



Glad Tidings

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2004

The Monthly Newsletter of St. George Greek Orthodox Church
www.stgeorgegoc.org



Holy Righteous Father Gerasimos of the Jordan MARCH 4

Venerable Gerasimos lived during the reign of King Constantine Pogonatos in 670, as Sophronios of Jerusalem, who wrote his life, attests. He had fear of God since childhood and, after he became a monk, he went to the deepest parts of the desert of Thebais. He reached such a height of virtue and was graced with such intimacy with God, because he had preserved his image and likeness so pure, that he even had authority over wild beasts. A lion used to attend upon him and among other things this lion used to graze the donkey which fetched water to the saint. Once some merchants passed from that place. When they saw the donkey, they stole it. The lion was sleeping and did not notice. So, in the evening he returned to the saint as usual, but without the donkey with him.



When the saint's servant saw the lion alone, he told the elder that the lion had eaten the donkey. So, the poor lion was condemned to carry the pitchers on his back and fetch water from the river instead of the donkey.

The same merchants happened to pass from that place again and they had the donkey with them. As soon as the lion saw the donkey, he recognized it and rushed at the merchants with a loud roar. The people got scared and left. Together with the donkey the lion brought to St. Gerasimos' cell the camels which were tied on it. Knocking with his tail on the door of the saint's cell, he acted as if to show that he was offering them to the elder as game.

When the saint saw this thing, he smiled a bit and said to his disciple: "We wrongly accused the innocent lion that he had eaten the donkey. So, now we have to liberate him from his labor and allow him to go and graze at his usual place." Then the lion bowed his head, as if he had reason, and taking his leave from the saint he went to the wilderness. Once every week he used to come and bow before the saint. After the saint had died, the lion came, as his habit was, and asked to venerate him. However, when he did not find him, he seemed to be sad and angry. With many signs the saint's disciple helped him feel that the elder had died. The lion lamented the elder's death with a fine roar and seemed to be looking for the saint's grave. When the disciple led him to it, the lion fell on it and with a loud roar he breathed his last due to his extreme pain which he suffered from his love for the saint. This is how God glorifies those who glorify Him and makes wild beasts submit to those who keep His image and likeness pure.

Apolytikion—First Tone

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Gerasimus, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

Kontakion—Fourth Tone

As a star resplendent with the light of virtues, thou didst make the wilderness of Jordan radiantly shine with beams of sacred celestial light, O righteous Father, God-bearing Gerasimus.

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Archdiocese and Diocese News

REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES

Holy Confession
By Appointment

Vespers
Saturday 5:00 PM
(September—May)

Orthros
Sunday 8:30 AM

Divine Liturgy
Sunday 9:45 AM

**Sunday School (when in session)
starts after administration of
Holy Communion**

**For Weekday Services please
check the *Calendar of Events*
included in this bulletin.**



Church Staff and Office Hours

Church Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
8:00AM—3:00PM

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SCOBA WEB SITE AND LISTSERV LAUNCHED: The Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA) has launched a new web site that offers information on the canonical Orthodox jurisdictions with links to their web sites, as well as SCOBA news and events, agency information, and resources from SCOBA commissions and consultations:

<http://www.scoba.us>

GIOLES AND MALTA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ON-LINE: Applications are now being accepted for these two scholarship funds. Download the applications and related documents at:

<http://www.goarch.org/en/archdiocese/administration/chancellor/giolesscholarship.pdf>
<http://www.goarch.org/en/archdiocese/administration/chancellor/maltascholarship.pdf>

GREAT LENT WEB SITE LAUNCHED: Now available for Holy and Great Lent is a web site with resources including services, articles, videos, prayers, and links to the On-Line Chapel. The site is updated each week during the Lenten season.

<http://www.greatlent.goarch.org>

NATIONAL ORTHODOX RADIO PROGRAM: Come Receive The Light (CRTL) radio program. Each weeks program week will be announced on the web site. For more information and an e-newsletter, please visit:

<http://www.receive.org>

IOCC SEEKING STAFF FOR ETHIOPIA POSITIONS: International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) is expanding its operations in Ethiopia and looking for staff to help implement its new, \$6 million AIDS prevention initiative with the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. For more information about the job responsibilities, education requirements, and application process, please visit:

<http://www.iocc.org/employment.html>

CLERGY-LAITY WEB SITE LAUNCHED: The official web site for the 2004 Clergy Laity Congress is now available. For information, registration forms, schedules, and a message from Archbishop Demetrios see the site at:

<http://www.clergylaity.org>

MISSION SUNDAY RESOURCES ON THE WEB: Mission Sunday this year is February 22 for all SCOBA jurisdictions. Learn more about Orthodox mission work around the world at

<http://www.ocmc.org>

TO UNSUBSCRIBE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE LIST:

<http://www.goarch.org/listserv/>

**The Archdiocese list is being made possible by the Greek Orthodox
Archdiocese Department of Internet Ministries.**



Stewardship 2004

Those parishioners who have returned their pledge card for 2004 and wish to have weekly offering envelopes please call the church office at 651-222-6220 or contact Chris Georgantones at 651-690-1302. Thank You!

WHY IS MONEY NEEDED?

To fulfill our Church's mission, we must commit ourselves to financially support the ministries of our Church on a parish, Diocesan, and Archdiocesan level. Money is a necessary tool for ministry.

HOW MUCH DOES THE PARISH NEED TO OPERATE?

Our ultimate goal is to raise all our operating budget from Stewardship. We have learned from the past that we cannot depend on special affairs to meet our budget.

This would enable us to spend our time in doing the work of the Church and using fund-raisers for special projects and our Building Relocation Program and Development Fund.

