



SAINT GEORGE

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
NORWOOD, MA

مرحبا بكم **Welcome!** Καλώς ορίσαστε!
*It is a pleasure to have visitors and friends
with us at Saint George. If you would like to know
more about our parish or the Orthodox Church, please ask.*

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

**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**



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Sunday 15 September 2013



Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross

Upcoming Services and Events

- Today - 40-Day Memorial for Alec Deeb
Church School, 12:30-2:30 pm
Special collection for those suffering in Syria
- Monday - Parish Council Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Friday - Saint George Night at the Theatre
Doors Open 7:00 pm / Showtime 8:00 pm
- Saturday - Theophany School: Sonia's Run - 5K, Kids Race and more
Saint George, West Roxbury, 9:00 am
Great Vespers, 5:00 pm
- Next Sunday - Matins & Divine Liturgy, 9:00 / 10:00 am
- Fasting - There is fasting on Wednesday and Friday this week

SAINT GEORGE NIGHT

AT THE NORWOOD THEATRE

THIS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

DOORS OPEN 7:00 • SHOW AT 8:00 PM



🎵 **TICKETS ARE HERE TODAY:**

Any remaining tickets will be available at the door or on-line at www.NorwoodStage.com

🎵 **MAKE IT AN EVENING OUT:**

*We have arranged dinner deals at Byblos, Olivadi and the Olde Colonial
Make your reservations with them right away, seating is limited*

🎵 **JOIN US AFTER THE SHOW:**

Homemade pastries and coffee will be available in the foyer right after the concert.

ANTIOCHIAN DAY OF SOLIDARITY

His Beatitude John X, Patriarch of Antioch and All The East, has designated today as “Antiochian Day of Solidarity”. His letter is on line:

<http://www.antiochian.org/antiochian-day-solidarity-scheduled-september-15-2013>

His Eminence Metropolitan Philip is asking all of our churches and missions in North America to give our full support to this appeal, and to make a special collection today which will benefit the victims in Syria who are suffering so terribly.

COLLEGE STUDENT SUNDAY

This is the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) “College Student Sunday -- Uniting Our College Students”. Your prayers and support for OCF and our students, especially those from Saint George are asked today (and always.) Information is at www.ocf.net

CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY

Christian education for our young people resumes this afternoon at 12:30 pm. Classes are available from pre-school through 8th grade. The Teen SOYO will also meet at this time. Students, parents or teachers with any questions should see Rich Plouffe.

SAINT GEORGE NIGHT AT THE THEATRE

This Friday is the *Celine Dion Tribute Show*, featuring Gina Dimia at the *Norwood Theatre*. It is a benefit for our church.

• Let your friends know about this fabulous evening: Go to our website, www.StGeorgeNorwood.org and share the link. You can also be our *Facebook* friend and share the info with everyone you know.

• Of course you will want to pick up your own tickets for the show. And why not make an evening of it; we have arranged for dinner deals at the OCC, Byblos, and Olivadi. Reservations are required.

THEOPHANY SCHOOL

Sonia's Run is set for this Saturday. The annual 5K to benefit Theophany School begins and ends at Saint George, West Roxbury. Registration packets can be picked up at 7:30 am that day. There is a Kid's Fun Run at 8:30 and the big race at 9:00.

YOUR CHALLENGE

Earlier this summer, during his homily, Father Joseph put forward a challenge to everyone in the parish. As he was speaking on the importance of knowing about our Orthodox faith, he announced that this fall there would be a short series of classes -- a refresher course on the basics of the Church. The challenge is first, for each member to attend, but also to bring with them someone from outside the parish. The dates are all Wednesdays in October (the 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd.) They will run for about an hour, beginning at 7:00 pm. NOW, is the time for YOU to mark your calendar.

DANCING WITH THE AABA STARS

The annual fund raiser for the Arab American Benevolent Association is Friday, October 11, at the Norwood Theatre. Tickets are \$45. The Saint George dancer this year is John Shalhoub. There will be a *Spaghetti Dinner* on Thursday, September 26th at 5:00 pm -- the proceeds will go toward our “votes” for John.

