



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, 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

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 FOURTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE FOUR

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

Verily, the women came at early dawn to Thy tomb, O Christ, but they found not Thy body, precious to them. And as they were perplexed, behold there stood among them those who were in shining clothes who said to them: Why seek ye the living among the dead? He hath risen as He foretold. Why have ye forgotten His words? And when they were assured by their saying, they preached to the Disciples the things seen. But their glad tidings were received with ridicule; for they were still without understanding. But Peter hastened to behold, and glorified Thy wonders in himself.

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:**

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

O God, my God, attend to me; why hast Thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

My God, I will cry by day, and wilt Thou not hearken? And by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me. But as for Thee, Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.

(Refrain)

Glory... Both now... *(Refrain)*

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

O God, why hast Thou cast us off unto the end? Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased from the beginning.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

This is Mount Zion wherein Thou hast dwelt. *(Refrain)*

God is our King before the ages. He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth. *(Refrain)*

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; He sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be shaken. The Lord is great in Zion; and He is high above all peoples. Let them confess Thy great Name, for it is terrible and holy.

After the verses of the Third Antiphon above, chant the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross during the Little Entrance.

• **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 THE CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. EUSTATHIOS AND HIS FAMILY IN TONE FOUR

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

APOLYTIKION OF 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.

KONTAKION OF THE CROSS IN TONE FOUR

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

• **The Scripture of the day, Following the Trisagion:**

THE EPISTLE (For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

Clergy: Let us attend!

Reader: *O Lord, how manifold are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

Clergy: Wisdom!

Reader: **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (2:16-20)**

Clergy: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no

longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Clergy: Peace be to thee, who readest.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Choir: *Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness. Thou lovest righteousness and hate iniquity.*

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL (For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

COMMEMORATIONS OF THE DAY:

The Great-martyr Eustathios and his family; Venerable-martyr Hilarion of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Venerable John of Crete; Martyrs Michael, prince of Chernigov, and his councilor Theodore.

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TODAY'S HOLY BREAD: David Anderson

TODAY'S EPISTLE READER: David Anderson

NEXT WEEK'S HOLY BREAD: Lynette Forsa

1 Year Memorial for George Forsa

10 Year Memorial for Elizabeth Sahady

NEXT WEEK'S EPISTLE READER: Kh. Barbara Sahady

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Prayer List – For the Health of:

Bill Miller; Sarah Sanders; Bette Malooley



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, September 23rd: [Zoom Study Group 7 pm, Theme: John the Baptizer](#)
- Thursday, September 24th: [Zoom Chant Class 7 pm, Focus: Tone 7](#)
- Saturday, September 26th: Vespers, 6pm
- Next Sunday, September 27th: Matins 8:45 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am
- Parish Council Meeting: Sunday, 27 September, 11:30 am

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September Birthdays

Please, let Father know if we are missing anyone! Here's a Prayer for Birthdays:

O Eternal Lord, nothing is more sacred in this world than life, and no words more precious than those that celebrate someone's life in Thee. Today, we thank Thee for the good work Thou hast begun in those celebrating their birthday this month and ask for Thy continued loving care to perfect that work in the years to come. We pray that they grow richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, and that they learn by looking to Thee through their experiences to see what really matters, so that by the time their walk on earth ends they appear as a glorious gift to this world and a rich harvest of praise to Thee. Amen.

- Sept. 3: Ron and Mari Ford (anniversary)
- Sept. 4: Tyler Thompson
- Sept. 6: Christopher and Jennifer Baran (anniv.)
- Sept. 7: Bill and Mary Miller (anniv.)
- Sept. 8: Mike Kasap
- Sept. 8: George and Lynette Forsa (anniv.)
- Sept. 16: John Thompson
- Sept. 17: George and Patrice Nimee (anniv.)
- Sept. 20: Jay Klein
- Sept. 25: Jax Thompson
- Sept. 25: Kaitlyn Kelly
- Sept. 29: Nancy Johnson



OFFERING SCHEDULE	Holy Bread	Epistle Reader
Sunday, October 4	George & Mona Kaleel	OPEN
Sunday, October 11	Medawar & Sanders Family	OPEN
Sunday, October 18	OPEN	OPEN
Sunday, October 25	Richard & Bette Malooley	OPEN
Sunday, November 1	Angelo & Markella Fousekas	OPEN
Sunday, November 8	OPEN	OPEN

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

www.springvalleyorthodox.com



DAILY BIBLE READINGS



FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, September 21, 2020

- [Galatians 4:28-5:10](#)
- [Luke 3:19-22](#)

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

- [Galatians 5:11-21](#)
- [Luke 3:23-4:1](#)

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

- [Galatians 6:2-10](#)
- [Luke 4:1-15](#)

Thursday, September 24, 2020

- [Ephesians 1:1-9](#)
- [Luke 4:16-22](#)

Friday, September 25, 2020

- [Ephesians 1:7-17](#)
- [Luke 4:22-30](#)

Saturday, September 26, 2020

- [1 Corinthians 10:23-28](#)
- [Luke 4:31-36](#)

CHURCH FINANCES

August 2020

Total income: \$2,519.40
Total expenses: \$9,207.89
Net income: -6,688.49

January – August 2020

Total income: \$35,949.40
Total expenses: \$75,443.85
Net income: -39,494.45

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
“Give and it will be given to you” (Luke 6:38)*



October 21/22 Rip's Chicken Fundraiser – Tickets Now Available – See Ruth Baum

Fundraiser for Saint George Church
October 21 and 22, 4 – 8:30 pm
At RIP'S TAVERN,
www.ripschicken.com
311 N Main Ave, Ladd, IL 61329
COST \$10

¼ Light or Dark Chicken with Fries
-or- Chicken Strips with Fries
CURBSIDE PICKUP
Call 815-894-3051 to Order
and schedule Pickup Time at the
Carry-out Entrance in the Back.



