



Volume 32, Number 6
JUNE 2023

The Cathedral Messenger

A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

A NEW METROPOLITAN FOR NORTH AMERICA

Saturday, May 13 was a momentous day in the history of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America, as Metropolitan Saba (Esper), formerly of Hauran, Syria, was enthroned as Metropolitan of North America.

As we observed in the March Messenger, “Metropolitan Saba is well known to us at St. George Cathedral. He first visited here in November 1995 when still a priest, soon after Bishop Basil took up his residence at the Chancery, and stayed there until Pascha 1996. He returned again as a Metropolitan in 2007 for another visit.”

Our relationship with him remained strong over the years due to the initiation of the Hauran Project. During his tenure as Metropolitan of Hauran, His Eminence co-founded The Hauran Connection with the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America. Our Diocese of Wichita adopted the Diocese of Hauran as a “sister diocese.” Fr. Paul the Monk traveled there many times to initiate agricultural projects.

This charitable endeavor has had a great impact in that region of Syria. It has provided institutional and pastoral support to the Orthodox faithful, in addition to benevolent work that spreads far beyond the wall of its churches. More than \$1 million has been raised in DOWAMA for Hauran in over 15 years.



Metropolitan Saba’s faith and spiritual fortitude have been forged by many years of selfless service in a region devastated by warfare and poverty. Now, as he begins ministry in a very different cultural context, we can expect one factor to remain absolutely constant: his Christ-centeredness.

During his address at his enthronement he laid out the essential core of his vision for our North American Archdiocese:

“Now, I will not promise you a specific program. Our program is Christ and the splendor of His Church, of which we are joint stewards, because we are the Church. I will be with you and among you, always in your midst. We will seek together every work that serves to promote the “Good

continued on pg 3

Bulletin Board



MEMORY ETERNAL

Donald J. Ablah, 5/21



2023 SAM & JACQUE KOURI & RUTH COHLMIA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

COHLMIA SCHOLARSHIP
ZYADA MEKONNEN
ANNA MOSLEY

KOURI SCHOLARSHIP
GEORGE DAVID
ISABELLA SEBITS

**COMBINED SCHOLARSHIP
(COHLMIA/KOURI)**
CAMI ABRAHAM

Mabrook! Blessings!

many years!

baptisms

Sirak Estifanos Hawaz, 4/30

Ralf Timothy El-Haje and
Romy Mary El-Haje, 5/13

chrismation

Mariane Bakhache El-Haje 5/13

56th Biennial Antiochian Archdiocese Convention



July 23-30, 2023
St. George • Phoenix, AZ
www.ac2023az.org



Celebrate the Feasts of Mary!

Monday, June 19 -
Thursday, June 22

Kh. Gigi Shadid

VBS

VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL

To register, please visit
tinyurl.com/StGeorgeVBS2023
or scan the QR code



VBS is open to children
age 4, by September 1, 2022 to 5th grade
during the 2022-2023 school year



June FASTING



During this period, The Apostles' Fast takes place June 12th-28th, as the normal fasting traditions are observed: abstaining from meat, poultry and dairy
There is no fasting June 7th, 9th or 30th.

A NEW METROPOLITAN ... CONTINUED



News" of Jesus Christ and our salvation. Our projects must stem from a vision in accord with our hopes:

- a vision that seeks a vibrant Church, a flawless and unblemished Bride for Christ, as much as is possible upon this earth;
- a vision that establishes and roots the Church of Christ and her presence in these lands, nourishing her people with the true life that comes from the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in the midst of His Church and in her heart;
- a vision that takes into account this world, its culture, and its needs yet remains faithful to the

mind of Christ and witnesses to Him, regardless of difficulties and challenges."

Our parish was not represented at the enthronement ceremony because two weeks prior, Fr. Paul and a group of four others traveled to the Archdiocesan Chancery for a dinner with Metropolitan Saba, Fr. Paul the Monk, and Fr. Jeremy Davis. Fr. Paul the Monk is currently serving as an assistant to the Metropolitan, and Fr. Jeremy works at the Archdiocese as

Protosyngellos – dealing with clergy matters on behalf of the Metropolitan. Consequently, the connection between the Metropolitan, the Archdiocese, and St. George Cathedral continues to run deep and strong.

We look forward to fruitful years ahead under Metropolitan Saba's Christ-loving leadership, for our Cathedral community, the Diocese of Wichita, and the entire North American Archdiocese!

