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 Beatitude Patriarch JOHN, X
Patriarch of Antioch and all the East
Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY
Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest
Right Reverend Archimandrite John Mangels, *Pastor*
Pastor's email: ajammn@aol.com
Very Reverend Archpriest Paul Hodge, *attached*
Reverend Deacon John Mikhail
Very Reverend Archpriest Thomas Begley, *retired* Reverend Father Daniel Simon, *retired*
Reader Michael Begley, *Music Director* Christina Worrall, *Church School Director*
Heath Nelson and Sophie Haddad, *SOYO Advisors*

Sunday, January 8, 2023
Sunday After the Theophany of Christ

Tone 5 Eothinon 8

Commemoration: *Righteous Mother Domnica of Constantinople and her companions; Venerable George the Chozebite*

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

RESURRECTIONAL APOLITIKION 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.

APOLITIKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE
When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

***Now** sing the Apolytikion of St. George*

KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR
On this day Thou hast appeared * unto the whole world, * and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, * is signed on us who sing Thy praise * and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, * Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

EPISTLE:
Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul Epistle to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

GOSPEL:
The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:12-17)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

HOLY BREAD
Holy bread is offered for all the Ladies of AOWNA and St. George and all parishioners of St. George Church.

In loving memory of all the Ladies of St. George that have fallen asleep in the Lord and all departed parishioners of St. George Church. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee hour hosted by the AOWNA. Please join us for this period 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/chrismated members of the Orthodox Church who have made a recent 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 **turn off your cell phones and all electronic devices.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAY FOR THE SICK
Please pray for Elaine Acheson, Paul Kloos, Luca Defatta, Marie Ferren, Youssef Haddad, Elias Haddad, Joe Dragich, Julie Laumer, Maria Golden, Letensie, JoAnne & Michael Droubie, Ethan Glynn, Farid Jiryis, Patricia Burbank, CDR. James G. Awada, USN Ret., Yasmine Kakish, Fr. Daniel & Kh Eileen Simon, John N & John J Etoll, Mike & Jim Etoll, Camille Goll, Eleanor & Peter Hafiz, George Saba, Norman Holmes, Jeff Toby, Don Scott, Gigi Daugherty, Joe Hodge, Denise Zakula, Abigail Lotfallah, Genevieve, Mikhail, Nikolai Lehnen, Kh. Vergin Khoury, Mary & Alan Poulsen, Natalie Mozey, Eva & Mike Etoll, Barb & Dawn Tilbury, Steve Salla, Tracy L, Richard Lang, Taras Ostroushko, Micaela Palumbo, Dan Flies.

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.

Please **contact Brigitte Khoury** if you would like to have someone placed on the Prayer List at ***(bgkstgeorge@gmail.com)***.

BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURE

ANY announcement in the weekly bulletin and Newsletter is subject to approval by Fr. Mangels/and the Council. ***It is important to notify Brigitte by e-mail (bgkstgeorge@gmail.com) or phone with all your bulletin information by NOON Wednesday*** of the week before and if you offer the Holy Bread in order to print the bulletin in a timely manner. **February Newsletter deadline** is **January 19th**. For Holy Bread scheduling contact Joan Alevizos 651-453-1894. If you would like to host **Coffee Hour**, please let Sanaa Jubran know at (sanajubran@gmail.com or 651-245-7173). *This is a "coffee hour" not a 4-course luncheon or buffet. The food is donated, please be thankful for whatever is served! Please clean up after yourselves after coffee hour!*

It is completely proper to offer more than one memorial or to share the Holy Bread on the same Sunday.