- ✘ **Our financial needs this year:**
2004 operating budget is **\$230,000.**
- ✘ **Who we are and what we did in 2002:**
275 contributors (families and singles) .
1/2 of contributors gave less than \$250.
All contributors averaged \$575.
- ✘ **What we must do: Seek to Tithe!**
Every family must give generously and sacrificially enough to average \$836 per contributor.

The expenses of our Church are categorized as follows: For keeping in touch with you (6.5%), for maintaining our buildings (14.9%), for those who serve us (52.7%), for worship and education (8.3%) and for commitment to the National ministries (17.5%). The quality of our service as a parish depends upon the level of our giving.

GUIDELINES FOR GIVING

When it comes to TREASURE, God sets forth tithing (**giving a tenth or 10%**) as the ideal for giving. (Genesis 28:22; Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10)

Sadly, we must admit that many of us do not give even one percent (1%) of God's blessings back to His Church.

See the graph below and understand how two, four, and six percent giving could serve our community. **Give at least two percent.**

Annual Income	2% Giving	4% Giving	6% Giving
\$20,000	\$400	\$800	\$1,200
\$30,000	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,600	\$2,400
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$4,500
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$6,000

THE WHATS AND WHYS OF OUR CHURCH

By Father Stanley Harakas

SALVATION

What are we talking about when, in the Orthodox Church, we say the word "Salvation?" Let's start with the Greek word for salvation. The word is Soteria (Soh-tee-RHEE-ah). The root of this word is "ICS+SOH-os," which means "whole" and "complete."

The Old Testament has taught us that our human condition is broken and incomplete because of sin in our lives. What does "Sin" mean? In the Orthodox tradition, there are two Greek words that help us understand sin, ".Amartia" (Ah-mar-TEE-ah) and Paraptoma (Par-AH-ptoh-mah). The first means "missing the mark" and the second means "a misstep," or, more accurately, the violation of a law or rule.

How, then, do these ideas apply to our situation as human beings? Since we have been Created by God "in His image and likeness" and since we all fall short of that way of living, we are living as persons that have "missed the mark" of our human calling, and who constantly violate the guidelines given to us by God. We are sinners. We fall short of what the fullness of human existence was intended by God to be when He created us in His own image and likeness.

So, our lives are broken, and incomplete. Sin, not God gives direction to our lives. We have "missed the mark" by being no longer in communion with God, and we continuously violate God's way for living our lives. We are less than fully human as God intends us to be.

So, what does salvation mean? It means that we are put back together again. We begin an ongoing process of being made whole. Our lives

are oriented toward our true purpose as human beings, becoming, precisely God's image and likeness.

Salvation, however, needs a Savior. Alone we cannot save ourselves, in spite of a spate of self-help schemes, philosophies and miscellaneous idealisms. We need a Savior. And God provided one. He is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the second person of the Holy Trinity, who took on human nature through the Theotokos, in order to redeem us from our sin. He gave back to all who believe, the ability to become, once again, the image and likeness of God. Jesus Christ saves us from the brokenness of our incomplete lives.

It is in the saving work of Jesus Christ through His coming to us as both God and human being, through His teaching and miraculous power, through the guidance and direction that He has given us, through His Death on the Cross, and through His life-giving Resurrection, that we are forgiven our sins and saved.

What we have to do is to believe and live according to His divine plan of salvation. Here again, we cannot do it alone. Our part is to give ourselves over to Christ and the Holy Spirit, which we received when we were baptized and sealed with the "Gift of the Holy Spirit." The Church instructs us to say, "Let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ, our God." That is both the way and the meaning of Salvation.

February Parish Council Minutes
Subject to Parish Council Approval
St. George Greek Orthodox Church—St. Paul, Minnesota

1. The meeting began at 7:08 PM. Father Rick led the group in an opening prayer. In attendance were Father Rick, Ron Adkins, Paul Loudas, Fred Treiber, Mike Manos, Thanasi Pappas, Pency Eliou, George Kanavati, John Georgiades, Dimitri Dokos, and Paul Pliakas. Absences were Steve Ryan, and Harold Johnson.

2. The minutes of the January 8, 2002 Parish Council meeting were reviewed and accepted without edits.

3. Mike Manos distributed the January 2004 Budget Report which was reviewed and discussed. (Attachment A).

4. John Georgiades distributed the St. George Greek Orthodox Church Account Balances, dated December 31, 2003. (Attachment B)

5. Vice President's Report - Nothing to report at this time.

6. President's Report

- Ron Adkins noted that the Newcomers and Godparents luncheon was an excellent event and thanked Rita Kanavati for making the Pastitso, and thanked Jim Theros for the carrot cake he gave for the event.
- Ron asked that the minutes of the Parish Council meetings be included in the Glad Tidings emails. Thanasi Pappas will contact the website committee and ask them to make a recommendation for emailing the minutes, or posting them on the Church's website.
- Ron discussed the distraction and commotion caused by people entering the church during the service, and wondered whether we should put a candle stand in the Narthex. After discussion, it was decided not to put a candle stand in the Narthex.
- Committee Assignments—Ron asked that Parish Council members inform him of any errors in the list of Committee Assignments. Father Rick noted that we should have a schedule of Committee Reports for each month.

7. Father Rick's Report

- A \$10,000 check was received as a gift to the church from the estate of Jim Nickitas.
- Father Rick met with the Anonymous donor who has made an offer of a matching \$50,000 donation to the church. The donor prefers that the money from his donation be placed in the Building Improvement Fund, and not be used for renovations.

