



# St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, October 14, 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)

**Greeters:** Spencer Kiehl & Anna Callow

**Epistle Reader:** Lalli Scalera

## **Acolytes:**

William Maghes

Evan Roumie

Trevor Kiehl

Jonathan Marouf

## **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:**

- Yvette (Aramouni) Rizk family in memory of Joseph Rizk
- Melia Michael, Jean and Lena Yaacoub, James and Ronda Strmac, Michael and Laurice Nassif, Amal Michael for the health of their families and in memory of Issa Michael ( year)
- 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, Lamia Harb, Karen Horattas, Marie Saily, Rosemary McLaughlin, Joyce Simon, Samir Bakhos, George Tebcherani, Sophia Massouh, , David Pilversack, Giovanni Albanna, Carl Massouh,

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

David Welling, Shaun Curley, , Micheline Debs, Rose Farah, Susan HannaFadia 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 Asmar, Daisy Salem, Jihan & Hamodeh Albanna, Atty. George Mallo, Rachel D'Fantis, Madeleine Khoueiry, Kelsey Thompson, Sandra Shofani, Maroun Benchi, Peter George, Landon Skidmore, Mirna Debs, Sabrina, 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, Carl Moore, Habouba Rahbani, Greg Kattouf, Edward L. Collins, Wagdi Anton, Antoine Aramouni, Gerald Hanna, John Simon, Jackie Wilson, Ralph & Rosalie Yerian, Vincent & Eleanor Alexander, Antoinette Jabbour, June Denios, Isaac & Gamalat Gaid, Ghassan & Mona Ashkar, Romeo Jajju, Jackie Shama, Robert , 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, Regina Salloum, Bonnie Dallas, Ann Sayre, Violet Carey

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

George Ostich, Nathme Al-Smeirat, Norman Elias Sr, Richard Simon, Laurice Tabanji, Donald Kinney, David Carey, Nick Shaheen, Naoum Maarouf, Youmna Jannoura, Claire Joseph and the newly departed Adele Eid.

### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION BEFORE & AFTER IN TONE THREE**

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 IN TONE EIGHT**

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

### **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**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Today                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Sunday of the Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council</b></li><li>• One Year Memorial Service for Issa Michael</li><li>• Brunch at Dr. Bill &amp; Jessica Shaheen's residence for the young adults @ 2189 Sourek Trail, Akron, OH 44313</li></ul> |
| Sat., Oct., 20 <sup>th</sup>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>"Coffee with Sister Vassa":</b> Event sponsored by COCA on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 am- Noon.<br/>(Check flyer on church board)</li></ul>  |
| Oct., 18 <sup>th</sup> _ 21 <sup>st</sup> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clergy Retreat &amp; Fall Gathering/ Toledo, Ohio</li></ul>   |
| Fri., Nov., 2 <sup>nd</sup>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• St. George Annual Building Fund Raffle @ The Family Center ( Info page 8)</li></ul>   |
| Sun., Nov., 4 <sup>th</sup>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fall Festival @ the Fellowship Center</li></ul>   |
| Fri., Nov., 9 <sup>th</sup>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• St. Nicolas project Auction Dinner 6-10PM<br/>(Info Page 7)</li></ul>   |

### **October 7, 2018 Monthly Drawing Winners:**

|                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>David Mahshie \$200</b><br>#132 | <b>Bob Snyder \$100</b><br>#21 |
| <b>Olga Yogmour \$50</b><br>#11    | <b>Carl Massouh \$50</b><br>#8 |

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Fathers)

*Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.*

*For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done.*

### **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, dissension, 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 and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. (Amen)

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Luke)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him here." (Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee O Lord)

# Donations

## Building Fund:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| \$1000 | Gary & Leslee Salhany in memory of Nick Shaheen                                 |
| \$300  | Anonymous in memory of Norman Elias, George Elias, Nick Shaheen and David Carey |
| \$50   | Kareem & Hanan Halaseh in memory of Jerges Alassaf                              |
| \$50   | Kareem & Hanan Halaseh in memory of Nick Shaheen                                |
| \$100  | Habib & Regina Salloum  |
| \$100  | Anonymous in memory of Issa Michael   |
| \$25   | Peter Stevens in memory of Myrna Kalail   |
| \$100  | Ghassan & Ghada Karim   |
| \$100  | George & Donna Marouf   |
| \$20   | Alex & Samantha Kincaid in memory of Ron Simon                                  |
| \$100  | Anonymous in memory of Laurice Tabanji & David Carey                            |

## Needy Fund:

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| \$100 | Bob Snyder & Judge Kathy Michael in memory of Nick Shaheen     |
| \$50  | Patrick Petroff & family in memory of David Carey              |
| \$150 | St. George Orthodox Church of Canton in memory of Nick Shaheen |
| \$50  | Anonymous in memory of Jerges Alassaf                          |
| \$50  | Edward & Mary Pullekens in memory of Myrna Kalail              |
| \$100 | George & Donna Marouf  |

### **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**

**CONGRATULATIONS on the churching of Riad Marouf, son of Raymond & Stephanie Marouf and little brother of Luna & Aria. MAY GOD GRANT HIM MANY YEARS**



## **Parable of the Sower Luke 8:5-15-2018**

### **(Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council)**

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

Today we remember the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council. This council established permanently what the church had always known concerning the holy icons.

