

## THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES

In 842 A.D., the Council of Constantinople decreed that the first Sunday of Great Lent should annually be celebrated as the **SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY**. The purpose of this yearly commemoration is to draw attention to the triumph of the Church over the iconoclasts, who attempted to eliminate the use and veneration of sacred images in all public and private worship.

In recent years, it has become a tradition for Orthodox of all national and ethnic backgrounds to come together in prayer at special Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers. While attention is still given to the original intent prescribed for this day by means of moving processions with holy icons, its scope has widened in significance. Today, we also pause to give thanks to God for our precious Orthodox Faith, which has



carefully preserved the theological, doctrinal and liturgical integrity of the "one, holy, catholic and apostolic church."

On the cover of today's Church Bulletin, the 12 Apostles are shown holding a church, a reminder to us that Christ entrusted His faithful followers with the enormous task of establishing and preserving His Church. With Jesus Christ being the "Chief Cornerstone," the Apostles laid the foundation for the Church. Their total commitment to doing the work Christ assigned them to do enabled this divine institution to rapidly grow in size and in impact on the world.

It is fitting, therefore, that the 12 Apostles are remembered on this Sunday of Orthodoxy, for the truths that they carried to all nations are still proclaimed by their successors today. Indeed, **THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES!**

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

### 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.**





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ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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**HOLY OBLATION & MEMORIAL** is offered in memory of Ikram Jeries Baba (1 year) by Isam & Faika Zaid and family.  
**HOLY OBLATION & MEMORIAL** is offered in memory of Farah Jamil Baba (5 years) by his wife, Leila Baba, children and grandchildren.  
**HOLY OBLATION & MEMORIAL** is offered in memory of Farida Badeen (3/19 in Lebanon) by the Doumani Family.  
**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of Elias, Emanuel, Farida, Saeed, Abed ElAhad & Jack and for the health of the Hanna Family and the Zakko Family by Alberta Zakko and family.  
**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of Iyad (6 Years) Yusra & Lamis and for the health of Sami, Jawad, Ziad, Taghreed, Issa, Ibrahim, Julianna, Tarik, Buthaina, Maher, Elane, Fadel, Maya and Evan by the Zanayed family.  
**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of Soeur Vincent (Maleki) Moufarrej by Victoria Mafrige and the Mafrige family.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES (All services will be held in the Parish Hall).	
Sunday (3/24)	6:30p Great Vespers for the Annunciation at Annunciation Cathedral (3511 Yoakum Blvd)
Monday (3/25)	9:00a Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation 6:30p Great Compline
Wednesday (3/27)	6:30p Presanctified Liturgy/Lenten Potluck Dinner
Friday (3/29)	6:30p Akathist to the Theotokos
Saturday (3/30)	6:00p Great Vespers
Sunday (3/31)	8:45a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy

**SERVICE & PROCESSION FOR THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY: TODAY** All church school students are encouraged to bring an icon with them to church this Sunday. 3/24 for the Sunday of Orthodoxy procession at the end of Divine Liturgy. Students will line up for communion as normal and get organized in their classrooms before being called back to church.

EVENTS

**ST. THEKLA MISSION in Rosenberg:** Fr. James will be serving Liturgy next Sunday (3/31) at the mission at 9:00 a.m. (1429 Rice Street, Rosenberg, TX)  
**BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesday mornings at 10:00a. studying the Gospel of John.  
**STUDY OF THE LITURGY:** With Fr. Mark on Thursday mornings at 10am.  
**BOOK STUDY:** *The Lord of Spirits* (available in bookstore) Mondays at 6:30p.  
**ASK ABOUNA** will meditate on Orthodox Spirituality during Lent.  
**THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:** will resume meeting once a month, the last Sunday of every month after Ask Abouna at 12:30 PM in the Library.  
**ST. GEORGE 50 + BUS TRIP:** will be visiting the St. Paraskevi Monastery Thursday, 4/18. To reserve your seat please call Faika Zaid (713-213-3211). Bus leaves St. George @ 10:00 AM. Nice fellowship trip during lent.  
**ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS:** St. George Ladies Altar society is hosting the annual Mother's Day celebration on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 12pm at the church hall. Tickets are \$50 and \$75. For reservation, please contact Yolla Jabbour at 281-468-2219.  
**L.A.S. PASCHA COOKIES SALE:** Please scan the QR Code to the right to preorder. Cookies pickup April 14 & 21. Spinach & Zattar pickup after March 24.  
**LENTEN PSALTER GROUP:** If you are interested in participating in daily Psalter readings (from your own home) during Great Lent 3/18-4/28/24, please contact Joan Katrib at [imagatwork@mac.com](mailto:imagatwork@mac.com). For more information & to sign up. This is a simple & wonderful way to become familiar with the Psalms & to pray as a community.




FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITY CENTER

Phase 1 of the FAC/ project is moving forward, and our fundraising deadlines are fast approaching. Please help us reach our Phase 1 goal of \$6.5 million by making and fulfilling your FAC contribution today! Pledges and donations can be made on the St. George/FAC website or by scanning the QR code.



STEWARDSHIP

 **2024 PLEDGE STEWARDSHIP "NEW BEGINNINGS":** Our 2024 Pledge Campaign is now open, please prayerfully commit to your home of St. George. Please scan the QR code to the left to submit your 2024 Pledge Commitment. In an effort to simplify the pledging process, a new system (Tithe.ly) has been implemented. To donate, give towards your 2024 pledge or to set up recurring payments, scan QR code to the right.



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (SAVE THE DATE):** Vacation Bible School is back at Saint George. Save the date for June 17-21.  
**HOUSTON COLLEGE YES DAY:** Calling all college students! YES (Youth Equipped to Serve) is coming to the Houston area on 3/30 from 9:30a to 4:30p for a College YES Day full of outreach and fellowship. For more info and to register, you can find all of the details on the flyer in our weekly email.

