

SAINT GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

•Parish Priest:

Fr. Michael
Constantinides

•Chanter: Deacon

Paul Speed

•Caretaker:

Jason Leon

•GOYA Advisors:

Dr. Vickie Pyevich/
Anne Kirpatrick

•HOPE/JOY Adv-
isors:

Pres. Maria Constan-
tinides/Candace Elias

•After Church Club:

Loukia Constanti-
nides

•Outreach and Evan-
gelism Chair: Angela

Spurgetis

•Parish Council

President: Mary Ran-
kin

•Philoptochos Presi-
dent: Susan Coin

•Prayer Ministry: Gus

Pappas

•Sunday School Di-
rector: Deacon Paul

Speed

•Senior Ministry: Kay

Coin



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JUNE 2018

The Trophybearer

PASTORAL MESSAGE

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

The other day I watched a television show about the building of the Hoover Dam. This marvel was the brain child of one man, which was made possible by the co-working of three companies, and was completed by countless workers. It is indeed amazing to see such work being done. While I was watching this program, I realized that our salvation was also completed in a similar way. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ grants us the salvation of new life. The Grace and Decent of the Holy Spirit gives us the ability to participate in this salvation. The saints of the Church tell us by their words and show us by their action the way to this salvation. My brothers and sisters in the Lord, we celebrated Christ's Resurrection and the descent of the Holy Spirit. This month, as the final feast of the Paschal period, we celebrate all those who lived the life that the Resurrected Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit calls us to live. Let us take a few moments to look at who these saints are, what qualities they have, and how we can enter their ranks.

Who are the Saints? They come from various occupations. Some were Emperors, Patriarchs, Bishops, Priests, Clergy and Laity. The Saints were from all walks of life. There are also different kinds of saints. Some were martyrs, fathers, mothers, righteous, elders, hierarchs, theologians. We can thus see that anyone can be a saint.

What are some of the qualities of the Saints? The Saints are people of faith. They believe enough to both witness and die for the faith. They are a people of persecution, both physical and psychological. Physical since they were fed to lions, burnt at the stake, killed by the sword and even crucified. Psychological since they were abandoned by love ones and persecuted by loved ones. They gave everything of themselves to both God and their fellow man. To God, because they did not live lives of pleasure, but lived like God and became God-like. They followed God's example and cared for all men including persecutors, yet they put nothing in front of God. To their fellow man, by loving him and by trying to bring him into relationship with God. They sold all they had and gave to the poor. By living good lives they brought God's mercy to His people, peace to the Church and God's compassion to men.

What is their reward? Glory in that they became gods by grace, achieving the goal of humanity by being joined to the Resurrection of Christ thus having life eternal. In other words they received a hundredfold what they lost.

How can we become saints? First, through frequent if not constant prayer which is conversation with God, both corporate and personal. Second by receiving Holy Communion often, which is the food for the whole person and the medicine of immortality. Third by fasting which cleanses the body and the soul by showing the mastery of the soul over the body. Fourth by alms giving, giving our excess to the poor is like giving to Christ himself. Finally through our witness, which shows others what it is to be a Christian. We must act as though Christ is present and live as Christ did even when it is difficult. We must act this way to Christians and non-Christians alike. In fact, our festival is good opportunity for this as we have so many people who visit us.

So, we can see that on this final feast we venerate those people who have incorporated the Resurrection into their lives. They gave of themselves to the point that others could see Christ in their lives. Some were killed while others bore witness to old age. Their example to us is timeless. All generations who live as they live will be rewarded by being first in the Kingdom of Heaven. We can be like them only when we live like them. My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, the time of the saints is not over. The Church constantly renews herself through present day saints. We can become saints as well by living as God calls us to live. By giving of ourselves in prayer and almsgiving, by restoring the balance within us with fasting and Holy communion, by bearing witness to this new life to others, we can inherit the rewards promised to us by Christ and hear him say, "Well done O good and faithful servant! Enter into the joy of your Lord." Amen

