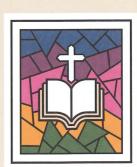


PRAISE GOD



FOR THE GRACE
AND LOVE
HE HAS BESTOWED
UPON US.



February 26, 2023

Forgiveness Sunday

Saints of the Day: Porphyrios, Bishop of Gaza; Photini The Samaritan & sisters

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS!!!

Thank you for worshipping with us!!! Please join us for fellowship immediately following The Divine Liturgy. For those visiting an Orthodox Church for the first time, please be aware that Holy Communion is a sign of unity of faith which is only offered to Baptized or Chrismated Orthodox Christians. All present are welcome, and encouraged, to receive the antidoron (bread given to those who do not/are not able receive Holy Communion) which is distributed at the end of the service. For those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please feel free to speak with Fr. Demetri after the service.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO FOLLOW ALONG AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE LITURGY WITH THE BOOKS PROVIDED!!!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Henry Gancarz (1 year)

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR

Today's coffee hour is sponsored by GOYA.

WEEK IN PREVIEW

WISEK IIV I KEVIEW			
Sun, Feb 26	Mon, Feb 27	Tues, Feb 28	Wed, Mar 1
Orthros 8:45am	Clean Monday	Library Memory	Bible Study in Library
Divine Liturgy 10am	Great Lent Begins	Project Photo ID by	11am
Memorial Sponsored Coffee Hour Forgiveness Vespers	Great Compline 6pm Basketball 3 rd Grade 4:30p 3/4 Coed 6pm HS Boys 7:30p Learn to Chant in	Zoom 7pm Basketball HS Boys 7pm	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6pm DOP 6:30pm
Thurs, Mar 2 Basketball 5/6 Boys 6pm 7/8 & HS Boys 7:30pm	Library 7pm Fri, Mar 3 Salutation Service to the Mother of God 6pm	Sat, Mar 4 Saturday of Souls Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy with Memorials 9:30am Greek Preschool 9am CYO Basketball 8am	Sun, Mar 5 Sunday of Orthodoxy Orthros 8:45am Divine Liturgy 10am Memorial Sponsored Coffee Hour

Hymns Chanted Following the Small Entrance

Resurrectional Hymn in the Fourth Tone

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἁγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αὶ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

Anthem of St. George in the Fourth Tone

Ώς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτής, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστής, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός, βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Liberator of captives and defender of the poor, physician of the sick and champion of kings, oh Trophy-bearer and Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, that our souls be saved.

Seasonal/Kontakion Hymn in the Plagal of the Second Tone

Τῆς σοφίας ὁδηγέ, φρονήσεως χορηγέ, τῶν ἀφρόνων παιδευτά, καὶ πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστά, στήριξον, συνέτισον τὴν καρδίαν μου Δέσποτα. Σὺ δίδου μοι λόγον, ὁ τοῦ Πατρός Λόγος ἰδοὺ γὰρ τὰ χείλη μου, ού μὴ κωλύσω ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι Ἐλεῆμον, ἐλέησόν με τὸν παραπεσόντα.

O guide to wisdom, provider of prudence, disciplinarian of fools, and defender of the poor, fortify and discipline my heart, O Master; You, give me a word, O Word of the Father. For behold, I will not hinder my lips from crying to You: O merciful Lord, have mercy on me who have fallen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Ρωμαιους 13:11-14; 14:1-4

Άδελφοί, νῦν ἐγγύτερον ἡμῶν ἡ σωτηρία ἢ ὅτε ἐπιστεύσαμεν. Ἡ νὺξ προέκοψεν, ἡ δὲ ἡμέρα ἤγγικεν· ἀποθώμεθα οὖν τὰ ἔργα τοῦ σκότους, καί ἐνδυσώμεθα τὰ ὅπλα τοῦ φωτός. Ὠς ἐν ἡμέρα, εὐσχημόνως περιπατήσωμεν, μὴ κώμοις καὶ μέθαις, μὴ κοίταις καὶ ἀσελγείαις, μὴ ἔριδι καὶ ζήλῳ. Ἀλλ' ἐνδύσασθε τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, καὶ τῆς σαρκὸς πρόνοιαν μὴ ποιεῖσθε, εἰς ἐπιθυμίας. Τὸν δὲ ἀσθενοῦντα τῆ πίστει προσλαμβάνεσθε, μὴ εἰς διακρίσεις διαλογισμῶν. Ὁς μὲν πιστεύει φαγεῖν πάντα, ὁ δὲ ἀσθενῶν λάχανα ἐσθίει. Ὁ ἐσθίων τὸν μὴ ἐσθίοντα μὴ ἐξουθενείτω, καὶ ὁ μὴ ἐσθίων τὸν ἐσθίοντα μὴ κρινέτω· ὁ θεὸς γὰρ αὐτὸν προσελάβετο. Σὺ τίς εἶ ὁ κρίνων ἀλλότριον οἰκέτην; Τῷ ἰδίῳ κυρίῳ στήκει ἢ πίπτει. Σταθήσεται δέ· δυνατὸς γάρ ἐστιν ὁ θεὸς στῆσαι αὐτόν.

Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Ματθαιον 6:14-21

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος 'Εὰν γὰρ ἀφῆτε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν, ἀφήσει καὶ ὑμῖν ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ὁ οὐράνιος ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἀφῆτε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν, οὐδὲ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἀφήσει τὰ παραπτώματα ὑμῶν. "Όταν δὲ νηστεύητε, μὴ γίνεσθε ὥσπερ οἱ ὑποκριταὶ σκυθρωποί ἀφανίζουσι γὰρ τὰ πρόσωπα αὐτῶν ὅπως φανῶσι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις νηστεύοντες ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἀπέχουσι τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν. σὸ δὲ νηστεύων ἄλειψαί σου τὴν κεφαλὴν καὶ τὸ πρόσωπόν σου νίψαι,ὅπως μὴ φανῆς τοῖς ἀνθρώποις νηστεύων, ἀλλὰ τῷ πατρί σου τῷ ἐν τῷ κρυπτῷ, καὶ ὁ πατήρ σου ὁ βλέπων ἐν τῷ κρυπτῷ ἀποδώσει σοι ἐν τῷ φανερῷ. Μὴ θησαυρίζετε ὑμῖν θησαυροὺς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ὅπου σὴς καὶ βρῶσις ἀφανίζει, καὶ ὅπου κλέπται διορύσσουσι καὶ κλέπτουσι θησαυρίζετε δὲ ὑμῖν θησαυροὺς ἐν οὐρανῷ, ὅπου οὕτε σὴς οὕτε βρῶσις ἀφανίζει, καὶ ὅπου κλέπται οὐ διορύσσουσιν οὐδὲ κλέπτουσιν ὅπου γάρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρὸς ὑμῶν, ἐκεῖ ἔσται καὶ ἡ καρδία ὑμῶν.

CATECHETICAL HOMILY

At the Opening of Holy and Great Lent

+ BARTHOLOMEW

By God's mercy Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch To the Plenitude of the Church May the Grace and Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Together with our Prayer, Blessing and Forgiveness Be with All

Most honorable brother Hierarchs and blessed children in the Lord,

By the goodwill and grace of the all-merciful and all-benevolent God, already living in the blessed and reverent period of the Triodion, tomorrow we enter Holy and Great Lent, the arena of fasting and "venerable abstinence" that eliminate the passions, during which the depth and wealth of our Orthodox Tradition and the vigilant care of the Church for the spiritual progress of its children are revealed. As we are reminded by the Holy and Great Council of Crete (June, 2016), "the Orthodox Church, in strict conformity with the apostolic precepts, the synodal canons, and the patristic tradition as a whole, has always proclaimed the great significance of fasting for our spiritual life and salvation" (*The Importance of Fasting and its Observance Today*, para. 1).

In the life of the Church, all matters have a solid theological foundation and soteriological reference. Orthodox Christians share the "common struggle" of ascesis and fasting "giving thanks in everything" (Thess. 5.18). The Church invites its children to run the race of ascetic exercises as a journey toward Holy Pascha. It is a central experience of the life in Christ that genuine asceticism is never despondent, since it is imbued with the expectation of resurrectional delight. Our hymnology speaks of the "spring of fasting."

In this sense, far from the trappings of Neoplatonist dualism and the alienating efforts to "mortify the body," genuine asceticism cannot conceivably aim at the eradication of an "evil body" for the sake of the spirit or the liberation of the soul from the torment of its shackles. As emphasized, "in its authentic expression, ascesis is not directed against the body but against the passions, whose root is spiritual because the intellect is the first to fall to passion. Thus, the body is hardly the great opponent of the ascetic."

The ascetic endeavor pursues the transcendence of egocentrism, for the sake of love that "does not seek its own" and without which we remain enslaved within ourselves, in the "insatiable ego" and its unquenchable desires. Being self-centered, we shrink and lose our creativity, as has been

said: "Whatever we give is multiplied; and whatever we retain for ourselves is lost." For this reason, the wisdom of the Fathers and the experience of the Church associate the period of fasting with the "showering of mercy," with good deeds and philanthropy, which are the evidence of surpassing self-love and acquiring existential fullness.

