

The St. George CHAMPION

The Parish Newsletter of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Little Falls, NJ

March 2009

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"The prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian"

by the Very Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar

Beloved reader: with this prayer of St. Ephraim we announce the Spirit of Great Lent, a time of preparing ourselves to receive the risen Lord. This prayer speaks to all about the need for change in direction of our spiritual path on the road toward Pascha.

On Mondays of Great lent we pray the Great Compline. Among the prayers by which the service is known are:

God is with us, understand all ye nations and submit yourselves, for God is with us.

O most Holy Theotokos, pray for us, sinners.

O Lord of Hosts be with us; for we have no other help in times of sorrow, but Thee, O Lord of hosts, have mercy on us.

We ask the Almighty God to be with us on our journey. Can He be with us if we are not willing companions? He comes when He is invited into our lives. Where God is sin disappears just as darkness cannot exist wherever there is light. So during the period of prayer and fasting we invite the Lord to aid and strengthen our efforts to share in His passion.

As we ask the Lord to be with us, we beseech His mother, the Theotokos to pray and intercede for us.

WE cannot have any other help, but God in our daily struggles. Our inability to keep the

fast exists in the absence of God's help and in the fact the we become dependant only on own recourses and enslaved to our appetites. Physical illness may require that the rules of fasting be interrupted.

In this world we embrace many masters to whom we offer obedience and respect. Money is one of the masters which compete with God for our loyalty.

O Lord and Master of My life, take from the spirit of sloth, faint-heartedness, lust of power and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love

Ye, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages.

"O Lord and Master of my life" should put God first as the pilot and the captain of our lives. Food and the pleasures of life cannot, should not and must not replace Christ.

To be lazy is to do nothing in the vineyard of Christ. We are the workers in His church and slothfulness is a terrible infection and a

deadly virus. It cripples the individual, before the evil one claims the lifeless body.

Who is sitting in the driver seat of our life? When God is director, then it is a true life in Christ, but if God is replaced by evil, then the domino effect of things going from bad to worse takes effect. During Lent and through fasting and prayer we try hard to reseat our Lord on the throne of our lives.

Lust of power or the lust for power is the greatest weapon of the devil to win our souls. Then comes idle talk which serves only the evil

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• Community News •

Baptisms

- Nicolas ChaletSeptember 28, 2008
- Peter T. Kawaja.....October 19, 2008
- Daniel Louis HarrakaOctober 26, 2008
- Jeffrey Louis HarrakaOctober 26, 2008
- William James Maloof.....November 8, 2008
- Mia MalkiNovember 30, 2008
- Salbela MalkiNovember 30, 2008
- Serena Ann RauscherFebruary 7, 2008

Chrismation

- Drgham HaddadOctober 25, 2008
- Joseph HaddadOctober 25, 2008

Marriages

- Majed Zamlout &
Theresa HelwaniDecember 28, 2008
- Stephen Zatorski, Jr. &
Kara SeventiJanuary 16, 2009

Funerals

- Adele StavrouNovember 4, 2008
- Marie HakimDecember 9, 2008

Sunday Shool Report

by Brian Nafash

NEW HAPPENINGS IN OUR CHURCH

The Sunday school is excited about being a part of something new in our Church. Our charity committee has begun a food pantry. The goal for this project is to enable the committee to feed the hungry people in our church as well as other local needy families.

Each month the children will bring a different food or house product in to their classrooms. For the month of March, the children will be requested to bring in boxes of pasta. Please do not bring in different items than requested, so that we can control our inventory.

During the month of March, the children will be learning and working on the creative festivals. This year’s theme is “Be mindful, O Lord, of those who bear fruit & do good works in thy holy Churches, and who remember the poor.” We are asking the parents to please review the theme with their children and help them with their projects. Each year the Archdiocese sets these creative festival themes and encourages all churches to participate in these festivals. At the regional conferences, the children will be judged and awards presented.

The prayer of St. Ephraim (cont.)

one. It builds great walls of separation in the church; it destroys the foundation of love and plants the seeds of Godlessness.

Chastity, humility, patience and love are branches in the tree of Baptism and Chrismation. Without these virtues the tree dries and withers.

So what is lent for? A training period for our sagging spiritual muscles, or a divine shower for our sin-stained souls, or a resurrection of our battered, crucified and dying spirits? It is all of these if and when we want it to be.

