

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 Advi-
sors:

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



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 10

NOVEMBER 2018

The Trophybearer

PASTORAL MESSAGE

How many of us are sick and tired of all the accusations and counter accusations throughout the political world? I know I am. What is needed, according to the political pundits, is a consistent standard, the rule of law, which will define the appropriate actions that need to be taken. This, I think, is the crux of the argument. How shall we proceed? Unfortunately for us, there is no precedent for this situation. Fortunately, the life in Christ is much simpler. In fact, God tells us what He wants us to do and how to do it by doing it first Himself. My brothers and sisters in the Lord, let us take a few moments and look at the example that God gave us, see what we can glean from it and how we can live it.

What did God do? He gave us existence in that He created us. He gave us life by giving us communion with Him that is, to have life and gave us the potential for becoming gods. Man however rejected God, refused communion and thus chooses death to life. Yet God saves us by restoring love. God is love and God is life, so love is life. The opposite is also true. No love is death or no life. How does He save us? By sending Christ who lived with us, preached to us, died for us and resurrected for us. In fact, God works with us to fight the pre-disposition towards evil that we inherited from Adam and helping us to do good. He provides the ability to believe in that which is unseen. Most importantly He shows us that it is possible that He does it all himself first—in person of Jesus Christ.

What does God want from us? He wants to follow commandments, to love God, to love our fellow man and to love nature. We are called to put nothing in front of God. God is the most important relationship we have and unlike the world we put nothing ahead of God. What about money? We are called to give everything to poor. How about our family? We are called to leave mother, father, brother, sister, husband, wife, son or daughter if they try to lead us away from God. What about our notion of self-esteem or self-worth? We find our worth by being God-like and not in world

How can we do it? We start with prayer. Prayer is communication with God that links us to the Church and our fellow man through God. It is a important element to Christian since it makes us realize that there are others besides us. Fasting which restores relationship between body and soul. In fact, it restores relationship with: God, our fellow man and nature. Fasting makes us realize we are not most important things in universe. Holy Communion which brings us into union with God and saints. It not only makes Christ part of us and us part of Christ, but it is defining characteristic of Christian. Communion energizes us. After all this we must give to poor, give to the Church in our stewardship of time, treasure and talents. We feed hungry, visit sick, visit prisoners and above all live the Gospel.

So, we can see that God asks a lot from us. He asks us to follow the commandments. He asks us to keep Him as the most important thing in our lives. He asks us to believe in Him and his message. In other words we must believe in God and not just that God exists. We must also have obedience. This obedience is show even when we might not fully understand why we must do things. For C. S. Lewis a Christian is someone who "...looks round upon a universe from which every trace of God seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys." We can do all this if and only if we prepare ourselves through prayer, which links us to God, fasting, which puts to death the animal selfishness of ours, and Holy Communion, which energizes us for our work. Let us then do what we need to do to prepare ourselves. Let us go out into the world and act as Christians. Let us make real our faith be doing it so that having treasures in Heaven, we may enter the joy of our Lord. Amen.

November 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | 1 Feast Day of Saints Cosmas and Damianos 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum | 2 Fast Day | 3 11:00 a.m.– 8:00 p.m. Assumption Food Fest |
| 4 5th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion | 5 7:00 p.m. Parish Council Seminar | 6 | 7 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum | 8 The Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and Gabriel 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum | 9 Feast Day of Saint Nectarios of Aegina 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George | 10 |
| 11 8th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion Fall Assembly following the Divine Liturgy | 12 7:00 p.m. Parish Council Seminar | 13 Feast Day of Saint John Chrysostom 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church | 14 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum | 15 Fast Day Fast of the Nativity Begins Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum | 16 The Feast day of the Apostle and Evangelist Matthew Oil and Wine allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George | 17 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed |
| 18 9th Sunday of Luke Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion Stewardship Sunday | 19 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed | 20 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed Interfaith Thanksgiving Service @ First Baptist | 21 The Entrance of the Theotokos Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church | 22 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed | 23 Fast Day Rehearsal | 24 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed +Sacrament |
| 25 13th Sunday of Luke Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion | 26 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed | 27 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed | 28 Fast Day | 29 Fish, Wine and Oil Allowed | 30 Feast Day of Saint Andrew Oil and Wine Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George | |

