



Volume 31, Number 7  
**JULY-AUGUST 2022**

# The Cathedral Messenger

*A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral*

## Wichita's Parish Life Conference

Our Brotherhood in Christ



**FORTY PRIESTS AND NINE DEACONS** concelebrated the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at St George Cathedral/ Wichita, KS Saturday, June 18th, for the Leavetaking of Pentecost and the close of our Diocese's 70th Parish Life Conference.

Dean, V. Rev. Paul O'Callaghan • St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral

7515 East Thirteenth Street • Wichita, KS 67206-1223 • (316) 636-4676 • <http://www.stgeorgecathedral.net>



## MEMORY ETERNAL

Randy Roberts, of OKC, 6/14  
(brother of Nancy Kubina).

## MISSIONS SUNDAY!

Please join the  
Cathedral Mission Support Team  
following Liturgy Sunday, July 31

for a luncheon honoring Bishop BASIL's request  
to support the Archdiocese of Bosra Hauran.

All dinner proceeds  
go to assist our Sister Archdiocese.

(We hope to also hear a report from  
the Buerge Family,  
from their recent OCMC Mission Trip to Albania!)



## Medical Mercy Notice



Dear Dr. Sarraf:

On behalf of the Saint George Hospital – University  
Medical Center community, we would like to thank  
you for your concern and your generous donation.

We can only achieve our goals and humanitarian mis-  
sion with the help of generous donations from sup-  
porters and community members like your good-self.

We are eager to serve our community and remain  
grateful for your bounteousness.

Kind Regards,  
**Lamia Raffoul**

many years!

## Mabrook! Blessings!

baptism

Yusef G Hajeh, 6/11

Rosemary Naer Hahn, 6/26  
daughter of David and Emily



Submitted by Jenny Wall,  
Community Support Team Leader

Our meetings will be held by  
Zoom on The 2nd Tuesday  
of each month at 7:30p

## Upcoming Events:

**Christmas in July is Back!** July 23, 10:00 am -  
Come to St. George to help pack food boxes for needy  
families. Sign ups will be available soon at coffee hour  
for parish families to purchase books for the children of  
these families as well.



Please exit the Cathedral after liturgy  
and not gather to talk around  
the bengarri.  
**Thank you!**



## JULY FASTING

The normal fasting traditions are observed:  
abstain from meat, poultry and dairy  
products on Wednesdays and Fridays.



## AUGUST FASTING

August Fasting The Dormition Fast takes  
place August 1-14. We fast from meat,  
and dairy products, fish, and wine except  
on Saturdays and Sundays when there is an  
allowance for wine. A fast day always occurs  
on August 29 for the Beheading of John the  
Baptist in which we abstain from meat and  
dairy products.



# Value Them Both

## What the Kansas Supreme Court Did

For the position of the Orthodox Church, see:

**On the Sacredness of Human Life and its Untimely Termination**

<https://www.assemblyofbishops.org/news/2022/human-life-sacredness>

In 2019 the Kansas Supreme Court declared that the 1859 Kansas Constitution established a right to abortion. In effect, the Kansas Supreme Court took away the rights of Kansans to have laws that constrain abortions. From 1995-2019 our state legislators passed laws that placed common-sense constraints on the abortion industry (for example – parental consent, clinical inspection, and informed consent). Now those laws are presumed to be unconstitutional. In effect, Kansas is now a state where any abortion procedure is allowed.

### **NO LONGER A POLITICAL ISSUE**

The Value Them Both Constitutional Amendment is no longer a political issue. It has already passed the Kansas House and Kansas Senate by two-thirds majorities. The amendment now goes to the people of Kansas. The motivation to pass this amendment will vary based on worldview and ideology. Some simply recognize that human life is important and should be preserved. Many feel that abortions should be rare. For many, they want the restoration of common-sense constraints on the abortion industry. For the Church, abortion is a compelling biblical issue.

### **LIFE IS A BIBLICAL ISSUE**

What makes it a biblical issue? The Bible, in the first chapter of Genesis, declares that God not only created everything, but He also specifically created man in his own image. According to the Bible, human life is sacred (see Genesis 1:27). Human life inside a woman's womb is declared in both the Old and New Testaments (consider the stories of Isaac, Samuel, John the Baptist, and Jesus, just to name a few).

