

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 Advisors:

Pres. Maria Constantinides/
Candace Elias

•After Church Club:

Loukia Constantinides

•Outreach and Evangelism Chair:

Angela Spurgetis

•Parish Council

President: Mary Rankin

•Philoptochos President:

Susan Coin

•Prayer Ministry: Gus

Pappas

•Sunday School Director:

Deacon Paul Speed

•Senior Ministry: Kay

Coin



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 9

OCTOBER 2018

The Trophybearer

PASTORAL MESSAGE

In today's world it is difficult if not impossible to keep a positive attitude. We hear in the news about natural disasters. We hear about corruption among our elected officials. Where does it all end? There are so many evil things that go on in our lives that it is difficult to remember any good things that happen to us. Yet in the Gospel of Luke we hear of a man who was inflicted with the most evil of things, the devil, yet with all that he endured after Christ healed him he went about telling all about the good things that happened to him. In other words, he was so thankful for the good deed that he was broadcasting it to others. My beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord, let us take a few moments to discuss what it is that we should be thankful for, why were the good things done for us and how we should respond to those who helped.

What should we be thankful for? First we should be thankful for the forgiveness of our sins from both God and our fellow man. This is important because we see sin as a disease, from which we need healing. How is this possible? Through Confession which removes the spirit of rejecting God's grace from us, and Communion which puts God within us. Second we should be thankful for our restoration to our former state. This means for us: 1. keeping the image and likeness of God intact and 2. progress in becoming God-like. In fact we are called to enter into a relationship with God that is so deep that one looking from the outside would see that the only difference between us and God is that we need God and God needs no one or no thing. We are called therefore to become gods by grace! Third we should be thankful for those who assist us on our way. The people who come before us, that is, spiritual ancestors. The people who guide us now our bishops, priests, deacons and lay people. The people whom we will guide our children, grandchildren both spiritual and physical.

Why was this done for us? Are we worthy? No! We tend to be rebellious and selfish. Well then why? Because of love. In the Eleventh Orthros Gospel Christ talks about love by saying to Peter "Do you love me?" What is love? Love is not romantic kind that Hallmark talks about, but love, agape, means selfless love. In Hellenistic Greek, when you put an "a" before any word root, it means the opposite. So, Etymologically a + ego=agape or selfless love likened maternal love which is unconditional love. Love is key to God since God is love. God created the world in love. Adam fell because he had no love, or rather the wrong kind of love, that is self-love. The New Adam did what God wanted because he had right kind of love. Forgiveness is the ultimate example of love.

How then should we respond? We should respond by following God's example and forgiving others. In the Lord's Prayer we say "Forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". So if we don't forgive others, than God should not forgive us. We are called to restore, that is, correct those who have fallen into sin. We should also listen and honor to those who lead us. Our leaders are chosen by God and should be rewarded for actions, yet they usually do not ask for reward. Even though they do not ask, they do deserve to be rewarded by those who are led.

We should follow those leaders in 1. Fasting which allows us to have proper attitude to God, our fellow man and nature and 2. Prayer which is Communication with God.

So, we can see that we indeed have much to be thankful for. We should thank God for forgiving us of our sins and restoring to us His image and likeness. Although, through our actions we rebel against him at every chance, he keeps on forgiving us. We should be thankful to our leaders, who be progressing in the faith, can effectively bring closer to our God. We should also be thankful for the great love that was shown to us. That totally unconditional love that God gives us everyday by calling us sons, by sending us leaders, by allowing us to have faith even when He does not show Himself in an obvious way. Let us then go forth into the world showing our reaction to this great love. Let us go forth and testify to all believers and non-believers that God does indeed love us and forgive us. Let us live as though we were forgiven, by forgiving others. In this way we may, as St. Paul tells us, be all things to all people that in all ways we may save a few. Amen.

