

# St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

February 10, 2013

## HIEROMARTYR HARALAMPOS THE WONDER-WORKER, BISHOP OF MAGNESIA

Tone – 3

3<sup>rd</sup> Matins Gospel {Mark 16:9-20}

Altar Servers: **St. Michael** team {Karim Al-Khouri, captain}

Next Week – **St. Elias** team

Confessions

8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44

8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91

10:00am

Memorial Service

Trisagion p.183

**Welcome to St. George!** Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word “*Liturgy*” means *work of the people* which means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God’s grace to enter. For those who have committed themselves to the Orthodox Faith (through Baptism and/or Chrismation) it also means, if prepared, the reception of Holy Communion. Preparation includes the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, prayer, being on time for church, being at peace with others, attending the Divine Liturgy regularly, and fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before). If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father Joe. Please know that everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. All are welcome to our Coffee Fellowship in the hall after Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*The Golden-Mouth*}, we sing these special hymns:

### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 1**

Let the Heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty thing with His own hand. He has trampled death by His death and has become the first-born from the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting to the people of the world His great mercy.

### **Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3 (as above)**

#### **Troparion for St. Haralampos—Tone 4**

O wise Haralampos, you became an unshakable column in the church of Christ and a lamp of everlasting light to the world. Well-known to the world through your martyrdom, you dispelled the dark night of idolatry. Intercede with Christ God, that He may save our souls.

#### **Troparion of St. George—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.

بما أنك للمأسورين مُحررٌ ومُعْتَقٌ، وللْفُقراءِ والمَساكينِ عاضِدٌ وناصِرٌ وللمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وشَافٍ وعن المؤمنين مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشُّهداءِ جاورجِوسُ اللّابسُ الظُّفَرُ تَشَقَّعُ إلى المسيحِ الإلهِ في خَلاصِ نُفوسِنا.

#### **Kontakion for the Virgin Mary (on a normal Sunday)—Tone 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O

despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned, but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee. Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

**Epistle Reading:** *2 Timothy 2:1-10* {St. Haralampos}

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 25:14-30* {16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew}

**Holy Bread Offerings**

- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their family and in loving memory of Jeanette's cousin **Khouriya Joanne Bitar** (40 days), **Joseph** and **Rose Nicola**, **Mona Bashara**, **Joseph** and **Adel Saseen**, and **Paul Nassif**.
- The Peterson and Joseph Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of **Jonathan Joseph** (40 days).
- Samira and Sylvia Gantous for the health of their family and in loving memory of husband and father **Salim** (3 years).
- The Khal Family for the health of their family especially **Alexis** on the occasion of her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday – *May God grant her many years!*
- St. George Church School for the health of our St. George Family especially all of our **Godparents** and **Godchildren** -- *May God grant them many years!*
- This morning we pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Suhail Alshoury** (+January 1<sup>st</sup>, brother-in-law of Salwa Abu-Aitah), **Hanna Abufarha** (+January 17<sup>th</sup>, Palestine, father of Maher), and **Evelyn Farah** (+January 25<sup>th</sup>, Atlanta, GA, relative of the Farah's).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Androlla Abu Aita**, **Angel Abuaita**, **Jonathan Bassett**, **George Damouni** (Lina Burbar and May Gantos' brother), **Vera Farah**, **Samira Gantous**, **Camille Ghantous**, **Nadera Ghantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol Haddad**, **Roland Haddad**, **Gabby Joubran** (Najwa Joubran's brother-in-law), **Betty Khouri**, **Jean Khouri**, **John Khouri**, **Mariam Khoury**, **Norma Lazar**, **Lourice Matta**, **Megan Meade** (relative of Bob Teunion), **Danny Mortensen**, **Elaine Salim**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **Michael Silpoch**, **Marie Skafi**, **William Sophiea Jr.**, and **Kinan Turjman** (Sahar Abdallah's nephew).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Angela Haddad**, **Jennifer** (Peera) **Khoshaba** (former parishioner), **Katrin Mitri**, and **Marlen Odeh**.

**Communion Hymn** (*for the Lord's Day*)

(*Refrain*) Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

(*Verse*) Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! (*Refrain*)

(*Verse*) Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! (*Refrain*)

(*Verse*) Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! (*Refrain*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Reception of Holy Communion**

- Please remember **ONLY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS** who have **PREPARED THEMSELVES** may partake of Holy Communion.

- Since Church School is staying in church after Communion, our children and their Godparents or parents can receive Holy Communion together! Everyone may wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss you to the Communion Line.
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GODPARENT SUNDAY BREAKFAST** Our Ladies Auxiliary is having a delicious breakfast today in celebration of our Godparents and Godchildren. Costs: Adults \$5 each; Children 10 and under \$3 each. Everyone is invited!!! All proceeds will go to their National Project: *The Antiochian Village Tornado Relief Fund*.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: February 24<sup>th</sup> -- sign-up poster is in the Hall. Hosting information is in the Hall and Lounge and includes: bringing whatever you wish to serve and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$25.

