



# St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 16, 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**  
**[mail@stgeorgeakron.com](mailto:mail@stgeorgeakron.com)**

Rev. Protodeacon Joseph Harb

Rev. Deacon James Reale

Sub-deacons: Sam Snyder, & Samer Zawahri

Church School Director: Kh. Corinne Mahshie,  
Jan Kattouf & Julia Shaheen

Parish News Coordinator:

Kh. Rania Alassaf (330)-907-9151

Choir Director: Kim Shama Hanna

Youth Director: Dr. Bill Shaheen

Web Master: Jessica Zuder

Arabic Chanter: Tanios Tabanji

TLC Catering: Joe Catalano

(330)-607-4360 or [joe@tlccateringinc.com](mailto:joe@tlccateringinc.com)

**Greeter**: Fadia Albanna

**Epistle Reader**: Alice Elias

**Acolytes**:

Luke Shaheen

Jacob Alassaf

Andrew Shaheen

Charbel Abdullah

**Please open the book at page 92 to follow the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.**

**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:**

- The Wright, Welling & Haddad families for the health of Bob Howell's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Alex, Emilia & Oliver Devia for the health of Michel & Debi Halasa on the occasion of their birthdays
- 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, Wafiga Zawahri Family, Karen Horattas, Rosemary Mclaughlin, John & Joyce Simon, Sophia Massouh, David Pilversack, Regina Salloum, Hnayneh Jabbour, Don Jones, Bonnie Dallas, Alexandra Eid, Afaf Halasa, Sandy Mahshie, Bryan Caley, Lamia Harb, June Denious & Jordan Zawahri .

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

George Tebcherani, Karen Horattas, Samir Bakhos, Giovanni Albanna, David Welling, Shaun Curley, Micheline Debs, Rose Farah, Susan Hanna, Fadia Albanna, Elie Eid, Deacon Joe Harb Family, Helen Dadas, Freda Corbin, Ethan Wernecke, Mary Smolinski, George & Georgette Zabaneh Family, Paul Megois, Richard Morrow, Marsha Lindsay, Tony Jaber, Celia Kulmala, Sophia Britton, Kristen Sage, David & Mary Pilversack, Elie Cherfan, Daisy Salem, Jihan & Hamodeh Albanna, Atty. George Mallo, Rachel D'Fantis, Madeleine Khoueiry, Kelsey Thompson, Sandra Shofani, Peter George, Landon Skidmore, Sabrina M., Matthew Hallowell, Susan Bogunovich, Tina Gmerek, John Bourjaily, Larry Ciavarella, Josephine Katzbach, Becky Burtoff, Brianne Dishong, Wilma Seely, John Stevens, Johnny Bennett Stevens, Kory Wiita, Mildred Halamay, Norma Kakish, Botros Kerro, Elie Sherfan, John Mashni, Helen Zimmerman, Kathy Curley, Issam Halasa, Sadie Kannam, Marie Saidy, Carl Moore, Habouba Rahbani, Greg Kattouf, Wagdi Anton, Antoine Aramouni, Gerald Hanna, Jackie Wilson, Ralph & Rosalie Yerian, Vincent & Eleanor Alexander, Antoinette Jabbour, June Denios, Isaac & Gamalat Gaid, Ghassan & Mona Ashkar, Romeo Jajju, Jackie Shama, Larry Kobbs, Dr. Richard Esper, Amanda Hagger, Pat Magette, Jordan Miller, Bob & Flo Howell, Bentley Licitiri, Kathy Velikoff, Jan Kattouf, Mike Shuman Shawns, Neda Zawahri Serhan, David Aramouni, Dr. Tom Shaheen, Patty Sue Jones, Inyas Markarian, Violet Carey, Patricia Hanna & Jim Hanna., Nicholas Devlin, Paul Maghes & Van Alexander.

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

Nick Shaheen , George Ostich, Norman Elias Sr, Anne Sayre, William Moore, Kh. Theodora Mary Kobbs, Gloria Hackim, Carmine DiGrande and the Newly departed Nicholas Stevens.

## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world 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 FOREFATHERS IN TONE TWO**

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

## **TROPARION 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 OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE**

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

### *Extend a Christmas Greeting through the **St. George Christmas Card***

*Sponsored by the Teen SOYO*

*Forms are available in the Hall*

*Donation \$10.00*

*See: Lalli Scalera, Lydia Boyce and Kendall Anenson*



### **Acme Community Cash Back August 10, thru December 30, 2018**

Earn 5% on Acme Fresh Market Store Brands

*They will only accept Acme Fresh Market Store Brands.*

A container will be on the candle stand or give to Mary Lou

**SAVE YOUR ACME RECEIPTS AND HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE  
ST. GEORGE CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Forefathers)

*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 the Colossians. (3:4-11)**

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all. **Amen**

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Holy Forefathers)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen." (Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee)

## CALENDAR

TODAY Sun., Dec., 16 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Deadline for donating food and coats</b></li> <li>• <b>Sunday School Christmas Program following Divine Liturgy</b></li> <li>• <b>Building fund luncheon sponsored by the Zawahri families (check p.7)</b></li> </ul>
Sun., Dec., 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday before the Nativity</li> </ul>
Mon., Dec., 24 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Christmas Eve Service</b> - Matins @ 6:00 PM - Divine Liturgy @ 7:00 PM</li> </ul>
Tues., Dec., 25 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! Christ is born! Glorify him!</b></li> <li>• Church Office Closed</li> </ul>
Mon., Dec., 31 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Year's Eve Party 7 PM-1 AM (check flyer on church bulletin board)</li> </ul>
Tues., Jan., 1 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!</b> Church Office Closed</li> </ul>
<b>Sun., Jan., 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST</b> The Blessing of the Waters following Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>
Jan., 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SAVE THE DATE:</b> 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Basketball Tournament @ St. George, Canton (check flyer on church bulletin board)</li> </ul>

## DONATIONS

### Building Fund:

\$500	Anonymous for the health of John & Joyce Simon
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### **NOTIFICATIONS...**

- \* Please make sure to return Parish Council Election Ballots by Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>
- \* 2019 Ecclesiastical Calendars have arrived and are located on the candle stand.
- \* The offering envelopes boxes for the year 2019 are available in Alphabetical order for the parishioners in the lobby. **If you haven't been assigned an envelope box and you would like to have one, please contact Fr. John or the office at 330-666-7116.**

**A BIG THANK** you on behalf of Deacon Joe and Gloria Harb to the ladies who sponsored their daughter in law's **Baby Shower** and to all who attend, for their support & generosity. We really appreciate it.  
**God Bless you all and your families**



**A cake** is offered today by The Wright, Welling & Haddad families for the health of Bob Howell on the occasion of his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**MAY GOD GRANT HIM MANY YEARS**



## **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!**

**Join TLC Catering, Inc, at St. George Family Centre**

Tickets are \$50 per person. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Church Camp Fund. Contact the church office at 330-666-7116 or [mail@stgeorgeakron.com](mailto:mail@stgeorgeakron.com) to make reservations.

For more information check flyer on the church bulletin board.



**News-Press, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio COMMUNITY**

**Sunday, December 9, 2018**

### **Businessmen's Club recognizes 50-year members**

“At the annual Scholarship Reverse Raffle held recently at Todaro’s Party Center, Club Secretary **MIKE KORMUSHOFF** recognized Carl Nickoloff, Patrick Petroff, Apostle Triffon and Carl Palcheff for their more than 50 years of service to the Macedonian Businessmen’s Club. Since 1953, the Macedonian Businessmen’s Club has strived to unite Macedonian Americans by recognizing and perpetuating the Macedonian Culture and Heritage. Active in the community, the Club has raised and distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to deserving students pursuing their formal and trade school education. Scholarship funds are raised through two annual events with a Scholarship Golf Outing in May and the Reverse Raffle in November. The Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Village Garden, which is owned by Tommy Metlovki, a long-standing Club member. All our welcomed. For more information, contact Mike Kormushoff at [mkorm@hotmail.com](mailto:mkorm@hotmail.com). Macedonian Businessmen’s Club is located at 822 Portage Trail, Suite 1A, Cuyahoga Falls”.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



