

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

1250 Oakdale Avenue, West Saint Paul, Minnesota 55118

Parish Website: <http://www.saintgeorge-church.org>

Church Phone: 651-457-0854

*His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York,
Metropolitan of all North America*

*His Grace Bishop ANTHONY, Auxiliary Bishop,
Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest*

Right Reverend Archimandrite John Mangels, Pastor

Very Reverend Archpriest Thomas Begley

Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Duane Pederson, Attached

Reverend Father Daniel Simon, Attached

Very Rev. Archpriest Paul Hodge, Attached

Reverend Father John Chagnon, Attached

Reverend Deacon John Mikhail, Attached

Reader Leonard Soroka, Director of Music

Pastor's email: ajammm@aol.com

Pastor's Cell: 303-520-0981

Sunday, December 16, 2018

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

TONE: 4

EOTHINON: 7

Commemorations: Prophet Haggai; Theophania the empress; Modestos, archbishop of Jerusalem

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world 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 it was she 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 THE PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God



EPISTLE:

Blessed art You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For You act just in all that You have done for us.

The Reading from the 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 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 Samir and Yasmine, their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and for all St. George members.

In loving memory of Jakob, Salim, Issa, Julia, Munria & Leila Kakish, Fuad & Nijema Sayegh and Omari Omari and all deceased members of the Kakish, Sayegh, Omari families and all deceased members of St. George Parish.

MEMORIAL

There will be a memorial service for the repose of the soul of Jakob Kakish (3 Yrs). May his memory be eternal!

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour today is hosted by the Kakish Family. 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/christened 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. Join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour after the Liturgy. Please **turn off your cell phones and all electronic devices.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for Richard Hafiz, JoAnne Droubie, Paul Karos, Jim Etoll, John and John Etoll, Mary Baker, Wally & Maria, Allen, Nick, Jackson & Hunter Golden, Yasmin Kakish, Carol Haddad, Ted & Camille Goll, Peter Hafiz, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Margaret Boalbey, Norm Holmes, Phyllis Hodge, Sarah Vanlerberghe, Joe Etoll, Lamese McDowell, Ellie Brynjulfson, Edgard Siouffy, Magdalen Ng, Berhane Haliemichael, Rosa Neimy, George & Ellie Saba, Fr. Dan & Eileen Simon, Joseph Kammeyer, Deb Korluka, Alexander Emmanoulakis, Marilyn Perry, Pat Burbank, Terry Conway & Nancy Maker, Jerry Joseph, Jimmy & Joe Zaine, Mike & Sandy Brown, Lenny Soroka.

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

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS PROCEDURE

If you would like to have ANY announcement published in the weekly bulletin or to submit the names for holy bread, you **must submit the information to Brigitte** @ bgkstgeorge@gmail.com by **Wednesday NOON** before the Sunday you desire to have it in the bulletin.

THIS WEEK

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK

NO CHURCH SCHOOL on Dec. 23 & Dec. 30. Christ is Born, Glorify Him. Happy 2019!!!

We will serve Vespers on Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m.

ALTAR BOY TEAM 2 WILL SERVE SUNDAY, December 23.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- No Sunday School December 23 and 30!
- Ladies of St. George Christmas Luncheon, Dec. 29 at 11:00am. Beirut Restaurant
- St. George NEW YEAR'S HAFLI, December 31, 9pm-1am

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLY BREAD LIST	COFFEE HOUR LIST
Dec. 23, Haliemichael, Tesfe, Bahta (memorial: Anthony and Gerturde Michaels)	H/T/B
Dec. 24, Vicky Michaels	N/A
Dec. 30,	(OPEN)
Dec. 31,	(OPEN)

To schedule Holy Bread and/or memorial, 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 need to be an elaborate meal.* If you have any questions, contact Sanaa Jubran. **It is important to notify Brigitte by e-mail (bgkstgeorge@gmail.com) or phone with all your bulletin information by**

Wednesday the week before your coffee hour, in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner. Thank you for your cooperation!

HOLY BREAD OPEN DATE LIST

Check your schedule and look at the posted Holy Bread list for a Sunday of your choice. There are two open services for December and January is wide open. Please seriously consider choosing a date. We will help you if you need assistance. Joannie Alevizos.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST. GEORGE CHURCH

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24 at 4:00pm

Festal Matins of the Nativity followed by the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
NO SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS MORNING

Saint Basil the Great, Monday, December 31 at 6:00pm

Evening Divine Liturgy

The Feast of the Theophany/Epiphany, January 6, 2019

Great Vespers will be served on Saturday, January 5 at 5:00pm.

Festal Matins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy at 10:00am

followed by the Blessing of the Water.

If you would like to take the Epiphany Water home with you, please bring containers.

PICTURE DIRECTORY

DECEMBER 20th IS THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT PICTURES TO PAT PERCY AT percy4mn@gmail.com to be included in the directory. There is a fee from Lifetouch of \$10 to include these pictures. The sooner we get all the pictures finished and sent in, the sooner we will get the new directories.

FOCUS TOY DRIVE

As you know from our most recent newsletter, we plan a toy giveaway at FOCUS House on Saturday, December 22nd. We are hoping to collect a minimum of 100 toys. Please let us know if donations have been collected at your church. Ideally, the donations will be delivered to FOCUS House but if this is not possible, we will make arrangements to pick them up. Deadline for toys is Tuesday, December 18th at FOCUS House. This will give us time to sort and set up before Saturday, the 22nd. Thank you! Judy Purman Administrative Assistant

CHRISTMAS LADIES LUNCHEON

On the FIFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, December 29 at 11:00 a.m. the Christmas Ladies Luncheon will be held at Beirut Restaurant, 1385 Robert Street South, in West St. Paul. The meal will include Beef, or Chicken, or Kefta Kabob or Spinach pie with rice, tabouli or salad, hummus, garlic sauce, pocket bread, baklava, coffee, or tea or soda, tax and tip for \$18.00 per person. Please sign up on the sheet in the Social Hall since the head count and choice of menu item have to be in by December 26. Please write a check to St. George Ladies at the Restaurant and the Ladies Treasury will write a check for the total amount to the Restaurant. Contact: Katy Price for any questions. If you would like to do a gift exchange up to \$5.00, please bring to the ladies luncheon.

