



# St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, November 4, 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

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 or [joe@tlccateringinc.com](mailto:joe@tlccateringinc.com)

Greeter: Marie Pilversack

Epistle Reader: Debra Halasa

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;’0**

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:**

- Dawn, Nick.Jr., Julia and Sophia Shaheen in memory of Nick Shaheen (40 Day Memorial Service). Trisagion following Divine Liturgy
- Andria Michael in memory of Nick Shaheen (wheat offering)
- Mila Michael Family in memory of Nick Shaheen
- Atef & Teresa Haddad and Family
- Olga Yogmour

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

Christian Simon, Margaux Yerian, Frank & Gladys Chirakos, Edmund & Geri Farris, Dawn Shaheen, Wafiga Zawahri Family, Lamia Harb, Karen Horattas, Rosemary Mclaughlin, John & Joyce Simon, Samir Bakhos, Sophia Massouh, David Pilversack, Violet Carey, Regina Salloum, Yvette Rizk. Patty Sue Jones and Theresa Haddad.

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

George Tebcherani, Karen Horattas, Marie Saidy, 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, Bonnie Dallas.

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

Nick Shaheen , George Ostich, Norman Elias Sr, Richard Simon, Laurice Tabanji, David Carey, Naoum Maarouf, Youmna Jannoura, Claire Joseph , Adele Eid, Anne Sayre, Sannah and Ibrahim Nicholas Albanna, Nayef Al Kazmouz and Jebrayel Al Deghem.

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION BEFORE & AFTER 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.

**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 ST. IOANIKIOS THE GREAT IN TONE EIGHT**

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father Ioanikios, intercede 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 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.

**CALENDAR**

<b>TODAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sunday of Joannicius the Great</b></li> <li>• <b>40 Day Memorial Service for Nick Shaheen</b></li> <li>• <b>Fall Festival @ the Fellowship Center following Divine Liturgy</b></li> </ul>
Fri., Nov., 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project: St. Nicholas Returns, Inc. Annual Auction ( page 8)</li> </ul>
Sun., Nov., 11 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterans Day ( God Bless America)</li> </ul>
Tue., Nov., 13 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council Meeting @ 7:30 PM</li> </ul>
Thu., Nov., 15 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advent Fast Begins ( Nativity Fast)</li> </ul>
Wed., Nov., 21 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple</li> </ul>
Thu., Nov., 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanksgiving Day Office Closed</li> </ul>
Sun., Dec., 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Antiochian Women Christmas Bake Sale after Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>

**CHRISTMAS CHARITY ACTIVITIES...2018**

*Our Church will be starting a 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 )
- 3- GIFT CARDS (for the military)

**May God Bless you all and Grant you many years**

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost)

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.*

*To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:4-10)**

Brethren, God, Who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast. For, we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. **Amen**

## THE GOSPEL

*(For the Fifth Sunday of Luke)*

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (16:19-31)**

The Lord said, “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’” (**Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee**)

# Donations

## Building Fund

\$650	Olga Yogmour
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## Camp Fund

\$150	Justin & Leslie Benko for the health of their son Noah Benko and for the occasion of his baptism
\$50	Orthodox Christian Women in Memory of Jerrie Elias

## Needy Fund

\$100	Anonymous
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### **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**

## **Come One!! Come All!**

### **FALL FESTIVAL**

Sponsored by the youth of St. George to be held at



**ST. GEORGE FELLOWSHIP CENTER**

**TODAY**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH**

### **Following THE DIVINE LITURGY**

*Everyone is welcome to attend*

*Light lunch will be served*

*Music, Fun and Games*

*Your Admission Fee: Nonperishable Food*

*Donations will be given to families in need.*

## **Sermon of The Rich Man And Lazarus**

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

We heard, beloved, the parable from the Gospel known as "the parable of the rich man and Lazarus." The rich man in today's gospel text reminds me of those poor souls in *The Great Divorce*, for his habit of indulging himself and totally disregarding a miserable beggar on his doorstep shaped him so decisively. He wore only outrageously expensive clothes and had a great feast every day. He must have known about the poor beggar Lazarus. He probably stepped over or around him every time he went in or out of his house.

Here was a desperately poor man, lying on the ground, whose only comfort was the stray dogs who would lick his open sores. All that Lazarus wanted were the crumbs that fell from the man's table, you might say his garbage. But the rich man was so greedy and thoughtless that he apparently denied him even that. Our Lord is quite clear about what such a life does to human beings. This man showed no mercy; compassion and love had no place in his life. Consequently, he cut himself off from the mercy, compassion, and love of God. His eternal suffering shows the reality of what it means to refuse to respond to our calling to live as those created in God's image and likeness.

And when he called for mercy from Father Abraham, he made no confession and did no repentance. He cared only for himself and his brothers. As we say in the prayers of the Church, we will all need mercy before the judgment seat of Christ. We err, however, if we think of the Lord's mercy as being available only in some arbitrary way at some point in eternity. For we encounter Him every day in our neighbors, especially the poor, wretched, and inconvenient: the widow, the orphan, and the stranger. We participate in His mercy by showing mercy to them.

