St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

Northeast Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

915-584-9100 www.stgeorge-elpaso.org Fax. 915-760-5547
THE VERY REVEREND FATHER GEORGE M. AL-DEHNEH, PASTOR

“...And the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch”. Acts 11:26

The Very Reverend Father Jihad T. Michael, Pastor Emeritus

NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost & Eighth Sunday of Luke
Martyrs Guria, Shamuna and Habib the Deacon of Edessa

TONE 7
Sunday Service: Orthros (Matins) 9:20 AM, Followed by the Divine Liturgy
Confessions by Appointment Only.

On this day, we commemorate: Thomas the New, Patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Paisios Velichkovsky.

Epistle: Michael Dayoub.

Ushers: Upon Availability.

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 SS. GURIA, SHAMUNA AND HABIB (TONE FIVE)
Since Thou hast given us the miracles of Thy holy Martyrs Guria, Shamuna and Habib as an invincible battlement, by their entreaties scatter the counsels of the heathen, O Christ our God, and strengthen the faith of Orthodox Christians, since Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

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 THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS (TONE FOUR)
The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today enters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

Holy Bread will be offered by:

The Children of Esper Dayoub: For the (40 Day) Memorial service of our beloved father. Memory Eternal.
A luncheon will be served after the Divine Liturgy in the Mini-Hall. All are invited. Please join the family.

Surella and Deanna Nasser: For the good health and long life of Dale Nasser Jr. and family, Dan Nasser and family, Skee Rizk, Laila and Paul Ferris and family, PJ and Jackie Ferris, Jamell Bettor and family, and in loving memory of our dear husband and father Delfone Nasser.

Michel & Antwanette Shaghoury: For the (40 Day) Memorial of our beloved mother & grandmother Zada Hanany. May her Memory be Eternal. For the health of all the Shaghoury & Hanany families.
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 Eighth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read?” And the lawyer answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And Jesus said to him, “You have answered right; do this, and you will live.” But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” The lawyer said, “The one who showed mercy on him.” And Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

DONATIONS

Bryan & Annette Haddad: In loving Memory of our beloved mother Namnoume Haddad.
Tony Dayoub: For the health of Allen Borschow & Sub-Deacon Michael.
Skee Rizk and Paul & Laila Ferris: For the health of Allen Borschow & Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes.
Salma Isaac: For health of Allen & Patricia Borschow and family, Raed & Sylvana Aldouri and family, Keith & Vicki Sanftner and family, Sub-Deacon Michael and family.

In Memory of Renée Marie Moorad
Virginia Aziz

In Memory of Kay Dumot
Virginia Aziz

In Memory of Marjorie Harp
Ned & Wilda Abraham

Senior Citizen Dinner
Rose Beard

Please Remember
THAT YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH DOES NOT SKIP THE SUNDAYS THAT YOUR ARE NOT IN CHURCH.
Thank you & God bless you.
General Parish Meeting

On SUNDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2015, 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.

A BLESSED MARRIAGE

“O LORD OUR GOD, CROWN THEM WITH GLORY AND WITH HONOR”

أيها الرب إلهنا بالمجد والكرامة كنلهما

Congratulations to Dr. Abdallah Abboud and Yara Salloum on their blessed Matrimony as they joined together in thy Holy St. George Church on Saturday, November 07, 2015. May the Lord God by His presence at the Marriage feast in Cana of Galilee and who did declare Marriage to be an honorable estate bless their Marriage with blameless life and grant them and their families many years of peaceful love; oneness of mind and steadfast of faith.

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church Car Raffle

Many thanks go to the car raffle committee; the Very Rev. Fr. George, Nahed Khouri, Tony Dayoub & Geoffrey Borschow for their hard work on selling the tickets. Thank you to all parishioners who helped in selling, distributing and publicizing this event. Drawing took place on Sunday, November 8, 2015 @ 6:00 PM. The winning tickets are as follows:

First Prize: 2015 Honda Civic. Ticket No. 0451.
Second Prize: Washer & Dryer. Ticket No. 0706.
Third Prize: 50” TV. Ticket No. 0838.
Fourth Prize: $ 500.00 SWA gift card. Ticket No. 0280.