HOLY BREAD LIST		COFFEE HOUR
Jan. 15,	(Open)	
Jan. 20,	Arabic Divine Liturgy	
Jan. 22, Dani Delcheva-Woiwood		Dani
Jan. 29, Joan Alevizos		Alevizos

THIS WEEK AT ST. GEORGE

Saturday, Jan. 14, Vespers at 5:00pm, https://youtu.be/Tg2KAJZhXM4
Sunday, Jan. 15, Matins & Divine Liturgy at 9:00am, https://youtu.be/ltgw1jfE6YQ

PASTOR AWAY THIS WEEK: Thursday-Monday

Father John Mangels, as Dean of the Upper Midwest Deanery, will be accompanying Bishop Anthony on a Pastoral Visit to St. Nicholas Church in Cedarburg, WI from Thursday, Jan. 5 until Monday, January 9. If there are any Pastoral emergencies, please call Deacon John Mikhail.

MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club will hold its first meeting of 2023 Sunday, January 15, 2023, after Church services (12Noon) to discuss various items on our agenda. We will meet in the conference room, please try to attend.

SPECIAL CONVENTION OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE JANUARY 13, 2023

Official notice for the **2023 Special Convention**. The call for this convention is consistent with the provisions of the Antiochian Patriarchate and the Archdiocesan Constitutions in conjunction with a vacancy in the Metropolitan See. This Special Convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dallas, Texas (located inside DFW Airport, American Airlines, Terminal C) on Friday, January 13, 2023. The Parish Council voted to have Fr. John Mangels vote the proxy for our Parish. Father John and Father Tom will be attending the Convention. Craig Michaels and Cindy Karos will also be going to the Convention as will Fr. Paul Hodge.

AOWNA 2023 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON - ***Save the date** Saturday, January 21,* **2023,**

for the St. George Ladies AOWNA luncheon. 12:00 p.m. Church Hall. Catered by Beirut Restaurant. $18 includes meal and dessert. Sign up in the Church Hall no later than January 6. Or call Rahwa Tesfe at (651) 315-9455 or Eva Etoll at (612) 723-5039 to RSVP. We invite you to join us for fellowship along with a wonderful meal!

Wisdom from the Church Fathers: All the conflicts in the world have their origin in unabated anger. One is angry and wounds the other, who then responds with greater violence and strength. Once this chain is begun, it cannot be stopped except through the appeal of genuine prayer. ***Elder George Calciu of Romania*** (+2006)

2023 CHURCH CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE

The 2023 Calendars are available. Thank you to Icon Art Studios and Deb Korluka for helping to sponsor these beautiful calendars. Please pick up yours today right outside of the Church door.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

Congratulations to the Pre-kindergarten-Kindergarten class on collecting the most items (77) and $75 cash for the food drive! The final total collected is 255 items for a total of 325 pounds of food and $300 in cash! Thank you to all that contributed to the drive to make it a success!

CRY-ROOM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT COMING IN 2023-STAY TUNED

Hello parents of young children! We are finally planning a much-needed update of the St. George cry-room in 2023. Please contact Jennifer Buddensiek at (651) 295-7335 or Jnbuddensiek@gmail.com with any questions or suggestions. Also, watch your email for a brief survey to be coming your way soon. Any and all input is welcome. We hope to make this a more pleasant and functional space for families with little ones!

NEIGHBORS FOOD SHELF UPDATES

We have a variety of volunteer opportunities available in all departments of Neighbors: Clothes Closet Thrift Store (all positions), Special Events, Holiday Gift Program, Donation Pick-up Drivers Apply today at: neighborsmn.org/volunteer As always, your volunteer time, cash, food and clothing donations are greatly appreciated!

FOCUS

- **Clothes Closet** - Thank you for all of the generous clothing donations over the past several months. We and our clients appreciate this abundance so very much. We are now so well supplied that, effective immediately, **we will no longer be taking clothing donations until April 1**. Two exceptions to this request are mens coats and boots. We are essentially out of these items. Also we will continue to gratefully accept nonperishable food items. The demand for food continues to increase.

