



SAINT 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

His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America
Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Jeremy Davis (Archiepiscopal Vicar)

The Very Reverend Father Michael Corbin, Pastor
The Very Reverend Father Basil Shaheen

Saturday Vespers: 5:00 PM (Confessions following Saturday Vespers or by appointment)
Sunday: Matins 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for coming and praying with us today. In the Orthodox Church, Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and regular confession. Please let the greeter know that you are visiting so that Fr. Michael can properly welcome you at the end of the Liturgy. As the faithful receive a final blessing, you may also venerate the blessing cross and receive a piece of the blessed bread. We look forward to seeing you again and encourage you to learn more about the Orthodox Faith. We have regular Catechism classes and we always welcome new inquirers and seekers.

Prayer on entering the Church

I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy; I will worship toward thy holy temple in fear of thee. O Lord, guide me in the way of thy righteousness; because of mine enemies, make straight my way before thee, that with a clear mind I may glorify thee forever, One Godhead worshipped in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Reminders on entering the Church

Our focus upon entering the church is to direct ourselves (mind, body, heart and soul) to worshipping God and praying together as the body of Christ. Please refrain from conversations in the church that can distract us from prayer, including as we enter and leave. Friendly Reminders: Let us remember to be on time and arrive before the Liturgy begins. We should dress respectfully and modestly. Also, please don't forget to turn off your cell phones.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOREFEAST OF & SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (THE GENEALOGY)

GREAT-MARTYR ANASTASIA THE DELIVERER FROM POTIONS AND
HER TEACHER THE MARTYR CHRYSOGONOS

Holy Bread offered by Aida Shaheen for the health of Aida and Family and Teen Soyo.

Holy Bread offered by Malakh Bechara for the health of Fr Boulus Khayat, Ghassan, Malakh, Michael, Max, the Becharas & Khayat families.

In memory of: Nicola, Adib, Wedad, Mouafaq, Manar, Assaad, Ramiz, Tanous, Alia, Mary, Lamia, Fakhri, Rita, Suleiman, Mouna, Fayege, Michelle. all departed members of The Becharas & Khayat.

Prayers at the table of oblation are offered by Mary Ann Kannam for the health of Kannam Family, Summers Family, Kilrain Family.

In memory of: Jennie Kannam (3 years), William, James, Sadie, George, George Sr. and Saleemy Kannam, Theeb, Bessie, Albert, Andrew and Rosalie Summers, Edward and Helen Kilrain.

PRAYERS OFFERED AT THE TABLE OF OBLATION

For the health and salvation of: Sister Photini, Youssef Abou-Ghanam, Elias Abuzakhm, Karam Alkaied, Dominic Alleman, Henri Alzught, Mari Aramouni, Deanna Barbato, Ian Bertram, Carol Boord, Frank Cassidy, Joseph Paul Cervo, Jr., Scott Clatterbuck, Foumia Daoud, Milia Durkin, Joyce Esber, Takla Farah, Connie Garcia, Vicky Gash, Mimi Hardgrove, Dyame Aguirre Herrera, Rick Huggett, Mary Ann Kannam, Jan Kattouf, Julia Kousiry, Helen Leonhardt, Shane McKinney, Bea McPherson, Andria Michael, George Michael, Christ Panopoulos, Cathy Ross, Frank Sadosky, Frank Sadosky, Jr., David Saleeba, Emily Saliba, Sue Saliba, Charlotte Shaheen, Dawn Shaheen (Roselane), George Shaheen, Nahe Shaheen, Paul Shaheen, Peggy Shaheen, Penny Shaheen, Sally Shaheen, Sam Shaheen, Shafeeka Shaheen, Sylvia Shaheen, Carol Szostak, Jennifer Szostak Hudson, James and Jeanette Tomey (Bethany), Shafik Zakham, Sonny Zeen, Alex Zenedes.

Armed Forces: Justin Rowley, Austin Shaheen **Police:** Michael Ataya, Patrick Kelly, Timothy Wires.

In memory of: Archbishop +MICHAEL, Zella Kanam, Nicola Khayat.

