

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church
1250 Oakdale Avenue

West Saint Paul, Minnesota 55118

Parish Website: <http://www.saintgeorge-church.org>

Very Reverend Archpriest Thomas Begley, *Pastor*

Right Reverend Archimandrite Duane Pederson, *attached*

Reverend Priest John Chagnon, attached

V. Rev. Archpriest Paul Hodge, Assisting Priest

Reverend Archdeacon Russell Hodge, *Assisting Deacon*

Reverend Deacon John Mikhail, Assisting Deacon

Reader Leonard Soroka, *Director of Music*

Church Phone - 651-457-0854

Pastor's Phone - 651-882-7809

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2011

**THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

TONE: 4

EOTHINON: 7

On this day, we commemorate: *St. Basil the Great, New-martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos.*

DIVINE LITURGY TODAY OF ST BASIL THE GREAT

During and after the Little Entrance with the Gospel Book, sing:

The Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone: 4

Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying death hath been spoiled Christ God is risen granting the world great mercy.

Then sing:

The Troparion of the Circumcision of Christ in Tone: 1

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh, that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions. Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion. Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

Troparion of St. Basil in Tone: 1

Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, which hath received thy word. Thereby thou hast divinely taught the Faith; thou hast made manifest the nature of all things that be; thou hast

adorned the ways of man. O namesake of the royal priesthood, our righteous Father Basil, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

The Troparion of St. George, our Patron saint.

The Kontatakion of the Circumcision in Tone: 3

Today the Lord of all endureth circumcision, cutting off the transgressions of mortals; for he is good and granteth salvation to the world. And in the heights the high priest of the Creator, Basil the light-bearer, the divine initiate of Christ, rejoiceth.

***Prokeimenon:** My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and the meditation of my heart shall bring forth understanding.
Hear this, all people.*

EPISTLE: The Reading is from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians
(2:8-12)

Brethren, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of the deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in Him, Who is the head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, Who raised Him from the dead.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST LUKE

(2:20-21, 40-52)

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing Him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. And when they saw Him they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why hast Thou treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for You anxiously." And He said to them, "How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" And they did not understand the saying which He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

HOLY BREAD

Holy Bread is given for the health and welfare of Father Antim, Dimitre Dimitrov, Sonia Yovtcheva, Stefan & Ivailo Tchepichev and their families, Father Tom and his family, Father Duane, Father John and his family, Leonard Soroka, Rosa Neimy and all the members of St. George. In memory of Petko Yovchev, Petko Tchepichev and all of those in Sonia's and Stefan's families who have gone before as well as for all departed members of St George's families.

COFFEE HOUR

The coffee hour is offered this morning by Joannie Alevizos. Everyone is invited to this time of fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to all our guests and visitors. We are delighted to have you visiting and worshipping with us this morning and hope that you return again soon. We invite you to participate in the Divine Liturgy, but due to the sad divisions in Christianity **only baptized/christened members of the Orthodox Church who have made their Confession before an Orthodox priest and prepared themselves by fasting may receive Holy Communion.** Please come forward after Liturgy to venerate the Cross and partake of the *Antidoron* - Holy Bread. Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour after the Liturgy. Also, please **turn off your cell phones and all electronic devices.**

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for Lorraine DeFlorin, Wally Golden, Nicholas Marinkov, Yasmin Kakish, Mary Saba, Erma Ziton, John Etoll, Jackson & Hunter Golden, Julie Funari, Denise Scott, Mavis Aussey, Margaret Boalbey, Gracie Holmes, Katherine Melchert, Carol Haddad, Ted Goll, Betty Ablan & Rosa Neimy.

If you are ill and wish to be remembered in the Liturgy and daily prayers of the priest, please contact Fr. Tom.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Fr. Thomas and Kh. Beth and family, would like to wish you and your families a very blessed Nativity and New Year! We, along with the clergy of St. George, sincerely thank you for your cards, gifts and kindness. May God grant you health and many years!

DRAFT 2012 PARISH DIRECTORY – The DRAFT 2012 Parish Directory is located in the Church Hall. Please review your contact information and correct if necessary. We will be printing the new directory very soon. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Michael Ferraro, who was received into the Orthodox Church by chrismation, on Dec.29th. May God grant him many years! His godfather is Nusrallah Jubran.

THANK YOU

St. George Church School coordinated a School Supply Drive. We want to thank everyone who donated notebooks, pencils, markers,

backpacks, crayons, etc. We have received thank you notes from Moreland Elementary School and Neighbors, Inc. for our contributions. We sent 12 canvas bags of supplies to IOCC.

THIS WEEK

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir Rehearsal Wed. Jan. 4th, full choir.

BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study will meet Wednesday, January 4, at 7:00 PM. in the church hall. We will listen to a special recording of a presentation by Fr. Thomas Hopko.

THEOPHANY SERVICE

We will celebrate the Feast of Theophany and the Great Blessing of the waters on Thursday, January 5, at 6:30 P.M.

St George Ladies' Holiday Brunch Buffet

Saturday, January 7, 2012

Angelo's in So. St Paul from 11:00 AM -2:00 PM

\$15.00 includes beverage, tax & tip

Ladies, make your reservations for this fun event by Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

Instead of a "gift exchange" we would appreciate a donation for FOCUS/Neighbors. Items include: blankets, hats/gloves, scarves, socks, food items and toiletries/grooming aids (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, etc.).

