

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

www.stgeorgebuffalo.com

NO. 524 SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 NO. 524

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

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Rev. Peter Irfan, Attached

Mat. Katia Vansuch, Choir Director Dr. Boris Kuvshinoff, Parish Council President

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15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation. Martyr Sophia, and her three daughters: Faith (Vera), Hope (Nadézhda), and Love (Liubóv', Charity), at Rome (ca. 137). Martyrs Theodota at Nicæa (ca. 230). Martyr Agathocleia (ca. 230). 156 Martyrs of Palestine, including Bishops Peleus and Nilus, the Presbyter Zeno, the Noblemen Patermuthius and Elias, and others

| EPISTLE: | Liturgy of St. John Chrysost | com GOSPEL: |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Galatians 2:16-20 | (Sunday After) | Mark 8:34-9:1 |
| 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 | 5 | Matthew 22:35-46 |

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

<u> Troparion for The Resurrection – Tone 6</u>

The Angelic <u>Pow</u>ers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as <u>dead</u> men. Mary <u>stood</u> by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure <u>body</u>. Thou didst capture hell not being <u>tempt</u>ed by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, <u>grant</u>ing life. O Lord, Who didst <u>rise</u> from the dead,// <u>glo</u>ry to Thee.

Tropar for Feast of The Elevation 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>ta</u>tion!

Troparion for The Venerable Holy Martyrs— Tone 5

You didst <u>blos</u>som in the <u>courts</u> of the Lord as a fruitful <u>olive tree, O holy martyr Sophia; in your contest you didst</u> offer to Christ the sweet <u>fruit</u> of your womb, your daughters <u>Faith</u>, Hope, and Love.// Together with <u>them</u> inter<u>cede</u> for us all!

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

Kontakion for The Resurrection — Tone 6

When Christ God, the <u>Giv</u>er of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His <u>mighty</u> hand, He bestowed resurrection on the <u>human race.// He is the</u> Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the <u>God</u> of all.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion for The Nativity of The Theotokos — 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>adversaries</u>// 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 lifebearing 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:

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.

Brethren:

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

So then death is working in us, but life in you.

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,

knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.

For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY

LET US ATTEND:

Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"

Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'?

If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?"

And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

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."

| | = = = Scriptural Readi | ings for the Week = = = | |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Monday | Galatians 4:28-5:10 | Luke 3:19-22 | |
| Tuesday | Galatians 5:11-21 | Luke 3:23-4:1 | |
| Wednesda | y Galatians 6:2-10 | Luke 4:1-15 | |
| Thursday | Ephesians 1:1-9 | Luke 4:16-22 | |
| Friday | Ephesians 1:7-17 | Luke 4:22-30 | |
| Saturday | Galatians 4:22-31 | Luke 1:5-25 | |
| | 1 Corinthians 10:23-28 | Luke 4:31-36 | |
| Sunday | Romans 8:28-39 | Luke 21:12-19 | |
| | 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 | Luke 5:1-11 | |

THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Matins - 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy -10:00 AM

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall and OCMC Presentation following The Divine Liturgy.

Proceeds from The Coffee Hour will go towards OCMC!

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

Daily Matins – 9:00 AM St. George Prayer Group – 10:00 to 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Paraklesis Service to the Theotokos – **6:00 PM** Adult Education Class (Via Zoom) – **7:00 to 8:30 PM**

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

Akathist Service in Honor of The Life-Giving Cross - 9:00 AM

Saturday September 23, 2023

Christmation of William and Darlene Miller – **3:30 PM** Great Vespers – **4:30 PM** Wine/Cheese Reception with Presentation of Parish Anniversary Video – **5:30 to 7:30 PM**

Sunday September 24, 2023

Meeting with Church School Children and Vesting in Parish Fellowship Hall - 9:00 AM

Procession from Parish Fellowship Hall, Greeting and Entrance of His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL followed by The Blessing of Liturgical Items and Altar Server Vestments - **9:45 AM**

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by Procession around The Church and Presentation of 110th Anniversary Gramota and Individual Gramotas– **10:00 AM**

Reception/Hordourves - 12:30 to 1:00 PM

Anniversary Banquet with Brief Concert by St. George Orthodox Church Choir and Children Choir -1:00 to 3:00 PM



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 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.