It is not just fasting from certain foods, but taming the rebellion of the Spirit, the tyranny of the body and the sharpness of the tongue. If all of our senses are able to sin, then we should teach all of them to repent.

“Taste and see how good the Lord is” is our understanding of communion. During Lent we approach the chalice after we cleanse our souls from sin (confession) so the Lord can direct our footsteps.

Guess Who?



Last Issue’s Answers:

(A) Joanne Bitar and (B) Mary Fadil

The Old Testament Observatory: "Unless The Lord Builds The House..."

By Adib Roumie

In the Epistle to the Hebrews, chapter 11, the writer lists the "Hall of Fame of Heroes from the Old Testament". Christians are familiar with many of these names like Abraham and Moses while others are not as well known or even hardly known. Among the names that drew my attention in the book of Judges were names like Samson, Deborah and Gideon. I chose to explore the story of Gideon.

Who was Gideon and what did he accomplish to deserve his name listed in Hebrews 11 among Israel's heroes?

In the Book of Judges, thought to be written by Samuel the prophet, one can read the story of Gideon. This book covers a section of Israel's history, about 300 years after they settled in the "Promised Land" and the death of Joshua. It is a simple story where God selects a seemingly inadequate man to carry on His plans on earth.

What is a Judge, who would qualify to become Judge, and what would a Judge do? Israel was a theocracy; and judges were not kings, but deputies of God sent, during difficult times, to save His people from lack of faith or the worshipping of other gods (Idolatry). Among their assignments, Judges were to bring deliverance, protection, and military leadership; to settle differences; judge lawsuits and administer justice.

The office of Judge was not continual. The Judges were ordinary men and women, selected by God, in tough times when the nation of Israel drifted away from God's commandments. In the book of Judges, there were 13 names listed, and among them, our present hero, Gideon, a simple farmer from the tribe of Manasseh.

The Midianites, Israel's enemy, were one of the many nations (tribes) that inhabited Canaan before Joshua occupied the land and divided it into twelve segments, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel to settle and live in as the "Promised Land". Unfortunately, these nations did not vanish after Joshua defeated them, but roamed around in the region, attacking the Israelites and posing a threat to them and their possessions on every occasion.

The story of Gideon starts on an amusing note. It speaks of the Angel of the Lord coming down to Ephrathah, the land of Gideon's father, to find our hero, Gideon, threshing wheat in the winepress in order to hide from the Midianites.

I find the following dialogue to border on the humorous.

The Angel of the Lord: "The Lord is with you mighty one of the armies".

Gideon: It is I, my Lord? (you're talking to me?)

The Angel of the Lord: "Go with this strength of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hands of the Midianites. Indeed I have sent you"

Gideon: "Be gracious with me, my Lord, for how can I save Israel? I am the smallest in my father's house" (Are you joking? Me save Israel?)

The Angel of the Lord: "The Lord will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man"

Gideon first reaction was that God had forsaken the Israelites, so he questioned God's concern for His people. Then Gideon questioned God's wisdom in choosing him as a deliverer. Despite the Angel of the Lord assuring responses, Gideon had to ask for signs, and time after time God, being patient and

gracious to him, gave him all the signs he asked for. Gideon could have been living in our twenty first century, with his "practical" and "pragmatic" arguments. Many times we ridicule the faith of others in a cause or their conviction in a code or principle, yet more often than not, we are proven wrong. Living by faith and doing the best we can, put the emphasis on God, more so than on our own ability. Once God has revealed His will to us, we must not question His wisdom or argue with His plans. Whenever God call us to a task that is beyond our ability, we must not depend on our competence or our ability, but look to God, who will enable us to complete the task through the guidance of His Holy Spirit.

Once Gideon became convinced that it was God's orders for him to save Israel, he became a different man, a brave man, and acted boldly even against his own father, his family and his people, who were all worshippers of the god Baal.

He destroyed the altar of Baal and built instead one for the Lord. He carried on this task at night, when the rest of the village was sleeping for fear from his father and his people. The Lord protected him; and his father, to his surprise, defended him against the village although the altar Gideon destroyed was his father's.

(continued on next page)

"Whenever God call us to a task that is beyond our ability, we must not depend on our competence or ability, but look to God, who will enable us to complete the task through the guidance of His Holy Spirit."

“Unless The Lord Builds The House...” continued

It was that time of the year when the Midianites and their allies, the Amalekites and other tribes from the East would invade the Israeli villages, loot every thing of value from food to cattle etc..., and leave the Israelis with little or nothing to live on the rest of the year.

