



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Sunday, May 24, 2009



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

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SUNDAY OF THE BLINDMAN

Tone 5 Eothinon 8

THE EPISTLE: Thou, O Lord shalt preserve us, and keep us from this generation. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man ceaseth.

Section from the Acts of the Saintly and Pure Apostles 16:16-34

In those days, as we the disciples went to prayer: A certain girl, having a pythonical spirit, met us, who brought to her masters much gain by divining.

This same following Paul and us, cried out, saying: These men are the servants of the most high God, who preach unto you the way of salvation.

And this she did many days. But Paul being grieved, turned, and said to the spirit: I command thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, to go out from her. And he went out the same hour.

But her masters, seeing that the hope of their gain was gone, apprehending Paul and Silas, brought them into the marketplace to the rulers.

And presenting them to the magistrates, they said: These men disturb our city, being Jews;

And preach a fashion, which it is not lawful for us to receive, nor observe, being Romans.

And the people ran together against them; and the magistrates rending off their clothes, commanded them to be beaten with rods.

And when they had laid many stripes upon them they cast them in prison, charging the goaler to keep them diligently.

Who having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

And at midnight, Paul and Silas praying, praised God. And they that were in prison, heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundation of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and the bands of all were loose.

And the keeper of the prison, awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the doors of the prison open, drawing his sword, would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying: Do thyself no harm, for we all are here.

Then calling for a light, he went in and trembling, fell down at the feet of Paul and Silas.

And bringing them out, he said: Masters, what must I do, that I may be saved?

But they said: Believe in the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they preached the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he, taking them the same hour of the night, washed their stripes, and himself was baptized, and all his house immediately. And when he had brought them into his own house, he laid the table for them, and rejoiced with all his house, believing 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 _____

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. John 9:1-38

At that time, when Jesus was passing, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshipped him.

Altar Boys are: Andrew Chatrie, Matthew Chatrie, Eli Samaan, Albert Samaan.

BREAD OF HOLY OBLIATION

In memory of Asa Busada, Ida Azrak, Louis Baram, Arthur Nafash, Afife Shama, Kamil Shama, Alfred Haggar, Alfred Fadil, Albert Shawy, Edward Kassab, Shamsey Azar.

In memory of Edward Kassab offered by Jackie Eisen and family.

Memory Eternal.

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

Edward & Lillian Mamary for the good health of Christine Lynch.

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, May 24th**, planting flowers in memory of our loved ones.
- **Saturday, May 30th**, dancing at St. Stephen's Festival. 6:00 & 8:00 pm.
- **Sunday, June 7th**, Meeting and election of new officers.

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

Ladies Festival Work Days

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.

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 JSa-lotti@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 or Salim Abboud.
- **FESTIVAL MEETING, Wednesday, May 27th, at 7:00 pm.** Last chance to give your list of supplies you will need for your booth.

- **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!
- **FESTSIVAL** Yes, the festival is almost here and we need your help to make it a success! As always the Festival Committee is working hard to think of more creative ways in which **WE** the parish family can help! We are blessed with a beautiful community that is able to contribute in many ways such as time, talents, and financial contributions.
- All who are interested in donating thru any method, please contact Amin Amireh 973-953-4819, Elias Chalet 973-454-6315 or Jennifer Aabaneh 713-204-7171.
- **FLEA MARKET:** You can start bringing your used items for this year's Flea market on Monday, May 18th. Please leave items in Room # 8 (**Please do not put any items in Coat Room. No clothes, no large appliances, and no computers will be accepted.** All items must be cleaned and in working condition. **Thank you!**

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting is **Wednesday, June 17th, 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.

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!

May Birthday's

04	Mariella Hanna	16	Dalia Fanik & Tara Nafash
04	Andrew Hallack	18	Jonas Bassil & Anna Hosri
05	Renee Haddad	21	Matthew Sabbagh
08	Karla Yacoub	23	Kristen Tarazi
09	George Stavrou	23	Matthew Haddad
12	Samantha Chalet	29	Nadia Tadros
15	Elek McDonald	29	Shantel Ayoub