

Come and See how we are all called to be Stewards of The Church!

- Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
- Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.
- Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
- Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . .", as proof of that belief.
- Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

If you would like to make a donation to our parish, please feel free to use the QR Code or link to our parish website donation page below. Thank you for your continued support and generosity for our parish in bringing The Love and Faith of Our Lord Jesus Christ to all! May God continue to bless and guide you and keep all of you in His loving care today and always!



St George Orthodox Church...
@StGeorgeOrthodoxChurch



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St. George Orthodox Church
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www.stgeorgebuffalo.com

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Published weekly in the interest of the parishioners and friends
of Saint George Orthodox Church, Buffalo, NY
a parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey
and The Orthodox Church in America

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

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5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 4. Samaritan Woman. Martyr Basiliscus, Bishop of Comana (ca. 308). Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council (381). St. John (Vladimir), Ruler of Serbia (1015). Monastic Martyr Paul of the Lavra (Mt. Athos—1818).

EPISTLE: Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

GOSPEL:
John 4:5-42

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

****FLOWERS FOR THIS WEEK****

In front of the Icon of Our Lord, In front of the Icon of The Theotokos,
and on the Center Icon Table are donated by St. George Orthodox Church

Altar Vigil Candles are offered by Anthony DelNuovo in Loving Memory
of Thy Departed Servants of his family. May their memory be eternal.

**TODAY'S WEEKLY MESSENGER IS SPONSORED BY:
ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

WELCOME TO ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

We welcome all of you to the Divine Liturgy this morning, especially those who are visiting with us here at St. George Orthodox Church. Everyone is invited to the Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy for Christian Fellowship. It is our prayer that your experience this morning was spiritually uplifting and you will return very soon to pray with our parish family. In the Orthodox Church, we do not practice open Communion. However we do invite everyone to come and participate in the Divine Liturgy. Hence only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves through prayer and fasting may receive Holy Communion. May the Lord bless you with many years of good health and happiness.

THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES

Sunday May 22 5th Sunday of Holy Pascha: Sunday of The Samaritan Woman
9:10 A.M. The Hours
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour Fellowship in The Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy
Church School Class in Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy

FR. JASON, MAT. KATIA, MAT. FRAN, ANNA AND ALEX TO BE AWAY ON VACATION

On Sunday May 22, Fr. Jason, Mat. Katia, Anna and Alex leave for vacation and will return on Saturday May 28. In the event of a pastoral emergency or the need of a priest, please contact Fr. Andreja (716.345.5381) or Fr. Peter (716.342.8520). If anything in the parish needs immediate attention, please contact Dr. Boris (716-812-6132). You can always reach Fr. Jason on his cell phone as well (609.851.3811). In Fr. Jason's absence, Fr. Andreja will be serving Great Vespers on Saturday May 28. May God Bless and keep all of you in His loving care today and always!

Saturday May 28 4:00 P.M. Great Vespers

Sunday May 22 6th Sunday of Holy Pascha: Sunday of The Blind Man
9:10 A.M. The Hours
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Memorial Litia following The Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour Fellowship in The Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy
Church School Class in Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy

****PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY EMAILS AND PARISH WEBSITE
FOR CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR!****

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up

into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am *He*." And at this *point* His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."

Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him *anything* to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I *ever* did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard *Him* and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

HYMNS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

Troparion for Resurrection - Tone 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

Troparion for Mid-Feast of Pentecost - Tone 8

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety as Thou hast cried to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Kontakion for Feast of Samaritan Woman - Tone 8

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw You, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. // She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Kontakion for Mid-Feast of Pentecost - Tone 4

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: "Come and draw the water of immortality!" We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: // "Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion for Holy Pascha - Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming: “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,//granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon Tone 3

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Alleluia Verses

Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!

For Thou dost love righteousness, and hate iniquity.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead! Rejoice, all ye people!

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The Glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ! Taste the Fountain of Immortality!
Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

ACTS 11:19-26, 29-30

In those Days:

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY

JOHN 4:5-42 (Sunday of The Samaritan Woman)

Let us Attend!

