

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

www.stgeorgebuffalo.com

NO.477 SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 NO. 477

### 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: <u>jvansuch@hotmail.com</u>

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

### 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. Afterfeast of the

**Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation.** St. Eumenes, Bishop of Gortyna (6th c.). Martyr Ariadne of Phrygia (2nd c.). Martyrs Sophia, Irene, and Castor of Egypt (3rd c.). Greatmartyr Prince Bidzini and Martyrs Princes Elizabar and Shalvi, of Georgia

EPISTLE: Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom GOSPEL:
Galatians 2:16-20 (Sunday After) Mark 8:24-9:1

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 Matthew 22:1-14

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 5**

Let <u>us</u>, the faithful, praise and <u>wor</u>ship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the <u>Spirit</u>, <u>born</u> for our salvation from the <u>Virgin</u>; for He <u>willed</u> to be lifted up on the <u>Cross</u> in the flesh, to en<u>dure</u> death, and to <u>raise</u> the dead// by His <u>glo</u>rious Resur<u>rec</u>tion.

### **Troparion for The Feast of The Exaltation of The Cross - Tone 1**

O <u>Lord</u>, save Thy <u>people</u>, and bless Thine in<u>her</u>itance! <u>Grant</u> victories to the Orthodox <u>Chris</u>tians over their <u>ad</u>versaries; and by <u>vir</u>tue of Thy <u>Cross</u>,// preserve Thy habi<u>tation!</u>

# **Troparion for St. Eumenes - Tone 4**

We have thee as a friend and <u>help</u>er, gracious advocate Eu<u>men</u>es: for compassion <u>flowed</u> from thee and thou pourest forth <u>heal</u>ings on the Church.// Protect those who <u>hon</u>or thee.

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

# **Kontakion for Resurrection - Tone 5**

<u>Thou</u> didst descend into hell, O my <u>Sav</u>ior, shattering its gates as Al<u>mighty</u>, resur<u>rec</u>ting the dead as Cre<u>at</u>or, and de<u>stroy</u>ing the <u>sting</u> of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O <u>Lov</u>er of man,// and we cry to Thee: "O <u>Lord</u>, <u>save</u> us!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### Kontakion for The Feast of The Exaltation of The Cross - Tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the <u>Cross</u> for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O <u>Christ</u> God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy <u>power</u>, granting them victories over their <u>ad</u>versaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy <u>weap</u>on of peace!

# **PROKEMEINON** Tone 7

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! v. The Lord reigns, let the people tremble!

# **ALLELUIA VERSES**

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old!

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!

## THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord! Thou art a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, who, though untilled, hast brought forth Christ; through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its Exaltation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify thee.

# **COMMUNION HYMN**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The light of Thy countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

### **Brethren:**

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand.

But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow.

For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all.

For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

### **Brethren:**

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.

For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

### GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY

### Let us Attend!

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding." But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them.

But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.

Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.

Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

For many are called, but few are chosen."

### At That Time:

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

### **THE MONTHLY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022**

- 17 Monthly Parish Council Meeting (Via Zoom) 5:15 PM Following Great Vespers at 4:00 PM
- 18 Mini Byzantine Dinner following The Divine Liturgy
  (Kick-Off Celebration for the 110th Anniversary of our Parish)
  \*\*Make Health/Snack Kits for Mats for Mission\*\*
- 20 Prep Day for Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner Fundraiser
- 21 Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner Drive Thru Fundraiser (4-7 pm)

### 24-25-26 - VISIT OF ARCHPRIEST CHRIS ROWE (OCMC REPRESENTATIVE)

- OCMC Pan-Orthodox Retreat
- OCMC Mission Walk
- Concert and Reception
- 26 General Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
  Festive Luncheon and Presentation on OCMC in Parish Fellowship Hall
- 26 Monthly Community Healing Prayer Service at 6:00 PM Bible Study (Via Zoom) – 7:00 to 8:30 PM
- 27 Book Club via Zoom (6:30 to 8:00 PM)
- 28 Adult Education Class via Zoom (6:30 to 8:00 PM)
- 30 Eve of the Great Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos Great Vespers at 6:00 PM
- \* Fr. Jason will be away attending and assisting with The Funeral of His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA from Wednesday September 14 (following The Divine Liturgy) and will be returning late on Friday September 16.\*

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

### **ARCHPRIEST CHRIS ROWE**

(OCMC ASSISTANT DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR)

### TO VISIT OUR PARISH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2022



# MISSIONS PRESENTATION SEPTEMBER 25 2022

Fr. Christopher Rowe, OCMC Assistant Development Director and OCA parish priest, will visit our community for Divine Liturgy and share updates about OCMC's missionary efforts around the world.