After discussion, George Kanavati made a motion to establish a committee to propose a recommendation to develop a Phase III Expansion Plan which would include regarding the property at 1135 Summit and creating additional parking spaces for the church. This recommended Expansion Plan would be presented to the donor, with a request for an extension beyond the June 30, 2004 deadline for the parish to raise the money needed for the \$50,000 matching donation. John Georgiades seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously, with one abstention.

- Father Rick distributed the "Open Forum Notes 4-12-03" (Attachment C) and asked the Parish Council members to read the parishioners' feedback.
- The Basketball Tournament was last weekend, and Father noted that it is a very positive activity for the community. St. George had two GOYA teams, a Men's adult team and JOY team with informal participation. The tournament drew teams from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Nebraska. Next year's tournament will be in Omaha.

- Father Rick is working on a process to formalize applications for baptisms and weddings. One significant change is the institution of a \$50 Chanters Fee. George Kanavati suggested sharing this process with MEOCCA.

- Father received official recognition of the list of 2004 Parish Council members from Chicago Diocese.

- Father is in Chicago this Sunday on church business and we will have a visiting priest on February 15th.

8. Standing Committee Reports

Dimitri Dokos reported on the purchase of the lots from Roselawn Cemetery. Purchase rules are detailed in Attachment D. Pency Eliou moved to accept the report, Mike Manos seconded, and the motion passed. The letter and rules regarding the purchase of lots from Roselawn will be sent to all parishioners and will be reviewed at the General Assembly meeting in March. Ron Adkins indicated that the Roselawn Cemetery Committee did an excellent job.

9. Investment Committee Report

John Georgiades delivered the report, which was prepared by Ted Toso. The 2003 investment results were a 6.92% return on investment.

10. Buildings and Grounds Committee

Fred Treiber recommended continuing to use the current HVAC supplier for the time being. Fred will investigate finding a person or company to shovel the sidewalk, walkways, and plow the parking lot.

11. Stewardship Committee

Pency Eliou indicated that the next Stewardship Committee meeting is on February 24, at 7 PM. At that meeting we will discuss the feedback from the Parish Survey from the Summer of 2003.

12. Benevolence Committee

Paul Loudas indicated that we collected \$254 for the Souper Bowl Fundraiser. Paul also reminded us to support the Lily Sale and mentioned the sign-up sheet for taking food collections to Trinity Mission.

13. Old Business—None.

14. New Business

- Discussion of Agenda for March 7, 2004 Parish Assembly meeting.
- The Agenda will include Committee Reports from the Board of Elections and Auditors, Audit and Investment Committees Reports, Treasurer's Report, the Purchase of Roselawn Cemetery lots, and the proposed matching gift from an Anonymous donor.
- Paul Loudas asked about the By-Laws Committee's work, and noted that we need to revise the parish's definition of a "Member in Good Standing."

15. For the Good of the Order

- Steve and Trottie Zeece's 60th Anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday February 15th after liturgy.
- Father noted that Lent starts on February 23rd.
- Ron Adkins noted that Father Parry's residence is incorrectly listed in the 2003 Quest Phone Book as the Priest's residence. Father Rick has already called the publisher, and informed them of their mistake.

Closing Prayer at 10:28 PM.

11. Pency Eliou made a motion at 10:25 PM to adjourn, George Kanavati seconded the motion.

12. Father Rick led the closing prayer. Meeting was adjourned.

Parish News and Announcements

MEMORY ETERNAL!

Marianthe Strenglis Dracopoulos passed away January 1, 2004 at her home in Chevy Chase, MD. She was born on July 28, 1912 in St. Paul, MN to Constantine and Eugenia Strenglis, attended the University of Minnesota and McPhail School of Music for the violin. In the 1930's she organized the first Daughters of Penelope Chapter in St. Paul, was its first president and then became the Chairman of the District Daughters of Penelope, the women's auxiliary of the American Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA). After marriage to Peter Dracopolous and her subsequent move to Washington, D.C., she completed a decorating course through the University of New York. Her career as an interior decorator spanned more than 20 years, during which time she decorated hospitals, including the then new Suburban Hospital, embassies and private residences. Marianthe Dracopolous was a chairman of the Greek War Relief in the 40's. In the 1950s she was general chairman in Maryland for the National Symphony. More recently she was the diplomatic Liaison and vice-president of Chapter 3 of the Capital Speakers Club. She was a member of St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church for 67 years and also belonged to the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society. She is predeceased by her husband, the Honorable Peter Dracoplous, a judge on the Board of Appeals of the U.S. Patent Office and by sister Athen Chumas and Emeline Pappadeas James Chumas. She is survived by Theodora (Clifford)

Cooperative Catechism

Minnesota Eastern Orthodox Clergy Association
(MEOCA)

www.meocca.org

WINTER 2004—Mondays 7:00-9:00PM

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
March 1	Sacraments One—Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction	Fr. Paul Wesche
March 8	Sacraments Two—Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer	Fr. Paul Wesche
March 15	Sacraments Three—Marriage and Monasticism	Fr. John Mangels
March 22	The Goal—Second Coming & Living the Christian Life	Fr. Richard Andrews
March 29	Conclusion—Orthodox in America, Jurisdiction, Q&A	Fr. Nathan Kroll

Argue, granddaughters, Christina (Dennis) Thomatos and Irene (Thomas) Christy, sister Pauline Scot and Nephews John Dracopolous, and Connie Chumas, niece Mary Chumas Ernst and many other nephews, nieces, and God children.

Becky Voulgares, a former long-time parishioner of our parish, fell asleep in the Lord December 28th in California. Sympathies can be sent to her husband, **Tom Voulgares**, 600 Florence Ave., Oakland CA 94618. Many may remember that Becky had contributed inspirational articles to *Glad Tidings* under the title "*Friendly Orthodox Spirit (FOS)*."

