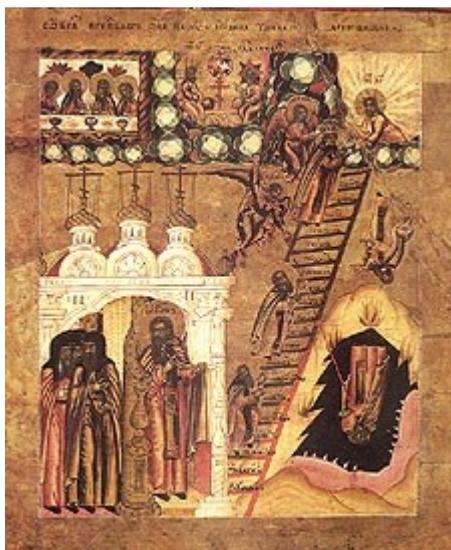


St. George Antiochian
Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



4th Sunday of Great Lent:
Commemoration of St. John Climacus,
Author of the Ladder

March 18, 2018

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

The Right Revered Bishop JOHN, Diocese of Worcester and New England

Rt. Rev. Archmandrite Leonard Faris
Pastor of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

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WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday: Matins (Orthros) Service 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School: Every other Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 a.m. and we should not arrive late. When we do arrive late and the Epistle or Gospel is being read or the priest is preaching the sermon or the Great Entrance is taking place, please **REMAIN** in the Vestibule until it is finished before entering the Church. At the end of the Divine Liturgy please keep your conversation until the "Coffee Hour". **We should leave the Church in silence.**

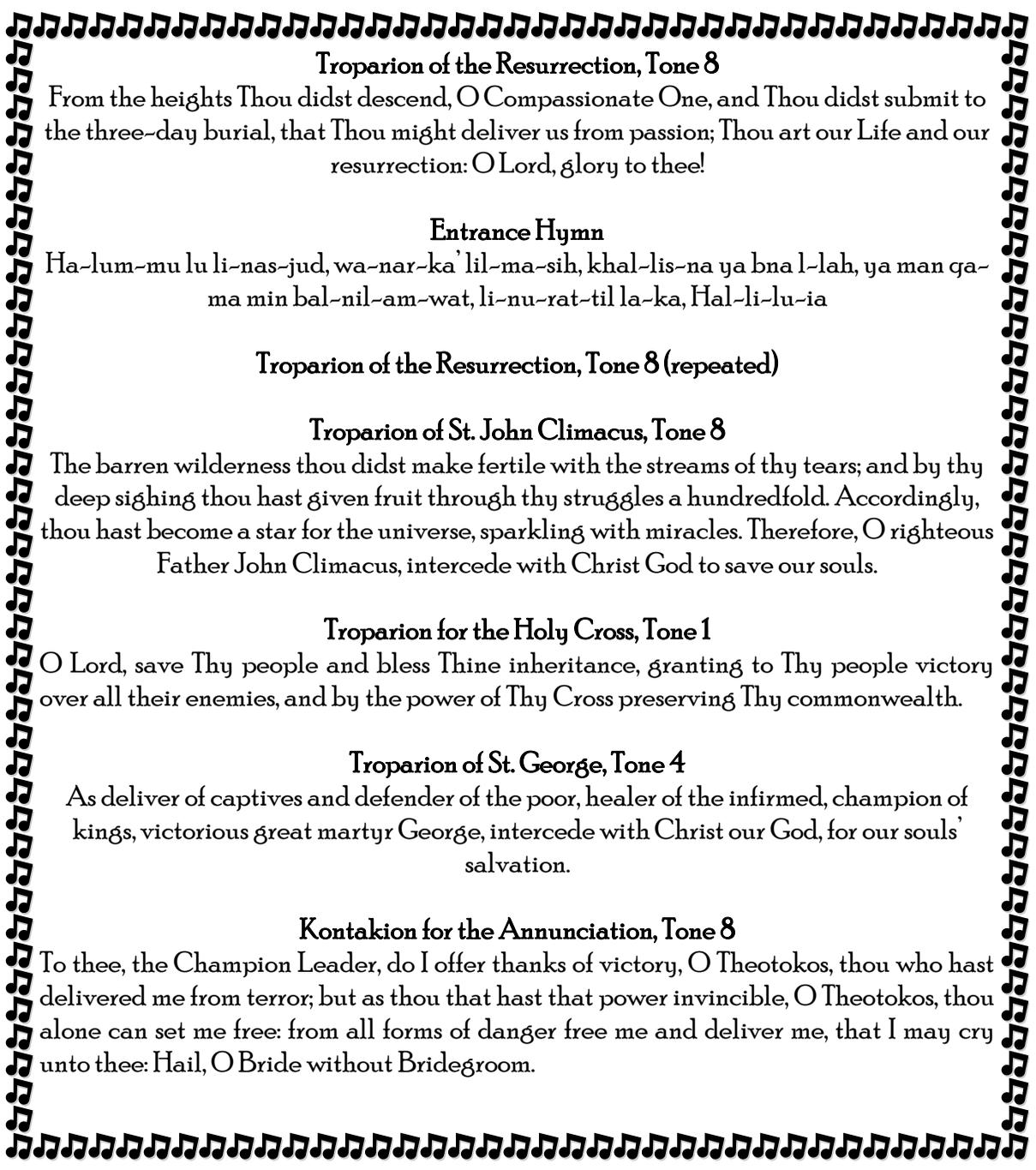
Important Notice: The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday and ends up with the receiving of Holy Communion. If you are on medication or a young child, you can have a light breakfast before coming to church. If you have any questions, please call Fr. Leonard.