Epistle Readers

**Sunday, November 4,
2018**

**5th Sunday of Luke
Alexa Florence**

**Sunday, November
11, 2018**

**8th Sunday of Luke
Loukia Constantinides**

**Sunday, November
18, 2018**

**9th Sunday of Luke
Ethan Kirkpatrick**

**Sunday, November
25, 2018**

**13th Sunday of Luke
Scot Johnson**

Coffee Hour Hosts for November
2018

**Sunday, November 4,
2018 hosted by:**

Marcia Allen

**Sunday, November
11, 2018 hosted by:**

Open

**Sunday, November
18, 2018 hosted by:**

**The Stratton and
Patramanis families**

**Sunday, November
25, 2018 hosted by:**

**The Johnson and
Reese families**

Parish Council Sunday Duty

Sunday, November 4, 2018

Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert

Gus Pappas
Mary Rankin

**Sunday, November 11,
2018**

Brad Crosson,
Mariellen Crosson

Doug Kenyon
Ted Pitsoulakis

**Sunday, November 18,
2018**

Nick Coin,
John Mekus,

Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis

**Sunday, November 25,
2018**

Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert
Gus Pappas
Mary Rankin

Prospora Baking Schedule

Sunday,

November 4, 2018

Diane Breckon

Sunday,

November 11, 2018

Presbyteria Maria

Sunday,

November 18, 2018

Diakonissa Romilie
and Vicky Patramanis

Sunday,

November 25, 2018

Adrienne Johnson

Parish Registry

Baptisms

The servant of God Theodore, son of George and Margaret Kutsunis was Baptized into the Orthodox Faith on October 6, 2018 and the sponsor was Michelle Keady.

The servant of God Anthony, son of Jayme and Sara Eckert was Baptized into the Orthodox Faith on October 13, 2018 and the sponsor was Georgena Barnes.

Memorials for November

**November 18,
2018**

**Emmanuel
Patramanis:
(1 Year)**

**November 25,
2018**

**Stephanie
Yokas:
(15 Years)**

**Bill Yokas:
(21 Years)**

PRAYERS FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Emily Caras

Helen Corelis

Stella Cudworth

Jennie Elbers

Judy Pappas

Jim Patten

Xenia Patten

Gordon Smith

Helen Smith

Irene Theodore

...Send your treasures to the heavenly storage room. Deposit your wealth in God's Bank, distributing it to the poor, the orphans and the widows, so that you can receive a million times more in the Second coming of Christ...
Saint Joseph the Hesychast

Community News

FALL PARISH ASSEMBLY

On November 11, 2018 immediately following the Divine Liturgy we will be having our Fall Parish Assembly.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council November meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Green room.

PASTORAL NOTE

The Christmas Fast which begins on November 15, is not like Great and Holy Lent in that fish, wine and oil are permitted (with the exceptions of Wednesday and Friday) until December 12. After December 12, wine and oil are permitted (with the exception of Wednesday and Friday) but fish is no longer permitted. The fast ends following Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Parish Council elections will be held on Sunday, December 9. It is an honor and a privilege to serve on the Parish Council,

but it is also a commitment to the good of our Parish. If you feel the call to support and represent our parish in this special way, please come forward. It is mandatory for all new candidates to attend one of the seminars being held. The first is on **Monday, November 5** at 7:00 p.m. and the second is on **Monday, November 12** at 7:00 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Our Annual Stewardship Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 18th. We ask you all if you like to bring your pledge card with you on that Sunday and deposit it into the pledge box. May the Lord bless us with another wonderful year.