Book Discussion Group

Book discussion group is starting up again, on Saturday, February 21 at 3:00PM in the conference room. The book will be about the life of St. Anthony as written by St. Athanasios and is available at the bookstore for \$15. All are invited to join us as we

seek to learn the power that Christians have in the war against the demons. We will learn through St. Anthony's encounters with demonic forces, discourse with a devil, and idolater philosophers, his miraculous powers, and so on. For more information call Nick Criticos at 763-473-0016.

Hellenic Post 129 to Sponsor Youth to Boy's and Girl's State

The Hellenic Post 129 is sponsoring one boy and one girl (one from St. Mary's and one from St. George) to attend Boy's State at St. John's University and Girl's State at Bethel College, June 13—19, 2004. For Boy's State contact George Zafiris 612-724-4737. For Girl's State, contact Barbara Burkstrand at: 763-475-2571.

Epistle Readers Needed

If you are interested in Epistle Reading please contact Fr. Rick at 651-222-6220 or Dan Matuska at 651-336-3219. Thank you.

(Continued on page 6)

March Coffee Hour Schedule



March 7	Becka and Dimitri Dokos Memorial Georgia Christiansen Memorial Kay Strenglis and Family Memorial
March 14	Kaniamos Family—Memorial
March 21	Daughters of Penelope Loukoumades Fundraiser
March 28	Greek School—Independence Day

The Deadline for the April Issue of Glad Tidings is March 17th.

(Continued from page 5)

Wanted: Bulletin Board Designer

After six years of designing and putting up six bulletin boards each month at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Susan Poulos would like to be relieved of this ministry. If you are looking for a Christian ministry, are computer literate or have artistic abilities and are willing to create/maintain the five bulletin boards in the lower level Sunday School hallway, please contact Susan at: Yannisuep@aol.com, or by telephone.

Zeece's Celebrate Their 60th Wedding Anniversary

Steve and Trottie Zeece celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, February 15th, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church. After a special prayer of blessing by visiting priest, Fr. Gregory Cruchek (of St. Mary's OCA Cathedral), a light lunch was served in the social hall. Fr. Rick offers, to any couple celebrating an anniversary, a special prayer of blessing at the end of liturgy.

SPACC Project Home

Save money and help Project Home through Herberger's Community Day Event. Project Home family shelter, a program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches, is partnering with Herberger's to participate in their Community Day Event Sale on Saturday, February 28. To participate in this fabulous sale, simply purchase a Community Day Event \$5 coupon packet. Each packet contains a \$5 coupon good for almost any merchandise purchase in the store, six 20% savings coupons, a coupon for a matching aquamarine/sterling silver earrings and necklace set for \$19.99, a coupon for American Tourister upright luggage for \$39.99 per piece, and a chance to win a trip for four to Cancun. One hundred percent the packet price goes to Project Home.

These special \$5 coupon packets are available at the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches, 1671 Summit Avenue, during office hours, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. For additional information call Connie J. M. Johnson at 651-646-8805, ext. 27.

From the Fathers

It is clear to everyone that the advice of the Apostle is not carried out merely by the practice of established prayers at certain hours, but requires a permanent walking before God, a dedication of all one's activities to Him who is all-seeing and omni-present, an ever-fervent appeal to heaven with the mind in the heart.

—St. Theophan the Recluse



PARISHIONERS NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS, AND ANNIVERSARIES

If your name isn't listed in any of these categories, but should be, please call the church office so it can be added.

Namedays

Many Years! WqAmia Pokk, !

Marios Ehrenberg	March 13
Alexis Lake	March 17
Evangelia Assimacopoulos, Engeline Dades, Evan Drivas, Evangeline Halatsis, Angie Hatzis, Evaggelos Sidiropoulos	March 25

Birthdays

Sigrid Anagnos, Alex Boosalis, Robert Solesky	March 1
Theologia Pitsavas, Teri Solesky	March 2
Morris Anderson	March 3
Despie Georgantones, Sofia Pitsavas	March 4
Dimitra Kaniamos, Louise Theros, Lennie Vessey	March 6
Mehere Tesfai	March 7
Julie Delton, Alexandria Gounaikis, Alexander Simon, Haralambos Taratsas	March 9
Michael Trudeau	March 10
Taylor Mary Canas, Corinna Doris, Vassilios Morellas, Efthalia Petanitis	March 12
Maya Alexakis; Spero Daltas, FAAR; Andreas Doris; Sue Gnetz; James Lake	March 13
Rosanna Baffa, Evelyn Daltas	March 14
Angie Cender, Joseph Creamer	March 15
Michelle Kritikos Berge, Mariah Valek	March 16
Isac Valek	March 19
Emily Boosalis, Joanne Halatsis	March 20
Nick Leaskas, William Spell	March 21
Joan Kantos	March 22
Cathy Anastasion, Samar Geankoplis	March 25
Mary Kalogerson, William Theros	March 26
Ted Kouzas, Suzanne Staneslow	March 27
Dimitri Gounaikis, Athena Kleanthi Pitsavas, Luke Rylander	March 29
James Pathos	March 31

Anniversaries

Stephen and Katherine Ryan	March 11
Thomas and Dawn Lampros	March 12

Philoptochos News and Announcements

Philoptochos memberships are due by April 1st and are being collected by Stella Treiber.

Loaves and Fishes Fundraiser

Thanks goes to all who participated in the preparation and serving of the meal for the Loaves and Fishes Fundraiser. St. George parishioners were very generous as we raised \$908.00. Thank you!

