

**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*

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Church Phone - 651-457-0854

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

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**March 23, 2014**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

**SUNDAY OF VENERATION OF THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS**

**TONE: 6**

**EOTHINON: 6**

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*Commemorations: Venerable-martyr Nikon of Sicily and with him 199 disciples;  
Venerable-martyr Luke of St. Anne Skete on Athos*

**DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT**

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX**

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

• *Now sing the apolytikion of St. George our patron saint.*

**KONTAKION FOR THE ANNUNCIATION (AND GREAT LENT) IN TONE EIGHT**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom."

*Prokeimenon:*

*O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.*

*To you, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

**EPISTLE: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (4:14-5:6).**

**B**rethren, since we have a High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

### **GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (8:34-9:1).**

**T**he Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

### **HOLY BREAD**

Holy Bread is offered by George, Brigitte and Katrina for the health and welfare of the Khoury, Geier, Weber & Ferren families and in loving memory of Adam & Catherine, John & Katherina, Lorenz & Katherine & all the departed members their families.

Holy Bread is offered for the Annunciation by Katrina Khoury for the health and welfare of Khouria Vergin and all members of her family and in loving memory of Archpriest John, ZuZu, Daniel, Archpriest George & Kh. Zarafat, Boutros & Najiba Mardini & Joe Francis.

### **COFFEE HOUR**

Please join us for the V. Rev. John Khoury Falafel Dinner following the liturgy this morning

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**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.**

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### **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**

#### **+MEMORY ETERNAL+**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing into eternal life of our father and chief shepherd, His Eminence, Metropolitan PHILIP last night around 8:30pm. Please refer to [antiochian.org](http://antiochian.org) for details as they become available. May his memory be eternal and may his soul rest with the saints.

In Christ,  
Archpriest Thomas Zain  
Vicar-General

#### **THE ST GEORGE ANNUAL FR JOHN KHOURY FALAFEL DINNER**

Sponsored/prepared by Beirut Restaurant will be held today, Noon to 2:30 P.M. Adults: \$10.00 and Children under twelve: \$5:00

**Creative Arts Festival projects on Display today outside the bookstore.** Please take a moment to look and read what our kids had to say about this year's theme; "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Any projects received from students grade 2 and up by the deadline date of last Sunday will have a Gold, Silver, or participation ribbon attached with a grading rubrics. All students grades pre-K through 1st will only have participation ribbons as that age groups' projects are not sent on to regional. The regional grading rubrics was used, but the percentages were lowered a bit as the regional judging is quite competitive. A "thank you" goes out to all the children who made the time and effort to do a project. This is part of the church school curriculum for every grade and our Metropolitan and Bishop strongly asks that **ALL** students participate.

#### **MEOCCA LENTEN VESPERS**

Our MEOCCA Lenten Vespers will be today at 4:00 P.M. at St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church; 854 Woodbridge, St. Paul, MN. Please join us!

#### **March 24th, is the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos liturgy at 6:30 P. M.**

followed by a delicious Fish dinner served by the Antiochian Women. We ask a donation for the Orphans of War in Syria. 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.

## PARISH COUNCIL

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

### Wonderworking Kursk-Root Mother of God Icon services:

#### **Tuesday, March 25**

6:30 PM - Supplication Service with Akathist (Holy Resurrection Skete, Fridley, MN)

#### **Wednesday, March 26**

8:00 AM - Presanctified Liturgy (St. Mary's Cathedral (OCA), Minneapolis, MN)

6:30 PM - Unction Service (St. Panteleimon Russian OC), Minneapolis, MN (Bishop Peter of Cleveland presiding)

Here is history of icon

<http://eadiocese.org/News/2009/november/kurskicon.en.htm>

[http://www.kurskroot.com/kursk\\_root\\_icon\\_history.html](http://www.kurskroot.com/kursk_root_icon_history.html)

Official Residence of Icon is at Synod of Bishops (ROCOR), New York, NY

Here is the video of Icon coming to its home with the visit.

<http://youtu.be/bwfaUG67wy4>

## FASTING

Cheese, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and in some traditions olive oil are not 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).

## PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

We will serve the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, Wednesday, March 26 at 6:30 P.M.

## AKATHIST

The Akathist service will be served Friday, March 28 at 7:00 P.M.

## VESPERS

Vespers will be served at 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 29.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences to Kim Abrass and her family, on the falling asleep of her brother, Greg Jenniges, March 15. May his memory be eternal!

**MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN MONTH** in our Archdiocese. The Antiochian Women of North America include 7 Diocese that raise money the Month of March for worthwhile projects. The project this year is: “**Help the Orphans of War in Syria**”. Please turn in your **COFFEE MUG** Collection by April 27, 2014, to Nancy Toenniges or Deb Etoll.

### APPLICATIONS FOR 2014 ARCHDIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available online at [www.teensoyo.org/Pages/Scholarships.aspx](http://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. March is the food/cash matching month.

Your participation in the March campaign will exemplify our theme: **Be the Hero. Fight Hunger.** Last year, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign raised more than \$8.3 million and almost 4 million pounds of food. That is the equivalent of a year's worth of meals for more than 7,700 families of four. With your support we can partner God's call to help those in need. Cash donations are greatly appreciated. Please give your donations to George Droubie or 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**

#### **HOLY BREAD LIST**

March 24, Katrina Khoury 6:30 P.M.  
March 30, Worrall  
April 6, (open)  
April 12, (open) Lazarus Saturday  
April 13, (open) Palm Sunday

#### **COFFEE HOUR LIST**

Fish Dinner  
Memorial

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](mailto:bgkstgeorge@gmail.com) by Wednesday with your information in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner.*

**Presanctified Liturgy Wednesdays.** Join your St. George Family for this beautiful Lenten service at 6:30 P.M. and for a simple meal after the service. If you are interested in hosting one of the remaining meals, please contact Cindy Karos at 952.929.6371. Thanks to all our hosts.  
March 26 Sanaa Jubran

### **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MEETING, APRIL 3rd, 2014**

The meeting is at Angelo's Restaurant at 6:00 P.M. The cost of the Lenten meal is \$5.00 per person. Meeting starts promptly at 6:30 P.M. Please come for this wonderful fellowship. Thanks to Michelle Apman and Patty Burbank for their wonderful hospitality.

### **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](http://www.mideastfest.com)

**SEE YOU AT THE FESTIVAL!**

### **WANTED DANCERS!**

We are in great need of young men or ladies ages 12 and older to step up and fill the open spots of our famous Senior Dabke Dance Group! No experience is necessary to join. The dance group is a great way to make new friends, express the Arab culture, help make our Festival a success, and most importantly...it's so much fun! We will have an informational meeting this Sunday, March 8th during coffee hour for any interested new members and current returning members. Parents are welcome to attend this meeting. Please contact Kayla Abrass with any questions at [kayla.abrass@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.abrass@gmail.com). Thank you!

**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. If you prefer to give a cash donation, we can always make a basket in your name.** 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. Our 2014 silent auction "Wish List" can be found in the church hall. 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! ***\*If you have questions, please contact Brigitte Khoury at (651) 552-7883 or [bjkstgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:bjkstgeorge@gmail.com)***

- **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.)

### **Book Signings After April 6th MEOCCA Vespers at St. George Antiochian**

Deb will have her book available as well as Pres. Angela Alatzakis.

Pres. Angela has developed The Orthodox Children's Press, a publishing company with a desire to provide Orthodox Christian children with books and goods that strengthen their faith and love of the Church.

She has recently published the book, **Every Time I Do My Cross**. It has received a 5 star rating from GoodReads.

What it's about: How we make the sign of the cross, and some of the reasons why we do. The book follows a boy (named James) through his Sunday; waking up, going to church, liturgy, church school, a soccer game, riding his bike, eating with his family, and going to bed. During these events in his day, he tells us why he does his cross.

*With a review by Jane G. Meyer, author of children's books available at Ancient Faith, "A beautifully designed, hardbound beauty of a book. With very engaging, simple illustrations and simple text. It's not just a story of the mechanics of how to make the sign of the cross, but takes little ones from one event to the next, giving real life*

### **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](mailto: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.**