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from *His* journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

WELCOME TO THE ORTHODOX CHURCH!

Do we have questions about our life, its meaning, purpose, destiny?

Are we desiring to know Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?

Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?

Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions
in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,
Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

The Orthodox Church is the original Christian Church, the Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ and described in the pages of the New Testament. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity all the way back to Christ and His Twelve Apostles, empowered and sent forth on the day of Holy Pentecost. Incredible as it seems, for over twenty centuries she has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice. Today her apostolic doctrine, worship, and structure remain intact. The Orthodox Church maintains that the Church is the living Body of Jesus Christ. Many of us are surprised to learn that for the first 1000 years of Christian history there was just one Church.

Where is "**The Church**" to be found and experienced today? Come Taste and See How Good The Lord is every Sunday by joining us for The Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

What is Orthodox Christianity all about? How does it differ from other Christian confessions? This section will attempt to answer these questions and many more.

For a visual introduction to the Orthodox Church, please view the video link below:

http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1

For a brief introduction and in depth study to The Orthodox Faith and to find answers to: 'What we Believe?', "Who we Are?", and "How we Live?", please view the PDF link below:

<http://orthodoxdelmarva.org/files/studies/InquirersClassV1final.pdf>

or you may visit the OCA website by clicking the link below:

<http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below:

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

To learn more ways that we can teach our children about the Orthodox Faith, The OCA has provided a wonderful website for us to use that provides great resources such as (handouts, texts, articles, stories, and much more)! To see this great website, please view the PDF link below:

<http://dce.oca.org/page/resources/>

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch (jvansuch@hotmail.com) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

* * * * * PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCE * * * * *

PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:

HIERARCHS

Metropolitan HERMAN

Archbishop BENJAMIN

Archbishop ALEJO

Archbishop NATHANIEL

Bishop DANIEL

CLERGY

Archpriest Herman, Matushka Cynthia and Family Archpriest Leonid Archpriest David

Archpriest Alexey and his family

Archpriest Vladimir and Matushka Jeanne

Archpriest Timothy/Mat. Michelle

Presbyter John and Presbytera Nancy

Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie

Presbyter Andreja, Popadija Anica and Family

Archpriest Timothy

Priest Peter and Mat. Mary

Dn. Sean and Mat. Heather

Archpriest John (Onofrey)

Priest Mykola and those with him

MATUSHKI

Mat. Katia Mat. Paraskeva Mat. Joanna Popadia Vicki Mat. Patricia Mat. Gloria

Catherine Ivan/Marina/Inna Bonnie/Silviu Coard Karen Aliscia Walter/Paul

Edwina Irene Luba Jim, Darren, Marsha Frank June

Serena/Asma Lillian Reader Victor Nicholas, Andrew Marilyn Amanda

Sarah Albert Boris Oscar Ronald, Candice

Xenia, Justin, Danielle, John Larry Joseph Frank Billy Clyde

Victor Catherine Susan Svetlana Juliana Evelyn

Robert Rebecca Paul Brian Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle Linda

Justin Olga John, Helen Ashley Steven Lia/Isaiah

Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria Barbara Susan Mary John

Melody Lee Lee, Bridget Matthew William

Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas Sada Thisinita, Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric

Olga and Eugene Jeremy Stewart

Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena Alex John, Kevin, Sean Anthony

Jaime/Sammy, Juliana Harry James

Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick Emma/Alexander Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa

Aspasia/Stavros Charles Seraphim Aldona

Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia Rosemary Anthony

Mary, Hal, Autumn, Ariana, and Amber, Judithann Anita, Jeffry, Dominic, Douglas, Rachel, Dennis

Amelia, Emily

Brian John, Roberta, Barbara John, Michael John Ron, Illiana, Jillian, Joel

George Costa Jonathan, Kevin, Lary, Carly, Sherry, Mary Jo, Clara, Karl, Dragica, Mary

Stephen, Larry, Olga, Olga, Sally, Deborah, David

Rdr Nicholas, Judithann, Michael, Mary, Cate, Michael, Gary, Damian, Olga, Alexandra, Barbara, Damian,

