



# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

211 E. Minnesota St., PO Box 122, Spring Valley, IL 61362

815-664-4540 [www.springvalleyorthodox.com](http://www.springvalleyorthodox.com)

Established [office@springvalleyorthodox.com](mailto:office@springvalleyorthodox.com)

1918

Metropolitan SABA

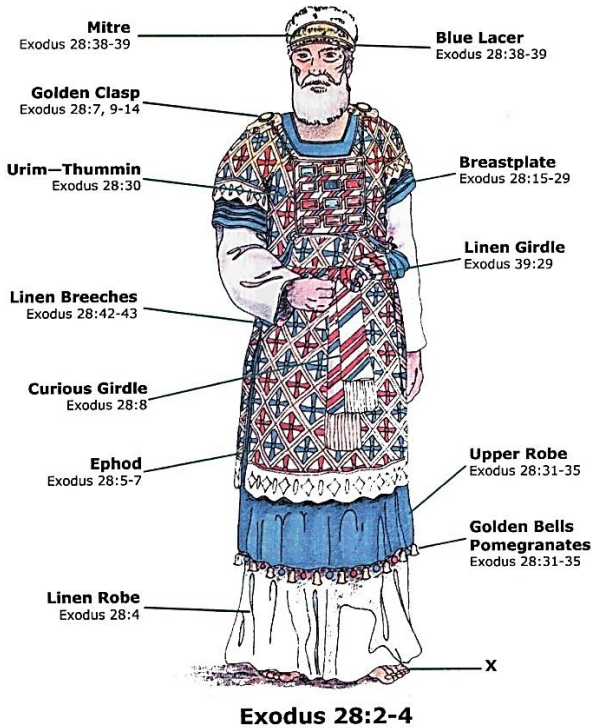
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest Bishop ANTHONY

“Love, Pray, Repent”  
“One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic Church”

Welcome All!

## 10 December 2023, Tone 2, Eothinon 5



## THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18  
“... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” v. 10, 11

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)

Faith is being sure that God will keep His promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.



Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)  
The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.



The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)

Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)

Righteousness is being honest, good, humble, and fair to others. It means standing up for weaker people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:14)

Truth keeps us from giving in to the world's beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17) which is the Word of God. God's Word is our offensive weapon. When we tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and makes them want to be forgiven.



**MATINS 8:45 AM • DIVINE LITURGY 10 AM • FELLOWSHIP 11:15 AM**

**PASTOR:** Father Mark Sahady

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

### Elected / Appointed Members

George Nimee, *Chair & Antiochian Men*  
Melanie Thompson, *Treasurer*  
Rdr Michael Baum, *Ecclesiarch*

Wayne Sanders, *Vice-Chair*  
Nicholas Schaefer, *Secretary & Youth*  
Sbdn David Anderson, *Sunday School*

### Organization Representatives

Genie Sanders, *Chanters/Choir*  
Nicholas Medawar, *Order of St Ignatius*  
Robert Abraham, *Facilities*

Ruth Baum, *Antiochian Women*  
Maxwell Colby, *Young Adults*

### Our Parish Mission

Called by Christ to provide hope to the world, we serve people seeking truth with a loving community and the worship of the original Christian church.

### Our Parish Vision

St George strives to be a growing community of believers of all ages, sharing frequent worship services, Christian education, a culture of giving and stewardship, and support to our neighbors.

## BULLETIN PART ONE – ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFO

**WORSHIP** On Youtube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVy\\_\\_6R3xbIrx-UI8H63AUA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVy__6R3xbIrx-UI8H63AUA)  
**STUDIES & MEETINGS** (when noted) On Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5822049765>

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### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – ADVENT BEGAN ON 15 NOVEMBER

December 8, Friday, **6:30 pm Advent Compline**

December 9, Saturday, **5:30 pm Vespers**

December 10, Sunday, **8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy**, 11:15 am Fellowship  
11:45 am A-Women Meeting

December 12, Tuesday, **2 pm Senior Share** (Social, Education, Table Games)

December 13, Wednesday, **7 pm Greece Travelogue Slides**

December 15, Friday, **6:30 pm Advent Compline**

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December 16, Saturday, **5:30 pm Vespers**

