



# St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church



Sunday, June 17th, 2018

**The Most Reverend Metropolitan  
JOSEPH**, *Primate Antiochian Orthodox  
Christian Archdiocese of North America.*

**The Right Reverend Bishop  
ANTHONY**, *Auxiliary Bishop*  
**V.Rev. Fr. John Alassaf, Pastor**  
**(330) 907-5811**

[yohanna-1965@hotmail.com](mailto:yohanna-1965@hotmail.com)

*Every Sunday:  
Matins 9:30 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM*

**St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**3204 Ridgewood Rd., Akron OH 44333**  
**Ph: 330-666-7116/Fax: 330-666-8292**  
**Email: [mail@stgeorgeakron.com](mailto:mail@stgeorgeakron.com)**

Rev. Protodeacon Joseph Harb  
Rev. Deacon James Reale  
Sub-deacons: Sam Snyder, & Samer Zawahri  
Church School Director: Julia Shaheen  
Parish News Coordinator:  
Kh. Rania Alassaf 330-907-9151  
Choir Director: Kim Shama Hanna  
Arabic Chanter: Tanios Tabanji  
Young Adult Advisor: Dr. Bill Shaheen  
Web Master: Jessica Zuder  
TLC Catering, Joe Catalano: 330-607-4360  
[joe@tlccateringinc.com](mailto:joe@tlccateringinc.com)

**Greeters:** Jan Kattouf

**Epistle Reader:** Gary Salhany

**Acolytes:** **VOLUNTEERS**

## **CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST” / “HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE” THE COMMUNION PRAYER**

I believe, O Lord, and I confess, that thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly Thine own immaculate Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray Thee, have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance; and make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thine immaculate Mysteries, unto remission of my sins unto life everlasting. Amen. Of Thy Mystic Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither will I give Thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief, will I confess Thee; Remember me; O Lord in Thy Kingdom. Neither unto judgment nor unto condemnation, be my partaking of Thy Holy Mysteries, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body.

## **Holy Bread Of Oblation for Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by:**

- Alice Elias & Family in memory of Norman Elias Sr. (40 Days)
- Atef & Teresa Haddad and Family
- Olga Yogmour
- Walid & Victoria Qaqish Family

## **Holy Remembrances are offered for the health of:**

Christian Simon, Margaux Yerian, Frank & Gladys Chirakos, Edmund & Geri Farris, Dawn Shaheen, Bob & Flo Howell, Shaun Curley, Myrna Kalail, Violet & David Carey, Mary Lou Simon, Wafiga Zawahri Family, Regina Salloum, Karen Horattas, Mike Shuman Shawns, Rick Karm, Bentley Licitiri, Kathy Velikoff, Neda Zawahri Serhan, and David Aramouni

## **(Quiet prayer at the altar) Holy Remembrances at the Table of Oblation for the health of**

Samar Jabbour, Fadia Albanna, Bonnie Dallas, Carl Massouh, Elie Eid, Deacon Joe Harb Family, Helen Dadas, Freda Corbin, Ethan Wernecke, Mary Smolinski, George & Georgette Zabaneh Family, Paul Megois, Richard Morrow, Marsha Lindsay, Dick Simon, Tony Jaber, Celia Kulmala, Sophia Britton, Kristen Sage, David Pilversack, Elie Asmar, Daisy Salem, Jihan & Hamodeh Albanna, Atty. George Mallo, Rachel D'Fantis, Madeleine Khoueiry, Kelsey Thompson, Sandra Shofani, Maroun Benchi, Peter George, Landon Skidmore, Matthew Hallowell, Susan Bogunovich, Tina Gmerek, John Bourjaily, Larry Ciavarella, Josephine Katzbach, Becky Burtoff, Brianne Dishong, Dr. Richard Esper, Amanda Hagger, Pat Magette, Jordan Miller, Wilma Seely, Doug Simmons, John Stevens, Johnny Bennett Stevens, Kory Wiita, Mildred Halamay, Norma Kakish, Botros Kerro, Elia Shoufani, John Mashni, Helen Zimmerman, Kathy Curley, Jerrie Elias, Issam Halasa, Sadie Kannam, Carl Moore, Habouba Rahbani, Greg Kattouf, Jamileh Hilaneh, Edward L. Collins, Wagdi Anton, Antoine Aramouni, Gerald Hanna, John Simon, Jackie Wilson, Ralph & Rosalie Yerian, Vincent & Eleanor Alexander, Antoinette Jabbour, June Denios, Isaac & Gamalat Gaid, Ghassan & Mona Ashkar Romeo Jajju, and Jackie Shama

## **Holy Remembrances are offered for the Repose of the Souls of :**

Chaker Debs, Hannah Kakish, George Ostich, Nathme Al-Smeirat, Norman Elias Sr. and George Elias

## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

## **ENTRANCE HYMN**

Come, let us worship, and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

## **TROPARION – HYMN OF ST. GEORGE**

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God for our soul's salvation.