*Thank you,
Father Leonard*

Prayer Requests and Bulletin News: All prayer requests and articles for the weekly bulletin must be submitted each week by **Noon, Tuesday**; emailed to Fr. Leonard at fatherfaris@comcast.net or call 978-452-4816, otherwise, the requests and articles will be published the following week.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

If anyone is in the hospital it is the duty of the family to inform the priest so that he can visit the patient. Also, if anyone is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, he/she or a family member should contact Fr. Leonard to make arrangements to bring the Sacrament to the shut-in. Fr. Leonard is always happy to bring the Sacraments to those in Hospitals, Nursing Homes or at home. Thank you and God bless!



Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our Life and our resurrection: O Lord, glory to thee!

Entrance Hymn

Ha-lum-mu lu li-nas-jud, wa-nar-ka' lil-ma-sih, khal-lis-na ya bna l-lah, ya man qa-ma min bal-nil-am-wat, li-nu-rat-til la-ka, Hal-li-lu-ia

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 8 (repeated)

Troparion of St. John Climacus, Tone 8

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Troparion for 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 the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

Troparion of St. George, Tone 4

As deliver of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirmed, champion of kings, victorious great martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

Kontakion for the Annunciation, Tone 8

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord will give strength to His people. The Lord will bless His people with peace.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show March 18, 2018 Liturgy Variables 2 Fourth Sunday of Lent more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:16-30)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."



MEMORIAL SERVICES TODAY, MARCH 18TH

A 40 Day Memorial Service is being offered for the Repose of the Soul of the Handmaid of God, Frances Prewitt and her husband, William, requested by their daughter and son-in-law, George and Laura Prewitt Saati. May William and Frances' memories be eternal.

FLOWERS



The flowers adorning the Icon of the Blessed Virgin for this week were donated by Sharkey and Laurence Skaff in memory of their son Stephen Skaff and for the health and safety of the Skaff Family. May Stephen's memory be eternal and may God bless the Skaff Family with good health, happiness and long life!

COFFEE HOUR



Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by George and Laura Saati & Michael and Mary Saati in memory of William and Frances Prewitt. May their memories be eternal and may God bless the Saati & Prewitt families with peace, good health and long life!

THIS WEEK

Tonight	3/18	6:00 pm	Lenten Vespers at St. George Greek Church
Wed.	3/21	7:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Fri.	3/23	6:00 pm	Lenten Supper hosted by the Sunday School
		7:00 pm	Final Madayeh Service
Sun	3/25	6:00 pm	Lenten Vespers at the Assumption of the Virgin Mary

St. George Antiochian Women's Project
"Strengthening the Ministries of our Church--
VOCATIONS"

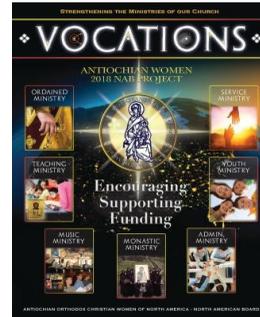


Our Project this year will focus on the Vocations Ministry and on supporting those who undertake them as a Godly VOCATION -- Our goal is to inspire and support vocations as well as to raise money to fund and encourage all of the excellent work that is being done throughout our Archdiocese by dedicated and self-sacrificing men and women.

We would like to welcome the Ladies of St. George who will be reading the Epistles, ushering and collecting during this month. We would also like to thank the Ladies for volunteering.. May God Bless all our Ladies with health and happiness for all the work they do for the "Glory of God" and St. George Church.

March 18th

Epistle-Arabic	Carla Sabbouh
Epistle-English	Leta MacDonald
Trays/Ushers	Dalia Tayebi / Alexa Tayebi



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