



Volume 31, Number 5
MAY 2022

The Cathedral Messenger

A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

Lazarus Saturday 2022



"The Lazarus Saturday Committee would like to thank all those that volunteered to make this year's Lazarus Saturday incredibly special. Our most sincere gratitude to everyone who helped with the Lazarus Saturday brunch at the Cathedral and the outing at the Chancery. We are so appreciative for each of you that made such a wonderful event possible. Christ is Risen!"

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>

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Great and Holy Pascha 2022

As we sing the hymn of victory, let us cleanse our senses and we will see
Christ shining like lightning with the unapproachable light of the
Resurrection and clearly saying, Rejoice!

First Ode of the Paschal Canon

Beloved in Christ,

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

Amidst the darkness of this world, the divine Light has arisen for our sakes. Let us open the eyes of our hearts so that we might behold Him! He shines with true and lasting joy, hope, love, and peace. Let us gaze upon Him so that we might take in the fullness of all these blessings!

Praying that Paschal joy will blaze forth in your hearts, I remain,

Yours in the Risen Lord,

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend
Bishop BASIL



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Wichita and
Mid-America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Pascha 2022

To the Right Reverend, Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, the Christ-loving Monastics, and the Faithful Laity of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America:

I embrace and greet you with a holy kiss in the Name of our Risen Saviour. Christ is risen! Χριστὸς ἀνέστη! المُسِّيْحُ قَامَ! Христос Воскресе! Hristos a īviat! Cristo ha resucitado!

"What use is there to celebrate Holy Pascha (which means "a passing over") for those who observe it only externally? What benefit do they receive if they themselves do not pass over and partake of the Paschal Lamb? They deserve every pity and the Church prays for them that our Lord Jesus Christ, our eternal Pascha, set them on the right path and bring them to their senses. And so I too implore you, brethren, to celebrate Pascha in a manner worthy of its significance. Let us sinners celebrate it by passing over from a sinful life to a virtuous one; let those who think of themselves as perfectly righteous celebrate it by passing over from their degree of righteousness to a still higher degree, from piety to greater piety, from perfection to perfection, so that none would remain without passing over to something better, and from that to something far better, 'forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before' (*Philip. 3:13*). Celebrating Pascha in this manner, we will remain true Christians, observing our Pascha in a worthy fashion. May the One responsible for the present Feast, and Who Himself lives and reigns in endless time for ever and ever, help us through His grace." (*St Ambrose of Milan +397*)

Assuring you of my continued love, prayers and blessings, and wishing you a joyous Paschal season, I remain

Your Father in the Risen Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized cross (+) followed by the name "Bishop Basil" in cursive script.

+Bishop Basil

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

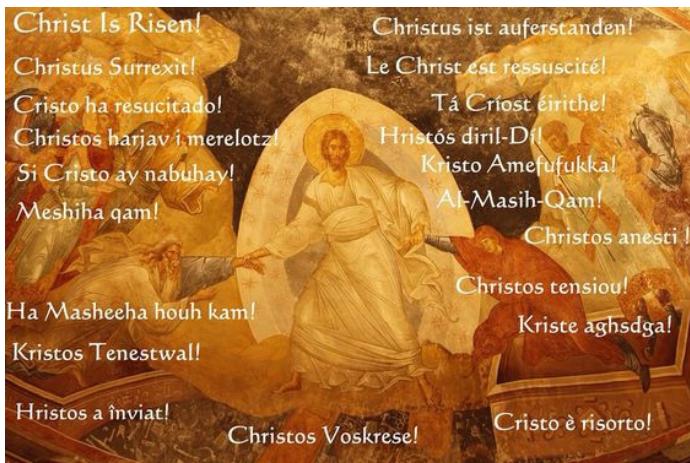
1559 North Woodlawn Street, Wichita, KS 67208-2429
(316) 687-3169 Phone E^pBasil@aol.com (316) 636-5628 Fax



MEMORY ETERNAL

Anne Gray, of Evergreen, CO
4/19 (grandmother of Sean Hatfield)

Leroy Edward Sheldon, of Brule, NE
4/5 (father of Amy Henry)



thank you

Dear Father Paul and dear St. George
Cathedral family!

We are absolutely humbled by your very generous support in this time of great need for Ukraine!

Through your donation, George and I will be able to continue to support volunteer efforts of our friends in Ukraine who, despite their own difficult circumstances, respond to immediate needs of those around them. Mostly elderly, disabled, ill and families with children who have been displaced, lost their homes, jobs and are in need of shelter, meals, medicines and transportation.

We are extremely grateful for your love and support!

