



Volume 33, Number 5  
**MAY 2024**

# The Cathedral Messenger

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

## AXIOS! DEACON MARK

This year's Lazarus Saturday was marked by the visit of His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA to our Cathedral and the ordination of our Pastoral Assistant, Mark Sultani, to the holy diaconate. Dn. Mark comes to us from St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Livonia, Michigan where he grew up as an altar boy, chanter, and choir member. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in computer science in 2018 and—after working for one year as a software developer—decided to follow the calling to seminary he felt since the age of 17.

He graduated from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in May of 2023 and married his wife, Diakonissa Nicole, that same month.

Dn. Mark feels that his ordination is the culmination of a lifetime of preparation for service in the Orthodox Church. Growing up, his parents



filled his home with the music of chanting, the smell of incense, and prayers. The Antiochian Village camp imbued Dn. Mark with a love for the services and music of the Church. His involvement in ministries such as Teen SOYO, Youth Equipped to Serve, Crossroad, and OCF helped form his Christian mind and love for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. St. Vladimir's Seminary proved to be highly formative for his spiritual life and blessed him with lifelong friends, most of whom are now priests serving in our Archdiocese. He is honored to have been

ordained by Metropolitan SABA in our beautiful Cathedral and expresses special thanks to Dn. David for his patient coaching and guidance on diaconal service. Dn. Mark is excited to serve St. George Cathedral as a deacon and feels prepared to greet both the joys and responsibilities of this ordained ministry!

**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>



**CLASS OF 2024**

Myrrah Anwad  
 Isabella Ayesb  
 Andrew Baranivsky  
 Elias Claassen  
 Lydia Daniel  
 Brock Ellis  
 Isabella Galichia  
 Joel Gibson  
 Joseph Jabara  
 Sammy Kouri III  
 Liana Maksoud  
 Jenna Mullinix  
 Maya Nabbout  
 Hannah Pappademos  
 Daniel Spencer  
 Christina Zakharia

**Join US! May 12th**  
 to Honor Our Cathedral Graduates and for the  
 presentation of the Kouri/Cohlmiia Scholarships

**MABROOK! BLESSINGS!**

**CHRISMATIONS 5/4/24**

Alisha "Elizabeth" Nisly  
 Holly "Juliana" Nisly  
 Colton "Paisios" Cassell  
 Adam Lynch

**BAPTISMS 5/4/24**

Lori "Olga" Chrisman  
 Nic "Nicholas" Evans  
 August "Luke" Fielding  
 Joshua "Nectarios" Stiebens  
 Courtney "Maria" Stiebens  
 Eustis "Eustathios" Stiebens  
 Rose "Elizabeth" Stiebens  
 Judson "Justin" Stiebens  
 Ivan Stiebens

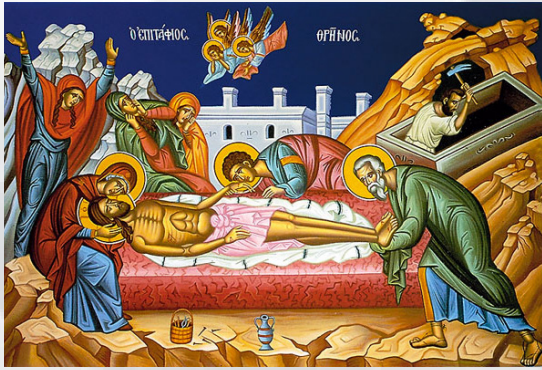
**MANY YEARS!**

**MAY FASTING**

Fasting resumes during Holy Week with abstention from all meats, dairy products, flesh fish, with allowance for wine after the Liturgy on Holy Saturday morning. Bright Week, May 12 - 11th is fast-free, and an Antiochian tradition allows for fast-free observance during the 40 days of Pascha.