Such wholeness is at all times the characteristic of life in the Church. The liturgical life, ascesis and spirituality, pastoral care and good witness in the world, are expressions of the truth of our faith, interconnected and mutually complementary elements of our Christian identity, which share the eschatological Kingdom as a point of reference and orientation, as well as the completeness and fulfilment of the divine Economy. While church life in all its expressions reflects and depicts the coming Kingdom of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, it is the mystery of the Divine Eucharist that above all, as underlined by the late Metropolitan John of Pergamon, recently of blessed memory, "expresses the Church in its fullness" (*The Image of the Heavenly Kingdom*, Megara 2013, p. 59). "Pure communion," the rendering of our existence into that of the church, as participation in the Holy Eucharist,' is the "end" of fasting, the "crown" and "prize" of ascetical struggles (see John Chrysostom, *Homilies on Isaiah VI: On the Seraphim*, PG 56.139).

Today, in an age of desacralization of life, when humankind "attributes great importance to entirely insignificant things," our Christian mission is the practical elevation of the existential depth of our Orthodox "triptych of spirituality," as the inseparable unity of liturgical life, ascetic ethos and solidarity, the essence of the revolution of values in the fields of ethos and civilization constituted by faith in Christ and the divinely-granted freedom of the children of God. We consider it of paramount importance that we should live Holy and Great Lent as a revelation and experience of the true meaning of freedom "for which Christ has set us free" (Gal. 5.1). With these thoughts and sentiments of love and honor, we wish you, our most honorable brothers in Christ and spiritual children of our Mother Church throughout the world, a smooth course in the arena of fasting, invoking on all of you the grace and mercy of Christ our God, who always delights in the ascetic struggles of His people. To Him belongs the blessed and glorified power of the Kingdom, now and always, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy and Great Lent 2023 **★ BARTHOLOMEW of Constantinople**Your fervent supplicant for all before God

To be read in churches on Cheesefare Sunday, February 26, 2023, immediately after the Holy Gospel.

PRAYER LIST

Pondering on the words of St. Paul, "Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's wellbeing. (I Cor. 10:24).

Give rest to the weary, visit the sick, support the poor, for this is also worship. Aphahat

For any prayer concern (salvation, health, employment, stress and anxieties, etc.) please send baptismal names only to: office@stgeorgenh.org

We may not be able to help others materially or medically, but God does hear our prayers and always asks us to pray for each other and so build up the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16).

For health, recovery from illness and surgery: Fr. Nicholas, Leah, Thomas, Tom, Soultana, Nick, Maura, Ernie, Dean, Vasilios, Rigley, Electra,

For comfort, spiritual help & strengthening of faith: Pres. Diane, Pres. Sophia, Pres. Dianthe, Barbara, Nancy, Amantha and Family

For couples, parents, and their families: Neal and Elena, Paul and Kristin

For those engaged to be married: Karleigh and Stavros

For conceiving of children:

For childbearing:

For those in the Armed Forces: Benjamin, Michael, Gabriel, Felipe

For those travelling abroad:

For those seeking employment: Lia



JOIN US ON SUNDAY, MARCH 5
AS WE CELEBRATE THE...

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



About the Procession...

At the conclusion of The Divine Liturgy, a service is celebrated in commemoration of the affirmation of the 7th Ecumenical Council in 787 and the restoration of the use of icons in 843. Orthodox Faithful carry icons in a procession which clergy offer petitions for people, civil authorities and for those fallen asleep.

We ask that all members of our St. George Parish Family bring an Icon from home in order to participate fully on this beautiful day!!!



LIGHT UP THE CATHERAL

The Daughters of Penelope, invite you to purchase luminaries in memory of your loved ones, which will be lit around the Cathedral on Good Friday Evening.

The purchase price of each luminary is a donation of \$5.00 for each name or family name.

Kindly fill out the form and return it with your donation no later than APRIL 3, 2023. Checks should be made out to Daughters of Penelope #51 and sent to Maria Dongas, PDG, 846 Union Street Manchester, NH 03104.

our N	Name
lame	e(s) to Appear on the Luminaries (please print)
otal /	Amount <u>Enclosed</u> : \$
	you for your Support of this fundraiser sponsored by the <u>Daughters</u> of ope <u> lios</u> Chapter 51 Manchester NH

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORGIVENESS VESPERS TODAY - A brief service (45 minutes) will follow The Divine Liturgy and conclude with the exchange of mutual forgiveness. The faithful will come up one by one and venerate the Icon of Christ after which we will all ask each other (one by one) saying those beautiful words "Forgive me". When all have asked for forgiveness, the service is then completed. We ask that you stay and participate in the beautiful service which prepares us for Great Lent WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW!!!

<u>NEXT SUNDAY: SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY</u> – Please see flyer in this bulletin for more info and make sure you and EVERY MEMBER of your household brings an icon with them to Church!