NEW YEAR'S EVE HAFLI

Let's ring in the New Year in style with the 2ND ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE HAFLI here at St. George Church Hall on Monday, December 31, 2018. 9pm-1am. Live Arabic Music with John

Khoury and his band. Small appetizer/light dinner menu will be served. Champagne will be on hand for the midnight toast as well.

All proceeds after expenses will be donated to St. George Church. We are asking a modest price of \$30/adult and \$10/child (10 & under) to offset the expenses of the entertainment as well as the food. Last year's Hafli was a great success and a great night for families of St. George so we can all be together in an affordable way to ring in 2019! If you are not attending but still wish to help, we will gladly accept any and all donations to help defray the cost. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Please see/contact Fadi Behara 612-423-1250 or John Khoury 651-329-6066 for more details and tickets. Other churches will be invited as well to join in this family night. Please spread the word by finding the event on Facebook.

OCF COLLEGE CONFERENCE—December 27-30

Join us for the Midwest College Conference at THE IAKOVOS RETREAT CENTER December 27-30, 2018. It is a fantastic opportunity for Orthodox College students (ages 18-25) from all different backgrounds to gather to learn about their faith, take a break, meet new people, and worship together in a beautiful new Orthodox retreat center nestled in the beautiful woods of Wisconsin. Spots are filling fast. For more information and to register check out the website at <http://www.ocf.net/events/college-conference-midwest-2018/> or contact PETER KAROS with ANY QUESTIONS (ccmidweststudent@ocf.net).

THE MINISTRY OF ICONOGRAPHY

The schedule of 2019 classes are as follows:

Session 1 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Mpls., 55408, Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 on January 17, 24, 31 and February 7. 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 5:30 to 9:30 on February 21, 28 and March 7, 14, 28. Tuition cost is \$165.00 plus materials. Session 2 will study an icon of "Weep Not for Me, O Mother".

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 9, 30 and April 6, 13. Tuition including materials \$295.00. Session 3 will contemplate the Sacrament of Repentance and will study and write an icon, one of two choices: St. Francis of Assisi or St. Seraphim of Sarov.

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 phone at 612-889-5868.

ORTHODOX CHURCH ART

Have you noticed the beautiful decorative artwork in the church? Your donations have covered the majority of this work! Deb Korluka has donated the work of the crosses and border. There remain just a few sections to be completed. Please consider donating to help us finish this project! Any donations should be designated as "church art." Thank you for considering a donation in any amount to beautify the Lord's house.

Unfortunately it has taken a bit longer to finish the first stage of the art work. Deb has had to undergo another surgery on her left leg. Please keep her in your prayers!

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Is way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a

Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed. For your convenience, an online giving system is available that allows you to set up automatic recurring payments from your checking account. If you are interested in participating in this program, you can register by seeing our Financial Secretary, Denise Ferraro.

CHURCH SPONSORED FOOD DRIVE

We are half-way through our Food Drive and we are HALF-WAY through our 750 lb goal! Items needed are: Canned tuna, chicken or salmon, Peanut butter, Meals in a can (soup, stew, chili), Low-sodium canned vegetables, Canned fruit in its own juice or water, Olive or canola oil, Spices (cinnamon, chili powder, cumin, salt-free spice blends), Canned foods with pop-top lids, Low-sugar whole grain cereals, Healthy snacks (granola bars, nuts, dried fruit). Monetary donations also accepted. Please give money to George or JoAnne Droubie or Willy Percy. **HELP MAKE CHRISTMAS BETTER FOR THOSE IN NEED!**

FOCUS

Focus MN has closed on a building in St. Paul in an area of need and on a bus line. The address is 550 Rice Street and it is near the State Capitol and Bethesda Hospital. This new building was purchased, not rented, which is wonderful news as we go forward and continue to develop our mission. Any news about when it will open and when there is a need for volunteers to get it up and functional will be passed on as it becomes available. Continued financial support is always needed and welcome. Send checks to: FOCUS MN, P.O. BOX 40116 St. Paul, MN 55104. Since there is no place to store donations, please DO NOT bring clothing items for FOCUS until further notice!

BOOK STORE NEWS

The bookstore continues to feature and offer information about a certain kind of healing oil used during Biblical times. Every purchase will receive a sample of the featured oil during that month; one per person. Oil of Cinnamon Bark will be featured during the month of November, mention of it can be found in Proverbs, Revelation, Exodus and Song of Solomon.

MEALS FOR THE UNIVERSITY of MN OCF

The school year is underway, which means OCF meetings are starting up again. We rely heavily on the support of our local church community to help provide the meals for our bi-weekly meetings, and have been blessed by your generosity in the past. If you are interested in providing a meal for one of our meetings this semester, please email either Mark Mikhail (mikha017@umn.edu) or Nicholas Gulachek (gulac004@umn.edu). Thank you for your help!

KITCHEN USE

The Parish Council has determined that anyone wishing to use the kitchen at any time **must** contact George Khoury to reserve the 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. **NOTICE:** St. George is everyone's church, however it is still the House of God. We all should respect the church, as well as its building, its furnishings and the items we use or borrow. Please return these items promptly, properly cleaned and in working order. Thank you!