The rich man in the parable shaped himself decisively in unholy ways by his behavior; in contrast, we may shape ourselves decisively in holy ways by our behavior. We never earn God's mercy, but we will ultimately make offerings of our lives to God or to something else. We will either worship and serve Him or ourselves. Perhaps the Lord's eternal judgment will be more a confirmation of who we have become than a shocking decree from out of the blue. God knows our hearts and we can hide nothing from Him, either today or at any point in the future. Our faith as Orthodox Christians goes to the heart, to the depths of who we are, but also reminds us that we are always in relationship with other people who are also the children of God.

We encounter Him in them. Who we are in relation to Jesus Christ is shown each day of our lives in how we treat others, especially those who need our help, attention, and friendship, as well as our enemies. A Christianity that ignores "the least of these" is not worthy of the name. Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God.

We bring judgment upon ourselves whenever we treat our neighbors, no matter who they are or how they have offended us, in ways that do not manifest the divine love and compassion.

No, the point is not that the rich will be damned and the poor will be saved. Instead, it is that there are strong and deep temptations associated with focusing on ourselves, especially our wealth, possessions, and success in this world. For if we love ourselves, our pleasures, and our

status more than God and neighbor, no matter how much or little we have, we have already shut ourselves out of the kingdom. The name Lazarus means “One who has been helped,” and those whose miserable life circumstances do not encourage them to trust in money, power, or success are in a good position to learn that their help is in the Lord, in His mercy and love. The rich man never learned that lesson, however. Quite different from this selfish man are the saints we commemorated on Friday, the Holy Unmercenary Healers Cosmas and Damian.

They used the money they inherited from their parents to provide medical care without charge to the sick and needy. God worked many miracles through them, for they became channels of the Lord’s mercy and love to those with whom the Lord identified Himself: the sick, the weak, the stranger, “the least of these my brethren.” St. Paul’s famous words about love to 1 Corinthians 13 were lived out by these great saints. We remember them precisely because of their love.

The Lord said that the greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart, soul, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. And what greater sign of love is there than patiently and selflessly to ease the pain of others, to lighten their burdens, to heal their bodies, and restore them to health.

No, these men did not take credit for their work or think that they healed by their own power. Instead, their lives were transformed by the healing energies of the Holy Spirit; thereby they became channels of God’s mercy to suffering, desperate people. Saints Cosmas and Damian were completely different from the rich man who disregarded Lazarus.

They would have provided him their best care free of charge and done everything possible to nurse him back to health. Their selfless love for Lazarus would have been an icon of the Kingdom of God in which those who wait humbly upon the Lord will not be disappointed.

No wonder they are great saints of the Church. But we have to go beyond merely praising the memory of Sts. Cosmas and Damian. We must venerate them not only with our words, but also with our deeds; namely, by following in their footsteps for the Lazaruses of our world and of our lives. No, we are not all called to become physicians or to give everything away to the poor; we ourselves may face illness and need. Nonetheless, we are all called to live out the selfless love that Jesus Christ has brought to the world, the love that is patient and kind and free of envy; that rejoices in the truth and endures all things for the salvation of the world. That kind of love never fails, for it has already conquered death through our Lord’s crucifixion and glorious resurrection.

Such love is not a feeling, an emotion, or a sentiment. It is a commitment, a sacrifice, and an offering of ourselves to God in the service of the living icons of Christ whom we encounter every day, namely every human being with whom we come in contact.

So let us be Christians not merely in name, but also in how we live, even when it is inconvenient. Then we will be shaped decisively by the same divine mercy that we ask for ourselves and we will participate already in the eternal joy that Jesus Christ has brought to the world. **Amen**

**Fr. John**

A huge thank you to our amazing campers, for a beautiful ,heavenly Divine Liturgy last Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup> . A special Thank You to Andrew Meena for directing our campers.....**May God Grant You All Many Years.**

# ***CELEBRATE WITH US!***

**Project: St. Nicholas Returns Inc.**

**Presents our**

**24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary annual Auction Dinner**

**Friday, November 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

**6pm-10pm**

***Fr. Louis & Corinne (Esber) Mahshie Family Center***

***3204 Ridgewood Rd. Fairlawn, OH 44333***



*Feel free to G-Mail us [Register@psnr.org](mailto:Register@psnr.org) or*

*Return to: PSNR, Inc.*

*PO Box 36271*

*Canton, OH 44735-6271*

## ***Theme of 2018:***

### ***“Imagine The Possibilities”***

#### ***WHAT TO WEAR?***

*Casual attire for an enjoyable evening*

#### ***WHAT TO DO?***

*Reserve with Renee Reale  
330-338-1815*

#### ***WHAT TO BRING?***

*Cash & Check preferred  
Credit Cards accepted*

#### ***WHAT'S THE COST?***

*\$30 per person  
or  
\$200, \$400 or \$800  
Sponsorships*