THANKSGIVING ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Fr. Michael and our choir will be participating in this year's Thanksgiving Ecumenical service which will be held on November 20th at First Baptist Church. This will be a community event celebrating this great American

Holiday. Everyone who is planning on attending is asked to bring a canned food item for food pantries run through St. Pius and Second Baptist. Fellowship and refreshments will be served after the conclusion of the service. I hope to see many of our members here at St. George will be able to be in attendance to support our choir. For more information please see Fr. Michael.

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Have you remembered to help the needy and hungry? Please bring in a contribution of food to the church. They are still running dangerously short.



Our Saint George Parish Community

Parish News

Notification of the Fall Parish Assembly on Sunday November 11, 2018

Dear St. George Stewards,

On Sunday, November 11th, 2018, following the fellowship and coffee hour, we will be convening our Fall General Assembly in the Gold Room. Please make every effort to attend.

As a reminder, the General Assembly is a meeting of all members in good-standing. A member in good-standing is defined by the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese as any person eighteen years of age or older who was baptized according to the rites of the Orthodox Church, or was received into the Orthodox Church by Chrismation, who lives according to the faith and canons of the Orthodox Church, who has met his or her stewardship obligation for 2017 and abides by the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese and the by-laws of the Parish. Members in good-standing, in attendance, constitute a quorum of the General Assembly.

A new member may vote in the General Assembly provided that they have been in good-standing at least three (3) months prior to the date of the General Assembly. If you would like to vote on any of the motions made during the General Assembly, you must be present. Absentee ballots will not be counted.

Mary Rankin

Parish Council President

Fr. Michael Constantinides

Parish Priest

2018 FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA**Sunday, November 11th, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

OPENING PRAYER

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

PHILOPTOCHOS REPORT

FESTIVAL REPORT

2019 BUDGET

AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

ELECTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSING PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT

Parish News



2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The 2019 Stewardship Theme has recently been announced by the national Stewardship Ministry and is displayed in the banner above.

Parish Level Involvement Includes:

- Stewardship packets will be mailed to St George Parishioners the **week of October 21st.**
- Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider their contributions to the parish of time, talent and treasure **and** to consider ways that the parish might become an even more dynamic force for Christ's presence in our lives.
- The **Fall General Assembly** will be held on **Sunday, November 11** to review current ministries and to set a course for the next year.
- **Stewardship Sunday** will be held on the following **Sunday, November 18,** and offer an opportunity for submitting your commitment card and to share fellowship at a free-will offering **Stewardship Luncheon** following the Divine Liturgy.

Parish News

**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
OF
ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
2930 31ST AVENUE
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201**

November 1, 2018

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The St. George Philoptochos Society is sponsoring the 2018 Parish Christmas Card. As in previous years, each of us has the opportunity to send our Christmas greetings to all our Church members and friends. A beautiful card with all the names of those participating is sent to everyone on our mailing list.

We hope that everyone will be included in the 2018 Christmas Card. Please send the portion below with your name, clearly printed, as you wish it to appear on the card, along with your generous donation to the Church office or return it to the table set up after Liturgy on Sundays. Completed forms and donations must be received no later than Sunday November 25. All proceeds are used for benevolent projects of the Philoptochos Society. A portion of the proceeds of this year's Christmas card will be donated to the Red Cross, specifically for Hurricane Relief.

In this season of giving, please find it in your heart to give to those less fortunate.

Sincerely,

Pat Andrews, Chairman
Philoptochos Christmas Card Committee



**St. George Philoptochos Society
2018 Parish Christmas Card**

NAME(S)

(Please print clearly as you would like it to appear on the card)

DONATION _____ (Checks payable to St. George Philoptochos Society)

Parish News



SAT, DEC. 1, 12PM

PASTITSIO

LUNCHEON

Back by popular demand!

