

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

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

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7. Afterfeast of the Transfiguration. Holy Martyr Mercurius of Smolensk (13th c.). Martyr Dometius of Persia and two disciples (363). Finding of the Relics of St. Mitrophanes, first Bishop of Voronezh (1832). Ven. Pimen (Pøemen) the Much-ailing, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1110). Ven. Pimen, Faster, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). St. Mercurius, Bishop of Smolensk (Kiev Caves—Near Caves—1239). Martyrs Marinus the soldier and Asterius the Senator, at Cæsarea in Palestine (260). Ven. Hor (Horus) of the Thebaïd (Egypt—ca. 390). Virgin Potamia the Wonderworker. Ven. Dometius of Philotheou, Mt. Athos (16th c.). The “VALAAM” Icon of the Mother of God

EPISTLE:
1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

GOSPEL:
Matthew 14:14-22

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!

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.

HYMNS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

Tropars/Kontakions for Divine Liturgy

Troparion for The Resurrection - Tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Troparion for The Feast of The Transfiguration of Our Lord - Tone 7

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos!// O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Troparion for St. Dometius - Tone 4

Trained in asceticism on the mountain,with the weapon of the Cross thou didst destroy the spiritual assaults of the hostile powers, O all-blessed one; once again thou didst bravely prepare for combat and for both struggles thou hast been crowned by God,// Monk-martyr Dometius of eternal memory.

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

Kontakion for Resurrection - Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion for The Feast of The Transfiguration of Our Lord - Tone 7

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world// that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

PROKEMEINON Tone 7

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

v. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

THE SECOND PROKEMEINON Tone 4

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

ALLELUIA VERSES

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

The heavens are Thine, the earth also is Thine!

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor!
Thy childbearing was without corruption; God came forth from thy body clothed
in flesh, and appeared on earth and dwelt among men. / / Therefore we all
magnify thee, O Theotokos.

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the
highest! O Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy
countenance, and will exult in Thy Name forever. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

Brethren:

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you.

Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name.

Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY

Let us Attend:

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."

But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to Me."

Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.

Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

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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 ==

Monday	1 Corinthians 11:31-12:6	Matthew 18:1-11
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 12:12-26	Matthew 18:18-22, 19:1-2, 13-15
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 13:4-14:5	Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday	1 Corinthians 14:6-19	Matthew 20:17-28
Friday	1 Corinthians 14:26-40	Matthew 21:12-14, 17-20
Saturday	Romans 14:6-9	Matthew 15:32-39
Sunday	1 Corinthians 3:9-17	Matthew 14:22-34

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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

THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY AUGUST 7, 2022

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

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy
110th Anniversary Committee Meeting during Coffee Hour

MONDAY AUGUST 8, 2022

Paraklesis Service to The Theotokos – **6:00 PM**

TUESDAY AUGUST 9, 2022

THE FEAST OF THE GLORIFICATION OF ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA

Moleben with Akathist Service in Honor of St. Herman of Alaska – **9:00 AM**

SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 2022

Great Vespers– **4:00 PM**

SUNDAY AUGUST 14, 2022

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

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy

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

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**FR. JASON, MAT. KATIA, MAT. FRAN, ANNA, AND ALEX WILL BE AWAY ON VACATION
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10-MONDAY AUGUST 22**

FR. JASON, MAT. KATIA, MAT. FRAN, ANNA, AND ALEX WILL BE AWAY ON VACATION FROM AUGUST 10-AUGUST 22.
IF THERE IS A PASTORAL EMERGENCY OR IF ANYONE NEEDS THE ASSISTANCE OF A PRIEST, PLEASE
CONTACT FR. PETER (716.342.8520)! 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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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

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

When hosting coffee hour, please check the refrigerators in the Parish Fellowship Hall the week before we are histing 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](tel:610.698.1666)/frances.vansuch@yahoo.com)

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

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.

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



https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=E5X6YTV9DF3W

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MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND GUIDE ALL OF YOU!

