil are permitted on the feasts of the Annunciation (March 25th) and Palm Sunday (April 13th). Wine and olive oil are permitted on all Saturdays and Sundays except Great and Holy Saturday when only wine is permitted. Wine is permitted on Wednesday of the Fifth Week (because of the chanting of the entire Great Canon that evening) and Friday of that same week (because of the chanting of the entire Akathist Hymn that evening).

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club meeting is postponed until Sunday, March 9.

FORGIVENESS VESPERS

We will serve Forgiveness Vespers tonight Sunday, March 2, at 5:00 P.M.

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

We will serve the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, Wednesday, March 5, at 6:30 P.M.

AKATHIST

The Akathist service will be served Friday, March 7, at 7:00 P.M.

VESPERS

Vespers will be served at 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 8.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN MONTH in our Archdiocese. The Antiochian Women are a sisterhood, serving Christ through serving others, especially to those who are in need of our help and support. Women have a definite ministry in the life of the Church. Throughout the month of March you will see the women in our parish being more active than they usually are. Please see Sue Lukanen to sign up to serve the month of March to Read Epistle, Greeter/Usher, or Collect. Nancy Toenniges will read the Epistle this morning.

The Antiochian Women of North America include 7 Diocese that raise money the Month of March for worthwhile projects. The project this year is to **Help the Orphans of War in Syria**. The **COFFEE MUG** Collection starts in March and Nancy Toenniges is the coordinator. We need to turn the money collected in before May 1st, 2014 to the Treasurer of Toledo and the Midwest. This is different from the IOCC Health Kit Project that our parishioners put

together. Please note this project money goes to Metropolitan Philip to send to Syria, not to the IOCC. The same cause, but different committees.

MEOCCA CHOIR

Come and join the MEOCCA Choir for Sunday Lenten Vespers! You do not need to have experience and we welcome new members every year! It's a great opportunity to learn some new music and meet fellow Orthodox Christians from around the Twin Cities. We will rehearse one hour prior to each service (3:00 pm Sharp!) at the church. Please bring a friend who is new this year so we can welcome them into our group! If you have questions or concerns, please contact Sara Ann Pogorely at 612-802-0727 or saraann.pogorely@gmail.com. We look forward to worship and fellowship this coming Lent with you.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2014 ARCHDIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available online at www.teensoyo.org/Pages/Scholarships.aspx Several "Francis Maria Memorial Scholarships" in the amount of \$2,500.00 each will be awarded to 2014 graduating high school seniors who are members of a parish/mission of our Archdiocese.

WHY DONATE TO NEIGHBORS IN MARCH:

The March MN FoodShare campaign has been in existence for more than three decades now. This annual effort that involves families, companies, faith communities, schools and civic groups, helps to raise **more than half** the food distributed each year by the 300 food shelves in the state. Please place these items on the **RIGHT** side table. Thank you! Michelle Apman

PASTA AND PASTA SAUCE COLLECTION FOR FOCUS MN

In addition to our Food Drive for Neighbors, in which we help out persons in the West St. Paul community, we are again this year helping stock the shelves at FOCUS MN. Please donate pasta or sauce (any type of tomato base will do; sauce, paste, or actual pasta sauce are all welcome). **Please place these items on the left side table** outside the church hall and if possible label the bag "FOCUS."

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 24th, 2014 is the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos Church Service.

The Antiochian Women will serve a delicious Fish dinner after Church. We ask a donation for the fish dinner and the proceeds will go to the Orphans of War in Syria, our project this year. Please come and support this worthy cause to help those in need. **The Ladies Circles for the delicious Fish dinner are as follows:** Cook- Vicky & Joannie, Set Up- Katrina Roseland, Serve- Sue and Sandy, Clean Up- Patty and the parishioners. We need everyone's help to clean.

HOLY BREAD LIST

March 9, John & Mona, Nancy & Fred
March 16, Antiochian Women
March 23, Brigitte Khoury
March 24, Fr. Khoury's family 6:30 P.M.

COFFEE HOUR LIST

Also coffee
Antiochian Women
Falafel Dinner
Fish Dinner

To schedule holy bread and/or memorial, please contact Joannie Alevizos. It is completely proper to have more than one memorial or Holy Bread on a Sunday. *When signing up for Holy Bread, please indicate "yes" or "no" if you will also be providing coffee hour.* If you would like to host a coffee hour please contact Sanaa Jubran. It is important to *e-mail or call Fr. Tom or Brigitte*

Khoury bgkstgeorge@gmail.com by Wednesday with your information in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner.

LENTEN RETREAT at St. George Greek Orthodox Church; the 9th Annual St. Gregory Palamas Festival of Light Lenten Retreat is scheduled for *March 14-15-16*. Dr. Harry Boosalis, Professor of Theology at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary, will be our speaker. The theme will be *Freedom and Freewill in the Orthodox Church*. Friday evening and Saturday will include meals. No cost. Bring a friend. Please mark your calendar and reserve the date to join us. (See flyers on the bulletin board).

THE ST GEORGE ANNUAL FR JOHN KHOURY FALAFEL DINNER will be held Sunday March 23, Noon to 2:30 P.M. Adults: \$10.00 and Children under twelve: \$5:00. Sponsored and prepared by the Beirut Restaurant.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council will meet Tuesday, March 25, at 6:30 P.M.