Trisagion Service: Nicola Khayat

Before Lining up for Holy Communion

We are now using ushers to have a more organized and reverent line for Holy Communion.

Please wait until the usher releases your pew to proceed into the line.

Also, while we welcome all our visitors, please note that Holy Communion is only for Orthodox Christians who are prepared to receive today and are at least present before the epistle and gospel are read.

Our condolences to Malakh and Ghassan Bechara and Family on the recent passing away of Malakh's brother,
Nicola Khayat in Syria. Memory Eternal!

*Today: Chrismation of Deborah Liebig (This will take place right before the Liturgy begins.)
God grant you many blessed years! Welcome Home!*

Thank you to Dr. Kelly and Rhonia Shaheen for donating the gifts for Sunday School.

*Join us after Liturgy for the Sunday School Christmas Program in the Social Hall.
Pasta Luncheon will be served by our SOYO members and the luncheon
is sponsored by Julie Bender in memory of Jack Bender.*

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 1

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حُفِظَ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ، قُتِمَتْ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيُّهَا الْمُخَلِّصُ، مَانِحاً الْعَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. لِذَلِكَ قُوَّتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، هَتَفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ: الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِّكَ.

Troparion of the Forefeast of the Nativity - Tone 4

Be thou ready, Bethlehem,,Eden hath opened unto all. Ephratha, prepare thyself, for now, behold, the Tree of Life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the holy Virgin. Her womb hath proved a true spiritual Paradise, wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, and as we eat thereof we shall all live, and shall not die as did Adam. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforesaid.

إِسْتَعِدِّي يَا بَيْتَ لَحْمٍ، فَقَدْ فُتِحَتْ عَدْنُ لِجَمِيعِ، تَهَيَّأِي يَا أَفْرَاثَا، لِأَنَّ عَوْدَ الْحَيَاةِ قَدْ أَزْهَرَ فِي الْمَغَارَةِ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ. لِأَنَّ بَطْنَهَا قَدْ ظَهَرَ فِرْدَوْساً عَقْلِيّاً، فِيهِ الْعَرْسُ الْإِلَهِيَّةُ، الَّذِي إِذْ تَأْكُلُ مِنْهُ نَحْيَا وَلَا نَمُوتُ مِثْلَ آدَمَ. الْمَسِيحُ يُوَلِّدُ مِنْهُضاً الصُّورَةَ الَّتِي سَقَطَتْ مِنْذُ الْقَدِيمِ.

Troparion of Sunday Before the Nativity - Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

عَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ أَعْمَالُ الْإِيمَانِ، لِأَنَّ الْفَتِيَّةَ الثَّلَاثَةَ الْقَدِيسِينَ قَدْ ابْتَهَجُوا فِي يَبْنُوعِ الْهَلِيبِ كَأَنَّهُمْ عَلَى مَاءِ الرَّاحَةِ، وَالنَّبِيِّ دَانِيَالٍ ظَهَرَ رَاعِياً لِلسَّبَاعِ كَأَنَّهُمْ غَنَمٌ، فَبِتَضَرُّعِهِمْ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ خَلِّصْ نَفُوسَنَا.

Troparion of St. George - Tone 4

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings. Victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God for our souls salvation.

بِمَا أَنْتَكَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرَّرٌ وَمُعْتَقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ وَعِنِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي الشُّهَدَاءِ جَاورِجِيُوسُ اللَّابِسُ الظَّفَرِ تَشَفَّعْ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ الْإِلَهُ فِي خَلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

Kontakion of Preparation of Christ's Nativity - Tone 3

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

الْيَوْمَ الْعَذْرَاءُ تَأْتِي إِلَى الْمَغَارَةِ لِتَلِدَ الْكَلِمَةَ الَّذِي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ، وَوَلَادَةٌ لَا تُفَسِّرُ وَلَا يُنطِقُ بِهَا، فَافْرَجِي أَيُّهَا الْمَسْكُونَةُ إِذَا سَمِعْتِ، وَمَجِدِي مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّعَاةِ، الَّذِي سَيَظْهَرُ بِمَشِيئَتِهِ طِفْلاً جَدِيداً وَهُوَ إِلَهُنَا الَّذِي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ.

