

MOSAIC

Coming together, we form an icon of God's Kingdom

Vol. 11, No. 1

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, IL

April 2006

(708) 562-2744

www.holyapostleschurch.com

Saint George the Tropaeophorus and Megalomartys

Among Orthodox Christians, St. George is known as the tropaeophorus and the megalomartys. In Greek, a tropaeon, usually found in the plural form, are the trophies (spoils) of war such as shields, spears, helmets, etc., carried back home by a victorious army. Therefore, the tropaeophorus refers to a soldier of a victorious army who returns home bearing his defeated enemy's weapons or booty.

As to how the word tropaeophorus relates to St. George, from the beginning of Christianity, Christians have often seen themselves as at war with the forces of evil and sin. As a victorious warrior in Christ's spiritual army, St. George, through word, example, and deed, snatched many, enslaved by sin and ignorance, from the clutches of the devil and his allies, carrying them home to Christ as spiritual spoils.

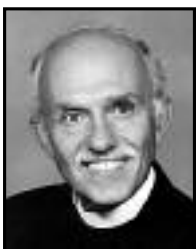
In Christian terminology, the word martyr refers to a person who is put to death because he refuses to deny Christ. Megalomartys means great martyr, denoting those Christians who not only were put to death because of their faith in Christ, but like St. George, also made a special impression on their contemporaries and those who came after because of their acts of love and faith.

By the end of the third century, due to the vast area that the Roman Empire covered, it became almost impossible for one emperor to rule. So, in 293, the Emperor Diocletian decided to share the administrative responsibilities amongst four emperors. Therefore, he, along with Galerius, governed the eastern half of the empire while Maximian, along with Constantius I Chlorus (the father of Constantine the Great), ruled the western part.

...See St. George on P. 4



From Father Bill...



*What difference
does Easter
make?*

While I collected my thoughts for this month's article, I raised several questions. First, my question to you is has the observance of the Lenten period had any impact on your life? Can you honestly say there has been a change in your life? While pondering these questions, I came across an interesting story from the Gerontikon (a compilation of several volumes of stories about the lives of holy elders) related to the life of an elder known as Abba Isaiah, the spiritual guide to a group of

monks.

One of the disciples had difficulties relating to the other monks. He was irritable, constantly grumbling and angry. At the same time he recognized that he had a problem and wished to overcome it. One day he went to his elder and said: "I am convinced that if I go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land I will be able to absorb the grace that emanates from the holy shrines. It will help me free myself

...See Fr. Bill on P. 5

From Father Nicholas



Living a Resurrected Life

It is hard to believe that the first day of spring was just last month. Do you know what momentous sports events will take place this month? Both the Cubs and White Sox will play their home opening games. With the beginning of each new season comes the hope and desire for a winning season. We hope that one of our beloved Chicago teams will be the champion again. Some of us dream that this will be the year for the Cubs. At the beginning of the season, the slate is wiped clean. We put the previous season's disappointments behind us and look forward to the future!

All around us we see new beginnings. If we look outside, we see new life. Flowers are blooming, grass is starting to grow, the trees are getting buds on them, the birds are chirping and the animals are outside playing. Spring is a beautiful time of year and of new beginnings.

In the same way, the Anastasi (Resurrection of Christ) will be a new beginning for us. We are in the midst of struggling through Holy Lent and soon Holy Week will be upon us. In just a few short weeks, we will experience the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we prepare to celebrate the Anastasi, I wonder, does the Resurrection of Christ make a difference in our lives? Do we realize the new beginning that Christ has given us in His death and ultimate Resurrection? If you had to describe the Resurrection of Christ only using punctuation marks – which punctuation mark would describe Easter for you? Maybe this Anastasi will be a comma for you. It will make you stop, pause, think and listen. After reflecting on it for a few minutes, you will then get busy with some other activity. Maybe the Resurrection of Christ will be a downer for you. It's a big bold period! You hope that you will be excited, but instead it feels more like an empty ritual. You feel like you are on the outside looking in. Maybe the Anastasi will be a question mark for you. You wonder if the Resurrection of Christ is real. Did it really happen? Hopefully, you will view the Anastasi as an exclamation point. Every time that you reflect on it, you see and believe with encouraged excitement!