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Fast Free	2 Fast Free 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers at the Church of All Saints in Peoria
3 Sunday of All Saints Fast Free 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	4 Fast of the Apostles Begins Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	5 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	6 Fast Day	7 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 6:30 p.m. Festival Committee Meeting	8 Fast Day	9 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed
10 2nd Sunday of Matthew Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy Metropolis Open House St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church 5649 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL Great Vespers: 5:00 p.m. Open House Reception: 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	11 Feast day of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle Name Day of Patriarch Bartholomew Name Day of Metropolitan Nathaniel Fish, Wine and Oil allowed Matins: 8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. at the Annunciation Cathedral in Chicago	12 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	13 Fast Day	14 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	15 Fast Day	16 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed
17 3rd Sunday of Matthew Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	18 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	19 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting	20 Fast Day 6:30 p.m. Festival Committee Meeting	21 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	22 Fast Day 5:00 p.m. Rehearsal	23 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed +Sacrament
24 Nativity of Saint John the Baptist 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	25 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	26 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed	27 Fast Day Evening Meal	28 Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 10:00 a.m. Senior Event	29 Saints Peter and Paul Fish, Wine and Oil allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George	30 Synaxis of the Holy Apostles 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church 10:00 a.m. Koliva making class

Community News

PASTORAL NOTES

•The Week of May 27-June 3 is Fast Free because of the Great Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost. This means we can eat whatever we want and still receive Holy Communion on Sunday.

•The Fast of the Apostles begins on Monday, June 4 and ends on Friday, June 29. This is a lighter fast in that we are allowed to eat fish, wine and oil everyday except on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Parish Family News

High School Graduates:

Tomas Elias

Zach Elias

Alexandra Kenyon

Madeline Patramanis

Congratulations and may God bless you all with whatever you have planned!

College and Grad School Graduates:

1. Maria Nausika Coin graduated from the University of Saint Thomas, Minneapolis, MN.
2. John Peter Cunningham graduated from the University of Notre Dame.

May God allow you to use your gifts and talents to increase the Body of Christ

Memorials for June

June 3

Metropolitan Iakovos:
1 Years

Rolandos Paleshi: 3 Years

June 10

Salwa Harb: 3 Year

June 17

Mary Marlas 7 years

Georgia Caras 10 years

Nick Caras 26 years

Dan (Dionisios) Caras
31 years

Fotini Caras 31 years

Charles Marlas 57 years

Senior Ministry News

Our Orthodox Study Forums that meet on Wednesday mornings and Thursday Evenings have been studying the Book of Genesis this year. We have just finished the chapter relating to Joseph. Several attendees have never seen the movie "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream coat" So on Thursday June 28th at

10:00 a.m. we will be showing the movie this movie at Saint George (starring Donnie Osmond) for all of our senior citizens, Orthodox Study Forum participants and anyone else who would like to join us. Popcorn will be served and following the movie we will have a "Dutch-treat" box lunch from "Hungry Hobo"

at a per person cost of \$8.00.

Please RSVP to Kay Coin if you plan to attend or if you need more information call her at 309-786-0240.



Our Saint George Parish Community

PRAYERS FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Have we taken for granted our health? Some of our members who are no longer able to come to church would always appreciate a phone call just to say hello.

Emily Caras

Helen Corelis

Stella Cudworth

Pat Grevas

Judy Pappas

Jim Patton

Xenia Patton

Effie Skafidas

Gordon Smith

Helen Smith

Epistle Readers

Sunday, June 3, 2018
All-Saints

Scot Johnson

Sunday, June 10, 2018
2nd Sunday of Matthew

Alexa Florence

Sunday, June 17, 2018
3rd Sunday of Matthew

Loukia Constantinides

Sunday, June 24, 2018
Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Mary Rankin

EVENING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

June 27-Pat Andrews and the Orthodox Study Forum

July 25-Dr. Vicky Pyevich and GOYA

Anyone interested in participating in this worthwhile ministry should contact Dena Manta at 332-1684.

Prosphora Baking Schedule

Sunday, June 3 2018

Open

Sunday, June 10, 2018

The Speeds

Sunday, June 17, 2018

Georgene Pitsoulakis

Sunday, June 24, 2018

John Stratton

Parish Registry

Wedding

K e r s t e n Speed and James Davis were united in the **Sacrament of Holy Marriage** on **May 20, 2018** and the sponsor was **Presbyter Amber Wojcik.**

Parish Council Sunday Duty

Sunday, June 3, 2018

Nick Coin,
John Mekus,
Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis

Sunday, June 10, 2018

Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert
Gus Pappas
Mary Rankin

Sunday, June 17, 2018

Brad Crosson,
Mariellen Crosson
Doug Kenyon
Ted Pitsoulakis

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Nick Coin,
John Mekus,
Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis

Coffee Hour Hosts for June 2018

Sunday, June 3, 2018
hosted by:

Presbyteria Maria

Sunday, June 10, 2018
hosted by:

The Harb Families

Sunday, May 20, 2018
hosted by:

Pitsoulakis/Liras and Caras families

Sunday, June 24, 2018
hosted by:

The Stratton's

KOLIVA WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, JUNE 30; 10 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.



