

**St. George Orthodox Church**  
**2 Nottingham Terrace - Buffalo, NY 14216**  
**(716) 875-4222**  
[www.stgeorgebuffalo.com](http://www.stgeorgebuffalo.com)

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

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

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**2 Nottingham Terrace Buffalo, NY 14216**

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

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

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

Rev. Peter Irfan, Attached

Mat. Katia Vansuch, Choir Director

Dr. Boris Kuvshinoff, Parish Council President

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

**8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7.** Apostles Silas and Silvanus of the Seventy, and those with them: Crescens, Epenetus, and Andronicus (1st c.). Martyr John the soldier at Constantinople. Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Herman of Solovétsky Monastery (1484). Hieromartyr Polychronius, Bishop of Babylon, and Martyrs Parmenius, Helimenas, and Chrysotelus—Presbyters, Luke and Moscius—Deacons, and Abdon, Sennen, Maximus and Olympius (ca. 251). Hieromartyr Valentine, Bishop of Interamna (Terni) in Italy, and Martyrs Proculus, Ephebus, Apollonius and Abundius, youths

**EPISTLE:** Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom **GOSPEL:**  
 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 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!

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

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**TODAY'S WEEKLY MESSENGER IS SPONSORED BY:**

St. George Orthodox Church

**WELCOME TO ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

## HYMNS FOR THE 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 Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus— Tone 3

Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus, entreat the merciful God// to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

### Kontakion for The 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!”

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

### Kontakion for The Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus — Tone 4

You were revealed to be branches of the vine of Christ, O wise ones, bearing clusters of virtues that pour out on us the wine of salvation. Receiving it, we are filled with gladness, and we celebrate your most honored memory, Apostles of the Lord, Silas and Silvanus.// Therefore, intercede that great mercy and remission of sins may be granted to us.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

### Steadfast Protectress Tone 6

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

### PROKEMEINON Tone 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!*

### 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 HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

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

### COMMUNION HYMN

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

## EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

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

<b>Monday</b>	1 Corinthians 11:31-12:6	Matthew 18:1-11
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Corinthians 12:12-26	Matthew 18:18-22, 19:1-2, 13-15
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Corinthians 13:4-14:5	Matthew 20:1-16
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Corinthians 14:6-19	Matthew 20:17-28
<b>Friday</b>	1 Corinthians 14:26-40	Matthew 21:12-14, 17-20
<b>Saturday</b>	Romans 14:6-9	Matthew 15:32-39
<b>Sunday</b>	2 Peter 1:10-19	Matthew 17:1-9

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**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH (Buffalo, NY)**  
**PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

To the Glory of God, every year our beloved parish family answers The Call of Our Lord of ministering to those in need by fulfilling The Gospel of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ with participating in 5 on-going Parish Outreach Ministries within the local Buffalo Area on an on-going basis and especially during the Nativity Season.

Every year, we look forward to another wonderful blessed Nativity Season of bringing the joy, the love, and the peace of The Nativity of Our Lord to everyone especially through the following the outreach ministries:

**Hearts for The Homeless** – which is a mobile soup kitchen/thrift shop that feeds the poor and chronic homeless on the street. Characterized by a profound spiritual motivation. The program offers nourishing food, as well as clothing, pertinent information regarding area services, companionship and hope for the future.

- Each Month we collect a different canned good/non-perishable food item along with hygiene products and drop them off at the Hearts for The Homeless Distribution Center

**Buffalo City Mission** – exists to meet the spiritual and practical needs of the poor through the demonstration of the love and preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in providing love, care, shelter, food, and other means necessary to those in need.

- Each Month we collect hygiene products, clothing for men, women, and children and drop them off at the Buffalo City Mission Distribution Center

**HomeSpace** – is a local community organization ministering to local teens and pre-teen moms which provides comprehensive care to 14-21 yr old moms (providing those essential items necessary for caring for their children: diapers, wipes, baby food, clothing (infants through 7/8 years old). HomeSpace Corporation supports at-risk young women to achieve independence two generations at a time.

- Each Month we collect hygiene products, clothing for young women and children along with those essential items necessary

for caring for their children: diapers, wipes, baby food, clothing (infants through 7/8 years old) and drop them off at the HomeSpace Distribution Center

**Mats for Mission/Resurrection Life Food Pantry** – A Local Organization assisting with providing rest mats made out of plastic bags for the less fortunate as well as providing food and other means necessary to those in need.

