



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

915-584-9100 / 9101

www.stgeorge-elpaso.org

Fax. 915-760-5547

REVEREND FATHER GEORGE M. AL-DEHNEH, PASTOR

Very Reverend Father Jehad T. Michael, Pastor Emeritus

Very Reverend Father Bob Bethoney, Attached.

A warm welcome to our visitors and guests

St. George is an Eastern Orthodox Church of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

We are glad to have you worshipping with us today. We minister to Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds. Holy Communion is a sign of our full unity of faith. Therefore, only Baptized and Confirmed Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer and Sacramental Confession may partake of this Sacrament. However, all are welcome to partake of the Blessed Bread of Fellowship and receive a Priest blessing at the end of the Divine Liturgy. We also invite you to join us for light refreshments and coffee following the Service, where we will be happy to meet with you and answer any question you may have about the Orthodox Faith.

DECEMBER 08, 2013

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

Tone 7

Eothinon 2

Sunday Service: Orthros 9:20 AM, Followed by the Divine Liturgy

Confessions by Appointment Only

On this day, we commemorate: Venerable Patapios of Thebes; Forefeast of the Conception of the Theotokos; Sophronios, Bishop of Cyprus; Apostles Sosthenes, Apollos, Crispos, Caesar & Epaphroditos of the Seventy; Martyr Parthenios of Chios.

Epistle: Kh. Mageda.

Sermonette: Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes.

Ushers: Rose Beard, Mary Esther Salom, Salma Isaac, Eva Mowad.

Altar Boys: All are encouraged and welcome to serve.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE SEVEN)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR ST. GEORGE THE GREAT-MARTYR (TONE FOUR)

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY (TONE THREE)

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.



Holy Bread will be offered by:



Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes: For the Choir members and Chanters, our beloved Gloria Armistead, Virginia Aziz, and Dr. Sandra Edwards. May God grant you and your families many years of good health. In Memory of our past Choir master's Virginia Farah and Pauline Abraham; and our past Chanters George Ferris, Tom Saab, Saad Shaheen and Themis Michealides. May their Memory be Eternal.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Tenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

Donations

Eddie & Eva Mowad: For the health of the Mowad & Bartel families.

In Memory of Nouha Kadri

Angele Nabhan

In Memory of Richard Salem

Eddie & Eva Mowad

In Memory of Mike Slaman

Floyd Slaman

Missionary Offering

Rose Beard

Archdiocese Dues

Drs. Hassan & Maha Salloum; Sam, Teresa & Joseph Salloum

Senior Citizen Dinner Donations

Yani & Susana Payides

Jamell Bettor

ARCHDIOCESE DUES FOR 2013

Please make sure to pay your family dues for the year 2013 (It is \$ 35.00/Baptized Soul). **Our Church has to pay for the one's who consider themselves members but don't pay.** Please make it a priority to pay before the end December, 2013.

Thank you & God bless you all



General Parish Meeting

On **SUNDAY, December 08, 2013**, there will be a **General Parish Meeting and the Election of New Officers following The Divine Liturgy. A Lunch will be provided in the Church Hall. Please make plans to attend. Please remember: NO NOMINATIONS from the floor.**



St. George Ladies Society Christmas Party

Was a great success. Many thanks to all the St. George Ladies Society who planned, helped, donated and attended this great annual and traditional event. It was a lot of fun to everyone. Delicious meal, fun trivia questions and many nice gifts. May God grant you all peace and health as we are preparing to receive our incarnate God into our hearts and gain His love and mercy.

Senior Citizens Dinner

Our **St. George family** will be and again, hosting the 46TH **Annual Senior Citizen's Dinner**, this **Thursday, December 05, 2013 at 5:00 PM**. This event is our Parish's largest community service activity through which we must remember all of our blessing and how important it is to share our blessings with others. Last year, we hosted over 500 senior citizens from all over El Paso who live in public housing and are in need of help in so many ways. We, as a parish family, have been able to provide for these senior citizens through this event, with dinner and gifts, through the contributions and assistance of all of you.

Your generous contributions to our "Senior Citizen's Dinner " and any help you are able to give would be very much appreciated. This year's dinner is planned in Memory of our beloved Delfone Nasser & Peter Rizk and in loving Memory of all our beloved St. George Senior Citizens Members who departed to the Lord. Memory Eternal.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Deanna Nasser (Chairperson).



A BLESSED REMOVAL OF THE CROWNS

Congratulations to Joseph Jr. & Annette Kalifeh on the removal of their crowns on Sunday, December 01, 2013. May God continue to bless their marriage with plenty of love, health and happiness for many years to come.

ALL ST. GEORGE PARISHIOENRS VERY IMPORTANT

As the year is coming to an end and the Church is working on the 2014 Budget. We ask all parishioners who either **have not pledged**, or did not fulfill their pledges, may be forgot to pay the **10% Tithing** for their families or the Archdiocese Dues; please do so.