From the Holy Fathers: Holy Scripture is the greatest gift which God has given to mankind. The word of God is like an instrument which punctures the hardness of our heart. It is like a charge of dynamite which blasts our passions. The words and lines of Holy Scripture are the garments of Christ. We know the names of dozens of actors and celebrities by heart, backwards and forwards. The same thing with sports starts. Here's a better idea, let's do something else. When you go home tonight, open up the Scriptures. ***Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra, Mt. Athos***

AN EASY WAY TO MAKE YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Venmo your contribution to **@stgeorgeaoc** or see Financial Secretary Connor Bailey to set up automatic withdrawals from your bank account.

2023 BUILDING PROJECT - Capital Campaign

At our annual meeting on 10/16/22, the parish voted to proceed with the St. George building project for the Apse, Sacristy and Sanctuary. With that, we have officially kicked off the St. George Capital Campaign for this project, which will run from mid-November to early January! If you haven't already, you should be receiving information about the project, as well as a pledge card in the mail. If you are not on the St. George mailing list, there are additional copies in the hall, as well as information about the project.

What is the purpose of the capital campaign*?*

The purpose of the capital campaign is to help us determine what the parish is able and willing to contribute to the project and how that will impact the loan that would be required to move forward.

What are we asking from YOU during the capital campaign?

1. Prayerfully consider what you are be able to contribute to this project over a 3-year period. Because each of our pledges is so very important to our campaign, hopefully we can be more generous over a period of 3 years than a 1-time gift would allow. If you are able to give a significant gift up front, it will, of course, help reduce any financing charges that we will incur. If your circumstances are such that require a different schedule, please let us know and we will adjust to accommodate your giving schedule.
2. Fill out your pledge card and please return it no later than **January 13, 2023.** You can drop them in the offering plate, mail them to the office or hand them to any member of the Parish Council. Your pledge will be kept confidential.
3. Most importantly, please keep St. George and the parish council in your prayers.

If you are interested in helping coordinate the efforts of the capital campaign or if you have any questions about this project, please reach out to Jamie Zaine (jamiezaine@gmail.com) or another member of the Parish Council

2023 Capital Campaign — Pledge Cards Due January 13th!

At our annual meeting on October 16, 2022, the parish voted to proceed with the St. George building project for the Apse, Sacristy and Sanctuary. With that, we are in the midst of the St. George Capital Campaign for this project.

If you haven't already, please return the pledge card mailed to your home. If you did not receive a pledge, there are additional copies outside the hall. It is important that everyone return their pledge card, even if that pledge is $0, so we can understand what the parish is able and willing to contribute. These pledges will impact the loan that would be required to move forward.

Pledge cards can be mailed to the church, placed in the offering plate, or given to Jamie Zaine or Connor Bailey. Your pledge will be kept confidential. If you have any questions about the campaign, please reach out to Jamie Zaine (jamiezaine@gmail.com) or another member of the Parish Council.

Most importantly, please keep St. George and the parish council in your prayers.

Patristic Wisdom: One must act in such a way that the soul does not only turn to God when standing in prayer, but should do so as far as possible throughout the whole day. Prayer should be an unceasing offering of oneself to God. ***St. Theophan the Recluse*** (+1894)

ICON ART STUDIOS 2023 WINTER SCHEDULE

- Session 1- The Holy Face at St. George Greek on Summit (including zoom)

Tuesdays, January 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 6-9 p.m. (Tuition $145.00)
Please contact akorluka@aol.com or arsenault@gmail.com for registration.

- Session 2- Protection of the Theotokos at St. George Greek on Summit (including zoom)

Tuesdays, February 7, 21, 28, and March 7 from 6-9pm (Tuition $145.00)
Please contact akorluka@aol.com or arsenault@gmail.com for registration.

- Session 3- Mother of God of Sorrows at the Basilica of St. Mary (MPLS)

Saturdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 9am-pm (Tuition $145.00)
Please contact akorluka@oal.com or kdhaemers@.ary.org for registration.
Materials available at Wet Paint. More information to follow! Looking forward to seeing you!
Only God the Father is the origin of our spiritual self- it is Him we are to bow down to. Iconography is not material matter but matter restored.

