



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, 13 DECEMBER 2020

**SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST
HERMAN OF ALASKA, ENLIGHTENER OF THE ALEUTS
VIRGIN-MARTYR LUCIA OF SYRACUSE
ORTHROS, 8:45 AM • DIVINE LITURGY, 10:00 AM**



PASTOR: Father Mark Sahady

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Melanie Thompson, *Chair*
Ronald Malooley, *Treasurer*
Wayne Sanders, *Facilities/Vice-Chair*
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 DOXASTICON FOR THE FOREFATHERS IN TONE SEVEN

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

Come, with faith let us all celebrate the annual memory of the Fathers before the Law, even Abraham and those with him. Let us honor, as is meet, the tribe of Judah. With Daniel, let us acclaim as a figure of the Trinity the Children in Babylon, who quenched the flame in the furnace. Cleaving steadfastly to the predictions of the Prophets, let us cry out with a great voice together with Isaiah: Behold, a Virgin shall be with child, and she shall bear a Son, Emmanuel; which being interpreted is: God is with us.

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 Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is “O come, ... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead...” as on ordinary Sundays. After the Little Entrance, chant the following:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFATHERS IN TONE TWO

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINT LUCIA (LUCY) IN TONE FOUR

O LORD Jesus, unto Thee, Lucia, Thy lamb doth cry with a great voice: * O my Bridegroom, Thee I love; and seeking Thee, I now contest, * and with Thy baptism am crucified and buried. * I suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; * for Thy sake I die, that I may live in Thee: * accept me offered out of longing * to Thee as a spotless sacrifice. * Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since Thou art great in mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINT HERMAN IN TONE FOUR

Blessed ascetic of the northern wilds and gracious intercessor for the whole world, teacher of the Orthodox Faith, good instructor of piety, adornment of Alaska and joy of all America, holy Father Herman, pray to Christ God that He save our souls.

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 PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

(See Music on page 6) On this day the Virgin cometh * to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, * O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

• **The Scripture of the day, following the Trisagion Hymn:**

THE EPISTLE (For the Holy Forefathers)

Clergy: Let us attend!

Reader: *Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.*

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

Clergy: Wisdom!

Reader: **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)**

Clergy: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free-man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Clergy: Peace be to thee, who readest.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Choir: *Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. They called to the Lord and He answered them.*

All: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE GOSPEL (For the Holy Forefathers)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Prayer List: Mary Miller; Sarah Sanders; Melissa Rose-Marina Desai; Andrea Schaefer & baby; Patrice & the Nimee & Mattison Families; Frontline Healthcare Workers; Those suffering from the Corona Virus & fires in California and Syria.

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COMMEMORATIONS OF THE DAY:

Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ; Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts; Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestes at Sebastia; Virgin-martyr Lucia of Syracuse; Hieromartyr Gabriel, patriarch of Serbia

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TODAY'S HOLY BREAD: Leonard & Panizzi Families

TODAY'S EPISTLE READER: Kim Leonard

NEXT WEEK'S HOLY BREAD: John & Melanie Thompson

NEXT WEEK'S EPISTLE READER: John Thompson

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 Calendars are now available at Church - Thank you to Barto Funeral Home

Thank you to Beverly Malooley & Lynette Forsa for **Decorating the Church** for this Christmas Season and thank God for the anonymous donor to pay for it.

Thanks to everyone who donated during the **Giving Tuesday Campaign** and helped produce it. The donations have surpassed our \$10K goal and checks are still coming!