Joseph

Children of God – Harry, Keely, Isla, Talia, Lane, Liam
Corina and Nicole and the children to be born of them

Diocese of NY&NJ Prayer List

Archpriest Samuel Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar

Mitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. Myra

Archpriest George Archpriest Paul

Mat. Gerry

Archpriest Jonathan Archpriest Paul

Those Serving in The Armed Forces

Catechumens

Kenneth, Nadine, Jason, Robert, Andrew, Justin, Shawn,
Austin, Chris, John, Daniel, Gjorgje, Thomas

Juanita Martha, Selathiel,

For All of our Parishioners and their families, the communicants of this holy house, those who pray here, our loved ones and their families and for those who are praying with us today and all of those whom we have in our hearts and minds

For All of our parishioners who are in hospitals, nursing home, and those who are homebound.

For All of the ill-afflicted of our parishes and families especially those affected with the Coronavirus and other ailments and for their continued full recovery and good health

For All of our doctors, nurses, physicians, and medical professionals

For our Nation that The Lord our God will continue to bless us and guide and teach us to love another, pray for one another and forgive one another.

For All of those who are travelling and for their safe journey and return to their homes

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FOR THY DEPARTED SERVANTS OF GOD:

For all of those who tragically lost their lives to the Coronavirus and other ailments of the clergy and parishioners of This Holy House who have departed this life, who now lie asleep in the Lord

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Metropolitan THEODOSIUS | Ever-Memorable Archpriest Bernard |
| Ever-Memorable Archpriest Eugene | Ever-Memorable Archpriest George |
| Ever-Memorable Priest John | Ever-Memorable Archpriest George |
| Ever-Memorable Archpriest Rastko | Matushka Dorothy |
| Ever-Memorable Dn. Mark | Khouria Grace |

Priest Leonid Gregory, Priest Peter, Archpriest Kirill, Dn. Michael, John Robert, Sister Thomas, Frank, Jenny, Charles, Florence, Michael Stevens, William, George, Marion

Ever-Memorable Pdn Gregory Ever-Memorable Sbdn Gregory

Martha, Akhtar, Barkat, Rehmat

Newly-Departed Servants of God

Archbishop PAUL Tita Damasus (*Abraham*) – 40th Day is June 14
40th Day Memorial will be Sunday June 12

*If anyone would like to have their loved ones added to the prayer list for remembrance during the Divine Liturgy, please see or contact Fr. Jason.

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH BOOKSTORE

As you are in the Parish Fellowship Hall for coffee hour, don't forget to check out our newly-formed Bookstore. We have some new items that just arrived. These items include: Icon ornaments, jewelry, Icons, prayer books, prayers ropes, and much more. If you need a Gift, come check out the Bookstore...you may find something you like!! We are now also offering Gift Certificates for our Bookstore. Please speak with Dave or Andrea for more details/information!! We thank David and Andrea Chmiel who are managing of our Bookstore for us. If you have any questions or if you would like to order something that you do not see, please see or contact David or Andrea Chmiel and they will be able to assist you. You may also email them at: bookstore@stgeorgebuffalo.com. May GOD continue to bless and guide all of you.

Also in the Parish Fellowship Hall, we have the Giving Tree! If anyone would like to sign up for Coffee Hour Readers Bulletin Collection, Communion Cloth, Home Blessing, please see or contact Fr. Jason!



A SINCERE AND HEARTFELT THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO THE PARISH FROM OUR PARISH GIVING TREE

Please be sure to check out “The Giving Tree” in the Parish Fellowship Hall as well as on our parish website (www.stgeorgebuffalo.com) to see how we may be able to donate towards the needs of our parish through our continued support and stewardship for our beloved parish.

Some of the items on the leaves are as follows:

- Candles
- 7-Day Vigil Candles
- Flowers for Feast Days
- Charcoal
- Altar Wine
- Cups for Zapifka
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

If anyone has any questions, please see or contact Fr. Jason or Barbara. Thank you for your continued prayerful support and stewardship. May God continue to bless and guide all of you, your families and our entire Parish family and keep all of us in His Loving Care!