Men, women and youth are welcome to learn about this tradition!



HANDS ON EXPERIENCE!

Parishioners will share tips on preparing the wheat, mixing ingredients, and assembling the final product while enjoying brunch and fellowship together.

Please contact Mary Rankin at mbarton83@aol.com or 563-263-2341.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΣΙΝΤΑΓΟΥ

The Faithful Stewards and Friends of the Holy Metropolis of Chicago
are cordially invited to an Open House
on the occasion of the Feastday of the Holy Apostle Bartholomew,
Patron Saint of Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago

Date

Sunday, June 10, 2018

Time

Great Vespers: 5:00 p.m.

Open House Reception: 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Location

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
5649 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL

On the following day, June 11, a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be
celebrated at the Annunciation Cathedral (1017 N LaSalle Drive).

Matins: 8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

All-Saints (June 4)

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us

to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne wit-

ness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

St Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (PHILOKALIA [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the OCTOECHOS, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to St Peter's five categories. The list of St Nicodemus is found in his book THE FOURTEEN EPISTLES OF ST PAUL (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of 1 Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Bartholomew the Holy Apostle (June 11)

Saint Bartholomew was one of the Twelve Apostles, and had Galilee as his homeland; this is all that is known of him for certain according to the history of the Gospels. Concerning his apostolic work, certain say that he preached in Arabia and Persia, and especially in India, bringing to them the Gospel written by Saint Matthew, which had been written originally in

Hebrew, and which was found there one hundred years later by Pantaenus, formerly a stoic philosopher and later an illustrious teacher of the Christian school in Alexandria (see Eusebius, Eccl. Hist., 5: 10). Other accounts say that he went to Armenia. According to some, he ended his life by being crucified, or by being flayed alive, in Albanopolis

(Urbanopolis) of Armenia. This also confirms an ancient tradition preserved by the Armenians. According to some, Bartholomew and Nathanael are the same person, because the Evangelists who mention Bartholomew do not mention Nathanael; and John, who alone mentions Nathanael as one of the Twelve, says nothing of Bartholomew. Indeed, Bartholomew is a

patronymic, "son of Talmaj," which means "bold, spirited" (see also Jesus of Navi 15:14; II Kings 3:3), and Nathanael could have had this as a surname. According to the Synaxarion of the Menaion on April 22, however, it is Simon the Zealot and Nathanael who are the same; the Evangelists who mention Simon the Zealot (or "the Canaanite") do not mention Nathanael.

The Holy Prophet Elisha (June 14)

The Prophet Elisseus, the son of Saphat, was from the town of Abel-me-oul and had been a husbandman. In the year 908 B.C., at God's command, the Prophet Elias anointed him to be Prophet in his stead. This happened while Elisseus was plowing his land, having twelve oxen under yoke. Straightway, Elisseus slew the oxen and cooked them, using the wooden plough and the other instruments of husbandry as fire-

wood; then he gave the oxen as food to the people. Bidding farewell to his parents, he followed Elias and served him until the latter was taken up as it were into Heaven (see July 20). When Elisseus received his teacher's mantle and the grace of his prophetic spirit twofold, he demonstrated whose disciple he was through the miracles he wrought and through all that is related of him in the Fourth Book of Kings. He departed

full of days and was buried in Samaria, about the year 839 B.C. But even after his death God glorified him; for after the passage of a year, when some Israelites were carrying a dead man for burial and suddenly saw a band of Moabites, they cast the dead man on the grave of the Prophet. No sooner had the dead man touched the Prophet's bones, than he came to life and stood on his feet (IV Kings 13:20-21). Men

tioning this, Jesus the Son of Sirach says, "He did wonders in his life, and at his death his works were marvellous" (Eccles. 48:14). It is because of such marvels that the faithful have reverence for the relics of the Saints (see also Jan. 16). His name means "God is savior."

Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist

(June 24)

He that was greater than all who are born of women, the Prophet who received God's testimony that he surpassed all the Prophets, was born of the aged and barren Elizabeth (Luke 1: 7) and filled all his kinsmen, and those that lived round about, with gladness and wonder. But even more wondrous was that which followed on the eighth day when he was circumcised, that is, the day on which a male child receives his name. Those present called him Zacharias, the name of his father. But the mother said, "Not so, but he shall be called John." Since the child's father was unable to speak, he was asked, by means of a sign, to indicate the child's name. He then asked for a tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And immediately

Zacharias' mouth was opened, his tongue was loosed from its silence of nine months, and filled with the Holy Spirit, he blessed the God of Israel, Who had fulfilled the promises made to their fathers, and had visited them that were sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, and had sent to them the light of salvation. Zacharias prophesied concerning the child also, saying that he would be a Prophet of the Most High and Forerunner of Jesus Christ. And the child John, who was filled with grace, grew and waxed strong in the Spirit; and he was in the wilderness until the day of his showing to Israel (Luke 1:57-80). His name is a variation of the Hebrew "Johanán," which means "Yah is gracious."

Thoughts to Ponder

I was testing the children in my Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

I asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, Would that get me into Heaven?" "NO!" the children answered. "If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?" Again, the answer was, "NO!"

By now I was starting to smile. Hey, this was fun!" Well, then, if

I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my

husband, would that get me into Heaven?" I asked them again. Again, they all answered, "NO!"

I was just bursting with pride for them. "Well," I continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."

Answers to Last Month's "Test Your Faith..."

THE BEATITUDES

Across

4. Blessed are the pure of _____, for they shall see God.

6. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called _____ of God.

8. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of _____.

Down

1. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain _____.

2. Blessed are they who _____: for they shall be comforted.

3. Blessed are the poor in _____: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4.

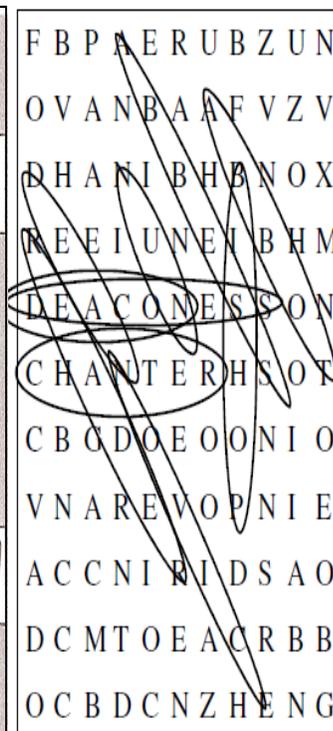
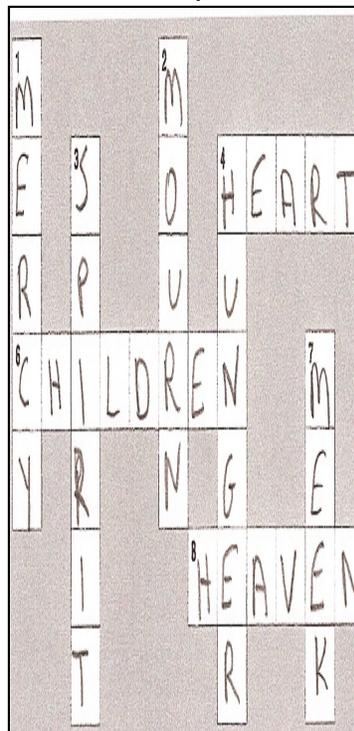
Blessed are they who

_____ and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7. Blessed are the _____: for they shall inherit the earth.

CHURCH ROLES

- Deaconess
- Abbess
- Bishop
- Reader
- Chanter
- Deacon
- Novice
- Abbot
- Dean
- Nun



Test Your Faith...

Popular New Testament Verses I

Across

1. But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of _____.
3. _____ goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.
6. A land flowing with milk and _____.
9. Do not throw your _____ before swine.
10. The Lord is my _____, I shall not want.

Down

1. To every thing there is a _____, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.
4. They will beat their _____ into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.
5. Am I my brother's _____?
7. Your _____ is a lamp unto my feet.
8. For _____ you are and unto _____ shall you return

CHURCH ROLES II:

- Archimandrite
- Archdeacon
- Chancellor
- Catechumen
- Archbishop
- Presbyter
- Acolyte
- Exarch
- Acolyte