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ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Please remember in prayer Thy Servants of God...

FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:

HIERARCHS

Metropolitan HERMAN Archbishop BENJAMIN Archbishop ALEJO
Archbishop NATHANIEL Bishop DANIEL

CLERGY

Archpriest Herman, Matushka Cynthia and George, Elizabeth Archpriest Leonid Archpriest David
Archpriest Alexey and his family Archpriest Vladimir and Matushka Jeanne
Archpriest Timmothy/Mat. Michelle Archpriest John and Presbyter Nancy
Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie Archpriest Andreja, Popadija Anica and Family
Archpriest Timmothy Priest Peter and Mat. Mary
Dn. Sean and Mat. Heather Archpriest John (Onofrey)
Archpriest Robert

MATUSHKI

Mat. Katia	Mat. Paraskeva	Mat. Joanna	Popadija Sara	Mat. Gayle	Mat. Natasha	
Catherine	Ivan/Marina/Inna	Bonnie/Silviu	Popadia Vicki	Christine	Mat. Patricia	Mat. Gloria
Edwina	Irene	Luba	Coard	Karen	Aliscia	Walter/Paul
Serena/Asma	Lillian	Reader Victor	Jim, Darren, Marsha	Nicholas, Andrew	Frank	June
Sarah		Albert	Boris		Marilyn	Amanda, Chase
Xenia, Justin, Danielle, John	Larry Joseph	Frank	Frank		Oscar	Ronald, Candice
Victor	Catherine	Susan	Susan		Billy	Clyde
Evelyn	Robert	Rebecca	Rebecca		Svetlana	Juliana
Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle	Linda	Justin	Justin		Paul	Brian
Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria, Tyler	Ashley	Ashley	Ashley		Olga	John, Helen
Melody	Lee	Lee, Bridget	Lee, Bridget		Steven	Barbara
Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas	Sada Thlisinitsa,	Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric	Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric		Matthew	William
Olga and Eugene	Jeremy Stewart	Susan	Susan		Mary	Lia/Isaiah
Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena	Alex	John, Kevin, Sean	John, Kevin, Sean			John
Jaime/Sammy, Juliana	Harry	James	James		Anthony	Aldona, Melinda
Aspasia/Stavros	Charles	Emma/Alexander	Emma/Alexander		Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick	
Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia	Rosemary	Anthony	Anthony		Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa	
Mary, Hal, Autumn, Ariana, and Amber, Judithann Anita, Jeffry, Dominic, Douglas, Rachel, Dennis					Seraphim	Roscoe
Brian John, Roberta, Barbara John, Michael John						Amelia, Emily
George Costa Jonathan, Kevin, Lary, Carly, Sherry, Mary Jo, Clara, Karl, Dragica, Mary						Ron, Illiana, Jillian, Joel
Stephen, Larry, Olga, Olga, Sally, Deborah, David						
Rdr Nicholas, Judithann, Michael, Mary, Cate, Michael, Gary, Damian, Olga, Alexandra, Barbara, Damian						
Kyriaki and Konstantinos (<i>Pete Thanos parents</i>)	Amy (<i>friend of Molly Burke</i>)					

Children of God - Harry, Keely, Isla, Talia, Lane, Liam

Corina and Nicole and the children born of them
(*Laura Rose*) (*Landry*)

Alyssa Marie and the child to be born of her

Diocese of NY&NJ Prayer List

Archpriest Samuel	Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar	Mitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. Myra
Archpriest George	Archpriest Paul	Matushka Patricia (<i>Bohush</i>)
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
All 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

Elinor (*mother of Susan Deeb – 40th Day September 5*)

Mat. Patricia (*Bohush*)

**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 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!

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!

