

## 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



**venmo**

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**St. George Orthodox Church**  
**2 Nottingham Terrace - Buffalo, NY 14216**  
**(716) 875-4222**

[www.stgeorgebuffalo.com](http://www.stgeorgebuffalo.com)

## 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**

**2 Nottingham Terrace Buffalo, NY 14216**

**V. Rev. Jason Vansuch, Parish Priest**

**2 Nottingham Terrace 716-875-4222 Buffalo, NY 14216**

**Cell Phone: 609-851-3811 Email: [jvansuch@hotmail.com](mailto:jvansuch@hotmail.com)**

Archpriest Andreja Damjanovski, Attached Rev. Peter Irfan, Attached

Mat. Katia Vansuch, Choir Director

Dr. Boris Kuvshinoff, Parish Council President

Home: 716-812-6132 Email: [boris.kuvshinoff@gmail.com](mailto:boris.kuvshinoff@gmail.com)

**3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2.** Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia (108). Translation of the Relics of Hieromartyr Phillip, Metropolitan of Moscow (1652). Ven. Anatoly (Anatolius) of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—12th c.), and Ven. Anatoly (another), Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th c.). St. Vasily, Bishop of Riazan' (1295). Rt. Blv. Princes Vasily and Constantine of Yaroslavl' (13th c.). Ven. John and Longinus, Wonderworkers of Yarensk (Solovétsky Monastery—1544-45). Bl. John of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (1589). Ven. Nicodim (Nikódēmos), Abbot of Kozhevezérsk (1640). St. Alexander, founder of the "Unsleeping Ones" (ca. 430). St. Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople (458). Monastic Martyr Gerasimus (1812). Icon of the Mother of God, the "MILK-GIVER" of Chilandari Monastery on Mt. Athos.

**EPISTLE:**  
Romans 5:1-10

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

**GOSPEL:**  
Matthew 6:22-33

**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**

**GLORY FOREVER!**

#### **\*\*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!

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

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**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 JULY 3, 2022**

The Hours – **9:10 AM** Divine Liturgy – **9:30 AM**

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy

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**FR. JASON WILL BE AWAY AT ST. ANDREW'S CAMP  
FRIDAY JULY 1-SATURDAY JULY 9**

FR. JASON WILL BE AWAY ATTENDING ST. ANDREW'S CAMP SERVING AS THE  
CHAPLAIN AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR  
FOR THE WEEK. IF THERE IS A PASTORAL EMERGENCY OR IF ANYONE NEEDS  
THE ASSISTANCE OF A PRIEST, PLEASE CONTACT FR. ANDREJA (716.345.5381)  
OR FR. PETER (716.342.8520)! IF THERE IS ANYTHING IN THE PARISH THAT  
NEEDS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, PLEASE CONTACT DR. BORIS OR YOU MAY  
ALSO CONTACT FR. JASON ON HIS CELL PHONE!

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND GUIDE ALL OF YOU!

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### **SATURDAY JULY 9, 2022**

Great Vespers – **4:00 PM**

### **SUNDAY JULY 10, 2022**

The Hours – **9:10 AM**

Divine Liturgy followed by Healing Prayer Service for Fr. Andreja– **9:30 AM**

Blessing of Vehicles following The Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy

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

## HYMNS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

### Troparion for Resurrection - Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out:// “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### Troparion for St. Hyacinth — Tone 4

Thy holy martyr Hyacinth, O Lord, through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God. For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons:// Through his intercession, save our souls!

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

### Kontakion for Resurrection - Tone 2

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### Steadfast Protectress Tone 6 (Hymn to the Theotokos)

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator. Despise not the entreating cry of us sinners, but in Your Goodness come speedily to help us who call on You in faith! Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos!! For You always protect those who honor You!

## PROKEMEINON Tone 2

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation.

*v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.*

## ALLELUIA VERSES

*May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee!*

*Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!*

## THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

It is truly meet to bless You, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without defilement, You gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, we magnify You!

## COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY**

**Romans 5:1-10**

**BRETHREN:**

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

**GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY**

**Matthew 6:22-33**

**Let us Attend!**

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness,

how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

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**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!**  
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**== = Scriptural Readings for the Week = =**  
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<b>Monday</b>	Romans 9:18-33	Matt. 11:2-15
<b>Tuesday</b>	Romans 10:11-11:2	Matt. 11:16-20
<b>Wednesday</b>	Romans 11:2-12	Matt. 11:20-26
<b>Thursday</b>	Romans 11:13-24	Matt. 11:27-30
<b>Friday</b>	Romans 11:25-36	Matt. 12:1-8
<b>Saturday</b>	Romans 6:11-17	Matt. 8:14-23
<b>Sunday</b>	Romans 6:18-23	Matt. 8:5-13

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*Saint George Orthodox Church*

2 Nottingham Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14216  
(716) 875 4222

## **THE 2022 SCHOOL BACKPACK/SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

Once again we will be holding our Annual Backpack/School Supply Drive for The Salvation Army spearheaded by The Church School. This is a wonderful project of preparing backpacks for the children at Salvation Army for the upcoming school year.

With that in mind, please refer to The Annual Backpack/School Supply Drive for Salvation Army Flyer in the parish emails as well as hanging on the bulletin board in the Parish Fellowship Hall which contains all of the information needed for our Backpack Collection Drive.

As this is our sixth year, we look to this great idea and wonderful opportunity as a chance for us to get more involved within the community by giving back and helping these dear children prepare for the upcoming school year by providing for them those school supplies and materials that they will need to succeed in their studies.

**For more information or any questions, please contact Andrea: 585-576-4287 or [ajchmiel@gmail.com](mailto:ajchmiel@gmail.com).**

**\*\*OUR GOAL IS TO COLLECT and  
DONATE AT LEAST 25 BACKPACKS!\*\***

## 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](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](mailto:jvansuch@hotmail.com)) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

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**\*\*General Confession will be served on**

**Sunday JULY 31 at 9:00 AM.\*\***  
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**FR. JASON WILL BE AWAY AT ST. ANDREW'S CAMP  
FRIDAY JULY 1-SATURDAY JULY 9**

IF THERE IS A PASTORAL EMERGENCY OR IF ANYONE NEEDS THE ASSISTANCE OF A PRIEST, PLEASE CONTACT FR. ANDREJA OR FR. PETER! IF THERE IS ANYTHING IN THE PARISH THAT NEEDS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, PLEASE CONTACT DR. BORIS OR YOU MAY ALSO CONTRACT FR. JASON ON HIS CELL PHONE!

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND GUIDE ALL OF YOU!

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**DAILY FAMILY PRAYER RULE WE CAN PRAY TOGETHER AT HOME WITH OUR FAMILIES**

A Prayer Rule must be done in front of the icons and the Gospel in our Icon Corners with a lit candle.. It is important to remember that we must make time for God, for the "Kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force"(Matt. 11:12).The best time to pray is in the morning or in the evening when we as a family can come together in prayer. Also, when using a Rule of Prayer, we must be flexible and do what we can and do it attentively and consistently. Our goal is to maintain the connection with God and cultivate a real relationship with Him.

With that in mind, please find below The Rule of Prayer offered by our Diocese for us to use at home especially during this most difficult time when we are not able to be in church together as a parish family.

<https://www.nynjoca.org/files/2020/praying-at-home/A-FAMILY-PRAYER-RULE.pdf>

**May God bless you and keep you always in His Loving Care!**

**\* \* \* \* \* 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 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  
Archpriest Jonathan      Archpriest Paul

**Those Serving in The Armed Forces**

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

**Catechumens**

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

Metropolitan THEODOSIUS  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Eugene  
Ever-Memorable Priest John  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Rastko  
Ever-Memorable Dn. Mark

Ever-Memorable Archpriest Bernard  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George  
Matushka Dorothy  
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**

**\*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](http://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!

## **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

### **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](http://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 AND WEEKLY EMAILS  
FOR THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS  
FOR THE LITURGICAL YEAR!\*\***

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## **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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

We will also be using real coffee cups for coffee hour. If anyone needs assistance with cleaning them following Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Katia.

