

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 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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

THE FEASTS OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST & BASIL THE GREAT

TONE: 3

EOTHINON: 6

Commemorations: New-Martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos.

LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

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 CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, * O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; * fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly * receivest circumcision in the flesh,* that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away * the veil of our sinful passions. * Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. * Glory be to Thy compassion. * Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT IN TONE ONE

In all the earth that received thy sayings, thy melody did resound, O righteous father, through which thou didst go about and proclaim, as worthy of God, the nature of creatures, cultivating the character of mankind, O thou of kingly Priesthood, Basil. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

We Sing the Troparion of St. George, our patron saint.

KONTAKION OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE THREE

Now the Lord of all that is * doth undergo circumcision, * in His goodness cutting off * the sins and failings of mortals. * He this day doth give salvation * unto the whole world; * and the hierarch and bright daystar of the Creator * now rejoiceth in the highest, * Basil the wise and * divine initiate of Christ.

EPISTLE:

My mouth shall speak with wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall bring forth understanding.

Hear this, all people.

The Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians (2:8-12)

Brethren, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in Him, Who is the head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, Who raised Him from the dead.

GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (2:20-21, 40-52)

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and his mother did not know it, but supposing Him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were

amazed at His understanding and His answers. And when they saw Him they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why hast Thou treated us so? Behold, Thy father and I have been looking for Thee anxiously." And Jesus said to them, "How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" And they did not understand the saying which He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

HOLY BREAD

HOLY BREAD is offered by Katrina Khoury for her health and welfare, for George & Brigitte, Teteh Vergin, her aunts, uncles, cousins, the Geier, Weber, Toth, Schwager, Burbank, Neimy and Percy families and all members of St George Parish.

In Loving memory of oma Catherine(20 yrs) and ota Adam(16 yrs), Jeddo(10 yrs), Tante ZuZu(10 yrs) Danny, Pete Neimy and all departed members of St George Parish.

NO COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is offered today by Katrina Khoury.

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 Wally & Maria Golden, Allen & Nick Golden, Jackson and Hunter Golden, John Etoll, Yasmin Kakish, Carol Haddad, Betty Ablan, Ted & Camille Goll, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Erma Ziton, Margaret Boalbey, Norm & Gracie Holmes, Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Mat. Vera Proctor, Kh. Amy Hodge, Fr. John & Mat. Kathy, Joe Etoll, Lamese McDowell, Ellie Brynjulfson, Edgard Siouffy, Magdalen Ng, Berhane Haliemichael, Rosa Neimy, Andree White, George & Ellie Saba, Mitch, Fr. Dan & Eileen Simon, Gideon, Carol Mihalchick, Joseph Kammeyer, Mike Etoll, Jerry Joseph, Nancy Toenniges and Deb Korluka & Rosanne Athey.

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

THIS WEEK

THANK YOU

The clergy of St. George Orthodox Church would like to thank you all for your cards and gifts during this Nativity season!

FEAST OF THEOPHANY

We will celebrate the Feast of Theophany Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 P.M. (We will do the prayers of the Great Blessing of the Water)!

VESPERS

We will serve Vespers Saturday, January 7 at 5:00 pm.

ALTAR BOY TEAM 2 WILL SERVE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 8.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FR. DUANE CORDIALLY THANKS YOU!

Fr. Duane expresses his appreciation for all who planned and participated in the awesome banquet in his honor. He is especially grateful for all the extremely kind words and profound expressions of love. May God bless each of you!

CONDOLENCES

We received the sad news that Kh. Jane Chagnon's mother, Delores Trisko, fell asleep in the Lord shortly before Christmas. Our heartfelt condolences to Kh. Jane and Fr. John during this time of sorrow. May her memory be eternal!

CALENDARS

The 2017 calendars, donated by Icon Art Studios, are available for take home on the table by the bulletin board. Please just one per family at this time!

MEOCCA COOPERATIVE CATECHISM

For those who are interested in joining the church or learning more about the Orthodox Church, please consider the MEOCCA Catechism. Classes will be held on Mondays 7:00 – 9:00 PM. at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, beginning January 9. Please pick-up a schedule of classes at the ushers desk!