Learn how we can answer Christ's call to "go and make disciples of all nations" and continue the work of sharing the Good News that began with His disciples and continues with US.

Visit <a href="www.ocmc.org">www.ocmc.org</a> for more information or contact Fr. Christopher via Phone: (904) 506-7105 | E-mail frchris@ocmc.org

# **ANNUAL OCMC WALK FOR MISSIONS 2022**

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 - 3:00 PM

\*\*ANNUAL WALK FOR MISSIONS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24 AT 3:00 PM! WE WILL BEGIN OUR WALK WITH A PRAYER IN THE CHURCH FOLLOWED BY PROCESSING OUT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE CHURCH TO THE BACK PARKING LOT AND WALKING AROUND DELAWARE PARK! FOLLOWING THE WALK, WE WILL RETURN TO THE CHURCH TO CELEBRATE GREAT VESPERS AFTWERWHICH WE WILL HAVE A SMALL RECEPTION IN THE PARISH FELLOWSHIP HALL WHERE WE WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND TIME IN FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER AND HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET N GREET WITH FR. CHRIS AND HIS MATUSHKA MARYANNE! WE ARE ASKING FOR A SIMPLE MINIMAL DONATION OF \$5 PER PERSON FOR THOSE WHO WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE WALK! IF WE ARE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND THE WALK FOR MISSION BUT WOULD STILL LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE SEE OR CONTACT FR. JASON!\*\*

I kindly ask that we distribute this information to our families, friends, and neighbors and invite al of them to join us on that day as we come together in prayer, Christian fellowship, and fun as strive to raise funds to help OCMC and the ministry of proclaiming Christ to the World by supporting our missions, missionaries, and missionary priests.

# 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)

Mr. Albert Fadell 317.376.2562

Andrew Wityk Ellicott Center 200 Seventh Street Buffalo, NY 14201

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

### THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES

# SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

The Hours – 9:40 AM Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Mini-Byzantine Dinner in The Parish Fellowship following The Divine Liturgy Church School Class in The Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy

# **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2022**

Daily Matins - 9:00 AM

Chiavetta's Dinner Fundraiser Preparation - 10:00 AM

Paraklesis Service to The Theotokos - 6:00 PM Bible Study Class (Via Zoom) - 6:45 to 8:00 PM

### WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner Fundraiser Drive-Thru - 4:00 to 7:00 PM

## **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

Akathist Service to St. George - 9:00 AM

### **VISIT OF ARCHPRIEST CHRIS ROWE (OCMC Representative)**

### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

St. George Orthodox Church Walk for Missions around Delaware Park – **3:00 PM** 

Great Vespers-4:00 PM

Reception in Parish Fellowship Hall following Vespers

### SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

The Hours – 9:40 AM Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Special Luncheon and OCMC Presentation in The Parish Fellowship following The Divine Liturgy

Church School Class in The Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy



### \*\*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 or using the dishwasher following Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Katia.

If there is no host for coffee hour, then we will not have coffee hour on that particular Sunday.

Please refer to the email from Mat. Fran to see which Sundays are available to host coffee hour.

If we do not have a host for a particular Sunday, then we will not have coffee hour!