Funds distributed from December 16, 2003 through February 12, 2004:

American Lung Association	10.00
Union Gospel Mission	10.00
United Way	10.00
St. George Kitchen Supplies	200.00
St. George Nameday	250.00
TOTAL	\$480.00

TWO WOLVES

An old man is teaching his grandson about life. "A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil—he is prideful, envious, gluttonous, lustful, angry, greedy, and lazy. The other is good—he is humble, charitable, loving, kind, in control of himself, faithful, and embraces what is good. This same fight is going on inside you—and inside every other person, too."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"

The old man replied simply, "The one you feed."

WHAT SHOULD I DO DURING GREAT LENT?

Most of us realize that prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three basic Christian and lenten necessities, but we often realize as well that we cannot keep the strictest lenten regulations of the Church which are, in fact, monastic rules. We know that we will not make a maximum effort and so we sometimes feel frustrated, lost, and without guidance.

DO WHAT YOU CAN

When seeking practical advice concerning lenten practices, the only realistic guideline is to do what you can. You know that the essentials are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Intensify your prayer. Fast as fully as possible. (More and more, people are finding that the total abstinence from meat for the entire lenten season is surely not out of the question, even for the laity!) Give to others, asking nothing in return. Know, as well, that all of your fasting, praying, and almsgiving must be exercised in secret. The only real goal and purpose of Great Lent is to enter into a deeper love for God and for those around us.

CERTAIN WEEKS

Another concrete, yet traditional suggestion, is to keep certain lenten weeks in a more careful and strict way than others. For example, the first and third weeks of Great Lent, in addition to Holy Week, can be set aside for a greater and more concentrated lenten effort. Very practically speaking, everyone can keep certain weeks, or at least one week, in a very special way. If this is done, there is no doubt that the result will be very positive and the time spent may prove to be the most inspiring and fruitful time of our entire life. We can only try it and see!

WHAT TO DO

Here are some concrete guidelines for taking Great Lent more seriously:

- Turn off the television, radio, and stereo for the entire lenten season, except for news and serious or educational programs.
- Do not visit or engage in outside activities for their own sake. Keep useless talking to a minimum. Do only necessary business, good works, and acts of charity.
- Examine and measure every aspect of your life—family, work, society, politics, economics, values, and desires—against the model set forth by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ.
- Question yourself in regard to love, truth, honest, purity, humility,

peace, forgiveness, justice, mercy, hungering, and thirsting for God, wisdom, and knowledge.

- In the name of Jesus Christ, forgive all who have offended you and seek forgiveness from those whom you have offended. If it will not be embarrassing or misinterpreted as an act of self-righteousness, express yourself as concretely as possible. Visit, make a phone call, and so forth.
- Set aside and give a sizeable portion of your resources to others; the parish, the poor, a social or educational agency. Tell no one what you have done. Ask no gratitude and forgo requesting a receipt. Do not advertise what you are doing.
- Fast strictly at all times. Eat no meat, as the basic minimum. Suit your fast to your work, but avoid luxury. Again, tell no one. Do not advertise or discuss your fasting with anyone and avoid judging others who may not be fasting with you.
- Pray at home at least at one fixed time each day. Choose a brief rule of prayer, but keep it faithfully.
- Read the scriptures in the same brief, yet regular way. You may wish to follow the Church's calendar, read a chapter of a given book on a daily basis, or simply read and reflect upon passages which you happen upon. In addition, meditate upon these: 1 John; Romans 12-14; Matthew 5 - 7, and John 14-17.
- Be faithful to Christ's gospel in every word, action, and thought—even the smallest or most insignificant.
- Participate in all of the weekly lenten services, especially the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, Saturday evening Great Vespers, and the Sunday Divine Liturgy, confessing seriously and receiving Holy Communion frequently.

PEACE AND JOY

If we do these things, not in a spirit of gloomy self-denial or irritated self-pity, we will gain an awareness of genuine peace and joy in communion with God and those around us. This is guaranteed, and, our participation in and celebration of the least of Our Lord's resurrection will be cherished forever!

[Taken from a brochure from the Department of Religious Education, Orthodox Church in America (OCA)]

ST. GEORGE BOOK STORE

“Eternal Wisdom from the Desert” (116 pgs.)
Edited by Henry L. Carrigan Jr.
St. Anthony's biography, page 1-68. (\$15.00)

1. Powerful Christianity versus powerless idolatrous religion. St. Anthony vs. men blinded by fog of secular wisdom, items 75-81, pp. 54-59. Similar comparisons from Holy Scriptures. How is it relevant to our times?
2. The spiritual world—Is it real? What are its elements? How about now? Compare the book with the way it is revealed in the New Testament.
3. Power of Christianity—Derived from what? Examples: sign of the cross etc.
4. Why are Christians hated by the devil? What type of Christian?
5. Spiritual Warfare. Read Ephesians 6—Examples from the book, *Armor of God*, who are we fighting?
6. Is there a soul? Does the devil try to stop it from going to heaven after death? State examples of St. Antony visions; from other readings.
7. Is there a heaven or hell? What do you deduct through reading the book, from the Holy Scriptures, other sources.
8. Gifts of the Holy Spirit displayed in St. Anthony's life: Healing, driving out demons, clairvoyance, discernment of spirits, prophecy etc. Give examples.
9. How do demons manifest in the book? Various ways. What is the most common way they manifest today? Other ways? In this country? In the third world? How do we fight them?
10. How does one become effective in the fight against demons? How is that of relevance today?
11. Heretics of St. Anthony's time. Who were they? His reaction to them? Why? What were the perceived consequences of being a heretic (see p. 107). Contrast it to current perceptions. What is the message from the Holy Scriptures? How is the whole matter with Christianity split in so many doctrines to be interpreted today? How about the impact on the salvation of Christians and nonchristians alike? The only thing that has not changed is God.

