

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

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SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

COMMEMORATION OF GREGORY PALAMAS

TONE: 5

EOTHINON: 5

Commemorations: Venerable Theophanes the Confessor of Sigriane; Gregory the Dialogist, pope of Rome; Venerable Simeon the New Theologian; Righteous Phineas, grandson of Aaron the High Priest.

LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

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 FOR ST. GREGORY PALAMAS IN TONE EIGHT

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

We Sing the Troparion 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.

EPISTLE:

O Lord, Who will preserve us and keep us from this generation.

Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews (1:10-2:3)

In the beginning, Thou, O Lord, didst found the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands; they will perish, but Thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will never end." But to what angel has He ever said, "Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a stool for thy feet"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message, declared by angels, was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him.

GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (2:1-12)

At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic – "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose,

and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

HOLY BREAD

Holy Bread is offered for the **health and welfare** of all the Antiochian Women of St. George.

In Loving memory of all the ladies of St. George who have gone before us in peace and the newly departed: Andree White and Gracie Holmes. May their memory be eternal!

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour is offered by the ladies and the coffee hour donations go to the NAB “Focus in Love” Humanitarian Effort. If able to donate, please write checks to Antiochian Women and we will mail one check to the Midwest Diocese Treasurer. Thank you for being supportive of the Antiochian Women.

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. 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 Holmes, Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Mat. Vera Proctor, Kh. Amy Hodge, Fr. John & Mat. Kathy, Joe Etoll, Lamese McDowell, Ellie Brynjulson, Edgard Siouffy, Magdalen Ng, Berhane Haliemichael, Rosa Neimy, George & Ellie Saba, Mitch, Fr. Dan & Eileen Simon, Kh. Jane Chagnon, Gideon, Joseph Kammeyer, Mike Etoll, Jerry Joseph, Deb Korluka and Marilyn Perry.

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

THIS WEEK

FASTING RULES

Fasting continues until Pascha for dairy, fish, and wine except for special days! Please pick-up a **Lent, Holy Week & Pascha** schedule at the ushers table.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Lenten Schedule for Choir Rehearsal immediately following Sunday Divine Liturgy. New members are always welcome - please think about becoming a member. This would a great time to do something meaningful for the Great Lenten period. ***Sunday, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, April 9.***

MEOCCA VESPERS

Today at 4:00 pm., the MEOCCA Churches will celebrate the Sunday of Orthodox Vespers at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1111 Summit Ave., St. Paul. This is a great opportunity to worship together and show our unity of faith!

MAKAROUN BAKING SESSION

We have rescheduled our makaroun baking session for Tuesday, March 14. We plan to begin rolling about 9 AM and welcome anyone who would like to take part in this service to the church. We always enjoy these sessions, working and visiting together.

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

The Liturgy of the Presanctified gifts will be Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 pm. A Lenten meal will follow the service.

AKATHIST

The Akathist service will be Friday, March 17 at 7:00 pm.

ARABIC LITURGY

Our next Arabic Liturgy will be Saturday, March 18 at 11:00 a.m. We will have a Lenten meal following the Liturgy.

VESPERS

We will serve Vespers Saturday, March 18 at 5:00 P.M.

ALTAR BOY TEAM 2 WILL SERVE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE/COMMUNAL COMMUNION TODAY

Greeters/Ushers - Helen Haile, Brikti Haile

Epistle Reader - Nancy Ayoub

Collectors - Eva Etoll, Dyana Brynjulson, Nancy Toenniges, Jennifer Buddensiek

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

• We will be assembling hygiene kits for refugees again. Donations for this worthy project are greatly appreciated and can be given to Joan Alevizos, treasurer or to Denise Ferraro, who is again coordinating this event. We will announce the assembly date.

• The NAB Project this year is "Strengthening the Ministries of the Church". The goal is to strengthen the foundation of the ministries of our Archdiocese so that we can continue to do the good works in many areas. Please write check to Antiochian Women, if able to contribute and give to Michelle Apman who is Coordinator of the NAB project. Known at our church as "The coffee Cup Project".

• **MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH**

The Antiochian Women help serve during the Divine Liturgy by greeting, reading the epistle, ushering, or collecting. Please sign up with Pat Percy to serve.

On Wednesdays, a lite Lenten meal is served. Please sign up with Cindy Karos if you would like to make and serve soup or another Lenten meal.