Many Years Master!

MODESTY & DIGNITY In Church

As summer approaches, please remember that dress in church should always be dignified and modest.

For women, sleeveless or low cut dresses and tops, short skirts, tight fitting outfits, and boldly colored clothes are not appropriate. For men, no shorts or message t-shirts; a jacket is customary and long sleeves preferred.

Skimpy outfits and backyard wear are hardly necessary for comfort in a modern air-conditioned church.

Time to Update

St. George Parish:

In order to best keep in synch and in communication with **YOU** regarding notices, updates or anything relating to parish announcements, we ask that you **PLEASE** keep **US** up to date of any changes - as in a **new home address, home/mobile phone numbers, or any email address edits.**

Please email:
gina@stgeorgecathedral.net or call
the Cathedral office - 636-4676.

Thank you.





Due to the largesse of a generous benefactor, a fresh set of iconography was installed in the Cathedral in the weeks following Pascha. They are found in the north (choir) and south (chanters) apses of the Cathedral.

Six male Hymnographers are depicted in the south apse, as Byzantine chant is performed by men in our Cathedral. The following is a brief description of each, their date of death, the title the work depicted on their scrolls, and the text on the scrolls.

ST JOHN OF DAMASCUS

Church Father and Prolific Hymnographer (d. 749) – **The Paschal Canon**

“It is the day of Resurrection, be illumined, O people. Pascha, the Lord’s Pascha ...”

ST ANDREW OF CRETE

Monastic Bishop of Crete (d. 726 or 740) - **The Great Canon of Repentance**

“He is my Helper and Protector, and has become my Salvation. This is my God and I will glorify him ...”

ST ROMANOS THE MELODIST

Prolific Hymnographer and Composer of Lengthy Kontakia (d. 555) – **The Kontakion of Christ’s Nativity**

“Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence ...”

ST EMPEROR JUSTINIAN I THE GREAT

Emperor and Defender of the Church (d. 565) – **O Only Begotten Son** “O only-begotten Son and Word of God, who art immortal ...”

ST ATHENOGENES THE MARTYR

Priest and Martyr (d. 196) - **O Gladsome Light**

“O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father ...”

ST COSMAS OF MAIUMA

Bishop and Hymnographer (d. 773 or 794) – **More Honorable**

THE HYMNOGRAPHERS A NEW PHASE OF CATHEDRAL ICONOGRAPHY



“More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim ...”

Six female Hymnographers are depicted in the north apse, for the mixed choir, largely made up of women. The following is a brief description of each, the dates during which they flourished, the title of the work depicted on their scrolls, and the text on the scrolls. Note that only St. Kassiane has been glorified as a saint; something is known of the lives of Theodosia and Thekla, but very little of the others.

ST KASSIANE THE NUN

Abbess and Hymnographer (6th c.) - **The Fallen Woman** “O Lord, the woman who had fallen into many sins ...”

THEODOSIA THE MELODIST OF MONI KLOUVIOU

(9th c.) - **Canon to St. Ioannikios**

“O Sun of Righteousness, make to shine upon me the light of forgiveness ...”

THEKLA THE VERY SWEET ECHO

(9th c.) - **Canon to the Theotokos**

“We proclaim thee, O Theotokos, the throne of God the Word ...”

THE DAUGHTER OF IOANNIS KLADAS

(15th c.) – **Communion Hymn**

“The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. Alleluia ...”

New Icons ... continued



PALAIOLOGINA THE NUN

(14th or 15th c.) - Canons to St. Demetrios and St. Theodora

"When thou openest thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness ..."

KOUVOUKLISENA THE DOMESTIKENA

(15th c.) - The Praises

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the highest ..."



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your generous support of our family when Gary passed away on April 24th. The numerous ways you expressed your love helped us get through the chaos and confusion following our grief-stricken loss. In spite of our devastation, I truly believe that if we keep our hearts and minds open, God reveals his precious blessings in unexpected ways. And, I believe God bestowed on our family the gift of YOU, this community, as one of his gifts to us. We are humbled by his blessing of the strength and healing You have extended to us through the church. Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is gracious. **With Love, The Webbers**

June 4 Holy Pentecost



OUR 2023 HIGHSCHOOL GRADUATES

"It is always a wonderful opportunity to be able to honor the many accomplishments and hard work of our parish's graduating seniors. Congratulations to Cami Abraham, Georgee David, Zyada Mekonnen, Audrey Mohrmann, Anna Mosley, Nicole Moussa, Isabella Sebits, Jaci Taylor and Dahlia Todorov on your many successes and achievements. Your St. George family commends you, loves you greatly, and is

always praying for you as you begin the next steps of your journeys. As you pursue your goals in your future education and endeavors, may you continue to emulate the love of Christ towards those you encounter and may you pursue your goals with joy in your heart. May God bless you and keep you always."



