

:: St. Dionysius the Areopagite ::

October 3

This Saint was from Athens, a learned man, and a member of the famous judicial court of Mars Hill (in Greek *Aeros Pagos*, hence the name *Areopagite*; see Acts 17:19-34). When Saint Paul preached in Athens, Dionysius was one of the first there to believe in Christ, and, according to some, became the first bishop of that city. Others say—and this may be more probable—that he was the second Bishop of Athens, after Saint Hierotheus, whom Dionysios calls his friend and teacher "after Paul" (*On the Divine Names*, 3:2). With Saint Hierotheus he was also present at the Dormition of the most holy Theotokos; the Doxasticon of the Aposticha for the service of the Dormition is partly taken from a passage in Chapter III of *On the Divine Names*. According to ancient tradition, he received a martyr's end (according to some, in Athens itself) about the year 96.

:: St. Hierotheus of Athens ::

October 4

According to some, Hierotheus, like Saint Dionysius, was a member of the court of Mars Hill. Having first been instructed in the Faith of Christ by Paul, he became Bishop of Athens. He, in turn, initiated the divine Dionysius more perfectly into the mysteries of Christ; the latter, on his part, elaborated more clearly and distinctly Hierotheus' concise and summary teachings concerning the Faith. He too was brought miraculously by the power of the Holy Spirit to be present at the Dormition of the Theotokos, when, together with the sacred Apostles, he became a leader of the divine hymnody. "He was wholly transported, wholly outside himself and was so deeply absorbed in communion with the sacred things he celebrated in hymnology, that to all who heard him and saw him and knew him, and yet knew him not, he seemed to be inspired of God, a divine hymnographer," as Dionysius says (*On the Divine Names*, 3:2). Having lived in a manner pleasing to God, he reposed in the Lord.

"... WE MUST BEGIN WITH A PRAYER BEFORE EVERYTHING WE DO, BUT ESPECIALLY WHEN WE ARE ABOUT TO TALK OF GOD. WE WILL NOT PULL DOWN TO OURSELVES THAT POWER WHICH IS BOTH EVERYWHERE AND YET NOWHERE, BUT BY DIVINE REMINDERS AND INVOCATIONS WE MAY COMMEND OURSELVES TO IT AND BE JOINED TO IT." – ST. DIONYSIUS THE AREOPAGITE

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, October 4, 2015

18th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Epistle Reader: Kenneth Wiltse

Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Medawar and Sanders families

Next Week's Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: OPEN

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 1):

The stone being sealed by the Jews, and Thy pure body being guarded by the soldiers, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world! Wherefore the heavenly powers acclaimed Thee, O Giver of life, crying: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy kingdom! Glory to Thy gracious providence, O Thou only Lover of mankind.

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

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (9:6-11)

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

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"HE WHO DOES NOT KNOW THE TRUTH CANNOT TRULY HAVE FAITH; FOR BY NATURE KNOWLEDGE PRECEDES FAITH. WHAT IS SAID IN SCRIPTURE IS SAID NOT SOLELY FOR US TO UNDERSTAND, BUT ALSO FOR US TO ACT UPON." – ST. HESYCHIOS THE PRIEST

"BUILDING UP A PARISH IS ONE OF THE HARDEST CHALLENGES CHRISTIANS CAN FACE. IT INVOLVES COOPERATION WITH OTHERS, LOVE, PATIENCE, PERSEVERANCE, AND SACRIFICE OF OUR OWN DESIRES AND TOTAL COMMITMENT TO GOD'S WILL." – HIS EMINENCE, METROPOLITAN JOSEPH

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:** First day of Sunday school. Children and youth should come forward FIRST for Holy Communion, and then proceed downstairs with the teachers. Thank you to all who have volunteered to be a part of our staff this year: Kh. Patty Kishler, Patrice Nimee, Mary Majerus and Christina Kapetaneas.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 7:** Evening Prayers and Bible study, 6pm. *Father Andrew will be available for Confession or Anointing.*
- **Thursday, Oct. 8 – Fri. Oct. 9:** Father Andrew will be out of town.
- **Next Sunday, Oct. 11:** Matins, 9am and Deacon's Typika Service, 10am. Epistle Reader: George Forsa. Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: OPEN.

Next Sunday, Fr. Andrew will be serving Liturgy at All Saints Church in Chicago. Here at St. George, we will welcome Deacon Walid Abdul Karim, who will offer the Deacon's Typika service with Holy Communion. Please, let us make every effort to attend next Sunday and show hospitality to our guest!

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.