Christ often taught in parables. He told stories because people always like to hear a good story. That's one of the ways we learn, by listening and processing.

As the Good Teacher, Jesus knew that He couldn't just talk straight, give all the details, to some of the people, they would not be able to understand. So He spoon-fed them, so to speak, by telling them parables, by giving examples of what the Kingdom of God might be like.

So today's parable talks about the sower who, as he is sowing, is casting seed really wide. Some seed falls on the road, some on the rocks, some is eaten by the birds, and then some falls on the good soil and gives fruit.

As Christ explained to His disciples, the Sower is God, the seed is the Word of God, which is one of the names we use for Jesus Christ. And the different ground or soil the seed falls on is – us. The sower tosses his seed, and it lands on four different kinds of soil .

Where the seed falls, depends on how it grows. How we hear the Word of God, how we react to it shows what kind of Christians we are.

The seed is the word. We interact, for the most part, through a spoken word. Spoken word used to have power. People agreed to contracts through the spoken word. Promises were given and taken seriously. There was no empty talk involved. No one would throw around their words.

Times have changed, spoken word has lost its significance. I can promise to you anything I want, and even if you have it on tape, I would still not be liable by today's standards.

But one thing has not changed about the spoken word – our words reflect our inner selves, the state of our heart. Our words reveal our Christian conscience and our faith. Spoken word still shows what kind of person I am.

In Christianity spoken word is still important. For example, we say aloud the Creed, “I believe in one God, the Father...”, during our baptism, which is effectively our confession of faith, our contract of faith. We don't sign any documents stating that we believe this or that, we say it.

Or, in our tradition, we confess aloud. We don't just do our confession in our heart, whatever that means. Internal repentance is an important first step towards confession, but internal repentance is insignificant without a confession that is done with a spoken word.

Ask any serious psychologist whether thinking about our problems is the same as talking about them?

Spoken word has lost its importance in our society, but it still is a big part of our faith.

The word is also what we call the Gospel. And in today's parable the word of God is the seed that falls into our heart and only depending on our choices and our actions it either gives fruit or dies in vain.

We decide what kind of ground the seed falls on – is our heart a hardened road, where the seed falls and dies right away? Or is our heart a rock, where the seed can grow a little bit, but then

dies of dryness? Or maybe our heart is full of thorns, which devour the good seed? Or is our heart a good soil that gives fruit to the word of God?

This is our choice. God gives us as much as He can, without interfering with our freedom – we were baptized, God-willing we are coming to church regularly, we hear the word of God read from the Gospels, and we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The seed, the word of God, has been planted in our hearts.

If you have ever planted a seed in your garden, you know that the seed has to die first in order to give fruit. That's the natural process.

Our seed that has been planted inside our hearts, the Word of God, Who is our Lord Jesus Christ, has died. He accepted crucifixion, one of the most humiliating ways to die, so that His seed planted in us would give fruit.

In order to make our heart a good soil for the seed of Christ to grow, we always cultivate it by praying, by reading the Bible, by confession, and by fasting.

If we don't read the Bible, if we don't practice our faith seriously the 6 days we are not in church, then we might believe anything. Perhaps even that evil is good, that sin is inconsequential, and that God is the reason for all our problems. In other words, by being ignorant of our faith and by taking it for granted.

Our God is the great Sower , He is the reason we are still alive. He has done His job – He has sowed upon us, and now it's waiting for the good soil so it can grow roots and give fruit inside our soul. **Amen. Fr.John**

**Saint Nicholas Returns, Inc. invites you to their 24th Anniversary**

Annual Auction Dinner on, November 9, 2018 from

**6:00 - 10:00 PM @ St. George Family Centre,**

3204 Ridgewood Rd, Fairlawn, OH 44333

**Thank you to the Antiochian Women and Teen SOYO**

**For the Building Fund Luncheon last Sunday.**

**Your dedication and team work is well appreciated**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL**



**Thank you for your help & Support!**

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual Building Fund Raffle**

**Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

**St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
3204 Ridgewood Rd., Akron, OH 44333**

**Complimentary bar and hors d'oeuvres 6:30 pm  
Dinner for two, including Beef & Chicken Kabob 7:15 pm**

**Donation \$125.00 for 2 dinners  
Extra Dinner \$35.00**

**Winner need not be present**

**Grand Prize - \$4000.00**

**Only 125 Tickets will be sold**

**Chairmen: Tony Debs and Mousa Kakish**

**Please make check payable to: St. George Building Fund**

**Comptroller: Mary Lou Simon**

**Announcer: Tony Karam**

**Front Desk: Gary Salhany, Tony Debs and Mousa Kakish.**

**Door: Jan Kattouf, Mary Pilversack & Mirna Debs**

**Side Boards: Alice Elias**

**Special Fundraiser: Walid Qaqish Family**

**For more information**

**Church office 330-666-7116**

**V.Rev Fr.John 330-907-5811**

**Raeda Kakish 330-475-4968**

**Mirna Debs 330-958-0575**