May God bless us and guide us into deeper understanding and wisdom and enable us to discern His voice among so many and empower us to follow it. May we all have a Great and Holy Lent. Amen.



**Visit the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
on the World Wide Web**

at: <http://www.goarch.org>

**and St. George Greek Orthodox Church at our
NEW ADDRESS!**

at: <http://www.stgeorgegoc.org>

St. George Email Listserver

If interested in receiving news and information about our parish, go to the St. George email listserv at: www.listserv.goarch.org/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=saintgeorge&A=1.

“Come Receive The Light” Program Schedule for March 2004

03/06/2004

Questions and Answers from our Listeners on Orthodox Christianity.

Back by popular demand, Fr. Chris and Emmy will answer questions submitted by our listening audience seeking answers to their questions regarding Orthodox Christianity. Be sure to tune in and find out what issues are on the minds of not only Orthodox Christians but also those interested in finding out more about Orthodox Christianity in contemporary society.

**Please send your questions to us at
ask_father_christopher@receive.org**

03/13/2004

The Heritage of St. Tikhon's and the 100th Annual Pilgrimage

His Grace Bishop TIKHON
Abbot St. Tikhon's Monastery

V Rev John Matusiak
OCA Director of Communications

V Rev Michael Dahulich
Administrative Dean and Director of Admissions

03/20/2004

Orthodoxy in Dixie—Fr. Joseph Huneycutt

03/27/2004

"Same-Sex Marriage"—Rev. Dr. John Breck

**“Come Receive The Light” can be heard every
Saturday at 2:00 PM on 980 AM KKMS.**

HAVE FAITH IN WHAT YOU LISTEN TO!

Social Hour Schedule

April 4	AHEPA Palm Sunday Fish Dinner
April 10	Philoptochos Resurrection Service
April 11	AGAPE Service (11:00AM)—Debra and Ippocratis Vrohidis and Sue and Peter Boosalis families.
April 18	OPEN
April 25	Antonia and Chris Kontenakos
May 2	OPEN
May 9	Greek School—Mother's Day
May 16	OPEN
May 23	OPEN
May 30	American Legion Hellenic Post 129—Memorial Day
June 6	Halatsis Family
June 13	OPEN
June 20	OPEN
June 27	OPEN
July 4	OPEN
July 11	OPEN
July 18	OPEN
July 25	OPEN
August 1	OPEN
August 8	OPEN
August 15	OPEN
August 22	Greek Festival
August 29	OPEN
September 5	OPEN
September 12	Church Picnic—coffee and/or food TBD.
September 19	Philoptochos—Elevation of the Cross
September 26	TENTATIVE—Daughters of Penelope (or October 3)
October 3	TENTATIVE—Daughters of Penelope (or September 26)
October 10	Art Auction—just coffee available
October 17	OPEN
October 24	Greek School—OXI Day
October 31	OPEN
November 7	Philoptochos—Patriarchate Sunday
November 14	TENTATIVE—American Legion Hellenic Post 129—Veteran's Day
November 21	Philoptochos Bake Sale
November 28	OPEN
December 5	OPEN
December 12	OPEN
December 19	OPEN
December 26	Greek School Bake Sale

GREEK REVOLUTION 1821 - 1829

In 1821, the Greeks, after nearly 400 years of slavery under the Ottomans, decided to take up the arms and fight for their freedom. March 25, 1821 marks the beginning of the Greek revolution and March 22, 1829 the day of the creation of the modern Greek state. It is no surprise that the people of Greece chose the Feastday of the Annunciation to the Theotokos as the day to start their fight for freedom. They have relied on the intercessory power of the Mother of God for hundreds of years. Below some of the key figures of that revolt are presented.



Theodoros Kolokotronis (1770 - 1834). He came from an unwholesome household and escaped to Zakynthos where he served in the English Army. He returned to Peloponnesos on the eve of the revolution and due to his military experience and knowledge he soon became the leading figure in organizing the Greek fighters. He led the siege of Tripolis and its surrender marked the first success of the Greek revolution. The following year (1822) with his courage, determination, patience and military acumen defeated the army of Dramalis. He was imprisoned by his political opponents but was freed when Ibrahim invaded Greece, against whom Kolokotronis applied guerrilla tactics and was able to inflict major blows to his army. Kolokotronis is considered as the most important figure of the Greek revolution.



Georgios Karaiskakis (1782 - 1827). He was one of the first to take part in the Greek revolution and his military genius became apparent during the last years of the struggle. He was appointed by the first Greek government as chief marshal of Eastern Greece and made Elefsina as his headquarters. Following a clash with the Turks at Haidari, he was planning to cut off Kioutachis supplies, during the siege of Acropolis. His initial failures followed two famous victories at Arachova and Distomo. He was killed in a clash with

the Turks at Faliro. Karaiskakis is considered the second most important military figure of the revolution, after Kolokotronis.



Constantinos Kanaris (1793 - 1877). He came from the island of Psara. He blew up the Turkish armada at Chios and at Tenedos and other Turkish ships at Mytilene and Samos (1824). He attempted to burn the Turkish ships at the port of Alexandria in order to destroy Mehmet Ali's preparations against Greece and failed only due to the fact that at the time the wind was blowing from opposite

direction. He became one of the important naval figures of the revolution. With the liberation of Greece he became involved with politics opposing king Othon. He served several times as a minister and became prime minister. He was brave, courageous and modest man.