THE EPISTLE

*Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.
For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

الرسالة

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا .

لَأَنَّكَ عَدَلْتَ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا .

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ . (11: 9-10؛ 32-40)

يا إخوة، بالإيمان نَزَلَ إبراهيمُ في أرضِ الميعادِ نُزولَهُ في أرضِ غَرِيبَةٍ، وَسَكَنَ في خِيَامٍ مَعَ اسْحَقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ الْوَارِثَيْنِ مَعَهُ لِلْمُوعَدِ بَعِيْنِهِ . لِأَنَّهُ انْتَضَرَ الْمَدِينَةَ ذَاتِ الْأُسُسِ الَّتِي اللَّهُ صَانِعُهَا وَبَارِئُهَا . وَمَاذَا أَقُولُ أَيْضاً؟ إِنَّهُ يَضِيقُ بِي الْوَقْتُ إِنْ أُحْبِزْتُ عَنْ جِدْعَوْنَ، وَبَارَاقَ، وَشَمْشُونَ، وَيَفْتَاخَ، وَدَاوُدَ، وَصَمُوئِيلَ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، الَّذِينَ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا الْمَمَالِكَ، وَعَمَلُوا الْبِرَّ، وَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، وَسَدُّوا أَفْوَاهَ الْأَسُودِ . وَأَطْفَأُوا حِدَّةَ النَّارِ، وَنَجَّوْا مِنْ حَدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَتَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَصَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ فِي الْحَرْبِ، وَكَسَرُوا مُعَسْكَرَاتِ الْأَجَانِبِ، وَأَخَذَتْ نِسَاءً أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ بَقِيَامَةٍ . وَعَذَّبَ آخَرُونَ بِتَوْتِيرِ الْأَعْضَاءِ وَالضَّرْبِ، وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجَاةِ لِيَحْصُلُوا عَلَى قِيَامَةٍ أَفْضَلَ . وَآخَرُونَ ذَاقُوا الْهَزْءَ، وَالْجَلْدَ، وَالْفَيْوَدَ أَيْضاً وَالسَّجْنَ . وَرُجِمُوا، وَنُشِرُوا، وَامْتَحِنُوا، وَمَاتُوا بِحَدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَسَاخُوا فِي جُلُودِ غَمٍّ وَمِعْزٍ، وَهُمْ مُعَوَّزُونَ مُضَائِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ — وَلَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَحَقًّا لَهُمْ — وَكَانُوا تَائِهِينَ فِي الْبَرَارِيِّ، وَالْجِبَالِ، وَالْمَغَاوِرِ، وَكُهُوفِ الْأَرْضِ . فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ مَشْهُوداً لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ سَبَقَ

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (1:1-25)

