

**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

January 4, 2015

THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

TONE: 5

EOTHINON: 8

Commemorations: Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles; Venerable Theoktistos of Sicily; Venerable Martyrs Euthymios and his twelve companions of Vatopedi Monastery on Mount Athos.

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

Make ready, O Zebulon, and prepare, O Nephtali, and thou, River Jordan, cease thy flow and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized. And thou, Adam, rejoice with the first mother, and hide not yourselves as ye did of old in paradise; for having seen thee naked, He appeared to clothe thee with the first robe. Yea, Christ hath appeared desiring to renew the whole creation.

Now sing the apolytikion of our patron, St. George.

KONTAKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

Today hath the Lord appeared in the courses of the Jordan, crying to John and saying, Be not dismayed at my Baptism; for I have verily come to save Adam, the first to be created.

Prokeimenon:

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.

EPISTLE: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Timothy (4:5-8)

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.

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

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

HOLY BREAD

Holy Bread is offered by Tim & Tanya O'Brien for the health and welfare of Eric Leonard and his family, the Rudquist, O'Brien, Sicora and Price families. And in memory of Fr. Essa & Kh. Olympia Kanavati, Ray & Doris Rudquist, Arthur & Lillian Kranz, Elaine Jirak, Emily Kostik, & Fred McDowell.

MEMORIAL

A forty-day memorial will be offered this morning in memory of Ethel Agerson. May her memory be eternal!

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour this morning is offered by Sean & Lisa Rudquist. Please join us for this time of fellowship.

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, John N. Etoll, Yasmin Kakish, Jakob Kakish, Carol Haddad, Betty Ablan, Ted & Camille Goll, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Kyle Krache, Mary Saba, Erma Ziton, Jackson & Hunter Golden, Mavis Aussey, Margaret Boalbey, Norm & Gracie Holmes, Dn. Russell & Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Kh. Vera Proctor, Rick, Kh. Amy Hodge, Beryl Toms, Mya Lee, Ellie Brynjulfson, Edgard Siouffy, Lorraine Hartwig, Berhane Haliemichael, Pat Burbank, George Droubie.

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

THIS WEEK

THEOPHANY LITURGY

We will serve the Theophany evening Divine Liturgy with the blessing of the waters, Monday, January 5, at 6:30 P.M. We will have a memorial for Pam Eftikides.

VESPERS

We will celebrate Vespers Saturday, January 3, at 5:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Christmas Holiday Brunch honoring our Senior Ladies.

What a special day we had on December 27, honoring our Senior Ladies from St. George Church at Southview Country Club. Thank you to Michelle Apman and Sarah Larson for coordinating this special occasion. Thank you to Brigitte Khoury for making the beautiful corsages for our honored guests. Tom Rudquist put together an amazing slide show presentation of the ladies which made the luncheon a great success. We watched the slide show a couple times and enjoyed it immensely. The ladies have so much fun together. We are so blessed to have each other.

TALENT SHOW

Our first St. George talent show was a great success! Our thanks to Youssef Haddad and Fr. Duane for organizing it and for the wonderful presentations by the participants. Everyone enjoyed seeing and hearing the St. George talent. Many of you expressed the desire to have another Talent Show. We will have even more talent on display next time!

CHURCH CALENDARS

Please pick up your church calendars by the bulletin board, only one per family so we know every family will get one!

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

Your stewardship envelopes are available on the table by the bulletin board. Please pick up your box/boxes. If you have any questions please contact Willy Percy.

KITCHEN USE

We are a very active parish and our kitchen gets heavy use. The Parish Council has determined that anyone wishing to use the kitchen at any time **must** contact George Khoury to reserve their date and time on the kitchen calendar.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council will meet Tuesday, January 13, at 6:30 P.M. in the church conference room.

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."

NEIGHBORS INC.

Food shelves such as Neighbors, have become, not an emergency measure but a staple upon which families must depend. Your financial contribution or donation of nonperishable food items allows Neighbors to distribute good, fresh food essential to families in our community.

HOLY BREAD AND COFFEE HOUR

Please see Joanie or sign up in the hall for Holy Bread and Sanaa for Coffee Hour. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLY BREAD LIST

January 5, Rosa Neimy
January 11, (Open)
January 18, Joannie Alevizos

COFFEE HOUR LIST

Memorial Pamela Eftikides
(Open)
Joannie, Memorial-Fred McDowell

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 Tuesday prior to the Sunday of your memorial, with your information in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner.*

MENS CLUB

The Men's Club will meet January 11, after Divine Liturgy at 12 noon or so. Please plan to attend, we have many things to discuss.

ICON CLASSES

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 or by calling 612-889-5868.

The schedule of 2015 classes are as follows: All sessions concentrate on technique, along with a spiritual and theological study on the prototype.

Session 1 *Session 1 will concentrate on the prototype of "The Holy Face."*

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Minneapolis 55408

Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 on January 15, 22, 29 and February 5.

Tuition cost is \$135.00 plus materials.

Session 2

Session 2 will study and write an icon of The Theophany/ Baptism of Christ.

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Minneapolis 55408

Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 on February 12, 19, March 5, 19, 22, and 31.

Tuition cost is \$195.00 plus materials.

Session 3

Session 3 will contemplate the sacrament of Baptism and will study and write and icon of The Visitation.

The Basilica of Saint Mary, Hennepin at Sixteenth Street, Minneapolis 55403

From 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays during Great Lent; February 21, 28, March 21 and 28.

Tuition including materials: \$295.00.