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Clergy Meeting in Chicago	3 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	4 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum	5	6 Feast Day of Saint Thomas 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at the Assumption Church +Sacrament
7 3rd Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion	8	9	10 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	11 6:00 p.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	12	13 +Sacrament
14 Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Coun- cil 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion	15	16 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting	17 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	18 Saint Luke the Evangelist 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George Church 6:00 p.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	19 Fast Day	20
21 6th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion	22	23	24 Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum Evening Meal	25 Senior Event 6:00 p.m. Ortho- dox Study Forum	26 Feast Day of Saint Demetrios Name Day of Archbishop Demetrios 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at the Assumption Church	27
28 7th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion	29	30				

Epistle Readers

Sunday, October 7, 2018

3rd Sunday of Luke

Alexa Florence

Sunday, October 14, 2018

**Fathers of the Seventh Ecu-
menical Council**

Isabella Elias

Sunday, October 21, 2018

6th Sunday of Luke

Ethan Kirkpatrick

Sunday, October 28, 2018

7th Sunday of Luke

Angela Spurgetis

Coffee Hour Hosts for October 2018

Sunday, October 7, 2018

hosted by: Lina Assaf

Sunday, October 14,

2018 hosted by:

Diane Breckon

Sunday, October 21,

2018 hosted by:

The Elias Family

Sunday, October 28,

2018 hosted by:

Mariellen Crosson, Lori and

Nicolina Pappas

EVENING MEAL

VOLUNTEERS

October 24-Mary and Bill

Rankin

November 14-Dena Manta,

Alexa Florence and Nancy

G. Coin

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

Parish Council Sunday Duty

Sunday, October 7, 2018

Brad Crosson,
Mariellen Crosson
Doug Kenyon
Ted Pitsoulakis

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Nick Coin,
John Mekus,
Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis

Sunday, October 21, 2018

Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert
Gus Pappas
Mary Rankin

Sunday, October 28, 2018

Brad Crosson,
Mariellen Crosson
Doug Kenyon
Ted Pitsoulakis

Prospora Baking Schedule

Sunday,

October 7 2018

Lina Assaf

Sunday,

October 14, 2018

Presbyteria Maria

Sunday,

October 21, 2018

John Stratton

Sunday,

October 28, 2018

Mariellen Cros-

son

Parish Registry

Chrismation

The Servant of God, Penelope McGimpsey, was Confirmed into the Orthodox Church on September 9, 2018. The Sponsor is Patty Kenyon.

Funeral

The servant of God, Jennie M. Joannides, fell asleep in the Lord and was buried on September 25, 2018.

Senior Outing

On Thursday October 25th we will have an outing for the Senior Citizen Group. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at church and drive to the Hauberg Estate for an extended, behind the scene, tour of the mansion. It is known as the "Historic Tulip Mansion" and we will see all the restoration work the volunteers are doing on the house and gardens, and learn details about the architecture, artwork and history of the estate. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Following the tour we will enjoy a "Dutch-treat" box lunch in the mansion's "Tulip Room" provided by the "Doctor Gyros Restaurant" at a cost of \$8.00 per person.

Please RSVP to Kay Coin if you plan to attend. Call her for any questions at 309-786-0240.

STAVRO LOGO BOOKSTORE SIDEWALK DAY

Remember us? We are the table set up directly across from the church office. Due to prudent fiscal responsibility our inventory is small. However, the convenience we offer is large.

We have stocked some new small gift items at very reasonable prices. If you have a special occasion coming up, we also offer a new selection of Orthodox greeting cards and blank note cards.

In addition, we will offer a small sample inventory of more expensive items as well as catalogs from which we can take prepaid orders.

Our sidewalk day is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2018.

Please stop by and check out our merchandise. There will be a station for pre-paid orders also. Catalogs may be checked out and taken home if you need more time to choose.

Nancy Coin and John Spurgetis



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)

