

St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley

Sunday, May 22, 2016

**Fourth Sunday of Pascha
The Sunday of the Paralytic**

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

·HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC·



Pastor:

Father Andrew Kishler

Parish Council officers:

President, Mark Kerasotes

Vice President, Dee Khoury

Secretary, Lynette Forsa

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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: David Anderson

Today's Holy Bread and Coffee Hour: George and Mona Kaleel

Next Sunday's Coffee Hour: Kishler/Buss/Anderson

Hymns of the Day, immediately after the Small Entrance:

Entrance Hymn for Pascha: In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 3): Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, 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 READING

For the Sunday of the Paralytic

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Clap your hands, all you nations.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (9:32-42)

In those days, as Peter went throughout all regions, he came down also to the saints who dwelt at Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was bedridden for eight years and paralyzed. And Peter said to him: “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; arise and make your bed!” And immediately he arose. And all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon and saw him, and they turned back to the Lord.

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha (which means Gazelle). She was full of good works and of charitable deeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they placed her in an upper chamber. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him: “Come to us without delay!” So Peter arose and went with them. And when arrived, they took him to the upper chamber. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and other garments which Tabitha made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body, he said: Tabitha, arise!” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and raised her up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. And it became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING

For the Sunday of the Paralytic

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (5:1-15)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first, after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.

One man was there, who had been ill for 38 years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.” Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.” And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, “It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.” But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your

pallet, and walk.” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, “Take up your pallet, and walk?”” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befalls you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

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.
- **Tuesday, May 24:** “Prayers for the Valley.” Ecumenical service begins at 7pm, hosted by Abundant Life Fellowship in LaSalle.
- **Wednesday, May 25:** Evening Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Mid-Pentecost, 6pm. *This is a special Divine Liturgy, appointed for the halfway point between Pascha and Pentecost.*
- **Saturday, May 28:** Vespers, 6pm.
- **Next Sunday, May 29: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman.** Matins, 9am; Divine Liturgy, 10am.

Memorial Day is coming up 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.

Church Finances

April 2016:

Operating Income:	\$7151.36
Operating Expenses:	\$6448.57
Cash Flow:	\$ 702.79

January – April 2016:

Income:	\$23,963.99
Expenses:	\$20,886.68
Cash Flow:	\$ 3,077.31

Thank you for your faithful giving so far this year! March and April are always our best months for giving. Please continue to support St. George Church with your tithes and offerings, especially through the summer months.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

	Holy Bread/Coffee Hour	Epistle Reader
TODAY	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!)

Nicole Wiltse, May 9

Matthew Harvey, May 15

Bev Malooley, May 22

Gretel Kaleel, May 22

May Shaheen, May 25

:: Synaxarion Reading for the Sunday of the Paralytic ::

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

“The word of Christ was strength for the paralytic; So that this word alone was the man’s full healing.”

Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep’s Pool, located near the Sheep’s Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today’s Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.

In Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY 22 – MAY 28



Sunday, May 22: The Paralytic

Acts 9:32-42 / John 5:1-15

Monday, May 23:

2 Kings [4 Kingdoms] 4:8-37* / Acts 10:1-16 / John
6:56-69

Tuesday, May 24:

Isaiah 63:11-64:5 / Colossians 3:12-16 / John 7:1-13

Wednesday, May 25: Mid-Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:31-34 / 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 / John 7:14-30

Thursday, May 26:

Daniel 3:1-25 / 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 / John 8:12-20

Friday, May 27:

Daniel 3:26-30 / Acts 10:44-11:10 / John 8:21-30

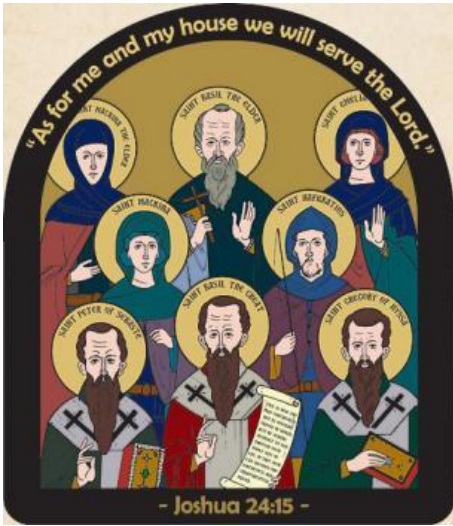
Saturday, May 28:

Acts 12:1-11 / John 8:31-42

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

“IF WE FOLLOWED THE SAME RULES FOR HEALTH THAT WE DO ABOUT RELIGION, WE WOULD ALL BE BEDRIDDEN. IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO TALK ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF HEALTH; WE MUST DO SOMETHING PRACTICAL ABOUT IT – FOR EXAMPLE, EAT, EXERCISE AND REST. SO IT IS WITH RELIGION. WE MUST NOURISH OURSELVES WITH THE TRUTHS OF GOD, EXERCISE OUR SPIRITUAL MUSCLES IN PRAYER, MORTIFY OURSELVES OF THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE HARMFUL TO THE SOUL, AND BE JUST AS SCRUPULOUS IN AVOIDING MORAL EVIL AS WE ARE IN AVOIDING PHYSICAL EVIL.”

~ ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN



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