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UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

All on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVy__6R3xbIrx-UI8H63AUA

Dec 12 Sat, 9 am Prospora Baking Class (*Uploaded later to YouTube*)

11:30 am Ladies Meeting (*At Church, [On Zoom Click Here](#), & By Phone*)

5 pm Vespers

Dec 13 Sun, 8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy, 11:15 am **Council Meeting**

Dec 16 Wed, 7 pm **Nativity Pilgrimage – Egypt**

Dec 18 Fri, 7 pm Advent Service

Dec 19 Sat, 5 pm Vespers w-Canon

Dec 20 Sun, 8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy, **St Ignatius Sunday**

– Afternoon Sing Carols to Shut-ins



Dec 20 - 24, Holy Week of Christmas

Dec 20 Sun, 7 pm Vespers w-Canon

Dec 21 Mon, 7 pm Vespers w-Canon

Dec 22 Tue, 7 pm Vespers w-Canon

Dec 23 Wed, 7 pm Vespers w-Canon

Dec 24 Thu, 9-11 am Royal Hours

4 pm Baptismal Vesperal Liturgy

(4pm Baptism of Schaefer Family, 4:30pm Vespers, **5pm Liturgy**)

10 pm Matins, **11:15 pm Liturgy**

Dec 25 Fri, Noon Vespers
 Dec 26 Sat, 5 pm Vespers
 Dec 27 Sun, 8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy
 Dec 31 Thu, 7 pm Vespers with Artoklasia

2021 Jan 2 Sat, 5 pm Vespers
 Jan 3 Sun, 8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy
 Jan 5 Tue, 9-11 am Royal Hours
 5 pm Vesperal Liturgy & Blessing Water
 Jan 6 Wed, 9 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy

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December Birthdays - *Notify Father of missing info!*

Dec. 4 – Kh Katherine Buss
 Dec. 10 – Ann (Bachio) Townsend, Cathy Cox
 Dec. 11 – Janna Greanias
 Dec. 12 – Mark Wiltse, Jay Kalman
 Dec. 16 – Keeley Thompson, Nolan Kaleel
 Dec. 18 – James Harvey
 Dec. 21 – Angelena Panizzi
 Dec. 23 – Stephanie Kinard
 Dec. 24 – Kim Leonard
 Dec. 26 – Grant Leonard
 Dec. 27 – Gabe Leonard
 Dec. 30 – Monique Harvey



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OFFERING SCHEDULE	Holy Bread	Epistle Reader
Thursday, December 24 2 Liturgies: 5 & 11pm	5 pm Wayne & Genie Sanders 11 pm Open	Wayne Sanders Open
Sunday, December 27	Richard & Bette Malooley	Richard Malooley
Sunday, January 3	Open	Open
Tuesday, January 5	Open	Open
Wednesday, January 6	Open	Open

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, December 14, 2020

- [2 Timothy 2:20-26](#)
- [Mark 8:11-21](#)



Tuesday, December 15, 2020

- [2 Timothy 3:16-4:4](#)
- [Mark 8:22-26](#)

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

- [2 Timothy 4:9-22](#)
- [Mark 8:30-34](#)

Thursday, December 17, 2020

- [Titus 1:5-2:1](#)
- [Mark 9:10-16](#)

Friday, December 18, 2020

- [Titus 1:15-2:10](#)
- [Mark 9:33-41](#)

Saturday, December 19, 2020

- [Ephesians 1:16-23](#)
- [Luke 14:1-11](#)

TRISAGION FOR THE DEPARTED TODAY FOR

William (Bill) E. Miller, II, who fell asleep in the Lord at home surrounded by family in Peru, IL, Tuesday night, December 8, 2020 at the age of 94. **Condolences to his wife, Mary (Nimee)**, their sons, Cary & Bill and their families, his three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. On **Tuesday, December 15, Visitation** will be held at **Barto Funeral Home** (120 West Cleveland St., Spring Valley, Illinois 61362) from **9:30-11:30 a.m.** (10 guests at a time), with the **Funeral Service at 11:30 a.m.** The **Military Burial Ceremony** will be at **2 pm** at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery (20953 W Hoff Rd, Elwood, IL 60421). **The 40 Day Memorial will be 17 January.**



KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

Byzantine Chant Tone 3

Adapted by Rassem El Massih

Special Melody: *On this day the Virgin*

F G

On this day _____ the Vir - gin com - eth to the cave to give

F

birth _____ to God the Word _____ in - ef - fa - bly,

G F

Who was be - fore all thē ag - es. Dance for joy,

G

O earth, on hear - ing the glad - some tid - ings;

F G

with _____ thē An - gels and the shep - herds now glo - ri - fy _____ Him

F

Who is will - ing to be _____ gazed _____ on as a young

rit. C Un.