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)

We have a few 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 <u>one</u> 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_e mbedded&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: <u>http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith</u>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below: <u>http://journeytoorthodoxy.com</u>

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 guestions 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.

To visit our parish website, please click on the QR Code below:



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!





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Scan this code to pay

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

MONTHLY HEALING PRAYER SERVICE **The Supplicatory Canon Prayer Service to St. Nektarios** MONDAY OCTOBER 2, 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

ST. GEORGE SENIOR/RETIREE DAY WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13 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





110TH 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 CHOWDER SALE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHOWDER SALE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28

OKTOBERFEST CORNISH HEN DINNER SUNDAY OCTOBER 29

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH SETWARDSHIP SUNDAY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE TRAY SALE/BASKET RAFFLE SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 and SUNDAY DECEMBER 17

<u>ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH (Buffalo, NY)</u> <u>PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES</u>

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 and FeedMore of WNY on a regular basis!

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



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)

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

Nicholas Wityk Buffalo Center 1014 Delaware Ave

Buffalo, NY

** 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!** ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Please remember in prayer Thy Servants of God...

FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:

HIERARCHS

Archbishop BENJAMINArchbishop ALEJOArchbishop NATHANIELArchbishop 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 Presbytera Nancy Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie 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. Gavle Mat. Natasha Mat. Barbara Mat. Katia Mat. Paraskeva Mat. Joanna Popadia Vicki Coard Mat. Patricia Mat. Gloria Christine Karen Catherine Ivan/Marina/Inna Bonnie/Silviu Jennifer, Amanda Edwina Irene Luba lim. Darren. Marsha Serena/Asma Lillian **Reader Victor** Nicholas. Andrew June Theodora Amanda, Chase Ronald, Candice Marilyn Frank Sarah Albert Boris Oscar Billy Clyde Xenia, Justin, Danielle, Anne, Patricia Larry Joseph Frank Catherine Susan Svetlana Iuliana Victor Evelyn Robert Rebecca Paul Brian Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle Linda Iustin 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 **Ieremv Stewart** Susan Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena Alex John, Kevin, Sean Anthony Aldona, Melinda, Pam Valerie Mary John Rebecca Jaime/Sammy, Juliana Harry **J**ames

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, Jeffry, 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, 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 ListArchpriest SamuelMitred Archpriest Joseph LickwarMitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. MyraArchpriest GeorgeArchpriest PaulMitred Archpriest Ken (Starevsky)

Archpriest Paul

<u>Those Serving in The Armed Forces</u> Kenneth, Nadine, Jason, Robert, Andrew, Justin, Shawn,

Austin, Chris, John, Daniel, Gjorgie, Thomas

Inquirers

Archpriest Jonathan

William and Darlene Matthew AydenEdwardRudy and KarenPaulJudyRaymon/ Gina Raymond and Frankie

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 DipianoMet. DANIEL (Metropolitan of Japan)MarieJames KellyVasili (William) - Father of Fr. Stephen GousiosMarieMatushka DeloresDragica (mother of Christine Hoeplinger)Marie

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

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: <u>http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html</u>.

"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: <u>http://www.nynjoca.org</u>! For those who do not have internet, please see the handouts from each lesson which are located on the table in the back of the church. **There are 14 videos! Be sure to check them out!**

WEEKLY VIDEO SERMONS GIVEN BY HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL

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

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

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH EDUCATION CENTER

The Feast of The Universal Exaltation of The Precious and Life-Giving Cross of Our Lord 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.

• 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. 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.

The Cross In My Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket A simple reminder to me Of the fact that I am a Christian No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic Nor is it a good luck charm It isn't meant to protect me From every physical harm.

It's not for identification For all the world to see It's simply an understanding Between my Savior and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket To bring out a coin or key The cross is there to remind me Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful For my blessings day by day And to strive to serve Him better in all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder Of the peace and comfort I share With all who know my Master And give themselves to His care.

So I carry a cross in my pocket Reminding no one but me That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life If only I'll let Him be.

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.





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!