كِتَابُ مِيلَادِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ ابْنِ دَاوُدَ ابْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ. فإِبْرَاهِيمُ وُلِدَ إِسْحَقَ، وَإِسْحَقُ وُلِدَ يَعْقُوبَ، وَيَعْقُوبُ وُلِدَ يَهُوذَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ. وَيَهُوذَا وُلِدَ فَارِصَ، وَفَارِصُ وُلِدَ حَضْرُونَ، وَحَضْرُونَ وُلِدَ أَرَامَ. وَأَرَامُ وُلِدَ عَمِينَادَابَ، وَعَمِينَادَابُ وُلِدَ نَحْشُونَ، وَنَحْشُونَ وُلِدَ سَلْمُونَ. وَسَلْمُونَ وُلِدَ بُوعَزَ مِنْ رَا حَابَ، وَبُوعَزُ وُلِدَ عُوْبِيدَ مِنْ رَاعُوْثَ، وَعُوْبِيدُ وُلِدَ يَسَّى، وَيَسَّى وُلِدَ دَاوُدَ الْمَلِكِ. وَدَاوُدُ الْمَلِكِ وُلِدَ سُلَيْمَانَ مِنَ الَّتِي كَانَتْ لِأُورِيَّا. وَسُلَيْمَانُ وُلِدَ رَحْبَعَامَ، وَرَحْبَعَامُ وُلِدَ أَبِيَّا، وَأَبِيَّا وُلِدَ آسَا. وَآسَا وُلِدَ يُوْسَافَاطَ، وَيُوْسَافَاطُ وُلِدَ يُوْرَامَ، وَيُوْرَامُ وُلِدَ عَزْرِيَّا. وَعَزْرِيَّا وُلِدَ يُوْثَامَ، وَيُوْثَامُ وُلِدَ آحَازَ، وَآحَازُ وُلِدَ حَزْقِيَّا. وَحَزْقِيَّا وُلِدَ مَنَسَّى، وَمَنَسَّى وُلِدَ آمُونَ، وَآمُونَ وُلِدَ يُوْشِيَّا. وَيُوْشِيَّا وُلِدَ يَكُنْيَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ فِي جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ. وَمِنْ بَعْدِ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ، يَكُنْيَا وُلِدَ شَالْتَيْلَ، وَشَالْتَيْلُ وُلِدَ زَرْبَابَيْلَ. وَزَرْبَابَيْلُ وُلِدَ أَبِيهُودَ، وَأَبِيهُودُ وُلِدَ أَلْيَاقِيمَ، وَأَلْيَاقِيمُ وُلِدَ عَازُورَ. وَعَازُورُ وُلِدَ صَادُوقَ، وَصَادُوقُ وُلِدَ أَحِيْمَ، وَأَحِيْمُ وُلِدَ أَلْيَهُودَ. وَأَلْيَهُودُ وُلِدَ أَلْعَازَرَ، وَالْعَازَرُ وُلِدَ مَتَّانَ، وَمَتَّانُ وُلِدَ يَعْقُوبَ. وَيَعْقُوبُ وُلِدَ يُوْسُفَ رَجُلَ مَرْيَمَ الَّتِي وُلِدَ مِنْهَا يَسُوعُ، الَّذِي يُدْعَى الْمَسِيحَ. فَكُلُّ الْأَجْيَالِ مِنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِلَى دَاوُدَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً، وَمِنْ دَاوُدَ إِلَى جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً، وَمِنْ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً. أَمَّا مَوْلُدُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ فَكَانَ هَكَذَا. لَمَّا خُطِبَتْ مَرْيَمُ أُمُّهُ لِيُوْسُفَ، وَوُجِدَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَجْتَمِعَا حُبْلَى مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَإِذْ كَانَ يُوْسُفُ رَجُلًا صِدِّيقًا، وَلَمْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يُشْهَرَهَا، هَمَّ بِتَخْلِيئِهَا سِرًّا. وَفِيمَا هُوَ مُتَّفَكِّرٌ فِي ذَلِكَ، إِذَا بِمَلَكَ الرَّبِّ ظَهَرَ لَهُ فِي الْحُلْمِ، قَائِلًا: يَا يُوْسُفُ ابْنَ دَاوُدَ، لَا تَخَفْ أَنْ تَأْخُذَ امْرَأَتَكَ مَرْيَمَ. فَإِنَّ الْمَوْلُودَ فِيهَا إِنَّمَا هُوَ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَسَتَلِدُ ابْنًا فَتَسْمِيهِ يَسُوعَ، فَإِنَّهُ هُوَ يُخَلِّصُ شَعْبَهُ مِنْ خَطَايَاهُمْ. وَكَانَ هَذَا كُلُّهُ لِيَتِمَّ مَا قِيلَ مِنَ الرَّبِّ بِالنَّبِيِّ الْقَائِلِ: هَا إِنَّ الْعَذْرَاءَ تَحْبَلُ، وَتَلِدُ ابْنًا، وَيُدْعَى عِمَّا نُوَيْلَ (الَّذِي تَفْسِيرُهُ اللَّهُ مَعَنَا). فَلَمَّا نَهَضَ يُوْسُفُ مِنَ النَّوْمِ، صَنَعَ كَمَا أَمَرَهُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ. فَأَخَذَ امْرَأَتَهُ. وَلَمْ يَعْرِفْهَا حَتَّى وَوَلَدَتْ ابْنَهَا الْبِكْرَ، وَسَمَّاهُ يَسُوعَ.

