



Volume 35, Number 5  
**MAY 2026**

# The Cathedral Messenger

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

# St George Picnic



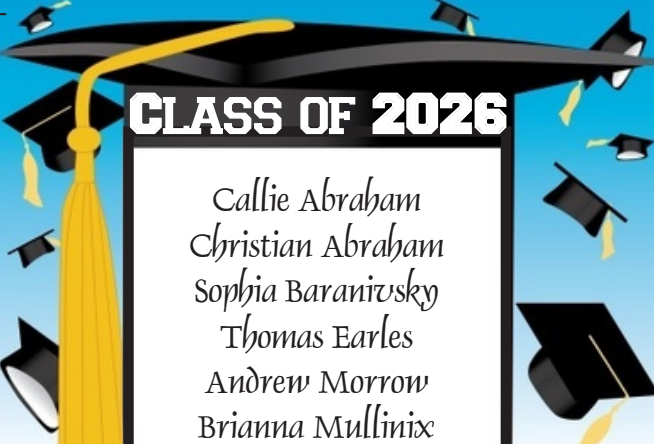
**Parish faithful gathered for another successful picnic, and St George had a fantastic time rescuing our youth from the terrors of an evil dragon.**

# Bulletin Board



## MEMORY ETERNAL

Jim L. Shadid, 4/12  
(brother of Danny Shadid)



### CLASS OF 2026

Callie Abraham  
Christian Abraham  
Sophia Baranivsky  
Thomas Earles  
Andrew Morrow  
Brianna Mullinix  
Ezryn Neal  
Cooper Ryan  
Sophia Sipp  
Leah Taylor  
Peter Todorov

**Join US! May 10th**  
to Honor Our Cathedral Graduates and for the presentation of the Kouri/Cohlma Scholarships

## MABROOK! BLESSINGS!

### CHRISMATIONS 4/11/26

Jade Elisabeth Collins  
Andrew Dickgrafe  
Ashlyn Nicholas Hernandez  
Deborah Veronica Pomeroy  
Samuel Andrew McCrory

### BAPTISMS 4/11/26

Korey George Borst  
Marcy Photini Borst  
John Cates  
Elizabeth Jean Cates  
Zach Collins  
Logan Victoria Collins  
Robert Joshua Hernandez  
Isaac Pederson  
Brandi Elizabeth Pederson

**MANY YEARS!**



Trisagion services for the departed at St. George Cathedral are served on the following death anniversaries:

- Forty days
- One year
- Five years
- Every five years thereafter if desired

Please abide by this rule when scheduling Trisagion services with the Cathedral Office

### MAY FASTING

The traditional fasting (from meat, poultry, fish, eggs and dairy products) is observed on Wednesdays and Fridays. and an Antiochian tradition allows for fast-free observance during the 40 days of Pascha.

**MST**  
Missions Support  
Team Meeting

The Missions Support Team will hold its quarterly meeting on **Saturday, May 16th at 9:30 am at the Parish House.** Please join us if you are interested in joining this ministry!



# Orthodoxy & Christian Zionism:

Who Are  
the Heretics?

Part II

By Fr. Paul O'Callaghan



The basic premise of Christian Zionists is that “Israel” is to be identified with the physical descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob: the Jewish people, and more specifically, the modern state of Israel. They apply God’s promise to Abraham to Jews: “I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your seed after you” (Genesis 17:6-7).

Yet the New Testament explicitly rejects identifying Jews as Abraham’s seed. The Apostle Paul wrote: “For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are the children of Abraham because they are his descendants (seed) ... This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are reckoned as descendants (seed).” (Rom. 6b, 7a, 8). According to the Apostle, the heir of Abraham’s covenant was not the Israelite people, but Christ: “Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as of many (plural), but as of one (singular), ‘And to your Seed,’ who is Christ” (Gal. 3:16).

Who then are the true children of Abraham? Those who are “in Christ.” According to St. Paul, “Therefore know that those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’ So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham..” (Gal. 3:7-9). He then concludes: “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abra-

ham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” (Gal. 3:26-29). Abraham’s promise belongs to Christ and all those who are united to him through faith, not to the Jewish people.

This teaching of St. Paul is summed up succinctly by him in Romans 2:28-9: “For he is not a real Jew who is one outwardly, not is true circumcision something external and physical. He is a Jew who is one inwardly, and real circumcision is a matter of the heart, spiritual and not literal.” For the Apostle Paul, then, there is a critical distinction between outward Israel and the true Israel. The true Israel is made up of those who are children of Abraham by faith in Jesus Christ, including Gentiles. (Rom. 11:17-24). Thus St. Paul calls the Church “the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16), and views it as the legitimate continuation of Old Covenant Israel. Those who reject Christ are outside Israel, that is, God’s covenanted people.

It would be a mistake, however, to conclude that the Apostle Paul’s theology is his own unique invention. Its basic premise goes back to Jesus, John the Baptist, and beyond to the Old Testament itself. Both Jesus and John refused to identify God’s people with physical Israel. John warned “Don’t think within yourselves ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ God is able to raise up children of Abraham from these stones” (Mat. 3:9). Jesus denied that his Jewish opponents were children of Abraham, and labeled them “children of the devil” (John 8:31-44).