That year, more than 135,000 Midianite men gathered in the Valley of Jezreel ready for their annual attack. It was also the time for Gideon to act according to God’s orders. Around the Valley of Jezreel, four of the tribes of Israel lived: the tribe of Manasseh, Asher, Zebulon and Naphtali. Gideon blew the trumpet first in his hometown and many men rallied behind him. He sent messengers to the other towns of the tribe of Manasseh and to the other neighboring three tribes.

Responding to Gideon’s call, 32,000 men gathered under his command. But, what could 32,000 men do against an army of 135,000 men? The enemy’s men were better trained, better equipped and in a military battle, they would outnumber and certainly outmaneuver Gideon’s men. The difference: Jehovah God was on Israel side, and He had promised them victory.

Yet again, Gideon doubted God’s promise. Did God really want him to lead the Jewish army? What did he know about warfare? Is he not an ordinary farmer? So, before he led the attack, he asked God for more signs. Here again, God tolerated Gideon’s weakness and gave him more signs, thus proving that He is a gracious God who understand our weaknesses. Asking for signs from God is a sure proof of little faith and great pride!

When Gideon was fully satisfied with all the signs he asked for, now, it was God’s turn to test Gideon’s faith. Whether such faith was strong enough to carry on God’s orders without question or objection needed to be established. A faith that cannot be tested, cannot be trusted. So, God told Gideon: “The people you gathered are too many, and I would not deliver Median into your hands, lest Israel boasts against Me. Therefore proclaim within the hearing of the people that whoever is afraid, let him leave the army camp at once”.

Twenty-two thousand people left and only ten thousand remained. But, the Lord said to Gideon “There are still too many people”. He asked Gideon to bring his men to the water to drink and asked him to select only those that drink the water in a particular way. The number of those chosen was three hundred (300) men only. God’s reason to bring down the numbers of men from thirty two thousand to three hundred was that no one could boast that the soldiers have won the battle over the Medianites. Victories won because of faith, bring glory to God, as no one can explain how they happened. The Lord said to Gideon “With three hundred men I will save you and deliver the Medianites into your hands”.

That same night, Gideon divided his men into three companies of 100 men each, every man carrying a trumpet, an empty pitcher and a torch inside the pitchers. They came to the edge of the Medianites camp, blew the trumpets in every direction and shouted “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon”. Standing in their place around the camp with sounds of trumpets coming from every direction, the Lord set every Midianite’s sword against his neighbor in the entire camp, and the Midianite army fled away with fear. The Israelites captured and killed the rulers of Median, thus achieving a spectacular victory over their enemies

In Psalm 126: 1 (or Psalm 127 in some bibles), King Solomon wrote “Unless God builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, those who guard it stay awake in vain”.

This Psalm raises an important question: Do we wait for God to build our life and our career? Do we leave our doors open depending on God to protect our property? God forbid; these are not God’s commands. He never violates human responsibilities, but He does arrange and override in the affairs of individuals and nations to accomplish His great purposes on this earth. King Solomon words mean that nothing in our life should be separated from God. He should be at the center of our action and at the base of our behavior. We must not live our lives forgetting the Lord and His commandments but place Him at the core of our existence and our daily living.

Because God knows our hearts, He forewarns us in Deuteronomy 8, “You shall eat and be full, you shall bless the Lord your God. When you have built beautiful houses and live in them, and when your cattle and sheep multiply, and your silver and gold are multiplied (all your worldly possessions), and all you have is multiplied, then do not praise yourself, forgetting the Lord your God. Do not say to yourself ‘my strength and the might of my own hand have gotten me this great wealth’. You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He, who gives you power to get wealth. However, if you forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them (gods like money and material goods or vanity and pride), I solemnly warn you this day that you shall surely perish”.

For those of us who have difficult time believing that God can use us, or elevate us, we might look up to Gideon for encouragement. This Judge started his life as a scared and spineless farmer, yet ended up as a great conqueror. He thought of himself as a victim and God turned him into a victor.

The Journey of Lent

By Deacon Michael Ibrahim

Lent is right here, are we ready? Do we fast and why? Do we fast because we want to lose weight or for other reasons?