Lovingly made by the ladies of the St. George Philoptochos Society, this luscious dish consists of layers of seasoned ground beef, (or Vegan Meat substitute) pasta, and creamy béchamel sauce baked to perfection. This is Greek comfort food at its best.

This lunch is to benefit the many charities supported by the organization. When making reservations, please specify whether you'd like the meatless option or regular.

We are also taking reservations for either ½ pans (\$50) or whole pans (\$100) frozen. Limited supply.

The cost is \$20 per person and includes:

Pastitsio, Greek Salad, Bread & Butter, Coffee/Water and Dessert

(Meatless option available)

Seating is limited and by RSVP only.

Checks made out to St. George Philoptochos Society and must be sent in to the church prior to event.

Reservations open November 1 thru November 22

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2930 31st Ave. Rock Island, IL 61201

Call Patti at 563-940-1453 or email at patti.kenyon@gmail.com

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH FALL FOOD FESTIVAL



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD
11AM - 8PM

INDOORS RAIN OR SHINE - DINE IN OR CARRY OUT
HOMEMADE GREEK FOOD AND DESSERTS!

DOLMADES



LAMB



BAKLAVA



SPANAKOPITA



GYRO



GALAKTOBOURIKO



GREEK SALADS



PASTITSIO



MELOMAKARONA



SOUVLAKI



GREEK CHICKEN



KOULOURIA



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

4900 KENNEDY DRIVE EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS · 309-792-2912

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT:

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ASSUMPTIONEMGREEKFEST

Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, & Barachiel (November 8)

All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb. 1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people, and guides to that which is profitable (Deut. 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps. 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always be-

hold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Esaia 6:2-3; Matt. 18:10; Luke 15:7). In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Catholic Church, wisely honouring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant

their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him -(Dan. 7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria (November 12)

Saint John was born in 555 on the island of Cyprus in the city of Amathus; his father, Epiphanius, was a ruler of Cyprus. The Saint was consecrated Archbishop of Alexandria in 608. A man of exemplary uprightness,

in his zeal for Orthodoxy he strove mightily to fight the many heresies among the Christians in Egypt; but above all, he was famous for his singular generosity, humility, and sympathy towards all, especially the poor. His

mercy was so great that the report of it reached the Persian invaders of Jerusalem, who desired to see him because of it. Saint John reposed in 619, at the age of sixty-four.

Philip the Apostle (November 12)

This Apostle, one of the Twelve, was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and was a compatriot of Andrew and Peter. He was instructed in the teachings of the Law, and devoted himself to the study of the prophetic books. Therefore, when the Lord Jesus called him to the

dignity of apostleship, he immediately sought out and found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph" (John 1.45). Having preached Jesus the God-man

throughout many parts of Asia Minor, and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he was finally crucified upside down in Hierapolis of Phrygia.

Catherine the Great Martyr of Alexandria (November 25)

Saint Catherine, who was from Alexandria, was the daughter of Constas (or Cestus). She was an exceedingly beautiful maiden, most chaste, and illustrious in wealth, lineage, and learning. By her steadfast understanding, she utterly vanquished the passionate and unbridled soul of Maximinus, the tyrant of Alexandria; and by her eloquence, she stopped the mouths of the so-called philosophers who had been gathered to dispute with her. She was crowned with the crown of martyrdom in the year 305.

Her holy relics were taken by Angels to the holy mountain of Sinai, where they were discovered many years later; the famous monastery of Saint Catherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but later was dedicated to Saint Catherine. According to the ancient usage, Saints Catherine and Mercurius were celebrated on the 24th of this month, whereas the holy Hieromartyrs Clement of Rome and Peter of Alexandria were celebrated on the 25th. The dates of

the feasts of these Saints were interchanged at the request of the Church and Monastery of Mount Sinai, so that the festival of Saint Catherine, their patron, might be celebrated more festively together with the Apodosis of the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos. The Slavic Churches, however, commemorate these Saints on their original dates