<u>AXIOS FR ANDREW OTTO</u> – Last Sunday, October 19 at the St. George Chapel on the grounds of the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center in Contoocook NH, Fr. Andrew Otto was Ordained a Presbyter. We have been blessed to have him, Presbytera Jen and their children John and Benjamin in the life of our community! During dismissal all will have the opportunity to congratulate Fr. Andrew, and we ask that you continue to keep him and his family in your prayers! AXIOS!!!

SPONSORED COFFEE HOUR TODAY - Thank you to the GOYA for sponsoring today's coffee hour.

<u>SATURDAYS OF THE SOULS</u> - Commemoration slips are available in the narrhex for the names of your deceased loved ones so they may be remembered at the services held on the Saturdays of the Souls.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - Our 2023 Stewardship Commitment Sunday will take place on Sunday, March 5. We ask that all Cathedral Family Members be with us on this special day, and we also ask that if you haven't sent in your 2023 Commitment Form that you bring it with you on this day. A special prayer will be offered to our Lord over our written commitments to Him and to His Cathedral of Saint George! We hope to see you on this day!!!

UPCOMING MEMORIALS -March 5, Demetrious Dellas (40 days)

SAYING THANKS THROUGH PRAYER

aint Paul writes in his first letter to the Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

The idea of giving thanks is woven throughout the fabric of our Church. There are many moving accounts of God's people thanking Him in the Old Testament. Many times it involved building altars as an OUTWARD sign of their INWARD gratitude. Plenty of the Psalms are beautiful songs of thanksgiving to God. As noted in the Gospels, Christ Himself thanks His Heavenly Father. The essence of the Divine Liturgy each Sunday is the Eucharist. Communion is celebrated each Sunday we gather in the House of God. We petition, thank and praise our Lord through this common partaking of His Body and Blood.

Yet another way of expressing thanks is through prayer. Our prayers can be classified into 3 unique types: asking, thanking and praising. All 3 are necessary for a full relationship with God. The beginning of our Christian experience is the asking for God's forgiveness. When this is sincerely done, we are guaranteed His forgiveness. The natural response is to thank God for all that He has given us. Food, clothing, shelter, health and wealth are simply the beginning of what God has bestowed upon us. A growing relationship with our Lord Almighty eventually leads to praising Him for His goodness, truth and love.

As Christians, we use prayer to thank God for each blessing He has given us. Go forth and SHOW everyone what it means to be thankful.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral

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Fr. Demetrios Costarakis, Cathedral Dean
Father's E-mail: frdcostarakis@stgeorgenh.org

Lord's Day (Sunday) Services: Orthros/Matins: 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

An electronic copy of this bulletin is available on the website.

JUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2023

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

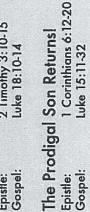
FEBRUARY 5th Fast - Free Week



2 Timothy 3:10-15 Luke 18:10-14 Publican and the Pharisee TRIODION Gospel: Epistle:

not yourself and ask for His help Show compassion on the poor before every task this week. and distressed. Trust in God,

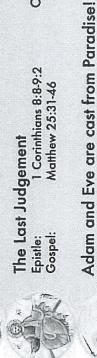
> **FEBRUARY 12th** Normal Fast Week



Schedule a Confession. Every morning Christ is returning from the East and say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week. Pray facing East this week

> **FEBRUARY 19th** FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY Meatfare

Cheesefare



1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Matthew 25:31-46

Use up/freeze dairy this week.

we wait for Himl

forgiveness each evening this Ask each other for week before bed.

Romans 13:11-14:4

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Matthew 6:14-21





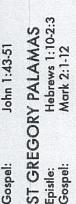
BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS

SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

Bring an icon to church

MARCH 12th 2nd Sunday of Lent



for a procession.

ST GREGORY PALAMAS Gospel: Epistle:

Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer Bring a prayer rope to be each day this week. blessed today!

Wear your cross to church and

each morning with a bowl

kiss the cross

VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Mark 8:34-9:1 HALF WAY TO PASCHA! Gospel: Epistle:

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach

MARCH 19th 3rd Sunday of Lent

Hebrews 6:13-20 ST JOHN of the LADDER Mark 9:17-31 Gospel: Epistle:

Paradise with the sign of the cross!

MARCH 26th 4th Sunday of Lent

Mark 10:32-45 Hebrews ST MARY of EGYPT Gospel: Epistle:

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week. Place your palm branches

and pussywillows behind

an icon at home and in your carl

5th Sunday of Lent **APRIL 2nd**



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

APRIL 14th

GREAT WEEK BEGINS

APRIL 9th

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18 GREAT AND HOLY WEEK Gospel: Epistle:

ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Refrain from TV, Internet &

Phones to honor Christ's Death. good morning and goodnight! Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before

> FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 16th NO FASTING!



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Gospel: John 1:1-17 Epistle: Acts 1:1-8