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

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

#### = = = Scriptural Readings for the Week = = = 2 Corinthians 12:10-19 Mark 4:10-23 Monday Hebrews 3:1-4 Matthew 16:13-18 Tuesday 2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2 Mark 4:24-34 Wednesday 2 Corinthians 13:3-14 Mark 4:35-41 John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 Galatians 1:1-10, 20-2:5 Mark 5:1-20 Thursday Galatians 2:6-10 Friday Mark 5:22-24, 35-6:1 Saturday 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 John 8:21-30 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Matthew 23:1-12

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 Matthew 22:1-14

Mark 8:34-9:1

**Galatians 2:16-20** 

Sunday

# 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: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player\_e\_mbedded&fs=1">http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player\_e\_mbedded&fs=1"</a>

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: <a href="http://journeytoorthodoxy.com">http://journeytoorthodoxy.com</a>

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!





https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted button id=E5X6YTVC9DF3W

### ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Please remember in prayer Thy Servants of God...

# **FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:**

### **HIERARCHS**

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 Presbytera Nancy

Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie Archpriest Robert

Archpriest Andreja, Popadija Anica and Family

Archpriest Timmothy Priest Peter and Mat. Mary Dn. Sean and Mat. Heather Archpriest John (Onofrey)

### **MATUSHKI**

Mat. Katia Mat. Paraskeva Mat. Joanna Popadia Vicki Christine Mat. Patricia Mat. Gloria Popadija Sara Mat. Gayle Mat. Natasha

Catherine Ivan/Marina/Inna Bonnie/Silviu Coard Karen Aliscia Walter/Paul Edwina, Irene Luba Jim, Darren, Marsha

Iman.Serena/Asma, Sarah, Lillian, Olga Reader Victor Nicholas, Andrew, Theresa

Xenia, Justin, Danielle, John Albert Frank Tune Marilyn Amanda, Chase, Ronald, Candice **Boris** Oscar Larry Joseph Frank **Billy** Clvde Amy Victor Catherine Susan Svetlana Iuliana **Evelyn** Robert Paul Brian Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle Linda **Iustin** Iohn, Helen

Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria, Tyler Ashley Steven Barbara Lia/Isaiah Lee, Bridget Matthew William

Melody Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas Sada, Charles, Thlisinitsa, Gemmal,

Geesa, and Patric

Olga and Eugene Jeremy Stewart Susan Mary John Susan Justin Louis Alex John, Kevin, Sean Aldona, Melinda Anthony Yuri/Elena Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick **James** Iaime/Sammy, Juliana Anthony Roscoe Rosemary

Aspasia/Stavros, Harry Charles, Seraphim Emma/Alexander Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa Amelia, Emily

Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia

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

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

**Kyriaki and Konstantinos** (Pete Thanos parents) **Amy**(friend of Molly Burke)

Children of God -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 Matushka Patricia (Bohush)

Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar Mitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. Myra

Archpriest George Archpriest Paul Archpriest Jonathan Archpriest Paul

Those Serving in The Armed Forces Catechumens

Kenneth, Nadine, Jason, Robert, Andrew, Justin, Shawn, Juanita Martha, Selathiel

Austin, Chris, John, Daniel, Gjorgie, Thomas

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 

# 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 HERMAN** 

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** 

Mat. Anne (Hopko)
Mat. Patricia (Bohush)

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

Rdr Michael (Mellin) Child of God Harry

\*If anyone would like to have their loved ones added to the prayer list for remembrance during the Divine Liturgy and Divine Services, 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 (<a href="www.stgeorgebuffalo.com">www.stgeorgebuffalo.com</a>) 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 fine 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 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: <a href="https://oca.org/become-a-steward">https://oca.org/become-a-steward</a>

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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: <a href="http://vimeo.com/71021182">http://vimeo.com/71021182</a> 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: <a href="http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html">http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html</a>.

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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: <a href="http://www.nynjoca.org">http://www.nynjoca.org</a>! 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!

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### 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: <a href="http://www.nynjoca.org">http://www.nynjoca.org</a>!

