



SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

815-664-4540 www.springvalleyorthodox.com

Established office@springvalleyorthodox.com

1918

Metropolitan SABA

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest Bishop ANTHONY

“Love, Pray, Repent” / Welcome All!
“One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic Church”

17 December 2023, Tone 3, Eothinon 6 Sunday of the Ancestors of Christ



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

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

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

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

December 24, Sunday, **8:45 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy**, 11:15 am Fellowship,
5 pm Matins, 6 pm Divine Liturgy for Christmas

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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

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 4 – Kh Katherine Buss

Dec. 23 – Stephanie Kinard

Dec. 10 – Ann (Bachio) Townsend, Cathy Cox

Dec. 24 – Kim Leonard

Dec. 11 – Janna Greanias

Dec. 26 – Grant Anthony Leonard

Dec. 12 – Mark Wiltse, Jay Kalman

Dec. 27 – Gabriel Leonard

Dec. 16 – Keeley Thompson, Nolan Kaleel

Dec. 28 – Richard Malooley

Dec. 18 – James Harvey

Dec. 28 – Melissa Rose-Marina Malooley

Dec. 21 – Angelena Leonard Panizzi

Dec. 30 – Monique Harvey

CHURCH FINANCES

November 2023 Income-Expense

Total November Income: \$5,511.00

Total November Expenses: \$8,704.07

Net Income November: \$-3,193.07

January-November 2023 Totals

Total Year Income: \$ 80,207.09

Total Year Expense: \$86,050.88

Total Year Net Income: \$-5,843.79

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BULLETIN PART TWO – WORSHIP

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

DOXASTICON FOR THE ANCESTORS OF CHRIST 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.

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GREAT DOXOLOGY & TROPARION “Today is Salvation...”

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- **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*)

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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...

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THE LITTLE LITANY & THE THIRD ANTIPHON: RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION 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.

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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.

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

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION 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.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ANCESTORS 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 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:

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.

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LITANY & TRISAGION HYMN

- The Scripture of the day, following the Trisagion Hymn:
THE EPISTLE (For the Holy Ancestors)

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 Saint 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.

Reader: 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!

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THE GOSPEL (For the Holy Ancestors)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint 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.”

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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: All the Holy Ancestors of our Lord Jesus Christ; of the holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths Ananias, Azarias and Mishael (Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego); and Dionysios of Zakynthos, the wonderworker.

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 17	Kh Barbara & Fr Mark Sahady	Kh Barbara Sahady
Sunday, December 24	?	Rdr Mike Baum
Sunday, December 24	?	?
Sunday, December 31	?	?
Sunday, January 7	?	?

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Last Sunday for Monetary Donations for Hall Township Food Pantry - Use Alms Box

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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 George Nimee by 16 December.**

2023 Advent Travelogue

Greece

Classical & Christian

Last Wednesday evening

December 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

Images of Holiness

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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 \$1,750.

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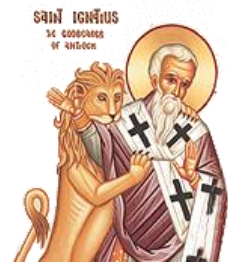
The Church Bake Sale raised c. \$8,000. Thank everyone who helped:

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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ORDER OF ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE



During this Advent period of our Orthodox Faith, we are called to focus on our words, deeds, and thoughts. We prepare, in joyful anticipation and gratitude, for the Greatest Gift of all - the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Your gift is an act of Faith in support of life-changing ministry. The Order is based on the foundation of the steadfast Faith, selfless actions and humble words of Saint Ignatius himself ...

“Christianity is not a matter of persuading people of particular ideas, but of inviting them to share in the greatness of Christ. So pray that I may never fall into the trap of impressing people with clever speech, but instead I may learn to speak with humility, desiring only to impress people with Christ himself.”

The ministry of The Order is an invitation. It is an invitation to share in the greatness of Christ with one another by giving in a manner that is unconditional and quiet. Supporting the Order's projects, Archdiocese Departments and numerous programs as one group with Christ in our minds and hearts should be how we desire to *invite* the world to become part of HIS ministry ... the Order's ministry ... in giving of our own unique talents and treasure. Becoming a member of the Order is an invitation:

1. An invitation to strengthen our children in their Orthodox Faith and help them to remain steadfast in their Faith throughout their lives as they face the challenges and dangers so prevalent in today's fallen world. - **SOYO Leadership Training, SOYO, Camping Programs Christian Education, Youth Ministry, College Conference**

2. An invitation to become part of the families our married seminarians by assisting them financially so they can answer God's call and serve HIM without earthly worries. - **Married Seminarian Fund**

3. An invitation to show compassion and empathy to those living with disabilities through support of **SOYO Special Olympics**.