THE 2022 PASCHAL GREETINGS OF CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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GREETING

CHRIST IS RISEN!
CHRISTOS TENSIOU!
AL MASEEH QAM!
CHRISTOS ANESTI!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!
HRISTOS A INVIAT!
CRISTO HA RESUCITADO!
KRISHTI U NGJALL!
YESU MASIH ZINDA HO GAYA HAI!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!
CHRYSTOS UVASKROS!
KRISTE AGHSDGA!
CHRISTOS VOSKRES!
LE CHRIST EST RESURRECTE!
HA-MESHIHA QOM!
HARISUTOSU FUKKATSU!
CHRISTUS IST AUFERSTANDEN!
KRISTO ZMARTWYCKWSTAL!
YINQA HRLYSTOS!
KRISTO AMEFUFUKKA!
KRISTO GESSO!
CRISTO E' RISORTO!
UKRISTU UVUKILE!
KRISTUS ER OPSTANDEN!
KRISTO AJUKKIDE!

RESPONSE

INDEED HE IS RISEN! *(English)*
BAHAKE TENSIOU! *(Eritrean)*
HAQQAN QAM! *(Arabic)*
ALITHOS ANESTI! *(Greek)*
VOISTINU VOSKRESE! *(Russian)*
ADEVARAT A INVIAT! *(Romanian)*
EN VERDAD, HA RESUCITADO! *(Spanish)*
VERTET U NGJALL! *(Albanian)*
HAANYAQEENAN WOZINDA HO GAYA HAI! *(Urdu)*
VOISTINA VOSKRESE! *(Bulgarian)*
SAPRAUDY UVASKROS! *(Belarussian)*
CHESMARITAD AGHSDGA! *(Georgian)*
VOISTINI VOSKRES! *(Ukrainian)*
EN VERITE, ILEST RESURRECTE! *(French)*
BE-EMET QOM! *(Hebrew)*
JITSU NI FUKKATSU! *(Japanese)*
WAHRHAFT AUFERSTANDEN! *(German)*
ZAPRAWDE ZMARTWYCKWSTAL! *(Polish)*
YINQA BEJ! *(Klingon)*
KWELI AMEFUFUKKA! *(Swahili)*
BUHAR HA SHO NAY! *(Korean)*
VERAMENTE E' RISORTO! *(Italian)*
UVUKILE KUPHELA! *(Zulu)*
SANDELIG HAN ER OPSTANDEN! *(Danish)*
KWELI AJUKKIDE *(Ugandan)*

Remember our Loved Ones during Our Daily Prayers

*'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the
least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'*

{Matt. 25:40}

As we say our daily prayers, let us also take time out to remember our loved ones who are homebound, who are in hospitals and who are in nursing homes. Let us remember them that GOD will continue to watch over them and protect them. Also, during the Year, let us take to either send them a card, give them a call, or visit them to let them know how much we love them, how much we remember them, and how much we pray for them.

Please refer to the of our Parish Shut-Ins below.

If anyone has any questions or would like to add someone to our List of Parish Shut-Ins, please see or contact Fr. Jason. May God continue to bless you and guide you!

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PARISH SHUT-INS (2022)

Mr. Anthony Dipiano
305 North Street
Apt. 77
Buffalo, N

Reader Victor Shanchuk
McAuley Residence
1503 Military Rd.
Buffalo, NY 14217
716.881.3096

Mrs. Luba Japadjief
Elderwood Nursing Home
104 Old Niagara Rd.
Lockport, NY 14221 (Room 47A)

Mrs. Bonnie Dan
15 Pine Street
North Tonawanda, NY 14150
716.693.1377

Mr. Albert Fadell
317.376.2562

Andrew Wityk
Ellicott Center
200 Seventh Street
Buffalo, NY 14201

==== Scriptural Readings for the Week ====

Monday	Acts 12:12-17	John 8:42-51
Tuesday	Acts 12:25-13:12	John 8:51-59
Wednesday	Acts 13:13-24	John 6:5-14
Thursday	Acts 14:20-27	John 9:39-10:9
Friday	Acts 15:5-34	John 10:17-28
Saturday	Acts 15:35-41	John 10:27-28
Sunday	Acts 16:16-34 {Sunday of Blind Man}	John 9:1-38