Remember that the Church operates on your donations only.

We thank you all for continuing to support your St. George Church.

May the Great God bless you and your families a hundred folds for thy great service to your One and Holy Orthodox Faith.

December 8th is Choir and Chanters Sunday

Our St. George Family would like to thank Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes & his Chanters & Choir members on their dedicated Sunday. We all thank you from our heart for your love and effort in making all the Divine Liturgies go in harmony according to the Holy teachings.

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ grant you all and your families many healthy years in serving His Holy Orthodox Church.



Say "Thank You" on Choir/Chanter Appreciation Sunday

On December 8th, the second Sunday of the month, our Antiochian Archdiocese will be celebrating Choir/Chanter Appreciation Sunday. But this is one Sunday that we especially acknowledge them particularly, throughout the Archdiocese, and thank them for their ministry in the parish.

Christmas Eve Service

(Tuesday, December 24, 2013)

Matins - 6:00 PM

Followed by the Nativity Divine Liturgy

Choir/Chanter Appreciation Sunday

"What is the Conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the Spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified." (1 Corinthians 14: 15-17).

On December 8th, the second Sunday of the month, our Antiochian Archdiocese will be celebrating Choir/Chanter Appreciation Sunday. We appreciate the Choir and Chanters for their continued love and dedication to making all the liturgical services of our Church as beautiful and moving as possible through their gift of singing and chanting. On this one Sunday, the Archdiocese acknowledges them and thanks them for their ministry in the Church. [Please join me after Divine Liturgy for cake in appreciation of the Choir members and Chanters.](#)

May God continue to bless our Choir members and Chanters as they beautify our services with their voices of praise, and grant them many years!

Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes
Choir Director

Honor Bishop BASIL on his Name's Day:

The Feast of St. Basil the Great
January 1, 2014

Bishop BASIL Mission Endowment Fund
Dioceses of Wichita and Mid America
(DOWAMA)

Contribute by January 31, 2014
Please make check payable to your local parish
earmarked "BB Name's Day"



ATTENTION ALL ST. GEORGE PARISHIONERS

To any one who will participate in representing St. George Church in any activity such as Christmas Pageant, May Dinner Dance Team, Teen SOYO activity

You must be a regular attending and active member of this Holy Church to be able to participate and represent Her.

We encourage all of you to do so in order for us to be the good example of our children to follow our steps and be the guardian ones to keep this One and Holy Orthodox Pearl shining in this Southwest area. Thank you for your understanding in this important and critical issue.

May God bless all of you and your families

Troparion of St. Ignatius The God-Bearer

"By choosing the Apostles' way of life, you succeeded to their throne, Inspired by God, you found the way to Divine Contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, you defended the faith to the very shedding of your blood. O Holy Martyr among Bishops Ignatius entreat the Lord, our God, to save our souls."

Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things! Extraordinary Things!

The Order of St. Ignatius is the philanthropic arm of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese distributing 98% of all funds received, the highest of any charitable organization.

The members of the Order of St. Ignatius invite you to join them in this vital ministry of sacrificial, benevolent giving. Membership in the Order is a doorway to increasingly renewed personal faith.

DECEMBER 2013 IS ST. IGNATIUS' MONTH

The month of December is designated by our Archdiocese to honor this great organization throughout North America. The members will be ushering, reading designated Epistles, sermonizing & refreshments.

Please note the following schedule:

Sunday, December 08, 2013

Sermonette: Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes.

Epistle: Kh. Mageda.

Ushers: Rose Beard, Mary Esther Salom, Salma Isaac, Eva Mowad.

Refreshments: General Parish Meeting Luncheon.



ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
120 NORTH FESTIVAL DRIVE EL PASO, TX 79912

PH. 915-584-9100

Fax. 915-760-5547

October 28, 2013

Dear St. George Parishioners,

Our Annual General Parish Meeting will take place on *Sunday, December 08, 2013* immediately after the Divine Liturgy in the Church Summit Hall. A luncheon will be served.

It is very important that all Church Members attend in order to review and discuss all the important issues concerning our beloved Holy Church, including financial statements, proposed 2014 budget, organizational reports, and election of New Parish Council Members to serve for the year 2014-2015.

In order for you to vote on any matter according to our Church Constitution and By-Laws, you must:

"... Be Eighteen (18) years of age and over ... been Baptized and accepted in the membership of the Holy Orthodox Church,practice its faith and discipline, and make payment of dues, pledges and assessments as are prescribed by the Parish Council."

Minimum financial contributions must be at least \$500.00, and a payment of thirty-five (\$35.00) as a yearly Archdiocese Commitment per Baptized soul.