### **WHAT ABOUT "SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE"?**

Many have misunderstood the "separation of Church and State," yet the phrase is not in the US Constitution, nor in our Declaration of Independence. It was a phrase used by Thomas Jefferson to refer to the Church being protected from the state, not the other

way around. There was never any intention to keep the Church from the public arena. A state without the moral compass of the Church can lead to a culture of lies and deception. Churches can and should share about biblical issues, and this certainly includes the biblical issue of the sacredness of life.

The August 2 election will include a vote on the Value Them Both Amendment to the Kansas Constitution. The amendment is as follows:

"Because Kansans value both women and children, the constitution of the state of Kansas does not require government funding of abortion and does not create or secure a right to abortion. To the extent permitted by the constitution of the United States, the people, through their elected state representatives and state senators, may pass laws regarding abortion, including, but not limited to, laws that account for circumstances of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest, or circumstances of necessity to save the life of the mother."

Once, some people arrived here with their children to get a blessing. And they had a little girl with them, not older than five years old. She was crying. Her mother was with her and a few other believers here.

She kept on crying. And she kept asking: "Mama, where are my brothers, where are my sisters?" Another woman tells her: "Won't you just quit asking?" Yet another one adds: "Just shut up, your mother got rid of them. She doesn't have them anymore."

I should tell you this: My heart aches terribly for those who've had abortions. But they shouldn't despair: repentance and contrition of heart are what they need. They shouldn't wander off heaven knows where, but pray to our Good God in repentance and humility, and have confession, and our Good God will not forsake us; but we should have very much humility.

— Elder Proclu Nicau

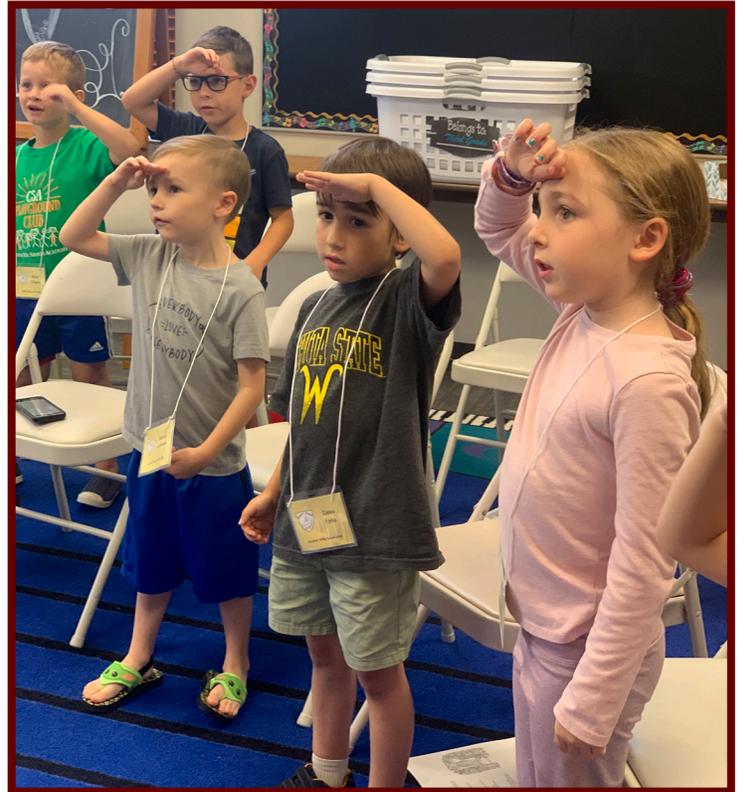


**Bishop BASIL** Blessings



**St. George Bible Bowl Team**  
Isabella Sebits, Preston Sebits,  
Jenna Mullinix and Logan Tracy

# 2022 Vacation Bible School



**Our Parish family**  
gathered in fellowship

# Parish Life 2022



*Many Thanks!*

to our Conference Co-Chairs **Joan Farha** and **Grace Humsi**, their Executive Committee, the Event and Function Chairs and their committee members, for making the 2022 Parish Life Conference a memorable and grand success!  
**Many years to you all!**

*The Cathedral  
Messenger*

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[www.stgeorgecathedral.net](http://www.stgeorgecathedral.net)

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