SAVE THE DATE: 2023 Winter Camp: January 13 – 16

At Camp St. Croix Youth 6th – 12th Grade- A weekend to be spent discussing how we can become better Orthodox Christians through practicing our faith and becoming vessels of the Holy Spirit.
To register, visit https://bit.ly/wintercampreg. Cost $200 – To pay, visit: https://bit.ly/paywintercamp.

A PERSONAL "THANK YOU"

Dear Parishioners and friends,
I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the kind gifts and cards at Christmas. I so appreciate your thoughtfulness and care. Sometimes the job of a priest can be a lonely one. It is the kindness of our parishioners and their prayers that spurs us on and encourages us in our service to the people of God.

I ask God to richly bless you and your families, not only at this holy Season, but throughout the New Year. Know that you remain in my prayers!

Sincerely in Christ,
Right Reverend Archimandrite John Mangels

Wisdom from the Church Fathers: Love indeed, is the source of all good things. It is an impregnable defense and the way that leads to heaven. He who walks in love can neither go astray nor be afraid. Love guides this person, protects him and brings him to his journey's end. ***St. Fulgentius of Ruspe*** (+533)

Calling Mental Health Providers: Mark your calendars for our next gathering of Eastern Orthodox mental health providers in the Twin Cities Metro in this MEOCCA-sponsored event in the fireside room at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church from 5:30-7:30 PM on January 25th (3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408)! If you provide direct client care as an LMFT, LPCC, LP, Psychiatrist, Certified Grief Counselor, or LICSW (or are in a licensure track for one of these fields), this group is for you. We meet to provide consultation and fellowship within the group and hope to develop mental health training pieces to deliver outside the group but within the broader Eastern Orthodox community. If you are unsure if you qualify to attend, please direct questions to Natasha Keller at natasha@lakeandvalleyft.com.
RSVPs are welcome but not required to natasha@lakeandvalleyft.com.

The Sunday after Theophany

THE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY is the day when the whole world is being renewed and becomes a partaker of the saintliness of God. But at the same time, it is the day when Christ enters on the way to Calvary.

He came to John the Baptist on Jordan, not in order to be cleansed, because he was pure of sin, both as God and in the humanity made pure throughout the history of Israel by those ancestors who had given their lives to God and whose saintliness culminated in the all-purity of the Mother of God, so pure, so stainless that She could be brought into the Holy of Holies, into which even the High Priest dared not come except once a year, and only after a special sanctification.

Christ did not need cleansing. But these waters, into which all the sinners who had come to John the Baptist confessing the evil of their lives had washed themselves, were as it were heavy with the sinfulness and therefore the mortality of mankind. They had become waters of death, and it is in these waters that the Lord Jesus Christ merges Himself on that day, taking upon Himself the mortality resulting from the sin of man.

He comes, immortal in His humanity and His divinity, and at the same time He vests Himself with the mortality of the sinful world. This is the beginning of the way to Calvary. This is a day when we marvel at the infinite love of God. But as on every other occasion, man had to participate completely in the ways of salvation which God had provided. And this is why Christ comes and becomes partaker of our mortality, to save us. The culminating point will come on Calvary when He will say, 'My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?' It will be a moment when God as He was in His humanity will have lost communion with the Father by partaking of the destiny of mankind. This is the ultimate act of divine love.

Let us therefore today wonder and marvel, and worship this love of God, and learn from Him; because He said in the Gospel, 'I have given you an example. Follow it.' We are called, within the limits of our sinfulness and humanity, to carry one another's burdens, unto life and unto death. Let us learn from this. We find it so difficult to carry the burdens even of those whom we love; and practically impossible to shoulder the burdens of those whom we do not love with a natural, direct tenderness. Let us learn, because otherwise we will not have learned the first lesson which Christ gives us when He enters upon His ministry.

Metropolitan Antony Bloom

Sunday, January 8, 2023
Sunday After the Theophany of Christ