- Each Month we collect plastic bags as well as canned goods and non-perishable food items and drop them off at the Resurrection Life Food Pantry Distribution Center.
- Beginning in January 2023, our church school children will be volunteering here on a regular basis assisting with collecting and sorting out Food Bags for those in need.

**Baker Victory** – A Local Organization dedicated to fostering the highest possible quality of life and personal achievement by partnering with children, adults, their families and the WNY community through a diverse array of social, health and human services.

- Twice a year we collect gifts and other essential items necessary for the children and drop them off at the Baker Victory Distribution Center.

**\*\*We also support Compass Care Pro-Life Agency on a regular basis!**

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**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU  
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!**  
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**\*\*PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY EMAILS AND PARISH WEBSITE  
FOR CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR!\*\***  
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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)**

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

Nicholas Wityk  
Buffalo Center  
1014 Delaware Ave

Andrew Wityk  
Ellicott Center  
200 Seventh Street  
Buffalo, NY 14201

**\*\* NEW COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FOR 2023 IN THE PARISH FELLOWSHIP HALL!  
BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO HOST A COFFEE HOUR! PLEASE JOIN US EVERY  
SUNDAY IN THE PARISH FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY  
FOR SOME CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER!\*\***

## **THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES**

### **SUNDAY JULY 30, 2023**

Matins – **8:45 AM** Divine Liturgy– **9:30 AM**

- Blessing of Honey
- Memorial Litia for Thy Newly-Departed Servant of God – Anthony Dipiano
- Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy!
- 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting

### **MONDAY JULY 31, 2023**

#### **Eve of The Feast of The Procession of The Cross of Our Lord**

Monthly Healing Prayer Service with Blessing of Water – **6:00 PM**  
Education Class on the Holy Icons  
of the 12 Major Feast Days (Via Zoom) – **7:00 PM**

### **TUESDAY AUGUST 1, 2023**

#### **The Beginning of The Dormition Fast (August 1-15)**

#### **The Feast of The Procession of The Cross of Our Lord**

Akathist Service in Honor of The Precious and Life-Giving Cross of Our Lord – **9:00 AM**

### **WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2, 2023**

Paraklesis Service in honor of The Theotokos – **6:00 PM**

### **THURSDAY AUGUST 3, 2023**

Akathist Service in Honor of The Theotokos – **9:00 AM**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2023**

**Eve of The Great Feast of The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Great Vespers with Litiya – **4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 6, 2023**

**The Great Feast of The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Matins – **8:45 AM** Divine Liturgy followed by  
The Blessing of Fruits and Vegetables – **9:30 AM**

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy!



If anyone has any questions about fasting or restrictions when hosting coffee hour, please see Fr. Jason and he will help you and guide you!

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

We will also be using real coffee cups for coffee hour. If anyone needs assistance with cleaning them 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.**

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

**\*\*We have 10 available Sundays in 2023!\*\***



## **FIND YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME In The Orthodox Christian Church**

SATURDAY Great Vespers 4:00 PM

SUNDAY Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM (Sept-May)

9:30 AM (May-September)

~ All are Welcome ~

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

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

Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?

Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions

in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,

Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

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

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

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

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

[http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player\\_embedded&fs=1](http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1)

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

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

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

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

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

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

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

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

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith or needs and help or assistance, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch ([jvansuch@hotmail.com](mailto: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



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[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=E5X6YTVC9DF3W](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      Archbishop DANIEL