Makriyannis General Makriyannis was born at Lidoriki, in Eastern Greece. When in June 1825, Ibrahim Pasha attacked the mills of Argos with a force of 4,000 foot-soldiers and 600 cavalrymen from his regular army, Mkriyannis, together with Ypsilantis, Mavromichalis and 300 men, defended the position, which commands the approaches to Naples of Romania. They had already repulsed four fierce attacks by Ibrahim when, towards evening, they were reinforced by a detachment of the first regular Greek regiment. Its arrival decided the outcome of the battle and the Turko-Egyptian forces retreated in great

disarray, with heavy casualties. The gallant Makriyannis, who was gravely wounded in the fighting, was invited aboard the French Admiral de Rigny's frigate, where he was received by the admiral. At the battle of Faliron on the February 5, 1827, Makriyannis commanded the corps of Athenians, under the orders of General Gordon. He distinguished himself again and again in the defense of his position, by bravery in number of minor engagements.



Manto Mavrogenous Amongst the heroines of the Greek revolution was Manto Mavrogenous. She was educated at a college in Triestio and spoke Italian and Turkish. She studied ancient Greek philosophy and history. In 1809 her family returned to Mykonos, the island of their origin. She learned with excitement from her father that Philiki Etairia was preparing the Greek

revolution. When the news arrived that the struggle for freedom began, Manto invited the leaders of Mykonos to a meeting and persuaded them to join the revolution. This was declared in April 1821.



Laskarina Boumboulina Yet another heroic woman of the Greek uprising for freedom. Boumboulina came from a rich family from the island of Spetse. This 'Archontissa' (Lady) of Spetse used her wealth to build a navy and became one of the most famous leading figures in the Greek War of Independence. After the success of the revolution in Peloponnesos and Sterea Ellada, the uprising spread in the islands. Spetse was the first of the islands to join the revolution and this was mainly due to Boumboulina's leadership and courage. Many other islands followed the example of Spetse and therefore the freeing of the Island of Spetse was one of the initial major steps towards victory for the Greeks. Thereafter Boumboulina, with her fleet took part in many naval battles and dominated the Aegean creating probelms to the, by far superior, Turkish fleet.



Andreas Miaoulis (1769 - 1835). He was born in the Hydra. At the age of 17 he became captain of a commercial ship. During the Napeleonic wars he managed due to his courageous sea operations to accumulate considerable wealth. From the second year of the revolution he was appointed admiral of the Greek fleet. He defeated the Turkish navy near Patra and the Turko-Egyptian navy near Geronda, and on many occasions he was able to provide supplies for Greek cities

besieged by the Turks (e.g. Mesologi).



Nikitaras He was born at Leontari, in Arcadia, the son of a poor peasant farmer. He was a nephew of Kolokotronis and he, too, served in the army of the Ionian Islands. In 1821 he became head of a band of pallikars. He fought Kiaya Bey at Kaki Scala and in March and April 1822, at Ayia Marina, Nikitas fought successfully under the leadership of Odysseus against Dramali, who was threatening Thermopylae. After Dramali's invasion of the Morea, Nikitas took up a position commanding the

narrow passes on his route back to Corinth. There the Greeks inflicted a terrible defeat on the enemy, killing 3,000 Turks. The result of this battle won for him the nickname of Tourkophagos. At the siege of Mesolongi, Nikitas gave further proof of his pure and selfless patriotism. The sailors bringing reinforcements to the besieged town demeaned payment in advance. But there was no money. Then Nikitas flung down his sword, a priceless weapon which he had won from a high-ranking Turk, and cried out, "All I have is this sword. I offer it to my country!" His fine example had an immediate effect. All present stepped forward eagerly to donate whatever they could afford.



Papaflesas or Gregorios Dikaios (1788 - 1825) Papaflesas was born at Messinia in 1788. In his teens he became a monk. The Turks, knowing his revolutionary character forced him to leave Greece. At Constantinople, where he went, he became one of the key members of "Filiki Etairia." Under Ypsilantis orders he returned to Peloponnesos and started preaching the ideal of freedom, preparing the people for the revolution. He was a key figure of the Greek Revolution. When in 1825 Ibrahim landed with

thousands of Turkish army in Peloponnesos, Papaflesas leading 2000 men marched against him. During the battle which took place at a place called Maniaki, on May 20, 1825, Ibrahim with 6000 Turks attacked and killed 600 Greeks and their leader Papaflesas, who fought bravely to the bitter end.