Why don't some of us view the Lord's Resurrection with excitement? What keeps us from enjoying this new life that Christ offers



Gavel to Gavel



BY GEORGE MANNOS, JR... Parish Council Secretary

Parish Council meeting of Thursday, February, 16

Present: Fr. Nicholas Georgiou, Don Alexander, James Banakis, George Beshilas, Sandy Fiascone, Ted Gregory, Nick Kirkeles, George Lampros, Terry Chiganos, George Chechopoulos, George T. Mannos Jr., Peter Poteres, Steve Savas, and Chris Zurales.

Financial Report

✦ Peter Poteres stated that for the month of January, the church has a positive cash flow of \$62,255.66. Chris Zurales moved to approve the financial statement for the month of January. The motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship

✦ Ted Gregory said that for January, the church had received 445 pledges (up 10 from 2005) totaling \$393,175.86 (down \$156.14 from 2005) for an average pledge of \$883.54 (down \$20.68 per pledge from 2005). Amount paid YTD was \$184,669.19 (up \$2,710.34 from 2005). Four additional pledges were received for the year 2005 in January 2006. Final 2005 pledges were 869 totaling \$627,101.85 with receipts of \$610,566.85 leaving a balance of \$16,535.00 for 2005.

Correspondence

✦ Father Martin Ritsi of OCMC sent a letter summarizing the gifts received in 2005, and thanking us for our continued support. The amount contributed by Holy Apostles in 2005 was \$5,701.10.

✦ Suggestion Box: It was suggested that the multi-purpose room be made available to families for catered parties after Baptisms. The person suggested that the church could charge a fee for the room, set-up, clean-up, etc. Benefits would include focusing on the sacrament and the spiritual as well as additional revenue for the church.

Meditation

✦ Father Nicholas spoke of the responsibility of the Council to the Holy Apostles family. He shared a story about a group of people who accepted a mission to reach out and save people. Over time, the people became too comfortable and lost the focus: namely a life-saving mission offering an abundant spiritual life and a relation-

ship with the Lord. Eventually, the group allowed others to do the work of their original mission. Father suggested that we recover our pioneering spirit, and guard ourselves against complacency. As Council members, we have been entrusted with the management of a substantial budget, but more than that, we have been entrusted with the spiritual lives of 1000 families. During Lent we can utilize our church attendance as the quiet time we need to reflect on our spirituality and our relationship with God. Father Nicholas urged us, as leaders in the church, to be open to God's strength and guidance.

Finance Committee

✦ Sandy Fiascone and Nick Kirkeles met with the church staff, who expressed their appreciation for their salary increases. It was mentioned that there should be a damage report form created to document any vandalism, theft, need for repair or unusual occurrence.

Building & Grounds

✦ Steve Savas reported that power was lost on one of our main electrical lines on Sunday February 12. Steve Savas, with the help of another parishioner, was able to restore the power. However, the problem has not been totally rectified, and further action needs to be taken. Nick Kirkeles moved to allocate up to \$2500 to hire an electrician or an electrical consultant to resolve the problem. It passed unanimously.

Old Business

✦ Mondo Gouvas sent a letter to the parents of the Greek school students, along with a statement of the overdue tuition balances, requesting that all accounts be current as of March 16. A parent survey was also included, asking for feedback on the Greek School, and the responses were very favorable.

New Business

✦ George Mannos made a request for a warming oven. George Lampros moved to allocate \$1500 to purchase the oven. The motion passed unanimously.

in His Resurrection? To answer that question we can look at the disciples. They faced the same barriers that we may face when trying to experience resurrected lives. First is grief. Mary Magdalene stood outside Jesus' tomb and wept. She was so overcome by grief that

she could not see Jesus. Another barrier is fear. Did you see the movie, *The Passion of the Christ*? The instant Jesus is captured, His disciples flee in fear! The same disciples that pledged their love and support the previous

...See Fr. Nicholas on P. 5



Time to dust off those track shoes!

This year's Junior Olympics competition is fast approaching. The Olympics is for all the Orthodox youth in the Chicago Metropolis and offers many competitive track and field events, swimming, tennis, and more. This event is held annually on Memorial Day Weekend (May 26 – May 28) at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Heights. It is a wonderful way for our children to participate in various sporting events while getting to know and build friendships with other Orthodox children in the Chicago area. Please consider participating in this year's events and representing our Holy Apostles community. Our parish coordinators are Elouise Kouimelis and Ernie Davis. If you have any questions, please contact Elouise at (708) 703-1487, Ernie at (630) 655-8586 or Father Nicholas.