#### CLERGY

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

MATUSHKI Mat. Deborah Popadija Sara      Mat. Gayle      Mat. Natasha  
Mat. Barbara Mat. Katia      Mat. Paraskeva      Mat. Joanna      Popadia Vicki  
Mat. Patricia      Mat. Gloria      Christine      Coard      Karen  
Catherine      Ivan/Marina/Inna      Bonnie/Silviu      Jennifer, Amanda  
Edwina      Irene      Luba      Jim, Darren, Marsha  
Serena/Asma      Lillian      Reader Victor      Nicholas, Andrew  
Marilyn      Frank      June      Theodora      Amanda, Chase Ronald, Candice  
Sarah      Albert      Boris      Oscar      Billy      Clyde  
Xenia, Justin, Danielle, Anne, Patricia      Larry Joseph      Frank  
Victor      Catherine      Susan      Svetlana      Juliana  
Evelyn      Robert      Rebecca      Paul      Brian  
Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle      Linda      Justin      Frances  
John, Helen      Ashley      Steven      Barbara      Daniel  
Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria, Tyler      Matthew      William  
Melody      Natalie, Lorraine      Lee, Maribeth      Bridget  
Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas, Sada, Charles, Thlisinitsa,  
Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric      Lia/Isaiah  
Olga and Eugene      Jeremy Stewart      Susan  
Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena      Alex      John, Kevin, Sean  
Anthony      Aldona, Melinda, Pam      Valerie      Mary      John      Rebecca  
Jaime/Sammy, Juliana      Harry      James

Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick Aspasia/Stavros  
Charles Emma/Alexander Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa  
Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia Rosemary Anthony  
Seraphim Anthony  
Mary, Hal, Autumn, Ariana, and Amber, Judithann Anita, James, Jeffrey,  
Dominic, Douglas, Rachel, Dennis, Edith, Robert, Joanna  
Brian John, Roberta, Barbara John, Michael John  
George Costa Jonathan, Kevin, Lary, Carly, Sherry, Mary Jo, Clara, Karl,  
Dragica, Mary Al and Sophie and Family  
Stephen, Larry, Olga, Olga, Sally, Deborah, David  
Rdr Nicholas, Judithann, Michael, Mary, Cate, Michael, Gary, Damian, Olga,  
Alexandra, Barbara, Damian  
Ron, Illiana, Jillian, Joel, Robert, Susan, Arnold, Kyriaki, Konstantinos,  
Danny, Thomas, Amelia, Emily, Kevin/Juanita

Alyssa Marie and the child Luke Joshua born of her  
Children of God – Keely, Isla, Talia, Lane, Liam, Caiden  
Chryssanthi 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 Mitred Archpriest Ken (*Starevsky*)  
Archpriest Jonathan Archpriest Paul

Those Serving in The Armed Forces

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

Inquirers

William and Darlene Matthew Ayden Edward  
Rudy and Karen Paul Judy

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

Metropolitan HERMAN  
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

Anthony Dipiano

\*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 ([www.stgeorgebuffalo.com](http://www.stgeorgebuffalo.com)) to see how we may be able to donate towards the needs of our parish through our continued support and stewardship for our beloved parish.

Some of the items on the leaves are as follows:

- Candles
- 7-Day Vigil Candles
- Flowers for Feast Days
- Charcoal
- Altar Wine
- Cups for Zapifka
- Paper Towels Toilet Paper Donation for Office Supplies (Paper, Copier)
- Monthly Donation for Health Kits for Mats for Mission
- Monthly Donation for Chowder Sale

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: <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!**

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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: <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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**MONTHLY HEALING PRAYER SERVICE**  
**The Supplicatory Canon**  
**Prayer Service to St. Nektarios with Lesser**  
**Blessing of Water**  
**MONDAY JULY 31, 2023 – 6:00 PM**



***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***

**1) ADULT BIBLE STUDY/EDUCATION CLASS WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER ALONG WITH ST. GEORGE CATECHISM/CONVERT CLASS AND ST. GEORGE PRAYER GROUP**

**3) ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH EDUCATION CLASS ON THE ICONS OF THE 12 MAJOR FEAST DAYS WILL BE HELD IN JULY ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS (Via Zoom)**

July 31 (The Annunciation of The Theotokos - March 25 and The Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem,  
The Feast of The Transfiguration of Our Lord - August 6) (The Feast of Holy Pentecost and The Feast of The Ascension of Our Lord, The Feast of The Dormition of The Theotokos - August 15)

**4) ST. GEORGE SENIOR/RETIREE DAY  
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2  
10:00 am to 12:30 PM**

**We invite all Seniors and Retirees to come and join us as we spend a morning together in prayer and Christian fellowship!**

- A morning filled with prayer, fellowship, education and fun for all of our retired parishioners to come together and spend time together
- Coffee, tea, juice and snacks will be provided
- Held 1-2x a month