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

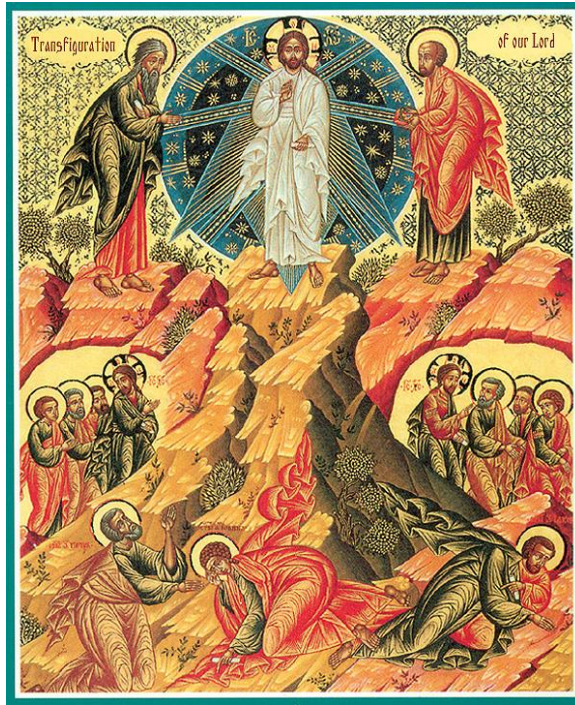
These sermons offered to us by The Diocese via video can be found on the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>!

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

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ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH EDUCATION CENTER

The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (the Second “Feast of the Savior” in August)



Discourse on the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ of Saint Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

For an explanation of the present Feast and understanding of its truth, it is necessary for us to turn to the very start of today’s reading from the Gospel: “Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James and John his brother, and led them up onto a high mountain by themselves” (Mt.17:1).

First of all we must ask, from whence does the Evangelist Matthew begin to reckon with six days? From what sort of day is it? What does the preceding turn of speech indicate, where the Savior, in teaching His disciples, said to them: “For the Son of Man shall come with his angels in the glory of His Father,” and further: “Amen I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death, until they have seen the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom” (Mt.16:27-28)? That is to say, it is the Light of His own forthcoming Transfiguration which He terms the Glory of His Father and of His Kingdom.

The Evangelist Luke points this out and reveals this more clearly saying: “Now it came to pass about eight days after these words, that He took Peter and John and James, and went up the mountain to pray. And as He prayed, His countenance was altered, and His raiment became a radiant white” (Luke 9:28-29). But how can the two be reconciled, when one of them speaks

definitively about the interval of time as being eight days between the sayings and the manifestation, whereas the other (says): “after six days?”

There were eight on the mountain, but only six were visible. Three, Peter, James and John, had come up with Jesus, and they saw Moses and Elias standing there and conversing with Him, so altogether there were six of them. However, the Father and the Holy Spirit were invisibly with the Lord: the Father, with His Voice testifying that this was His Beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit shining forth with Him in the radiant cloud. Thus, the six are actually eight, and there is no contradiction regarding the eight. Similarly, there is no contradiction with the Evangelists when one says “after six days,” and the other says “eight days after these words.”

But these twofold sayings as it were present is a certain format set in mystery, and together with it that of those actually present upon the Mount. It stands to reason, and everyone rationally studying in accordance with Scripture knows that the Evangelists are in agreement one with another. Luke spoke of eight days without contradicting Matthew, who declared “after six days.” There is not another day added on to represent the day on which these sayings were uttered, nor is the day on which the Lord was transfigured added on (which a rational person might reasonably imagine to be added to the days of Matthew).

The Evangelist Luke does not say “after eight days” (like the Evangelist Matthew says “after six days”), but rather “it came to pass eight days after these words.” But where the Evangelists seem to contradict one another, they actually point out to us something great and mysterious. In actual fact, why did the one say “after six days,” but the other, in ignoring the seventh day, have in mind the eighth day? It is because the great vision of the Light of the Transfiguration of the Lord is the mystery of the Eighth Day, i.e., of the future age, coming to be revealed after the passing away of the world created in six days.

