



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Sunday, March 23, 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

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT AND THE COMMEMORATION OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS, BISHOP OF THESSALONICA

ZONE 2

EOTHINON 10

The Epistle

Prokeimenon: You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

The Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 1:10 to end, 2:1-3.

Thou in the beginning, O Lord, didst found the earth: and the works of thy hands are the heavens.

They shall perish, but thou shalt continue; and they all shall grow old as a garment.

And as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: but thou art the self-same, and thy years shall not fail.

But to which of the angels said he at any time: Sit on my right hand, until I make thy enemies thy footstool?

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation.

Therefore, ought we more diligently to observe the things which we have heard, lest perhaps we should let them slip.

For if the word spoken by angels become steadfast, and every Transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward.

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation? Which having begun to be declared by the Lord, was confirmed unto us by them that heard him.

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. Mark 2:1-12

At that time, when Jesus returned to Caper'na-um after some days, it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them.

And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic cared by four men.

And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay.

And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts. Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Altar Boys are: Mark Nafash, Paul Sabbagh, Michael Sabbagh, Timothy Sabbagh.

BREAD OF HOLY OBLIATION

In memory of John Zeitoun, Alba Zeitoun, Selma Belbol, Jane Fadil, Ida Homsey, Albert Moussab, Jennie Mamary, Nasib Kashey, Samuel Samra, Widad Hishmeh, Khalil Hebeka.

In memory of Samuel & Ann Samra offered by Elaine Aquino and family.

Memory Eternal.

For the good health of Baby William Matthew Newman offered by George & Grace Andalft.

May God grant him many years.

Bishop Antoun will be serving Liturgy with Fr. Elias on Sunday, March 30th.

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

Elaine Aquino and family in memory of Sam & Ann Samra.
Antoun & Viola Maalouf in memory of Albert Juzdan.

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
- **TODAY**, 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, TODAY,** 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.
- **Book Store:** 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 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 24 & 31, April 7 & 14, at 8:00 pm after Great Compline.
- **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.

Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 16, 2008.

The Parish Council met on Wednesday, March 19. We are asking any church member that has a key to the hall or the church or the kitchen to have it recorded with Jackie. We would like to make sure that the heating system is not left on after hours, which has cost us an excessive cost in the last few months.

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		