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](mailto:610.698.1666/frances.vansuch@yahoo.com))

May all of us have a Blessed, Joyous, Holy and Prayerful Summer 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](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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\*\*Also, make sure we check out the 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:)

## ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH WEEKLY EDUCATION CORNER

### THE FEAST OF ST. HYACINTH JULY 3

Saint Hyacinth, a native of Caesarea in Cappadocia, was raised in a Christian family. The emperor Trajan made the boy his "cubicularius" (chamberlain), unaware that he was a secret Christian.

One day, while the emperor and his entourage were offering sacrifice to idols, the young Hyacinth remained at the palace, shut himself up in a small room, and prayed fervently to the Lord Jesus Christ. One of the servants overheard him praying and denounced him to the emperor. He said that although Hyacinth was entrusted with an imperial position, he did not honor the Roman gods, and was secretly praying to Christ.

Hyacinth was brought to trial before Trajan, who tried to persuade him to deny Christ and sacrifice to the deaf and dumb idols, but the holy martyr remained steadfast and declared that he was a Christian. He was whipped and thrown into prison, where the only food given to him was what had already been offered to the idols. They hoped that he would be overcome with hunger and thirst and eat it. Saint Hyacinth did not eat the food, and he died after thirty-eight days. When they came to torture him again, they found his dead body.

The jailer saw two angels in the cell. One covered the saint's body with his own garment, and the other placed a crown of glory on his head.

The twelve-year-old Hyacinth suffered for Christ in the year 108 in the city of Rome. Later, the saint's relics were transferred to Caesarea.

Saints Diomedes, Eulampius, Asclepiodotus, and Golinduc also suffered with Saint Hyacinth.

### **SERMON FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

As human beings, we are created by God with both soul and body, and neither soul nor body can fully and appropriately exist and live without the other. Our life does not consist of one or the other. If we say, "I am a Christian," we are not a Christian only spiritually speaking, but rather we are a Christian in our whole life: everything about our life. As a person we have a body and we have a soul. While, as a Christian and in the Church, we many, many times deal with and hear teachings about our spiritual life, we would not serve much of a profound God if he did not also address our physical life, because they are all intertwined together. We cannot live without this body. We simply cannot, and we cannot live without living within this body, because God will raise it to eternal life.

Therefore, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus speaks of both. We heard in the third antiphon, from the Sermon on the Mount, those very familiar words to us: "Blessed are the poor *in spirit*, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Blessed are the merciful." These are *spiritual* qualities. But later, in the same sermon, in the same talk, Our Lord says, "No one can serve two masters. Do not worry about your life. Do not be anxious." Those, my dear brothers and sisters, are about our physical existence.

Our Lord begins the gospel reading by giving this distinction. He says, "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your

whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness." We are creatures who have an eye gate. Even though we have a mind which makes us human—it gives us the higher faculties—we don't simply move from thing to thing instinctively like an animal. We have a mind, a rational mind that is able to think through problems, but we also have an eye. That eye sees things, and when we see *things*, it can lead to the sin of envy.

In other words, the eye can lead us to envy. It can lead us to covetousness. "Oh, I wish I had this or I wish I had that?—" The eye is given to us to see the reality of life as God has presented to us, and that's precisely why, in the Church, as it has been from the beginning, we surround ourselves with images because Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is the image of God. When we see Him, we see God. Therefore, we have the image, the icon, of Him. We have the icon of His Beloved Mother – The Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, we have the icon of The Most Holy Saints, and we see the reality of life the way it is supposed to be.

For Orthodox Christians, we don't necessarily close our eyes when we pray, because we've *seen* the true light, we've *seen* Christ, we *see* the image of God, we *see* the image of God in each other. He has become incarnate. He's taken on human flesh, and He has taken this body and this material world, and He is trying to restore it to what it was always meant to be, which was to have communion with God. Every material thing in this world is given to us to have communion with God.