About the power of the Divine Spirit, through Whom the Kingdom of God is to be revealed, the Lord predicted: “There are some standing here who shall not taste death, until they have seen the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom” (Mt.16:28). Everywhere and in every way the King will be present, and everywhere will be His Kingdom, since the advent of His Kingdom does not signify the passing over from one place to another, but rather the revelation of its power of the Divine Spirit. That is why it is said: “come in power.” And this power is not manifest to simply ordinary people, but to those standing with the Lord, that is to say, those who have affirmed their faith in Him like Peter, James and John, and especially those who are free of our natural abasement. Therefore, and precisely because of this, God manifests Himself upon the Mount, on the one hand coming down from His heights, and on the other, raising us up from the depths of abasement, since the Transcendent One takes on mortal nature. Certainly, such a manifest appearance by far transcends the utmost limits of the mind’s grasp, as effectualized by the power of the Divine Spirit.

Thus, the Light of the Transfiguration of the Lord is not something that comes to be and then vanishes, nor is it subject to the sensory faculties, although it was contemplated by corporeal eyes for a short while upon an inconsequential mountaintop. But the initiates of the Mystery, (the disciples) of the Lord at this time passed beyond mere flesh into spirit through a transformation of their senses, effectualized within them by the Spirit, and in such a way that they beheld what,

and to what extent, the Divine Spirit had wrought blessedness in them to behold the Ineffable Light.

Those not grasping this point have conjectured that the chosen from among the Apostles beheld the Light of the Transfiguration of the Lord by a sensual and creaturely faculty, and through this they attempt to reduce to a creaturely level (i.e., as something “created”) not only this Light, the Kingdom and the Glory of God, but also the Power of the Divine Spirit, through Whom it is meet for Divine Mysteries to be revealed. In all likelihood, such persons have not heeded the words of the Apostle Paul: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, what things God has prepared for those who love Him. But to us God has revealed them through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God” (1 Cor.2:9-10).

So, with the onset of the Eighth Day, the Lord, taking Peter, James and John, went up on the Mount to pray. He always prayed alone, withdrawing from everyone, even from the Apostles themselves, as for example when with five loaves and two fish He fed the five thousand men, besides women and children (Mt.14:19-23). Or, taking with Him those who excelled others, as at the approach of His Saving Passion, when He said to the other disciples: “Sit here while I go over there and pray” (Mt.26:36). Then He took with Him Peter, James and John. But in our instance right here and now, having taken only these same three, the Lord led them up onto a high mountain by themselves and was transfigured before them, that is to say, before their very eyes.

“What does it mean to say: He was transfigured?” asks the Golden-Mouthed Theologian (Chrysostom). He answers this by saying: “It revealed something of His Divinity to them, as much and insofar as they were able to apprehend it, and it showed the indwelling of God within Him.” The Evangelist Luke says: “And as He prayed, His countenance was altered” (Luke 9:29); and from the Evangelist Matthew we read: “And His face shone as the sun” (Mt.17:2). But the Evangelist said this, not in the context that this Light be thought of as subsistent for the senses (let us put aside the blindness of mind of those who can conceive of nothing higher than what is known through the senses). Rather, it is to show that Christ God, for those living and contemplating by the Spirit, is the same as the sun is for those living in the flesh and contemplating by the senses. Therefore, some other Light for the knowing the Divinity is not necessary for those who are enriched by Divine gifts.

That same Inscrutable Light shone and was mysteriously manifest to the Apostles and the foremost of the Prophets at that moment, when (the Lord) was praying. This shows that what brought forth this blessed sight was prayer, and that the radiance occurred and was manifest by uniting the mind with God, and that it is granted to all who, with constant exercise in efforts of virtue and prayer, strive with their mind towards God. True beauty, essentially, can be contemplated only with a purified mind. To gaze upon its luminance assumes a sort of participation in it, as though some bright ray etches itself upon the face.

