



St George the Great Martyr Orthodox Church

Weekly Bulletin – Sunday, January 15, 2017

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Pledge Cards The pledge cards continue to trickle in, but St George's parish needs your help to have all cards turned in as quickly as possible. We will be having our annual parish meeting on February 19th and we need to have those cards to make a roster of voting members. Once again, one must go to Confession, receive the Eucharist at least once a year, and *offer a pledge* (of any amount) in order to be considered a member in good standing at St George's.

Please fill out and submit your pledge card to Deacon George as soon as possible – To date, we have 13 pledges.

House Blessings

House blessings are an annual Tradition for all Orthodox Christians, where we offer back to God the homes He's given us, through prayer and 'baptizing' them with holy water. Non-Orthodox homes may also be blessed. A signup sheet is available during coffee hour. **Please pick a date for your visit and a preferred time of day (morning, afternoon or evening). The following days are available: Jan 17, 18, 19, Feb 13-17.** Father will schedule appointments on a first come, first served basis, using the signup sheet. Here's what you'll need:

- A suitable location, such as your icon corner, for Father to set up a few liturgical items in. If your house doesn't have an icon corner, you might clear your dining room table and put an icon on it.
- A bowl for Holy Water. Father will bring some for backup, but first will use what you have brought home from church. Orthodox Christians should keep a supply of Holy Water at home, to reverently drink when they must miss Divine Liturgy due to sickness.
- A candle for you to carry during the procession through your home (and matches or a lighter).
- A slip of paper with the saint's names of those living in the home, so Father can sing them "Many Years."
- The blessing begins and ends with a prayer in your icon corner, and in between it involves a procession through your home. You'll carry a candle and lead Father, who sprinkles the house with Holy Water as he sings the Theophany troparion, which you're welcome to join in:

*When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan
The Worship of the Trinity was made manifest
For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee
And called Thee His beloved Son
And the Spirit in the form of a dove
Confirmed the truthfulness of His Word
O Christ, our God who hast revealed Thyself
And hast enlightened the world, Glory to Thee!*

- After the short service of blessing has concluded, Fr. Michael would be happy to visit with you for a bit. When possible, he will bring Matushka.

Many times, Father Michael is busy after the Liturgy on Sunday and there never seems to be enough time to visit with everyone. This is an opportunity to visit one-on-one in your home with him and Matushka if you wish. There is no need to offer a meal or snack, but if you'd like Father and Matushka to stay for something, please indicate that on the sign up and he will try to accommodate.

If you have any questions about this service or scheduling it, please speak with Fr. Michael.

Father will be leaving for a reunion right after Liturgy on Jan 22nd and will be returning for Liturgy on February 4th. During that time, please contact Dn George for any emergencies. Fr Stephen and Mat Lindsey Osburn will be serving the weekend of the 28th and the 29th so there will be Vespers and Liturgy that weekend.

We will hold our annual parish meeting on February 19th. To be considered a voting member of St George, one must participate in the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion at least once during the last year and submit a pledge card. We would like to finalize the list of voting members no later than February 12th.

Great Lent – The Great Fast is a little over a month away! We've added some important dates at the end of the bulletin for planning purposes.

Calendar of Events – January 8 – 15

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| Sun 1/15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:40am – Hours and Divine Liturgy General Memorial to follow |
| Mon 1/16 | |
| Tue 1/17 | |
| Wed 1/18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11:00am – 5:30pm - Office Hours• 5:30 - Akathist |
| Thu 1/19 | |
| Fri 1/20 | |
| Sat 1/21 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6:00pm – Great Vespers |
| Sun 1/22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:40am – Hours and Divine Liturgy |

Save the Date:

Jan 23 – Feb 3 – Father and Matuska on vacation

Jan 28-29 Fr Stephen serving

Feb 19 – Annual Parish Meeting

Feb 26 – Forgiveness Sunday

Feb 27 – FIRST DAY OF GREAT LENT

March 1 – First Presanctified Liturgy

March 10 – First Akathist

April 8 – Lazarus Saturday

April 9 – Palm Sunday

April 21 – Good Friday

April 16 - PASCHA