Come one, come all, for food, fun, friendship and games.

Sign-up sheet will be located in church hall.

Hosted by: Pat Burbank, Michelle Apman, and Brigitte Khoury.

Please call Brigitte with any questions.

VESPERS

We will serve Vespers, Saturday January 7, at 5:00 P.M.

MEN'S CLUB

The next Men's Club meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 8, following the coffee hour.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NO FASTING!

THERE IS **NO FASTING** from December 25th through January 4th; the Paramon of Theophany, January 5th, is kept as a **STRICT FAST DAY**.

HOUSE BLESSINGS

Please call Fr. Tom to schedule a house blessing. Houses should be blessed between Theophany and the beginning of Lent.

HOLY BREAD LIST LIST

Jan. 5 Theophany - Sonia

Jan. 8 Sue Perry

Jan. 15 Tom Rudquist & memorial

Jan. 22 Bashara/Can

Jan. 29 Pat Burbank

COFFEE HOUR

Tom & Sue Perry

Pat Burbank

If you can take one of the open dates, please contact Joannie Alevizos. If you would like to offer Holy Bread or a memorial for your loved one on a date that is already taken please feel free to schedule it with Joannie. Also, if you would like to host the coffee hour the same Sunday, please contact Sanaa. It is completely proper to have more than one memorial or holy bread on a Sunday.

Choir Rehearsals for January 2012

In anticipation of our Bishop's Visit in February

Sunday Jan 8 – Tenor

Wednesday Jan 11 – All

Sunday Jan 15 – Bass

Wednesday Jan 18 – All

Sunday Jan 22 – Alto

Wednesday – Jan 25 – All

Sunday – Jan 29 - Sop

Antiochian Village Summer Camp Registration Now Online!

Are you ready for summer 2012? We are! Registration is open for campers who will be between the age of 9 (or entering 4th grade) through 17 next summer. Register online now... it's the best Christmas gift there is!

LADIES SOCIAL EVENT Tickets were donated for the Joke Joint Comedy Club in Lilydale for January 21st, Saturday, at 8:00PM. The address is 801 Sibley Memorial Highway. If you are interested in going to dinner before the performance or just going to the performance, please sign up on the sheet in the Social Hall with your request. We have 16 tickets. Thank you!

NEIGHBORS - Dear partners in Christ, We are once again gearing up for a very busy holiday season. We have been blessed with generous donations of gifts and time from area churches in the past, and this year we know the need is greater than ever. How can you help? There are several ways... Your gift may be in the form of time, by volunteering, or you may wish to Adopt a Family. Or, if you prefer you can donate gifts that will be administered through our "Love Your Neighbor" program. Needless to say, a monetary gift or gift cards are also always appreciated. Our "Love Your Neighbor" program is a unique opportunity to share in a meaningful way. As a community-based program, all gifts remain in the community to brighten the Christmas of your neighbors who are less fortunate. Neighbors Inc.

CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATES CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

The Archdiocese encourages us to participate in food drives for our local community. All food collected between October 16 and January 1, will be recorded and reported to the Archdiocese as part of the World Food Drive. All food is given to Neighbors, Inc., the local food shelf that

serves West St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota Heights and Mendota. Cash and checks, (made out to Neighbors, Inc.), can be given to Michelle Apman or George Droubie.

BISHOP'S VISIT

Our newly elected bishop, Fr. Anthony Michaels, has agreed to make his first pastoral visit to St. George on the weekend of February 3-5. St. George Church holds a very special place in the heart of our future bishop and he is looking forward to visiting us! Please mark your calendars. As we receive more information we will pass it on.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

The Super Bowl Party will be held February 5, sponsored by the St. George Men's Club. More information will be published as we draw near the date.

DEFIBRILLATOR The AED, automated external defibrillator, is located at Church when you walk in the office; go to the right, on the shelf behind the main door. This will be the location until the AED storage box arrives.

Encountering the Icon

Icon Classes begin soon!

So is our immersion into iconography as a form of Holy Scripture.

It is nothing else but the Bible, and the correct interpretation of the Bible,

transferred to paint and mosaic... "

"Christ," says St. Paul, "is the icon of the invisible God" (Col. 2:7).

The schedule of 2012 classes are as follows: please register by sending a deposit of \$75.00 to Icon Art Studios, 13921 127th Street North, Stillwater, MN, 55082. All inquiries can be sent via e-mail at akorluka@aol.com or my cell at 612-889-5868.

Session 1 will concentrate on the prototype of "The Holy Face". Sessions 2 and 3 will offer a new study, for 2012- "Prayer and Contemplation with Angels". Either an archangel or the guardian angel will be the prototype of choice for icons written during these sessions.

Session 1- at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church on Lake Calhoun, 3450 Irving Ave. South, Mpls., 55408, Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 on January 19, 26, and February 2 and 9. Tuition cost is \$135.00 plus

materials.

Session 2- at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:30 on February 23, March 1,8,15,22 and 29. Tuition cost is \$195.00 plus materials.

Session 3- at the Basilica of St. Mary, Hennepin at Sixteenth Street, Mpls., 55403 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays, March 3,10,17 and 24 during Great Lent. Tuition including materials \$295.00