



St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church

Weekly Bulletin – Sunday, November 6, 2016

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UPCOMING SERVICES

**November 8 – Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the Other
Bodiless Powers**

Contrary to some popular beliefs, people do not become angels when they die. Angels are beings created by God to serve Him and His creation. According to Holy Tradition, there are nine ranks of angels: angels, archangels, dominions, thrones, powers, virtues, principalities, cherubim, and seraphim. On this day, we commemorate all the angelic hosts and ask that they pray to God on our behalf. We will have Vespers at 6 pm on Monday evening and Divine Liturgy at 10am on Tuesday.

Pledge Cards

Yes, it's that time of year again. It's time for us to prayerfully, thoughtfully and intentionally spend some time to consider the gifts that God has placed in our care and to plan how we can offer it back to Him for his blessing and glory.

Pledge cards are available on top of the display stand as you come into the narthex (the back of the Church). Please take one and put it in your prayer corner. Take time over the next few weeks to consider how you

will fill it out. Then, return your pledge card no later than December 4th. This will give the Parish Council adequate time to create our budget for next year.

To help all of us prepare more prayerfully, more thoughtfully, and more intentionally, each week's bulletin will have something we can think and pray about each evening as we say our prayers and consider our pledge....

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God doesn't need our tithes, and neither does St George Church. Nor do they need our prayers, our attendance at services, our fasting or our repentance. These are things we offer because *we* need to offer them. We don't give our time, talents or treasure "to support the Church." We don't "help God out." On the contrary, the Church supports us and helps us. Among the ways it does so is by giving us the opportunity to serve, worship, repent and offer back to God a portion of what He's blessed us with. The God who needs nothing, receives our offerings, and accepts in love these tokens of our love. Thus we remind ourselves, through the regular practice of giving back to God, that all is from Him. This is why we make our offerings, and why we're asked to submit a pledge of our tithe for the coming year: not to benefit God, or His Church, but to benefit ourselves by breaking our attachment to our things, and training ourselves to acknowledge our Benefactor. The most important thing about your Pledge Card is that it's your statement to yourself that you acknowledge God as the source of your life and livelihood – and rejoice in the opportunity to offer Him, as did Abel, a sacrifice of "the firstlings of [your] flock and their fat portions" (Gen. 4:4).

Trip to Saint Barbara's Monastery – We have successfully signed up a van-load of catechumens and parishioners for our trip to Santa Paula where we will celebrate the Monastery of Saint Barbara's Altar feast with Archbishop BENJAMIN and other pilgrims from around the Diocese on December 3rd. Thanks be to God and a generous donation from one of our parishioners (thank you!), we have \$100 towards the cost of the trip. The total cost is \$400, so we are still accepting donations for anyone who is so inclined. We will be leaving from the Church parking lot at 6am on Saturday December 3rd.

Choir Practice –We are continuing Choir practice this week on Saturday, Nov 12 at 4:30 pm. All are welcome. Even if you do not wish to sing with the choir, consider coming to a practice or two. Everyone in our Church is invited to sing during the divine services. Attending a few practices to learn the music will help all of us to sing joyfully and more beautifully.

Adult Education Classes – We are learning about Living our Lives as Orthodox Christians. All are welcome to attend. Classes are on Saturday evenings from 5 to 6 immediately followed by Great Vespers.

Memorials – There will be a memorial service for Sylvia Mitchell's 40th day after her repose on Sunday, Nov 13th immediately following Liturgy. Also, there will be a general memorial service after Liturgy on Nov 27th. Please give Dn George the names of anyone you would like to remember on that day.

Office Hours – Father will be at the Church for office hours on Wednesdays from 11 am to 5:30 pm. Feel free to stop by for a chat or to come to confession. While Wednesday is Father's "official" office day, please don't hesitate to call between 9am and 6pm on other days if there is something you need to discuss. Of course, in an emergency, you may call any time.

Akathist on Wednesdays – Before Father heads home on Wednesdays, he will offer an Akathist at 5:30pm. This is a short service where we pray and sing to one of the Saints of our Church. So far, we've sung to the Theotokos and to St Herman of Alaska. This week, we'll pray to St Xenia of Petersburg. If you're in the area, it is a lovely opportunity to stop by and say a prayer together in the evening and to learn a little about the many saints whose icons we have on the walls of our temple.

Parish Council Meeting – The parish council will meet for their monthly meeting after Divine Liturgy next Sunday, November 6th.

Calendar of Events – November 11 – 13

Sun 11/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:40am – Hours and Divine Liturgy
Mon 11/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6:00pm Great Vespers
Tue 11/8	Synaxis of the Archangel Michael <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:40am Hours• 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Wed 11/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11am-5:30pm – Office Hours• 5:30pm Akathist
Thu 11/10	
Fri 11/11	
Sat 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4:30pm Choir practice• 5:00pm Adult Education• 6:00pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sun 11/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:40am – Hours and Divine Liturgy• Memorial for Sylvia Mitchell• Parish Council Meeting

Save the Dates:

December 3, 2016 at 6am – Trip to Saint Barbara’s Monastery

December 4, 2016 – Return Pledge Cards

December 18, 2016 at 8:30am – Baptisms/Chrismations