Epiphany Services

Friday, January 3: Royal Hours 10 am

Saturday, January 4: Great Vespers 5pm

Sunday, January 5: Blessing of the Water after Liturgy &
Epiphany Sweets

(Eve of Feast) Great Vespers 6 pm

Monday, January 6: Matins 9am; Liturgy 10am & Blessing of
the water (Feast) Pan-Orthodox Outdoor Blessing
of Water 12 pm Stadium Park Shelter #5

Home Blessings will begin January 6

Contact Fr. Michael or the office to schedule
your home blessing or via the

Online Form: <https://forms.gle/Sp7hLWrccejDj2eV9>

(Schedule a time when all family members
can be present. Place an icon, candle and
small bowl of water on dining room table).



Pan-Orthodox

Outdoor Blessing of the Waters



Monday, January 6 (Epiphany)

Noon

Stadium Park, Shelter # 5

Stadium Park Dr. NW

Nimishillen Creek



The Stark County Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

Prayer List

We will be updating our prayer list for the new year. While we all need prayers, the weekly prayer list is for those who are hospitalized, in nursing homes, shut-ins, or having ongoing or serious illness. If you would like to leave or add a name on the list, please call/email the office.

Candle Prices

Starting the new year, 7-day candles will be \$5 each due to rising costs.

Catechism Class



Are you interested in learning more about our faith?

You are welcome to join our Catechism class.

Next Catechism class, Thursday, January 9, 6-7:30 pm (Library)

Come join us and bring a friend!



* Soyo and Youth Christmas Caroling - Monday, December 23.

Meet at church at 11am

* Christmas Dinner (Covered Dish) - Tuesday, December 24 after Liturgy.

Please let Kh. Mira know what you would like to bring so we can coordinate dishes.

* College Student Dinner at the Corbin's - Friday, December 27, 6pm

RSVP to Fr. Michael or Kh. Mira

The Nativity and Almsgiving, Part Two

His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

This simple reflection on Christmas leads us to the Christian concept of giving. The first attitude required of Christians is to be open to the gift of God, because when they accept the divine gift and appreciate its importance and role in their life, they become worthy to practice giving in turn. "By this we know love, that He laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren" (1 John 3:16).

The Bible urges us to give and places great importance on giving. In the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 26), giving tithes was an expression of man's gratitude to God for the gifts He has given us. In the New Testament, this concept extends beyond tithes to giving everything. The Lord says, "Give to anyone who asks of you" (Matthew 5:42), meaning that Christ asks His disciples to keep their hearts and hands open. Ears unwilling to hear are a sign of hardness of heart, unbecoming of a disciple of Christ.

Christian giving does not have a certain limit; it is open to perfection. Humans give according to their ability. But this ability is determined by their love for the Lord, and their appreciation for what He has done and is doing for them. It is also determined by the degree of their freedom from the love of possession, and their awareness of the importance of almsgiving to the extent where almsgiving will become their joy.

Many people give in order to fulfill the divine commandment, while others give to gain God's blessings and to please God. Both types of giving are acceptable, but incomplete. Giving is linked to the spiritual level that the giver has reached. There are those who have reached the point of imitating Christ literally by giving everything, even offering their entire lives. The love of almsgiving grows in us exponentially as we grow in the love of God.

Some refrain from giving for many reasons. These people have not experienced the joy of giving and its effect on them. People often think that giving gladdens the hearts of those who receive it. This is undoubtedly true, but does it not gladden the heart of the giver more? The Bible says: "A generous soul will be enriched, and he who waters will himself be watered" (Prov. 11:25). It has been said: "The Lord loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). The joy of the gift's recipient is a double joy for the givers, because God blesses them.

