

January 2025

# THE VINE

# الكَرْمَة

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



1922-2025

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

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Thank you to Sarah Joseph for coordinating the Sunday School Christmas pageant!





**Thank you to Julie Bender for sponsoring the luncheon in memory of Jack Bender.**

**Thank you to Jamie Shaheen, Max Rossett and all Soyo families for their help preparing the meal.**

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



**December 1, 2024  
St. Nicholas visit and play by the teen class.**



**Sunday School families playing the Nativity board game (Christmas Road).**



# CHRISTMAS CAROLING







*Sunday, Decemer 22, 2024  
Chrismation of Deborah Liebig.  
God grant you many blessed  
years! Welcome Home!*

### **Memory Eternal!**

Prayers and condolences to Duke, Mike, Jacqueline and families on the passing of Zella Kanam.

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

Prayers and condolences to Diane Abood and family on the recent passing of her brother, David Avdul.

# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ <b>Royal Hours</b> 10 am	4  <b>Great Vespers</b> 5 pm
5 (Fast Day) Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am Blessing of Water Epiphany Sweets Holy Theophany Great Vespers 6 pm	6 Holy Theophany Matins 9 am; Divine Liturgy 10 am, Blessing of Water. Pan Orthodox Blessing of Water 12 pm (Stadium Park Shelter # 5)	7	8	9  Catechism Class, 6-7:30 pm in the Library	10	11  <b>Great Vespers</b> 5 pm
12 Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am  Annual Parish Meeting and Creative Arts Day	13	14	15  <b>Bible Study in the Library</b> 11 am	16  St. Anthony the Great Matins 5:30 pm Liturgy 6:30 pm	17	18  <b>Great Vespers</b> 5 pm
19  Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am	20	21	22  <b>Bible Study in the Library</b> 11 am	23  Food Ministry 9 am  Catechism Class, 6-7:30 pm in the Library	24  Paraklesis 6:30 pm	25  <b>Great Vespers</b> 5 pm
26  Matins 9 am Liturgy 10 am	27  <b>St. George Volunteer Day at the Food Bank,</b> 9 am-11:30 am	28	29  <b>Bible Study in the Library</b> 11 am  Three Hierarchs Matins 5:30 pm Liturgy 6:30 pm	30	31  Paraklesis 6:30 pm	

### DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who donated to the various outreach projects we sponsored this Fall!



#### THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Your generosity in the THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES supplied \$2500.00 in Gift Cards to

families at Crenshaw, Gibbs and Schreiber.

Your generosity allowed 3 families to have a Happy Holiday through the **GIVING TREE** – filling their wishes and needs.



#### COAT DRIVE

Your generosity through the **COAT COLLECTION** helped Refuge of Hope.



The Teens gave a helping hand on Sunday, December 15, and prepared gift bags for nursing home residents. This is the December project of the Food Ministry Outreach.

#### Basketball Tournament

Teen Soyo thanks all who volunteered and donated toward this year's Basketball Tournament! Special thanks to Jb Abraham (Kraus Pizza) for donating the pizza and Pete's Restaurant for donating food supplies. It was a huge success and we could not have done it without all of your support!



We are deeply grateful for the kindness, love, sympathy, and support that you've shown us during this difficult time. It's been a comforting blessing and we cannot express how much it is appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Khayat & Bechara Families



Newly ordained Deacon Ephrem Miller of St. Mary, Goshen, IN served with us December 29. (Beth Starkey's brother)



Thank you to Bea McPherson for the beautiful Poinsettias! December 14, 2024, 103 reasons to smile! Happy and Blessed Birthday to our beloved Bea Shaheen McPherson!



Joseph Family playing the Nativity board game (Christmas Road).



# Blessed Feast of the Holy Theophany of our Lord!



Pan Orthodox 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 New Online Calendar (you can select the time slot):

<https://calendly.com/stgeorgecanton/home-blessings>

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



**Summer Camp Registration begins January 5 at 5 pm**  
(<https://avcamp.org/summer-camp/>)

**Camp Scholarships from our church.**

**Guidelines**

Every child (ages 9-17) is encouraged to attend the Antiochian Village Camp yearly, as it provides a great opportunity for spiritual growth for our youth. We as a church are committed to financially support young families who would otherwise face a financial burden in sending their children to camp. In return for our church's commitment, it is expected that each child applying for our scholarship be active participants in the life of the church. This includes regularly attending the Divine Liturgy, Sunday School, (if applicable Teen SOYO, Altar Server, Choir), Volunteer at Church Functions (Camp Fundraisers, Picnic). The hope is that the Antiochian Village experience will help our children build a firm spiritual foundation through which they will stay active and dedicated members in the Holy Orthodox Church as they grow older. As we pray with and for our children, let us always commend ourselves and each other and our whole life unto Christ our God!

**Register** - If you are eligible for the scholarship, you can then proceed to register and pay the \$100 deposit per child and inform the office that you have registered.



December 27, 2024  
College Student Dinner at the Corbin's



**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



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

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

The St. George Antiochian Orthodox  
Church of Canton, Ohio  
1118 Cherry Avenue NE

*Antiochian Village Summer Camp - Registration now open*



**Assessment Luncheon & Talent Show  
Sunday, February 23, 2025**

**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](http://www.antiochian.org/theword)  
Subscription to Word Magazine:  
<https://forms.gle/ZcYq1HD1tPp7SXHT9>

### 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

**Office hours are 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Phone: 330 455 8482

Email: [stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net)

**Website: [www.stgeorgecanton.com](http://www.stgeorgecanton.com)**

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