

WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS

Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card. We invite you to join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall following the Liturgy.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

HOLY OBLATION BREAD AND MEMORIAL WHEAT

If you are offering Holy Bread, please pick up your portion on top of the chanter stand at the end of Liturgy.

If you are offering Memorial Wheat, please provide (300) 3oz Dixie cups.

Please notify the Church Office by end-of-day Tuesday.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE DUE TUESDAY END-OF-DAY.

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

5311 Mercer, Houston, Texas 77005 www.stgeorgehouston.com

Church Office admin@stgeorgehouston.com 713-665-5252 p
713-583-8833 f
V. Rev. James Shadid *Pastor* fjshadid@gmail.com 316-209-3605 c
Rev. Symeon Kees *Assoc. Pastor* onesymeon@gmail.com 304-444-1110 c
V. Rev. Joseph Shahda *Emeritus*
Dn. George Katrib *Youth Director* gkatrib@gmail.com 713-689-4970 c

March 18, 2018

HOLY OBLATION AND MEMORIAL is offered in memory of Salim Barkoudeh (3/3) by Muhib & Evana Barkoudeh.

HOLY OBLATION AND MEMORIAL is offered in memory of Yacoub Nassar (1 year) by Yousef & Karimeh Nassar.

HOLY OBLATION is offered for the health of Afife Dumont, Eddy Zanayed, and Adelene Abercia by the Ladies Altar Society.

HOLY OBLATION is offered in memory of Alice Almokary & Josephine Antone by Gerald & Helen Angelo.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Monday, March 19	6:30p Great Compline
Wednesday, March 21	6:00p Great Canon/Life of St. Mary of Egypt
Thursday, March 22	6:30p Presanctified Liturgy, followed by Lenten Potluck (<i>Young Adult setup/cleanup</i>)
Friday, March 23	6:30p Akathist to the Theotokos
Saturday, March 24	6:00p Great Vespers / Confessions
Sunday, March 25	Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos 8:45a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy

EVENTS

BIBLE STUDY 10a every Tuesday.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 7p Tuesday, March 20.

ST. GEORGE FOOD PANTRY: 10a-12p every Wednesday.

PLEASE NOTE: Presanctified Liturgy will be Thursday, March 22. All parishioners are encouraged to bring a Lenten dish.

ST. NICHOLAS MEN'S SOCIETY: Come join our organization and help our Church and Parishioners. Please see the table in the Hall after Liturgy.

LAZARUS SATURDAY: Saturday, March 31. Day begins with 10a Divine Liturgy and is followed by brunch, egg hunt, crafts, petting zoo, games and pony rides.

PALM SUNDAY FISH FRY: After Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 1. Plates are \$12 each. To-go boxes are available for purchase. Order yours in advance at the St. Nicholas Men's Society table in the Hall after Liturgy.

ALMS BOXES FOR FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE CAMPAIGN: Please pick up your alms box to use every day during this Lenten Season. You can also donate online via debit/credit/ACH on the St. George website or app by selecting the **Food for Hungry People** fund. "He who oppresses the poor man insults his Maker, but he who is kind to the needy honors Him." Proverbs 14:31

ST. GEORGE DAY CELEBRATION LUNCH: after Liturgy Sunday, April 22. Hosted by the Ladies Altar Society. \$15/plate. Tickets available for purchase at the table in the Hall after Liturgy.

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH: Friday, May 11 at Fadi's Banquet Hall. Cost is \$35/person.

MINISTRY FOR THE SICK, SHUT-INS & ELDERLY: If you know of a St. George parishioner who would enjoy having a visit with the Ministry Team members and one of our priests, please call Betty Attra (713-782-1893) or the Church Office.

2018 PLEDGE CARDS are available in the Narthex, Office Lobby, and online.

NEW ST. GEORGE SMARTPHONE APP: Download our "My Church by echurch" app from the app store (St. George keyword is "SGOCC APP") or text "SGOCC APP" to 77977. If you need sign up assistance, see Eddy in the Hall after Liturgy.

YEARLY GIVING STATEMENTS are available at **mySTGEORGE**. To create your account, you can access the link at our website, stgeorgehouston.com. Once your account is created, your statement will be immediately available.

ST. GEORGE LIBRARY IS OPEN: Stop by the library to check out books or create your library account. Explore our 1,000+ book library catalog at <https://stgeorgehouston.libib.com/>. For any questions or assistance email us at stgeorgelibib@gmail.com.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

CAMP ST. RAPHAEL: Registration is now open. Applications are posted online at www.campstaphael.org. St. George attends Session 2 (7/1 until 7/7). Don't wait to register.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: 9:30a-12:30p June 4-8 at St. George. \$35/child.

OCF (COLLEGE)

YES COLLEGE DAY: 10a Saturday, March 24; meet at St. George. Come join this day of service to participate in community service projects and help spread the message of love to the people of Houston. Contact Naim Mekdesi (southtxstudent@ocf.net) for more info.

SPRING REGIONAL RETREAT: April 13-15. Hosted by St. Seraphim Cathedral in Dallas. The theme is "Becoming Young Adults". Free to attend. Please contact Valerie Hanna (southstudent@ocf.net) for more questions or to register.