# St. George Building Fund Luncheon



**TODAY**

Following Divine Liturgy

**Sponsored by the Zawahri Families**

**Sausage**

**Hummus**

**Labneh**

**Hash Brown**

**Potatoes**

**Zaatar Bread**

**Egg Casserole**

**Vegetables**

**Cheese**

**Olives**

**Fruits**

**Dessert**

**Free Will offering**



**50" SMART TV**

If you would like to sponsor a Building Fund Luncheon for this year (2019), Please contact Monged Zawahri, Chairman. Many Families can Co-sponsor the luncheon, a menu of their choice.

**All proceeds to benefit the building fund.**

## **SERMON ON THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET -2018**

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

Today is the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, when we commemorate all those in the Old Testament who foretold or prefigured the coming of Christ, from our first father Adam to the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. We remember today that the Incarnation of our Lord did not simply occur one day out of the blue, but was the fulfillment of God's eternal plan to bring humanity into His divine life. No one was forced, of course, to prepare for our Lord's coming. Today we honor those who responded in freedom to God's calling, who accepted His invitation to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. And in this season of Advent, we want to be like them, which is sometimes a struggle. For we all face powerful temptations to excuse ourselves from the blessing and joy of the Kingdom. Today's gospel text reminds us of what is at stake. For when a great man invited people to a great feast, they all had better things to do. They turned down the invitation because they had land to inspect, oxen to test, or family responsibilities. So their places at the banquet were taken by the most unlikely of party guests: the poor, the maimed, the blind, and the lame. Strangers from the highways and hedges came to the celebration, but none of those who were originally invited tasted of the supper.

The Lord often used the image of a great feast for the Kingdom of God. This parable reminds us that many of Jesus Christ's own people, the Jews, refused to accept Him as the Messiah, refused to accept His salvation, while many of the Gentiles—the mostly unlikely people—did accept Him. But we would miss the meaning of this passage for us if we think that it refers simply to what happened long ago to other people. For we too have been invited to the Heavenly Banquet, to the life of the Kingdom of God. And unlike the people of the Old Testament, we have more than the Law and the Prophets to foreshadow the coming of Christ. We have Him, living in our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit; nourishing our souls with His Body and Blood; we are members of His Body, the Church; He is the Bridegroom and we are the Bride. The Incarnation has already occurred. Christ has united our fallen, corrupt humanity to divinity. He has brought us into the life of the Holy Trinity. We could not ask for more.

And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. Why would they not come? It is the eternal question, a mystery – why this resistance in the human soul to the grace of God? In the parable, why did they all begin to make excuses? They were preoccupied with the good things in their own lives. In each case it is about a kind of moment of growth in their lives – the expansion of their possessions – I have bought a new field and must see it; or the enlargement of their career – I have bought five yoke of oxen and I'm going to examine them; or even the expanding of one's life to enter into marriage – I have married a wife and cannot



come. What was on offer, a heavenly feast, could not match what those who were first invited thought to be better.

They do not love the goodness they are offered by this Lord – eating bread in the kingdom of heaven, what is that? They also don't fear the consequences of walking away. Those first invited to the feast don't love the goodness offered by the Lord: Those first invited to the feast don't love the goodness offered by the Lord: There are so many ways our desire can be directed in this life, things that could preoccupy us until the day we die – but they will not satisfy us. What is the good of having property if we have no love of the Creator of it? What is the good of a job or a career, if it is vain ambition, with only a worldly end? What is the good of marriage that is not connected with an understanding of its higher purposes – as a place of love and spiritual growth, even to be a sacrament – a microcosm, a witness to the world, of the love of God for the Church, of Christ for His bride?

All these things – our possessions, our work, our family life – can only be truly enjoyed in the light of Christ, in the light of the Kingdom of Heaven, in the light of God. And perhaps there is a special warning about the moments in our lives when we are expanding our involvement in this world, to be especially cautious that it will not draw us away from God but rather closer to God. In the Parable, Jesus says that the master of the house, a figure of God, is angry. God's anger here, is his love expressed in a way that is meant to awaken us, enliven us, that we might live more fully.

