



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

237 Long Hill Road, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Sunday, March 14, 2010



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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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: THE COMMEMORATION OF OUR RIGHTEOUS FATHER JOHN OF THE LADDER OF VIRTUES
Tone 7 Eothinon 7

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: _____ <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

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: Ousama Hanna, Randy Arsheed, Shadi Saliby, Rami Saliby, Michael Sabbagh, Timothy Sabbagh.

USHERS: Sylvana Shehady, Reem Ayoub, Julie Abboud, Aber Tawil.

BREAD OF HOLY OBLIATION

In memory of Mary Ahto, Henry Shehade, John Homod, Gatos Nakash, Richard Penhaker, Mary Kabbash, Anges De Rosa, Albert White, Mealia Jorwa, David Jorwa, Sophie Cattiny, Anton Homsey, Sr., Ameen Homsey, Shamsa Saikaly, Mary Kassab

In memory of George Serventi, Jr. offered by Joyce Serventi and family.

Memory Eternal.

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

Karam Wehbeh for the good health of his family.

Rick & Karen Braccini for the good health of Avery Karen Neiberline.

Sam & Ann Marie Zamloot for the good health of Rae Corsaro.

Joseph & Fran Conti in memory of Barbara Puleo.

Rick & Karen Braccini in memory of George Serventi, Jr.

Mary Nahas in memory of Christopher Nahas, Edward Nahas & Kh. Elizabeth Nahas.

Teen SOYO

- To become a member of our Teen SOYO, please contact Matthew Chatrue, Lucy Chalet, Jennifer Zabaneh or Hend Kevorkian at Hendk99@optonline.net. Please visit the Teen website at: <http://www.stgeorgesoyo.weebly.com/>
- **April 16th—18th, Delegates meeting at St. Stephen the Protomartyr Church, South Plainfield, 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
- **Taste of New York** – Please keep Saturday, May 8, 2010 available. More information to follow.

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 at elia64@aol.com

Ladies Society

- The Ladies Society is considered the foundation organization involved in many spiritual and fundraising 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.
- **Today, Communion Breakfast.**
- **Friday, March 19th, Eastern Region Village Retreat,** see Fadia Juzdan for more info.
- Sunday, April 25th, St. George's Day Celebration.

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.
- **Lazarus Saturday:** If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, 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, 7:00 pm, Wednesday, Presanctified Liturgy, 7:00 pm, Friday, Akathist-Madayeh, 6:30 pm.**
- **LAZARUS SATURDAY:** **March 27th, Liturgy 10:00 am.** If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please see Marlene Ayoub.
- **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.

- **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.

Creative Festival: Each year our Sunday School students (teens are included in this group) have the opportunity to study a theme assigned by the Antiochian Archdiocese and show their understanding through writing, poetry, photography and art. The 2010 Festivals theme is "The earth is the Lord's, and its fullness, the world and all who dwell therein" (Psalm 23 [24]:1) The theme is about stewardship – caring for the Earth. It also allows us to pause and think about: Although the entries aren't due until March, we encourage students interested in photography to start thinking about their entries now. Fall in New Jersey is a wonderful time to view the Glory of God on earth.

The majesty of God who values order and beauty—Our use of what God owns, but has given to us—The Orthodox view of creation

Material for the 2010 Festivals is now available online at www.antiochian.org/festivals If you have any questions, please contact your child's Sunday School teacher.

MAINTENANCE: Every Saturday Morning from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, we need volunteers to help with maintenance; plumbers, electricians, handymen, etc. Anyone who has a little time to spare to help with repairs, cleanup, etc. Thank you!!

Parish Council

- The next Parish Council meeting is **Wednesday, March 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.
- As you may already be aware of, our church has completed a major construction project in the last couple of months to fix a structural problem in some of the columns around the altar. The costs for the project ran up close to \$70,000. Since this was a non-budgeted emergency project for the church, we had to dip into the church emergency reserves to pay the costs. As members of the St George church family, we'd like to ask you to help the church with whatever amount you can donate towards this project and to help replenish the church emergency reserves. We thank all of you who already donated towards this project and ask the Lord to richly bless you and your families."

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.

March Birthday's

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