Even the face of Moses was illumined by his association with God. Do you not know that Moses was transfigured when he went up the mountain, and there beheld the Glory of God? But he (Moses) did not effect this, but rather he underwent a transfiguration. However, our Lord Jesus Christ possessed that Light Himself. In this regard, actually, He did not need prayer for His flesh

to radiate with the Divine Light; it was but to show from whence that Light descends upon the saints of God, and how to contemplate it. For it is written that even the saints “will shine forth like the sun” (Mt.13:43), which is to say, entirely permeated by Divine Light as they gaze upon Christ, divinely and inexpressibly shining forth His Radiance, issuing from His Divine Nature. On Mount Tabor it was manifest also in His Flesh, by reason of the Hypostatic Union (i.e., the union of the two perfect natures, divine and human, within the divine Person [Hypostasis] of Christ, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity). The Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon defined this Hypostatic union of Christ’s two natures, divine and human, as “without mingling, without change, without division, without separation.”

We believe that at the Transfiguration He manifested not some other sort of light, but only that which was concealed beneath His fleshly exterior. This Light was the Light of the Divine Nature, and as such, it was Uncreated and Divine. So also, in the teachings of the Fathers, Jesus Christ was transfigured on the Mount, not taking upon Himself something new nor being changed into something new, nor something which formerly He did not possess. Rather, it was to show His disciples that which He already was, opening their eyes and bringing them from blindness to sight. For do you not see that eyes that can perceive natural things would be blind to this Light?

Thus, this Light is not a light of the senses, and those contemplating it do not simply see with sensual eyes, but rather they are changed by the power of the Divine Spirit. They were transformed, and only in this way did they see the transformation taking place amidst the very assumption of our perishability, with the deification through union with the Word of God in place of this.

So also she who miraculously conceived and gave birth recognized that the One born of her is God Incarnate. So it was also for Simeon, who only received this Infant into his arms, and the aged Anna, coming out [from the Jerusalem Temple] for the Meeting, since the Divine Power illumined, as through a glass windowpane, giving light for those having pure eyes of heart.

And why did the Lord, before the beginning of the Transfiguration, choose the foremost of the Apostles and lead them up onto the Mount with Him? Certainly, it was to show them something great and mysterious. What is particularly great or mysterious in showing a sensory light, which not only the foremost, but all the other Apostles already abundantly possessed? Why would they need a transforming of their eyes by the power of the Holy Spirit for a contemplation of this Light, if it were merely sensory and created? How could the Glory and the Kingdom of the Father and the Holy Spirit project forth in some sort of sensory light? Indeed, in what sort of Glory and Kingdom would Christ the Lord come at the end of the ages, when there would not be necessary anything in the air, nor in expanse, nor anything similar, but when, in the words of the Apostle, “God will be all in all” (1 Cor.15: 28)? That is to say, will He alter everything for all? If so, then it follows that light is included.

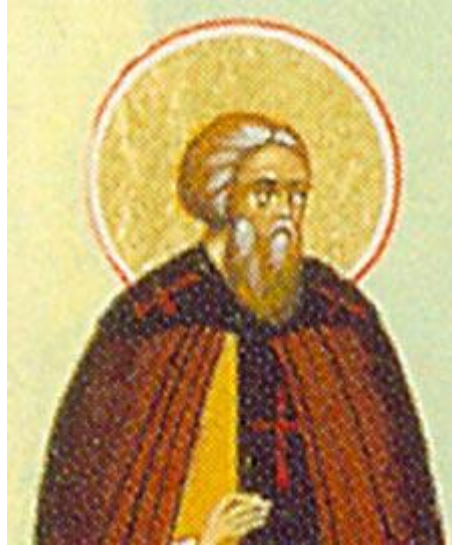
Hence it is clear that the Light of Tabor was a Divine Light. And the Evangelist John, inspired by Divine Revelation, says clearly that the future eternal and enduring city “has no need of the sun or moon to shine upon it. For the Glory of God lights it up, and the Lamb will be its lamp” (Rev 21:23). Is it not clear, that he points out here that this [Lamb] is Jesus, Who is divinely

transfigured now upon Tabor, and the flesh of Whom shines, is the lamp manifesting the Glory of divinity for those ascending the mountain with Him?