## **KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS IN TONE TWO**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## **JUNE DONATIONS**

### **BUILDING FUND:**

\$30	Rinhold & Gayle Shilling in memory of George Elias
\$50	Kareem & Hanan Halaseh for the health of Neda Zawahri Serhan
\$100	Dr. Lana Nusbaum in memory of John Jacob
\$100	Jim & Cathy Sage

## **CALENDAR**

<i>Sun., June 17<sup>th</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Happy Father's Day!</i></li><li>• <i>Antiochian Village Camp 1<sup>st</sup> Session begins</i></li><li>• <i>40 Day Memorial Service for Norman Elias Sr.</i></li></ul>
<i>Mon., June 18<sup>th</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>COCA picnic at Presentation of Our Lord @ 6:00PM (@the Romanian Church)</i></li></ul>
<i>June 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Diocese of Toledo &amp; the Midwest Parish Life Conference in Sylvania, Ohio</i></li></ul>
<i>Fri., June 29<sup>th</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Saints Peter &amp; Paul, the Holy Apostles</i></li></ul>
<i>Sun., July 1<sup>st</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Feast of Cosmas &amp; Damian the Holy Unmercenaries</i></li></ul>
<i>Sun., July 8<sup>th</sup></i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Procopius the Great Martyr</i></li></ul>

## ***THE EPISTLE***

*The Lord is my strength and my song.*

*The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (5:1-10)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

## ***THE GOSPEL***

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew: (4:18-23)**

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."\*

## Third Sunday after Pentecost - 2018

### *In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!*

The faith-filled Christian is ever aware of being watched by the all-seeing eye of the Lord. We understand that to refer to the Holy Trinity. We realize also that the above passage from the Sermon on the Mount referring to a healthy eye filled with light was embodied in the Son of Man, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. How blessed are His eyes that look upon us with patience, tolerance, understanding, compassion, forgiveness and love. Put poignantly by the English poet, Lancelot Andrews:

Look on me with eyes that looked upon the weeping woman, Peter in the courtyard, and the thief on the

Today, on this Sunday, the Gospel reading is about what we really need in life, about what our real requirements are. In this Gospel, the Lord offers several images or comparisons, saying: The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thy eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thy eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness (Matthew 6:22-23).

Here the Lord offers us three images.

First, the Lord speaks about the eyes, about how important it is for them to see all that is full of light, for then the whole body will be full of light. If the eyes only look for good, then the whole person will be good and light. But if the eyes are darkened, then the whole person will be blackened.

The second image compares the eye with a lamp. A lamp dispels the darkness around it and gives light to any quarter – and the eye should do likewise for the body.

The Lord implicitly offers us a third image, that of the mind. If our mind be full of light, then all the remaining powers of the soul will likewise be full of light. If, on the contrary, our mind be darkened, then our entire soul will become dark and gloomy.

This is the first instruction the Lord gives us today: we should seek not only visible light, but also the spiritual light that would illumine our mind and thereby our soul as well.

Next the Lord warns us against avarice, saying: Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on (Matthew 6:25). Here He identifies two kinds of avarice. There are people who fall into the sin of avarice and begin to gather money. This form of avarice is called greed. Moreover, people who gather money give way to greed to such an extent that they are afraid to spend their money, so seized are they by this passion. There is another form of avarice, when one does not simply gather money, but hastens to spend it on mundane pleasures, thereby falling into spiritual dissipation. Both are dangerous. The Lord calls this “mammon,” saying: No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (Matthew 6:24). Here the Lord is speaking about the qualities of our heart, that it is impossible to unite love for God

with love for earthly riches. Moreover, there is also the risk that this “mammon” might not even be riches, but even a small amount of money. The Lord forewarns us, by giving us – as though we were little children – various images and comparisons. He comforts, instructs, and upholds us, saying: Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them (Matthew 6:26). If He feeds the birds, surely He can feed us as well. What a vivid comparison, invigorating and admonishing us!

The Lord also says: Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? (Matthew 6:28-30). Here again the Lord instructs and comforts by making a comparison, saying that we, of course, are better than birds or ephemeral flowers. Moreover, the Lord calls us to break away from corrupt, earthly concerns that are vain and sinful, and to direct our gaze to the surrounding world that He created.