**ORTHODOX BOOK CLUB** We will meet tomorrow, Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm for the St. Blaise Supplication Service then continue our study of the **Worship in the Orthodox Church**. All are invited to join! If you have any questions or would like more information, check out our Web Site (see below) or contact Deacon Mike at [frdnmike@gmail.com](mailto:frdnmike@gmail.com).

**SHAMROCKS!** Our YAF (*Young Adult Fellowship*) are selling "shamrocks" from now until March 17<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds will go towards individuals with Muscular Dystrophy. For more information and to donate, see Christine Elias or any YAF member.

**CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS** from Janet Abueita, Director (810-691-0956)

**Parents:** The Church School is in need of a DVD player for our TV and a Radio/CD "boom box". If you would be interested in making a donation toward either of these, it would be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact Janet -- Thank you!

**As a reminder, your children's Creative Festival Projects are due TODAY!**

**SUMMER CAMP** The Antiochian Village (about 1½ hours from Pittsburgh) serves our young people ages 9-17 that come from parishes throughout the Archdiocese. For more information and to register, please check out their web site at: <http://www.antiochianvillage.org/camp.html>. We go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session (June 30<sup>th</sup>-July 12<sup>th</sup>). If you have any questions, would like more information, or have registered for camp, please speak with our Camp Committee chairman, Anaam Abueita (810-686-9744 or [anaamabueita@gmail.com](mailto:anaamabueita@gmail.com)).

### **February 10<sup>th</sup> — HIEROMARTYR HARALAMPOS**

St Haralampos, Bishop of Magnesia (Asia Minor), successfully spread faith in Christ the Savior, guiding people on the way to salvation. News of his preaching reached Lucian, the governor of the district, and the military commander Lucius. The saint was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed his faith in Christ and refused to offer sacrifice to idols. Despite the bishop's advanced age (he was 113 years old), he was subjected to monstrous tortures. They lacerated his

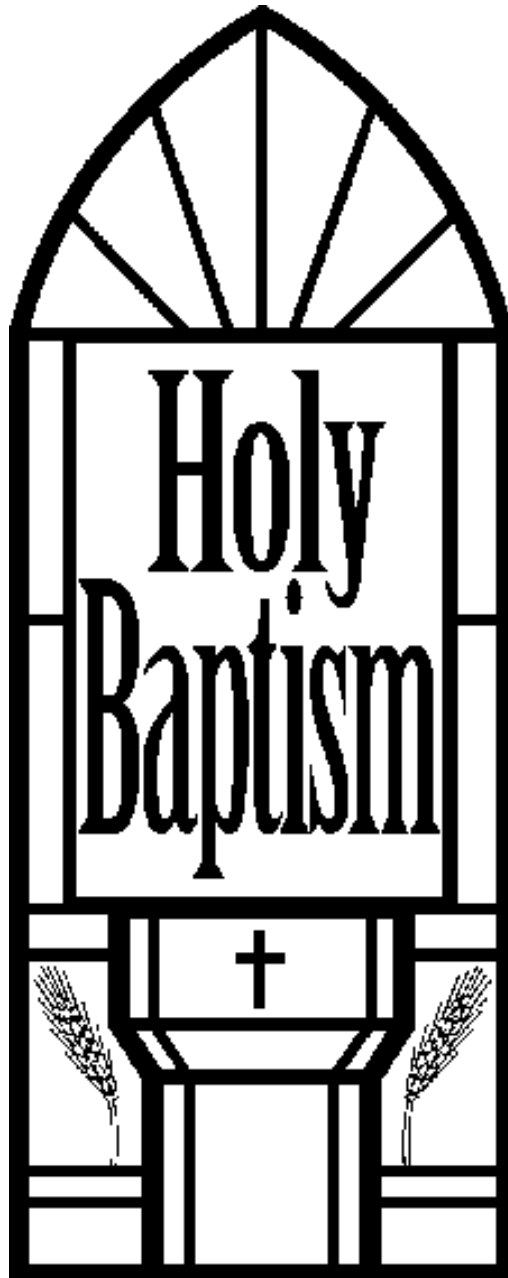
body with iron hooks, and scraped all the skin from his body. During this the saint turned to his tormentors, "I thank you, brethren, that you have restored my spirit, which longs to pass over to a new and everlasting life!" Seeing the Elder's endurance and his complete lack of malice, two soldiers (Porphyrius and Baptus) openly confessed Christ, for which they were immediately beheaded with a sword. Three women who were watching his sufferings also began to glorify Christ, and were quickly martyred.