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH OCMC PARISH AMBASSADORS

To The Glory of God, our parish has been blessed with two parishioners who have answered The Call of Our Lord to be Parish Ambassadors for OCMC guiding us to help bring The Gospel of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ of “Making Disciples of All Nations baptizing them in The Name of The Father and of The Son and of The Holy Spirit!” Anthony Gregory DelNuovo and John Moses Lutz are our Parish Ambassadors for OCMC (The Orthodox Christian Mission Center). To help the good work being done by The OCMC of supporting Missionaries around the world, our parish will be sponsoring and supporting a missionary on a annual basis. The cost is only \$600/year. So far we have collected over \$1000 for this year’s sponsorship. If anyone would like to make a donation, please see or contact Anthony or John. We express our most sincere and heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who has graciously donated so far. Thank you for kindness and generosity in supporting the good work and mission of The OCMC in fulfilling Our Lord’s Command in The Gospel of Matthew of: “Making Disciples of All Nations!”

For more information about The OCMC, please visit their website: www.ocmc.org

Another blessing for our parish of continuing the Good Work that has been entrusted to us of bringing The Gospel Message to All!
Lord it is good to be here!

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****PLEASE REFER TO THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THE HOLY PASCHAL SEASON THROUGH FEAST OF SS PETER AND PAUL!****

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****IMPORTANT DATES****

Feast of The Ascension of Our Lord

Wednesday June 1 – Great Vespers with Litiya at 6:00 PM

Thursday June 2 - Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to see or contact Fr. Jason!

An Invitation to Support the Stewards of the OCA!

The Orthodox Church in America (OCA) set the direction for expanding our apostolic work in North America at the 18th All-American Council. The foundation for this work is Jesus Christ, Whom we encounter in our spiritual lives, stewardship, evangelism and outreach, and relations with others as we engage the world. Being a steward of the OCA goes beyond the financial gifts which support the work of our church. Being a steward is about caring for and knowing the history of the mission of the Orthodox Church here in North America and finding your place in that history. Having received this great gift of our Orthodox Faith, we bear the responsibility to continue the legacy of Saint Herman and Saint Tikhon; Saint Innocent and Saint Alexis and all the other saints known and unknown who have worked to build up and expand Christ's Church here in North America. Please consider being a part of that mission today by giving to the Stewards of the OCA. For more information, please visit The OCA Website: <https://oca.org/become-a-steward>

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An Invitation to Support the Ministry of the DDB!

In order to fund necessary ministries and fulfill the work of the Church in the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, **Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors** generously contribute financial support. To learn more about the DDB, please go to the following link: <http://vimeo.com/71021182> and watch a 60 second video inviting you to join the ever-growing list of Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors of The Diocese of New York and New Jersey who joyfully support the on-going work of our diocese. Their support allows us to provide assistance to new mission parishes, scholarships to seminarians, support the departments of The Diocese, and much-needed encouragement to older struggling parishes. How about you? Our parish is a member of the DDB. If anyone would like to join, please see Fr. Jason as well as take a pamphlet from the table in the back of the church. May God continue to bless and guide you for your continued support. The Diocese of New York and New Jersey has two monthly newsletters: "**First Fruits**" and "**Beyond the Plateau.**" The goal, as expressed by Archbishop Michael, is to increase communication and grow the communal spirit of diocesan fellowship in the building-up and strengthening of our parish communities. To learn more about these monthly diocesan publications, please refer to the diocesan website: <http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html>.

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“Lessons in Our Faith” Video presented by His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL

His Eminence Archbishop Michael presents a series of talks on matters of faith, belief, and the teachings of the Church. These instructional videos are concise and "to the point," offering Orthodox Christians much-needed information, helpful advice for their spiritual journey, and assistance in answering questions that may come from non-Orthodox friends or acquaintances. The goal is that we might better know and better live our faith. These instructional videos can be found at the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>! For those who do not have internet, please see the handouts from each lesson which are located on the table in the back of the church. **There are 14 videos! Be sure to check them out!**

WEEKLY VIDEO SERMONS GIVEN BY HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL

These sermons offered to us by The Diocese via video can be found on the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>!

