



## Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

*237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424*

*Sunday, February 24, 2008*



Matins ..... 9:00 am  
Confession ..... 9:00—9:45 am

Divine Liturgy ..... 10:00 am  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 am

**Very Reverend Father Elias Bitar**

**Deacon Michael Ibrahim**

**Office: (973) 256-8961 + Rectory: (973) 890-9139**

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**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm**

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**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SUN**

**Tone 6 Eothinon 6**

**The Epistle**

**Prokeimenon: Save, O Lord, thy people, and bless thine inheritance. Unto thee I cry, O Lord, O my God.**

**Section from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 4:6-15**

Ye brethren: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined 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 excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

Knowing that he, which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

*If you like to worship with us, please fill in the information below and give to the priest or any parish member!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a visitor

\_\_\_\_\_ I recently moved into the area

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in becoming a member

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to know more about this Church

\_\_\_\_\_ I request a phone call

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like an appointment with the Priest

\_\_\_\_\_ Please include me on the Parish Mailing List

\_\_\_\_\_ Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to know more about Church Activities, especially:

\_\_\_\_\_ Teen SOYO \_\_\_\_\_ PTA

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday School \_\_\_\_\_ Charity Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ St. John the Divine Fellowship \_\_\_\_\_ Choir

\_\_\_\_\_ Ladies Society \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**New Financial Support Forms for 2008:** "The 2008 Pledge Form lists no minimum \$ to meet. You decide on the amount of offering per week or per month or per year in proportion to your income. You can also choose to pay by using your Credit/Debit card and the monthly amount will be charged either on the 1st or the 15th of the month as you wish. This commitment is renewed every year. Please be generous with God as He is generous with you and your family. Please sign the form and return it to the Church office." Thank You!

**My Saint George's Church Financial Support**

Recognizing that all blessings are from God,  
I commit to the Saint George Orthodox Church a share of my blessings as thanks and support for His Holy Church.

**My financial support for the year 2008 to Saint George Church (including Archdiocese assessment) will be:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Week

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Month

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Year

(Please circle one only)

**I will Renew this Commitment each Year on a New Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Select either check or credit/debit card

Payable by check:

- Offering envelopes will be sent to you

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

By Master Card or Visa (Credit or Debit):

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

- Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_
- Print Name as show on card \_\_\_\_\_
- Billing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Authorization

Yes, I would like the convenience of automatic monthly payments.

By signing below, I authorize **Saint George** to charge my account monthly in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on the

- 1<sup>st</sup> or
- 15<sup>th</sup> day (please select one)

of each month until I provide a written cancellation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The Holy Gospel**

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 15:11-32**

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." And he arose and came to his father. But awhile he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But the son was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost and is found.'"

**Altar Boys are:** CJ Starke, Simone Kurzum, Ramzi Kurzum, Anthony Handal, Andrew Handal.

**BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION**

**In memory of** Stella Gaydosh, Adele Kattas, Violet Haggar, Rose Toobagy, Arif Sabbagh, Elias Assaly, Joseph Motta, Elain Hansey.

**Memory Eternal.**

**THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH, LADIES SOCIETY, CHOIR & CHARITY FUND**

Joyce Serventi & Karen Braccini for the good health of Joe & Joyce Cassatly.  
Antoine & Hala Chalet in memory of Khalil Ynati.  
Richard & Debbie Abbate & family in memory of Rose Maloof.  
Thomas & Gail Sassos in memory of Elaine Karram.  
George Karram in memory of Elaine Karram.

**In memory of Sammy Fadil** offered by Valerie Fadil and the Fadil family, Antoine, Samia & John Zeitoun, Robert & Pearl Nahass, Alex & Zoi Fadil, Carol Berk, Thomas & Gail Sassos.

**Teen SOYO**

- To become a member of our Teen SOYO, please contact Mark Nafash, Lucy Chalet, Jennifer Zabaneh or Hend Kevorkian at [Hendk99@optonline.net](mailto:Hendk99@optonline.net)
- **Sunday, February 24, meeting after Liturgy.**
- **Friday, March 7-10, 2008— Delegates Meeting.**

**Charity Committee**

- The charity outreach committee is a group of people within the church who undertake fundraising activities, which specifically benefit local charitable causes. These activities bring alive the teaching of our Lord, when he said "in as much as you have done it to these, the least of my brethren, you have done it to me".
- For more information on how to become involved, please call Julie Abboud at 973-812-0444 or e-mail at [immalbert@aol.com](mailto:immalbert@aol.com)

**Choir**

- St. George's choir is made up of volunteer members of our parish, the choir has been gracing our liturgy with angelic music for many years. The choir is open to all members of the parish. For more information on how to become a choir member, please see Christine Lynch.

### St. John The Divine Fellowship

- For more information on how to join our fellowship, please contact Rima Bandeli.
- Fellowship meeting Sunday, January 6th, after Liturgy.
- **Delegates Meeting, Friday, March 7-10, 2008.**
- **Reverse Raffle, Saturday, May 10, 2008.** More info to follow.

