



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, July 14th, 2019
Sunday of The Holy Fathers



**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

yohana-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

mail@stgeorgeakron.com

Rev. Protodeacon Joseph Harb
Rev. Deacon James Reale
Sub-deacons: Sam Snyder & Samer Zawahri
Church School Director: Julia Shaheen,
Kh. Corinne Mahshie & Jan Kattouf
Parish News Coordinator:
Kh. Rania Alassaf (330)-907-9151
Choir Director: Kim Shama Hanna
Youth Director: Dr. Bill Shaheen
Web Master: Melissa Aramouni
Arabic Chanter: Tanios Tabanji
TLC Catering: Joe Catalano
(330)-607-4360 or joe@tlccateringinc.com

Greeter: Paul & Jasmine Durbak

Epistle Reader: Debra Halasa

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:

- Mike & Dawn Eid family
- Atef & Teresa Haddad family.
- Walid & Victoria Qaqish family.

Holy Remembrances are offered for the health of:

Wafigah Zawahri family, Habouba Rahbani, Bonnie Dallas, Marlene Elzeer, Olga Yogmur, Jim & Suzie Hanna, Judy Parianos, Edmund & Geri Farris, Tom McLaughlin, Karen Dodovich, Hoda & Gina Jabbour, Shaun & Kathy Curley, Christian Simon, Dawn Shaheen & Sophia Massouh.

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

Fr. George Shalhoub, James Hicks, Sandy Abookire, Margaux Yerian, John Dodovich Family, Hala Zawahri, Paul Megois, John & Joyce Simon, George Tebcherani, Connie Kenney, Joseph Kelley, Michael Peludat, Carl Massouh, David Welling, Micheline Debs, Rose Farah, Elie Eid, Deacon Joe Harb Family, Freda Corbin, Mary Smolinski, George & Georgette Zabaneh Family, Keith Yerian, Richard Morrow, Marsha Lindsay, Tony Jaber, Celia Kulmala, Sophia Britton, Kristen Sage, Daisy Salem, Jihan & Hamodeh Albanna, Madeleine Khoueiry, Kelsey Thompson, Bob & Flo Howell, Susan Bogunovich, John Bourjaily, Mildred Halamay, Norma Kakish, Botros Kerro, Elie Sherfan, John Mashni, Helen Zimmerman, Sadie Kannam, Marie Saidy, Carl Moore, Greg Kattouf, Wagdi Anton, Antoine Aramouni, Gerald Hanna, Jackie Wilson, Vincent Alexander, Antoinette Jabbour, Isaac & Gamalat Gaid, Ghassan Ashkar, Jackie Shama, Larry Kobbs, Dr. Richard Esper, Jordan Miller, Bentley Licitiri, Kathy Velikoff, Romeo Jajju, Neda Zawahri Serhan, David Aramouni, Patty Sue Jones, Inyas Markarian, Violet Carey, Patricia Hanna, Alexandra Eid, Afaf Halasa, Sandy Mahshie, Bryan Caley, Suzette Saadeh, Rosemary McLaughlin, Sub-Deacon David Tomey, Joe Gabel, Robert Denious, Karen Horattas, Mary Lou Simon, Lurice Halasa & David Pilversack, Lamia Harb, Frank & Gladys Chirakos.

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

Nick Shaheen, Janan Khourieh Kiriako, Eleanor Alexander, Raymond Matthews, George Zagaib, Sr. & Joseph Haddad.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

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

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS (TONE 8)

Thou didst prove an auspicious and pleasing sacrifice, a holy offering, O valiant prizewinner Kyriaki, when thou broughtest thy Creator thine own spotless soul; which Christ in turn hath glorified, for through thee, He poureth forth divine gifts and endless graces upon the faithful who praise thee, since He is the Friend of man.

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (TONE 2)

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.

DONATIONS:

NEEDY FAMILY FUND:

| | |
|-------|--|
| \$100 | Joe & Louise Mouradian for the health of Fr. John & family and in memory of Fr. Lou Mahshie. |
| \$50 | Thomas & Rosemary McLaughlin for their health |

BUILDING FUND:

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| \$100 | Habib & Regina Salloum Family |
|-------|-------------------------------|

CAMP FUND:

| | |
|-------|--|
| \$100 | Anonymous for the health of Cameron Scott Boyert |
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THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer .

THE GOSPEL

(For the Holy Fathers)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven”. **Glory to thee O God. Glory to thee. (Amen).**

CALENDAR

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|---|--|
| Today Sun., July 14th | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feast of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Council• Family appointment sign-up for the St. George Family Photo Album Directory (pg.3)• Basketball/ Volleyball following Divine Liturgy. (Outside if weather permits) (pg.3) |
| Wed., July 17th | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bible Study with Frank Chirakos 6:30pm-8pm @ our church |
| Sat., July 20th | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feast of Prophet Elias |
| Sun., July 21st | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feast of the Prophet Ezekiel<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Convention. July 21st until July 28th |

UPDATE ON the St. George Family Photo Album Directory: Sam Salem, Geri Farris, & Sherri Farris will be on hand this Sunday, July 14th, 21st, and 28th, before and after Liturgy to take your family appointments to be photographed for the Directory. Please make every effort to set up an appointment – we want to make sure no family is left out. The photo sessions are scheduled for: Wednesday, August 7th, 12 to 8:30 PM; Thursday, August 8th, 2 to 8:30 PM; Friday, August 9th, 2 to 8:30 PM: and Saturday, August 10th, 10 to 4:30 PM. For questions, please contact Sam Salem, 330-864-3745 (Land) – 330-524-7037 (cell) – samsalem@neo.rr.com. Thank you – Sam, Geri, & Sherri

Monthly drawing was held on July 7th, the winners are:

| | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-------|------|------------------------|------|
| #34 | Corlaine & Juliette Mitola | \$200 | #113 | Misha, Atty Dave Esber | \$50 |
| #98 | Dick Maj | \$100 | #37 | Geoge Nahmi | \$50 |

EXERCISE OUTSIDE AFTER DIVINE LITURGY



Sunday the 14th of July, 2019

This will be in place of the Basketball/Volleyball/Stretching class due to the great weather. We will start under the canopy of the Family Centre (Mahshie/Esber Hall). Bring water bottles as we will be doing “activities” outside. All our welcome, dress appropriately....immediately after coffee hour.