Giving does not stop at material things. It is a state that believers experience constantly, until it becomes permanent. Do not deprive yourself of giving, and do not make any excuses, lest you remain closed to yourself. Your sincere smile may provide refreshment for a sad soul. Your look of tenderness and compassion may revive a suffering person who lacks love and care. The warm touch of your hand may restore the spirit of someone feeling neglected and lonely.

No one is exempt from the virtue of giving. Let us remember the widow's mite. The lesson lies in your willingness to give before the quality and quantity of gifts. Imitate your incarnate Lord for your sake and for your salvation. Respond to His amazing giving by imitating it as much as you are able, and you will see how many blessings you will reap for yourself. Giving frees you from selfishness, isolation, self-love and fear, which can kill. Christ did not come to keep you captive; He came to liberate you and give you the fullness of life. Throw yourself before Him and pile the dust of your selfishness at the feet of the Divine Child. Open your hands to be filled with His gifts, so that you can happily pass them on to your brethren, and the celebration of the feast will truly begin.

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

The Nativity of Christ, 2024

The Magi offered to Him from what was His: myrrh and frankincense that He had brought into existence and created. . . . From the great treasury of all creation, Mary gave to Him everything she gave. She gave Him milk from what He made to exist. She gave Him food from what He had created. . . .

He, who is Lord of all, gives to us all, and He Who is Enricher of all, borrows from all. He is Giver of all, as one without needs. Yet He borrows back again like one deprived. He gave cattle and sheep as Creator, but, on the other hand, He sought sacrifices like one deprived. . . . From what is His, Martha [the sister of Lazarus] gave Him food to eat; she placed before Him the foods created by Him. All who gave to Him have vowed from what is His; from His treasury they have placed gifts on His table.

St. Ephraim the Syrian, *Hymns on the Nativity* 4

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of the Midwest,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born in a manger for our salvation!

As St. Ephraim reminds us in the hymn above, everything we can offer Christ has come to us from His hand, yet He humbles Himself to receive from us what He doesn't need, so that we can thereby show our love to Him and connect with Him. This reminds me of when I was a child and my parents would give me a little money for our school's Holiday Shoppe. I would buy things like a snow globe or a mug, wrap them, and give them to my parents on Christmas. They certainly didn't need these trinkets, and if they had, they could have bought them themselves. However, that wasn't the point—they were giving me the chance to do something for them, to express my love for them.

This Christmas, let us each find some special way to demonstrate our love for Christ. Let us go into the Holiday Shoppe of this world, which He has made for us, and pick out something to give Him from our hearts, something that is dear to His heart. First and foremost, let us give Him ourselves in faith, obedience, and devotion.

Wishing you all a joyous feast, I remain,

Yours in the Service of Christ,



Archimandrite Jeremy
Archiepiscopal Vicar

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Dear Beloved Parishioner,

Your attendance is requested at our annual parish meeting on Sunday, January 12, 2025 following the Divine Liturgy. This meeting will include pastoral, financial and organizational reports, along with the election of new members to the Parish Council.

If you would like to be nominated for the Parish Council, we would like to know by January 5 (no nominations will be taken at the meeting itself). A Parish Council member should be exemplary in church attendance, a regular participant in the Holy Sacraments (Holy Communion and Holy Confession), a good steward and an active volunteer at church functions. Each member should also be able to frequently attend meetings. Nominations can be given to Fr. Michael.

Voting members of St. George Church are 18 years of age or older, an active participant in the life of the church-Divine Services and the Holy Sacraments, along with annually fulfilling their financial obligation (stewardship pledge and Archdiocese assessment).

We look forward to your participation at this upcoming meeting and appreciate your continued faithful dedication to your church.

In Christ,

Fr. Michael Corbin, Pastor

Greg Shaheen, Parish Council Chairman



CREATIVE ARTS 2025

Dear Sunday school teachers/students and parents, it is that time again for the Creative Festivals!