In order to be nominated and/or elected to St. George Parish Council, per Constitution and By-Laws:

" ... A candidate must be Twenty-One (21) years of age or over, have been a voting Member of St. George Church for a period of one (1) year, and have fulfilled the Canonical Requirements of the Orthodox Faith. A candidate to St. George Parish Council must be in good standing Spiritually, and have fulfilled his or her financial requirements as prescribed by the Parish Council."

We look forward to seeing all of you at our *St. George Church Annual General Parish Meeting on **Sunday, December 08, 2013.***

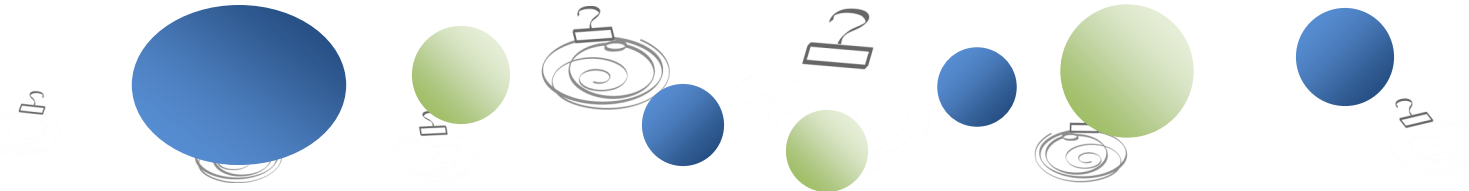
God Bless You All and your families to serve His Holy Church faithfully and diligently for His glory always.

Sincerely,

Rev. Fr. George Al-Dehneh
Pastor

Nahed Khouri
Parish Council President



Parish Council Members



**St. George Youth Group presents our:
ANNUAL TOY & JACKET DRIVE
November 17th to December 15th**

Please donate new toys and jackets that are in good Condition to:
St. George Orthodox Church for the needy in El Paso.

Questions? Contact Jeanette Salloum (920-4508)
Or Noel Shaheen (539-2616)



Remember our Abducted Syrian Innocent Hierarchs

The Nativity Fast

This fast is divided into two periods: **The First** is **November 15th through December 19th** when the traditional fasting discipline (**No meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine & Oil**) is observed on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays; there is katalysis [*Katalysis is Greek, meaning "relaxation".*] for **wine and oil** on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for **fish, wine, and oil** on Saturdays and Sundays. **The Second** is the period of the Forefeast, **December 20th through 24th**, when the traditional fasting discipline is observed Monday through Sunday, with katalysis for wine and oil on Saturday and Sunday.

The St. George Church Sunday School

Will present its Annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013 @ 5:30 PM, followed by their annual dinner & auction fundraiser, hosted by the Church School Staff. Everyone is invited to attend & share in this annual event.



The St. George Church School Students will be having dress rehearsal for their Pageant on **Saturday, December 14, 2013 @ 10:30 AM** at the Church. All participants need to be present.

St. George Church Sunday School

We are very proud of the following students who were in attendance at this past Sunday's Church School:

Pre-School

Nia Isaac.

Grades Kinder/1

Kendall Olivas.

Grades 2/3

James Isaac, Alyssa Elias, Emma Isaac, Jude Naddour, Sami Odeh.

Grades 4/5

Rylee Isaac, James Elias, Teresa Salloum, Zoe Tsoukalas, Jad Yacoub.

Grades 6/7

Angela AL-Hanna, Joseph Odeh, Luke Tsoukalas.

Grades 8-12+

Christian Khouri, James Shaheen, William Shaghoury, Rose Barakat, David Dayoub, George Haddad, Johnny Odeh, Sam Salloum.

Parents & Students, please remember that Sunday School begins at 9:15 AM with opening prayer from Fr. George. Its important for us to be on time , to pray together, and learn about our faith.

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

As leaders of the community, parish council members are on the front lines and are able to have a long-term effect on their parish and community. To serve on the parish council is a ministry.

Mission of the Parish Council

The mission of the parish Council is to keep, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled.

If we believe that in Orthodoxy we have the fullness of the Truth, then we have the great responsibility to share it with everyone.

Choosing Suitable Candidates for the Parish Council

The best parish council members are those who are Church-oriented and Christ-centered. To be a good council member, one must be active in the worship and sacramental life of the Church. The best candidates are easy to find—they are in the Church.

The Priest is head of the Parish, and is charged with the guidance of the total Parish program. The parish council consists of the Priest, and the elected lay members, and is referred to as Parish Council. This is because one of the identifying traits of the Orthodox Church is that we are conciliar—decisions are made in council.

Setting An Example for the Parish

The duties of a parish council member include regular attendance at divine services and participation in the sacramental life of the Church, "...thereby setting an example for the parish.