Child Who be - fore thē ag - es is God. _____

CHURCH FINANCES

November 2020

Total income: \$3,258.25
 Total expenses: \$4,322.62
 Net income: -1,064.37

January – November 2020

Total income: \$44,090.97
 Total expenses: \$95,055.42
 Net income: -50,964.45

Donations may be mailed to the church or you may also give online at our website.



Council Member Terms

Council Member	Elected-Appointed	Year Started	3 Year Term Ends
Melanie Thompson	Appointed	2019	2022
Ronald Malooley	Appointed	2020	2023
Patrice Nimee	Elected	2018	2021
Mark Kerasotes	Elected	2019	2022
Michael Kasap	Elected	2020	2023
David Anderson	Appointed	2018	2021

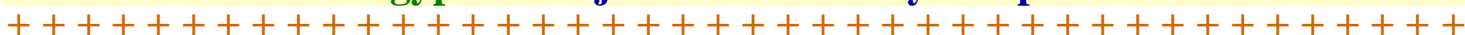


Please, continue your Prayers and Condolences to Patrice (George) Nimee and her family upon the Falling Asleep of her mother, Audery Mattison, on December 3, 2020.

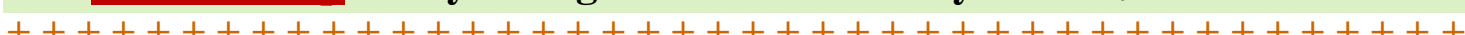


Advent is a time of preparation – a time to journey closer to God, that Christ may be born in our hearts, and a time to walk daily by His side doing His will.

Join us the this Wednesday at 7 pm with Mike Baum giving a Pilgrimage Presentation about Egypt. Then join us this Friday at 7 pm for an Advent Service.



The Men's Group led by George Nimee has already raised \$1K for the Church.

