



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Sunday, March 16, 2008



Matins 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Confession 9:00—9:45 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Very Reverend Father Elias Bitar

Deacon Michael Ibrahim

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

Kitchen: (973) 256-4942 + Fax: (973) 256-6613

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

Internet Web Site: <http://www.saintgeorgenj.org>

Office e-mail: JSalotti@aol.com

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

Tone 1 Eothinon 9

The Epistle

Prokeimenon: Blessed art thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. **Stichos:**
For thou art just in all that thou hast done to us.

Section from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:24-26; 32 to end.

Ye brethren: By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

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

- 1st or
- 15th 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. John 1:43-51

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Beth-sa'ida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathan'a-el, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathan'a-el said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Jesus saw Nathan'a-el coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathan'a-el said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

Nathan'a-el answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Altar Boys are: Peter Yazgi, Nicholas Juzdan, Phillip Sabbagh, Tommy Oliver.

BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

In memory of Albert White, Mealia Jorwa, David Jorwa, Sophie Catting, Anton Homsey, Sr., Ameen Homsey, Shamsa Saikaly, Mary Kassab, Shahood Tamney, Michael Esahak.

In memory of Mary Kassab offered by her children and their families.

Memory Eternal.

Forty-Day Trisagion Service

In memory of Mona Bashara offered by Fr. Elias, Joanne and their family.

Memory Eternal.

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

Hayet Creek for the good health of the Ladies Society.
 Stephen Sabbagh for the good health of his grandparents, Aunts, Uncles & Cousins.
 Aliyas & Jannette Aboughanam for the good health of their family.
 Robert & Kathy Simon in memory of Father Michael Simon.
 Gabi & Mari Chatrie In memory of Azar Chatrie.
 Johnny & Hilda Abuissa and family in memory of Joseph Abuissa.

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
- **Sunday, March 23rd, Falafel Sandwich Sale.** The Teens will also be visiting the Boys Orphanage after their 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

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.
- **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.
- **Ladies Society Meeting**, Sunday, March 23rd after Liturgy.
- We will be preparing **Spinach Pies** on Tuesday, 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 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.
- **GREAT LENT SERVICES: Monday, Great Compline, Wednesday, Presanctified Liturgy, Friday, Akathist-Madayeh. All services begin at 7:00 pm.**
- **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 or 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.
- **St. George's Day Celebration**, Sunday, May 4th after Liturgy . Featuring Yousef Shamon. Donation: Adults \$35.00 - Children \$25.00.
- This year's **Festival 2008** is scheduled for June 20, 21 and 22. Please volunteer your services by contacting Amin Amireh or Jennifer Zabaneh.

- **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. All ads for the champion must be submitted to Salim Saykali, 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 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.
- **Book Club:** Meets Monday, March 17, 24 & 31, April 7 & 14, at 8:00 pm after Great Compline.
- **Lenten Breakfast TODAY after Liturgy**, sponsored by the parents and teachers of the Arabic Classes. The cost of tickets: Adults \$10.00 and \$ 5.00 for Children (5-12 years). Children under five free. The proceeds of this event will go to the New Property Fund-raising efforts.
- **Lecture, Saturday, March 29th**, 10:00 am, "The Divine Liturgy," 1:30 pm, "Worship in the Old Testament." Breakfast and Lunch will be served. Please call the church office or Fr. Elias at 973-890-9139 or 973-652-5558 for more information and reservations.
- **Next Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 19, after services.**

Parish Council

"Now available for sale in the St. George Bookstore the long-awaited, complete "Orthodox Study Bible" including both the Old and New Testaments.

This new publication features an original translation by Orthodox Scholars of the Old Testament from the Septuagint. It also includes insightful commentary drawn from the Christian writers of the first ten centuries; full-Color Icons and helpful notes relating Scripture to seasons of Christian feasting and fasting. Please pay a visit to the bookstore to see for yourself the beauty of this new Bible, which might become a family treasure.

We ask each family to fill out the 2008 Pledge Form, sign it and return it to the church office. So far, we have received very few signed pledges. Signing a pledge form does not oblige anyone to pay, but it would remind you of your promise to offer to the Lord a token of your appreciation for all His grace and blessings.

Please look in your heart and come up with the amount you know is adequate giving. So far this year, we have incurred, in the first two months, over \$ 22,000 shortfall between our expenses and our collections".

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.

March Birthday's

01	Natalie Walasidis	20	Joseph Kilyk
02	Ashley Marie Nafash	21	Rawad Mamary
02	Steven Ayoub	23	Melissa Maskal
10	George Abuissa	24	Brianna Disteso
12	Albert Samaan	31	Rimoun Malki
17	Mary Salim	11	Mouna Wehbeh
18	Antonios Alshahda		