December 17, Sunday, **8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy**, 11:15 am Fellowship  
11:45 am Parish Council Meeting

December 19, Tuesday, **6:30 pm Vespers begins the Holy Week of Christmas**

December 20, Wednesday, **7 pm Greece Travelogue Slides**

December 22, Friday, **9 am Royal Hours, 6:30 pm Vespers with Canon**

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December 23, Saturday, **5:30 pm Vespers**

December 24, Sunday, **8:30 am Matins, 9:45 Baptism/Chrismation-Rakes Family**,  
**10 am Divine Liturgy**, 11:15 am Fellowship, **Noon Vespers**,  
**5 pm Matins, 6 pm Divine Liturgy for Christmas**

December 25, Christmas Monday, **11:30 am Vespers**

December 27-30, Youth/Family Trip to Michigan Monasteries/Churches

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December 30, Saturday, **5:30 pm Vespers**

December 31, Sunday, **8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy**, 11:15 am Fellowship  
**7 pm Vespers** for St Basil the Great & Circumcision of Christ

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### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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 Leonard Panizzi

Dec. 23 – Stephanie Kinard

Dec. 24 – Kim Leonard

Dec. 26 – Grant Anthony Leonard

Dec. 27 – Gabriel Leonard

Dec. 28 – Richard Malooley

Dec. 28 – Melissa Rose-Marina Malooley

Dec. 30 – Monique Harvey

### CHURCH FINANCES

#### October 2023 Income-Expense

Total October Income: \$6,906.98

Total October Expenses: \$8,825.52

Net Income October: \$-1,918.54

#### January-October 2023 Totals

Total Year Income: \$ 74,696.09

Total Year Expense: \$77,346.81

Total Year Net Income: \$-2,650.72

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## BULLETIN PART TWO – WORSHIP

- The “Glory” hymn at the end of Matins:

## THE FIFTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE FIVE:

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

How wise are Thy judgments, O Christ, in that Thou didst grant Peter to understand Thy Resurrection by the coffin wrappings alone; whereas Luke and Cleopas Thou didst accompany conversing; and as Thou didst so Thou didst not reveal Thyself to them, and Thou wast taunted by them as though Thou alone wert a stranger in Jerusalem, not knowing what had happened therein of late. But since Thou ordainest all things in conformity with Thy creation, Thou didst explain to them what the Prophets had uttered concerning Thee, and in the breaking of the bread they knew Thee after their hearts were aflame for Thy knowledge; and when they came together with the Disciples they proclaimed openly the Resurrection, by which have mercy upon 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.

## GREAT DOXOLOGY & TROPARION "Today is Salvation..."

- The Hymns of the Day during the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom:  
**THE GREAT LITANY & THE FIRST ANTIPHON:**

*Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us. (Thrice)*

### THE LITTLE LITANY & THE SECOND ANTIPHON:

*Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia. (Thrice) Vs. Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...*

### THE LITTLE LITANY & THE THIRD ANTIPHON: 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.

### THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY SUNDAY:

*Clergy: 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.*

*Choir: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead;  
who sing to Thee. Alleluia.*

- After the Little Entrance (Eisodos), sing these Apolytikia in the following order.

### 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 SS. MENAS, EUGRAPHOS & HERMOGENES IN TONE EIGHT

Since they had slain through their abstinence and struggles the fiery ragings and fierce motions of the passions, the staunch Martyrs of Christ God laid hold on the graces to drive off the pains and illnesses of the sick and work wonders both while living and after death. Strange indeed is the miracle: that these bare bones should pour forth such overflowing streams of cures. Glory be to our only God.

### APOLYTIKION OF SAINT GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

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

### 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*

On this day the Vir - gin com - eth to the cave to give  
 birth to God the Word in - ef - fa - bly,  
 Who was be - fore all thē ag - es. Dance for joy,  
 O earth, on hear - ing the glad - some tid - ings;  
 with thē An - gels and the shep - herds now glo - ri - fy Him  
 Who is will - ing to be gazed on as a young  
 Child Who be - fore thē ag - es is God.