Additional information and registration forms can be found on the web at www.gochicagoyouth.goarch.org.

Mosaic Deadline

The deadline for the May Mosaic is Tuesday, April 4.

Racing for Vacation Bible School 2006!!

Join us for **The Incredible Race** which will be running daily **June 12-16** from 9:00 am to noon. When the green flag waves, young race car drivers (no license required) will experience hands-on involvement as they accelerate onto the track, following biblical pacesetters who have turned in championship performances.

Don't miss the checkered flag!
Reserve your racers' positions on the track!

**Sign up at our Qualifying Race beginning April 30
and the following three Sundays
with May 21 the last day to register.**

Racers start at 3 years old
(having completed a year of 3 year old preschool)
and drive on up to 5th grade.

The cost is \$25 per child and includes a T-shirt, daily snacks and a box car to race at our **Carnival on June 16 at noon.**

If you would like to volunteer, or have questions contact: Presvytera Michelle at 630-428-1525. Let's run the race together!

HELLENIC PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Presents

AN EVENING OF "STARS" 80th ANNIVERSARY GALA THE WESTIN O'HARE-ROSEMONT

Saturday, May 13, 2006

Cocktails at 6:00pm

Dinner at 7:00pm

Tickets \$100 Members; \$125 Nonmembers by April 30

Tickets \$110 Members; \$135 Nonmembers after April 30

For Reservations/ Information call Tom Gregory (773-791-4672),
Constantina Papas (847-942-4758), or Thomas Sallas (312-925-2305).

St George, a martyred warrior against evil

From P. 1

Galerius was a pagan religious fanatic, and most scholars lay upon him the primary responsibility of persuading Diocletian to begin the persecution against the Christians. The persecution consisted of removing Christians from positions in the military, government, and education. Property owned by Christians, including churches, homes, and businesses, was confiscated by the Roman government. Christians, especially those in leadership roles, were often arrested. When they would not offer sacrifices to the pagan gods, they were subjected to various kinds of painful tortures. When they still refused to deny their faith in Christ and acknowledge the pagan gods, including worship of the Emperor himself, they were usually executed.

We have no definite information as to when St. George was born or how old he was when he died. Today, most scholars believe that he was born in Lydda in the Roman province of Palestine. It was in Lydda that a Christian community was established shortly after our Lord's resurrection. In today's geography, Lydda is the city of Lod, Israel, 23 miles northwest of Jerusalem.

St. George came from a rich and pious family, and was a Christian by the time he became a soldier in the Roman army, eventu-

ally becoming an officer, and perhaps achieving the rank of tribune.

St. George probably died a martyr's death for Christ during the persecution of Christians from 303 to 305 by Emperor Diocletian. He was martyred while serving in Armenia, which, in today's geography, is divided among the countries of Iran, Turkey, and modern Armenia. While the saint was in prison awaiting his execution, he commanded his servant to make sure that his remains be returned to his birthplace Lydda and buried there. His wishes were dutifully carried out. A few sources have Lydda, not Armenia, as the location of St. George's torture and martyrdom.

Since the popularity of St. George quickly spread throughout the Christian world soon after his death, we can deduce that he must have been a remarkable human being. As a Roman army officer, he was greatly loved and respected by the men he led, Christian and non-Christian alike. By his example, many pagan soldiers and civilians came to Christ.

It is believed that when St. George was finally arrested, he was subjected to extraordinarily brutal tortures. But when he still refused to deny Christ, he was publicly executed by beheading. There are many examples of executioners and spectators accepting Christ while observing the faith of the Christian

martyrs.

Soon after the martyrdom of St. George, his fame quickly spread throughout the East. An indication of this was the building of churches in his honor in Syria, Egypt, and in his hometown of Lydda. A church was erected to his memory in Constantinople during Constantine the Great's reign.

Since the 14th century, St. George has been recognized as the patron saint of England. To this day among most major Christian denominations, rare is the family without at least one member with the name George, or its feminine derivatives. St. George is honored even among Muslims of Turkey, Syria, and Palestine.

St. George is remembered in both the Eastern and Western churches on April 23 (April 24 this year). In the Eastern church, when April 23 falls during Great Lent, he is remembered the day following Easter.

In one of his most popular icons, St. George is depicted, mounted on a horse and dressed in a Roman military uniform, slaying a dragon. Although many scholars attribute this to mythology or legend, the best and most accurate explanation can be found in the fact that the dragon is the symbol of the devil and evil (Rv. 12:9-12), which St. George defeated through his actions and example.

