



SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

211 E. Minnesota St., Spring Valley, IL 61362

815-664-4540 www.springvalleyorthodox.com

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan JOSEPH*

*Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest
Bishop ANTHONY*

“One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic Church”

SUNDAY, 26 JULY 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORTHROS, 8:45 AM • DIVINE LITURGY, 10:00 AM



PASTOR: Father Mark Sahady

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Melanie Thompson, *Chair*
Ronald Malooley, *Treasurer*
Wayne Sanders, *Building/maintenance*
Patrice Nimee, *Secretary*

Genie Sanders, *Choir*
Dee Khoury, *Antiochian Women*
Mark Kerasotes
David Anderson
Michael Kasap

- **The “Glory” hymns at the end of Matins:**

THE SEVENTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE SEVEN

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Behold the dawn, and the rise of the day; why hast thou stood, O Mary, at the grave? And great darkness hath covered thy mind, and thou asked him: Where hath Jesus been placed? Yea, behold the Disciples, who hastened to the tomb, how they surmised His Resurrection from the coffin wrappings and the turban, and remembered what was said about Him in the books. Wherefore, we who believed through them, praise Thee with them, O Christ, Giver of life.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Most blessed art thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him that was incarnate of thee is Hades despoiled, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain, and we are endowed with life. Wherefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who is thus well pleased, glory to Thee.

- **The Divine Liturgy Hymns of the day following the Small Entrance:**

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 SAINT PARASKEVA IN TONE ONE

Showing a diligence befitting thy calling, O namesake of preparedness, thou hast gained, as thy dwelling, a faith worthy of thy name, O prize-winning Paraskeva. Hence, thou pourest forth healings and intercedest for our souls.

TROPARION TO SAINT GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among martyrs, the victory-clad George: Intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

ORDINARY 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.

TODAY'S HOLY BREAD: Lynette Forsa
TODAY'S EPISTLE READER: Nicole Wiltse

NEXT WEEK'S HOLY BREAD: Mark Kerasotes
NEXT WEEK'S EPISTLE READER: Mark Kerasotes

THE EPISTLE
(For St. Paraskeva)

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

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (3:23-4:5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

THE GOSPEL
(For the Seventh Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

If you would like to speak with Father Mark, call the church phone.

This week:

- Saturday, August 1st: Vespers, 6pm
- Next Sunday, August 2nd: Matins 8:45 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am

Next Month:

- Dormition Fast, August 1st – 14th
- Monday, August 3rd at 6 pm - Paraklysis
- Wednesday, August 5th at **6:30 pm** - Vigil for Christ's Transfiguration
- Friday, August 7th at 6 pm - Paraklysis
- Monday, August 10th at 6 pm - Paraklysis
- Wednesday, August 12th at 6 pm - Vespers for the Pre-Feast
- Friday, August 14th at **6:30 pm** - Vigil for Theotokos' Dormition
- Sunday, September 27 - "Golf & Dine" at Spring Creek Golf Course

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please let Father know if we are missing anyone!

- July 4 – Bridget Kishler
- July 5 – Gary Farral
- July 6 – Mary Ford
- July 14 – George and Mona Kaleel (anniv.)
- July 15 – Michael Baum
- July 16 – Thane Kaleel
- July 19 – Bill Miller III
- July 20 – Maribeth Malooley Soldati
- July 28 – David and Gretel Kaleel (anniv.)
- July 30 – Dottie Malooley
- July 30 – Nick and Anysia Medawar (anniv.)



Prayer List – For the Health of:

Bill Miller; Sarah Sanders; Nicholas, Mary & Newborn Beatrice Leonard

In Today's Gospel Lesson, two blind men are healed by Jesus. They believed Jesus could do this on the testimony of others who had seen them. Then, when their faith was sufficiently manifested, he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith, be it unto you". Immediately their eyes were opened. Such is the mighty power of the prayer of faith! Jesus' power was used to show his compassion and care, not to gain a following. Jesus, as "God with us", is all about teaching and showing compassion. We faithfully pray for Jesus' Spirit to make our hearts compassionate and show us how to live victorious Christian lives over our own blindness while having compassion for others.



CHURCH FINANCES

June 2020

Total income: \$7,055.45
 Total expenses: \$7,999.27
 Net income: -\$943.82

January – June 2020

Total income: \$32,192.20
 Total expenses: \$38,969.74
 Net income: -\$6,777.54

Many thanks to all of you who support St. George Church even during these difficult times! We still have bills to pay, and rely on your continued support.

Donations may be mailed to the church:

*St. George Church
 211 E. Minnesota St.
 Spring Valley, IL 61362*

*You may also give online at
www.springvalleyorthodox.com*

"Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." (Malachi 3:10)

SUNDAY OFFERING SCHEDULE

	Holy Bread	Epistle Reader
Sunday, August 9*	The Leonard Family	The Leonard Family
Sunday, August 16	Michael & Ruth Baum	Michael Baum
Sunday, August 23	Stephanie Kinard & Jay Kalman	Jay Kalman
Sunday, August 30	Mike Kasap	Mike Kasap
Sunday, September 6	Gary Farral	Gary Farral
Sunday, September 13	Andy Dudek	OPEN
Sunday, September 20	David Anderson	David Anderson
Sunday, September 27	George & Mona Kaleel	OPEN

** Shaded dates are days of fasting for Orthodox Christians - No meat or dairy.*

Regarding HOLY BREAD, you are welcome to bake your own, or use the bread provided by the church. A donation of \$10-\$20 is appreciated to cover the cost of the wine and bread. On your Sunday, please also provide a list of names (living and departed) for prayers during the Liturgy.