Well, if we are regular church goers then we know that Lent is more than just a period of time where we are allowed to eat only certain kinds of food. We should know that Lent is a preparation time. It is a spiritual journey and its destination is Pascha “the Feast of Feasts.” At the end of this journey we celebrate the death of death and the beginning of a New and everlasting life.

Christ changed the very nature of death. He made it a “passage,” a “Passover,” into the Kingdom of God, transforming the tragedy of tragedies into the ultimate victory.

This New life was given to all of us at the time of our Baptism. St. Paul says: “We were buried with Christ ...unto death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead we also may walk in newness of life, (Rom. 6: 4).”

But the question is how much we keep this new life? Do we betray this gift? And the answer is, unfortunately, yes we do betray this gift we were given for a very simple reason which is we are too busy in our life so we live as if Christ did not rise from the dead. We simply forget. And because we forget, we fail.

Sometimes we confess our various sins, yet we cease to live the new life Christ gave to us. In fact, most of the time, we live as if He never came, as if He was never crucified for us. And this is the ultimate sin of ours.

And because of our weakness as humans; and because we forget and fail, the church prepared this time of Lent in order to give us another chance to repent and live the new life we were given.

In fact, the church did not only prepare this time of Lent as preparation for Pascha, but also she prepared a pre-Lenten period where she gives us the meaning of Lent before we start it. This preparation includes five consecutive Sundays preceding Lent; each one of them is dedicated to some fundamental aspect of repentance.

The first Sunday is the Sunday of Zacchaeus where the Gospel tells us the story about the desire of this man to see Jesus.

The second Sunday is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee where the Gospel tells us about the next major aspect of repentance: humility.

The third one is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son where the parable reveals to us the time of repentance as man’s return from exile.

The fourth one is called “Meat-Fare” Sunday where the Gospel lesson is Christ’s parable of the Last Judgment.

The last one is “Cheese- Fare” Sunday which is called “Forgiveness Sunday.”

Then Lent comes where the real journey starts leading us all the way to the Resurrection of the Lord, the Feast of Feasts. Lent is the liberation of our enslavement to sin, from the prison of this world. It is our opportunity to free ourselves from our bodies’ desires. It is time for us to remember that without forgiveness our fast is not complete “If you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you.”

So think about repenting and forgiving this Lent. Enjoy your holy journey and try to live it the right way in order to arrive safely.

ANGELS, NAMES AND DUTIES



The word Angel came from the Greek word “Angelos” which means “messenger.” Angels can be visible or invisible and may assume human forms. Concerning Angels spoken of in the Bible, only four are called by names; they are: Michael, Gabriel, Uriel, and Raphael.

Archangels Michael and Gabriel were mentioned in the New Testament. They are the “leaders of the angelic armies.” Archangel Raphael is

mentioned in the Old Testament Book of Tobit (5: 4). He accompanied the young Tobias to Media on family business.

Archangel Michael wards off evil from God’s people and delivers peace to believers.

Gabriel -- messenger of things to come.

Raphael – cures illnesses.

Uriel – enlightens souls.

RANKS OF ANGELS

St. Paul divides the angels into 9 ranks, and assigns to each specific duties. He referred to them in Colossians 1:16. The ranks are: Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Dominations, Thrones, Cherubim and Seraphim. (cf. Gen. 3:24; Is. 6:2; Eph. 1:21; Col. 1:16; I Thess. 4:16 and I Peter 3:22.)

(Continued on page 6)

ANGELS (cont.)

Seraphim – burning with great love for God.

Cherubim –eyes turned always to God.

Thrones – near the throne of God.

Dominations – those who govern the lower ranks of angels.

Principalities – protectors of all those who love God.

Powers – angels with the will and power to obey God.

Virtues – those who restrain evil spirits.

Archangels – messengers from God to all men.

Angels – the guardians of mankind.



AKATHIST HYMN

The word comes from the Greek “not permitted to sit.” It is a lengthy liturgical poem of 24 stanzas, which begins with a hymn to the Mother of God. Composed centuries ago, it is commonly used in Orthodox parishes today on the evening of the first four Fridays of the Great Lent. The term “Akathist” means the service is done “standing.” It is a time to lift up one’s heart and soul to Almighty God and to contemplate the mysteries of the faith relating to Christ and His Holy Mother. It is a masterpiece of Orthodox hymnology. The hymn is also referred to as “Salutations.” It may also be served with hymns of praise to a particular saint.