If we use our eye to see the material things to feed our own desires, to long for things that we don't need for our salvation, to long for things that don't belong to us, that we don't need to exist... we just heap on ourselves more and more and more. When we hear a commercial like this one—"You deserve a break today," right? "Oh, I deserve a break today! I'm going to go to McDonald's, because I deserve a break today!" Right? It's all about *me*. And the more I have, the more I feel good about myself, and the fact of the matter is: the more I have, the more I want and really the less I feel good about myself. That's the irony of it all.

We have to ask ourselves, “When is ‘enough’ enough?” So that’s why he begins this gospel reading with the *eye*, because the eye leads us to envy. And then Our Lord Jesus Christ just lays it out. “No one can serve two masters. You cannot serve God and mammon.” Because you will spend all of your time serving one or the other, but not both. Not both. We will be blinded by the desire for wealth, and even though the Scriptures are very clear about this that we must use all things for The Glory of God. What it says is, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” In other words, it can be done, but it’s really tough. We really have to stay focused on God.

The desire for things will destroy us if we don’t get control of it. That’s why Jesus says these words that are very difficult for some of us, me included, because He just says it like there’s a switch that we just “turn it off.” We all struggle with this reality. Our Lord goes on to say: “Therefore I say to you: Do not worry. Don’t be anxious.” It’s really hard. What we find out is, when we are worrier and when we are anxious about things, it’s because we want to control everything and we can’t control everything. What’s going to happen is going to happen.

Specifically in this gospel reading, Our Lord says, “Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, about your body, what you will put on. Is your life not more than food and the body not more than clothing?” This is not our life. Our life should not be focused on what we put on or what we put in our mouth, but about our life in the way that we relate to God and in the way that we relate to other people.

Our heavenly Father knows that we need all these things—but seek *first* the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” In other words, we *are* made up of a body and a soul, and we are not called to live as though we don’t have a body, because that body *is* great and it is created by God in His Image and Likeness and above all – our bodies are The Temple of The Holy Spirit. The physical life that we live in this world is real. The needs that we have will be provided for by God, because His promise to us – “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you!” What we *need*, not what you want. What we need.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, our eye can lead us to covet. It can lead us to envy. We can be blinded by the desires of this world! But also, the eye can lead us to God! Lead us to follow Christ towards salvation! The eye is the lamp of the body. If the light in us is good, if we see good things in this life, our body will be full of light, but if we see our own desires, if we see only what’s in it for me, then our body and our life is full of darkness. And Our Lord Jesus Christ says: “How great is that darkness! Like the dead of night.”

We do have a choice in this matter. Our life as Orthodox Christians is not just a spiritual matter. It is our life. We are body and soul. Let us make good choices. Let us want and desire the things that are needed for our life. Let us not be led by envy. Let us be led by love and by mercy.

Let us continue to walk in the way of Our Lord by living, proclaiming, and sharing His Gospel Message of love, peace, forgiveness, and salvation so that others can come to know Christ, Love Christ, Live Christ, and Follow Christ and give all Glory, Honor, and Worship to The One True Living God Who loves us more than we love ourselves – to Him be all Glory of the Father, and the Son, and he Holy Spirit always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

[Taken from *The Ancient Faith Website* – “Sermons from St. Nicholas”]

# Third Sunday after Pentecost

## The Eye is the Lamp of the Body

Matthew 6:22-33

From The Explanation of the Gospel of St. Matthew  
by Blessed Theophylact, Archbishop of Ochrid and Bulgaria

**22-23. The eye is the lamp of the body: if therefore thine eye be sound, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness.**

This means, if you fill your mind with worries over money, you have extinguished the lamp and darkened your soul. Just as the eye that is sound, or "healthy" brings light to the body, and the eye that is evil, or "diseased" brings darkness, so also does the state of the mind affect the soul. If the mind is blinded by these worries, it is cast into darkness; then the soul becomes dark, and how much more so the body as well?