There are videos for each week beginning with The Feast of Feasts – Holy Pascha! Be sure to check them out!

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IMPORTANT PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We will continue with our on-going collections for The Buffalo City Mission, Hearts for Homeless, Mats for Mission, HomeSpace, Resurrection Life Food Pantry, Baker Victory as well as our other outreach ministry projects.
- **WE CONTINUE TO CONTACT ALL OF OUR PARISHIONERS ON A REGULAR BASIS TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IS OKAY, SAFE AND HEALTHY.**

****Please be on the lookout for emails this week with the following items:**

- 1) **Reader Outlines for ALL weekend SERVICES**
- 2) **Zoom information for Education Classes and Book Club**
- 3) **Updates on Schedule of Services Events**
- 4) **Pastoral Video for Parish Monthly Update**

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EACH WEEK WE WILL BE RECORDING THE WEEKLY INCOME FOR EACH SUNDAY AS WELL AS POSTING THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AND MINUTES FOR OUR PARISH FOLLOWING THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS!

INCOME FOR SUNDAY MARCH 20, 2022 - \$

Commercial Savings Account Deposit \$

DONATION TO THE CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT FUND (Kitchen) – \$750.00

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MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS

Also in the Parish Fellowship Hall, we have the Giving Tree! If anyone would like to sign up for Coffee Hour Readers Bulletin Collection, Communion Cloth, Home Blessing, please see or contact Fr. Jason!

****A REMINDER FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR ****

When hosting coffee hour, please check the refrigerators in the Parish Fellowship Hall the week before we are hosting to see what supplies we will/may need.

If anyone would like to host coffee hour or has any questions regarding one's preparations for Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Fran (610.698.1666/frances.vansuch@yahoo.com)

May all of us have a Blessed, Joyous, Holy and Prayerful Paschal Season!

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FIND YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME In The Orthodox Christian Church

Saturday Great Vespers 4:00 PM
SUNDAY Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM (Sept-May)
9:30 AM (May-September)
~ All are Welcome ~

Do we have questions about our life, its meaning, purpose, destiny?
Are we desiring to know Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?
Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?
Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions
in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,
Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

The Orthodox Church is the original Christian Church, the Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ and described in the pages of the New Testament. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity all the way back to Christ and His Twelve Apostles, empowered and sent forth on the day of Holy Pentecost. Incredible as it seems, for over twenty centuries she has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice. Today her apostolic doctrine, worship, and structure remain intact. The Orthodox Church maintains that the Church is the living Body of Jesus Christ. Many of us are surprised to learn that for the first 1000 years of Christian history there was just one Church.

Where is "**The Church**" to be found and experienced today? Come Taste and See How Good The Lord is every Sunday by joining us for The Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

What is Orthodox Christianity all about? How does it differ from other Christian confessions? This section will attempt to answer these questions and many more.

For a visual introduction to the Orthodox Church, please view the video link below:

http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1

For a brief introduction and in depth study to The Orthodox Faith and to find answers to: "What we Believe?", "Who we Are?", and "How we Live?", please view the PDF link below:

<http://orthodoxdelmarva.org/files/studies/InquirersClassV1final.pdf>

or you may visit the OCA website by clicking the link below:

<http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below:

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

To learn more ways that we can teach our children about the Orthodox Faith, The OCA has provided a wonderful website for us to use that provides great resources such as (handouts, texts, articles, stories, and much more)! To see this great website, please view the PDF link below:

<http://dce.oca.org/page/resources/>

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith or needs and help or assistance, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch (jvansuch@hotmail.com) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

ST. ANDREW'S CAMP

** Saint Andrew's Camp has released a new promotional video for prospective campers!

The video can be found here on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintandrewsorthodoxcamp/videos/357928144820497/>

**Be sure to check it out...you may recognize the priest:)

For more than sixty years, St. Andrew's Camp has offered the young people of our parishes an incredible summer camping experience. Children and teens have been instructed in prayer and the divine services, the reading of Scripture and the teachings of our Orthodox Church. They have been nourished with the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion. They have had fun swimming, horseback riding, playing sports, singing and learning musical instruments, creating in the visual arts, learning to safeguard the planet, and exploring the stars. And they have established friendships that last a lifetime, met their future spouses, and nurtured their vocations to serve the Lord in ministry.