What's Happenin'

Adventure Theater Movie

Adventure Theater movie production, "Lock-In at Cliff's Edge Manor", April 9, following Liturgy.

Philoptochos Lenten Fundraisers

Starting April 9, Easter candles for children will be available in the multi-purpose room after Liturgy. The candles are beautifully decorated and cost only \$10 each. Easter breads, koulouria, red egg dye, spanakopites, tiropites will also be sold starting Palm Sunday after Liturgy and will continue to be sold after Holy Week services along with the Easter candles.

GOYA

GOYA, Tuesday, April 11, 7:30 pm. We will be making palm crosses.

Family 5K Charity Run

First Holy Apostles Family 5K Charity Run, Saturday, May 13, 8 am. All proceeds will go to the Philoxenia House, Rochester, MN. More details in the next Mosaic.

Fanari Camp

Fanari Camp will be held June 18-23. Applications are available in the church office.

Fashion Show Date Change

Please note that the date for the 2006 Luncheon/Fashion Show has been changed to October 21, so it won't conflict with this year's choir conference. Don't forget to mark your calendar with the new date!

Fr. Bill from P.1

Easter can make a difference, if you let it

from my anger and become a good monk.” The elder urged him to stay put and carry on with his personal struggle and told him that there was no need to travel all the way to the Holy Land. The elder advised that conditions at the monastery were more conducive to helping him to overcome his shortcomings. “If you genuinely struggle to overcome your problem,” the elder said, “then I believe God will help you. What you need is not pilgrimages, but to struggle against your passions.” But the monk persisted and finally was allowed to go to Jerusalem.

Several months later, he returned but there was no change in his life, because he put in little or no effort. Being in the presence of all the holy shrines meant very little to him.

What about your pilgrimage? Is not this entire period our return to Jerusalem? You may have attended the holy services, received the holy sacraments frequently, but did anything significantly change in your life? Did you shed any tears of repentance, recognizing the Crucified Lord during the Holy Thursday services? Will you keep alive the icon of the

death of our Lord on Good Friday fresh in your mind? Did you bow down before the Cross and give your life to God? As you left the church on Good Friday, was your only thought how beautiful the music was? Will you keep alive the memory of that moment when Jesus had given up the spirit and how He had been left hanging on to the cross? There was no one there to bury Him. Only one person gave thought to what would become of the sacred remains of the Incarnate Logos. This man was Joseph of Arimathea, who up to that time was a follower of Christ in secret.

All of us will attend the Midnight Easter service for different reasons. We will be careful to light candles and prepare to sing with a resounding triumph the Paschal refrain: “Christos Anesti” and “Christ has risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and granting life to those in the tombs!” Some of you will come because it’s the traditional thing to do. Others will come because a friend invited you. Some of you will come because you haven’t been to church for a while. Many will arrive late and leave early. It seems the thought of indulging in the early Paschal meal means much more than remaining for the midnight Liturgy, partaking of Holy Communion and listening to the reading of the powerful East homily of St. John Chrysostom.

We shall be singing this jubilant troparion for a period of forty days, since Christ’s sojourn upon the earth after the resurrection was of this duration. We shall continue to

greet one another with “Christ is risen” and “Truly He is risen,” until the observance of the ascension of Christ to heaven. It is the resurrection that validates and confirms everything Jesus did and taught during His early ministry. The resurrection proves that Christ is no mere teacher of moral truths who tells us how to live in this life. Philosophers and sages before Christ did a good job of this. Christ is unique, because He did what no one else had the power to do: to transform human nature and grant man the fulfillment of his basic deep-seated need, namely to live eternally in a state of blessedness.

As we celebrate Easter throughout the forty-day Paschal period, the glorious light of the resurrection continues to flood the Church seeking to envelop the hearts and minds of all believers.

I hope you are beginning to sense the difference Easter can make. Understanding why Easter happened, why Christ rose from the dead, is not enough. You have to do more than crack a red egg and exchange an Easter greeting. The Easter message is that God cares for you and loves you. He wants to have a relationship with you. Let the walk of the risen man be yours, and may you experience something absolutely wonderful in this life. Nobody will ever love you as much as Jesus Christ does. Nobody. Let’s tell the whole world about the risen Lord. The myrrhbearing women did it and the apostles did it, because of their unshaken faith in Christ. We can join them too because we know what a difference Easter can make.

