

November 2023

THE VINE

الكرمة

“I AM THE VINE AND YOU ARE
THE BRANCHES” (JOHN 15:5)



1922-2023

انا هو الكرمة و انتم الاتحان

The Monthly Newsletter of

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Canton, Ohio

A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Declaration of Sainthood of Father-Son Martyrs: Priests Nicholas and Habib Khasha

From the Patriarchate of Antioch (Article from the Antiochian Website)

On Saturday, October 21, His Beatitude Patriarch John X led a service of thanksgiving in which the Church of Antioch's newest saints were glorified. Joining this service at the Church of the Dormition at Balamand Monastery in Lebanon were His Eminence Metropolitan Saba and his brothers of the Holy Synod of Antioch. The hierarchs, clergy and laity processed across the monastery's western courtyard, accompanied by the Orthodox National Scouts who played musical instruments.

Arriving at the monastery church, they venerated the icon of the two martyrs among the priests, Nicholas and Habib Khasha – a father and son – where the thanksgiving prayer was sung by the choir of the Saint John of Damascus Theological Institute at the University of Balamand.

During the service, His Beatitude and Their Eminences signed the decision declaring the sainthood of Fathers Khasha in the Synod's register, and then the secretary of the council, Metropolitan Gregory (Khoury), the newly elected primate of the Archdiocese of Homs and Dependencies, Syria, read aloud the text of the Synod's decision: "Recognizing the holiness of the two martyred fathers, priests Nicholas and Habib Khasha of Damascus."

"The official recognition and canonization of the two martyrs, Priest Nicholas Khasha and his son, Priest Habib Khasha, both of Damascus, took place in the Patriarchate of Antioch on October 19, 2023, as follows:

"The Church of Christ offers praises with all piety to those who underwent martyrdom for the sake of faith in Christ.

"They ask for their intercession with the God who loves mankind for the forgiveness of the people's sins, the healing of the sick, and spiritual benefit. Fathers Nicola and Habib Al-Hasna Al-Abdah provided amazing evidence regarding their faith in Christ.

"Father Nicholas was martyred in the city of Mersin on August 2, 1917, and his son, Father Habib, was also martyred in the area in Mount Hermon July 16, 1948. Therefore, they are worthy of honor and reverence from the believers.

"In view of these matters, Patriarch John X of Antioch and All the East, convened the Holy Synod of Antioch, exhibited their martyrdom, and requested the declaration of their sainthood and an annual memorial for them, on July 16.

"For this reason, after taking into account their martyrdom for the sake of our faith and the general ecclesiastical awareness of their holiness, we decided, following the tradition of the universal Church, to pay the appropriate and due honor to these holy men, and accordingly, we decided synodally.

"We determine by the Holy Spirit the following:

"The Damascene fathers, Nicholas Khasha and his son Habib, who died as martyrs, are counted among the ranks of the saints and martyrs, and honor is presented to them by the believers with praises every year, on the sixteenth of the month of July. The liturgical service and its icon were also approved. Accordingly, this decision was taken synodally, which was printed and signed in the register of the Holy Synod of the Great Church of Christ in Antioch, and was circulated to all believers and sister Orthodox churches."

At the end of the prayer, His Beatitude delivered a speech during which he touched on the most important issues of the hour in Lebanon and Syria and the bloody siege on Gaza.

He praised the lives of Saints Khasha and mentioned that "the path of holiness is a calling for each one of us," especially since they are models for Christian family life.

He focused on the Antiochian gesture towards the Jerusalem Church by restoring ecclesiastical communion with it, while emphasizing the right of the Antiochian ecclesiastical jurisdiction in Qatar specifically and in the Arabian Gulf. He raised a cry of peace for the return of the bishops of Aleppo, Paul and John, and the rest of the kidnapped.

Praise be to God at the end of "this Antiochian week par excellence," which concluded today with this prayer of thanks.

After concluding the service, the believers participated in a procession of the icon of the martyred saints. Printed lives of the saints and the life of Saint Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn, were distributed to them.

The Church always asks for the intercessions of new saints.



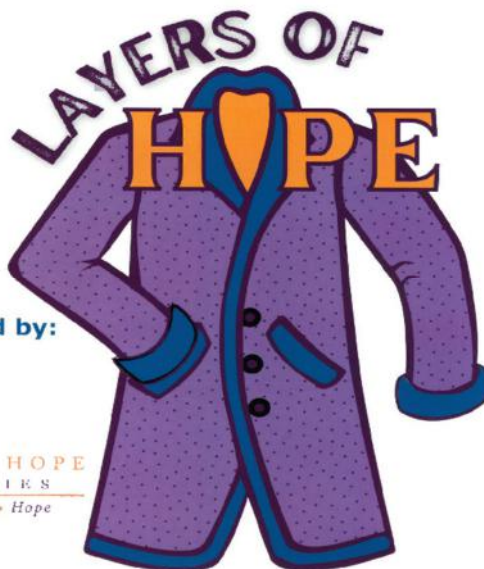
St. George Parish Retreat to St. Gregory Palamas Monastery on October 21, 2023.