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Annual Teen Trip to NYC

by Alexandra Nafash
Teen SOYO President

As I stand in church, singing along with the beautiful music, I can't help but smile as I see the Teen SOYO dominate the choir loft. Every Sunday acts as an event where we all get together and enjoy God's gifts, making our scheduled events that much better.

For the past five months, our schedule has been jam-packed with events, but St. George Teen SOYO never lets down. Each event is a new opportunity to learn more about ourselves, others, and our faith. Our annual trip to New York City to feed the homeless sticks out most in my mind, not just because of the location, but it is the experience that inspires the most.

It was 9:00am on Saturday, December 6th. The kitchen of the church was filled with chipper teens who chose to spend their weekend feeding the homeless instead of catching up on some sleep. The assembly line for making gourmet brown bag lunches included peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, cookies, and juice boxes. As this process continued, many teens helped separate and bag warm clothes that had been collected over the past few months.

Finally, after over 100 brown bags were packed and all the clothes were bagged, we left for New York City. After an exciting bus ride, we arrived at the homeless shelter in Manhattan. The men and women at the shelter look forward to us because from year to year, we come the same time bringing the same things. Christmas is the time for giving and as Orthodox Christians it is our duty to serve others especially during the holiday season.

To keep everyone in the holiday spirit, we brought along candy canes and chocolates and handed them out while singing Christmas Carols. Everyone who walked by, homeless or not, felt the Christmas cheer that we brought with us. We put a smile on hundreds of people's faces that day, including our own because we know we made a difference. As our collection of clothes and sandwiches dwindle down, we took

the opportunity to talk to some of the people around us. They told us their life stories and all of the things they had accomplished so far in their lives. It is heartwarming to hear these homeless men and women with such high spirits during such a downturn in their lives. The conversations we held with them were intellectual and inspiring, and left us with something to think about.

After a couple of hours had gone by and we were empty of clothes and food, we said our goodbyes and left with prayers for these people in our hearts. We then journeyed over to see the tree at Rockefeller Center and made a visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral. We always end our trip with a visit to the sights in the city so we can reflect on our experiences together. This



event continues to bring us closer as a SOYO; more than just the homeless people were helped that day. We are all children of God made in his image, and though we may not want to believe this at all times, we are called to love all of our neighbors. During this day, we start with learning to love the homeless men and women that we meet. We listen to them, pray for them, and it becomes easy for us to love them. The people we meet on the street are

not who we have difficulty loving, it is those that we see all the time that we fail to see Christ. Those around us may get on our nerves and make mistakes, but there are many people in the world who would do anything to have a friend by their side. By loving each other, we are fulfilling the will of God so that we can focus on what is most important in the world. Having lots of material possessions is certainly wonderful, but if we do not act as children of God, then we have nothing.

Christ is everywhere. He is in every person and guides each of us on the paths we take in life. Some people are more fortunate than others, but what we make of what we have is all that matters. Some of the homeless people that I've met through this trip have done great things in their lives; we all have God to thank for what he's given us.



Antiochian Village at Home

Four Square



Featuring:

Fr. Timothy Cremeens
as special guest speaker.

*Come join us on March 14 from 8am to 8pm for
the good old fashioned Antiochian Village experience.*

Villagers should be between the ages of 9 – 16.

Activities include :

*Church Services, Christian Education,
Sports Events, GIMMIE SHOP!, and more...*

A \$15 donation is requested

Located at

*St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
237 Long Hill Road,
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*For more information contact John Chalet @ 201-709-7524 or Paul Juzdan 973-941-6962
or email us at john.chalet@gmail.com or pjuzdan@aol.com*

Village at Home application

St George Little Falls, 237 Long Hill Rd., Little Falls NJ 07424

First name _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

Age _____ M / F

Villagers should be between the age of 9 - 16

Emergency Contact _____

Emergency phone _____

Allergies _____

Notes to counselors _____

Parent's signature _____

All applications should be in with a check of \$15.00 payable to
St. George Teen SOYO no later than March 5th.

Any questions please contact:

John Chalet 201-709-7524 John.chalet@gmail.com OR Paul Juzdan 973-941-6962 Pjuzdan@aol.com

Charity Committee

This past November, the Charity Committee held its Annual Fundraiser in the Church Hall. Our "TASTES OF NEW YORK" evening featured catered foods representing the different facets of NYC....

South Street Seaport, Little Italy, and Chinatown to name a few. Thank you to all who attended and supported this event, it was a great success !