### LITANY & TRISAGION HYMN

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

### THE EPISTLE (For the Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

**Clergy:** Let us attend!

**Reader:** **The Lord is my strength and my song.**

**With chastisement, hath the Lord chastened me.**

**Clergy:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** **The Reading from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (6:10-17)**

**Clergy:** Let us attend!

**Reader:** Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**Clergy:** Peace be to thee, who readest.

**Reader:** And to thy spirit.

**Reader:** May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

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

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**THE GOSPEL (For the Tenth Sunday of Luke)**

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke. (13:10-17)**

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

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• After "One is Holy, One is Lord..." & "I Believe O Lord and I Confess..." Sing:

**THE ORDINARY KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN):**

Praise the Lord from the Heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. Alleluia.

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**Commemoration:** The Martyrs Menas the Most Eloquent, Eugraphos and Hermogenes of Alexandria; Venerable Thomas Dephourkinos of Bithynia; Blessed Angelina Brancovich and her son Blessed John, king of Serbia; and Joasaph, bishop of Belgorod.

## BULLETIN PART THREE – MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFO

### Offering Schedule

### Holy Bread & Food

### Epistle Reader

**\*\*Everyone, Please, clean up after yourselves both the table and floor areas\*\***

Sunday, December 10	Potluck	Rdr Mike Baum
Sunday, December 17	Kh Barbara & Fr Mark Sahady	Kh Barbara Sahady
Sunday, December 24	Sunday Morning Holy Supper	Rdr Mike Baum
Sunday, December 24	Sunday Night Potluck	?
Sunday, December 31	Daniel & Tara Rakes and Family	Daniel Rakes
Sunday, January 7	?	?

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**Use Alms Box for Monetary Donations for Hall Township Food Pantry now – 17 Dec**

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It's time to **consider your commitment to Christ** and decide with prayer your financial pledge to His Church in Spring Valley. Whatever your thoughts about amounts, take them to God in prayer before you decide. **Write down your Pledge for the Year of 2024 to Saint George Orthodox Church** and mail it to: Fr Mark Sahady, 4 Westminster Dr, Spring Valley, IL 61362, or email him at [office@springvalleyorthodox.com](mailto:office@springvalleyorthodox.com) or hand it to him by 16 December, so the Parish can budget and plan for the new year of 2024.

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For **Parish Council Elections** at the **Annual Parish Assembly on 28 January**, two candidates are needed. **The Election Committee** has nominated Michael Baum and **needs at least one other candidate. Give possible names to Fr Mark by 16 December.**

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## 2023 Advent Travelogue

### Greece

### Classical & Christian

### Wednesday evenings

**December 6 - 20, 7 - 8 pm**



From the ancient Olympics and the Oracle at Delphi to Alexander the Great and the travels of the Apostle Paul, Greece provides stories and pictures of incredible beauty and significance for all the ages and today. Prepare for Christmas with slides and images from a recent tour of Greece. Experience a virtual visit to the land where the Christian church took root, flourished, and spread across the world!

### December

### The Travels of Paul the Apostle

13

The first books of the New Testament were written to churches in Greece; we'll see the actual locations of Corinthians, Thessalonians, Philippians, and Ephesians.

### December

### Images of Holiness

20

Five days before Christmas, we'll visit some of the most historic churches in Greece with amazing iconography, and marvel at their beauty and sanctity.

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**Thank you everyone who supported the Giving Tuesday Campaign for our parish. The Campaign raised \$1,700.**

**The Church Bake Sale raised c. \$8,000. Thank everyone who helped:**

All those who baked and donated products and money needed for baking, especially:  
Anysia Medawar                      Ruth Baum                      Kh Barbara Sahady                      Allyson Scandale  
Patrice Nimee                      Bette Malooley                      Maribeth M. Soldati                      Genie Sanders  
Sara Ryder                      Sandy McLaughlin                      Marsella Fousekas                      Christina Kapetaneas  
Leona Kapetaneas                      Jeannie Leonard                      Nicole M. Wiltse                      Andrea Schaefer  
Freda Kapetaneas                      Melanie M. Thompson                      Robert Lee, Jr from Spring Valley Market  
Mediterranean Market in Peoria, Sheri Malooley Dolan, The Men who donated \$900  
and helped: Nicholas & Micah Schaefer, Mark Kerasotes, Mike Baum, George Nimee