Lazarus Saturday Candle decorating. This year we will again be providing materials for children to decorate candles to be carried (unlit) in the Palm Sunday processional. All children are welcome. The decorating will follow the Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy on Saturday April 8.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLY BREAD LIST

March 19, Brigitte Khoury

March 25, Annunciation

March 26, Robel & Welela

COFFEE HOUR LIST

Falafel Dinner

AW Fish Dinner

Robel & Welela

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.* Coffee hour does not have to be an elaborate meal. If you have any questions, please contact Sanaa Jubran. **It is important to e-mail or call both Fr. Tom and Brigitte with your information by Wednesday before your coffee hour, in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner.**

FALAFEL DINNER

The Annual Fr. John Khoury Falafel Dinner sponsored by the Beirut Restaurant in W. St. Paul, will be Sunday, March 19, noon-2:00 p.m. Adults \$10.00 and children under 12 \$5:00. Contact George Khoury for tickets. 651-208-3954.

ANNUNCIATION

March 25 is the Annunciation liturgy at 10:00am. The Antiochian Women will serve our traditional fish dinner after the service. Ladies circles as follows: Cook- Susie and Sandy, Serve- Katrina Begley and Pat Percy, Clean up- Nancy and Patty Burbank, Set up- Vicky and Joannie. The donations for the fish dinner go towards the NAB Project to help our Spiritual Ministries in the Dioceses. Thank you for supporting the Antiochian Women.

MEOCCA LENTEN VESPERS

We will host the Pan Orthodox Vesper Service is at 4:00 pm on April 2. After the church service the Antiochian Women will serve dinner. The Ladies circles assigned as follows, Cook- Katrina Begley and Patty Percy, Serve- Nancy and Patty Burbank, Set up- Susie and Sandy, Clean up- Vicky and Joannie. Thank you.

ST. GEORGE CHURCH ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Rob Hafiz, Paul Abrass and Assaad Haddad families will sponsor a Pancake Breakfast in memory of Jimmy Hafiz, Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 12:00 to 1:30. They will be serving pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee, milk and juice. The proceeds will go towards the building fund. Costs: Adults \$8.00, Children under 12, \$4.00.

The Annual Diocese of Toledo Parish Life Conference - June 21-25, 2017, St. George Church of Cicero, IL, is honored to be the host at the Oak Brook Marriott and give the parishioners of our diocese the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Cicero. For more information on the Parish Life Conference, go to www.antiochianevents.com/toledo.html - 2017 Diocese of Toledo Parish Life Conference Committee

ANNOUNCING THE 10TH ANNUAL ST. GEORGE MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – JULY 2017

Don't miss the 10th Annual St. George Middle Eastern Festival on July 14, 15 and 16, 2017. Plan to join us for a fun-filled weekend of fantastic food, great entertainment and warm hospitality! Enjoy authentic Middle Eastern cuisine, homemade pastries, silent auction, Middle Eastern marketplace and much, much more! Visit the festival website at www.mideastfest.com Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mideastfest

ATTENTION!! EXISTING AND NEWLY INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ST. GEORGE SENIOR DANCE GROUP***

the Festival is fast approaching. We need to start practicing and finalizing our performances. If you are an existing member please contact me to commit to dancing this year! The dance group is one of the highlights of the festival. We bring lots of energy and positive attitude. If you are 15+ and are interested in dancing with us please let me know. You must be able to attend Sunday practices after church beginning March/April, and also weekday practices in the summer before the festival. All dancers need to contact me and commit by March 1st! Thank you! - Nancy Ayoub 763-250-4950 call or text.

JUNIOR DANCE GROUP

If you are between the ages of 8 years old to 14 years old and would like to join the Junior Dance Group (you MUST attend Dance Practice), please call Grace Martinovic. Thank you!

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to have an announcement published in the weekly bulletin/submit the names for holy bread, you must submit the information to **Fr. Tom and Brigitte** by **Wednesday NOON** before the Sunday you desire to have it in the bulletin.

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. **Let's keep the cupboard full!**

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!

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 2- St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Thursdays 6:00 to 9:00 March 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.

Women's

I have a couple of spots to fill for March 19 and as soon as I get them filled, I will let you know.

Friday, March 25 Annunciation
Epistle Reader - Lisa Mikhail