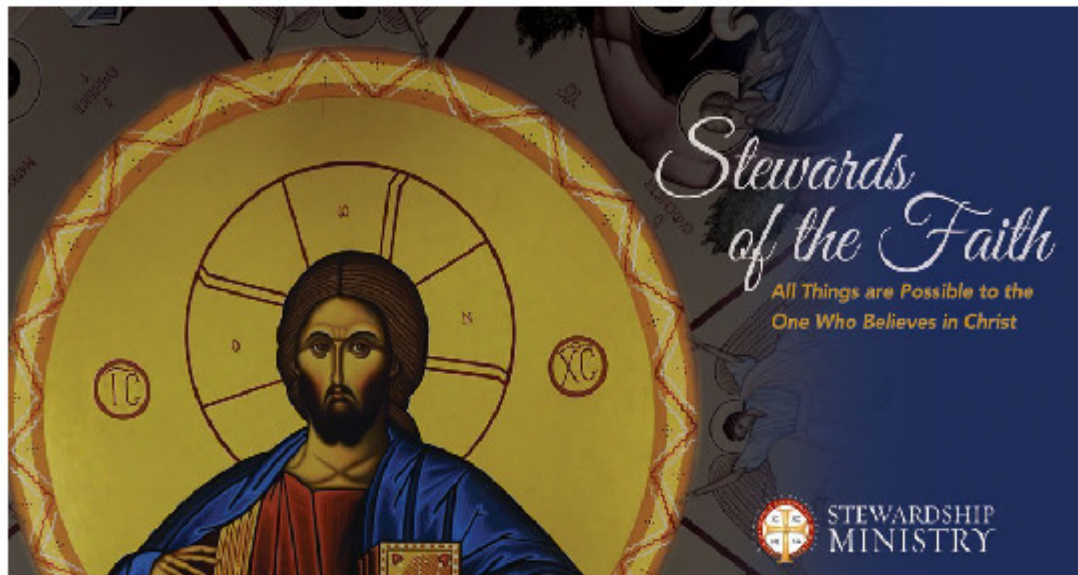
Seating is limited and by RSVP only.

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



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.

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

Romanos the Melodist (October 1)

Saint Romanos flourished during the reign of Anastasius (491-518). He was from Emesa of Syria, and apparently was born of Jewish parents, for a hymn written in his honour in Greek says he was "of Hebrew stock,"

and it has furthermore been noted that he uses many Semitic idioms in his writings. He was baptized an Orthodox Christian, and at some time became a deacon in the Church of Beirut. He was the first composer of the

kontakia, the foremost of which is that of the feast of Christ's Nativity, On this day the Virgin In composing many of his kontakia. Saint Romanos was inspired by the hymns of Saint Ephraim of Syria.

The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas (October 6)

The name Thomas means, "twin." He was one of the Twelve, a Galilean by birth. Sophronius (not the famous Patriarch of Jerusalem [7th Century, celebrated March 11], but a friend of Jerome's), quoted also

by Jerome, says that Saint Thomas preached to the Parthians, Persians, Medes, Hyrcanians, Bactrians, and neighbouring nations. According to Heracleon, the Apostle died a natural death; according to other accounts, he

was martyred at Meliapur. His tomb was known by Saint John Chrysostom to be at Edessa in Syria, to which city his holy relics may have been translated from India in the fourth century.

The Righteous Patriarch Abraham and his nephew Lot (October 9)

The holy Patriarch Abraham, born a pagan, ten generations after Noah, when the knowledge of God had perished from among men, became the beginning of God's dispensation for the universal renewal and salvation of man. He was called out of his country--the land of the Chaldees, that is, Mesopotamia--

to the land of Canaan, and received the promise that through his seed all the nations of the earth should be blessed; through his singular faith in the promises of God, he was justified before the giving of the Law and the coming of Grace; through his willingness to sacrifice Isaac, he portrayed the love wherewith

God loved the world in sacrificing His only-begotten Son. The greatness of Abraham, and the trials that he and his righteous nephew Lot underwent, are set forth in the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament, chapters twelve through twenty-five.

Symeon the New Theologian (October 12)

Saint Symeon became a monk of the Studite Monastery as a young man, under the guidance of the elder Symeon the Pious. Afterwards he struggled at the Monastery of Saint Mamas in Constantinople, of which he became abbot. After enduring many trials and afflictions in his life of piety, he reposed in 1022. Marvel-

ling at the heights of prayer and holiness to which he attained, and the loftiness of the teachings of his life and writings, the church calls him "the New Theologian." Only to two others, John the Evangelist and Gregory, Patriarch of Constantinople, has the church given the name "Theologian." Saint Symeon

reposed on March 12, but since this always falls in the Great Fast, his feast is kept today.