Fellowship News

by Michael Kabbash

The Fellowship of St. John held its first meeting in January to set our calendar and hold elections. The new officers are: Michael Kabbash, President; Elias Chalet, Vice President; Maha Kabbash, Treasurer; Randa Munayyer, Secretary.

Our overall goal is to sponsor spiritual and family friendly events to maintain and build a sense of community within our parish. We plan to hold one event each month that is open to the parish at large. Each event may have alternating focus on family fun or adult education. You will notice that of the four events listed below, none are focused on fundraising. Other organizations in this parish do that very well, and while the Fellowship may fundraise from time to time, we want to focus on the spiritual and social aspects of our St. George community.

On Friday, January 23rd, the Fellowship sponsored a **Family Movie Night**, featuring Pixar's Wall-E. Admission was free, and children, teens and adults enjoyed an evening of low cost fellowship and entertainment in these tough economic times!

On Friday, Feb 27th, the Fellowship will hold a **Café and Book Discussion** for the recent bestseller "The Shack". Focus

of evening will be to discuss issues the book raises as well as comparing its view of the Holy Trinity with the Orthodox understanding. A similar book discussion will be held in April.

Friday March 13th – Fr. Timothy Cremeens will be visiting with St. George for the weekend. Fellowship will sponsor Friday night after Akathist Service with a light meal and a discussion lead by Fr. Cremeens "**Living as Orthodox Christians in the 21st Century – Small Fish in the Big American Ocean**" (The unique challenges facing Orthodox Christians in a new century of secularism AND as a minority faith in the U.S.).

So what else is next? We may sponsor a missionary trip, team-building activities, a pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Seminary on Memorial Day, and after Labor Day we will sponsor a family picnic in the park.

In the future we also hope to reach out to newlywed couples and lapsed Teen SOYO graduates in hopes of showing them they have a place in our community. **Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 2nd.** We welcome everyone to participate in our activities, to join us in friendship, fellowship and spiritual growth.

International Coffee House

February 1, 2009



March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Cheesefare Sunday</i>	2 <i>Great Lent Begins</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Orthodoxy Sunday</i>	9	10	11	12	13 Fellowship Talk with Fr. Timothy	14 Antiochian Village at Home
15	16	17	18 Parish Council Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Annual Parish Meeting	30	31	■ <i>Light shaded dates represent days of Fasting</i> <i>See back page for full Lenten Services Schedule.</i>			

April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
■ <i>Light shaded dates represent days of Fasting</i>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>Lazarus Saturday</i>
12 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	13 <i>Holy Week Begins</i>	14	15 <i>Holy Unction Service</i>	16 <i>Holy Thursday Passion Gospels</i>	17 <i>Good Friday Teen Vigil</i>	18 <i>Holy Saturday</i>
19 <i>Pascha Sunday</i> CHRIST IS RISEN!	20 <i>Bright Week: No Fasting</i>	21	22 Parish Council Meeting	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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Trivia

“Happy Birthday to You“ is the most well recognized song in the English language. The song’s base lyrics have been translated into at least 18 languages.

The melody of “Happy Birthday to You” comes from the song “Good Morning to All”, which was written and composed by American sisters Patty Hill and Mildred J. Hill in 1893. They were both kindergarten school teachers in Louisville, Kentucky, developing various teaching methods at what is now the Little Loomhouse. The sisters created “Good Morning to All” as a song that would be easy to sing by young children. The combination of melody and lyrics in “Happy Birthday to You” first appeared in print in 1912. The Summy Company registered for copyright in 1935, crediting authors Preston Ware Orem and Mrs. R.R. Forman.

(Submitted by Johanna Nabass)

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Holy Week Schedule

• Saturday	April 11	Lazarus Saturday Liturgy..... 10:00 am Communion Breakfast immediately following
• Sunday	April 12	Palm Sunday 10:00 am Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm
• Monday	April 13	Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm
• Tuesday	April 14	Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm
• Wednesday	April 15	Holy Unction Service..... 7:00 pm
• Thursday	April 16	Divine Liturgy 10:00 am 12 Passion Gospels 7:00 pm
• Friday	April 17	Hours..... 10:00 am Vespers..... 3:00 pm Burial Service 7:00 pm
• Saturday	April 18	Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Matins & Rush Service 11:00 pm Resurrection Service..... 11:30 pm
• Sunday	April 19	Easter Sunday Service..... 11:00 am



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