



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church



Sunday, December 30, 2018
CHRIST IS BORN, GLORIFY HIM!

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: 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: Jessica Zuder

Arabic Chanter: Tanios Tabanji

TLC Catering: Joe Catalano

(330)-607-4360 or joel@tlccateringinc.com

Greeter: Kh. Corinne Mahshie

Epistle Reader: Judge Kathy Michael

Acolytes:

William Maghes

Evan Roumie

Trevor Kiehl

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:

- George & Dana Maarouf and Raymond & Stephanie Maarouf in memory of Bshara Yaacoub Jeries Maarouf (40 day), Naoum & Aref Maarouf.
- The Reale, Joseph & Hawes Families for the health of Lorraine Joseph & in memory of Claire Joseph, Violet & Lou Joseph, Lilly Joseph, Helen Kaba, George & Evon Fahid, Georgie Fahid, Charles & Alice Ruiz, Dana O'Hara & Norman Sr. Elias.
- Bassam & Raghda Halasa and Michel & Debi Halasa Families in memory of Katrina, Farhan, Odeh, Thehabe, Victoria, Toufig, Galeb, Russia, Serafim, Sultana, Dr. Ofelia Halasa and Richard & Dolores Powell.
- The Pilversack family for the health of Dave Pilversack & Emilia Devia on the occasion of their birthdays.
- Elie Tebcherani for the health of George Tebcherani & in memory of Marie, Georgette, Michelyn, Semaan, Sabeh, Matilda & Naim Tebcherani.
- Atef & Teresa Haddad and Family
- Walid & Victoria Qaqish Family

Holy Remembrances are offered for the health of:

Olga Yogmour, Christian Simon, Margaux Yerian, Frank & Gladys Chirakos, Edmund & Geri Farris, Dawn Shaheen, 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, Jordan Zawahri, Oliver Devia & Pierre Nader.

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

David Welling, Shaun & Kathy Curley, Micheline Debs, Rose Farah, Jim & Susan Hanna, Fadia Albanna, Elie Eid, Deacon Joe Harb Family, Freda Corbin, Mary Smolinski, George & Georgette Zabaneh Family, Paul Megois, Richard Morrow, Marsha Lindsay, Tony Jaber, Celia Kulmala, Sophia Britton, Kristen Sage, Daisy Salem, Jihan & Hamodeh Albanna, Regina Salloum, Madeleine Khoueiry, Kelsey Thompson, Bob & Flo Hallowell, Susan Bogunovich, John Bourjaily, Mildred Halamay, Norma Kakish, Botros Kerro, Elie Sherfan, John Mashni, Helen Zimmerman, Sadie Kannam, Marie Saidy, Carl Moore, Habouba Rahbani, Greg Kattouf, Wagdi Anton, Antoine Aramouni, Gerald Hanna, Jackie Wilson, Vincent & Eleanor Alexander, Antoinette Jabbour, , Isaac & Gamalat Gaid, Ghassan Ashkar, Jackie Shama, Larry Kobbs, Dr. Richard Esper, Jordan Miller, , Bentley Licitiri, Kathy Velikoff, Jan Kattouf, Neda Zawahri Serhan, David Aramouni, Patty Sue Jones, Inyas Markarian, Violet Carey, Patricia Hanna.

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

Nick Shaheen, George Ostich, Norman Elias Sr, Anne Sayre, William Moore, Gloria Hackim, Nicholas Stevens, June Denious & Atty. George Mallo & the newly departed Prof. Boutros Abu Manneh.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to 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 THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE THREE

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He Who existed before the ages as God.

NOTIFICATIONS...

- * 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.**

St. George Christmas Cards are sent out

Please support the Teen SOYO!

Donation \$10.00

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!



THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ)

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (1:11-19)

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother. **Amen**

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (2:13-23)

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene." **(Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee)**

CALENDAR

Sun., Dec., 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday after Nativity
Mon., Dec., 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Year's Eve Party 7 PM-1 AM (check flyer on church bulletin board)
Tues., Jan., 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumcision of Christ -Feast of Basil the Great. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL! Church office closed
Sun., Jan., 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST The Blessing of the Waters following Divine Liturgy The Antiochian Women will offer the traditional Arabic pastry of "ZELABYEE", symbolic of the Baptism of Christ in the River of Jordan • Memorial Service for Hanneh Kakish (one year)
Jan., 18 th - 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21st Annual Midwest Basketball Tournament @ St. George, Canton (check flyer on church bulletin board)

DONATIONS

Needy Family Fund:

\$1000	Elie Tebcherani
\$100	Anonymous in memory of Habib Kakish
\$100	Ghada & Ghassan Karim in memory of Laurice Tabanji
\$100	Shaun & Kathy Curley
\$50	Dr. Charles & Denise Benko in memory of Kenneth Azar
\$50	Dr. Charles & Denise Benko in memory of Norman Sr. Elias
\$20	Wafigah Zawahri

Camp Fund:

\$100	Anonymous in memory of Norman Sr. Elias
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Chancery Fund:

\$500	John Dodovich
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Building Fund:

\$1500	Atty. David & Cindy Esber
\$1000	Kenneth Morgan
\$500	Monged & Randa Zawahri
\$100	Anonymous in memory of Nick Shaheen
\$50	Dr. Charles & Denise Benko in memory of George Ostich
\$50	Dr. Charles & Denise Benko in memory of Nick Shaheen
\$20	Anonymous in memory of Fr. Lou Mahshie

Building Fund in memory of Atty. George Mallo:

\$100	Richard Maj	\$50	Elaine Ferguson
\$100	Tamara Mundy	\$50	Jimmy Abbat
\$100	Richard & Kathryn Maj	\$25	David Boshara
\$100	Anonymous		

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.



CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!!!!!! 500 CAMPERS ARE ALREADY REGISTERED. If You are Interested, Please Register ASAP!!!!!!!

Go to avcamp.org to register

For any question call Fr. John or Kh. Corinne

21st ANNUAL MIDWEST DIOCES BASKAETBALL TOURNAMENT ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH 1118 Cherry Ave NE, Canton, Ohio 44704

- **For all our teens and youth (26 years old and younger). Please Sign up.** Applications are on the candle stand.
- **JOIN US** every Sunday after Divine Liturgy for practice in the Family Centre.
- **For more informations** See Ron Francisco, Dcn. Jeff Reale or Gary Salhany.

CONGRATULATIONS on the churching of Henley Ann Sloan, on Sunday, December 23rd, and on her Holy Baptism on Saturday, December 29th. Henley Ann is the daughter of John & Lauren (Kormushoff) Sloan and granddaughter of Mike & Paticia Kormushoff.

MAY GOD GRANT HER MANY YEARS



HAPPY & BLESSED NEW YEAR 2019

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

In these days, my beloved brethren, millions of men accept the first day of January as the beginning of the New Year, regardless of religion, race, or language. They exchange cards with wishes for a long life and a happy new year. Of course, most of them perform this duty just as a custom, Time is the measure of our lives. It is purely subjective. When we cease to exist, so does time. Many philosophers divided time into three parts — past, present, and future. We live only in the present. That is all we can comprehend. The past is something which has disappeared. The future is what is unknown and uncertain. In faith, we believe in an eternity, yet we cannot conceive of it by measurements of time, because once we limit it by any type of measurement it ceases to be eternity. Therefore, for us, we comprehend only the present, that one undivided moment which is running as I am speaking. St. Basil, one of the most brilliant of the Fathers of the Church, said, "Time runs, and waits not for him who is late." Our days are rushed. The lazy man is passed by.)I wish for you all a new year which brings to you all spiritual blessings from our Lord **.I also wish that during this year we can all read the entire Holy Bible.** We can do that if we read three chapters every day, two from the Old Testament beginning with the book of Genesis, and one from the New Testament beginning with the Gospel according to St. Matthew.May the word of God abide in us, and may it become a spirit and life read by everyone who meets us. **I wish to hear all good news about your continuous spiritual growth.**Be absolved and pray for me as I always pray for you.In Psalm 90:4, "For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night."