March Registry

Baptisms

Peter Joseph, son of
Ellen & Zoltan Koppany

Sponsors: Pamela Sfikas & Mark Anthos

Lana Maria, daughter of
Cynthia & Tasos Papadatos

Sponsors: Georgia Ashby & Joshua Czerak

Ariana, daughter of
Kristen & Philip Coulolias

Sponsors: Joella & John Lykourtezos

Anastasios, son of
Tirzah & George Nikolaou

Sponsor: Paul Nikolaou

Jace, son of
Tirzah & George Nikolaou

Sponsor: Tasso Nikolaou

Weddings

None

Fr. Nicholas from P. 2

Christ’s Anastasi is hope for us

night, left their friend because they were afraid. One more barrier is doubt. The disciples were hurt and upset when Jesus was taken away and treated like a criminal. Sometimes it is hard to make our faith fit with the painful realities of life. Despite our circumstances in life, we should remember the words that we find in the Gospel of Matthew, “Come to Me all you who are weary and I will give you rest.”

The Anastasi should be an exclamation point for us because it gives us the power to live above the pressure and dominance of evil. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians reminds us, “in Christ all shall be made alive.” We now have the opportunity to live a life closely connected with Christ – a resurrected life! The Lord’s death and resurrection make our salvation possible. Visual reminders of this great opportunity can be observed in the church. For 40

days, the Royal Doors (the doors in the middle of the icon screen) will be open. This shows the heavens and a relationship with Christ being open for all of us! The power of God that raised Christ from the dead is the same power God wants to work in you and me! We can live united to that same power that resurrected Christ!

As Anastasi quickly approaches, how will the empty tomb affect your life? Will you allow grief, fear or doubt to steal your joy in the Risen Lord? Or, will you see the Resurrection as an exclamation point – a new beginning! This Anastasi we can know that regardless of our struggles in life, we do have the hope of eternal life with the Lord. When we realize the Lord’s and our victory over death, then we will joyously proclaim, “Christ is Risen”!

Mr. D asks, is it Orthodox?

The Orthodox Church prides itself with the claim that it faithfully adheres to the teachings and practices set down by Christ, the Apostles, and the traditions (oral and written) of the early church.

No doubt you have heard the question asked by some "Is it Orthodox?" in reference to a custom we have here at Holy Apostles of exchanging the greeting "Christ is in our midst" followed by the response "He is and always shall be."

Let's take a look at some of those practices as they relate to the focus of this article. For a number of centuries in the early history of the Christian era, permanent deacons and deaconesses took an active part in the liturgical and ministerial practice of the church.

Today, in the Greek Orthodox Church, the office of deacon is in almost all cases merely a stepping stone to the priesthood. Furthermore,

we have no permanent deaconesses.

In the early Church, male believers sat on one side of the church while female believers sat on the other side. One important duty the deacon had was to lead the male half of the church in hymn singing while the deaconess led the female half. When it came time for the kiss of peace or greeting to be exchanged (see Rm. 16:16; 1 Cr. 16:20; 1 Thess. 5:26, and especially 1 Pt. 5:14), the deacon led the men to do this amongst themselves while the deaconess led the women.

Today, men and women do not sit in separate sections. However, the custom here at Holy Apostles of congregational hymn singing and exchanging of "Christ is in our midst..." shortly before the Symbol of Faith is recited, is well anchored in the religious practice of the early church.

Happy 10th Anniversary to us!

Sometimes on the Mosaic staff, we ask ourselves if it has really been ten years since we decided to put out a real newsletter to replace the photocopied sheets stuffed in envelopes once a month. The first issue of the Mosaic was published in April 1996. It featured coverage of Bishop Ware's visit to Holy Apostles for the Celebration of Books.

Also in that issue, Mr. D commended parents for braving -30 wind chills to get their kids to Adventure Theater rehearsal earlier in the year. Gavel to Gavel reported that there were 479 stewards. The Building and Grounds committee was considering carpeting for the multi-purpose room, and Fr. Rick spoke about a new Christian Living group he was starting.

Over the years, we have been blessed with many dedicated volunteers. Serving on the editorial board, anywhere from six to ten years, have been: Mary Athans, Marilyn Athas, Phyllis Chilis, Ellen Dimas, Carol Kusulas and Scott Sanders.