FALL OUTING TO RAMSEYER FARMS - October 8, 2023 (Thanks to the Phoenicians for their support)



DONATE NEW AND GENTLY WORN COATS HERE



distributed by:



A Community Coat Drive Layering Men, Women, and Children in Stark County with Warmth, Love, and HOPE

Donation box located at the social hall.



Thanksgiving Basket:

Proceeds from the collection used to purchase gift cards for needy families! St. George will match whatever we collect. We will be giving gift cards to 3 Canton City Schools.

IT'S A GIRL!
Congratulations to Roy and Caitlin Greenberg on the recent birth of their daughter Isla Rose. Proud grandparents are Paul and Claudia Shaheen and Great Grandmother Rosemary Shaheen.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

 <p>JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY at 11 am in the Library November 1 Psalm 33 November 8 Psalm 44 November 15 Psalm 45</p>	<p>Homilies of St. Basil the Great on the Psalms, Wednesdays November 1 Psalm 33 November 8 Psalm 44 November 15 Psalm 45</p>	<p>Don't Forget to "Fall Back"! Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday at 2 am November 5</p>	<p>1 Bible Study in Library 11 am Psalm 33 Basketball Practice 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 St. Raphael of Brooklyn Matins 5:30 pm Liturgy 6:30 pm</p>	<p>4 Vespers 5 pm</p>
<p>5 Ladies Luncheon 12 pm Desert Inn Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am</p>	<p>6 Catechism Class 6-7:30 pm in the Library</p>	<p>7 Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel Matins 5:30 pm Liturgy 6:30 pm</p>	<p>8 Bible Study in Library 11 am Psalm 44 Basketball Practice 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Hyatt Place Reg 7:00 pm Pizza 8:00 pm 8:30 pm Discussion: (Meeting Room) BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT</p>	<p>11 Vespers 6 pm 7 pm Banquet/Awards Presentation/Hafli</p>
<p>12 Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am followed by Luncheon BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Parish Council Meeting 6 pm</p>	<p>15 Nativity Fast Begins Bible Study in Library 11 am Psalm 45 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm</p>	<p>16 Food Ministry 9 am</p>	<p>17 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm</p>	<p>18 Vespers 5 pm</p>
<p>19 Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am</p>	<p>20 Entrance of the Theotokos Matins 5:30 pm Liturgy 6:30 pm</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Akathist of Thanksgiving 6:30 pm</p>	<p>23 </p>	<p>24 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm Office Closed</p>	<p>25 Vespers 5 pm</p>
<p>26 Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am</p>	<p>27 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Dec 1 Nativity Fast Compline 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Dec 2 Vespers 5 pm</p>



Getting ready for the 25th Annual Midwest Basketball Tournament



Midwest Basketball Tournament November 10-12, 2023

Division I: Ages 12-15 / Division II: Ages 15-18 / Division III: Ages 19+

Friday, November 10 (Hyatt Place Hotel)

7 pm: Registration begins (Hotel Lobby)

8 pm: Pizza (Registration area)

8:30 pm: Discussion: The Faith of the 3 Holy Youths in the Furnace (Meeting Room)

Saturday, November 11

7 am -10 am: Breakfast available at Hotel

8 am: Basketball Tournament begins (at Basketball locations)

12 pm: Lunch (at Basketball locations)

6 pm: Great Vespers (St. George Antiochian)

7 pm: Banquet/Awards Presentation/Hafli (St. George Antiochian)

Sunday, November 12 (St. George Antiochian)

8:45 am: Matins

10 am: Divine Liturgy

Brunch and Farewell

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
1118 Cherry Ave. NE Canton, OH 44704
330-455-8482 stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net

Hotel Information: Hyatt Place
5421 Whipple Ave. NW Canton, OH 44720 330-244-1700
Group Rate: \$104/night (mention St. George Basketball)
Our block of rooms will be reserved for us until Oct. 17
[Click here to reserve your room online](#)
Group code: G-STGB

Early Registration: \$50 (by November 3)
Registration: \$60
(Includes all meals and events)

Banquet/Hafli—Saturday, Nov. 11
in our Church Social Hall

\$25 per Adult (\$30 after Nov.6)
Children 5-18 \$20 (\$25 after Nov. 6)
Children 4 and under, Free

Contact the office for reservations or purchase
your tickets on Sunday during Coffee Hour.