As a token of gratitude for the labors of love extended by the administration and staff, both clergy and laypersons, of St. Andrew's over the past six decades, it is now time for us to help the Camp in an especially needed way.

Please join us in raising funds for the new multi purpose building which will include new kitchen, dining hall and activities center. The cost of this new building is \$300,000. To become a reality, the completion and furnishing of this much-needed center will require great generosity of individuals, organizations and parishes.

You can click on the link below which will take you to the gofundme.com page.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-andrew039s-camp-fundraiser-by-ss-peter-and-paul>

As we continue to fulfill the work of Our Lord by living and fulfilling His Gospel Message, let us open our hearts and minds by providing support and assistance to our Diocese, to our children, by taking a moment to reflect upon what God has given us, and to discern how we might be able to return to God a portion of the blessings we have received.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you and your families for your continued prayers, support and generosity.

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THE 5TH SUNDAY OF HOLY PASCHA:THE SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMANAN ORTHODOX COMMENTARY ONTHE SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

**THE 5th SUNDAY OF HOLY PASCHA:
THE SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN**

The fifth Sunday after Pascha deals with the **woman of Samaria** with whom Christ spoke at Jacob's Well (*Jn 4*). Again the theme is the "living water" and the recognition of Jesus as God's Messiah (*Jn 4:10-11; 25-26*). We are reminded of our new life in him, of our own drinking of the "living water," of our own true worship of God in the Christian messianic age "in Spirit and in Truth" (*Jn 4:23-24*). We see as well that salvation is offered to all: Jews and Gentiles, men and women, saints and sinners. After the Ascension of the Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photine, and her feast is kept on February 26.

The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The Holy Martyr Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (named Photinus) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva, Kyriake; Nero's daughter Domnina; and the Martyr Sebastian: The holy Martyr Photina was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well (John. 4:5-42).

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, St Photina lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to St Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

St Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber.

For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." St Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. St Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized.

Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to St Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, because through you, many will be enlightened and will believe in Me." The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage St Sebastian to persevere until the end.

All these things, and even future events, were revealed to St Photina. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome.

At Rome the emperor ordered the saints to be brought before him and he asked them whether they truly believed in Christ. All the confessors refused to renounce the Savior. Then the emperor gave orders to smash the martyrs' finger joints. During the torments, the

confessors felt no pain, and their hands remained unharmed.

Nero ordered that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and St Photina and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva and Kyriake were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. St Photina converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food to kill her. Three years passed, and Nero sent to the prison for one of his servants, who had been locked up. The messengers reported to him that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses, who had been blinded, had completely recovered, and that people were visiting them to hear their preaching, and indeed the whole prison had been transformed into a bright and fragrant place where God was glorified.

Nero then gave orders to crucify the saints, and to beat their naked bodies with straps. On the fourth day the emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants fell blind. An angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

In an impotent rage Nero gave orders to flay the skin from St Photina and to throw the martyr down a well. Sebastian, Photinus and Joses had their legs cut off, and they were thrown to dogs, and then had their skin flayed off. The sisters of St Photina also suffered terrible torments. Nero gave orders to cut off their breasts and then to flay their skin. An expert in cruelty, the emperor readied the fiercest execution for St Photis: they tied her by the feet to the tops of two bent-over trees. When the ropes were cut the trees sprang upright and tore the martyr apart. The emperor ordered the others beheaded. St Photina was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. St Photina spit in the face of

the emperor, and laughing at him, said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?"

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God (ca. 66).

The Sunday of The Samaritan Woman

In Spirit and Truth

Have you ever listened to a story... but you only got to hear part of the story? You might have missed the whole point. Maybe you didn't understand it at all.