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 Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of Our Lord



### **Commemorated on September 14**

The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter. Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols there. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the great Christian sacred remains, the Sepulchre of the Lord and the Life-Creating Cross were again discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under the Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory in the year 312 over Maxentius, ruler of the Western part of the Roman empire, and over Licinius, ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 he had issued the Edict of Milan, by which the Christian religion was legalized and the persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the empire were stopped. The ruler Licinius, although he had signed the Edict of Milan to oblige Constantine, still fanatically continued the persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the 313 Edict of toleration extend also to the Eastern part of the empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, having gained victory over his enemies in three wars with God's assistance, had seen in the heavens the Sign of the Cross, and written beneath: "By this you shall conquer." Ardently desiring to find the Cross on which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, St Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to St Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Although the holy empress Helen was already in her declining years, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. The empress gave orders to destroy the pagan temple and the statues in Jerusalem. Searching for the Life-Creating Cross, she made inquiry of Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, they directed her to a certain elderly Hebrew by the name of Jude who

stated that the Cross was buried where the temple of Venus stood. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Tomb of the Lord was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discern on which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead one, he came to life. Having beheld the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-Creating Cross was found. Christians came in a huge throng to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching St Macarius to elevate the Cross, so that even those far off might reverently contemplate it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders raised up the Holy Cross, and the people, saying "Lord have mercy," reverently prostrated before the Venerable Wood. This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-Creating Cross another miracle took place: a grievously sick woman, beneath the shadow of the Holy Cross, was healed instantly. The elder Jude and other Jews there believed in Christ and accepted Holy Baptism. Jude received the name Cyriacus and afterwards was consecrated Bishop of Jerusalem. During the reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363) he accepted a martyr's death for Christ (see October 28). The holy empress Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings and where the Mother of God was buried after her death.

St Helen took part of the Life-Creating Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. The holy emperor Constantine gave orders to build at Jerusalem a majestic and spacious church in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, also including under its roof the Life-Giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The temple was constructed in about ten years. St Helen did not survive until the dedication of the temple, she died in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the

following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross was established. Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine emperor Phocas (602-610) the Persian emperor Khozroes II in a war against the Greeks defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem and captured both the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years and only under the emperor Heraclius (610-641), who with the help of God defeated Khozroes and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Cross of the Lord returned to the Christians. With great solemnity the Life-creating Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Heraclius in imperial crown and royal purple carried the Cross of Christ into the temple of the Resurrection. With the emperor went Patriarch Zacharios. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the emperor suddenly stopped and was not able to proceed farther. The holy Patriarch explained to the emperor that an angel of the Lord was blocking his way. The emperor was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world from sin had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Heraclius donned plain garb, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church. In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, St Andrew of Crete (July 4) says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true gathers together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast".

# **SOME NOTES ABOUT THE FEAST**

On the 14th of September of every year, we celebrate the Feast of the discovery/Elevation of the Cross (The finding of the true Cross)

• This is when we remember the appearance of the glorious Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ (The Cross upon which Christ was crucified).

## Story of the Cross...

- After Jesus was crucified, many miracles were done near Jesus' tomb.
- •When the Jews were aware of these miracles, they became angry.
- •They asked everyone in the entire nation to dump dirt on the site, in an effort to bury it.
- •For 200 years, this was the case. For 200 years, everyone placed their dirt at Jesus' tomb, until a big pile of dirt had accumulated there. The place is called Golgotha.

### Story of the Cross...

- •However, Saint Helena (Eleni), who was the mother of King Constantine the Great, loved the cross. She loved the cross, because it
- appeared to her son before he went into a war over which he was victorious.
- •The king gave his mother a great amount of money and sent her to the Holy Land to build churches and monasteries.
- •She went to Jerusalem to look for the Cross. When she arrived in the city of Jerusalem, and had knelt in prayer at the holy place...
- •She asked many people regarding its whereabouts, but nobody knew for sure.

Finally, she met an old man who informed her that the Cross was buried underneath the large pile of dirt.

- •She immediately ordered her soldiers to clean the site. This made it easy to find the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ.
- •During digging, they found the tomb of Jesus the Savior and three crosses and some nails near it.
- •At first, they did not know which of the 3 crosses belonged to Jesus.