John the Theologian also says about the inhabitants of this city: “they will not need light from lamps, nor the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shed light upon them, and night shall be no more” (Rev 22:5). But how, we might ask, is there this other light, in which “there is no change, nor shadow of alteration” (Jas 1:17)? What light is there that is constant and unsetting, unless it be the Light of God? Moreover, could Moses and Elias (and particularly the former, who clearly was present only in spirit, and not in flesh [Elias having ascended bodily to Heaven on the fiery chariot]) be shining with any sort of sensory light, and be seen and known? Especially since it was written of them: “they appeared in glory, and spoke of his death, which he was about to fulfill at Jerusalem” (Luke 9:30-31). And how otherwise could the Apostles recognize those whom they had never seen before, unless through the mysterious power of the Divine Light, opening their mental eyes?

But let us not tire our attention with the furthest interpretations of the words of the Gospel. We shall believe thus, as those same ones have taught us, who themselves were enlightened by the Lord Himself, insofar as they alone know this well: the Mysteries of God, in the words of a prophet, are known to God alone and His perpetual proximity. Let us, considering the Mystery of the Transfiguration of the Lord in accord with their teaching, strive to be illumined by this Light ourselves and encourage in ourselves love and striving towards the Unfading Glory and Beauty, purifying our spiritual eyes of worldly thoughts and refraining from perishable and quickly passing delights and beauty which darken the garb of the soul and lead to the fire of Gehenna and everlasting darkness. Let us be freed from these by the illumination and knowledge of the incorporeal and ever-existing Light of our Savior transfigured on Tabor, in His Glory, and of His Father from all eternity, and His Life-Creating Spirit, Whom are One Radiance, One Godhead, and Glory, and Kingdom, and Power now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Martyr Dometius of Persia and his two disciples



Saint Dometius lived in Persia during the fourth century. In his youth he was converted to the Faith by a Christian named Uaros. Forsaking Persia, he withdrew to the frontier city of Nisibis (in Mesopotamia), where he was baptized in one of the monasteries, and also received the monastic tonsure.

Fleeing the ill-will of some of the monks, Saint Dometius moved to the monastery of Saints Sergius and Bacchus in the city of Theodosiopolis. The monastery was under the guidance of an archimandrite named Urbelos, a strict ascetic, of whom it was said that for sixty years he did not taste cooked food, nor did he lay down for sleep, but rather took his rest standing up, supporting himself upon his staff.

In this monastery Saint Dometius was ordained a deacon, but when the archimandrite decided to have him made a presbyter, the saint, considering himself unworthy, hid himself on a desolate mountain in Syria, in the region of Cyrrhus.

Stories about him constantly spread among the local inhabitants. They began to come to him for healing and for help. Many pagans were brought to faith in Christ by Dometius. And one time, in the locality where Saint Dometius struggled with his disciples, the emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363) arrived, traveling on his campaign against the Persians. By order of the emperor, soldiers found Saint Dometius praying with his disciples in a cave, and walled them up alive inside.

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

{Reflection on the Gospel Lesson of The Feeding of the Five Thousand}

Who is in this crowd upon whom Jesus has compassion/mercy? Some who are sick, lost souls, some seeking God, the walking wounded, those who have lost their faith, the downcast and the outcasts. But also, there were curiosity seekers, non-believers, some who are hostile to Christ – His enemies. Throughout the Gospel His enemies follow Him everywhere, listening to His words, gathering evidence against Him – but they are in the mix and often very near Christ for they engage Him in conversation.