THE SYNAXARION (Commemoration)

On November 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the Holy Martyrs and Confessors of Edessa in Syria: Guria, Shamuna and Habib the Deacon. Guria and Shamuna contested during the reign of Diocletian, in 288; Habib contested in the days of Licinius, in 316; he was buried with Guria and Shamuna. The three have one common feast and they are always portrayed together in icons. They are invoked for help in marital difficulties. A certain Goth had come with the Roman army to Edessa and was quartered in the house of a pious widow named Sophia. The Goth asked Sophia for the hand of her daughter, Euphemia; reluctantly, Sophia at last agreed. She made the Goth vow by the power of the holy Martyrs Shamuna, Guria, and Habib to keep Euphemia as the apple of his eye. As he was nearing his home, however, the treacherous man revealed to Euphemia that he already had a wife. Euphemia became the Goth couple’s slave which dealt with her mercilessly. After extreme sufferings, which included being sealed alive in a tomb and left there to die, Euphemia begged the Saints to save her, and they miraculously conveyed her to Edessa, to the very shrine of the Holy Martyrs. Euphemia was reunited with her mother through their Holy prayers. On this day, we also commemorate Thomas the New, Patriarch of Constantinople; and Venerable Paisios Velichkovsky. By their Holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

To request a Dome Lighting for the health & well-being of your beloved ones or in Memory of family members who departed to His heavenly kingdom, please contact Fr. George @ 584-9100.

“The donation is $ 50.00 per lighting”

Thought for the Day

"If but ten among us lead a Holy life, we shall kindle a fire which shall light up the entire city." -- St. John Chrysostom.
ARCHDIOCESE DUES FOR 2015

Please make sure to pay your family dues for the year 2015 (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 of November, 2015.

Thank you & God bless you all

St. George Ladies Society’ Lunch

**Sunday, November 22, 2015**

**Menu:** Kibbee, meatless green beans with rice, salad, desert & coffee.

$8.00 per person

Please, join us after the Divine Liturgy. Tickets will be sold on Sundays, dine in or take out.

Family & Friends are welcome.

“Thank you, God bless you & your loved ones”

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St. George Ladies Society Christmas Celebration

**Monday, December 14, 2015**

**Time:** 6:00 PM @ Great American Land & Cattle
701 S. Mesa Hills

**Menu:** Chicken, brisket combo, baked potato, beans, coleslaw, a roll & ice tea or soft drink.

$25.00 per person

“Gifts & Raffle”

Please, see Kh. Mageda on Sundays for your donations or gift cards.

Not to forget to bring a wrapped toy with age & gender marked for the less fortunate children. Thank you & God bless.

As always Friends & Families are welcome.

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CONDOLENCES

Our Sympathy goes to Paul Malooly, Alexis Bond, Taylor Dene Malooly, Paul Patrick Malooly, Sophie Malooly, Edward, John and William Elias & their families and to all the Harp families on the departing to the Lord of their beloved mother, grandmother & sister Marjorie Sarah Elias Harp on Thursday, November 05, 2015.

Trisagion Service will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at Martin Funeral-West on Resler.

Funeral Service will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church.

May her Memory be Eternal and may our Resurrected great God and Savior Jesus Christ grant her family many healthy and faithful years in the Lord.
All St. George Parishioners

Please contact Fr. George or any member of the Nomination Committee (Sub-Deacon Michael Sifuentes, Nahed Khouri & Allen Borschow) if you want to nominate anyone for the new parish council members to serve for the year 2016-2017. Deadline for nomination is Monday, November 30, 2015.

Annual Senior Citizens' Dinner

The Annual Senior Citizens' Dinner will be held Wednesday, December 09, 2015, at 5:00 PM in the Summit Hall. We are asking all parishioners to participate however they can in this very worthwhile community event. Unfortunately we are not getting turkeys donated from a corporate sponsor as we had in the past 14 years; so we need your help even more this year. Please donate whatever you can and know all donations will be put to a good use for this great event. We would appreciate donations earmarked Senior Citizens Dinner by Sunday, November 22, 2015. If you have any questions, please call Deanna Nasser at 204-4245.

Thank you for your support and God bless you all.

St. George Church Sunday School

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

Pre-School: Giselle Gerena, Malik Thomas, Nia Isaac.

Grades Kinder/1: ——.