The enraged Lucius seized the instruments of torture and began to torture the holy martyr, but suddenly his forearms were cut off as if by a sword. The governor then spat in the face of the saint, and immediately his head was turned around so that he faced backwards. Then Lucius entreated the saint to show mercy on him, and both torturers were healed through the prayers of St Haralampos. During this a multitude of witnesses came to believe in Christ. Among them also was Lucius, who fell at the feet of the holy bishop, asking to be baptized. Lucian reported these events to the emperor Septimus Severus (193-211), who was then at Pisidian Antioch (western Asia Minor). The emperor ordered St Haralampos to be brought to him in Antioch. Soldiers twisted the saint's beard into a rope, wound it around his neck, and used it to drag him along. They also drove an iron nail into his body. The emperor then ordered them to torture the bishop more intensely, and they began to burn him with fire, a little at a time. But God protected the saint, and he remained unharmed.

Many miracles were worked through his prayer: he raised a dead youth, and healed a man tormented by devils for thirty-five years, so that many people began to believe in Christ the Savior. Even Galina, the daughter of the emperor, began to believe in Christ, and twice smashed the idols in a pagan temple. On the orders of the emperor they beat the saint about the mouth with stones. They also wanted to set his beard on fire, but the flames burned the torturer. Full of wickedness, Septimus Severus and an official named Crispus hurled blasphemy at the Lord, mockingly summoning Him to come down to the earth, and boasting of their own power and might. The Lord sent an earthquake, and great fear fell upon all, the impious ones were both suspended in mid-air held by invisible bonds, and only by the prayer of the saint were they put down. The dazed emperor was shaken in his former impiety, but again quickly fell into error and gave orders to torture the saint. After this, he finally sentenced St Haralampos to beheading with a sword. During his final prayer, the heavens opened and the saint saw the Savior and a multitude of angels. The holy martyr asked Him to grant that the place where his relics would repose would never suffer famine or disease. He also begged that there would be peace, prosperity, and an abundance of fruit, grain, and wine in that place, and that the souls of these people would be saved. The Lord promised to fulfill his request and ascended to heaven, and the soul of the Hieromartyr Haralampos followed after Him. By the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed. Galina buried the martyr's body with great honor.

### COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil or their by-products</i> ) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
Monday	<b>NO Bible Study</b> <b>Supplication Service for St. Blaise</b> 6pm <b>Book Club</b> follows
Tuesday	<b>Altar Society Dinner Meeting</b> 6pm
Wednesday	<b>Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy</b> 1pm-2:30pm <b>SOYO Wednesday</b> 7-9pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm



## GODPARENT SUNDAY

*This is one of the most blessed days of the year in our parish. On this special day, children and their Godparents come to Church to receive Holy Communion together.*

*This year we will be conducting a rededication of our Baptismal Prayers within the Divine Liturgy.*

*Immediately before the Creed, the Priest invites the congregation to reconfirm their Baptismal Prayers, saying:*

PRIEST: Do you renounce Satan, and all his angels, and all his works, and all his service, and all his pride? (3X)

ALL: We do renounce him. (3X)

PRIEST: Have you renounced Satan? (3X)

ALL: We have renounced him. (3X)

PRIEST: Then breathe and spit upon him.

PRIEST: Do you unite yourself unto Christ? (3X)

ALL: We do unite ourselves. (3X)

PRIEST: Have you united yourselves unto Christ? (3X)

ALL: We have united ourselves. (3X)

PRIEST: Do you believe in Him?

ALL: We believe in Him as King and as God!

### THE CREED

ALL: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-

begotten, Begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the prophets;

And I believe in One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

I look for the Resurrection of the dead.

And the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRIEST: Have you joined Christ? (3X)

ALL: We have joined Him.

PRIEST: Then bow down and worship before Him.

ALL: We bow down before the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit: the Trinity, one in essence and undivided.

PRIEST: Blessed is God Who wills that all men should be saved, and should come to the knowledge of the Truth; now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

ALL: Amen.

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord have mercy.

PRIEST: O Master, Lord our God, renew Thy servants, the Godparents and Godchildren of our parish Family who have been called to Thy Holy Illumination through the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation. We pray that they may be accounted worthy of Thy great Grace and to recommit themselves to their God-given calling. Put off from them the old man, by renewing their Faith in Thee. Grant that their names may be in Thy Book of Life and unite them to Thy Holy Church. Fill them with the power of Thy Holy Spirit in the unity of Thy Christ; that they may no longer be children of sin, but they may repent and ask Thy forgiveness to be children of Thy Holy Kingdom as they renew the purity of their Baptism. Guide them through the good pleasure and Grace of Thy Only-Begotten Son, with whom Thou are blessed, together with Thy All-Holy, Good, and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

ALL: Amen