

:: The Martyrs Marcian and Martyrios, Notaries of Constantinople ::

Adapted from www.oca.org

The Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, Notaries of Constantinople served in a Constantinople cathedral. Marcian was a reader and Martyrius a subdeacon. They both performed in the capacity of notaries, i.e. secretaries, for Patriarch Paul the Confessor (November 6).

Arian heretics expelled and secretly executed the righteous Patriarch Paul. His throne was given to the heretic Macedonius. The heretics attempted to entice Sts Marcian and Martyrius over to their side by flattery. They offered them gold and promised to consecrate them as archbishops, but all the efforts of the Arians were in vain.

Then the impious threatened to slander them before the emperor, and sought to intimidate them with torture and death. But the saints steadfastly confessed Orthodoxy, as handed down by the Fathers of the Church. Marcian and Martyrius were sentenced to death. Before death, the martyrs prayed, "Lord God, Who have invisibly created our hearts, and directed all our deeds, accept with peace the souls of Your servants, since we perish for You and are considered as sheep for the slaughter (Ps 32/33:15; 43/44:22). We rejoice that by such a death we shall depart this life for Your Name. Grant us to be partakers of life eternal with You, the Source of life." After their prayer the martyrs, with quiet rejoicing, bent their necks beneath the sword of the impious (+ ca. 335).

Their holy bodies were reverently buried by Orthodox Christians. Later, by decree of St John Chrysostom, the relics of the holy martyrs were transferred to a church built in their honor. Believers here were healed of many infirmities through the prayers of the saints, to the glory of the One Life-Creating Trinity.

"DO NOT FEAR THE CONFLICT, DO NOT FLEE IT. WHERE THERE IS NO STRUGGLE, THERE IS NO VIRTUE. WHERE FAITH AND LOVE ARE NOT TESTED, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO BE SURE IF THEY ARE REALLY PRESENT. THEY ARE PROVED AND REVEALED IN ADVERSITY."

— ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT

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**

Pastor: Father Andrew Kishler
211 E. Minnesota St., Spring Valley, IL 61362
www.stgeorgeorthodox.org
815-664-4540 (church office)
773-575-3272 (cell)
frandrew@stgeorgeorthodox.org

Sunday, October 25, 2015

**Sts. Marcian and Martyrios the Notaries
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
Matins: 9:00 AM :: Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM**

Epistle Reader: Matthew McNatt

Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Matthew and Nan McNatt

Next Week's Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Matt and Olly Rowan

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 4):

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: 'Death hath been spoiled! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!'

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

O Lord, how magnified are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the Law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the Law, because by works of the Law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (8:26-39)

At that time, Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And as He stepped out on land, there met Him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What hast Thou to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech Thee, do not torment me." For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. [For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged Jesus not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged Jesus to let them enter these. So He gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked Jesus to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so He got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with Jesus; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare all that God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city all that Jesus had done for him.

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:** Sunday school for kids, downstairs immediately after Holy Communion.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 28:** Teen SOYO October Bonfire. *(See announcement below.)*
- **Saturday, Oct. 31:** NO VESPERS this evening.
- **Next Sunday, Nov. 1: The Feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian.** Matins, 9am and Divine Liturgy, 10am. Epistle Reader: Matt Rowan. Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Matt & Olly Rowan.

This Wednesday, October 28, we invite all of our teens and youth to a bonfire here at St. George Church. This marks the first Teen SOYO event in a number of years. "Teen SOYO" is our Antiochian Archdiocese's youth organization. Thank you to David Anderson, who has agreed to lead our youth ministry! If you have any questions about the bonfire or other events, please contact Fr. Andrew or David.

Special thanks to Mary Majerus, for donating a nice wooden shelf and an icon of our Lord Jesus as a youth, both to our Sunday School program.

Seminary tray: During the month of October, we take up a collection for our Antiochian seminarians. Please be generous, as you are able: many of our seminarians and their families make great sacrifices as they seek to become our future priests, deacons, chanters, and other kinds of church workers.

Special Olympics: In addition to the seminarians, our Archdiocese is also collecting this month for the Special Olympics program. This is one of the major outreach efforts of our wider Church, and is worthy of our full support.

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.