EGG HUNTS * CRAFTS * PETTING ZOO * GAMES * POTTY RIDES



MARCH 31ST

LAZARUS SATURDAY

Divine Liturgy 10am

Brunch & Activities to follow

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY "THE DONKEY"

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



Commemoration of our Venerable Father John of the Ladder
The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

❖ **The Antiphons and Little Entrance as in the service book.**

❖ **After the Little Entrance, the following are chanted:**

The Troparion of the Resurrection in tone 8:

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

The Troparion of the St. John Climacus in tone 8:

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

The Troparion of St. George in tone 4:

As deliverer of captives, and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

The Kontakion for the Annunciation (and Great Lent) in tone 8:

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

The Epistle

The Lord will give strength to His people.

The Lord will bless His people with peace.

The reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (6:13-20).

Brethren: When God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore to Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Epistle in Arabic

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةَ لَشَعْبِهِ

قَدِمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ

(6:13-20) فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى العبرانيين

يا إخوة إنَّ اللهَ لَمَّا وَعَدَ إبراهيمَ إذ لم يُمكن أن يُقسِمَ بما هو أعظمُ منه أقسمَ بنفسِهِ * قائلاً لأبَارِكْكَ بَرَكَهً وَأَكْثِرَنَّكَ تَكثِيراً * وَذَلِكَ إذ تَأْتَى نَالَ الموعِدِ * وإِنَّمَا النَّاسُ يُقسِمُونَ بما هُوَ أعظمُ منهم وَتَنْقُضِي كُلَّ مُشَاجِرَةٍ بَيْنَهُم بِالقسَمِ للتَّيْبِيتِ * فَلِذَلِكَ لَمَّا شاءَ اللهُ أن يَزِيدَ وَرَثَةَ الموعِدِ بَيَاناً لِعَدَمِ تحوُّلِ عَزْمِهِ تَوَسَّطَ بالقَسَمِ * حتى نحصلُ بأمْرَيْنِ لا يتحوَّلانِ ولا يُمكنُ أن يُخلفَ اللهُ فيهِمَا على تعزيرِ قُوَّةِ نحنُ الذينَ التجأنا إلى التمسُّكِ بالرجاءِ الموضوعِ أضمامنا * الذي هو لنا كَمِرْزَاسَةٍ للنفسِ راسِخَةٍ، تُدخِلُ الى داخلِ الحجابِ * حيثُ دخلَ يسوعُ كسابقِ لأجلنا وَقَدْ صارَ على رُتَبَةِ ملكِيسادقَ رئيسِ كَهَنَةٍ الى الأبدِ.

The Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (9:16-30).

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."

The Gospel in Arabic

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس مرقس الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الظاهر (9: 16-30)

في ذلك الزمان دنا إلى يسوع إنسانٌ وسجد له قائلاً يا معلّم قد أتيتك بابني به روحٌ أبكم * وحيثما أخذهُ يصرعه فيزبدُ ويصرفُ بأسنانه ويبيسُ. وقد سألتُ تلاميذك أن يُخرِجُوهُ فلم يقدرُوا * فأجابهُ قائلاً أيُّها الجيلُ الغيرُ المؤمنِ إلى متى أكونُ عندكم حتى متى أحتملكم هلمَّ به إليَّ * فأثوه به. فلما رآهُ للوقتِ صرعه الروحُ فسقطَ على الأرضِ يترعُغُ ويزبدُ * فسألَ أباهُ منذُ كم منَ الزمانِ أصابهُ هذا * فقال منذُ صباهُ * وكثيراً ما ألقاهُ في النارِ وفي المياهِ ليهلكهُ. لكن إن استطعتُ شيئاً فتحننْ علينا وأغننا * فقال له يسوع إن استطعتُ أن تؤمنَ فكلُّ شيءٍ مُستطاعٌ للمؤمنِ * فصاح أبو الصبيّ من ساعتهِ بدموعٍ وقالَ إني أؤمنُ يا سيّد. فأغثْ عدمَ إيماني * فلما رأى يسوعُ أن الجمعَ يتبادرونَ إليه انتهرَ الروحَ النجسَ قائلاً له أيُّها الروحُ الأبيكمُ الأصمُّ أنا أمركُ أن اخرجُ منه ولا تُعدُ تدخلُ فيه * فصرخَ وخبطهُ كثيراً وخرَجَ منه فصارَ كالميتِ حتى قالَ كثيرونَ إنَّهُ قد مات * فأخذَ يسوعُ بيدهِ وألّهضهُ فقامَ * ولما دخلَ بيتاً سألهُ تلاميذهُ على انفرادٍ لماذا لم نستطعْ نحنُ أن نُخرِجُهُ * فقال لهم إنَّ هذا الجنسَ لا يمكنُ أن يخرُجَ بشيءٍ إلا بالصلاةِ والصومِ * ولما خرَجُوا من هُنَاكَ اجتازوا في الجليلِ ولم يردُ أن يدرى أحدٌ * فإنَّهُ كانَ يُعلِّمُ تلاميذهُ ويقولُ لهم إنَّ ابنَ البشرِ يُسلَّمُ إلى أيديِ الناسِ فيقتلونهُ وبعدَ أن يُقتلَ يقومُ في اليومِ الثالثِ.