Today we hear a true story in the Bible. It's the story of our Lord, Jesus Christ talking to a woman about God. The woman wanted to know more about God, but she didn't know she was talking to God Himself! Jesus told her that people "must worship God in spirit and truth." What does that mean? One of the saints of our church, Saint Ignatius (Brianchaninov) once told the people in his church just what this means! He explained that we Christians worship God, but we worship Him "in spirit and truth." Truth is Jesus Christ. We read in the Bible that Jesus once said, "I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life." Christ is the Truth. The Spirit is the Holy Spirit.

So, we Christians worship God "in spirit and truth." We worship God the Father. We worship Jesus Christ (the Son). We worship the Holy Spirit. We worship one God.

We Christians have heard the whole story...not just part of it! We know God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thought for the Day on The Sunday of The Samaritan Woman

CHRIST -- THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

(from the Gospel of John 4:5-42)

Jesus went to a city in Samaria, to the place where Jacob (of the Old Testament) built a well. He sat by the well, while His disciples went to buy food. A woman came, and Jesus asked her for a drink. She said, "How can You ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink? Jews don't have anything to do with Samaritans." Jesus answered, "If you knew Who asked you for a drink, you would have asked, and would have been given living water. Whoever drinks of the water here will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never be thirsty. The water that I give will become in the person a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman asked Jesus to give her some of the living water. Jesus said, "Get your husband, and come here." The woman answered, "I have no husband." Jesus said, "You have said the truth. You had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband." She told him that her people worshiped on a nearby mountain. (They were pagans.) Jesus said, "You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that the Messiah (Christ) is coming." "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." The woman went into the city and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me everything that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him. ... So when the Samaritans came to Him, they wanted Him to stay with them; and He stayed two days and taught them. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, but because we heard Him ourselves and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.

”Note: The woman’s original Samaritan name is not known, but the Orthodox church knows her as Saint Photina (in Greek) and as Saint Svetlana in Russian. She was baptized after the Resurrection, and then preached the Gospel, along with her sisters, daughters, and sons. They all become martyrs. The Greek word “photina” and the Russian word “svet” means “light” because they were “enlightened.”

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

The Samaritan woman’s name, Photina or Svetlana, translates to the word “enlightened” in English. When Christ first met the Samaritan woman, she was a pagan. That means that she did not know about God or that Christ is the Savior. In ancient times, the Samaritans were not liked by most other people. In fact, the Jewish people would not even speak with them. But Jesus not only talked with the Samaritan woman. He also taught her, using the symbolism of water, about Salvation and Eternal Life, and she was one of the first Gentile (non-Jewish) persons to whom He revealed that He is Christ the Savior. The Samaritan woman became enlightened. When we say that someone has been “enlightened,” it means that they realized some-thing important that they did not know before. The Light of Christ led her to become a Saint.

LIVING WATER

Christ said, “whoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never be thirsty. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

ETERNAL LIFE: Water is necessary for all life. Christ taught that our lives are not only physical lives on earth, but spiritual too;

and with Him we can have Eternal Life. **BAPTISM:** When we are Baptized, our lives are dedicated to God, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

HOLINESS: Water is made Holy in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and it is then used by the Priest or Bishop to bless everything that is dedicated to our Orthodox Christian living, including us, the people.

PURITY: Christ’s forgiveness of sins makes our souls clean and pure, just as if water washed the sins away. **THE CHURCH:** Water flows and stands for the Church itself, which makes all of us Orthodox persons one with Christ and with one an-other, as our Orthodox Church life “flows” through its yearly cycle.

LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE. 1 Cor.16:14

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. Matt. 22:37

YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. Matt. 22:39

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU. Matt. 5:44

LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, LOVE DOES NOT ENVY, LOVE DOES NOT BOAST, LOVE IS NOT PROUD, LOVE IS NOT SELFISH, LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED. 1Cor. 13:4

LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS, LOVE ALWAYS HAS FAITH, LOVE ALWAYS HAS HOPE, LOVE ENDURES ALL THINGS. LOVE NEVER FAILS! 1Cor. 13:7,8