March 2004

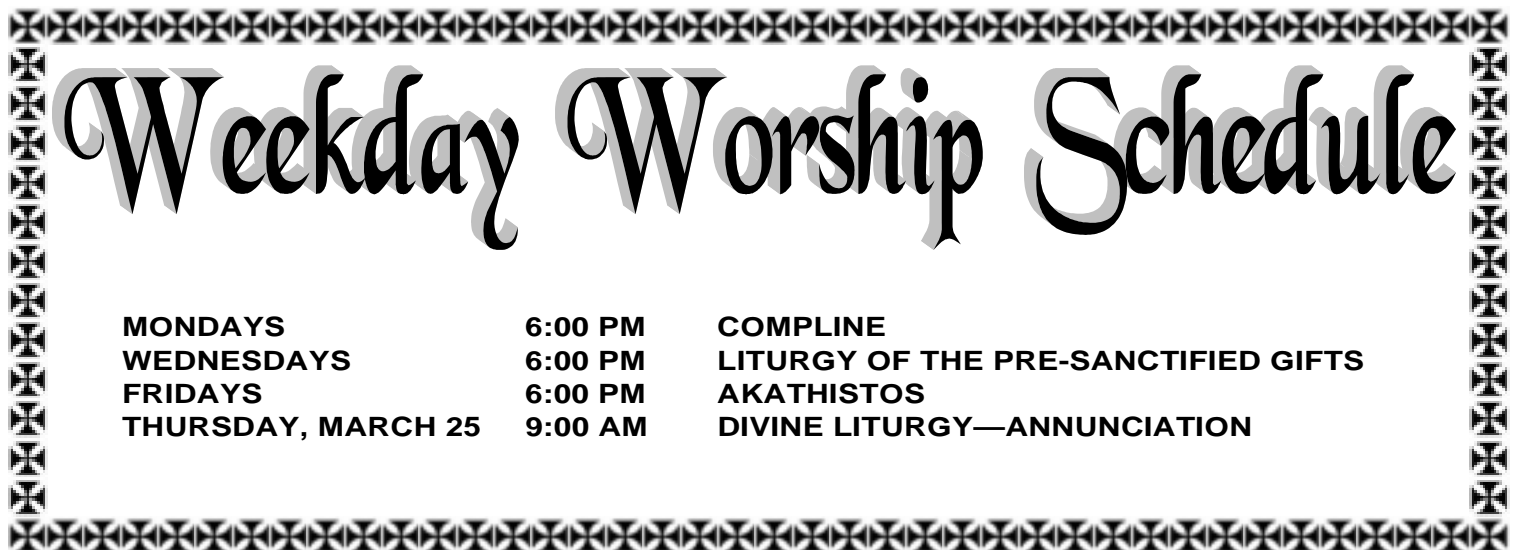
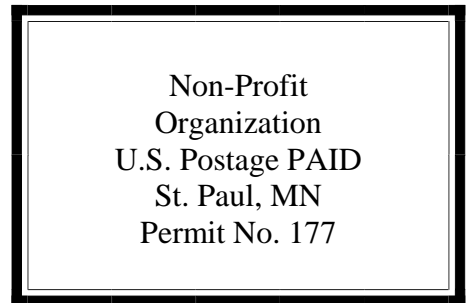
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
STRICT FAST OF GREAT LENT						
	6:00 PM COMPLINE 6:15 PM Greek School 7:00 PM Catechism	6:30 PM Philoptochos Meeting	6:00 PM PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30 PM Icon Lecture	6:00 PM OCF at U. of M.	6:00 PM AKATHISTOS(2) 7:30 PM Old Testament Lecture (History)	5:00 PM VESPERS
7 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT ST. GREGORY PALAMAS	8	9	10	11	12	13
STRICT FAST OF GREAT LENT						
8:30 AM ORTHROS 9:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 12:00 PM Parish Assembly 4:00 PM LENTEN VESPERS AT ST. GEORGE GOC	5:00 PM Loaves and Fishes 6:00 PM COMPLINE 6:15 PM Greek School 7:00 PM Catechism	7:00 PM Bible Study Location TBA	6:00 PM PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30 PM Icon Lecture	6:00 PM OCF at U. of M. 7:00 PM Parish Council	6:00 PM AKATHISTOS(3) 7:30 PM Old Testament Lecture (Wisdom)	5:00 PM VESPERS
14 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	15	16	17 GLAD TIDINGS DEADLINE	18 12:00 PM OCF at St. Thomas	19	20 1:00 PM Independence Day Preparations
STRICT FAST OF GREAT LENT						
8:30 AM ORTHROS 9:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY Procession of Cross 4:00 PM LENTEN VESPERS AT ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN	6:00 PM COMPLINE 6:15 PM Greek School 7:00 PM Catechism		6:00 PM PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30 PM Icon Lecture Youth Family Night	7:00 PM AHEPA and Daughters	Winter Youth Camp	
21 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT ST. JOHN CLIMACUS	22	23	24	25 ANNUNCIATION 9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY	26	27 DIVINE LITURGY IN EAU CLAIRE, WI
STRICT FAST OF GREAT LENT						
8:30 AM ORTHROS 9:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 4:00 PM LENTEN VESPERS AT ST. KATHERINES UKRAINIAN	6:00 PM COMPLINE 6:15 PM Greek School 7:00 PM Catechism	7:00 PM Stewardship	6:00 PM PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30 PM Icon Lecture	6:00 PM OCF at U. of M. FISH ALLOWED	6:00 PM AKATHISTOS(5) 7:30 PM Old Testament Lecture (Psalms)	5:00 PM VESPERS
28 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT ST. MARY OF EGYPT	29	30	31	Coming Up in April...		
STRICT FAST OF GREAT LENT						
8:30 AM ORTHROS 9:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 12:00 PM Independence Day Program 4:00 PM LENTEN VESPERS AT HOLY TRINITY OCA	6:00 PM COMPLINE 6:15 PM Greek School 7:00 PM Catechism		6:00 PM PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30 PM Icon Lecture	April 3 April 4—10 April 6—8 April 9 April 11 April 25 April 28—May 2	Saturday of Lazaros, Church Cleaning, and Palm Decorating Holy Week Pie Sale Holy Friday—Youth Retreat Great and Holy Pascha Feastday of St. George Observed (Parish Feastday) Festival of Nations	

St. George Greek Orthodox Church
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WEBSITE: www.stgeorgegoc.org

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Weekday Worship Schedule

MONDAYS	6:00 PM	COMPLINE
WEDNESDAYS	6:00 PM	LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS
FRIDAYS	6:00 PM	AKATHISTOS
THURSDAY, MARCH 25	9:00 AM	DIVINE LITURGY—ANNUNCIATION