



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

Sunday, December 16 2018

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 TONE 4 29th Sunday after Pentecost/ Sunday of the Holy Forefathers Prophet Hggai

Tone 4 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 2 Troparion (*Forefathers*)

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, / betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. / These saints exult in glory, / for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: / she who bore Thee without seed.// So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Tone 6 Kontakion (*Forefathers*)

Ye did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, / ye were glorified in a trial by fire. / From the midst of / unbearable flames ye called on God, crying: / “Hasten, O compassionate One! / Speedily come to our aid,// for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

Luke 14:16-24 (Gospel)

Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’”

It is **not too late to Join us** this Advent for our

Adult Education Series, “On the Incarnation”

by St. Athanasius of Alexandria. We meet each Saturday after Vespers until Christmas. As we prepare for Christ’s birth it is awesome to gain deeper understanding about Christ. Please come and Join our lively conversations, having the book is not necessary.

Those interested in purchasing a book, please see Father. If you would like to read or print it from an online source, a PDF is available at: http://www.copticchurch.net/topics/theology/incarnation_st_athanasius.pdf

Advent Confession – As Christians, we struggle constantly to grow in our relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ. Yet, time after time, all of us fall and suffer the effects of our own sinfulness. The Church provides us with the sacrament of Confession so that we may participate in the healing and saving grace of forgiveness. During this season of advent, it is imperative that all of us take advantage of this opportunity to come before the Lord and confess our sins. When we do this with sincerity, He will wash us, bind up our wounds and heal us, so that we can continue our journey towards Him and celebrate His Nativity and Baptism in faith and love.

Father Michael is available to hear confessions after Great Vespers on Saturdays as well as during the week, especially on Wednesdays during his regular office hours. If you would like, you can even make an appointment. Please be sure to come to confession no later than December 21st. Father will not be hearing confessions on Christmas Eve, unless it is due to very dire circumstances.

Pledge Cards It's time once again for all of 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 to Deacon George no later than **January 20th**. This will give the Parish Council adequate time to create our budget for next year. It is important to remember that 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.

Calendar of Events – Starting today: December 16

Sunday	12/16	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy
Monday	12/17	5:30pm Choir practice @ church
Tuesday	12/18	
Wednesday	12/19	2:00-5:00pm Office Hours
Thursday	12/20	
Friday	12/21	
Saturday	12/22	6:00pm Great Vespers 7:00pm Adult education 'On The Incarnation'
Sunday	12/23	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Weekly announcements, looking ahead:

- ◆ **Flowers for Christmas. Please bring beautiful Poinsettias to church, even numbers of similar plants is best for symmetry.**
- ◆ Monday at 5:30 the choir meets to practice for our Christmas services.
- ◆ Office Hours this Wednesday 2-5pm.
- ◆ There will be Sunday school next Sunday.
- ◆ We will have several opportunities to celebrate Christ this year. Plan accordingly, so we may sing and **celebrate together** with one voice.

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Monday the **24th**: - **Christmas Eve**
9:30am Vespers Divine Liturgy.
4:30pm Great Compline

Sunday the **25th**: **Christmas Day**
9:10am 3rd and 6th hours
9:30am Divine Liturgy

Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers this week:

For good health and healing: Souraya, Christina, Eddie, Ruth, Fred, Gloria, Nicholas, Mary, Dragosh, Sonia, Doreen, Gene, Peter.

For a new Job: Mario, Jason, Janice, Jamileh, Timothy.

Memory Eternal: Newly Departed Fr Athanasius.