Mark your calendars - submissions are due:

SUN., MARCH 16, 2025.

The theme for 2025 is:

"Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." +Luke 1:38



Creative Festivals 2025

If you have any questions, please see Liz. Thank you and God bless!



If you know of anyone who might need some financial assistance this winter season, please contact Fr. Michael.



Sunday School Schedule

No classes on
December 29 and January 5.

January 12 – Special Creative Arts Day during the Annual Parish Meeting.

SERVICES / EVENTS

Sunday, December 22: Matins 9am; Divine Liturgy 10am

Followed by Christmas Pageant and Soyo Pasta Luncheon

Monday, December 23: Soyo and Youth Christmas Caroling 11am

(Meet at the church) Nativity Forefeast Vespers, 6:30pm

Nativity Services; Tuesday, December 24: Royal Hours 10am

Matins 5pm; Divine Liturgy 6:30pm followed by Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 25: *Christ is Born! Glorify Him!*

Friday, December 27: College Student Dinner 6pm at the Corbin's

(RSVP to Fr. Michael or Kh. Mira)

Saturday, December 28: Great Vespers, 5pm

Sunday, December 29: Matins 9am; Divine Liturgy 10am

Tuesday, December 31: Circumcision of Christ / St. Basil the Great

Matins 5:15pm; Liturgy 6:30pm

Friday, January 3: Royal Hours 10 am

Saturday, January 4: Great Vespers 5 pm

Sunday, January 5: Matins 9am; Divine Liturgy 10am Blessing of

Water and Epiphany Sweets Holy Theophany Great Vespers 6 pm

Monday, January 6: Holy Theophany Matins 9am; Divine Liturgy 10am

Blessing of Water.

Pan Orthodox Blessing of Water 12pm (Stadium Park Shelter # 5)

HOLY BREAD/COFFEE HOUR

December 24 (Eve of the Nativity of Christ)

Holy Bread-
Nahi Abo-Ghannam

Christmas Dinner
(Covered Dish)

December 29

Holy Bread & Coffee Hour
Sponsor needed

January 5

Holy Bread-Sponsor needed
Coffee Hour (Epiphany
Sweets) Melia Michael

January 12

Holy Bread-Hilaneh Shaheen
Coffee Hour-Sponsor needed

January 19

Holy Bread & Coffee Hour
Corbins

2025 Stewardship Envelopes are now available for pick up in the church narthex

or contact the office to make arrangements for pick-up.

Please contact the office if you don't have stewardship envelopes and would like them for 2025.

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Church Office Phone: 330-455-8482

Office Hours: Monday through Friday - 9 AM to 1 PM

Fr. Michael Corbin

Email: stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net

Website: stgeorgecanton.com



Online Stewardship / Donations

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



Online Form for Services & Memorials

THE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose Kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(In English and Phonetic Arabic)

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

A-BA-NAL LA-THEE FIS-SA-MA-WAT; LEE-YA-TA-KAD-DAS IS-MUK;
LEE-YA`-TEE MA-LA-KU-TUK; LEE-TA-KUN MA-SHEE-A-TUK;
KA-MA FES-SA-MA` KA-THA-LEE-KA AA-LAL ARD;
KHUB-ZA-NAL JOW-HA-REE AA-TEE-NAL YAWM
WAT-RUK LA-NA MA AA-LAY-NA;
KA-MA NAT-RU-KU NAH-NU LEE-MAN LA-NA AA-LAY;
WA-LA TUD-KHIL-NA FEE TAJ-RI-BAH;
LA-KIN NAJ-JEE-NA MIN-ASH SHIR-REAR

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly thine own immaculate Body, and that this is truly thine own precious Blood. Wherefore I pray thee, have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed of knowledge and of ignorance; and make me worthy to partake without condemnation of thine immaculate Mysteries, unto remission of my sins and unto life everlasting. Amen

Of thy Mystic Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of thy Mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief will I confess thee: remember me, O Lord, in thy Kingdom.

Not unto judgement nor unto condemnation, be my partaking of thy Holy Mysteries, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body.