



SAINT GEORGE

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Most Rev. Metropolitan PHILIP, Primate
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

Right Rev. Bishop JOHN
Diocese of Worcester & New England

Very Rev. Father Joseph Kimmett, *Pastor*

Welcome. It is a great pleasure to have visitors and friends with us at Saint George. If you would like to know more about our parish, or the Orthodox Faith, please don't hesitate to ask.

Communion: Orthodox Christians who have confessed their sins, who and have prepared themselves by fasting, and who have been present from the start of the service are invited to approach the chalice. Everyone may partake of the holy bread.

1 January
2012



Circumcision
of Our Lord



Saint Basil
the Great

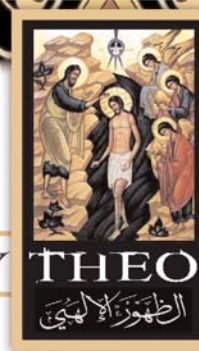
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CALENDAR

- Today - Many Years to His Grace Bishop BASIL on his Name Day.
Prayers for the First Day of the New Year
Blessing and Cutting of the Vasilopita at Coffee Hour
- Thursday - Feast of Theophany
Matins, Blessing of Waters and Hierarchical Liturgy
Saint George Cathedral (4:45 & 6:00 pm)
Reception follows
- Saturday - Great Vespers, 5:00 pm
- Next Sunday - Matins & Divine Liturgy, 9:00 / 10:00 am

From Christmas Day through January 4th there is no fasting.

January 5th is a day of strict fasting



HOLY THEOPHANY

Please join us as we welcome

His Grace Bishop John Abdalah
to the Diocese of Worcester and New England!

The official welcome will take place on the eve of Theophany
Thursday, January 5th
at St. George Orthodox Cathedral Worcester

Orthros 4:45 pm
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm
followed by the blessing of the water

Immediately following the service, we will gather in the auditorium for a short program where the churches and organizations of our diocese will present His Grace with their gifts.

Food and refreshments will be served

For questions and more information please contact the Cathedral office.
Phone: 508.752.9150 email: StGeoWorc@AOL.com

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

DIocese of WORCESTER and NEW ENGLAND
OF THE SELF-RULED ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

30 ANNA STREET • WORCESTER, MA 01604

FEAST OF THEOPHANY

For the Feast of Theophany this Thursday, we will welcome Bishop JOHN to the diocese. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, the Blessing of Water and a reception will take place at the cathedral in Worcester at 6:00 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The parishes of the Diocese will be presenting gifts to our new bishop Thursday. Saint George will give him bishop's vestments. The cost is \$600. Everyone is welcome to contribute toward our gift (use a "Special Offering" envelope and mark it for the bishop.)

There is also a card in the parish hall, please sign it today!

ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS

The annual holiday party for the Order will be January 29th at Byblos Restaurant at 3:00 pm. Please join in welcoming our newly consecrated Bishop JOHN. Please RSVP to Debbie Laham or Elizabeth Votruba asap -- seating will be limited.

2012

The 2012 wall calendars have arrived and are in the narthex this morning. There is one for each family, courtesy of Guardian Appraisal: Don & Camille Florio and their family.

DONORS TO SAINT GEORGE FOR CHRISTMAS

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Charles & Nora Abdelahad | Roger Eysie | Catherine Moseley |
| The Abril Family | Nick & Kallie Giandomenico | Katia Oleinik |
| Hellas Assad | Linda Hakkar | Sally Peter |
| Sheila Bennett | Thelma Hamaty | The Plouffe Family |
| Sophie Boulis | Andrew & Doris Howard | Paul & Mary Potter |
| Don, Chris, Michael & Jennifer Byron | John Howard | Sarah Pucci |
| <i>in memory of Robert Pucci</i> | Kathryne Howard | Emilia Purnickescu |
| Barbara Campbell | George & Catherine Keches | Father Joseph & Kathleen Purpura |
| Marie Coffin | Alice Kelley | Josephine Purpura |
| & Jeanne Jennings Noonan | Helen Kelley | Donna Sabbag |
| Nick & Doris Copoulos | James & Arlene Kimmett | Nick & Jackie Saber |
| Marion Corcoran | Father Joseph, Erin, | Marwan & Ibtisam Samman |
| Robert & Nancy Deeb | Nick & Zach Kimmett | Angie Sepulveda |
| Sam & Beverly DiFlaminies | The Kinasian Family | George & Madeline Shaheen |
| Emaline Eakle | The Kouyoumjian Family | Dianne, Garrett, John jr |
| Dolores Elias | Gail Kurker | & Leah Shalbey |
| Florence Esper | Gloria Lind | Jeff & Marcia Shapiro |
| Cleo Eysie | Brian & Marlene Lupaczyk | Marilyn Shaughnessy |
| Joe & Loretta Eysie & Family | Taso & Michele Markatos | Lovee Thomas & Family |
| Paul Eysie | Pat & Toni Marshall | Sandy, Linda & Bobby Thomas |
| <i>in memory of Josephine Eysie</i> | Jeannette Morrison | Charlene Zicko |
| | George & Sandra Matook | <i>and anonymous donors</i> |

HOLY BREAD

The gifts today are offered by Joe, Lucine and Mari Kouyoumjian.

