



**St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church - Weekly Bulletin**

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Church Email: frmichael@stgeorgeoca.org
Website: <http://www.stgeorgeoca.org>
Priest Michael Rozdilski (760) 244-9223 and (425) 999-0407
Deacon George Berni (760) 792-8604

CHRIST IS RISEN! – INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women with the Noble Joseph Commemorated on April 22 . We commemorate the Holy Myrrh-bearing women Saints Mary Magdalene, Mary the wife of Clopas, Joanna, Salome, mother of the sons of Zebedee, Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus. Also Saint Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus.

Troparion — Tone 2 ; The Noble Joseph, / when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But You rose on the third day, O Lord, / granting the world great mercy.

Troparion — Tone 2 ; The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: / Myrrh is meet for the dead; / but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! / So proclaim: The Lord is risen, / granting the world great mercy!

Saint George (April 23)

Troparion — Tone 4 ; You were bound for good deeds, O martyr of Christ: George; / by faith you conquered the torturer's godlessness. / You were offered as a sacrifice pleasing to God; / thus you received the crown of victory. / Through your intercessions, forgiveness of sins is granted to all.

Kontakion — Tone 4 ; God raised you as his own gardener, O George, / for you have gathered for yourself the sheaves of virtue. / Having sown in tears, you now reap with joy; / you shed your blood in combat and won Christ as your crown. / Through your intercessions, forgiveness of sins is granted to all.

Greatmartyr, Victory-bearer and Wonderworker George

The Holy Great Martyr George the Victory-Bearer, was a native of Cappadocia (a district in Asia Minor), and he grew up in a deeply believing Christian family. His father was martyred for Christ when George was still a child. His mother, owning lands in Palestine, moved there with her son and raised him in strict piety. When he became a man, Saint George entered into the service of the Roman army. He was handsome, brave and valiant in battle, and he came to the notice of the emperor Diocletian (284-305) and joined the Imperial guard as military commander. Saint George, when he heard the decision of the emperor to kill all Christians, distributed all his wealth to the poor, freed his servants, and then appeared in the Senate. The brave soldier of Christ spoke out openly against the emperor's designs. He confessed himself a Christian, and appealed to all to acknowledge Christ: "I am a servant of Christ, my God, and trusting in Him, I have come among you voluntarily, to bear witness concerning the Truth." "What is Truth?" one of the dignitaries asked, echoing the question of Pontius Pilate. The saint replied, "Christ Himself, Whom you persecuted, is Truth." Stunned by the bold speech of the valiant warrior, the emperor, who had loved and promoted George, attempted to persuade him not to throw away his youth and glory and honors, but rather to offer sacrifice to the gods as was the Roman custom. The confessor replied, "Nothing in this inconstant life can weaken my resolve to serve God." Then by order of the enraged emperor the armed guards began to push Saint George out of the assembly hall with their spears, and they then led him off to prison. But the deadly steel became soft and it bent, just as the spears touched the saint's body, and it caused him no harm. In prison they put the martyr's feet in stocks and placed a heavy stone on his chest. The next day at the interrogation, powerless but firm of spirit, Saint George again answered the emperor, "You will grow tired of tormenting me sooner than I will tire of being tormented by you." Then Diocletian gave orders to subject Saint George to some very intense tortures. They tied the Great Martyr to a wheel,

beneath which were boards pierced with sharp pieces of iron. As the wheel turned, the sharp edges slashed the saint's naked body. At first the sufferer loudly cried out to the Lord, but soon he quieted down, and did not utter even a single groan. Diocletian decided that the tortured one was already dead, and he gave orders to remove the battered body from the wheel, and then went to a pagan temple to offer thanks. At this very moment it got dark, thunder boomed, and a voice was heard: "Fear not, George, for I am with you." Then a wondrous light shone, and at the wheel an angel of the Lord appeared in the form of a radiant youth. He placed his hand upon the martyr, saying to him, "Rejoice!" Saint George stood up healed. When the soldiers led him to the pagan temple where the emperor was, the emperor could not believe his own eyes and he thought that he saw before him some other man or even a ghost. In confusion and in terror the pagans looked Saint George over carefully, and they became convinced that a miracle had occurred. Many then came to believe in the Life-Creating God of the Christians.

Weekly announcements:

- ◆ **Fr Michael** will be out of town, returning on May 5th. Please contact **Deacon George** for emergencies.
- ◆ **Fr Dionysos** will be serving Sunday next week, April 29. Please support his efforts and attend church.
- ◆ There will **not** be Sunday School next week, April 29.
- ◆ There will be no services for Midfeast of Pentecost on May 1-2.

Calendar of Events – April 22 - April 29

| | | |
|-----------|------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 4/22 | 9:30am - Hours and Divine Liturgy |
| Monday | | |
| Tuesday | | |
| Wednesday | | |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | |
| Saturday | 4/28 | NO VESPERS |
| Sunday | 4/29 | 9:30am - Hours and Divine Liturgy |
| Monday | | |
| Tuesday | | |
| Wednesday | | |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | |
| Saturday | 5/5 | 6:00pm Great Vespers and Confessions |
| Sunday | 5/6 | 9:30am - Hours and Divine Liturgy |

Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers during the week.

For good health and healing:

Abram, Debrutu, Aida, Dragosh, Sonya, Denise, Joseph, Joseph, Souraya, Alice, Issa, John, Basil.

For a new Job:

Mario, Jason, Marie, Janice.

Memory Eternal:

Stoika, Nicholas, Soula