ASSEMBLY SUNDAY

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America (including Metropolitan PHILIP and Bishop JOHN) will convene for its fourth meeting this week. On this day, marked as "Assembly Sunday," we ask all clergy and faithful throughout the lands of which the Assembly is composed to offer prayers for safe travel, fraternal dialogue, and furtherance of the work of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Orthodox Church. The Assembly represents the hopes, aspirations and vision for the future of Orthodoxy for all Orthodox Christian faithful in North and Central America.

HOLY BREAD - The gifts are offered today by the family of Alec Deeb in his memory. A memorial will be served at Liturgy.

COFFEE - Please stay for refreshments after the service, hosted this morning by Mary Deeb and her family.

FLOWERS - The bouquets before the Icon of Chrsit and the Theotokos are given in memory of Alec Deeb.

GIFTS TO SAINT GEORGE

Mary Deeb & Family *in memory of Alex Deeb*
 Kouyoumjian Family *for the health of Nancy Speis*
 Sam & Beverly DiFlaminies, Dolores Elias *in memory of Robert Joseph*
 Sandy Thomas Family *in memory of Earl Richard Hubbs*
 *and Steven J McGrath*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pray for Metropolitan Paul of Aleppo and Metropolitan Yohanna (Syriac bishop in Aleppo) and all who are in danger and captivity.

Pray also for Presbyter Nicholas (Manikas), Archpriest Michael and the Abdelahad Family, Archpriest Robert (Bethoney), Archpriest Alexander (Atty), Archpriest Elias (Bitar), Priest Michael (Bird), Marion (Corcoran), Lina (Karam), Camille (Florio), Ernest (Peter), Gwendlen, (Allan Howard's sister), Florence (Esper), Shannon (Prevatt), Bob (Lake), Patricia (Elliot), Margaret (Domet), Effie (Kalliel), Anne (Krekis), Marion (Redonnet), Nicolae (Daniela's father), Beverly (DiFlaminies), Deacon Elias (Hamaty), Fred (Tomm), John (Howard), Darcey, David (Knipe and family), Alan (Andrew), Lana (Joseph), Christina (Adams), Emaline (Eakle), Cleo (Eysie), Timothy (Wright), Kathrynne (Howard), Michael (Eysie), Najlae (Solomon), Lovee (Thomas), Sandy (Thomas), Josephine (Purpura).

September 8 Income	Pledges	Donations & Memorials	Tray	Special Collection
\$2497.00	\$1775.00	\$210.00	\$187.00	N.A.

Council & Parish Leaders

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

Assistant Treasurers:
 Beverly DiFlaminies
 Leeann Plouffe

Arabic Bulletin - Kh. Ramia Issa
 Building Committee - Andrew Howard
 Chanter - Erik Potter
 Choir Director - David Franciosi
 Christmas Card - Cindy Apgar
 Christmas Outreach - Lucine K.
 Church Custodian - Gerry Mullen
 Epistle Readers - Lovee Thomas
 FSJD Dio. Secy - Leeann Plouffe
 Food Pantry Rep. - Kay Moseley
 Holy Bread - Catherine Keches
 Ladies President - Katie Birtwell
 Lawn Care - Owen & Zach
 Order of St Ignatius Liaison - Erin K.
 Sacristan - Subdn. Gheorghe Doros
 Scholarship Committee - Helen Abril
 School Superintendent - Rich Plouffe
 Teen President - Nick Kimmett
 TLC Coordinator - Sheila Bennett
 Usher - Andrew Howard
 Web-Master - Ekaterina Oleinik



Sunday after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

EISODIKON

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing unto thee, Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (TONE 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF THE HOLY CROSS (TONE 1)

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all their enemies, and by thy Cross protect thy community.

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 HOLY CROSS (TONE 4)

Do thou, who of thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by thy Name; make glad in thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

AT THE DISMISSAL

Before thy Cross, we bow down and worship sovereign Lord, and thy Holy Resurrection we glorify.