### The Test....

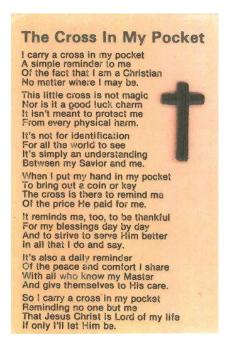
- •They brought a sick woman who suffered from a dangerous disease for a long time and put the first cross on her but she was not healed.
- •They put the other cross on her but she did not recover but when they put the third cross on her she was healed at once.
- •When they put the same cross on a dead body of a man, he was brought back to life.
- •In this way Queen Helena could recognize the Lord Jesus Christ's cross and she was so pleased to discover it.
- •She built a church there in the name of the cross and that day on which she discovered the cross became a feast in the church.
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•She built a church there in the name of the cross and that day on which she discovered the cross became a feast in the church.

On this Feast Day, the Church teaches us to direct our attention to the Cross. The Cross is our strength and our salvation. We look to it and pray to Christ to give us strength to complete this journey. The Gospel passage for this Sunday challenges us again to commit our whole lives to Christ. As Christ was crucified for our salvation, we are called to take up our meager cross and follow Christ by crucifying our sinful desires and surrendering our will to His.

### For Consideration

- What is our cross? How do we follow Christ?
- What crosses are we to pick up to follow Christ?
- What does the Cross mean for us as Orthodox Christians?
- How do we make the sign of the Cross/its meaning?
- Sing the Tropar for the Feast:
   O Lord, save Thy people, / And bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / Over their adversaries. / And by virtue of Thy Cross, / Preserve Thy habitation.



### 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 CROSS POEM

Whatever your cross, whatever your pain,
there will always be sunshine, after rain.
Perhaps you may stumble, perhaps even fall,
But God's always ready. To answer your call.
He knows every heartache,
He sees every tear, a word from His lips can calm every fear.
Your sorrows may linger throughout the night,
but suddenly vanish in dawn's early light.
The Savior is waiting somewhere above,
to give you His Grace and send you His love.
So, whatever your cross, whatever your pain,

God will always send a rainbow after the rain.

# The Parable of the Wedding Feast

A Homily on St. Matt. 22:1-14 by Father James Thornton

The verses that we heard this morning, from the twenty-second chapter of St. Matthew, are comprised of one of Christ's parables, that in which He compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a great marriage feast. Christ says that "The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a certain King, which made a marriage for his son.;

The King, we are told, sent forth his servants to invite certain people to the wedding feast, but none responded at all. The King sent his servants a second time, and this time the servants told those invited of the wonderful things that had been prepared for the feast. Again, however, no one came, but instead the people gave excuses that they were too busy with the farm and with business to attend the feast. Then some of these men even seized hold of the servants and murdered them. The infuriated King, quite understandably, sent his army to punish and destroy the murderers. The King then sent his servants out into the highways to bring in strangers, so that there would be guests for the wedding and the feast.

Finally, the King saw a man at the feast who had failed to wear the proper garments, and challenged by the King as to why he was there without a wedding garment, the man remained silent. The King had him bound up and thrown into the outer darkness.

What lessons are we to draw from this parable?

St Gregory the Dialogist writes that the King is God Himself, and the marriage is symbolic of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, the union of Christ's divine and human natures into one Person. The feast is symbolic of Christ's Church, the Orthodox Church, which exists, we remember, in heaven and on earth. St. John Chrysostomos' commentary is similar to this interpretation. He adds that, at first, Christ invites the people of the Old Covenant, the Jews, to join this great marriage feast, which is the Church. But they fail to respond. He invites them a second time, and they are too busy with earthly concerns, to which St. John Chrysostomos states that "when spiritual things call us, there is no press of business that has the power of necessity." When Christ persists with His invitations to the Jews, they kill Him, they crucify Him, just as they killed the Old Testament

Prophets. St. John comments that Christ sought to win them over before His crucifixion, and even after it "He still urges them, striving to win them over." However, they refused Him, and so it is then that the ordinary people of the "highways," the Gentiles, are invited, since the wedding feast, the Church, must be filled. St John writes that when the Jews "were not willing to be present at the marriage, then He called others," He called you and me.

You will remember that in the parable, when the King's servants are killed, the King sends forth an army to destroy their city and punish them. So it was, St. John writes, that less than four decades after Christ's Ascension, Jerusalem fell to the armies of Vespasian and Titus, and it was utterly destroyed and the people there killed or dispersed to the four corners of the earth.