Cami Abraham



Georgee David



Zyada Mekonnen



Audrey Mohrmann



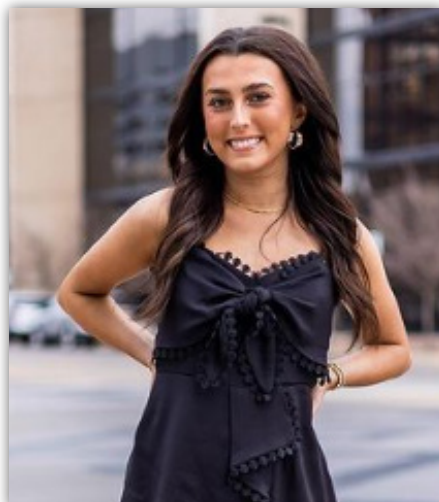
Anna Mosley



Nicole Moussa



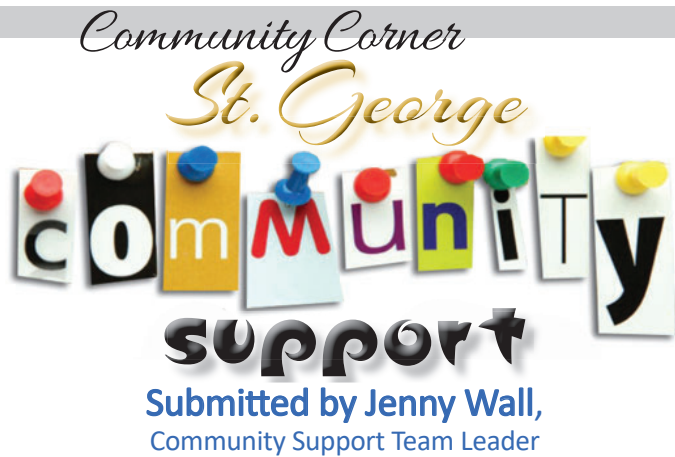
Isabella Sebits



Jaci Taylor



Dahlia Todorov



Next Meeting
Tuesday, JUNE 13
 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall.
 We would love to have you join us!!

To volunteer for any of these opportunities,
 contact Jenny Wall at walljenny4@gmail.com



**June is Dillons
 Dollars Month
 at St. George**

Support the work of the St. George Community Support Team at no extra cost to you!

Sign up for the Dillons Community Reward Program during coffee hour on Sundays during the month of June. Look for the Community Support Team Members who will be at a table there to assist you.

By signing up for this program, a percentage of your Dillons shopping expenditures are received by the St. George Community Support Team. This has been an average of \$300 a quarter.

~ Challenge ~

Let's double that amount to \$600 a quarter!

During the month of May

During the Month of May the CS Team donated \$500 to the Pando Initiative to support their RealityU Program. To learn more about what they do, visit their website at <http://thepandoinitiative.org/programs/reality-u>

Volunteer Opportunity: Our community partner Legacy Ministries is in need of individuals with light construction skills to help finish the inside of their new garden shed. It will be used in the summer to distribute garden goods planted and raised by community youth in their program.

Coming Up:

Cook Up a Storm!
Saturday, June 10, 10:00a

In the St. George kitchen. Please join us! This is a great event for families with children 8 years or older to participate in together! The casseroles made will be available for the Community Support Care and Share Ministry to share within our parish.



DIOCESE OF WICHITA AND MID-AMERICA PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

**HOSTED BY: SS. CONSTANTINE
 AND HELEN CHURCH
 (CARROLLTON, TX)**

JUNE 14-17, 2023
HILTON LINCOLN CENTRE

For registration and souvenir
 journal information:

<https://www.antiochianevents.com/wichita>



St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral

7515 East 13th Street North

Wichita, KS 67206-1223

www.stgeorgecathedral.net

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Wichita, KS

PERMIT NO. 734