NO FELLOWSHIP AT THIS TIME – When restarted, it may be as simple or elaborate as you want. While CLEAN UP is primarily the responsibility of those who provide Fellowship, all of us should help by bussing our own tables and cleaning up as we are able.

Live-streaming of church services is available on our website:

www.springvalleyorthodox.com

Follow “[St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley](https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgeOrthodoxChurchofSpringValley)” on Facebook (under the left-side tab named “Notes”) for Daily Bible Readings and Lives of the Saints, or go directly to the link <https://www.goarch.org/chapel>.

Please be aware that photographs and videos from our church appear on our website and Facebook page. Feel free to let us know if you would prefer not to have your pictures online.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, July 27, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 9:13-18](#)
- [Matthew 16:1-6](#)

Tuesday, July 28, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 10:5-12](#)
- [Matthew 16:6-12](#)

Wednesday, July 29, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 10:12-22](#)
- [Matthew 16:20-24](#)

Thursday, July 30, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 10:28-11:7](#)
- [Matthew 16:24-28](#)

Friday, July 31, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 11:8-22](#)
- [Matthew 17:10-18](#)

Saturday, August 1, 2020

- [Romans 13:1-10](#)
- [Matthew 12:30-37](#)

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**Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Spring Valley, Illinois
COVID-19 Re-Opening of Church, 2020 07 02**

The following safety measures have been adopted by the Parish Council for Church attendance. By entering this Church facility or being on Church grounds, you agree to abide by these guidelines. You also agree that complete safety cannot be guaranteed, and you release the Church, its officials, other members, and volunteers from any liability for possible illness contracted by yourself or family members. If you cannot agree to the above statements, you should not attend worship/events in person, but instead join online.

All parishioners with a compromised immune system, are strongly encouraged to stay at home, as recommended by the CDC, State of Illinois, and the Antiochian Archdiocese. Social Distancing, Masks and Sanitizers are used at church. A Log of Attendance is maintained.

When partaking of the Eucharist (Holy Communion): Stand a few feet away from the person in front of you. When you come to the chalice, hold the cloth by one corner under your chin, tilt your head backward, and open your mouth very wide so the Body and Blood can be dropped inside your mouth without contact. Do not close your mouth on the spoon and you will not need to wipe your mouth with the cloth.



**What is the meaning of the title the blind men use for Jesus?
How do they show faith? Why does Jesus want them to keep quiet?
How did the crowds react to Jesus' power? How did the Pharsees react?
Why the difference? How do Jesus' actions prove the Pharisees wrong?**

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Golf & Dine is Canceled



This Saturday, the First of August, begins the two week Fast for the Dormition of the Theotokos. The traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed during the Dormition Fast which lasts from August 1st through 14th, with katalysis (loosening) for wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays, and for fish, wine and oil on the feast of the Transfiguration (August 6th).

There is a perception that we should fast when we want something, as though the act of fasting somehow appeases God, and seeing us “suffer” gets Him to grant our request. Nothing can be further from the truth. It is not our fasting that pleases God, it is the fruits of our fast (provided we fast in the proper mind set, and do not merely diet) that please Him. We fast, not to get what we want, but to prepare ourselves to receive what God wants to give us. The purpose of fasting is to help us put God first and our own desires second, if not last. As such it serves to prepare us to be instruments of God’s will, as with Moses in his flight from Egypt and on Mt. Sinai, as well as our Lord’s fast in the wilderness. Fasting turns us away from ourselves and toward God. In essence it helps us become like the Theotokos, an obedient servant of God, who heard His word and kept it better than anyone else has or could.

So why do we fast before Dormition? In a close-knit family, word that its matriarch is on her deathbed brings normal life to a halt. Otherwise important things (parties, TV, luxuries, personal desires) become unimportant; life comes to revolve around the dying matriarch. It is the same with the Orthodox family; word that our matriarch is on her deathbed, could not (or at least should not) have any different effect than the one just mentioned. The Church, through the Paraklesis Service, gives us the opportunity to come to that deathbed and eulogize and entreat the woman who bore God into the flesh, the vessel of our salvation and our chief advocate at His divine throne. And as, in the earthly family, daily routines and the indulgence in personal wants should come to a halt. Fasting, in its full sense (abstaining from both food and selfish desires) accomplishes this. Less time in leisure or other pursuits leaves more time for prayer and reflection on she who gave us Christ, and became the first and greatest Christian. In reflecting on her, we see a model Christian life, embodying Christ’s retort to the woman who stated that Mary was blessed because she bore Him: blessed rather are those who hear His word and keep it. Mary did this better than anyone. She heard the word of God and kept it so well, that she of all women in history was chosen not only to hear His Word, but give birth to Him. So, while we fast in contemplation of her life, we are simultaneously preparing ourselves to live a life in imitation of her. That is the purpose of the Dormition Fast ~ *Daniel Manzuk*