Grades 2/3: Kendall Olivas, Amira Thomas, Avea Acosta.

Grades 4/5: Sami Odeh.

Grades 6/7: Anthony Jarjour, Boris Salinas.

Grades 8-12: Johnny Odeh, Joseph Odeh.

Parents & Students: Please remember that it is very important to be at Sunday School at 9:15 AM in order to open all sessions with a prayer with Fr. George. The opening prayer establishes our Sunday School sessions with the focus of our minds and spirits to learn about our faith.

The Annual St. George Sunday School Christmas Pageant will take place on December 13, 2015. All students who plan to participate must be in attendance in Sunday School every Sunday.

St. George Teen SOYO presents our:

ANNUAL CLOTHES DRIVE

October 19th to December 6th, 2015

Please donate good condition clothing to St. George Orthodox Church for the needy in El Paso.

Address: 120 N. Festival Dr. El Paso, Texas

Please drop off clothing to the Teen Room or ask for a Teen Member to help.
November 01, 2015

Beloved St. George Family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! This letter is to notify you of the upcoming Annual General Parish Meeting which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 06, 2015 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 2016 budget, organizational reports, and election of New Parish Council Members to serve for the year 2016-2017.

All parishioners are reminded to be sure that their 2015 Membership pledges must be up to date to be eligible, voting members. 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 ... In a good canonical standing ... Been Baptized and accepted in the membership of the Holy St. George Orthodox Church, ...Practice its faith and discipline ... Attend worship services on a regular basis ... Partake of the Holy Sacraments of "The Church" ... 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/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 06, 2015.

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

Sincerely,

The Very Reverend Fr. George Al-Dehneh
Pastor

Salma Isaac
Parish Council Members

Parish Council President

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. 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.
November 15th, 2015
First Day of the Nativity Fast

This Fast is divided into two periods: The first is Sunday, November 15th through Saturday, December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline (NO meat, poultry, dairy, fish, wine, and olive oil) is observed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with katalysis for wine and olive oil (some also permit fish) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine, and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays. The second is the period of the Forefeast, Sunday, December 20th through Thursday, 24th, when the traditional fasting discipline is observed Monday through Friday, with katalysis for wine and olive oil on Saturday and Sunday only.

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.

ALL ST. GEORGE PARISHIONERS

Very Important

As the year is coming to an end & the Church is working on the 2016 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 and 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.

ALL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Please get your reports to Fr. George by Tuesday, December 01, 2015.

For Pastoral Emergencies, or to notify The Very Reverend Fr. George of ill or hospitalized parishioner, please call: Church: 584-9100 OR Cell: 345-9800

November is the Ladies Refreshment Month

St. George Ladies will be serving the refreshments for all Sundays in the month of November. God bless them all with their families.

Remember our Abducted Syrian Orthodox Innocent Hierarchs in your prayers

937 Days
Every year, we have the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of St. Basil the Great and honor our own Bishop BASIL by donating to the Bishop BASIL Missions Endowment Fund.

It began in 1975 when the Southwest Region (name at that time) wanted to increase awareness of the need for mission work in the Region. At that time, the Southwest Region consisted of only 8 communities (our Diocese now numbers 51 congregations). Pledges were made to the “Missions Fund”, and in 1977 Father Michael Welborn was partially funded by the Region and assigned to the Region’s first mission, Three Hierarchs in New Orleans, Louisiana (renamed St. Basil and relocated to Metairie, Louisiana). In 1978 a “Region Missions Blitz Weekend” was held in Dallas, Texas, resulting in the founding that very weekend of the Region’s second mission, Ss. Constantine and Helen in Dallas. The Region also helped fund their first priest, Father Anthony Nelson. Over the years, the Region has founded many missions and helped fund their priests.

With the election to the sacred episcopacy in May, 1991, of Archimandrite Basil Essey, and his consecration as Bishop in May, 1992, the Southwest Region (now DOWAMA) established the “Bishop BASIL Missions Endowment Fund” in his honor to augment financial support of our missionary efforts. We will again celebrate Bishop BASIL’s name’s day on January 1, 2016, and you have the opportunity to honor him and support our missions by donating to the fund.

Please make your check payable to your local parish earmarked “BB Name’s Day”.