Now, Christ, has summoned us to His feast, that is to His Church, so that here we may partake of His sacred, holy, and heavenly foods, those that are filled with Grace—the Holy Mysteries—and that prepare us spiritually for eternal life with Him, for life in that eternal aspect of the Church. But, for this feast we must prepare, we must attire ourselves with the proper garment or we shall be cast, like the man in the parable, into the outer darkness. This garment is, of course, a spiritual one. Without it, without preparing ourselves for the wedding feast, we are no better—NO BETTER—than those who rejected and crucified Christ, since failure to prepare ourselves is a form of rejection—it is a gross insult to the King—and therefore our ultimate fate too, in the life to come, will be no better.

Now, how do we apply that which we read in this Gospel lesson to our daily lives and how do we assure that our wedding garment is proper to the occasion of our meeting with our King?

We are blest by God to be members of His Church. We have been invited to partake of the feast and we have accepted the invitation. When we attend Divine Liturgy, we share in the feast that the King, Our Lord Jesus Christ, has readied for us and doing this we prepare ourselves for an eternal feast in the life to come.

St. Gregory the Dialogist, who who was also a bishop of Rome during that time that the Church of Rome was still part of Orthodoxy, writes that the wedding garment symbolizes the virtue of charity. We prepare ourselves to meet our King and God by developing within ourselves this virtue of

charity, because at the end, at its highest development, all of the other spiritual virtues come down to this, they aim towards this: those who will be saved are those who acquire selfless love, a love that does not aim at selfish ends. St. Gregory says, referring again to the wedding garment, that cloth is woven between two beams, an upper and a lower. Any of you who have ever woven cloth, or have seen others operate a loom, know that this is true. In like fashion is our spiritual garment woven, St. Gregory tells us, with an upper beam, which is love of God, and a lower beam, which is love of our neighbor. One must love God with his whole soul, and heart, and strength. It must be total, in other words. As for love of neighbor, St. Gregory says this: "...let no one, when he loves someone, think to himself that he now begins to possess charity, until he first examines the motives of his love. For if one loves another, but does not love him for God's sake, he has not charity, but only thinks he has. But when we love our friend in God, and our enemy because of God, this is true charity. He loves for God's sake, who loves those whom he knows do not love him. Charity is proved true solely by means of its opposite: hate [that is, by the absence of hate]. And so because of this the Lord Himself says to us: 'Love thine enemies. Do good to them that hate thee' (St. Luke 6:27). He [who does this] then loves securely, who for God's sake loves him by whom he knows he is not loved. These are great precepts," exclaims St. Gregory, "sublime precepts, and are to many hard to fulfill: nevertheless this is the wedding garment. And whoever sits down at the wedding feast without it, let him watch with fear, for when the King comes in, he shall be cast forth." We may add, by way of clarification, that the selfless love of which the Gospel speaks, and to which St. Gregory here refers, is only possible by the cultivation of all of the other Christian virtues and by obedience to all of the other Commandments of God.

We who come to the feast—who come to Divine Liturgy—with hate in their hearts do not wear the acceptable garment. We whose faith and love are cold, who attend Church for social reasons, to show off their cloths and jewelry, or to visit with acquaintances or for any of a myriad of other reasons not consistent with love of God, are, spiritually speaking, not dressed in a wedding garment pleasing to the King, Our Lord Jesus Christ. We must come to the feast, to Divine Liturgy, for the sake of the Glory of Him who invited us, not for our own glory.

Christ ends His parable with the dictum, "Many are called, but few are chosen." St. Paul tells us that God desires that all men be saved. God loves every human being with the same intensity of love, and wishes that all

may come to him. So, many are called. However, it is in the very nature of God's Glory that only those who have purified themselves and acquired selfless love may spend eternity with Him, may, so to speak, partake of the eternal feast. That is because only those we who have acquired the means to receive the boundless love that radiates from God, what the theologians call God's Energies, can live in eternal bliss. He chooses only those who, only those who have acquired some measure of selfless love, and that number is small by comparison with the total. Few, indeed, are chosen.