It is therefore clear that the New Testament never simply identifies Israel — the true people of God — with the nation of Jews. The name “Israel” is used occasionally in the New Testament to refer to the “outward Jews”, but as we delve deeper into its teaching, we find that the true Israel is made up of those who are faithful to God’s covenant promises and saving deeds, specifically His revelation in Jesus Christ.

# NEW MEMBER MIXER

On Sunday, April 26, we hosted our second Member Mixer event in the St. George Fellowship Hall. 100 parishioners from different backgrounds came together to make new connections. Lifelong parishioners and brand new converts broke bread and learned about each other, what brought them to the Church, and what has kept them in the Church all these years. A delicious three course tex-mex dinner was provided by Mikey

and Martha Klotz which was enjoyed by all. As we continue to receive a wave of new converts into the Orthodox Church, events like these will become more and more important to keep our parish family together and united in worship of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. This event sold out in record time, so keep an eye out for the next one and sign up quick!



## Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America

**Parish Life Conference:** DoubleTree by Hilton Denver Tech Center (June 10th - 13th)

**Host Parish:** St. John Chrysostom Church (Lakewood, CO)

from The Treehouse

# Christ is Risen!

## Thank you for blessing Treehouse mothers and their little ones on Lazarus Saturday!



"I brought my baby home when I was just a kid myself. Looking back, The Treehouse helped me grow up - teaching me to make decisions not just for the day, but for my child's future. - Past TH mom -

*You gifted...*

- 9,508 Baby Wipes
- 822 Diapers
- 14 Cans of Formula



## 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.

# LAZARUS SATURDAY



Thank you to all those who volunteered to make this year's Lazarus Saturday always special for our children. And our most sincere gratitude to everyone who helped with the brunch. We are so appreciative for each of you.

# Community Support

**Team Leader: Carrie Camden**  
Community Support Team Leader  
camden9492@gmail.com

**Content Submitted by Mikell Awaad**  
**Next Meeting - May 12 - 12:00 noon**  
**at the Parish House**

We would love to have you join us!!



that worked best for our schedule. For the last decade plus, they have been instrumental in supporting us and the dozens of children we have had in our home. Emberhope currently has the contract in Sedgwick County to oversee both the 1300 or so children in foster care, as well as many of the homes caring for them. In addition to that work, they provide family preservation services aimed at keeping the family together, residential group homes for girls and boys, and counseling. Our workers over the years have been caring and dedicated, and Emberhope has been a great partner for us in our foster care journey. Recently we have been joining others in the church on the second Saturday of the month volunteering at their Newton campus and it has been a wonderful experience for us and them!"

To learn more about EmberHope Youthville check them out at [www.emberhope.org](http://www.emberhope.org).



**Lord's Diner**  
**Sunday, May 17th, 5:00-7:30p**

The Lord's Diner provides a hot meal to anyone who has a need.

To volunteer with our St George/St Mary Team contact Pat Milburn at [patmilburn74@gmail.com](mailto:patmilburn74@gmail.com).



**Dillons Community Rewards**

To earn money for St George Cathedral every time you shop at Dillons, designate St George Cathedral as your Community Rewards recipient. For more information go to <https://tinyurl.com/2p9zrezy>

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## Agency Spotlight

# EmberHope

### Next Volunteer Opportunity

**Emberhope — Second Saturday Workday, May 9th, 9:00 a.m. to noon.** Help is needed for both indoor (organizing the supply room) and outdoor (yard maintenance) projects. Meet

at the EmberHope campus in Newton. For questions, contact Meaghan Koci at 818-450-7660. St George Volunteer Contact: Meaghan Koci [meaghan@kociindustries.com](mailto:meaghan@kociindustries.com)



#### A word from Meaghan about Emberhope:

"Jeremy and I began our journey into foster care in 2014. We stumbled upon Em-

berhope after I googled foster parenting classes – they just happened to have the upcoming class

# The Cathedral Messenger

**St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral**

7515 East 13th Street North

Wichita, KS 67206-1223

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

*Return Service Requested*



**SATURDAY, MAY 9**  
**11 AM - 10 PM**

## 11 AM - 6 PM

### Plated Meal - \$22

Greek Salad, Green Beans & Rice, Kibbee,  
Chicken Kebab, Tolame Bread, Baklawa

Dine In or Carry Out

Ethnic Wine & Drinks

Mediterranean Marketplace

Indoor & Outdoor Seating

Entertainment

Bookstore & Church Tours

## HAFLI! 6 PM - 10 PM

### A La Carte Menu

Kafta, Chicken Kebab, Meat Pies (Sfiha), Greek Salad,  
Mezza Plate, Dessert Boxes, Baklawa Sundaes

Ethnic Wine & Drinks

Outdoor Seating Only

Live DJ & Dancing

Dabke (Arabic Dancing)

**10%** DONATED  
TO CHARITY

THIS YEAR'S PROCEEDS SUPPORTING  
 Senior Services  
OF WICHITA



Scan the code  
to purchase  
tickets\*

\*Tickets not required for entry or purchases. We accept cash, card, and tickets.



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