## The Gospel in Arabic

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس يوحنا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر (1:43-51)

في ذلك الزمان أراد يسوع الخروج إلى الجليل فوجد فيلبس فقال له اتبعني \* وكان فيلبس من بيت صيدا من مدينة اندراوس وبطرس \* فوجد فيلبس ثناتين فقال له إن الذي كتب عنه موسى في التاموس والأنبياء قد وجدناه وهو يسوع بن يوسف الذي من الناصرة \* فقال له ثناتين أمين الناصرة يمكن أن يكون شيء صالح \* فقال له فيلبس تعال وانظر \* فرأى يسوع ثناتين مقبلاً إليه فقال عنه هوذا إسرائيلي حقاً لا غش فيه \* فقال له ثناتين من أين تعرفني. أجاب يسوع وقال له قبل أن يدعوك فيلبس وأنت تحت التينة رأيتك \* أجاب ثناتين وقال له يا معلم أنت ابن الله أنت ملك إسرائيل \* أجاب يسوع وقال له لأنني قلت لك إني رأيتك تحت التينة آمنت. إنك ستعطين أعظم من هذا \* وقال له الحق الحق أقول لكم إنكم من الآن ترون السماء مفتوحة، وملائكة الله يصعدون وينزلون على ابن البشر.

V. *The prayers of the Prothesis and Anaphora of St. Basil the Great*

## Service & Procession for the SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY

Children are encouraged to carry their icons  
and process with the priests.

Synodikon of Orthodoxy  
*(Seventh Ecumenical Council)*

As the Prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the Teachers have dogmatized, as the Universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ awarded: thus we declare, thus we assert, thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor as Saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshipping and reverencing Christ as God and Master; and on the other hand honoring as true servants of the same Lord of all, and accordingly offering them veneration.

This is the Faith of the Apostles; this is the Faith of the Fathers; this is the Faith of the Orthodox; this is the Faith which has established the Universe.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

### I. *The First Antiphon:*

1. The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.  
("Through the intercessions..." *after each verse*.)
2. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can cause all his praises to be heard? Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.  
("Glory...both now..." *and then* "Through the intercessions...")

### II. *The Second Antiphon:*

1. Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.  
("Save us, O Son of God..." *after each verse*.)
2. Let them exalt Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the seat of the elders.
3. The eyes of the Lord are upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy; to hear the groaning of the prisoners, to loose the sons of the slain.  
("Glory...both now..." *and then* "O, only begotten Son and Word of God...")

### III. *At the Little Entrance*

*The Troparion of the first Sunday of Great Lent is chanted in tone 2:*  
"Thy pure image do we venerate..."

### IV. *After the Little Entrance, the following are chanted:*

*-The Troparion of the Resurrection in tone 1:*

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

-*The Troparion of the first Sunday of Great Lent in tone 2:*

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

-*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

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.

*The reading is from the St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews (11:24-26, 32-40).*

Brethren: By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And in all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

### The Epistle in Arabic

مبارك أنت ياربُّ الله أبائنا

لأنك عادلٌ في كُلِّ ما صنَّعت بنا

فصلٌ من رسالةِ القديسِ بولسِ الرسولِ إلى العبرانيين (11:24-26, 32-40)

يا إخوةُ بالإيمانِ موسى لما كَبُرَ أبى أن يُدعى ابناً لابنةِ فرعونَ \* مختاراً الشَّقَاءَ معَ شعبِ الله على النَّمَحِ الوقتيِّ بالخطيئةِ \* ومُعْتَبِراً عازِ المسيحِ غنى أعظمَ من كُنُوزِ مِصرَ . لأنه نَظَرَ إلى النُّوبِ \* وماذا أقولُ أيضاً . إنه يَضِيقُ بي الوقتُ إن أَخْبَرْتُ عن جِدْعونَ وبَارَقَ وشمشونَ وِيفتاحَ وداودَ وصموئيلَ والأنبياءِ \* الذينَ بالإيمانِ قَهَرُوا المَمالِكَ وعَمِلُوا البِرَّ ونالوا المواعِدَ وسَدُّوا أَفْوَةَ الأَسودِ \* وأطفأوا جِدَّةَ النارِ ونَجَّوا مِن حَدِّ السَّيفِ وتَقَوَّوا مِن ضُغْفٍ وصَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ في الحَرْبِ وكَسَرُوا مُعَسْكَراتِ الأَجانِبِ \* وأَخَذَتْ نِساءً أَمواتَهُنَّ بِالقيامَةِ وعُدَّبَ آخرونَ بِنُوتيرِ الأَعضاءِ والضَّرْبِ ولم يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجاةِ لِيَحْصَلُوا على قيامَةٍ أَفضلَ \* وآخرونَ ذاقُوا الهُزَّةَ والجَلْدَ والقَيْوَدَ أيضاً والبِسَجَنَ \* ورُجِمُوا ونُشِرُوا وامْتَحِنُوا وماتُوا بِحَدِّ السَّيفِ . وسَاحُوا في جُلودِ غَتمٍ ومَعَزٍ وهم مُعَوِّزونَ مُضايِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ \* (ولم يَكُنِ العالَمُ مُسْتَجِلاً لَهُم) وكانوا تائِهينَ في البَراري والجِبالِ والمِغاورِ وكُفُوفِ الأرضِ \* فهؤلاءِ كُلُّهُم مشهوداً لَهُم بالإيمانِ لم ينالوا الموعِدَ \* لأنَّ اللهَ سبقَ فنَظَرَ لَنَا شيئاً أَفضلَ أن لا يَكمُلُوا بِدُونِنا .

### The Gospel

*The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (1:43-51)*

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."