Many thanks to Ted Gregory, aka Yiannis Dedlinos, who contributed many fine feature articles, and to our regular contributors: Philoptochos, Mr. D., HARC, Seniors Social, the Parish Council, the church secretaries, and of course, our priests. Others who helped

early on were: Demi Regas, Mary Scobas, and Jan Tondelli. We also have appreciated the many photos taken over the years by Don Alexander, George Aravosis, Mary Dangles, Peter Kates, Spero Kinnas, Eleni Poteres, and Chris Zurales.

Without our faithful mailing crew, you wouldn't be reading this now. Special thanks to: Teri and Greg Kafkes, Sia Athanasas, Mary and Tom Athans, Rosette and Ulysses Backas, Ernie Carres, John Gramas, Michael Hamalis, Elaine Janakas, Betty Kass, Sandy Kotsakis, Irene and Gus Lekatsos, Nick Magas, Dee Manolis, Harry Pappas, George Patsavas, Mary and Peter Poulos, Jim and Beatrice Poulos, Mary Psychogios, Susie Regas, Pat and Angelo Tolios, Eve Vasilion, and Angie and George Vrettos.

Since we have no timesheets to refer to, we are relying on our flawed memories to remember all who have helped through the past ten years. If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our sincere apologies.

We hope to continue bringing you the Holy Apostles news, and welcome your contributions and suggestions.

Oratorical Festival highlights

The following Sunday School students presented speeches on the twelve great feast days, and will represent Holy Apostles at the Metropolis Festival on April 29 in Milwaukee: Fotis Pappas, 8th grade; Rebecca Schieber, 7th grade; Staci Lampros, 11th grade; Connie Savas, 7th grade; Katie Berg, 7th grade; and

Alexa Lampros, 11th grade. Congratulations to all the participants and to Joan Berg and her committee.

The winners will give their presentations to our parish during the Liturgy on Youth Sunday.

The HARC CORNER

A Beginner's Guide to Prayer

By Fr. Michael Keiser

This compact book helps Orthodox Christians become aware of the depth and richness of the Church's spiritual tradition when it comes to personal prayer. In order to gain this closeness to God through prayer, one must develop a disciplined prayer life. The text tells the reader some of the many ways they may achieve this: take advantage of every good bible study, read books that contain solid Orthodox teaching, and read about the lives of saints.

If you desire to make prayer a regular and meaningful part of your life, *A Beginner's Guide to Prayer* will help set you on your way.

\$11, Softbound

Christina's True Heroes

By Maria C. Khoury, Ed. D.

Illustrated by Antonia Marshall

This book features colorful Byzantine icons to help children learn more about the diverse lives of seven women saints. These genuine role models inspire children to have faith in God and to feel closer to the saints. Knowing many examples of people who place God first can give children the courage to meet different challenges in life

\$10, Softbound

My Shining Bible

A first Bible for Children ages 2 +

Illustrated by Linda Clearwater

Share favorite Bible stories with a child through simple words and glittering art. Containing stories from both the Old and New Testaments, this uniquely-illustrated Bible will make learning about the Bible a delight for children.

\$13, Hardcover

Stop in HARC
for that special Easter gift
for your godchild.



Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church April 2006 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, Illinois

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour	5:15pm The Way 6:30pm Compline Service	9:45am TOTS 12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School 7:30pm GOVA	1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy	12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School	7:00pm Heretismi 8:15pm Adventure Theater	SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR TONIGHT FOR DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME TOMORROW 1:00pm Adventure Theater Rehearsal
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Adventure Theater Movie	6:30pm Great Compline	12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School 7:30pm GOVA	6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy 8:15pm Choir Rehearsal	12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting		SATURDAY OF LAZARUS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
PALM SUNDAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 7:00pm Nymphios Service	HOLY MONDAY 7:00pm The Way Attends Service 7:00pm Nymphios Service	HOLY TUESDAY 7:00pm Nymphios Service (Kassiani) NO GREEK SCHOOL Choir Rehearsal	HOLY WEDNESDAY 10:00am Holy Unction 3:30pm Holy Unction 7:00pm Orthros Of Holy Thursday And Anointing With Holy Unction	HOLY THURSDAY 6:30am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm 12 Gospel Readings No Greek School	HOLY FRIDAY 9:00am Royal Hours 3:00pm Apokathelosis 7:00pm Lamentations	HOLY SATURDAY 8:00am First Anastasi Liturgy 10:30pm Choir Concert 11:00pm Service In Preparation For Easter Liturgy 12:00am Resurrection Liturgy
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
EASTER SUNDAY 11:00am Agape Service	BRIGHT MONDAY CELEBRATION OF ST. GEORGE 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy	4:30pm Greek School		4:30pm Greek School		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">The Lenten Prayer of Saint Ephraim</p> <p style="margin: 0;">O Lord and Master of my life, give me not a spirit of sloth, vain curiosity, lust for power, and idle talk. But give me, Thy servant, a spirit of soberness, humility, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me to see my own faults, and not to condemn my brother; For blessed art Thou to the ages of ages. Amen.</p>					
30						