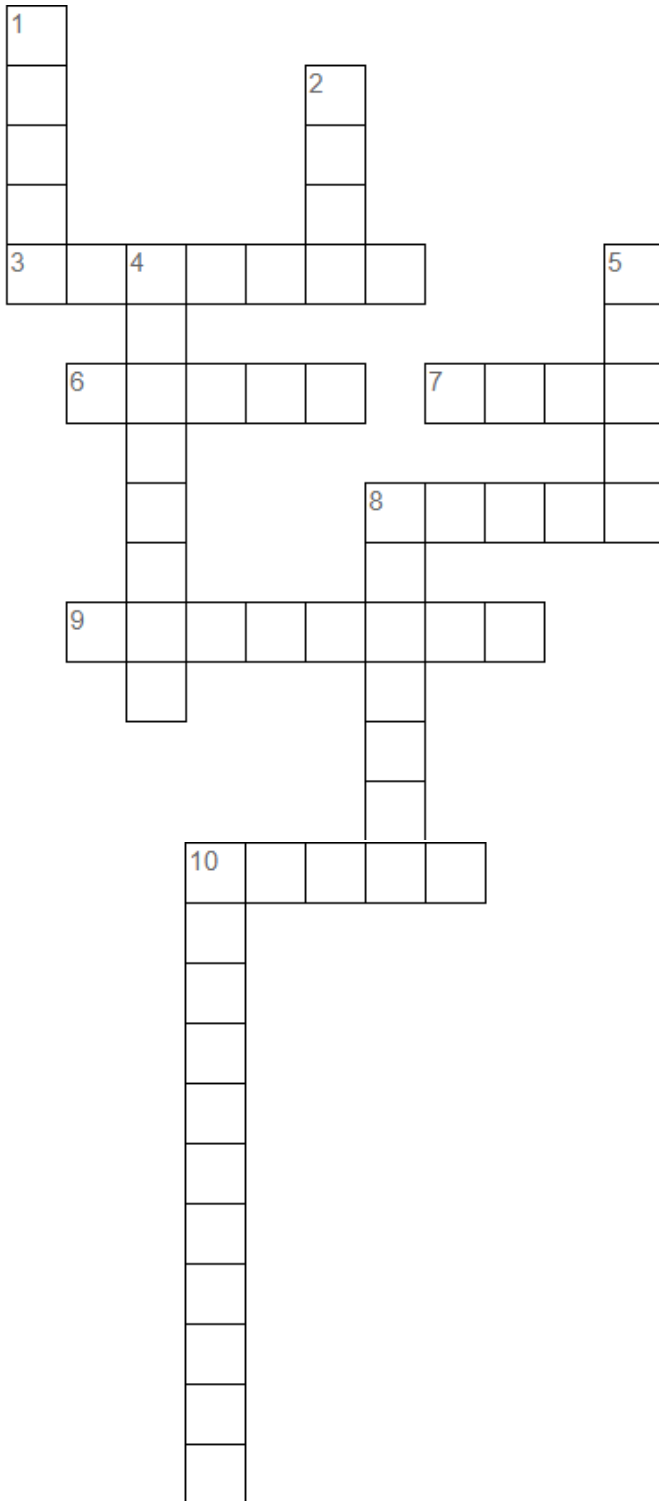


God revealed Himself as not just our creator, but also our Father. This means God is **deeply connected to us**, He cares for us intensely, like a father does his child. Not only are we inherently valuable as human beings, we are also deeply loved by our Father. A huge part of understanding our identity, is believing and experiencing that we are cherished by God, our Father. Being a child of God means that He delights in us, embraces us, and there is nothing we can do to change that. We can turn away from it, we can hide from it, but we can never lessen it. We **don't** do the right thing and obey God to **earn** his love; we **do** the right thing and obey His commandments to **grow** in that love. Nothing you do can change the intensity with which God accepts you and adores you. Understanding what it means to be a child of God and an icon of Christ, we have to figure out what it looks like to **live out** that reality. What does it look like to live each day grounding our identities in Christ? It can be **difficult to walk** in this reality especially when we can so easily contrive the reality we want to portray. **What is true?** We are valuable and deeply loved, all the time, no matter what. And following Christ is how we really succeed in being true. **How do we grow in this truth?** Stay close to God and to others who are close to Him. **Open our hearts** to His love through worship. Live

our lives closely **connected** to His body, the Church. Talk to Him **through prayer** and get to know Him **through the scriptures**. The more we focus first on our primary identity, and build our whole life on that solid foundation of being a child of God, the more we can grow and thrive **through all the struggles, successes, and failures of life**.



Parable of the Great Banquet Luke 14:16-24



Across

- 3 The guests who received the invitations made _____ for not coming.
- 6 God tells us about the feast He has prepared for our souls in the _____
- 7 The master told the servant to invite the _____, those who have little money or food.
- 8 The master told the servant to invite the _____, those who cannot see.
- 9 Believers will be a part of God's _____ banquet.
- 10 God wants all people to come to _____ in Him.

Down

- 1 The first guests are like unbeliever's who will not _____ heaven.
- 2 When we don't have _____ to read or learn from God's Word we are making excuses.
- 4 The master told the servant to invite the _____, those who can't use their arms or legs.
- 5 We keep the _____ commandment when we learn God's Word.
(switch letters 3&4)
- 8 A man prepared a _____ and invited many guests.
- 10 One of the blessings God has given to us is _____ of sins.