# 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

## December 13, 2015
## SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS OF CHRIST

**TONE: 3** **EOTHINON: 6**

*Commemorations: Herman of Alaska, enlightener of the Aleuts; Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentios, Eugene,Mardarios, and Orestes at Sebastia; Virgin-martyr Lucia of Syracuse; Hieromartyr Gabriel, patriarch of Serbia.*

### 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 become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

### APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFATHERS IN TONE TWO
Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

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

### KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE
Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

### EPISTLE:
*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.*
*For You art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

### The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all..

### GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

**HOLY BREAD**

Holy Bread is offered for the health and welfare of the Toenniges, Etoll, Ng and Brynjulfson families, and Lamese McDowell and in memory of David Etoll, David Ng, Dorcas Pearcy, Rev. Edward & Victoria Day, Nagib & Marie Etoll, George Etoll, Nancy Kammeyer and Fred McDowell.

## MEMORIAL

We will serve a three year memorial for David Ng. May his memory be eternal!

## COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for the Christmas Potluck Luncheon for the Christmas program in the hall.

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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/chrismated 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 A*ntidoron*-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 Jim Etoll, Wally & Maria Golden, Allen & Nick Golden, John Etoll, Yasmin Kakish, Jakob Kakish, Carol Haddad, Betty Ablan, Ted & Camille Goll, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Erma Ziton, Jackson & Hunter Golden, Mavis Aussey, Margaret Boalbey, Norm & Gracie Holmes, Dn. Russell & Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Kh. Vera Proctor, Kh. Amy Hodge, Beryl Toms, Ellie Brynjulfson, Edgard Siouffy, Magdalen Ng, Berhane Haliemichael, John & Pat Burbank, George Droubie, Rosa Neimy, Sandi Heuer, Andree White, George Saba, Linda Hodge, Mitch, Beverly Zaine and Georgette.

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

# THIS WEEK

## CHOIR

Rehearsals on December 16 (Wednesdays at 7:00 pm). Sunday, December 20, following Divine Liturgy. If needed Wednesday, December 23 at 7:00. – Lenny

## VESPERS

We will serve Vespers, Saturday, December 19, at 5:00 PM.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of you for the wonderful job you all did at the funeral for John Price. My special thank you to the Antiochian Women and everyone who helped serve and donated food. Everything ran so smoothly and we fed the large crowd that attended the funeral. It was nice to see so many young people helping. My thanks to all the clergy who attended in support for the family. My special gratitude to Fr. George Dokos and the parish of St. Mary Greek Orthodox Church who so generously hosted all of us. Fr. Tom

## ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

A thank you to all those who helped package holiday cookies for those who do not get out. This Sunday please come take a package of cookies when you visit our loved ones. The Holiday Centerpieces the ladies made after the ladies meeting look beautiful. Thanks to Camille Goll for sharing her talent and teaching us how to design these lovely centerpieces.
**Ladies Holiday Luncheon** January 16, 2016… see sign-up sheet in the church hall.

## 2016 PARISH DIRECTORY

A draft of the 2016 Parish Directory is located on a table in the Church Hall. **Please review your contact information and correct as needed by December 13! Thank you, Fr. Tom**

## CHURCH CALENDARS

The annual church calendars are available by the bulletin board. Please only one per family at this time. Again we thank Deb Korluka, Icon Arts Studios for donating the calendars.

## 2016 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

For those who use envelopes for weekly donations, your stewardship envelopes are available on the table outside the church hall. If you do not see your name or your child's, please see Denise Ferraro.

## NOVEMBER 15, 2015 FIRST DAY OF THE NATIVITY FAST

This Fast is divided into two periods: The first is November 15th through December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, dairy, fish, wine, and in some traditions olive oil) is observed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with katalysis for wine and olive oil (some also permit fish) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine, and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The second is the period of the Forefeast, December 20th through 24th, when the traditional fasting discipline is observed Monday through Friday, with katalysis for wine and olive oil on Saturday and Sunday only.