## **WHY DO WE BLESS HONEY ON THE FEAST OF THE PROCESSION OF THE CROSS**

**August 1**

The Procession of the Venerable Wood of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: In the Greek Horologion of 1897 the derivation of this Feast is explained: “Because of the illnesses that occur in August, it was customary, in former times, to carry the Venerable Wood of the Cross through the streets and squares of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city, and for relief from sickness. On the eve (July 31), it was taken out of the imperial treasury, and laid upon the altar of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (the Wisdom of God). From this Feast until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, they carried the Cross throughout the city in procession, offering it to the people to venerate. This also is the Procession of the Venerable Cross.”

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined also with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus, on August 1, 988. In the “Account of the Order of Services in the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Great Church of the Dormition,” compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is the following explanation of the Feast: “On the day of the Procession of the Venerable Cross there is a church procession for the sanctification of water and for the enlightenment of the people, throughout all the towns and places.”

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus was preserved in the Chronicles of the sixteenth century: “The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and all Rus was on August 1.”

In the present practice of the Russian Church, the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 is done either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called ‘Savior of the Water.’ There may also be a Blessing of New Honey today, which is why the Feast is also called “Savior of the Honey.” From this day the newly gathered honey is blessed and tasted.

**WHY DO WE BLESS FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ON THE FEAST  
OF THE TRANSFIGURATION**

**August 6**

The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in the paradise of God's unending Kingdom of Life where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.

This is an ancient Christian custom. The first week of August, on the sixth of August, the farmers use to gather the early fruits of their summer harvest (grapes, figs etc.) and to present them in the Church to be blessed and to give them for free to congregation. These fruits are called the "beginnings".

In a text from the 7th century ("the laws of the kingdom" by emperor Constantine Porfirogenitos) this custom is described vividly: "The Emperor of Constantinople gathers the "beginnings" ("aparches") in Chalcedone, where there are many vines, and then he waits for the Patriarch of Constantinople to come on the the Holiday of Transfiguration, to bless the fruits and to personally hand out the grapes to the laymen".

This custom is honored in many places in Greece where there are plantation with vines. We must not forget that the Church was presented once as a "vine". So, [the] Church blesses the first fruits of vine giving a "theological" meaning to farmer's work.

**THE BLESSING OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**  
SUNDAY AUGUST 6

**THE BLESSING OF HERBS AND FLOWERS**  
MONDAY AUGUST 14 and TUESDAY AUGUST 15

**VISIT OF FR. CHRIS ROWE (OCMC Representative)**  
SATURDAY SEPTMBER 16 AND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17

**110<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF OUR PARISH**  
and ARCHPASTORAL VISIT OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23 AND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24

**CHIAVETTA'S CHICKEN BBQ DRIVE-THRU**  
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27

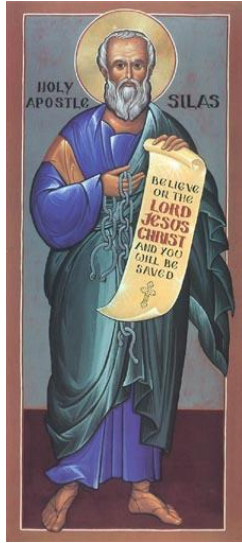
**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH FOOD FEST**  
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3-4

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH SETWARDSHIP SUNDAY**  
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE TRAY SALE**  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 15 and SUNDAY DECEMBER 16

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH EDUCATION CENTER**

**The Holy Apostle Silas of the Seventy**  
**July 30**



The Holy Apostle of the Seventy Silas was a disciple of the Savior.

Saint Silas was a respected figure in the original Church at Jerusalem, one of the "chief men among the brethren" (Acts 15:22). The Council of the Apostles was convened at Jerusalem in the year 51 to deal with the question of whether Gentile Christian converts should be required to observe the Mosaic Law. The Apostles sent a message with Paul and Barnabas to the Christians of Antioch, giving the decision of the Council that Christians of Gentile origin did not have to observe the prescriptions of the Mosaic Law. Nonetheless, they were told that they must refrain from partaking of foods offered to idols, from things strangled and from blood, to refrain from fornication (Acts 15:20-29). Together with Saints Paul and

Barnabas, the Council of the Apostles sent Saints Silas and Jude to explain the message in greater detail, since they both were filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Saint Jude was later sent back to Jerusalem, but Saint Silas remained at Antioch and zealously assisted Saint Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, on his missionary journeys preaching the Gospel. They visited Syria, Cilicia, and Macedonia.

