



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 2, 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

*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: 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

Greeter: Carl Massouh

Epistle Reader: Bob Snyder

Acolytes:

William Maghes
Trevor Kiehl

Evan Roumie
Jonathan Marouf

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:

- 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, Nicholas Devlin, Paul Maghes, Van Alexander, Don Jones, Bonnie Dallas, Alexandra Eid & Teresa Karam.

(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, Maroun Benchi, 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, Lamia Harb, Violet Carey, Patricia Hanna & Jim Hanna.

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

Nick Shaheen, George Ostich, Norman Elias Sr, Adele Eid, Anne Sayre, William Moore, Kh. Theodora Mary Kobbs, Gloria Hackim and Carmine DiGrande.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION BEFORE & AFTER 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 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**

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 to make reservations.

For more information check flyer on the church bulletin board.



THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (6:10-17)

Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **Amen**

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight

(Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee)

CHRISTMAS CHARITY ACTIVITIES...2018

*Our Church is collecting Canned & Non Perishable Food Drive
November through December, 2018 as requested by the
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.*

1-NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

2-COAT DRIVE (used or new)

Thank you all for your help!



CALENDAR

Sun., Dec., 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday of Catherine the Great Martyr
Tue., Dec., 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saint Barbara Feast Day • Ornament Exchange Party @ 6pm
Thurs., Dec., 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saint Nicholas Feast Day
Sun., Dec., 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir & Chanter Appreciation Sunday • The Antiochian Women Christmas Bake Sale after Divine Liturgy(Spinach & Meat pies will be pre ordered) • Pictures with St. Nicholas during Sunday School
Mon., Dec., 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COCA meeting at our church @7pm
Tues., Dec., 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council meeting @ 7:30pm
Sun., Dec., 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for donating food and coats • Sunday School Christmas Program following Divine Liturgy • Building fund luncheon sponsored by the Zawahri families
Sun., Dec., 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday before the Nativity
Mon., Dec., 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Eve Service - Matins @ 6:00 PM - Divine Liturgy @ 7:00 PM
Tues., Dec., 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! Christ is born! Glorify him! • Church Office Closed
Mon., Dec., 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Year's Eve Party 7 PM-1 AM (check flyer on the bulletin board)
Tues., Jan., 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL! Church Office Closed
Sun., Jan., 6th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST The Blessing of the Waters following Divine Liturgy
Jan., 18 th - 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAVE THE DATE: 21st Annual Midwest Basketball Tournament @ St. George, Canton (check flyer on church bulletin board)

DONATIONS

Sunday School

\$100	Carl & Cheryl Massouh Massouh in Memory of Bill Moore
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Building Fund

\$25	William & Bonnie Dallas in Memory of Carmine DiGrande
\$50	Jim & Mimi Hicks in Memory of Nick Shaheen
\$100	Fr. Makhlouf for the health of The Makhlouf & The Massouh families

Church Fund

\$500	James & Susan Hanna
\$200	Mildred Hamalay

Chancery Fund

\$50	Charlotte Shaheen
\$200	Michael & Diane Pancoe

**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

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women

are hosting a Christmas Bake Sale. If you are able to donate any type of appetizer, entrée, or dessert to sell, it would be appreciated!

Please bring to Church on December 9th, 2018 .Fresh meat and spinach pies will be available. **THE LADIES WILL BE PREPARING THE PIES ON DECEMBER 7TH, PLEASE TRY TO COME AND HELP.**

For more information, please see Kh. Rania Alassaf or Victoria Qaqish or Mary Pilversack . **Thank You Very Much!**



A cake is offered today by Kh. Linda & Shaheen family on the occasion of Fr. Basil's birthday

MAY GOD GRANT HIM MANY YEARS



A cake is offered today by Massouh & Makhlof families on the occasion of Carl & Cheryl Massouh's 50th Wedding Anniversary. The Removal Crown will be following the Divine Liturgy.

MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS



Sermon for 14th Sunday of Luke.

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

As we continue preparing to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus Christ at Christmas, we are reminded by today's gospel text of how we all stand before Him: blind, weak, and in need of blessing beyond our own power or ability. For our Lord was not born as a reward for humanity's good behavior, but purely out of the divine love and mercy for human beings, and the rest of creation, deformed and suffering from our sins.

