



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Sunday, March 29, 2009



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

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: THE COMMEMORATION OF OUR RIGHTEOUS FATHER JOHN OF THE LADDER OF VIRTUES

Tone 8

Eothinon 8

The Epistle

The Epistle: The Lord will give strength to his people. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Section from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 6:13 to end.

Ye brethren: When God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself.

Saying, surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.

And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife.

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:

That by two immutable things in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

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 _____

We are asking all parishioners to please fill out and return the attached Financial Support Form.

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 2009 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 Gospel

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 9:17-30

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him. "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered him, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting."

They went out from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and after he is killed, he will rise on the third day."

Altar Boys are: Peter Yazgi, Nicholas Juzdan, Philip Sabbagh, Thomas Oliver.

BREAD OF HOLY OBLIATION

In memory of Khalil Hebeka, Elia Deeb, Sadick Gorab, James Abbood, Aziza Lyons, Abdo Sabbagh, Tewfick Mattar.

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

In memory of Basme Saba offered by Emanuel, Ikhlas, Yousef & Wasim Munayyer.

Memory Eternal.

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

Margaret DeGeyter & family in memory of Azeza Lyons.

Elaine Aquino and family in memory of Samuel Samra.

Jihan Tannous in memory of Chafic Tannous.

Nicholas & Joyce Andalfit and family for the good health of Rosemarie Zamloot.

Antoine & Carla Tannous in memory of Chaffic Tannous.

Antoine & Samia Zeitoun in memory of John & Abla Zeitoun

Emanuel & Ikhlas and family in memory of Basme Saba.

Amal & Violet Boctor for the good health of Joanne Bitar.

Antoine & Samia Zeitoun for the good health of Afife Aboushanab.

Teen SOYO

- To become a member of our Teen SOYO, please contact Alexandra Nafash, Lucy Chalet, Jennifer Zabaneh or Hend Kevorkian at Hendk99@optonline.net
- Sunday, April 5th, visit Boy's Orphanage (Bring Easter goodies)
- Saturday, April 11th, Lazarus Saturday (Clean Church)
- Sunday, April 12th, Palm Sunday (Bake Cookies)
- Friday, April 17th, All night Vigil, Meeting (Bring eggs to color)
- April 25th & 26th, Delegates Meeting
- Saturday, April 2nd, Special Olympics at Passaic County Tech High School, Wayne, NJ

Charity Committee

- The charity outreach committee is a group of people within the church who undertake fundraising activities, which specifically benefit local charitable causes. 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 Elias Chalet.

Ladies Society

Confession, **TODAY**, Communion, Sunday, April 5th.

Meeting & Ladies Communion Breakfast, Sunday, April 5th, after Liturgy.

Ladies Festival Work Days

Monday, April 6th, 6:00 pm, preparation for cheese.

Tuesday, April 7th, 9:30 am, String Cheese.

Friday, May 29th, 6:00 pm, Preparation for Pastries.

Monday, June 1st, 6:00 pm, Mamool.

Friday, June 5th, 6:00 pm, Baklava & Birds Nests.

Tuesday, June 9th, 9:30 am, Graybee.

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.
- Marlene Ayoub will be collecting donations throughout the months of March & April for the Lazarus Saturday Liturgy to be held on Saturday, April 11th. Please see her or call 973-519-7261 for more information.

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.
- **Arabic Classes:** Classes are now in session on Monday & Wednesday evenings at 5:00 pm. For more information, please contact Ikhlas Munayyer or call the Church office at 973-256-8961 or email Jsalotti@aol.com

- **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.
- **CAMP:** CAMP PARENTS: If you would like your child to ride the bus to camp the 4th session, please e-mail Joanne Bitar with your child/children's name at jnbitar@aol.com, If we are going to use a bus, remember WE NEED AT LEAST 2 CHAPERONES TO RIDE ON THE BUS. If you would consider being a chaperone, also indicate that in your e-mail. Thank you!
- **LASARUS SATURDAY,** If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one on Lazarus Saturday, April 11th, please see or call Marlene Ayoub 973-519-7261 with your donation. Thank you!
- **St. George's Day Hafli,** Saturday, May 2nd, featuring Eddie Ossama. Donation: Adults \$50.00, Children \$30.00 (12 and under).

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday, April 22nd, at 7:00 pm. The meetings of the Parish Council are open to all parishioners. If you are interested, you are welcome to attend them.

The PC held a special session on 2/4 to discuss the future of the House on Woods Rd. After thorough discussions and careful consideration of the pros and cons of a number of options (sell, keep and rent, keep and use for church activities), the PC decided that the best option at this time is to keep the House and efficiently use it for church activities (Teen SOYO activities, church organizations and PC committees meetings, etc...). In the next few weeks, the church organizations will put together a consolidated plan of these activities which will be revisited by the PC on a yearly basis as part of the long range plan to more efficiently utilize all of the church property.

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.

- There should be **nobody** in the church hall during Sunday school session. The doors to the hall will be locked. Please do not enter during that time. Thank you!

March Birthday's

3/1	Natlaie Walasidis	3/18	Anthony Al Shahda
3/2	Ashley Nafash	3/20	Joseph Kilyk
3/2	Steven Ayoub	3/21	Rawad Mamary
3/10	George Abuissa	3/23	Melissa Maskal
3/11	Mouna Wehbeh	3/24	Brianna Disteso
3/12	Albert Samaan	3/31	Rimoun Malki
3/17	Mary Salim	3/29	Alexander Saykali