A Commitment to Serve

In the Oath of Office, the parish council members affirm that they "...will fulfill faithfully and sincerely the duties and the obligations required of a member of the Parish Council ..." No contract is signed, but a promise is made which rests on the shared commitment of all council members to serve the Church, which is the Body of Christ on earth. We are His hands, feet, eyes and more. To serve on the council is a ministry and a mission. We are called to use the gifts with which we have been blessed to carry out the work of the Church.



DONATION ENVELOPES FOR 2014

We ask all of you to use the Designated Offering Envelopes that is placed in the Vestibule for your donations starting January 01, 2014.

Please pick up your Box (**1 box for each active family**). Using these envelopes will help the Church Treasurer in recognizing the purpose, date and amount of every Sunday collection.

Please DO NOT pick up for somebody else.

Thank You

PLEASE REMEMBER

As we approach the Chalice (Holy Communion), the following observances should take place:

- 1- Walk in a prayerful and reverent state, minding your inwardness and forgiveness.
- 2- Form a sign of the cross with both hands to the chest (right over left).
- 3- Holding the red napkin under your chin, recite the following, "your Baptismal name".
- 4- Pat your mouth with the napkin and make sure no crumbs fall onto the ground.
- 5- Step aside to partake of the Holy Bread.

In the tradition of the Church, the faithful are asked to stay until the end of the Divine Liturgy, at which time the priest says, "let us depart in peace". We come in line to venerate the cross, and depart to the fellowship hall.

St. George Ladies Society

Are having 2 boxes of donations/UTEP students (snack & nonperishable food items) and battered women shelter. Please help if you can.

Thank you

PARISHIONERS INFORMATION CARD

St. George Directory is being updated to correct changes in addresses, phone numbers etc. We are asking for your help by completing the following form.

Parents Name

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

(H) _____
(B) _____
(C) _____

Children's Name

Date of Birth

AMOUNT TO PLEDGE:

Weekly _____ Monthly _____

This form can be cut and mailed to the Church Office, or dropped in the donation basket. Thank you for your cooperation.

This information is Confidential, to be used by the Priest only!

THE ORDER OF ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH

The Order of St. Ignatius is the philanthropic arm of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese distributing 98% of all funds received, the highest of any charitable organization.

The Order of St. Ignatius contributes \$1.5 million dollars annually to the departments, programs and projects of this self-ruled Archdiocese.

For as little as \$1.35/day, less than the price of your morning coffee, you could become a knight/dame of the order.

The members of the Order of St. Ignatius invite you to join them in this vital ministry of sacrificial, benevolent giving during the Parish Life Conference. Membership in the Order is a doorway to increasingly renewed personal faith.

IF YOU WERE A MEMBER OF ST. IGNATIUS AND CANCELLED YOUR MEMBERSHIP. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR THE YEARS THAT YOU MISSED, IF YOU WANT TO RE-ESTABLISHE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AGAIN.

DECEMBER 2013



SUNDAY ORTHROS 9:20

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>1</u> 14th Sunday of Luke <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>2</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>3</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>4</u> Great Martyr Barbara John of Damascus <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>5</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>6</u> Nicholas the Wonder-Worker Archbishop of Myra <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>7</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>
<u>8</u> 10th Sunday of Luke <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>9</u> Conception of the Theotokos <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>10</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>11</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>12</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>13</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>14</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>
<u>15</u> 11th Sunday of Luke <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>16</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>17</u> Prophet Daniel <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>18</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>19</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>20</u> Ignatius the God-Bearer Of Antioch <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>21</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>
<u>22</u> Sunday before Nativity <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>23</u> <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>24</u> Eve of the Nativity of Christ Matins 6:00 PM Followed by the Divine Liturgy <u>NATIVITY FAST</u>	<u>25</u> The Nativity of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ "CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!"	<u>26</u> <u>FAST FREE</u>	<u>27</u> <u>FAST FREE</u>	<u>28</u> <u>FAST FREE</u> 20000 Martyr Burned in Nicomedia
<u>29</u> Sunday after Nativity <u>FAST FREE</u>	<u>30</u> <u>FAST FREE</u>	<u>31</u> <u>FAST FREE</u> HAPPY NEW 2014				



To request a Dome Lighting, please contact Fr. George @ 584-9100
 "The donation is \$ 50.00 per lighting"

For **Pastoral Emergencies**, or to notify the Clergy of ill or hospitalized parishioners, please call:

Rev. Fr. George Al-Dehneh:

345-9800

The Very Rev. Fr. Jehad Michael:

203-2831

MAY DINNER TICKETS & EXPENSES

Please turn in your receipts and money for the tickets that you have bought or sold to the Church office ASAP.

Thank you

REMINDER

Parishioners, please remember to use your **COMMUNITY card** at Albertsons, because we get 1% donation to the Church. (That is easy fundraising).....