We see, for one thing, in this passage, the importance of diligence in the use of means. We are told of "a certain blind man who sat by the wayside begging." He sought the place where his pitiful condition was most likely to attract notice. He did not sit lazily at home, and wait for relief to come to him. He placed himself by the road-side, in order that travelers might see him and give him help. The story before us shows the wisdom of his conduct. Sitting by the wayside, he heard that "Jesus was passing by." Hearing of Jesus he cried for mercy, and was restored to sight. Let us mark this well! If the blind man had not sat by the wayside that day, he might have remained blind to the hour of his death.

We see, for another thing, in this passage, an example of our duty in the matter of prayer. We are told that when this blind man heard that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by, he "cried, saying, Jesus, you Son of David, have mercy on me." We are told further, that when some rebuked him and bade him hold his peace, he would not be silenced. "He only cried so much the more." He felt his need, and found words to tell his story. He was not to be stopped by the rebukes of people who knew nothing of the misery of blindness. His sense of wretchedness made him go on crying. And his importunity was amply rewarded. He found what he sought. That very day he received sight.

What the blind man did on behalf of his bodily ailment, it is surely our bounden duty to do on behalf of our souls. Our need is far greater than his. The disease of sin is far more grievous than the lack of sight. The tongue that can find words to describe the necessities of the body, can surely find words to explain the needs of the soul.

Let us begin praying if we never prayed yet. Let us pray more heartily and earnestly, if we have prayed in times past. Jesus, the Son of David, is still passing by, and not far from everyone of us. Let us cry to Him for mercy, and allow nothing to stop our crying. Let us not go down to the pit speechless and silent, without so much as a cry for help. None will be so excuseless at the last day as baptized men and women who never tried to pray.

We see, for another thing, in this passage, an encouraging instance of Christ's kindness and compassion. We are told that when the blind man continued crying for mercy, our Lord "stood and commanded him to be brought unto Him." He was going up to Jerusalem to die, and had

weighty matters on His mind, but He found time to stop to speak kindly to this poor sufferer. Then Jesus asked the man, "What do you want me to do for you?"

"Lord," he pleaded, "I want to see!" At once we are told, "Jesus said unto him, receive your sight; your faith has saved you." That faith perhaps was weak, and mixed with much imperfection. But it had made the man cry to Jesus, and go on crying in spite of rebukes. So coming with faith, our blessed Lord did not cast him out. The desire of his heart was granted, and "immediately he received sight."

Passages like these in the Gospels are intended for the special comfort of all who feel their sins and come to Christ for peace. Such people may be sensible of much infirmity in all their approaches to the Son of God.

Their faith may be very feeble--their sins many and great--their prayers very poor and stammering--their motives far short of perfection. But after all, do they really come to Christ with their sins? Are they really willing to forsake all other confidence, and commit their souls to Christ's hands? If this be so, they may hope and not be afraid. That same Jesus still lives who heard the blind man's cry, and granted his request. He will never go back from His own words, "Him that comes to me, I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37.)

We see, lastly, in this passage, a striking example of the conduct which becomes one who has received mercy from Christ.

We are told that when the blind man was restored to sight, "he followed Jesus, glorifying God." He felt deeply grateful. He resolved to show his gratitude by becoming one of our Lord's followers and disciples. Pharisees might cavil at our Lord. Sadducees might sneer at His teaching. It mattered nothing to this new disciple. He had the witness in himself that Christ was a Master worth following. He could say, "I was blind, and now I see." (John 9:25.)

Grateful love is the true spring of real obedience to Christ! Men will never take up the cross and confess Jesus before the world, and live to Him, until they feel that they are indebted to Him for pardon, peace, and hope. The ungodly are what they are, because they have no sense of sin, and no consciousness of being under any special obligation to Christ. The godly are what they are, because they love Him who first loved them, and washed them from sin in His own blood. Christ has healed them, and therefore they follow Christ. **Amen**

Fr. John

NOTIFICATIONS...

Please make sure to return Parish Council Election Ballots by Dec. 30th

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!