Hosted by Saint George Canton

25TH ANNUAL

The Sneaker
Ball



Formal attire with sneakers
November 11th Hafli at 7pm

1118 Cherry Ave NE,
Canton, Oh 44704

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT: Can you, would you, won't you give a little... or more, to our kids to help with the cost of sponsoring the basketball tournament?

Here are some of the tournament costs: *Friday night snacks, *Saturday Basketball gym rental & referees, *Saturday Lunch for the teams, *Saturday night hafli decorations, *Saturday night banquet/hafli food and drinks, *Sunday brunch, *Weekend Admittance Bracelets.

Whatever you are able to give: \$20, \$30, \$40, \$100, or more? You can make your checks out to St. George Teen Soyo. **Yes! It would be so greatly appreciated!**

Cookie Donations

We are in need of cookie donations (no nuts) for the Tournament. Please bring them to the office by Nov. 9.

Thank you to the Ladies of St. George and kitchen crew for preparing and hosting a fundraising brunch on Sunday, October 29. It was a special fundraiser leading up to Veterans Day in support of our veterans through S.A.M. (Serving Area Military). Thank you all and job well done!





It's hard to believe that we said goodbye to the Middle Eastern dinner this year, but we started up a project that draws upon so many positives in our St George community, and that is our Food Ministry.

Last month, we delivered meals to 24 people, which has been a pretty consistent number since we started. We also sent 10 meals to Aultman Woodlawn's hospice facility, so that the families of those in hospice could have a homemade (or should I say church made?) meal. We will continue to pursue this type of outreach.

As for November, our ministry will be preparing food on Thursday November 16 at 9am. it will be a Lenten meal, because our Advent fast begins the day before. As always, we welcome help cooking, delivering, or if you are so moved, donations.

Since I've mentioned donations, let me tell you what the plans are for December for the ministry. We are going to make up gift bags for 25 senior citizens who are residing in a to be determined local nursing home. We are planning on focusing on those individuals who do not have family or friends, and could use a little boost during the holidays. Because so many people in this age group have dietary restrictions, we are planning on giving things like toiletries, socks, notepads, pens, etc. We welcome donations for this project!

Please contact Father Michael, Sherry Albaugh, or me if you want to add anyone to our list to receive meals, and/or if you would like to help in any way. God has richly blessed us, and it is nice to be able to share our blessings. Happy Thanksgiving, dear friends!

Pam Huggett

WALK IN COOLER

This past summer, our walk-in cooler in the Social Hall was not cooling down. We eventually had to replace the 16 year-old compressor at a cost of \$ 4,500.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING PROBLEMS

On July 9th, we experienced a brown-out, followed by a power surge, which shorted out (2) 10 ton units which service the Social Hall. The units were installed in 2002 and had to be replaced. Fortunately, insurance reimbursed us the full amount of \$32,000 after our deductible. Power is expected to be restored this weekend.

On September 30th, vandals destroyed (2) 5 ton units which serviced the north side and lower level of the Church. They stole about \$100 in copper. (South side was not interrupted.) Cost to replace the units is approximately \$ 16,000. The insurance will only cover \$ 5,000 after depreciation due to the fact that they were installed in 1995. Power should be restored in about a week.



ST. GEORGE NATIVITY CARD
If you would like your name printed in
the Christmas Card that is sent out,
please fill out and send the form located
below along with a
\$ 10.00 donation to:

St. George Church Nativity Card,
 1118 Cherry Ave NE, Canton OH 44704

Clearly print name exactly as you want it to appear on the card.

Deadline December 11

Print Clearly

The St. George Antiochian Orthodox
Church of Canton, Ohio
1118 Cherry Avenue NE
Canton, OH 44704-1036

Live Streaming of Services on our Facebook page.

(You don't need a Facebook account to access the page and view the videos)

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church of Canton, Ohio

<https://www.facebook.com/st.georgeantiochiancanton/>

Online Word magazine:
www.antiochian.org/theword

Online Giving Option

St. George Church has an online

giving/stewardship option on our website.

God bless you for your support and we sincerely thank you
for your contribution.



Online Stewardship Option:

<http://www.stgeorgecanton.com/stewardship.html>

You can also set up a bill pay through your bank and
an automated check will come to the church (a free service).

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
1118-1122 Cherry Ave. N.E. Canton, Ohio 44704 - 1036

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Website: www.stgeorgecanton.com

Like our St. George facebook site.

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st.georgeantiochiancanton](https://www.facebook.com/st.georgeantiochiancanton)