Christ ministers to all of them. His grace, love, mercy, compassion is not limited to His disciples, but extends to all whom He sees. Jesus teaches us by His own example to love and commands us to love one another in the same that that He loves us. He is moved by compassion when He looks on us. We have to be aware of how Christ loves us and to see the world through the eyes of Christ.

How are we to love others? With compassion. Any who come to Christ, who seek Christ for any reason are to be welcomed by us and blessed by us. This is how the Lord Jesus loves us. He expects us to love as He loves us. Is it hard? Yes. Is it impossible? Hardly.

Jesus does not simply make their hunger go away by divine magic. Rather, Christ feeds them. He blesses the only food they had, and feeds 5000 men besides women and children from this food. The food doesn't miraculously appear on each plate, but rather the disciples distribute it. The disciples have to work to make sure the people are fed. Christ receives from His disciples the food which some people had worked to make possible – bread and fish. He takes this human made food and blesses it. There is synergy between the disciples and Christ, working together for the good of all the people. This is the Church.

Christ entrusts some problems to us His disciples and asks us to deal with the problems. He doesn't miraculously make the problems go away. He says to us: I am not taking hunger away, but I empower you to do the work necessary for these people to feel cared for and to be fed. The disciples themselves had to provide the food and distribute it.

We obey Christ not by having problems go away but by dealing with them. The Gospel lesson began with Jesus seeing the crowd and feeling compassion for them. The Gospel lesson ends with Jesus feeding them. It is the work of the Church.

SERVICES AND EVENTS WITH THE LIFE OF ST. GEORGE PARISH

1) 110TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR 2022-2023 PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY AUGUST 7, 2022

2) FR. JASON, MAT. KATIA, ANNA, ALEX, AND MT. FRAN AWAY ON VACATION

AUGUST 10-22, 2022

**FR. PETER WILL BE SERVING GREAT VESPERS ON SATURDAY AUGUST 13&20

**FR. PETER WILL BE SERVING DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY AUGUST 14&21

THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

**FR. PETER WILL BE SERVING DIVINE LITURGY FOLLOWED BY BLESSING OF FLOWERS
AND HERBS ON MONDAY AUGUST 15

SATURDAY AUGUST 27, 2022

Great Vespers – 4:00 PM

Parish Council Meeting via Zoom – 5:15 PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 28 & MONDAY AUGUST 29 (Strict Fast Day)

Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Sunday August 28, 2022

The Hours – 9:10 AM

Divine Liturgy followed by Vespers – 9:30 AM

Monday August 28, 2022 (Strict Fast Day)

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

SUNDAY AUGUST 28, 2022

Chicken/Beef Chowder Sale (Mike Dan)

and Zoo Trip (Robin Damiano)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
BEGINNING OF THE NEW LITURGICAL CHURCH YEAR

Moleben Prayer Service – 6:00 PM

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

9/11 Memorial Prayer Service – 9:30 AM
Great Vespers – 4:00 PM

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

OPENING OF CHURCH SCHOOL
The Hours – 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy followed Blessing of Backpacks – 10:00 AM
Memorial Litiya for Elinor Deeb (40th Day Memorial)



5th Anniversary of The Miraculous Icon of
The Most-Holy Theotokos

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Akathist to The Theotokos – 9:30 AM
*Great Vespers with Litiya and Procession
of Life-Giving Cross of Our Lord – 6:00 PM*

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 14

*Festal Divine Liturgy and Procession
of Life-Giving Cross of Our Lord around The Church – 9:30 AM*

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Mini Byzantine Dinner (Patti Fiden)

OCTOBER 30, 2022

Chili Cook-Off

Trunk or Treat Fall Festival

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

Stewardship Thanksgiving Luncheon (PC)

DECEMBER 17/18, 2022

Cookie Walk/Bake Sale (Mat. Fran)

Fun White Elephant Auction

****PLEASE SHARE THESE FEASTS, DIVINE SERVICES,
AND EVENTS WITH EVERYONE!!***