In Christ, yours truly,
George and Elena Nebrat

CLASS OF 2022

Brady Claassen
Naomi Daniel
Zoey Ellis
Marion Gibson
Johnny Jabara
Johanna Ledell
Layla Mason
Reagan Mayo
Anthony Nababout
Ella Sipp

Join US! May 15th
to Honor Our Cathedral Graduates and for the presentation of the Kouri/Cohlmia Scholarships

Orthodox Super Saints
The Heroes of Our Faith

Monday, June 6 - Friday, June 10
Each day from 1:00-4:00pm

VBS VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL

Kh. Gigi Shadid

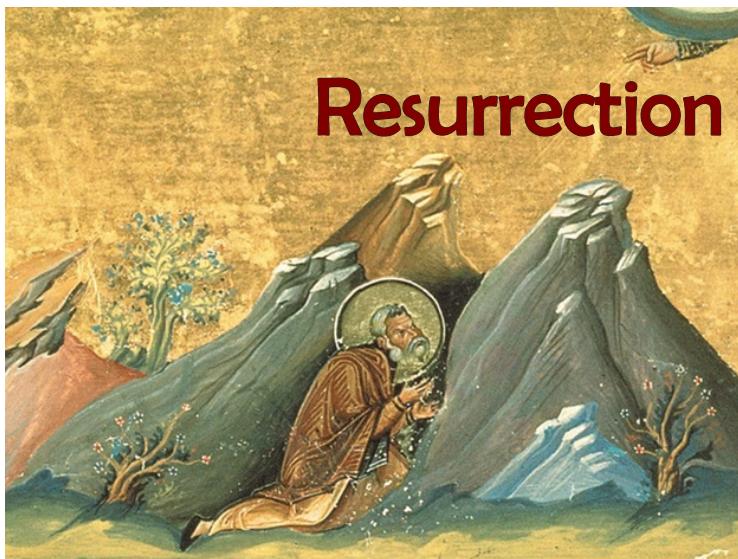
To register, please visit tinyurl.com/StGeorgeVBS2022 or scan the QR code

VBS is open to children age 4, by September 1, 2021 to 5th grade during the 2021-2022 school year

"For those interested in volunteering to help with VBS, please indicate so on your registration or see Ben Mosley."

MAY FASTING

The normal fasting traditions are observed: abstain from meat, poultry and dairy products on Wednesdays and Fridays. And an Antiochian tradition allows for fast-free observance during the 40 days of Pascha.



Resurrection to Humility

A life of humble obedience, rather than one dominated by willfulness [controll], would transform a family, a parish, a nation, and our world.

So, what happens when we do not get what we want or what we think is right and just? We respond with anger, an anger that is rooted in pride. To be clear, despite what we may want to tell ourselves, this is not a ‘righteous anger’ towards sin. It is the passion of anger that is stirred by our will being thwarted, our desires being denied, and our sense of justice being offended.

This kind of anger can emerge within us even over seemingly mundane details in our day. St. John Cassian, a monastic saint from the late fourth and early fifth centuries, writes in *On the Eight Vices*, “I can remember how, when I lived in the desert, I became angry with the rushes because they were either too thick or too thin; or with a piece of wood, when I wished to cut it quickly and could not; or with a flint, when I was in a hurry to light a fire and the spark would not come. So all-embracing was my anger that it was aroused even against inanimate objects.” (*The Philokalia*, Vol. 1, p 86)

Perhaps, like St. John, you have noticed your own anger being stirred when things don’t go your way at work, school, home, neighborhood, politics, or church. All our sin comes self-justified because it is rooted in pride – the centering of our lives in our Self – what I want, what I think, how I feel, what I desire. Pride is so pervasive that it undergirds all our sin and provides fuel for our anger. When we combine the passion of self-will [desire for control] with anger, we create a deadly mix for both soul and body and blind the eye of our heart to the radiance of the Sun of righteousness.

St. John Cassian writes, “So long as [anger] dwells in our hearts and blinds the eyes of the heart with his somber disorders, we can neither discriminate what is for our good, nor achieve spiritual knowledge, nor fulfill our good intentions, nor participate in true life; and our intellect will remain impervious to the contemplation of the true, divine light; for it is written, ‘For my eye is troubled because of anger’ (Ps. 6:7, LXX).”

Let us therefore place ourselves on the pathway of obedience, that we may attain to God-pleasing humility, rooting out the self-will that inevitably drives us to anger.