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**His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan SABA**



**Archbishop of New York  
and Metropolitan of  
All North America**

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

December 10, 2023

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-Loving Faithful,  
Today we gratefully recognize all our dedicated and faithful church musicians, who lead us in singing God’s praises, filling our hearts and minds with angelic melodies. In last Sunday’s Epistle, we heard this admonition from St. Paul: “Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart” (Eph. 5:19). There is a hollow and disappointing camaraderie found in drinking parties, where people are filled with alcohol and belt out unprofitable songs. However, true joy and brotherhood come from being filled with the Holy Spirit and singing holy songs together with all our heart. Such spiritual fellowship brings us closer to God and creates edifying bonds with one another. Unlike intoxication and carousing, it truly lightens our spiritual burdens, bringing us joy and peace that will not disappoint. This is the blessing and ministry of sacred music within our archdiocese. On this Musician Appreciation Sunday, we extend heartfelt thanks to Ms. Mareena Boosamra Ball and all the members of our archdiocesan Department of Sacred Music, for their tireless efforts in support of this holy ministry. We also gratefully honor the dedication of all the choir directors, chanters, and choir members in parishes throughout the archdiocese, who faithfully present their time and talents, week after week, as priceless gifts to Christ and His Church. Wishing you and your families a blessed remainder of the fast and a joyous Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

SABA, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

**10 December 2023**

**Sunday Bulletin**

**How has our Archdiocese Department of Liturgics evolved since its inception to present day? Has their been added new technologies & programs over the years?**

Decades ago, under Metropolitan Antony Bashir of thrice-blessed memory, Liturgics was one of the first departments created in our Archdiocese. It has been responsible for the publication of service books both for the clergy and for the laity. The Archdiocese still sells some of the first Orthodox service books in the English language, like the ones produced by Ms. Isabel Hapgood in 1905 and Fr. Seraphim Nassar in 1938. While these “old” books are not used by many any more during worship services, they serve as important reference books linking us with our Archdiocese’s history in the new world. In 2014, Liturgics debuted the Online Liturgical Guide (OLG). This webpage provides all of the liturgical texts for our churches that they use for weekends, great feasts, patron saints days, Great Lent, the Dormition Fast (including Paraklesis), and much more. The faithful can download these texts before coming to church, either printing them or putting them on their tablets, so they can follow along. As the OLG adds more services in English, it adds more bilingual services (English and Arabic) to accommodate the number of immigrants arriving on our shores. Plus, since the OLG is online, archdioceses throughout our Patriarchate use these liturgical texts. Liturgics receives emails from parishes in Australia and Great Britain. In the past two years, the department produced the fourth edition of The Liturgikon, the first edition of The Archdiocesan Service Book, and the long-awaited second edition of A Pocket Prayer Book for Orthodox Christians – which is already being reprinted after selling out in record time! These publications have corrected longstanding errors, guided our clergy to offer the divine services according to Antiochian tradition under the direction of our Metropolitan, standardized the Archdiocese’s English translation of the Divine Liturgy, and given our faithful more prayers to beseech God’s help. Final preparations are being made for a new divine liturgy book for the pew in English-only and English-Arabic formats. The department has also begun typesetting the fourth edition of The Services of Great and Holy Week and Pascha. This book will correct errors and inconsistencies, and use the stronger translation of hymnography from The Holy Transfiguration Monastery of Brookline, Mass. This will form the basis of new music for Holy Week. Work has also begun on a new edition of The Divine and Holy Gospel Book. Typesetting and reviewing are laborious, and printing could take up to eight months for hardcover books as many of the older books we need to reprint were never typeset on a computer! As Orthodox Christians, our primary function is to worship God. Everything we do individually and collectively stems from that. Liturgics ensures that our parishes – clergy and laity – can worship according to the rich Tradition of Orthodoxy, following the practices of our historic Patriarchate of Antioch. Our divine services contain the theology of the Church. When we worship, we come to know God in Trinity, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, and all the saints who have been revealed to us throughout history and to the present day. When we worship, we commune with all of them. There is a saying in liturgical theology, “Lex orandi, lex credendi,” that is, “what we pray is what we believe.” Our rich hymns and worship express this reality more than any theological book we can read.