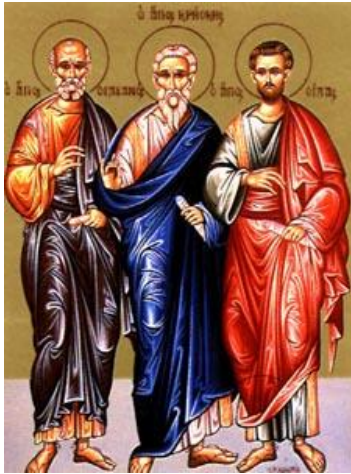
In the city of Philippi they were accused of inciting unrest among the people, and for this they were arrested, beaten with rods, and then thrown into prison. At midnight, when the saints were at prayer, suddenly there was a strong earthquake, their chains fell off from them and the doors of the prison opened. The prison guard, supposing that the prisoners had fled, wanted to kill himself, but was stopped by the Apostle Paul. Then, he fell down trembling at the feet of the saints, and with faith accepted their preaching about Christ. He then led them out of the prison and took them to his own home, where he washed their wounds, and was baptized together with all his household.

From Philippi Saints Paul and Silas proceeded on to the cities of Amphipolis, Apollonia and Thessalonica. In each city they made new converts to Christ and built up the Church.

At Corinth the holy Apostle Silas was consecrated as bishop, and worked many miracles and signs, and there he finished his life.

## The Holy Apostle Silvanus of the Seventy

July 30



The Holy Apostle of the Seventy Silvanus was a disciple of the Savior.

The Holy Apostle Silvanus preached the Word of God together with the chief Apostles Peter and Paul. In his First Epistle, the holy Apostle Peter makes mention of him: "By Silvanus, a faithful brother to you, as I suppose, I have written briefly..." (1 Peter 5:12). Saint Silvanus was made bishop at Thessalonica and died there a martyr, having undergone many sorrows and misfortunes for the Lord's sake.

## Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord (First of the three "Feasts of the Savior" in August)

August 1



The origin of this Feast is explained in the Greek *Horologion* of 1897: "Because of the illnesses which occur during the month of August, it was customary at Constantinople to carry the Precious Wood of the Cross in procession throughout the city for its sanctification, and to deliver it from sickness."

On the eve (July 31), the Cross was removed from the imperial treasury and placed it upon the Holy Table of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (which is dedicated to Christ, the Wisdom of God). From August 1 until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, there was a procession throughout the entire the city, and then the Cross was placed where all the people could venerate it.

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus on August 1, 988. In the

“The order of services for the holy, catholic, and apostolic Great Church of the Dormition,” which was compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is a similar explanation of the Feast: "On the day of the Procession of the Precious Cross there is a Cross Procession with the Sanctification of Water, for the enlightenment of the people, in all the towns and places."

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus is preserved in the Chronicles of the XVI century: “The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and of all Rus took place on August 1.”

In the current practice of the Russian Church, the service of the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 takes place either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called “the Savior of the Water.” Along with the Blessing of Water, there may also be a Blessing of Honey (thus it is also called “the Savior of the Honey),” because on this day, the newly-gathered honey is blessed and tasted.

## The Dormition Fast



The Dormition fast was established as preceding the great feasts of the Transfiguration of the Lord and of the Dormition of the Mother of God. It lasts two weeks – from August 1-14.

The Dormition fast comes down to us from the early days of Christianity.

We find a clear reference to the Dormition fast in a conversation of Leo the Great from around the year 450 A.D. “The Church fasts are situated in the year in such a way that a special abstinence is prescribed for each time. Thus, for spring there is the spring fast ] – the Forty Days [Great Lent; for summer there is the summer fast... [the Apostles’ fast]; for autumn there is the autumn fast, in the seventh month [Dormition fast]; for winter there is the winter fast [Nativity fast].”