END-OF YEAR STEWARDSHIP GIVING

During the Christmas season, there are many worthwhile causes that are requesting your help. Please remember YOUR parish in your end-of-year giving. Don't miss out on your end-of-year tax deduction! Your stewardship is needed for operational costs! Thank you! Parish Council

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

Don't forget to pick-up your "2017" stewardship envelopes located on the table in the narthex. If you do not see your name or your child's, contact: Denise at denise.ferraro@comcast.net

THE ADOPT A FAMILY TREE

Many thanks to all of you for supporting the families of the "the working poor." We supported all the 21 families whose names we received. In the past we have supported 15 families! My congratulations to all of you for your generosity! May God bless you! – Fr. Tom

CHURCH COOKBOOK

Looking for "ethnic" recipes to be included in the Sixth Edition of the St. George Church cookbook. Parishioners are welcome to submit "ethnic" recipes to Sue Perry before January 15.

NO FASTING

December 25th through January 4th is a fast-free period! January 5 is a strict fast day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLY BREAD LIST

January 1, 2017, Cir. Of Christ & St. Basil (Katrina Khoury)
January 5, Epiphany (Rosa Neimy)
January 8, (open)

COFFEE HOUR LIST

Katrina Khoury
NA

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 **both** Fr. Tom and Brigitte with your information in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner.*

FAMILY FUN MOVIE NIGHT – SAVE THE DATE!

January 14th, Saturday, after Vespers, come to a Family Disney Movie Night! Please bring pillow and blankets for children. Actually, we were all children at one time in our life. We will provide food. If you are able, bring Snacks to share. Sign up on the sheet in the Social Hall so we know how many plan on coming. - Antiochian Women of St. George

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.

NOTICE: If you have borrowed or rented something from the church, please return the items promptly and properly cleaned. Others may have need of them as well! Thank you!

ORTHODOX CHURCH ART

We have begun some decorative artwork in the church. We will need donations for this project. Deb Korluka is donating the current work of the crosses and border. However we need to collect money for the veiling under the crosses. The total cost of the project will be \$14,000 with each section of veiling costing \$350. Any donations should be designated as "church art." Thank you for considering a donation to beautify the Lord's house. We have a way to go to cover our costs!

FOCUS/NEIGHBORS DONATION CABINET

We have replaced the FOCUS/NEIGHBORS tables with a beautiful cabinet. Please place your items for these organizations in the cabinet, labeled with the name of the organization you would like it donated to. **The cupboard seems bare these days!**

FOCUS

It's More Than a Free Dinner Once a Week, it's also a Food Shelf, Clothes Closet, building a Mobile Clinic! The Orthodox Community is working miracles! Please help out by bringing Shampoo, Toothpaste/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 FOOD SHELVES

With the help of its volunteers, Neighbor's Inc. will strive to reduce poverty, promote self-sufficiency, and build community. Please help us by donating food or funds to support Neighbor's Food Shelf. See the poster of needed items on the bulletin board. Please give cash donations to George Droubie or Michelle Apman. **Help keep your neighbors warm this winter by donating hats, scarves, mittens, or gloves. Thank you for your kindness!**

Informational Meetings Holy Land/Russia Pilgrimage Fall 2017

Several meetings about the Holy Land/ Russia Pilgrimage are scheduled in the upcoming weeks. The next two meetings will take place at:

St. Mary's Greek after liturgy on Sunday January 15th, time to be announced.

These meetings will present and discuss itinerary and cost details about the pilgrimage taking place in the fall of 2017. The Holy Land portion of the tour will consist of 9 days in the Holy Land with a return back to the USA on day 10 or the option to continue onto St. Petersburg, Russia. Projected cost for the Holy Land portion will be \$1,650.00 plus air (and travel insurance) with a minimum of 20 participants.

This event will be hosted by Icon Art Studios under the leadership of Tom Rudquist and Deb Korluka. We are excited to share with you an educational and spiritual journey equipped to deliver a very warm and unique experience by gathering together our personal contacts both in the Holy Land and Russia. Please contact Deb or Tom for tour materials. A registration meeting will take place in March of 2017.

The Ministry of Iconography

The schedule of 2017 classes are 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 1- at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Mpls., Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 on January 12, 19, 26 and February 2. Tuition cost is \$135.00 plus materials.

Session 1 will concentrate on the prototype of "The Holy Face". All sessions concentrate on technique, along with a spiritual and theological study on the prototype.

Session 2- at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 on February 9, 23, and March 2, 16, 23, 30. Tuition cost is \$165.00 plus materials.

Session 2 will study an icon of The Crucifixion/The Cross. The student can choose an icon from various selections offered.

Session 3- at The Basilica of Saint Mary, Hennepin at Sixteenth Street, Mpls. from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays during Great Lent; March 18 and 25, April 1, 8. Tuition including materials \$295.00.

Session 3 will contemplate the sacrament of Repentance and will study and write an icon of The Theotokos.