Announcing the 7th Annual St. George Middle Eastern Festival

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF ST. GEORGE:

This year we will hold our 7th Annual Middle Eastern Festival on **July 18th, 19th and 20th**. Please plan on being with us that week to help with preparations and to work a few shifts at the festival. More details will be forthcoming about opportunities to donate, work schedules and sign-up sheets. Visit us online at www.mideastfest.com
SEE YOU AT THE FESTIVAL!

2014 Festival Silent Auction “Wish List”! As you begin your spring cleaning, please keep in mind that we need your gently used baskets for our silent auction and consider donating them. (Minimum bottom base 10 - 12 inches and No Easter Baskets Please) *Please contact Brigitte Khoury at 651 552-7883 for more information or to make arrangements to drop them off. Thank you!* Donations from last year's auction were primarily from businesses in the Twin Cities and across the country. **This year, we are hoping to see more donations from parishioners.** Remember, this is one of the areas of the festival that has a 100% pure profit! Do you know someone who owns a local business? Do you yourself offer a product/service someone may enjoy? Please consider donating and asking friends to donate. If you have anyone in particular you think we should contact for a donation, please see Brigitte Khoury and she will give you one of our “official” silent auction donation letters so you can help us solicit donations. Please note that we cannot accept “slightly used” or “almost new” items, as they do not sell. Our 2014 silent auction “Wish List” is shown below. These are simply examples to get you thinking of something you may be interested in donating this year. Thank you in advance for helping us meet our goal!

- **Cash:** Even small amounts of cash will help as there are many little things we would like to purchase to round out some of our baskets such as wine glasses for our wine baskets or coffee mugs for our coffee/tea baskets, gardening tools, chocolate and much more.
- **Baskets:** As you begin your spring-cleaning, please keep in mind that we need your gently used baskets and consider donating or think about purchasing a new one for our cause.
- **Restaurant gift cards/certificates:** (Think of your favorite place to eat and consider donating a gift certificate for that location)
- **Children's toys:** (What is your child's favorite toy/ thing to play with? Make it a day out with your child/children and pick out some toys for our silent auction) Toy manufactures generally

will not donate to churches.

- **American Girl Doll Store:** (Anything and everything!) Since American Girl donated a doll to us last year, they will not donate to us for another 3 years - so we would LOVE to have your help with this!
 - **Nickelodeon Universe passes:** (They do not donate passes to churches, so we would LOVE your help!)
 - **Slumber party in a basket:** Movies, nail polish, facial kit, certificate for pizza, microwave popcorn, ear plugs for Mom and Dad, etc.
 - **Fun and games basket:** An assortment of board games, card games, etc.
 - **Baby shower basket:** Bottles, baby wipes, diaper service, or anything else of interest to an expectant mother
 - **Bedtime story basket:** A collection of bedtime stories for little ones
 - **Pet-Themed Baskets**
 - **Rainy day basket for kids:** Full of things to keep kids busy on a rainy summer day! Washable finger paints, play-dough, activity books, games, etc.
 - **Fiesta Basket:** Tequila, margarita mix, salt, pitcher, glasses, chips, salsa, mariachi music, etc.
 - **Manicure/pedicure gift cards:** (Talk to your salon, they will generally donate to their customers!)
 - **Hair salon gift cards or hair styling products:** (Talk to your salon, they will generally donate to their customers)
 - **Massage/Spa gift certificates:** (Spas will donate to their loyal customers, please talk to them about a donation!)
 - **Tickets to sporting events:** (Twins, Wild, T-Wolves, Vikings, Saints.) If you have season tickets, please donate one of your games!
 - **Sports memorabilia:** (This is a HUGE draw!)
 - Icons/Orthodox life items
 - **Middle Eastern items:** (dresses, instruments and hand-made items from the Middle East, etc.)
- *If you have questions, please contact Brigitte Khoury at (651) 552-7883 or bjkstgeorge@gmail.com*

ICON CLASSES

Iconography depicts with paint the unrepresentable beauty of God's world, where gold is the symbol of the divine energies not made by human hands. Gold is the symbol of Divine Light .
(The emphasis of study for icon class sessions 2 and 3)

The schedule of 2014 icon classes is as follows: please register by sending a deposit of \$75.00 to Icon Art Studios, 13921 127th Street North, Stillwater, MN, 55082. All inquiries can be sent via e-mail at akorluka@aol.com or my cell at 612-889-5868.

Session 2-at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 on February 20, 27, March 13, 20 and April 3 and 10. Tuition cost is \$195.00 plus materials. Session 2 will study and write an icon of Christ in Majesty.

Session 3-at The Basilica of Saint Mary, Hennepin at Sixteenth Street, Mpls., 55403 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays during Great Lent; March 8 and 15 and April 5 and 12. Tuition including materials \$295.00. Session 3 will contemplate the sacrament of Baptism and will study and write an icon of St. John the Baptist. "Today he has John baptize him for the purification of sins, so that the Holy Spirit may come down from on high and raise humanity to heaven." St. Gregory of Nyssa.