St. Symeon of Thessalonica writes that, “The fast in August [Dormition fast] was established in honor of the Mother of God the Word; Who, foreknowing Her repose, ascetically

labored and fasted for us as always, although She was holy and immaculate, and had no need for fasting. Thus, She especially prayed for us in preparation for being transported from this life to the future life, when Her blessed soul would be united through the Divine spirit with Her Son. Therefore, we also should fast and praise Her, emulating Her life, urging Her thereby to pray for us. Some, by the way, say that this fast was instituted on the occasion of two feasts – the Transfiguration and the Dormition. I also consider it necessary to remember these two feasts – one which gives us light, and the other which is merciful to us and intercedes for us.” The spiritual fast is closely united with the bodily, just as our soul is united with the body, penetrates it, enlivens it, and makes one united whole with it, as the soul and body make one living human being. Therefore, in fasting bodily we must at the same time fast spiritually: “Brothers, in fasting bodily let us also fast spiritually, severing all union with unrighteousness,” the Holy Church enjoins us.

The main thing In fasting bodily is restraint from abundant, tasty and sweet foods; the main thing in fasting spiritually is restraint from passionate, sinful movements that indulge our sensual inclinations and vices. The former is renunciation of the more nourishing foods for fasting food, which is less nourishing; the latter is the renunciation of our favorite sins for exercise in the virtues which oppose them. The essence of the fast is expressed in the following Church hymn: “If you fast from food, my soul, but are not purified of the passions, in vain do we comfort ourselves by not eating. For if the fast does not bring correction, then it will be hateful to God as false, and you will be like unto the evil demons, who never eat.”

## THE DIOCESAN-WIDE APPEAL FOR THE DIOCESE OF ALASKA

### Diocese of Sitka and Alaska

The Mother Diocese of  
The Orthodox Church in America



*“Jesus Christ loved everyone and did good to all. So should we love our neighbor and do good to as many people as possible. Jesus Christ did everything possible for the salvation of mankind. So must we do good to others, not sparing our own well-being and time.”*

— Saint Innocent of Alaska



Bishop Kloss at Saint Scaiphon of Sine Parish in Dillingham

#### A MISSIONARY FUND

A flight from Anchorage to a parish in rural Alaska can be more expensive than a flight from New York to Paris. Once at that parish, the bishop often learns of pressing needs, but is helpless to address them. This missionary fund would enable the bishop not only to visit and serve at these parishes, but also to offer assistance when such assistance is needed most.

#### A RECTORY CONSTRUCTION FUND

Survival in the far North obviously requires a place to be sheltered from the elements. Priests obviously need homes for their wives and children. Unfortunately, rectories are not a given in rural Alaska. Of the thirteen villages of the Yukon deanery, there is not a single rectory. There are also rarely homes to rent in these remote regions accessible only by small plane or boat. If a priest is not already a villager with a home, he cannot be assigned to that village. Through the Rectory Construction Fund, you can help us build rectories in these villages, so that priests and their families might have a place to lay their heads and so that the faithful in them can have the Liturgy regularly served.

#### A CLERGY STIPEND ENDOWMENT

The median family income for the state of Alaska is \$77,790 per year. But the median stipend for native priests is \$7,200 per year, a salary that is \$26,000 below the poverty line for a family of four. Almost all the clergy and their wives worry about a future that is so financially fragile. Some priests have been forced to leave priestly ministry to provide for their families. And pious young men considering the priesthood have hesitated to answer the call with such abject poverty looming in their future. Through a replenishing clergy stipend endowment, you can help establish a means to provide our priests and their families with basic necessities every month for their entire active ministry.



#### A LAND MANAGEMENT FUND

Fully aware of how crucial financial support was for the diocese of Alaska, the Mother Church insured by treaty that various lands would be allocated throughout the state to continue to provide for the local church.

Unfortunately, the Diocese has not had the staff necessary to oversee these lands properly tracking rentals, negotiating new leases, ascertaining whether lands have been lost through adverse possession. This has not only crippled the Diocese financially, but also made it impossible for the Diocese to develop programs to encourage growth and health.

The best way to rectify this situation is to establish a LLC (Limited Liability Company) that would survey our lands, determine which lands are still in our possession, put our leases in order, collect the rents, negotiate new leases, and recruit developers for underutilized properties.

