



Established 1918

# St. George Orthodox Church

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*Metropolitan SABA, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America  
Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Jeremy, Archiepiscopal Vicar Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest*



## Sunday, December 29, 2024 After-feast of and the Sunday After the Nativity of Christ

Tone 2/Eothinon 5

8:45am - Matins, 10:00am - Divine Liturgy  
Followed by Fellowship

Fr. Jeremy Finzel, Pastor

### Coming Up at St. George:

Monday, December 30 at 8:30am - Hours, 9:00am - Liturgy

Tuesday, December 31 at 8:30am - Hours, 9:00am - Liturgy

Wednesday, January 1 at 8:00am - Orthros, 9:00am - Divine Liturgy for St. Basil the Great and the Circumcision of Christ

Thursday, January 2 at 8:30am - Hours, 9:00am - Divine Liturgy for St. Seraphim of Sarov and at 1:00pm - Senior Share Children's Concert

Friday, January 3 at 9:00am - Royal Hours for Theophany and at 3:00pm - Confession with Fr. Andrew Kishler

Saturday, January 4 at 8:30am - Hours, 9:00am - Liturgy and at 5:30pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 5 at 8:45am - Orthros, 10:00am - Divine Liturgy and Indoor Blessing of Waters, Followed by Fellowship and at 6:30pm - Great Vespers for Theophany

Monday, January 6 at 8:00am - Festal Orthros, 9:00am - Festal Liturgy for Theophany, Followed by Outdoor Blessing of the Waters

Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30pm - Daily Vespers, 7:30pm - British Isle Presentation, Including Refreshments

Thursday, January 9 at 8:30am - Hours, 9:00am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 11 at 5:30pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 12 at 8:45am - Orthros, 10:00am - Divine Liturgy, Followed by Fellowship, Adult Education and Sunday School

Services available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@St.GeorgeSpringValleyOrthodox>

## Please follow along in the booklet for Divine Liturgy

- *The Glory hymns at the end of Matins:*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

The blood, fire and pillars of smoke are the miracles of the earth which Joel foresaw; for the blood is the Incarnation, the fire is the Divinity, and the pillars of smoke are the Holy Spirit which descended on the Virgin and scented the world. Wherefore, great is the mystery of Thine Incarnation, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Both Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Thou hast transcended all blessings, O Virgin Theotokos! For Hades hath been spoiled by Him who was incarnate of thee. Yea, Adam was recalled, the curse was abolished. Eve was delivered and death was caused to die, and we were made to live again. Wherefore, with praise we cry: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast thus shown Thy pleasure. Glory to Thee!

- *The service continues with the Great Doxology, Page 2.*
- *The Troparion after the Great Doxology:*

Today hath salvation come into the world. Let us sing praises unto Him who rose again from the grave, the Author of our life. For in that by death He hath destroyed death, He hath given us the victory and great mercy.

- *The Liturgy continues with the Opening Prayers, Page 3.*
- *The First Antiphon:*

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. In the council of the upright, and in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

**Refrain:** Through the prayers of the birth giver of God, O Savior, save us.

They are sought out in all the things that He hath willed. Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages. *(Repeat Refrain)*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. *(Repeat Refrain)*

- *The Little Litany*
- *The Second Antiphon:*

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; in His commandments shall he greatly delight. His seed shall be mighty upon the earth. The generation of the upright shall be blessed.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, O Thou who wast born of the Virgin; even us who sing unto Thee, Alleluia.

Glory and riches shall be in his house, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages. *(Repeat Refrain)*

There hath risen up in darkness a light for the upright; he is merciful and compassionate and righteous. *(Repeat Refrain)*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and Word of God, who art immortal, and who didst deign for our salvation to be incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, and without change wast made man, and was also crucified, O Christ our God, and didst trample death by death, being yet one

of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit; Save us!

- *The Little Litany*
- *The Third Antiphon and the Little Entrance:*

The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints.

**Troparion for the Nativity (Tone 4):** Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship Thee, O Son of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come, O Lord, glory to Thee.

- *The Entrance Hymn:*

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise again from the dead, we who sing unto Thee: Alleluia!

- *Hymns of the day, following the Little Entrance:*

**Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 2):** When Thou, O Immortal Life, didst humble Thyself unto death, then didst Thou destroy death by the brightness of Thy Godhead; and when Thou didst raise the bowels of the earth, then all the heavenly powers exclaimed, O Christ, Thou art the Giver of life! Glory to Thee, O our God!

**Repeat the Troparion for the Nativity** (*from above*)

**Apolytikion of Sunday After the Nativity (Tone 2):** Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

**Troparion for 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 the Nativity (Tone 3):** Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify Him; and the Magi with the star travel on their way; for a new child hath been born for our sakes, God before the ages.

- *The Trisagion Hymn:*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One: Have mercy on us! (*three times*)

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*Holy Immortal One: Have mercy upon us!*

Louder! Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One: Have mercy upon us!