**24. No man can serve two lords.** What He means is this: no man can serve two lords who command things that are opposed to each other. Such lords are God and mammon. We make the devil our lord when we make the belly our god. But by nature and in truth God is the Lord, and mammon is unrighteousness. **For either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.** Do you see that it is not possible for a rich man and unrighteous man to serve God? His love of money drives him away from God.

**25. For this reason I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.**

*For this reason:* for what reason? Because concern over money drives a man away from God. The soul does not eat, for it is bodiless, but Jesus said this according to the common use of the word ([1](#)) For it is obvious that the soul does not consent to remain in a body if the flesh is not fed. Jesus does not forbid us to work, but rather He forbids us to give ourselves over entirely to our cares and to neglect God. Hence we must

work for our livelihood while not neglecting the soul. **Is not life more than food, and the body more than raiment?** This means: He gave us much greater things, life itself, and formed our bodies. Will He not give us food and clothing?

**26. Behold the birds of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much more than they?**

Although He could have given the example of Elijah and John the Baptist, instead He mentions the birds in order to shame us, for we are even more witless than these creatures. God feeds them by having given them the instinctive knowledge for finding food.

**27. Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?**

This means: Even if you take the utmost care, you can do nothing if God does not will it. Why then do you drive yourself to exhaustion with futile worries?

**28-29. And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

He shames us not only by the birds, which lack reason, but also by the lilies, that wither. If God adorned the lilies in such a manner, without any necessity to do so, how much more will He fulfill our own need for clothing? He shows that though you go to great lengths, you are not able to be adorned as beautifully as the lilies. Even Solomon the most wise and splendid, with all his kingdom at his disposal, could not array himself in such a manner.

**30. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?**

We learn from this that we ought not to be concerned with beautifying ourselves, for our adornments wither like the fading flowers. Therefore one who beautifies himself is like grass. But you, He says, are creatures endowed with reason, whom God fashioned with both soul and body. Those "of little faith" are all those who concern themselves with such thoughts. If they had perfect faith in God, they would not give such anxious thoughts to these things.

**31-32. Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek.**

He does not forbid us to eat, but to say, What shall we eat? The rich say in the evening, "What shall we eat tomorrow?" Luxury and excess are what He forbids.

**32-33. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

The kingdom of God is the enjoyment of all that is good. This comes through righteousness. To him who seeks after spiritual things God in His generosity adds what is needed for physical life.

***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***

# INDEPENDENCE DAY



**MONDAY JULY 4, 2022**

On July 4, 1776, we claimed our independence from Britain and Democracy was born. Every day thousands leave their homeland to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American Dream. The United States is truly a diverse nation made up of dynamic people. Each year on July 4, Americans celebrate that freedom and independence with barbecues, picnics, and family gatherings. As we celebrate this Day of Independence with our family and friends, let us give thanks to The Almighty God for the great blessings He has bestowed upon us as a Nation, as a City, and as a Parish. Let us take time out of our day and say a prayer giving thanks to Almighty God for all of those blessings seen and unseen.

May GOD continue to bless and guide all of you and your families.

## **A PRAYER FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY**

O Lord Jesus our God, the God of mercies and compassion, today, as a nation, we stand as our forefathers have stood before Thee in times gone by celebrating our history and giving thanks for all of the good things that our country has achieved. On this day we rejoice in the blessings that Thou hast graciously given us. We thank Thee for the blessings of liberty, for this generation and for the generations to come. We thank Thee for our independence, peace and for all those who have bravely given their lives in the defense of freedom and justice. We thank Thee for all of Thy blessings seen and unseen.

As a nation and children of God, we have not always chosen the right path. For this, we ask and beg Thy forgiveness. On this day we commit ourselves to wholeheartedly honoring and serving Thee, the only true God. With everything that we are, we put our full faith and trust in Thee and we ask that you continue to watch over us, guide us, and lead us on that path towards salvation during which we may become God-Loving People, a Holy Nation abiding in love and unity for the sake of the land of the free and home of the brave and for all peoples and nations around the world.