### Ladies Society

- The Ladies Society is considered the foundation organization involved in many spiritual, and fund raising activities for the benefit of the church. The society is open to all women who are members of the parish. For more information on how to help please contact Fadia Juzdan.
- **Bunco**, Friday, February 29, at 7:00 pm. If you would like to donate a gift, please see Fadia Juzdan or Lisa Nafash. Donation \$10.00.
- We will be preparing **Spinach Pies** on Wednesday, April 1st, at 9:30 am and 6:30pm, everyone is welcome to help! We are now taking orders. Please see Jackie Salotti or any Ladies Society member. Donation: \$12.00 per dozen.
- Friday, April 4th, **Lenten Dinner** after services.
- Sunday, April 6th, **Ladies Communion Breakfast** after Liturgy.

### PTA

- We need the support of all parents of Sunday School children. Please volunteer to help to make our events successful. To assist our PTA, please see Marlene Ayoub.

### **Parish News, Activities & Announcements**

#### General Information

- Please remember to notify the church office of any address or telephone changes.
- If anyone has any announcements that they would like to include on the bulletin or any dates to be added to the church calendar, please e-mail the office at [JSalotti@aol.com](mailto:JSalotti@aol.com) or leave a note in the church office. *Thank you!*
- **Sacraments:** All baptism and marriage forms are available through the church office and should be completed and returned to the office one week prior to the event
- **Confession:** Confession will be given on Sunday Morning 9:00am to 9:45am and after Liturgy.
- **Building Fund:** The Fund Raising Committee for the new property has sent out letters to each church member and to many friends of our church requesting their participation. Please fill out the pledge form and send it with your check to the church office. Make the check payable to "St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church," and indicate in memo "New Property Funds." One of the Committee members will follow up on each letter by getting in touch with you personally, either by email or by phone call. Your prompt and positive response will make their job easier." For more information, please contact Fr. Elias Bitar of Salim Abboud.
- **Save the date:** The Fund Raising Committee will be hosting an event featuring Mr. Simon Shaheen on Saturday, May 3rd. More information to follow.
- **Camp:** Meeting on **TODAY** after Liturgy in church for all children and their parents who will be attending camp this summer.
- **We are asking each family to please fill out the 2008 Pledge Form, sign it and return it to the church office. Thank you**

- **Champion:** The Champion will be published on a bi-monthly basis. If any one wishes to submit an article , please email to Michelle Handal at [michellehandal@aol.com](mailto:michellehandal@aol.com). All ads for the champion must be submitted to Salim Saykail, 973-675-7900.
- **Walks of Prayers:** The campaign for our commemorative walk continues. Forms are available in the hall after Liturgy. Our next brick order is ready to be sent to the engraver, so if you have not already placed your order for your **Personalized Memorial Brick**, please fill your form and give it to Edward or Narmin Kurzum or leave it at the church office.
- **St. George's Book Store:** Entire Bible is available on DVD, New and Old Testament. Donation \$20.
- **We are planning a trip to Atlantic City on Sunday March 9th.** The bus will be leaving the church at 12:30 pm and returning at 9:00 pm Cost is \$28.00 per person, you will get back \$27.00. Please contact Souhel Shehady or the Church office for reservations.
- **We are planning another trip to the Holy Land** on September 12th thru 22nd, 2008. If you are interested in going, please let us know as soon as possible since we have a limited number of seats. Please call the church office at 973-256-8961 or Edward Kurzum at 973-857-6562.

### Parish Council

The Parish Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to attend! Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 19, 2008** at 7:00 pm.

**We are asking each family to please fill out the 2008 Pledge Form (on page 10, in your weekly bulletin), sign it and return it to the church office. Thank you.**

The church office has received 19 signed pledges so far this year. In previous years, we could always expect parishioners to pay the set minimum. However, this year we have done away with a set minimum and are totally depending on the faith and commitment of our parishioners to their church. The needed offerings to operate the day-to-day business of the church have been slow in coming.

This commitment is a personal challenge and discipline; you set for yourself, as a token of appreciation to our good and generous Lord, for His gifts to us and to our families.

We all remember the parable of the talents, where the master was pleased with the first steward and told him: **“Well done good and trustworthy servant; you have been faithful over few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master”.** (Mt. 25: 21)

### Sunday School

- To enroll your children in the Sunday School, please see Brian Nafash. The Sunday school is open to all children of our church members.
- Saints Festival, Sunday, May 18, after Liturgy. Come and listen to your children tell about their classroom Saint. Parents are invited. Food and beverages will be served.

### **February Birthday's**

03	Elina Chalet	16	Sophia Ayoub
05	Zackary Haid	22	Elie Lwaysi
11	Narimann Salim	25	Nicole Starke
14	Kelsey O'Gorman	26	Tianna Saade
16	Sara Hajal	27	Elias Chalet
16	Phillip Sabbagh		
16	Sam Hajal, Jr.		