The Land Management Fund would provide the seed money to form that LLC, which could provide a source of revenue in a Diocese in which 80% of the faithful in most villages are unemployed.

*If you desire to be a good Samaritan to your brothers and sisters up North, if you desire to give back something to the Diocese that first brought Orthodoxy to this continent, please consider making a donation to one of the following funds:*

- **The Land Management Fund**
- **The Missionary Fund**
- **The Clergy Stipend Endowment**
- **The Rectory Construction Fund**

*Please make your offering through our website or to our mailing address indicating the fund that you would like to support.*

*No donation is too small; the widow's mite is most welcome.*



**Diocese of Sitka and Alaska**  
P.O. Box 210569  
Anchorage, AK, 99521

Telephone 907-677-0224  
[adminsecretary@odosa.org](mailto:adminsecretary@odosa.org)

Website: <https://odosa.org>



\*\*We will be holding a special collection for The Diocese of Alaska – ON SUNDAYS AUGUST 6-13-20 as part of our commitment to assisting His Grace Bishop Alexei and the Clergy and Faithful of The Mother Diocese of the Orthodox Church America. We will be making a presentation to His Eminence Archbishop Michael when he makes his Archpastoral Visitation to our parish for the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary over the weekend of September 23-24. This donation will be in addition to our annual donation/contribution to The DDB

This is a Diocesan-Wide Appeal for our Diocese to help support The Diocese of Alaska.\*\*



A Note on Christian Stewardship .....

Life is given to us through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our commitment to expressing gratitude for this great blessing is seen through our participation in Christian Stewardship by being faithful stewards of The Gospel. Our commitment reveals how we live our faith in the Resurrected Lord. It is in The Resurrection of Our Lord that we receive eternal life and we express our hope in the life to come by our response as Orthodox Christian stewards.

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

Please take a moment to reflect upon what God has given us, and to discern how we might be able to return to God a portion of the blessings we have received.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.  
May God continue to bless and guide you and keep you always in His Loving Care!

**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY**



**St. George Orthodox Church  
2 Nottingham Terrace - Buffalo, NY 14216  
(716) 875-4222 ~ stgeorgebuffalo.com ~  
jvansuch@hotmail.com**

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sunday July 16, 2023

Holy Fathers of The First Six Ecumenical Councils

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Greetings to all of you our dear parish family on this double Feast of The Holy Fathers of The First Six Ecumenical Councils I trust and pray that all of you and your families are doing well. We pray that all of you and your families are keeping safe and staying healthy.

At the beginning of 2023, the parish council, during their monthly meetings, addressed, reviewed, and discussed the life and mission of our parish especially in particular The "St. George Capital Improvement and Maintenance Campaign Drive" for the many upcoming maintenance projects and undertakings that we will be addressing between this year (2023) and next year (2024).

Over the past several months, the parish council has worked very hard on this project by meeting, reviewing, and discussing the projects and maintenance items of our church, hall, rectory, and parish property that need to be addressed and prioritizing them as to which need immediate attention. After carefully reviewing the recommendations from our parish

family, it was decided to focus in on the following key projects and capital improvements for 2023:

**Complete downstairs rectory window replacement - COMPLETED**

Fence for back of rectory property

Security Cameras (Church/Hall and Rectory)

Shed for Rectory Backyard

Upon reviewing these items and projects, the Parish Council feels that these are the most viable and vital items and projects that are the best option for us to focus on at that time as they would not only benefit and meet our needs and that of our parish at this present time but also for the many years to come.

As we continued of our work on these important projects within the life of our parish, let us keep in mind the main purpose and focus of us working together as a family– to focus on how we, as Orthodox Christians, as Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as a parish family are living and proclaiming the Gospel of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ in working for the extension of the Kingdom of God here at St. George Orthodox Church!

Let us come together and look into our hearts to discern God’s Will on how we can give back to God a portion of the blessings He has given to us by supporting our next parish endeavor The "St. George Capital Improvement and Maintenance Campaign Drive" A project that will not only benefit and meet our needs and that of our parish at this present time but also for the many years generations to come.