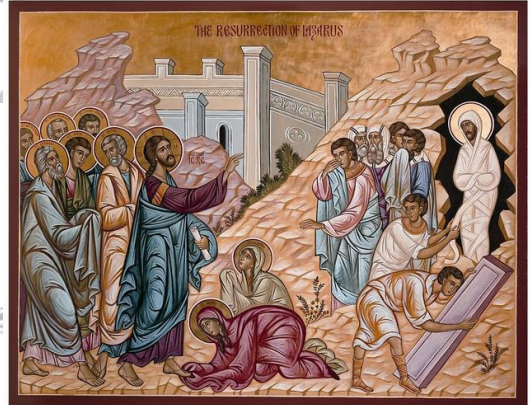


## Holy Saturday & Pascha



May 4 • 9:30a *Vespers Divine Liturgy*  
 11:00p *Paschal Service*  
 followed by *Paschal feast*  
 May 5 • 1:00p *Agape Vespers*

## GREAT FRIDAY VIGIL



**All are more than WELCOME**  
 to participate in the Holy Friday All Night Vigil!  
 A sign-up board will be placed by the Chapel

## Paschal Baskets



You are encouraged to bring a basket of your favorite desserts, meats and wines with you to the Paschal Liturgy. They are to be placed in the baptismal area and will be blessed at the conclusion of the Liturgy.

## Antiochian Archdiocese Scholarships

are available

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
 of North America

Applications available at:

<https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/386>

## Food for the Hungry



We urge you, during this season of prayer, self-discipline and fasting, to be very generous in your contribution to this campaign. As we practice the virtues which cleanse our souls, let us not forget or refrain from the “greatest of the virtues.” As important as prayer and fasting are, they are of no avail to us if we fail to give to those in need.

If you would like to give, please make your check payable to **St. George Cathedral - earmark “FFHP”**

“When you see a poor person, remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ by which He declared that it is He, Himself who is fed. For though that which appears be not Christ, yet in that person’s form, it is Christ Himself who receives and begs.”

--St. John Chrysostom,  
 “Homilies on Mathew” #78.

# Our 2024 Missions Awareness Dinner



On St. Patrick's Day we celebrated great news from our St. George missionaries who benefit from the generosity of our parish! And we rejoiced at the unprecedented news that two of our missions have become self-sustaining! Floyd and Ancuta Frantz have involved businesses and the government of Romania in the recognition of the needs, and the full support of the St. Dimitrie substance abuse ministry, and the Protection of the Theotokos Day Care Center!

Thanks to your prayers and giving we were able to report that many of the ministries we support achieved long-sought goals this past year!

- Floyd Frantz has worked with Fr. Iulian of Moldova, for a "National Drug Program" there! A dream long sought! Floyd is there right now helping to develop a manual for ministry in this country where everyone has grows their own grape vines!

- Fr. Mike Medis, after filling pulpits for years, has finally realized his dream of a permanent pastorate, at St. Nicholas in Lawrence! He is busy developing fellowships for men and women, an OCF, helping a local kitchen and a Skete in Nebraska, while serving midweek services for catechumens and parishioners!

- Fr. Yohanes in Indonesia achieved his dream of reaching out to his country with the story of the Orthodox faith as he traveled over 2,000 miles to join an interfaith dialogue attended by thousands of people! In a country where he is prohibited from building churches, he has developed schools

with chapels for Liturgical use, internet ministries, and translations of Orthodox books. He has also begun to speak in Protestant churches (after having learned of Orthodoxy in a Protestant Seminary years ago!).

- The tragic loss of Fr. Barnabas in Fiji brought about a connection for us with a division of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of New Zealand ("Orthodox Pacifika"—go to their website to see!) that wants to build a church for their community! New priest Father Alexios is caring for his poor flock by using some of our most recent contribution for food vouchers. Fr. Barnabas' widow Pr. Maria is still helping the community and chanting at each service.

- Finally, Father Juvenal, who stopped here eight years ago on his way to Guatemala, has realized his dream to become a missionary (following his years of teaching at St. Tikhon's U.S. seminary, and assisting the ministry in Guatemala) by pastoring a church in Sao Paulo, Brazil!

As we concluded our reports, we read a post by our friend Bishop Neofitos, currently in Eldoret, Kenya. "Who is a Missionary? Every Christian... must be involved in missions, but not every Christian is a missionary. However, we should all be ready to give an answer for the hope that we have and we should all adorn the gospel with our good works and we should all do our part to make Christ known. Be blessed."

— His Grace Bishop NEOFITOS.