## MISSION TRIP

"Hello brothers and sisters in Christ!" I have the incredible opportunity to go on a mission trip to San Miguel del Lago, an orphanage and monastery in Guatemala. I will be going with a team of 14 from the different Orthodox churches in the Twin Cities from January 2nd-9th. We will eat, play, and worship with the children, perform some light maintenance work, and do anything else needed of us while we are there. I ask that you all keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this trip. If you'd like to make a donation to help support me, you can make checks out to St. George Church with "Jamie Zaine" on the memo line. I look forward to seeing everyone when I return from school in December. Thank you! Jamie Zaine

## FOOD DRIVE

Please help us stock the shelves of Neighbors Inc and Focus Minnesota this holiday season. Donations of nonperishable food items will be collected through Christmas. Please place items on the back collection tables outside the social hall and label the bag either Neighbors or Focus if you have a preference as to where you want your donation to go. Desired items include Pasta, sauce, mac and cheese, rice, cereals, tuna, peanut butter, soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit, etc...Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

| HOLY BREAD LIST | COFFEE HOUR LIST |
|---|---|
| December 20, Berhane and Kidan | Berhane and Kidan |
| December 25, Katrina Khoury | Katrina Khoury |
| December 27, Senay & Wudase Habte | Senay & Wudase |
| December 31, Katrina Khoury | N/A |

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

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES – December 25

Christmas Day Matins 8:45AM; Liturgy 10:00AM.

## GAME LEAGUE

The next "Game League" will be **Saturday, January 23** at St. George Antiochian in West St. Paul. See the flyer on the bulletin board. Hope you can make it!

## 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 2016 classes are as follows:**

***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 14, 21, 28 and February 4.
Tuition cost is $135.00 plus materials.

***Session 2 will study and write an icon of* St. Panteleimon** - 4th century Greatmartyr and Unmercenary healer living during the time of Emperor Maximian. Feast Day July 27. ***http://korlukastudios.com/2015/07/2016-session-2-and-3-icon-classes/***.
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Minneapolis 55408
Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 on February 11, 18, 25 and Tuesday March 1, Thursday 10, 17.
Tuition cost is $165.00 plus materials.

***Session 3 will contemplate the sacrament of Holy Unction and will study and write and icon of "The Merciful Jesus".***
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 20, 27, March 5 and 12.
Tuition including materials: $295.00.
Please contact us with any questions or inquiries.

## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to have an announcement published in the weekly bulletin, please note you must submit the information by **Wednesday NOON** before the Sunday you desire to have it in the bulletin. Please make sure the spelling of the names is correct.

## KITCHEN 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.
Please remember, if you host a coffee hour you need to clean up the kitchen, take home the used linens, wash and return them, wipe the tables, take out the trash bags and put them into the dumpster. This is everyone's responsibility. Please help to preserve our beautiful hall.

**It's More Than A Free Dinner Once a Week** - FOCUS MN is Free Meals AND also Food Shelf, Clothes Closet, and is building a Mobile Clinic!. The Orthodox Community is working miracles! Please help out by bringing Shampoo, **Tooth-paste**/Toothbrushes, Aluminum Foil, Baggies - various sizes, Paper Towels, Coffee, Tuna, Spaghetti, Sauce, Cereal, Clothing, Men's Shoes or giving of your time or money. For more info, go to http://areyouinfocus.weebly.com/ or contact our FOCUS liaisons Pat Percy, Sue Perry or Lisa Mikhail.

## NEIGHBORS INC

A donation to Neighbors food shelf can make a bag full of groceries go a long way. By mixing and matching items, we can help a family eat balanced, nutritious meals. Many families assisted by our food shelf are working yet still hungry. Making a contribution of food or dollars to Neighbors stays at Neighbors. The smallest things can make a big difference. Please give your cash donations to George Droubie or Michelle Apman. Thank you!