



## Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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

*Sunday, February 15, 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**

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

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**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](mailto:JSalotti@aol.com)**

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Tone 2

Eothinon 2

The Epistle

The Epistle: Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just.

Section from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 6:12-end.

Ye brethren: All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: But God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up by his own power.

Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of the harlot? God forbid.

What! know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

For ye are bought with a price: Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

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: _____  <input type="checkbox"/> I am a visitor <input type="checkbox"/> I recently moved into the area <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in becoming a member <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to know more about this Church <input type="checkbox"/> I request a phone call <input type="checkbox"/> I would like an appointment with the Priest <input type="checkbox"/> Please include me on the Parish Mailing List <input type="checkbox"/> Please pray for: _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer for _____  <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to know more about Church Activities, especially: <input type="checkbox"/> Teen SOYO <input type="checkbox"/> PTA <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School <input type="checkbox"/> Charity Committee <input type="checkbox"/> St. John the Divine Fellowship <input type="checkbox"/> Choir <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies Society <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ _____ _____
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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

- 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 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! I 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:** Peter Yazgi, Nicholas Juzdan, Phillip Sabbagh, Thomas Oliver.

**BREAD OF HOLY OBLIATION**

**In memory of** Nadeema Hadad, George Mattar, William P Grant, Sr. Milo Balonze, Stella Gaydosh, Adele Kattas, Rose Toobagy, Arif Sabbagh, Eias Assaly, Norma Shama Joseph Motta.

**Memory Eternal.**

**For the good health of Norman & Yvonne Oliver** on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary.

**May God grant them many years.**

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

Thomas & Hoda Oliver for the good health of Norman & Yvonne Oliver.  
George & Ghada Mitwasi for the good health of Hanan Munayyer.  
Farah, Randa & Mona Munayyer for the good health of Hanan Munayyer.  
Olivia, Michael, Maha & Ranya Kabbash for the good health of Hanan Munayyer.  
Abraham & Terry Mamary for the good health of Joanne Bitar.  
Joseph & Fran Conti in memory of Rose Conti.  
Robert & Gail Maloof in memory of Rose Maloof.  
George Karram and family in memory of Elaine Karram.  
Antoine & Hala Chalet in memory of Khalil Ynati.  
Jadan & Amal Abbassi in memory of Fawaz Ammari, Sr. & Renee Ammari.

**In memory of Takla Aboukassam** offered by Aliyas & Janette Aboughanam and family, Edward Aboukassam, Dalal Abood, George & Veneta Traboulsi, Souhel & Yola Shehady, Karam Wehbeh & family, Jadan & Amal Abbassi, Edward & Narmin Kurzum, George & Elsie Nassor,

**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](mailto:Hendk99@optonline.net)
- **Teen Calendar**
- Saturday, February 21st, Allentown Retreat.
- Sunday, February 22nd, Meeting and Bowling.

**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 Elias Chalet.

**Friday, February 27th**, Fellowship Café and Book Discussion for the novel "The Shack." Books will be sold at the church before event (also available at Amazon.com or at your local bookstore), synopsis will be provided that night for those who did not read book. Focus of evening will be to generate discussion and conversation about topics of book. Everyone teenage and above welcome to participate in the reading and discussion.

Next meeting, Sunday, March 1st, 2009.

### Ladies Society

The Ladies Society is open to all woman who are members of the parish. For more information on how to help, please contact Fadia Juzdan.

Friday, March 27th, Lenten Dinner.

### 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.

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### 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.
- **VESPERS:** Wednesday, Evenings 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](mailto:Jsalotti@aol.com)
- **Pilgrimage to Greece:** May 13-25, 2009. Only 25 seats available, direct from Newark to Athens. Total cost \$3,150.00. For more information, please call or email Fr. Elias or Joanne at 973-890-9139 or [jnbitar@aol.com](mailto:jnbitar@aol.com).
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- **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 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.

### Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting is Wednesday, February 18th, 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!

### February Birthday's

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