# LAZARUS SATURDAY



Thank you to all those who volunteered to make this year's Lazarus Saturday with Metropolitan SABA incredibly special. Our most sincere gratitude to everyone who helped with the brunch and the last minute move to the Cathedral due to weather. We are so appreciative for each of you that made such a wonderful event possible.

Falafel



Feed

This great crew, plus several others, have a falafel fry after Akathist, with 100% of the donations (not profit-donations) going to Project Mexico. Danielle Farha starts on Monday, preparing for it by sprouting dry garbanzo beans and changing the water each day. Their kitchen

fills with helpers Thursday evening to process the beans, onions, parsley, lettuce, tomato & make the tahini sauce. Friday is spent gathering all the supplies, condiments & bread. It is huge undertaking but as they say “many hands make light work” and it’s great fellowship.

# Pysanky Class

BY VAS OLDZIEY



man for the sun to return and for a good harvest. The decorations on the eggs took on Christian meaning as Christianity spread through the region. Traditionally, the art of the Pysanky was practiced only by adult women in the evenings after all of their work was done. There is a saying that as long as Pysanky is practiced the world will continue.

The designs on the eggs can be geometric or have nature as it’s theme. With a kitska, a wooden tool with a copper funnel to hold the beeswax, the melted wax is applied on the egg shell in the chosen design. Then the egg is dipped into the lightest of the chosen colors for the design. Another application of wax goes over the first color and the egg is dipped again in the next color and so on, until the design is complete.

The last step is to melt off the all of the wax and reveal the finished pysanky. It seems like magic to see your completed design.

Everyone who participated enjoyed the challenge. We went home with two kitskas each and our Pysanky eggs. We hope to conduct another Pysanky class in the fall.



On Saturday, April 13, ten courageous parishioners met in the Fellowship Hall at St. George to try their hands at the ancient art of Ukrainian egg decoration, Pysanky. The class was taught by Ukrainian born artist, Svitlana Tararuk, whose canvases are the fragile shells of goose eggs and chicken eggs.

Svitlana gave us a brief history of the art of the Pysanky, which means “writing”. This form of egg decoration dates back to pre-Christian times and were made as a talis-



**Team Leader: Carrie Camden**  
Community Support Team Leader  
[camden9492@gmail.com](mailto:camden9492@gmail.com)

**Content Submitted by Mikell Awaad**  
**Next Meeting - May 14 - 12:00 noon**  
**in the Fellowship Hall**

### IRC Lenten School Supply Drive

St George Cathedral and Christ the Savior Academy have been working hard to collect school supplies for the International Rescue Committee during Lent. IRC Wichita coordinates refugee settlement in our local community, many of whom are children in need of school supplies. Collection boxes for donations can be found in the St George Church Hall and in front of the CSA offices. Supplies requested include:

- Notebooks – Composite & Spiral
- 2-inch Binders
- Wide & College Ruled Paper
- Pencil Pouch for 3-hole binder
- Pencil box • Pens & Pencils
- Pencil Sharpeners • Washable Markers
- Crayons • Rulers • Color Pencils • Highlighters
- Scissors • Glue Sticks
- Regular Glue • Backpacks – 17 inch
- 2-pocket folders • Erasers

Supplies will be collected until May 12th. Thank you to all that have already donated to this worthy cause!

### The Lord's Diner

This is a great volunteer opportunity for individuals, couples, and families to help serve meals to those in need. Youth ages 12-17 are welcome to volunteer if accompanied by a parent or guard-

ian. St George volunteers typically serve on the third Sunday of the month from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Upcoming volunteer dates are May 19th and June 16th. For more information or to join this volunteer group, contact Pat Milburn at [pmilburn@joseph-hollander.com](mailto:pmilburn@joseph-hollander.com).



**Celebrate The Heavenly Protectors!**

Monday, June 3 - Thursday, June 6

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

To register, please visit [tinyurl.com/StGeorgeVBS2024](http://tinyurl.com/StGeorgeVBS2024) or scan the QR code

# The Cathedral Messenger

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Wichita, KS 67206-1223

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*Return Service Requested*

## Save the date!

Join us on Saturday, May 18, for the 2024 Mediterranean Festival! Funds from this year's event are supporting the DUI Victims Center of Kansas. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for up-to-date information about our menu, pre-order, and other event details. We look forward to seeing you in May!