The eternity of God is contrasted with the temporality of man. Our lives are but short and frail, but God does not weaken or fail with the passage of time. In a sense, the marking of time is irrelevant to God because He transcends it. The Lord does not count time as we do. He is above and outside of the sphere of time. God sees all of eternity's past and eternity's future. The time that passes on earth is of no consequence from God's timeless perspective. A second is no different from an eon; a billion years pass like seconds to the eternal God.Though we cannot possibly comprehend this idea of eternity or the timelessness of God, we in our finite minds try to confine an infinite God to our time schedule. Those who foolishly demand that God operate according to their time frame ignore the fact that He is the "High and Lofty One . who lives forever" (Isaiah 57:15). This description of God is far removed from man's condition: "The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away" (Psalm 90:10). we describe Him as a God without a beginning or end, eternal, infinite, everlasting, etc. Psalm 90:2 declares, "From everlasting to everlasting You are God" (see also Psalm 93:2).

As we celebrate the New Year, we wish everyone success, a healthy long life and a fresh new start. May this year give you the opportunity to follow your dreams, love like there is no tomorrow and smile unconditionally. We are lucky that we get to have a second chance, so be grateful and live life to the fullest. Let us be a better human being, a better person and a better citizen. New Year's is a time to better ourselves for a better world. May you always be surrounded by hope and guided by the stars, It's not the

destination, it's the journey. May you enjoy each day of your adventure. Free yourself from sadness and frown for the New Year has finally come to town. May all your wishes come true .365 days complete ,365 new days to go.

on New Year's Day, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Peaceful New Year? I pray that the Lord Jesus and His Mother Mary may enrich your lives during the New Year with an abundance of God's blessings.and Wish this year brings the warmth of love and illuminates your path of life towards a positive diretion .I wish for you all a new year which brings to you all spiritual blessings from our Lord. Happy New Year to You! **FR.John** **(CHRIST IS BORN, GLORIFY HIM !)**

Mission Done ... With the generous support of the church community, the Teens delivered 418 pounds of food, 76 coats, and 2 bags of Clothing to the Haven of Rest in Downtown Akron on Saturday 12/22. This could not have been possible without support, generosity, and love from the Church. **BLESSINGS FOR YOU ALL!**



MEMORY ETERNAL... We regret to inform you of the passing away of **Prof. Boutrus Abu-Manneh**, on December 24th in Haifa. **He is the brother of Dr. Nabil (May) Manneh.** Prof. Abou-Manneh, who graduated from the University of Oxford in 1971 and wrote his dissertation under the supervision of the late Prof. Albert Hourani, taught for most of his career in the Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at the University of Haifa. He is best known for his research on Ottoman Greater Syria and Palestine in the 19th century, the Nahda, the Tanzimat reforms, and the Naqshbandi order. Prof. Abou-Manneh was a dedicated professor and teacher who mentored several prominent Ph.D. students who today are following in his footsteps. He was a true gentleman and friend who was much beloved by his peers and students and was devoted to his family. His funeral took place on December 25th, at the Orthodox Church in Haifa Assoc. Prof. emeritus Boutrus Abu-Manneh, who retired in 2002 after thirty years of teaching in the Dept. of Middle East History at the University, was named a Distinguished Citizen of Haifa (Yakir Haifa). He was cited for his "long-standing voluntary activity to advance education and initiate a special education framework in the Arab sector." Abu Manneh's academic field of expertise was the Ottoman Empire and the social changes it underwent in the last centuries of its existence. Outside the University, he chaired the Ministry of Education's committee to prepare a high school curriculum for Arab schools, founded one of the best Arab schools in Haifa, and led the push for a science-technology school in the Arab sector. The historian was a member of the Haifa Municipality's Education Committee.



May His Memory Be Eternal

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
<u>\$ 1,000 from our mission parishes (6)</u>	<u>\$ 6,000</u>
Total	\$258,000

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)

Midwest Diocesan Chancery
5549 Ginger Tree
Toledo, OH 43623

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



V. Rev. Michael Nasser
Secretary, Diocesan Council
fmichael@stnicholasgr.com

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