These parables of Jesus are God's warnings to us to have a right fear of the very real dangers that attend the spiritual life. As embodied souls, we cannot see all the dangers God sees. We are his sheep, and he wants us to be alert. Have you ever known an ambivalence within you that is spoken of in the parable? a hesitation to draw closer to the living God? There are all sorts of invitations made by God to us.

Do we realize the high gift of Christian fellowship – that others here today bear the image and likeness of God, and can help to awaken us, encourage us, in our journey? Do we realize the greatness of the gift of God's Word written to us – a word that has changed the world, and has power to change us not just at the beginning but in the middle and to the end of our earthly lives? Do we realize the power of Christ's promise that His Spirit, Christ dwelling in our hearts by our baptism, known especially as we deepen our prayer life? How can we properly estimate the value of God's gift of the Holy Communion of Christ's body and blood – the call to do this in remembrance of me. All these are invitations to feast in the Kingdom  
**Amen.**

**Fr. John**

## ST SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER AND BISHOP OF TREMITHUS

Saint Spyridon of Tremithus was born towards the end of the third century on the island of Cyprus. He was a shepherd, and had a wife and children. He used all his substance for the needs of his neighbors and the homeless, for which the Lord rewarded him with a gift of wonderworking. He healed those who were incurably sick, and cast out demons. After the death of his wife, during the reign of Constantine the Great (306-337), he was made Bishop of Tremithus, Cyprus. As a bishop, the saint did not alter his manner of life, but combined pastoral service with deeds of charity. According to the witness of Church historians, St Spyridon participated in the sessions of the First Ecumenical Council in the year 325.

. Similar instances are known from the life of the saint. Once, he went into an empty church, and ordered that the lampadas and candles be lit, and then he began the service. When he said, "Peace be unto all," both he and the deacon heard from above the resounding of "a great multitude of voices saying, "And with thy spirit." This choir was majestic and more sweetly melodious than any human choir. To each petition of the litanies, the invisible choir sang, "Lord, have mercy." Attracted by the church singing, the people who lived nearby hastened towards it. As they got closer and closer to the church, the wondrous singing filled their ears and gladdened their hearts. But when they entered into the church, they saw no one but the bishop and several church servers, and they no longer heard the singing which had greatly astonished them." Another historical detail reported by Sozomen, was characteristic of the saint. It was his custom to distribute one part of the gathered harvest to the destitute, and another portion to those having need while in debt. He did not take a portion for himself, but simply showed them the entrance to his storeroom, where each could take as much as was needed, and would later pay it back in the same way, without records or accountings. There is also the tale by Socrates Scholasticus about how robbers planned to steal the sheep of St Spyridon.

They broke into the sheepfold at night, but here they found themselves all tied up by some invisible power. When morning came the saint went to his flock, and seeing the tied-up robbers, he prayed and released them. For a long while he advised them to leave their path of iniquity and earn their livelihood by respectable work. Then he made them a gift of a sheep and sending them off, the saint said kindly, "Take this for your trouble, so that you did not spend a sleepless night in vain." All the Lives of the saint speak of the amazing simplicity and the gift of wonderworking granted him by God. Through a word of the saint the dead were awakened, the elements of nature tamed, the idols smashed. At one point, a Council had been convened at Alexandria by the Patriarch to discuss what to do about the idols and pagan temples there. Through the prayers of the Fathers of the Council all the idols fell down except one, which was very much revered. It was revealed to the Patriarch in a vision that this idol had to be shattered by St Spyridon of Tremithus. Invited by the Council, the saint set sail on a ship, and at the moment the ship touched shore and the saint stepped out on land, the idol in Alexandria with all its offerings turned to dust, which then was reported to the Patriarch and all the bishops. St Spyridon lived his earthly life in righteousness and sanctity, and prayerfully surrendered his soul to the Lord. His relics repose on the island of Corfu (Kerkyra).