In St. Gregory's discourse on this Gospel lesson, he mentions a man who had failed to prepare himself for life eternal. On his deathbed, near the end of life, this man could see the demons preparing to take him to their abode of eternal suffering, and he saw himself being literally swallowed by a hideous THE Beast, Satan himself. But his brethren, who loved him despite his sinfulness, prayed around his deathbed for his salvation, and God, in His mercy, granted the man a brief reprieve of a few days, so that he could repent of his sins and win eternal happiness with God.

It would be a mistake, of course, for any of us to count on such circumstances at the hour of our death, for none of us know how we shall die and whether we shall be granted sufficient time to repent, to turn around our lives. Death, as we know, takes many people in an instant. But, the point here is that God's mercy is wondrous and that it is not too late. Whatever the circumstances of our lives, however old or young we are, however rich or poor we are, we can begin now to prepare our wedding garments for that encounter with the King that every one of us will someday experience. Let us wait no longer. How many of us will be alive tomorrow, or the next day, or next week? We do not know. Now is the time to begin weaving our garments, to begin loving God with our whole soul, and heart, and strength, and to begin loving our neighbors as ourselves. Now is the time to seek that selfless love—to put on that spotless wedding garment—that will save us.

# **SEPTEMBER 18, 2022**

Mini Byzantine Dinner (Patti Fiden)

### FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30 & SATURDAY OCTOBER 1

Feast of The Protection of The Most-Holy Theotokos

Friday September 30, 2022 Great Vespers – 6:00 PM

Saturday October 1, 2022 Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM Great Vespers – 4:00 PM

# **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\*\*

# Saint Tikhon's Monastery The Oldest Orthodox Christian Monastery in America

2022- DIOCESAN APPEAL - 2022

His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL has asked that every parish within The Diocese of New York and New Jersey hold a 3 week collection to seek donations for The Monastery Housing at St Tikhon's Monasetery in South Canaan, PA. This is where the Monks reside, pray, and study while focusing on their spiritual struggle and journey in order to pray for all of us living and ministering in the world.

Let us look into our hearts and see how we can give back to God a portion of the blessings He has bestowed upon us out of His Love, Mercy, and Grace for all of us by supporting and donating out of love and gratitude to God to St. Tikhon's Monastery where Saints have Lived and Walked and Prayed!

### SPECIAL DIOCESAN APPEAL COLLECTIONS

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4 ~ SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18** 

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

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

2 Nottingham Terrace Buffalo NY

(Corner of Amherst and Nottingham Streets)

# WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 4-7 pm or 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 Pages at the Link Below:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chiavettas-chicken-dinner-fundraiser-drive-thru-only-tickets413006893737?fbclid=lwAR1Y1wElh8jF4hjr atnJL25P4VkyXt ZaUWxeMOwW9 Z hjx eC ElKJ6BQ

https://allevents.in/buffalo/chiavettas-chicken-dinner-fundraiser-drive-thru-only/80001161288404

# \*\* THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (1-4 PM)\*\* Chicken/Beef Chowder Sale

\*\*Please see or contact Mike Dan for more information and/or to help out! We will need \$250/each month to cover cost of ingredients to ensure full profit!

NEXT CHOWDER SALE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 29, 2022

Thank you for your continued love, prayers, generosity, and support.

May God richly bless and guide you and your families!

# MINI- BYZANTINE DINNER

### **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18**

In The Parish Fellowship Hall immediately following The Divine Liturgy!

There is no charge for the dinner...we are simply asking for a "Celebration Donation" as we begin the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year-Long Celebration of Our Parish!!

As we begin the year long celebration of Services, Events, and Activities to mark The 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Beloved Parish, let us come together on Sunday September 18 as a Parish Family and enjoy a delicious lunch (prepared by our wonderful parishioners) and spend time together in prayer, Christian Fellowship and reflect upon the past 110 years of our parish and her life and ministry To, With, and For The Glory of God!

During the luncheon, Fr. Jason will give a brief history about our parish after which we invite everyone to share our memories and stories as well as what makes St. George Orthodox Church so special to us and to our families and why we call it our Spiritual Home!

Please share these events with our families, friends, and neighbors!