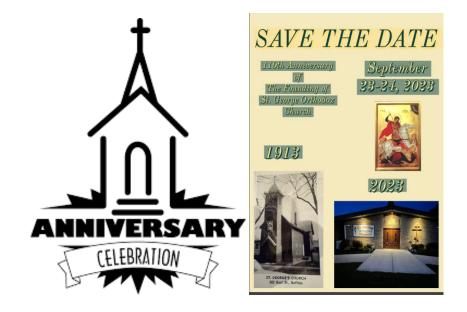
Please take a moment to reflect upon what God has given us, and to discern how we might be able to return to God a portion of the blessings we have received.

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





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



To help celebrate the 110th Anniversary of our beloved parish, we extend an invitation to everyone to come and join us on Saturday September 23 and Sunday September 24 as we gather around our beloved Archpastor, Father in Christ, and Diocesan Shepherd - His Eminence Archbishop Michael - who will be here leading us in the celebration of the Divine Liturgical Services and Festive Celebrations. Please refer to the Weekend Schedule of The Divine Liturgical Services and Events for the 110th Anniversary of our beloved parish below: Christmation of William and Darlene Miller – **3:30 PM** Great Vespers – **4:30 PM** Wine/Cheese Reception with Presentation of Parish Anniversary Video – **5:30 to 7:30 PM**

Sunday September 24, 2023

Meeting with Church School Children and Vesting in Parish Fellowship Hall - 9:00 AM

Procession from Parish Fellowship Hall, Greeting and Entrance of His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL followed by The Blessing of Liturgical Items and Altar Server Vestments - **9:45 AM**

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by Procession around The Church and Presentation of 110th Anniversary Gramota and Individual Gramotas– **10:00 AM**

Reception/Hordourves - 12:30 to 1:00 PM

Anniversary Banquet with Brief Concert by St. George Orthodox Church Choir and Children Choir -1:00 to 3:00 PM

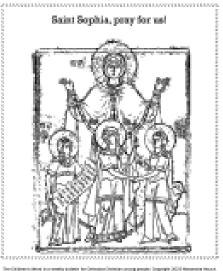
To reserve tickets for the Anniversary Banquet on Sunday September 24, please go to the following link: <u>https://givebutter.com/FeKMYR</u> On behalf of the parish council and the entire parish family here at St. George Orthodox Church, I extend an invitation to all of you to come and join us in prayer and fellowship as we give thanks to Almighty God for blessing us and guiding us in proclaiming, living, and sharing The Gospel Message of His Beloved Son Our Lord Jesus Christ here in Western NY for the past 110 years. May God continue to bless and guide all of you as we work together in Building up the Body of Christ here at St. George Orthodox Church and in the Western NY Area by proclaiming and fulfilling the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ for the next 110 years and beyond to, with, and for The Glory of God! Thank you for your continued love, prayers, and support. COME PRAY WITH US ! COME GROW WITH US!



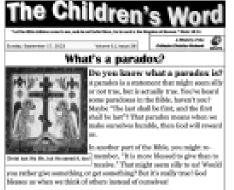
Please join us on Wednesday September 27 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 PM/Sold Out for a Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ Drive-Thru!! Pre-Order your tickets (\$13)!

Don't want to cook? Hungry for Buffalo's Famous Chiavetta's Chicken? Then drive on down to St. George Orthodox Church located at 2 Nottingham Terrace at the corner of Amherst and Nottingham in Delaware Park - North Buffalo)on Wednesday September 27 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 PM/Sold Out Pre-Order your tickets which are only \$13 each by clicking on the link below:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chiavettas-chicken-bbq-fundraisertickets-710338239797?aff=oddtdtcreator



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| word sea | PJRIXNEOGOEBICI | SAINT SOPHIA AND HER THREE DAUGHTERS |
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| Can you find these words in the jum- ble? Church Faith Gospel Hope Love Martyrs Mother Paradox Sophia Wisdom | R N D T M X O R S V Y Z R B G K S O Y J A C O S S J J A C O S S S J J A C C O S S J J C C O S S J J D C O D C O S C U V U D C M D D D N D | AND HER THREE DACHERS What do you think the number one job is for your mother and fathe? To buy you cool toys? To take you to soccer practice? To make sure you like your din- ner? No Your parents' number 1 job is to help you love God—and to try to be like Him! That's why they try so hard to teach you to church and try to teach you to be lowing and generous. St. Sophia was one of the best mothers, be cause she taught her three daughters, Fath., Hope, and Love, just that She tod them that the most important thing they could do was to tow God. When the avdil Roman authoritise tried to tell the cites to work |