Holy Week Services

April 15 Saturday of Lazarus

On the Saturday of Lazarus (**Orthros 8am, Liturgy 9am**), we commemorate the divine love that brought Lazarus back to life - the same love that Christ offers to each one of us today.

April 16 Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday (**Orthros 8:00am, Liturgy 9:30am**), we commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

On Palm Sunday evening (**Nymphios Service 7pm**), we commemorate: 1) Christ the Bridegroom by singing *The Hymn of the Bridegroom*, warning us to be prepared for Christ's coming. We behold Christ as the Bridegroom of the Church, bearing the marks of suffering, yet preparing a marriage feast for us in God's Kingdom; 2) The Blessed Joseph who was thrown into a pit and sold into slavery by his brothers, and who later became a powerful ruler. In the same way, Christ was rejected, betrayed and crowned with glory in God's Kingdom; 3) The Barren Fig Tree which Christ cursed and withered because it bore no fruit. The tree is like those who have heard God's word but fail to bear fruit by not obeying it.

April 17 Holy Monday

On Holy Monday evening (**Nymphios Service 7pm**), we commemorate The Parable of the Ten Virgins. The maidens who filled their lamps with oil were prepared to receive

the bridegroom. Those with empty lamps were shut out of the marriage feast.

April 18 Holy Tuesday

On Holy Tuesday evening (**Nymphios Service 7pm**), we commemorate The Sinful Woman who anointed Christ in anticipation of His death. Her repentance and love for Christ is the theme of the Hymn of Kassiani.

April 19 Holy Wednesday

The Sacrament of Holy Unction (**10:00am, 3:30pm**) is celebrated when we confess our sins and seek to be reconciled by God. The priest anoints us with holy oil so that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

The Orthros for Thursday morning (**7pm**) followed by anointing with Holy Unction.

April 20 Holy Thursday

On Holy Thursday morning (**Divine Liturgy 6:30am**), we commemorate: 1) The Washing of the Disciples' Feet - This is an example of Christian humility and love; 2) The Betrayal - Jesus announced that a traitor (Judas Iscariot) was among the twelve; 3) The Last Supper - when Jesus offered Himself as the food for all of us. The bread and wine of this meal became the Body and Blood that gives us eternal life; 4) Christ's Vigil in The Garden - Before Jesus was arrested, He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and endured the agony of His impending death. On Holy Thursday evening (**12 Gospel Readings 7pm**), we commemorate The Crucifixion of

our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who died to take away our sins.

April 21 Holy Friday

On Holy Friday morning (**Royal Hours 9am**), we commemorate the story of Christ's passion.

On Holy Friday afternoon (**Apokathelosis 3pm**), we commemorate the un-nailing of the crucified Christ and His burial.

On Holy Friday evening (**Lamentations 7pm**), we commemorate the burial of the Divine Body, and the descent of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to Hades through which He restored our kind from corruption and transplanted it to eternal life.

April 22 Holy Saturday

On Holy Saturday morning (**Divine Liturgy 8am**), we commemorate Christ's descent into hell so that death itself might be destroyed. We also anticipate the Resurrection.

At the Easter (**11pm**) & Resurrection Services (**midnight**), the faithful hear the good news of Christ's triumph over death.

Immediately following, **the Paschal Liturgy (12:15am)** invites us to take part in the Feast of the Resurrection and receive Holy Communion.

April 23 Easter Sunday

At the Agape Service (**11am**), we celebrate Christ's gift of new life with each other. The Gospel is proclaimed in several languages.

Memorials

Helen Kasson
Thrasivolos Kasson
Michael Peterson
Demetrios Kritsas
John Bell
Lelica Bilder
Angelo Bilder
Andrew Georgiades

Funerals

Gus Zakos
James Kent
Nancy Counelis
Elaine Alles
Helen Bobis

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