*The Epistle for the Sunday After Nativity*

**Clergy:** Let us attend!

**Reader:** God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

**Clergy:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (1:11-19).

**Clergy:** Let us attend!

**Reader:** Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

**Clergy:** Peace be to thee who readest.

**Reader:** And to thy spirit.

**Chanter:** Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David.

**All:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### *The Gospel for the Sunday After Nativity*

#### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:13-23).**

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

- *The Liturgy continues with the Homily, Page 12.*

*The Litany of the Catechumens:*

**Priest:** Pray to the Lord, ye catechumens.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. *(repeat after each petition)*

Let us, the faithful, pray for the catechumens, that the Lord will have mercy on them.  
That He will teach them the word of truth.  
That He will reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.  
That He will unite them in His holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
Save them; have mercy on them; help them; and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

**Priest:** Bow your heads unto the Lord, ye catechumens.

**People:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** (*Quietly*) O Lord our God, who dwellest on high and regardest the humble, who hast sent forth as the salvation of the race of men thine only-begotten Son and God, our Lord Jesus Christ; Look down upon thy servants the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before Thee; make them worthy in due season of the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins and the robe of incorruption. Unite them to Thy holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and number them with Thine elect flock. (*Louder*) That with us they may glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Priest:** As many as are catechumens, depart. Depart, catechumens. As many as are catechumens, depart. Let none of the catechumens remain.

- *The First Litany of the Faithful:*

**Priest:** As many as are of the faithful, again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (*Very slowly while the Priest prays quietly.*)

**Priest:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Priest:** For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

- *The Second Litany of the Faithful:*

**Priest:** Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (*Very slowly while the Priest prays quietly.*)

**Priest:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Priest:** That guarded always by Thy might we may ascribe glory unto Thee to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

- *The Cherubic Hymn:*

Let us who represent the Cherubim mystically, as we sing with them the thrice-holy hymn to the life-giving Trinity, the thrice-holy chant intoning. All cares terrestrial, now lay aside. We raise on high the King of All.

- *The Liturgy continues with the Great Entrance, Page 12.*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 30 – Monique Harvey

### Parish Council Representatives

#### Elected & Appointed Members

Wayne Sanders, *Chair*  
Mark Kerasotes, *Vice-Chair & Order of St. Ignatius*  
Melanie Thompson, *Treasurer*  
Rdr. Michael Baum, *Secretary & Ecclesiarch*  
Sbdn. David Anderson, *Sunday School*

#### Organization Representatives

Genie Sanders, *Chanters/Choir*  
Allyson Scandale, *Antiochian Women*  
Maxwell Colby, *Young Adults*  
Robert Abraham, *Facilities*

### Information & Announcements

**Collection for Hall Township Food Pantry:** Throughout the Nativity fast, we collected \$139 for the food pantry. Thanks to a matching grant, our financial gift was doubled. With that \$278, they can purchase \$2,780 worth of food through River Bend Food Bank to distribute to those in need locally.

**You're invited!** To kickoff the new year, our Senior Share group is hosting a Children's Concert featuring the Finzel family on Thursday, January 2nd at 1:00pm. All are welcome and refreshments will be served!

**British Isle Presentations:** Mike Baum has put together slideshows of his and Ruth's recent pilgrimages to England and Ireland. There's an amazing amount of ancient Christian heritage, sites, and stories, and they brought back a lot of pictures! Starting January 8th and running through the 29th, presentations and refreshments will start at 7:30 pm, right after Daily Vespers at 6:30 pm.

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### Praises for the Nativity of Christ

*Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and organs. Be glad, O ye righteous; ye heavens, rejoice exceedingly; ye mountains, skip for joy, as Christ is born. Imitating the Cherubim, the Virgin becometh a throne, carrying in her bosom God the Word incarnate. Shepherds glorify Him that is born; Magi offer gifts unto the Master; and Angels sing praises, saying: O incomprehensible Lord, glory be to Thee.*

*Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.*

*The Father was well pleased: the Word is become flesh, and the Virgin hath given birth unto God become man. A star is the herald; Magi worship; shepherds marvel; and creation doth rejoice.*

*The Lord said to my Lord, Sit Thou at my right hand until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. O Virgin Theotokos, who hast given birth unto the Savior, thou hast overturned the ancient curse of Eve. For thou art become the Mother of Him that is the Good Will of the Father, and hast carried in thy bosom God the Word incarnate. This mystery cannot be searched out; we all glorify it with faith alone, crying with thee and saying: O Lord, Who art past interpretation, glory be to Thee.*

*From the womb, before the morning star, I begot Thee. The Lord hath sworn, and He shall not repent.*

*Come, let us sing hymns unto the Mother of the Savior, who after childbirth still remained a virgin. Rejoice, thou Living City of our King and God, wherein Christ hath dwelt and hath wrought salvation. Together with Gabriel we praise thee; with the shepherds we glorify thee, crying: O Theotokos, intercede with Him that was incarnate of thee, that we be saved.*

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