Today, as we celebrate our Independence, we humbly stand before Thy presence and seek Thy continued grace and protection for we know that the way to peace, love, harmony, and unity is only through Thee, the only True God.

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, the Lover of Mankind, we humbly ask that Thou send down Thy Most-Holy Spirit upon us, Thy unworthy servants. Through Thy Holy Spirit, we ask that Thou dost breathe new life in our nation and her people. Guide our country, her president, those who serve in the Armed Forces here and throughout the world, the chaplains ministering to their needs and all of those in civil authorities and all peoples of this nation and nations throughout the world.

For Thou art the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls and unto Thee do we send up glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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## **THE BLESSING OF VEHICLES:**

*To Honor The Feast of the Prophet Elias (Elijah)*

SUNDAY JULY 10, 2022

After his ministry on earth, the Prophet Elias (Elijah) was taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot. He is therefore known as the patron saint of vehicles, reminding us that we must struggle to manifest holiness in our lives, especially when we travel.

To honor and celebrate this great Feast and Holy Prophet, ON SUNDAY JULY 10, following the Divine Liturgy, we will gather together in church to serve the customary service for the blessing of vehicles followed by a procession to the Church Parking Lot where we will bless our vehicles (cars, vans, motorcycles, trucks, bikes, strollers, wagons, walkers, wheelchairs, etc.) Just as we have our homes blessed each year, everyone is encouraged to bring their vehicles for this special service and have them blessed with Holy Water.

I encourage all of us, our parishioners and families to come and bring our vehicles to church THIS SUNDAY JULY 10 and have them blessed!! For our children, I encourage them to bring their bikes and other modes of transportation that they use/play with so that they, too, can participate in this wonderful tradition!! This is a wonderful pious tradition for us to participate in!! I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday July 10!!



# THE 2022 SCHOOL BACKPACK/SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



DOING THE MOST GOOD

*George Orthodox Church*

2 Nottingham Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14216  
(716) 875 4222

## HELP CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

By collecting backpack and school supply items

Collection will occur from **June 26<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>**

Please bring items with you to church and place them in the Red Bins located in the Parish Fellowship Hall.

Church School Assembly of school supply items followed by Christian fellowship/Lunch/Ice Cream Social will begin at 12:30 **pm on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**

St. George Orthodox Church  
2 Nottingham Terrace  
Buffalo, NY 14216

## Items needed for each backpack:

- 1 backpack
- 1 large container of antibacterial moist wipes
- 2 pocket folders with prongs (solid colors)
- 2 solid color wide-ruled notebooks
- 2 composition notebooks
- 3 large or 9 small glue sticks
- 1 Fiskars blunt-tip scissors
- 2 large boxes of tissues
- 1 box of crayons
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 1 Box of #2 Pencils
- 1 Ruler
- 2 expo dry erase whiteboard markers
- 1 Box of Washable Markers

For more information or any questions, please contact Andrea:  
585-576-4287 or [ajchmiel@gmail.com](mailto:ajchmiel@gmail.com).

**\*\*OUR GOAL IS TO COLLECT and DONATE AT LEAST 25 BACKPACKS!!\*\***

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH  
2 Nottingham Terrace  
(Corner of Amherst and Nottingham Streets)

Buffalo NY

**WEDNESDAY JULY 27, 2022**

**4pm - until sold out**



- *Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ*
- *potato salad and coleslaw*
- *bread and butter*
- *Dessert*

**TAKE-OUT/DRIVE-THRU ONLY**

**\$13.00**

***For more information and to purchase tickets,  
please call 875-4222***

*or*

***Visit our Fundraising Page at the Link Below:***

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chiavettas-chicken-dinner-fundraiser-drive-thru-only-tickets-373554600867>**

**\*\*IF ANYONE CAN DONATE ANY OF THE ITEMS NEEDED OR MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF THESE ITEMS OR WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT AND ASSIST IN ANYWAY, PLEASE SEE OR CONTACT FR. JASON!\*\***

**Thank you for your continued support, generosity, help, and assistance in making our Fundraisers a success! May God continue to bless and guide all of you!**