His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend  
Bishop ANTHONY



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

Diocese of Toledo and  
The Midwest

## ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Dear Father and Esteemed Members of the Parish Council,

As you heard at the Parish Life Conference this past June, a new Midwest Diocese Chancery was purchased and His Grace Bishop Anthony moved in this past August. The Chancery sits in a charming neighborhood in Toledo, Ohio and we are happy to share the news that much progress has been made to turn a lovely, older family home into a fully functional and beautiful Diocesan Chancery. Our Diocesan Cathedral of St. George, led by Father Michael Shaheen and Mr. John Ellis, Chairman of the Chancery Committee, have worked hard to complete some initial renovations with existing funds. They have also developed plans for the rest of the needed renovations, as well as its full decoration and furnishing, which have been approved by our Diocesan Council. These plans include modest quarters appropriate to the dignity of both our Metropolitan when he visits and our Diocesan Bishop, as well as all those who will succeed him in coming generations. The Chancery also includes an office, a reception area for welcoming official visitors to the Diocese, meeting space and a Chapel. The Chancery is much more than a home for any particular Bishop. It is *our* home, the home of *our* Diocese.

The Archdiocese has paid the bulk of the cost for the purchase of the Chancery and will fund the annual expenses and upkeep. Now, it is not only our Diocese's responsibility, but our *privilege* to raise the funds needed to make the plans mentioned above a reality. Our Diocesan Council has discussed a variety of methods to raise the necessary funds, but has settled on one simple method: appealing to you, our steadfast Clergy and Faithful, to come together in support of our Diocesan home.

The total budgeted cost for the renovations and furnishing is approximately \$250,000. This is a large sum. In the past, we would assess each church something like the following schedule:

\$10,000 from our large parishes (10)	\$100,000
\$ 5,000 from our middle sized parishes (25)	\$125,000
\$ 2,500 from our small parishes (11)	\$ 27,500
\$ 1,000 from our mission parishes (6)	\$ 6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$258,000</b>

Instead, we believe a grassroots effort lead by the parishes would yield these results or better, so let's see what we can do together, parish by parish. There are more than 50 parishes in our Diocese, *so together*, this is very achievable.

Some parishes may choose to take up collections or hold fundraisers while others may seek donations from individuals or from the parish's general fund. Still others will use all of the above methods. No matter which way your parish chooses to be supportive, we will be appreciative of your enthusiastic effort to complete this important project in the life of our Diocese.

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

Though we are spreading out the appeal over two years to make this effort easier, recognize that we will only do the work and purchase the furnishings, as the money is available. In other words, the sooner the better...we will be thrilled for any money that will be sent in advance of two years. Therefore, we ask all parishes do the following:

1. By your November Parish Council meeting, identify a dollar amount you plan to send (see below) over a two-year period.
2. Estimate what you will be able to send by March 31, 2019.
3. Fill out the attached form and return with any amount you are able as a first installment in November 2018.

We stand ready with answers to any questions you may have so please do not hesitate to contact us. May God bless our efforts as we take this next step in the growth of our Diocese.

Yours in His Service,



Mrs. Cindy Karos  
Vice-Chair, Diocesan Council  
[ckaros@visi.com](mailto:ckaros@visi.com)



V. Rev. Michael Nasser  
Secretary, Diocesan Council  
[frmichael@stnicholasgr.com](mailto:frmichael@stnicholasgr.com)

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#### MIDWEST CHANCERY FUND

PARISH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, ST/PR: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount we intend to raise: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount included in this first installment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount intended by March 2019: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with checks payable to "Midwest Diocese" to:  
Mrs. Lynn Simon, Diocesan Treasurer  
7289 Old Lantern Dr. SE  
Caledonia, MI 49316

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

Midwest Diocesan Chancery  
5549 Ginger Tree  
Toledo, OH 43623

## MIDWEST DIOCESE CHANCERY FUNDRAISER

If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to **St. George  
Antiochian Orthodox Church** with a note in the memo area

**"Midwest Diocese Chancery"**

**A COPY OF THE DONORS NAMES AND AMOUNT WILL BE SENT TO HIS  
GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY**

**Thank you and May God Bless you always**