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the parish council and our entire parish family, to thank each and everyone for your continued support and stewardship to our beloved parish through our time, talents, and treasures and for all that you do for our beloved parish and outreach ministries and projects and for one another. I am very grateful and blessed by your love, prayers, kindness, stewardship, and

generosity. Our prayer is but one that all who enter into St. George Orthodox Church will enter into ‘The Kingdom of Heaven here on earth’ and be filled with the warmth of The Holy Spirit and come to know Christ, love Christ, and live Christ and a spiritual home where they are able to grow in their faith and love of Our Lord Jesus Christ! Thank you for making our beloved parish of St. George a loving and caring Body of Christ!

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we must keep in mind that we are “One Body in Christ, and each of us a member of one another.” {Romans 12:5}

We are all here working together as a family, as a Body of Christ, as a Body in Christ!

With that in mind, as we continue working on and fulfilling these projects, let us call upon The Holy Spirit to come upon us and to enlighten us and guide us towards salvation.

We kindly ask that all of us please review the below items and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself, Dr. Boris or any member of the parish council.

May GOD continue to bless and guide all of you and your families and our entire parish family as we continue the good work of building up the Body of Christ here at St. George.

HOLY GREAT-MARTYR GEORGE, PRAY UNTO GOD FOR US!

I remain, with Love in Christ,

Your Humble Servant  
Fr. Jason

# "St. George Capital Improvement and Maintenance Campaign Drive"



As our parish has taken upon itself a "St. George Capital Improvement and Maintenance Campaign Drive" for the many upcoming maintenance projects and undertakings that we will be addressing between this year (2023) and next year (2024), we are asking our beloved parishioners, families, and friends to look into our hearts and to make a donation to The Capital Campaign Project in grateful thanksgiving to God for all of His blessings we have received from Him.

## Funds Available for Capital Improvement 2023 with Parish Assembly Approval:

- \$9,291 Investment Account allows use of up to 25% of current value (\$37,165) annually
- +\$8,929 Capital Improvement Account allows up to 33% of current value (\$27,057) of un-restricted funds annually (requires matching donations per project or annual spending)
- + \$8,929 Amount needed by directed donation or fundraisers to access maximum Capital Improvement Funds for upcoming Budget Year (2023) \*
- \$27,059** Funds available for Capital Improvement projects contingent on matching donations
- + Additional \$ No limit to additional directed project donations from Parishioners or fundraisers

Capital Improvement Projects	Estimated Cost
Complete downstairs rectory window replacement	\$20,000
Half-fence for back of rectory property	\$3,000
Security Cameras	\$1,000
Shed for Rectory	\$4,000
<b>Total of Prioritized Projects</b>	<b>\$28,000</b>
<b>Additional Projects with Donations/Fundraisers</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Altar Server Robes (Red/Blue/Green)	\$3,800
Video streaming system for Liturgical Services	\$1,500
Tabernacle and Chalice Set	\$1,000-\$2,000
Tetrapod	\$1,000-\$2,000
Lampada	\$500
<b>Total of Additional Projects</b>	<b>\$6,800-\$8,800</b>

	Funds Available	A Note on Christian Stewardship .....
<b>Total of Prioritized Projects</b>	<b>\$27,059 *</b>	<p>Life is given to us through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our commitment to expressing gratitude for this great blessing is seen through our participation in Christian Stewardship by being faithful stewards of The Gospel. Our commitment reveals how we live our faith in the Resurrected Lord. It is in The Resurrection of Our Lord that we receive eternal life and we express our hope in the life to come by our response as Orthodox Christian stewards.</p>
<b>Additional Projects with Donations/Fundraisers</b>		
Altar Server Robes (Red/Blue/Green)	\$1,789	
Video streaming system for Liturgical Services		
Tabernacle and Chalice Set	\$1,500	
Tetrapod	\$1,000	
Lampada	\$500	
<b>Total of Additional Projects</b>	<b>\$4,289</b>	

To successfully accomplish all the Capital Improvement projects on the list for the upcoming year (2023) it is estimated that we would need to raise \$13,381 through individual directed donations, fundraisers, and excess operational revenue. Additional donations would allow us to preserve funds in the Investment and Capital Improvement Accounts for future use. To date we have collected about \$8,000 through generous donations.

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

Please take a moment to reflect upon what God has given us, and to discern how we might be able to return to God a portion of the blessings we have received.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. May God continue to bless and guide you and keep you always in His Loving Care!