COFFEE HOUR

Please stay for refreshments today, hosted by the Kouyoumjian family.

Pages for each week of the new year are in the notebook in the parish hall. Find a date and sign up now to offer holy bread or host coffee hour!

GIFTS TO SAINT GEORGE

.....*in memory of Mary & Bachir Najm*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER -

Pray for the servants of God: Archpriest Michael and the Abdelahad Family; Archpriest Alexander (Atty), Archpriest Elias and Kh. Joanne (Bitar), Andrew (Costello), Reagan (Bennett), Sheila (Bennett), Debbie (Braun), Pedro (Angie's brother), Margaret (Domet), Effie (Kalliel), Anne (Krekis), Marion (Redonnet), Sarah (Kelley), Nicolae (Daniela's father), Jack (Lucine's father), Karen, Charles, Mahasen Yacoub (Ibti's mother), David (Rediker), Beverly (DiFlaminies), Pamela (Manikas), Deacon Elias (Hamaty), Fred (Tomm), John (Howard), Nicole (Tourigney), Darcey, David (Knipe and family), Alan (Andrew), Lana (Joseph), Christina (Adams), Emaline (Eakle), Cleo (Eysie), Timothy (Wright), Kathryne (Howard), Nicholas, Claudia (Eysie), Najlae (Solomon), Lovee (Thomas), Sandy (Thomas), Charles (Howard), Mary, Catherine, Josephine, Sterling.

Pray for the handmaid of God Rezanne (Toumi) who is with child.

Pray for Ghattas, Malak, Malek, Majd, Mirna, Mary, Nidaa of Deacon Luke Toumi's family who are in Homs, Syria.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of this past Friday, 79 stewards (including nine new or returning members) have pledged over \$55,000 for an average of \$707 each. If you haven't returned your card yet, please do so right away.

Dec. 24 Income	Pledges	Donations & Memorials	Tray	Christmas Donations
\$2818.00	\$675 .00	\$35.00	\$230.00	\$4535.00

Council & Parish Leaders

- Christine Byron
- Joan Cassidy (Chair)
- Joseph Eysie (Vice Chair)
- Gheorghe Doros (Treasurer)
- Anthony Grasso
- Katia Oleinik (Secretary)
- Richard Plouffe
- Ibtisam Samman
- Linda Thomas

Assistant Treasurers:

- Beverly DiFlaminies
- Leeann Plouffe

Building Committee - Andrew Howard

- Chanter - Erik Potter
- Choir Director - David Franciosi
- Christmas Card - Doris Copoulos
- Church Custodian - Gerry Mullen
- Epistle Readers - Lovee Thomas
- Food Pantry Rep. - Kay Moseley
- Holy Bread - Catherine Keches
- Hospitality -
- IOCC Rep. - Emily Pappas
- Ladies President - Katie Birtwell
- Order of St Ignatius Liason - Erin K.
- Sacristan - Subdn. Gheorghe Doros
- Scholarship Committee - Helen Abril
- School Superintendent - Rich Plouffe
- Seminarian - Jason Falcone
- Teen Advisor -
- Teen President - Alex Oleinik
- Usher - Andrew Howard
- Web-Master - Ekaterina Oleinik



**The Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
Feast of Saint Basil the Great**

EISODIKON

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee: Alleluia.

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (TONE 4)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women Disciples cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF THE CIRCUMCISION (TONE 1)

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh, that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions. Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion. Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

TROPARION OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT (TONE 1)

Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, which hath received thy word. Thereby thou hast divinely taught the Faith; thou hast made manifest the nature of all things that be; thou hast adorned the ways of man. O namesake of the royal priesthood, our righteous Father Basil, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

TROPARION OF SAINT GEORGE, PATRON OF OUR COMMUNITY (TONE 4)

As deliverer of captives, and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great-Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

KONTAKION OF THE CIRCUMCISION (TONE 3)

Today the Lord of all endureth circumcision, cutting off the transgressions of mortals; for he is good and granteth salvation to the world. And in the heights the high priest of the Creator, Basil the light-bearer, the divine initiate of Christ, rejoiceth.

MEGALYNARION - LITURGY OF SAINT BASIL

All Creation Rejoiceth in Thee . . .

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.

AT "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT"

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly receivest circumcision in the flesh, that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away the veil of our sinful passions. Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. Glory be to Thy compassion. Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

EPISTLE AND GOSPEL

Prokeimenon and Verse:

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

The Reading is from the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Colossians (2:8-12 for Saint Basil)

Brethren, See to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fulness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fulness of life in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

ALLELUIA AND VERSES

Alleluia. O Shepherd of Israel, attend, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. *Alleluia.* The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak of judgment. *Alleluia.*

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (2:20-21, 40-51)

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.