For all our Zoom meetings use this Internet Link:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5822049765>

or Meeting ID: 582 204 9765



**This Sunday, we will have Fellowship (Coffee Hour) outside while following CDC guidelines.
Join us physically or virtually on Zoom around 11:15 am using the link above.**



Study Group Topic: John the Baptizer

Wednesday, September 23rd

Timing is 7 – 8 pm



Chant Class Focus: Tone Seven

Thursday, September 24th

Timing is 7 – 8 pm



What is the Church?

The church is the fullness of **Christ**; the body of believers is filled with the presence, power, agency and riches of Christ. Ephesians 3:19 states, "that ye may be filled unto all the fullness of God"--that ye may be wholly filled with God and with His presence and power and grace. What is the purpose of the Church? The answer is given in the word of God. The Apostle Paul writes: *And He gave some, apostles, and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ* (Eph. 4:11-13). Here, then, is its purpose: the perfecting of the saints, the work of ministry, the building up of the Body of Christ — a triple task of every parish in order to fulfill a fourth task of spreading the Good News of Christ's resurrection, forgiveness and healing. Protopresbyter Michael Pomazansky points out that the perfecting of the saints, is the moral perfecting of the members of the Church. The salvation of souls in Christ is first and foremost; it must not be relegated to second place. They are wrong who consider the fundamental purpose of the Church to be a social agency. Salvation in Christ is attained through prayer, through Divine services, the regulations of the Church, deeds of love and beneficence, spiritual struggle. A pastor's main concern is the salvation of those souls entrusted to him. It is likewise the personal concern of each member of the Church. It is accomplished within the common body of the Church — not in isolation, not individually, but by way of mutual spiritual support, and thereby overcomes the self-loving thought for one's self alone. A personal, worthy life in Christ is the responsibility of each member before the Church as a whole. The second task is the work of ministry — to God and to men. It opens up before each member of the Church an opportunity of church ministry. Ministry to God: participation in the services — in church reading and singing, in constructing churches, in caring for the beauty and cleanliness of the church — these are some examples of works, as they say, "for God." Ministry to men includes all manner of charitable activity for the needy, help for the sick, disinterested efforts on behalf of others (as have recently been expressed in the sending of spiritual books, foodstuffs, clothing and medicines to others) and brings to life auxiliary parish organizations of support. A special, and very important task is the religious upbringing of children and youth. The third task, the building up of the body of Christ is ministry for the Church as a whole. An episcopal center laboring under difficulties and having a limited range of activity invariably speaks of difficulties occurring on the parish level. Conversely, the fullness of church life and the many-sided, productive activity of ecclesial, episcopal centers is direct evidence of the well-being of life within the numerous individual Orthodox parishes. (*Fr. Michael Pomazansky*) And all of this makes the fourth task of witnessing to the world of God's love a reality to all. And all will know the Christ is present in this world through the local parish and its parishioners.

The Fullness of the Church is in the Local Parish

When most people hear the word “church,” they think of buildings and worship services. But according to Scripture, the Church is the community of all people who believe in and follow Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:22-23 says, “God placed all things under (Christ’s) feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.” Much more than the buildings where we meet and the weekend services where we gather, the local church represents the “fullness of him”—the Body of Christ, the hands and feet of Jesus in the community to fully represent Christ. In fact, God’s plan is for the Body of Christ to spread the Good News of reconciliation that Jesus brings. God’s plan for each community is that a local church, or body of believers, would represent Christ to their neighbors. The measure of spiritual maturity is nothing less than the fullness of Jesus Christ, who is the very fullness of God! (Col. 1:19; 2:9) “The church is the fullness of His incarnate Body in the world (cf. 1:23). We are to radiate and reflect Christ’s perfections.” Thus the goal is that the church would grow to complete Christ-likeness, so that when the world looks at us, it gets a glimpse of the Savior.

The Body of Christ (The Church) in the Breaking of Bread (Communion)

Eucharistic ecclesiology (*The Church in the Divine Liturgy*) focuses on the local church - the local Eucharistic community, as the fulness of the Church. In the letter of Saint Ignatius of Antioch [died 108 AD] to the church in Smyrna, Ignatius wrote, in a famous line, “Where Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church.” These words, says Fr John Meyendorff, mean that “the Catholic Church is the fullness of the presence of Christ and the Holy Spirit in the Eucharist.” [*Catholicity and the Church*, 134f.] In other words, each local church is regarded as “the Church of God in all its fullness.” The basic principle of Eucharistic ecclesiology, in other words, is that “the unity and fullness of the Church is attached to the local church, and not to a fluid and indefinite notion of a Universal Church.” [Nicolas Afanassief, (Meyendorff *et al.*, *The Primacy of Peter*), 74, 75,76.] The local church is not a part or member of a wider universal organism; it is simply “the Church.” In the Eucharist we have the whole Christ, not a part of him. Therefore, the Church which is “actualized in the Eucharist” cannot be simply a member or a part of the whole; it can only be “the Church of God in her wholeness.” [*Ibid.*, 38.] If we believe in the indivisibility of Christ’s Body, then we must believe that fullness of the Church is to be found in each of the local churches. [Afanassief, 75.] As Meyendorff expresses it, the notion of a partial presence is “utterly alien” to the theology of Paul. [John Meyendorff, *Orthodoxy and Catholicity* (New York: Sheed and Ward, 1966), 4.] When a particular community receives the Eucharistic presence of Christ, it receives “the entire gift of salvation” and shows by that fact that it is “the image and true presence of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church”. It is during the Divine Liturgy that we say and affirm, “Christ is in our midst”.

“He was known to them in the breaking of bread” (Lk 24:35)