4. An invitation to give a hand up to individuals, children and families suffering from war, poverty and oppression simply for their belief in Christ. – **Syrian Relief and IOCC**

5. An invitation to help share and reveal Orthodoxy throughout North America to people of any nationality, background or socioeconomic status. **Departments of Mission & Evangelism**

Though your gift through the Order is but a single drop in a vast ocean of need, the ripple effect from your annual gift of \$500/year, \$1,000/year or onetime \$15,000 or \$30,000 gifts, touches the lives of many people that you never would have been able to reach alone. It is also a loving reflection to others that invites them to live their lives in the image of Christ and according to the life of Saint Ignatius himself.

So as you contemplate your support of the Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch over the years, we encourage you to invite your family and friends to become part of the Order ministry. Or if you are considering becoming involved in The Order's ministry for the first time. We leave you with what we believe should be in your heart as you accept this invitation. It is what guides us in our work for the Order and comes from the teachings of St. Ignatius himself ...

“Let no man's place, or dignity, or riches, puff him up; and let no man's low condition or poverty abase him. For the chief points are faith towards God, hope towards Christ, the enjoyment of those good things for which we look, and love towards God and our neighbor.”

Through the generosity of our many Governing Council volunteers who give of their time, talents, and treasure, we are thankful that only **7.7%** and **7.2%** of total revenue went to administrative expense in FY 2022 and the last 5 fiscal years, respectively. Together, we support the many ministries of the Archdiocese in a meaningful way. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and keep you under His watchful care.

In His service, Roger J. David

North American Chairperson, The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch

Clergy	\$2,266,260
Retired Clergy Allowance	\$2,070,000
Married Seminarian Assistance	\$95,795
Clergy Symposium & Convention Assistance*	\$100,465
Archdiocese Youth	\$2,604,446
Summer Camp Scholarships	\$1,153,184
Youth Ministry	\$910,000
SOYO Special Olympics	\$26,000
SOYO Leadership & Youth Worker Training	\$123,334
Christian Education	\$303,303
College Conference	\$88,625

Archdiocese Development & Growth	\$2,085,265
Missions & Evangelism	\$985,803
Parish Development / Mission Grants	\$189,553
Internet Ministry	\$758,303
Antiochian House of Studies	\$151,606
Other Grants	\$437,440
Project Mexico	\$60,000
IOCC	\$90,000
Syrian Relief	\$140,000
Other Archdiocese Projects & Needs	\$147,440
Time Period: Jan 1, 2016 - August 31, 2023	

For almost 50 years, the Order of St Ignatius has made a conscious decision to put the needs of others before their own. It is an act of Faith in support of life-changing ministry.

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Psalm 18 is an epic psalm of salvation. It is a deeply personal psalm as the psalmist praises the Lord for rescuing him from his enemies. The psalmists experienced God's salvation (see 32:1–5) as rescue from evil in the world. They were well acquainted with grief (69:18). It seemed to them that God had abandoned them and that the wicked took advantage of the apparent injustice to ridicule the godly (3:2; 71:11). While waiting for rescue, the psalmists had faith that the Lord was with them, keeping guard over them (Pss 46, 121), and would not abandon them (16:10; 94:14; see also 7:10; 31:2; 62:6–7; 144:2). The psalmists cried out for rescue, knowing that they were completely dependent on the Lord (31:15; 35:17; 69:13). God graciously rescues his needy servants and answers their prayers (20:6, 9; 28:8; 34:6, 18; 40:13; 76:9; 107; 145:19; 149:4). When the Lord rescues his people, he receives glory through their thanksgiving, praise, and testimony (50:15; 79:9; 85:9). God's mighty acts are recorded in Scripture so that his people will praise him for what he has done and trust him to rescue them. The Psalter encourages the godly to identify themselves with these stories of salvation. For example, in Ps 18 the psalmist describes his anguish, his lament, and the Lord's salvation (18:17, 19, 20, 43, 48) in such a manner that all the humble are invited to look to the Lord in hope (72:12). The Lord has rescued the psalmist, and the Lord will save his people again. Hope in God's salvation requires a life of faith (119:123) and love of the Lord (60:5; 108:6). Such faith casts out fear (34:4) because the Lord does what is right (71:2). The Lord Jesus came to save sinners. The Lord Jesus rescues people from themselves, from Satan, from death, and from adversity. He has the power to vindicate the faithful, judge sinners, and completely save all of God's children. The psalm also extends hope that a future Son of David will be totally victorious over evil (18:43–50; cp. Ps 2).