

St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley

Sunday, May 15, 2016
Third Sunday of Pascha

Myrrh-Bearing Women, Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus

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



Pastor:

Father Andrew Kishler

Parish Council officers:

President, Mark Kerasotes

Vice President, Dee Khoury

Secretary, Lynette Forsa

Treasurer, Anysia Medawar

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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



Today's Epistle Reader: George Forsa
Today's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour: Matt and Nan McNatt
Next Sunday's Coffee Hour: George and Mona Kaleel

Hymns of the Day, immediately after the Small Entrance:

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 2): When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee!

Troparion of St. Joseph of Arimathea (Tone 2): The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion of the Myrrh-Bearing Women (Tone 2): Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women: 'The ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the 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 of Pascha (Tone 8): O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: 'Rejoice!' And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those who had fallen!

The Hymn to the Theotokos for the Paschal season:

The angel spake to her that is full of grace, saying, 'O pure Virgin, rejoice; and I say also, Rejoice; for thy Son is risen from the tomb on the third day!' Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem; for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee. Rejoice and exult now, O Zion, and thou, O pure one, Theotokos, rejoice at the Resurrection of thy Son!

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7)

In those days, when the number of disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nikanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nikolaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was passed, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His Disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

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

- **Today:** Sunday school, downstairs immediately after Holy Communion.
- **Also Today:** May Parish Council meeting, upstairs during coffee hour.
- **Wednesday, May 18:** Evening Prayers for Pascha, 6pm. Father Andrew will be available for confession and/or anointing.
- **Saturday, May 21: Sts. Constantine and Helen.** Vespers, 6pm.
- **Next Sunday, May 22: Sunday of the Paralytic.** Matins, 9am; Divine Liturgy, 10am.

Memorial Day is coming up in a few weeks on Monday, May 30. That morning at 10am, we will gather at St. George Cemetery for our annual memorial prayers. I have the list of the departed family and church members we normally remember on that day. However, if your family is new to our church, or if you have names of any other departed you'd like us to mention in prayer, please provide a list of names for me and I will be happy to include them in the service.

This year's **Parish Life Conference** will be June 22-26 in Livonia, Michigan. Registration forms are available on the bulletin shelf in the entry way, or you may register online: www.antiochianevents.com/toledo.html. Please consider attending this excellent event on behalf of our church!

Please also note we will have NO SERVICES on Sunday, June 26, the week of the Parish Life Conference.

We are also pleased to announce that **His Grace Bishop Anthony** plans to visit us in Spring Valley, the weekend of October 15 and 16. More information will follow as we draw closer to that date.

Do you have an announcement for the bulletin?

Please contact Fr. Andrew no later than Friday each week for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

	Holy Bread/Coffee Hour	Epistle Reader
TODAY	Matt and Nan McNatt	George Forsa
Sunday, May 22	George and Mona Kaleel	David Anderson
Sunday, May 29	Kishler, Buss, and Anderson	Matthew McNatt
Sunday, June 5	Mitch Kaleel and family	Matthew Rowan
Sunday, June 12	John/Melanie Thompson	Mike Kasap
Sunday June 19	Ron/Dottie Malooley	Mark Kerasotes
Sunday, June 26	Parish Life Conference – No services	



Birthdays and Anniversaries ~
 May God grant you many years!

(Please let Father know if we are missing anyone!)

Jennifer Harshman, May 10

Ron Malooley, May 21

:: Synaxarion Reading for the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women ::

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: **Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses**, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); **Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus.**

Joseph of Arimathea was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb.

Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was **Nicodemus**, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

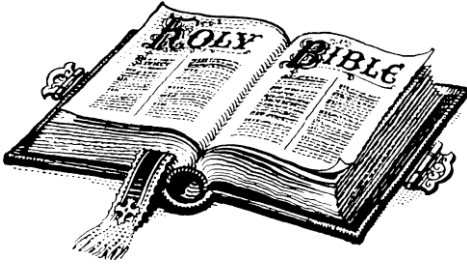
By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.



St. Nicodemus' secret visit to Jesus (John 3)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY 15 – MAY 21



Sunday, May 15: Myrrh-Bearing Women

Acts 6:1-7 / Mark 15:43-16:8

Monday, May 16:

Zephaniah 3:8-15* / Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60 / John
4:46-54

Tuesday, May 17:

1 Kings [3 Kingdoms] 17:8-24 / Acts 8:5-17 / John 6:27-33

Wednesday, May 18:

Isaiah 61:10-62:5 / Acts 8:18-25 / John 6:35-39

Thursday, May 19:

Genesis 22:1-18 / Acts 8:26-39 / John 6:40-44

Friday, May 20:

Isaiah 61:1-9 / Acts 8:40-9:19 / John 6:48-54

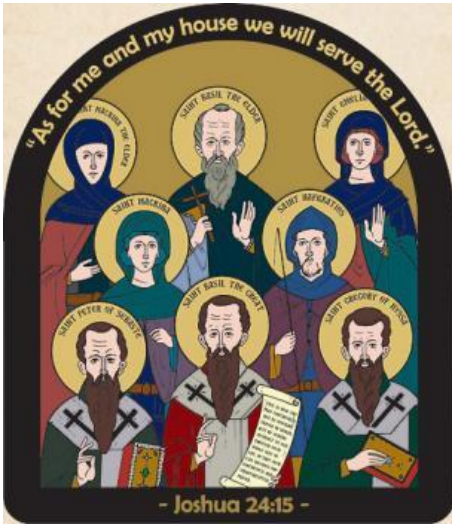
Saturday, May 21: Sts. Constantine and Helen

Acts 26:1, 12-20 / John 10:1-9

** Old Testament readings are Paschal prophecies, taken from the Vespers Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday.*

“WITH THEE, LORD, I WILL FLEE, THAT I MAY GAIN IN THY LIFE IN EVERY PLACE. THE PRISON WITH THEE IS NO PRISON, FOR IN THEE MAN GOES UP INTO HEAVEN: THE GRAVE WITH THEE IS NO GRAVE, FOR THOU ART THE RESURRECTION!”

~ ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN



Parish Life Conference theme for 2016: *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"* (Joshua 24:15).

This year's theme was selected by His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph.

Because we have free will, we have to make the choice whether or not to serve God. God does not force us to follow Him. However, if we truly love God, we will want to worship, obey, and serve Him.

There is much that can be said about this theme and how it impacts our daily lives. Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple when He was 40 days old and dedicated Him to God. The Temple was the most

important place in their lives. Can we say the same thing today? Is the Church the most important place in our lives or are we serving other "gods" that take precedence? What things are most important to us? Money? A quest for fame? Popularity? How do we spend our time—on our phones, the internet, social media, listening to music, watching sports, etc.? How much of our time is devoted to these other "gods" and how much time do we spend serving the one, true God?

The family of St. Basil the Great was selected as the logo for the Creative Festivals because the members of this family dedicated their lives to God and all became saints. The scroll St. Basil is holding says, *"This is how you pray continually— not by offering prayer in words, but by joining yourself to God through your whole way of life, so that your life becomes one continuous and uninterrupted prayer."*

Let us be inspired by the holy families of Jesus and St. Basil the Great to truly make our homes "little churches." In his book, *Making God Real in the Orthodox Home*, Fr. Anthony Coniaris states, *"The Church can do nothing without the home. The most influential school in the world is not Oxford or Harvard or the Sorbonne or Yale or Cambridge. It is the home."*

~ from www.antiochian.org