Deacon James, Gary Salhany & Ron Francisco.

The cake for Today’s coffee hour is offered by Shaun Curley & family for the health of Kathy Curley on the occasion of her birthday.

MAY GOD GRANT HER MANY YEARS!





July 21-28, 2019

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- **Entertainment:** Family Fair, Broadway Music, Hafi, Dinner Dance
- **Reunions:** 50th NAC SOYO, 40th Village

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for more information and to **REGISTER NOW** visit www.ac2019gr.org



ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION
JULY 21-28, 2019



Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical-2019

In the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Today we remember the 630 holy and God-bearing fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon in the year 451. They made clear this very point: that Christ is fully God and fully human: one Person with two natures, for if He were not, how could He save us who are fully human?

They rejected the views of the Monophysites who claimed the Lord has only one nature, a divine one. If that were the case, we could not participate in His divine life—for we are simply humans--and it would be hard to see how Christ's death and resurrection had much to do with us. So today's commemoration is not simply a reminder about ancient history; it is a proclamation of the Gospel, for Jesus Christ must be both God and man in order to be our Savior.

We do a lot with lights in our church. There are candles on the altar and in front of icons. We turn up the lights at the beginning of the Divine Liturgy, and "Come Receive the Light" is the high point of the Pascha service when the light of our Lord's resurrection shines in the darkness and spreads from the priest's candle to everyone in the church.

So we shouldn't be surprised that Christ told His followers that they were to be the light of the world, a city on a hill that cannot be hidden. Imagine driving in the countryside at night, you will see the lights of even a small town from quite a distance; when light shines in the darkness, it is very hard to hide. And we never turn on light in order to hide something; instead, we want to illuminate it so that we can see it clearly.

The good news of our faith is that Christ has brought the light of heaven to our darkened world. Indeed, He is the Light, the eternal Son of God who becomes fully human while remaining fully divine.

That's how He brings us into His light, how he makes it possible for us to shine with His holy glory even as we live and breathe upon the earth. He fulfills all the foreshadowing and preparation of the Law and the Prophets, for God was never primarily concerned with Old Testament rules about outward behavior or the sacrifice of animals. Instead, those rules pointed the way to the true Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, to the One who triumphs over sin and death themselves. And now He makes it possible for us all to share in His glorious, brilliant light, to become partakers of His divinity by grace.

Yes, the good news is that we are called to become radiant and illuminated by the light of Christ such that we become the light of the world, shining so brightly with good works that all will give glory to God. the good news of the gospel remains: The God-Man Jesus Christ is our perfection, our salvation, our theosis. He has already worked the unfathomable miracle of joining humanity to divinity, of conquering sin and death, of making us participants in His life. Our on-going task is to cooperate with Him, to open the dark corners of our lives to His light, to stop corrupting and diminishing ourselves and instead to start living as the icons of divine glory that we were created to be.

Christ has brought light and life to all, to the entire world, and in His Body, the Church, we all learn how to grow in relationship with Him.

Basically, if we actually do what we know we should be doing, we will grow in holiness. That means simple steps, such as: coming to church; receiving the Holy Mysteries with proper preparation; praying, fasting, and taking confession on a regular basis; repenting of any wrong that we do; giving to the needy and for the support of the church; forgiving those who have wronged us and asking forgiveness of those we have wronged; fighting our passions; being mindful, which means to watch our thoughts, your mouth, and whatever else we have trouble controlling. Like St. Paul said, we should focus our energy on living the basic Christian life and we will find that we have much less time for pointless disputes and other spiritually unhealthy endeavors.

Do all of this with sincere faith, hope, and love, and you will grow in Christ and be a light and blessing to the world.

But don't be surprised if you still don't glow in the dark, at least not in your own eyes. Truly holy people don't think that they are holy at all. In contrast with the brilliant light of the Lord, they see their own dark spots with greater clarity than the rest of us see ours. The closer we are to the Lord, the more aware we will be of how far we have to go to be perfect as He is perfect. So if you are aware of more darkness than light in you at the moment, don't be surprised and don't despair. Do what you can to welcome the light that is in you, no matter how dim it appears; focus on it, fuel it, do everything within your power to help it grow and overtake the night.

Our Lord has conquered the darkness of death, the tomb, and hades; and He wants to do the same in our lives—and He will, if we will continue the process of growing in union with Him; and as we do our good works and our personal transformation will bring at least a glimpse of the glory of heaven to earth. And that's a good thing because it is our calling: to be the light of the world so that others will glorify God and be drawn to the new life of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. For He is truly the light that shines in the darkness, illuminating even people like you and me. **Amen Fr. John**

SAVE THE DATE

**St. George Akron will be holding our Annual Food Fair this year on
Sunday, September 8th from 12:00pm-7:00pm. For questions, please
contact Kh. Rania, 330-907-9151 (cell).**

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, October 24th - Sunday, October 27th

**THE FALL GATHERING of the Antiochian Orthodox Diocese of Toledo
and the Midwest will be hosted at Our Church, St. George Akron.
Details will be announced soon.**