(Adapted by Fr. Paul with minor editing from an article by Bp. THOMAS {Joseph} and Fr. David Hyatt)

St. John Climacus, in *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, writes, “Obedience is the tomb of the will and the resurrection of humility.” (Step 4.3) As children, we are called to obedience of our parents because it is one of the most important ways that we learn to be obedient to God as we grow older. St. Paul writes, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: “that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.”” (Ephesians 6:1-3)

In the Church, we are also called to a life of obedience – following the example of those who have been given to us by God to lead us in the path of His commandments. In his epistle to the Hebrews, St. Paul writes, “Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.” (Hebrews 13:17) This kind of life of obedience, at home and parish, is for our salvation. Obedience cultivates humility, and humility draws the grace of God. St. Peter writes, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’” (1 Peter 5:5)

What a contrast there is between self-will [control], and humble obedience! The former seeks to have all things in the way that we think is best, striving for the power to control circumstances, people, and even God. The latter willingly submits to the loving providence of God in order to work out our salvation. In humility it considers the needs of others as more important than one’s own.



Submitted by Jenny Wall,
Community Support Team Leader

Next Meeting

Tuesday, MAY 10

12:00 noon in the Library.

We would love to have you join us!!

We usually meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents with our community. Please contact Jenny Wall at 990-4096 if you would like to be involved.

Upcoming Events:

Cook Up A Storm is BACK!

Saturday, May 7 – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Parish adults, teens and parents accompanying children are welcome to join the Community Support Team in the St. George kitchen as we prepare casseroles to donate to Union Rescue Mission! Notify Jenny Wall at 316-990-4096 by text or email walljenny4@gmail.com if you plan on being there!

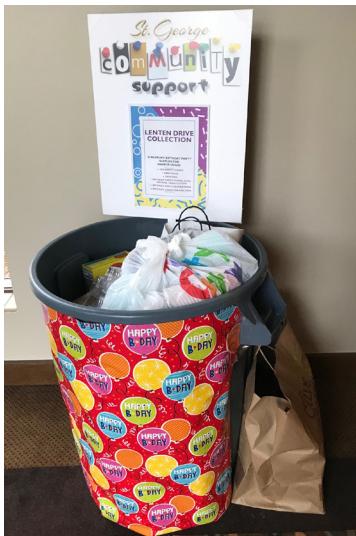
Guadalupe Clinic Tour

Tuesday, May 31, 1:30p

"We've been given an opportunity to tour the Guadalupe Clinic at 940 S St Francis They offer much needed, quality health services in our community. Call Jane Evans at 316-644-1072 if you'd like to join us."

St. George Lenten Drive to Benefit Harbor House

Thank you so much for your donations for children staying at the Harbor House is a shelter in Wichita. We collected your donations during the Lenten season and they will be delivered to Harbor House soon.



Community Rewards

Dillons Community Rewards Program

To participate in the Dillons Community Reward Program set up a

Dillons account online at this link <https://www.dillons.com/i/community/community-rewards> and designate St. George Orthodox Cathedral to receive your Community Rewards. When you shop at Dillons, a percentage of the sale will be forwarded to the St. George account. There is no extra charge to you.

Value Them Both

By The Church Ambassador Network of Kansas



The US Supreme Court decision in 1973 of Roe v. Wade took away the rights of states to determine the legality of abortion. They declared that all 50 states had to allow abortion. We are still living under that ruling.

Kansas has seen ups and downs in the number of abortions since then. From 1995 through 2019 there was a 48% decrease in the number of abortions. In 2020 there was a 9% increase. Now we know that 2021 saw an additional 4.1% increase.

Save the date!

Join us as St. Mary celebrates 90 years! This year's Mediterranean Festival will be Saturday, May 14.

We've combined our most popular dishes into two unique plated meal options, plus a dessert sampler plate. Meals can be purchased using our convenient and efficient drive-thru or carry-out located at the church. Our Marketplace and bookstore will also be open inside the church. Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date details about this year's festival, including our pre-order event and our charity partner, Wichita's Littlest Heroes!



What is happening now?

In April of 2019 our Kansas Supreme Court found a right to abortion in our 1859 Kansas Constitution. They specifically declared that a law outlawing dismemberment abortion was found unconstitutional. Now all Kansas laws constraining abortion are presumed to be unconstitutional.

Right now, about half of all abortions in Kansas were performed for women who traveled to Kansas. The numbers continue to change, but the reality is that Kansas is a destination state for abortion.

What can we do?

The Value Them Both Constitutional amendment will be on the ballot on August 2nd this year. Voting YES is the pro-life vote that amends our Kansas Constitution to make clear that it does make abortion a right.

We need to pass the Value Them Both amendment by a majority of those who vote on August 2nd.



St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral
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www.stgeorgecathedral.net

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