EPISTLE AND GOSPEL

Prokeimenon and Verse: How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

The Reading is from Apostle Paul's Letter to the Galatians

(2:16-20, Sunday after the Cross)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Alleluia. With patience I waited patiently for the Lord, and He was attentive unto me, and He hearkened unto my supplication. *Alleluia.* And He set my feet upon a rock, and He ordered my steps aright. *Alleluia.*

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark

(8:34--9:1, Sunday after the Cross)

Jesus called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

Antiochian Day of Solidarity

Pastoral Letter

On the Occasion of the Antiochian Day of Solidarity September 15, 2013

In Support of Humanitarian and Relief Work

By the mercy of God John X Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

Giving is the Criterion of our Belonging to the Reign of God "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25: 40)

The Holy Antiochian Synod has set the 15th of September of this year as a day of solidarity for all local and international parishes in order to support the humanitarian and relief work, which the Patriarchate of Antioch and the All the East has undertaken in the collaboration of national, governmental, ecclesiastic, and civil entities. The amount of pain and suffering endured by our sons and brothers in Syria until today is beyond any description. Moreover, the available resources are limited and can only cover a small part of the basic and essential needs of life, such as food, water, clothing, medicine, medical treatment, and shelter.

We believe that God created us, gave us life and asked nothing in return for this precious gift. He was generous with us in a way that is proper to the Creator. He granted us the blessings which allow us to have a royal life in every sense. Yet we drifted away from the truth and willingly chose to go astray from his grace;

thus, our lives were filled with pain, sickness, evil, and death.

God Himself did not remain distant from this new reality for He sent His only Son to live among us as one of us in order to return us to the right path again, enlighten our darkness, lead us to life, show us the Truth, teach us how to use our freedom, heal our wounds, give life to our souls, forgive our sins, and grant us His heavenly happiness.

He humbly shared human life with us; He accompanied the widow of Nain at the funeral of her only son and brought him to life; he searched for the bleeding woman and healed her soul and body; He taught His disciples to share their bread and fish with the people who marched after Him and how to feed them with their hands; He tested the faith of the Canaanite woman and granted her what she desired after having strengthened her faith; He healed the centurion's servant; He did not arrive on time to the house of His sick friend Lazarus, but He brought him back to life and for his sisters Mary and Martha; He approached and touched the eyes of the blind man, the possessed, the leper, and the man with the withered hand, and dismissed them all healed both in soul and body.

He gave us the best of all commandments, a solution to all our suffering: to love God through loving our brother and neighbor. Humanity is subject to evil and miseries we bring onto ourselves, knowingly or out of ignorance, because of our egoism and our own interests, whether we are individuals, groups, or countries.

The Lord did not request anything for Himself. He did not ask us to honor Him, nor to express gratitude or acknowledgment. On the contrary He accepted suffering from our hands; and, from us, He heard curses, encountered blame and aggression, bore neglect and betrayal, and accepted flagellation, mockery, and crucifixion.

He firmly commanded us, to love our neighbor, for He made this love the criterion of our belonging to the Reign of heaven. He commanded that our worship be associated with serving our neighbor, and He made loving and helping the weak and the needy equal in dignity to serving Him. He placed us between two charges: on one hand the parable of the Samaritan enlightens our minds and stimulates our solidarity with our needy brothers, taking care of them and standing by their side; on the other hand the parable of the last judgment, which confronts us with determining our eternal life starting now, by choosing for instance to be deaf to the voice of the needy, to remain blind to their suffering, to keep our hands tied instead of reaching out to help our neighbors, to shut our hearts to the pains of our brothers, or distract our minds with other than helping others.

Today the perseverance of most of our children who are affected, in need, homeless, sick, wounded, unemployed, and facing adversity cannot continue without the support of all brothers, whether wealthy or not, and not only financially speaking, but also through the effective love given, and factually expressed in the consideration provided to he who lost a job, a home, a loved one, a provider, or others. God

never stops stretching His hand towards us in our misery; He helps us, heals us and saves us instead. Ought we not stretch our hands towards our brothers in return?

Some are doing so daily on the ground. But today those who live geographically afar from this reality, their tangible help is needed, as is their participation through a donation graciously given to their Church, which would be sent to the Patriarchate to support the efforts it is undertaking in this field.

The Church today invites you, with all the love, zeal, and gratitude it has received, to honor your brother so that God honors you. The wounded heart calls your generous, loving and giving heart, wherever you are, it asks you to stretch the hand of brotherhood, support and solidarity. Grant graciously as God graciously granted you the countless generousities and the bounties beyond description. Seek to fulfill the needs of your people, and be their consolation. They are your fathers in the most precious of what you possess: faith. Give what is less in return: your contribution and generosity.

May God bless your deeds and multiply the fruits of your charities in His heavenly Reign. Amen.

Issued from our Patriarchal Residence in Damascus Dated the 6th of August, 2013

**John X
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East**
