

His Beatitude John X Addresses the Archdiocesan Convention

From the Word Magazine, Sept. 2015 (Part 2)

We are in our land because we were always there. We are the first Christians, the authentic and faithful followers, who knew Jesus Christ and walked with him. ... We were there building universities, schools, and hospitals, serving our society with total disregard to religious or racial affiliation. We are still there doing just that.

Suddenly, we find ourselves in a dark tunnel, squeezed from right and left, from all directions, in the midst of conflict in Iraq and Syria, wars that overflow their frontiers into our beloved Lebanon.

I am with you this evening to sound the alarm for what is happening in the very land that our Savior rendered holy, and its surrounding region, and to seek your support in reversing the tide of bloodshed and destruction. We surely have problems, but we are determined to resolve them. The Patriarchate is rapidly becoming an institution with a strong media and technological arm. We have a hospital in Beirut that is among the best in the region. We are building an urgently needed hospital in Balamand, which we envision will be the best between Byblos and Istanbul. We are also building new sectors in Al-Hosn hospital in the Christian valley in Syria.

In a quarter of a century we built at Balamand a University of international fame. Although it was founded in 1988, it is classed with the best three private universities in Lebanon, and they were founded a century and a half before. In a quarter of a century, we bridged a century and a half. Such is our resolve.

We are working with Metropolitan JOSEPH to offer a Ph.D. degree in Orthodox theology in the United States. By the Grace of God, our Orthodoxy is spreading in the United States as it is in Britain, and we welcome our new converts. They are an indispensable part of the future of our Church. In all these endeavors we welcome close association with the universities, research centers, and think tanks in the United States and Canada. **We understand America's concern for its commercial interests and its strategic interests in the region, but the United States must always keep its eye on its own highest standard. The Founders of the American Republic had higher goals. They had a civilized order in mind, based on ethical tradition, on freedom, on religious tolerance and on equality of all men before the One Creator. Were the U.S. to ignore this dimension in its foreign policy, it would no longer have the right to claim its leadership role in the world order.**

Any announcements for the Sunday bulletin? Please submit by Friday each week to Fr. Andrew. If you do not receive the bulletin by email and would like to, let Father know.



St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley

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Sunday, September 27, 2015

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Matins: 9:00 AM :: Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM

Epistle Reader: Mark Kerasotes

Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: 40-day memorial for Janet Malooley (offered by Richard and Bette Malooley, John and Carol Ball, and Ron and Mari Ford)

Next Week's Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Medawar and Sanders

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8):

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of St. George the Great Martyr (Tone 4):

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and succour of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among martyrs, the victory-clad George: Intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion for Ordinary Sundays (Tone 2):

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH
The Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest
www.antiochian.org

Epistle and Gospel Readings

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at St. George, see our website, www.stgeorgeorthodox.org.

Upcoming Events and Services:

- **Today at the end of Liturgy:** Forty-day memorial prayers for Janet Malooley. May her memory be eternal!
- **Wednesday, Sept. 30:** Evening Prayers and Bible study, 6pm. *Father Andrew will be available for Confession or Anointing.*
- **Saturday, Oct. 3:** Vespers, 6pm. *Father Andrew will be available for Confession or Anointing.*
- **Next Sunday, Oct. 4:** Matins, 9am and Divine Liturgy, 10am. Holy Bread and Coffee Hour: Sanders and Medawar families. Epistle Reader: Kenneth Wiltse.

Congratulations to newlyweds Daniel and Kelsey Klein, married yesterday! May God bless their new life together and grant them many years of happiness!

St. George Church of Indianapolis will host our diocese's **Clergy and Laity Fall Gathering** (formerly called Delegates' Meeting), October 16-18. Bishop Anthony would like to see strong participation from our churches. If anyone is interested, please contact Fr. Andrew.

Building project: The parish council is beginning discussions on the possibility of expanding our current building to accommodate our growing families and increasing attendance. More information will be made available in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to talk with Father Andrew or with our building exploratory committee, Mark Kerasotes, Mike Kasap, and Matt Rowan.

Church attendance and timeliness. Keeping in mind the future of our community and our common spiritual life, let us all work to be more faithful with our church attendance. Sunday worship, with the hearing of the Word of God and receiving His holy body and blood is the most important thing we can possibly do all week! Make Sunday worship *the number one priority* each week for yourself and your family. And let us show the Lord we love Him and honor Him by coming to church and coming *on time* for our 10:00 Divine Liturgy.

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St. George Church Finances

July 2015 income: \$1,917.00	August 2015 income: \$5,432.00
July 2015 expenses: \$5389.68	August 2015 expenses: \$5,163.99

Questions about our finances may be directed to Anyisia Medawar, treasurer