The most important thing is to see that God is present in everything in this world: He gives thought to birds and flowers of the field. But, brothers and sisters, when the Lord offers us these comparisons, He is also cautioning us against another extreme. When He offers us these examples of the birds of the heavens or flowers, He does not want us, once we have heard these examples, to stop doing anything, sit down, fold our hands, and say: “That’s it, Lord! Now You will take care of us, and we’ll put aside all earthly cares.” No, nothing of the sort! The Lord certainly does not want us to wilt like these wildflowers. Indeed, their lifespan at time lasts only days or hours, but this does not mean that we should imitate flowers by stopping and doing nothing. Nor are we to be like birds that fly about at random, as they please, and do nothing else. The Lord guards us from extremes, and is certainly not calling upon us to do nothing.

Therefore, today’s Gospel proclamation concludes with these sobering words: Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well” (Matt. 6:33). Note that Christ is saying that these things will be yours as well. God knows that we need all these things (Matt. 6:32). He placed us in this world, and He blesses the labor of our hands. But let us not be like the man to whom God said “Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” (Luke 12:20). Let us instead firmly bind our hearts to heaven by making it—heaven—our treasure. Only such a life is pleasing in God’s sight, because only such a life is truly life—life in the fullness of being and life abundant (John 10:10). **Amen**

**Fr, John**

## SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

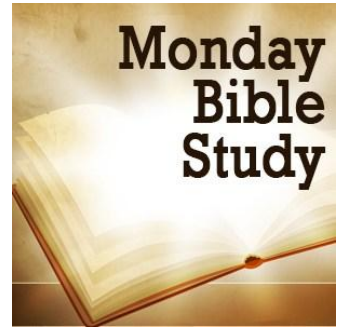
Frank Chirakos will be hosting weekly **Bible Study**

this summer, starting **Monday June 25<sup>th</sup>**.

**When:** Every **Monday** this summer, starting June 25<sup>th</sup>,  
from **6:30 – 8PM**

**Where:** Chirakos Residence **464 Schocalog Rd. Akron, OH 44320**

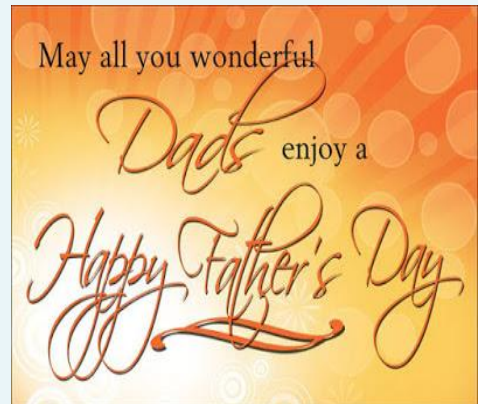
**Questions:** Please contact Frank at **330-807-7214** or [fcchirakos@gmail.com](mailto:fcchirakos@gmail.com)



The essence of the **FATHER'S** role  
Is to mirror God's, own heart  
And to value instruction in God's ways  
With the grace that God imparts

Every father needs God's wisdom  
To carry out his role  
As the tower of strength and support,  
For each fragile heart, he holds

And there's no greater reward in life  
For a father to take his place  
And uphold the values of the Lord  
With integrity and grace.



**Happy Father's Day to all our Dads!**



**Our kids leave today for Summer  
Camp at the Antiochian Village.**

**Be Safe and Have Fun!**

Hello,

My name is Annie Resetar, and I am a junior Nursing student at Walsh University. I am currently working on my Honors Thesis. I am researching on how culture impacts mother's method of feeding choice for their infants (breastfeed, bottle-feed, or both). While there has been extensive research on Caucasian, African American, and Hispanic cultural/ethnic groups on this subject, research gaps exist within smaller cultural communities such as the Middle Eastern community. Awareness gained from this study will allow nurses and other healthcare providers to provide better and more knowledgeable care in helping mothers choose a feeding method and supporting them in their decisions. I am inviting you to take part in my study.

**Who:**

I need mothers who are willing and open to sharing their stories and experiences on how the Middle Eastern culture influenced their feeding decisions. I need 10-15 mothers to be a part of this study so pass on the word! You are eligible if you meet the criteria below:

- given birth to a child in the past three years
- speak and understand English
- self-identify with the Middle Eastern culture
- are eighteen years of age or older



**How:**

- I will be conducting my research through 45 minute interviews. You may schedule a time that works best with your schedule. They will begin July 1<sup>st</sup> or upon IRB approval and will be conducted through September 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Every effort will be made to maintain your confidentiality; however, this cannot be guaranteed. Study records that identify you will be kept confidential. The interview notes, interview questions will not ask you to disclose your name or any other personal identification information.

**Where:**

- St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church (3204 Ridgewood Road Akron, OH 44333)

**Contact:**

Zaina Zawahri ([zzawahri@walsh.edu](mailto:zzawahri@walsh.edu)) with questions, more information, or would like to be a part of this study