

SAINT GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

- Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Constantinides
- Chanter: Steve Morgan
- Caretaker: Jason Leon
- GOYA Advisors: Dr. Vickie Pyevich/Anne Kirpatrick
- HOPE/JOY Advisors: Pres. Maria Constantinides/
Candice Elias
- Outreach and Evangelism Chair: Angela Spurgetis
- Parish Council President: Mary Rankin
- Philoptochos President: Susan Coin
- Prayer Ministry: Gus Pappas
- Sunday School Director: Deacon Paul Speed
- Senior Ministry Chairperson: Kay Coin

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VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2017

The Trophybearer

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Having been invigorated by the joyful period of the Christmas season, a season that is full of family, friends and even a reawakening of our need to improve ourselves, we begin the New Year full of enthusiasm and great expectation. We look at the world in a different light and we are excited to get back to our routines.

Yet this period of rejoicing also has the possibility of making us lose our focus. Many of us who make our New Year's resolutions in January see them flounder by April. Goodness knows that I fail at keeping my own resolutions from time to time. We all do. Today I ask you to make a resolution with me. One that, with work, we can keep, and will indeed bring you closer to God. This resolution is to re-dedicate your life to God. By offering your entire self, (your life, your talents and your treasures) you will be filled with the blessings of God and see before you endless possibilities.

Join us also in the various events that we have throughout the month:

- Parish Vasilopita and luncheon (January 8)
- Parish Council Oath of Office (January 8)

Let us then avail ourselves of both these opportunities to participate in our own renewal by participating in the various ministries of the Church. Let us come to the Divine Liturgy, so that we may be able to worship our Lord. Let us bring our children to Sunday School where they learn what it is that we believe. Let us make use of our GOYA, HOPE/JOY, Orthodox Study Forum, Philoptochos and Choir ministries, this way we may be able to commit ourselves and one another and our whole lives to Christ our God.

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>Sunday before Theophany The Circumcision of Our Lord Saint Basil the Great Fast Free 8:30a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Family Worship only</p>	<p>Fast Free</p>	<p>Fast Free</p>	<p>Fast Free</p>	<p>Eve of Theophany Strict Fast Day</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Vesperal Divine Liturgy followed by the Blessing of the waters</p>	<p>The Theophany of Our Lord Fast Free 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy *Please Note: the Great Blessing of the Waters will occur following Orthros as is the ancient Tradition of the Church* 7:00 p.m. Great Vespers at the Church of Saint John in Cedar Rapids, IA</p>	<p>The Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>Sunday after Theophany Parish Vasilopita Luncheon 8:30a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class resume following Holy Communion Parish Council Oath of Office</p>			<p>Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>Fast Day</p>	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>12th Sunday of Luke 8:30a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion</p>	<p>6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Family Ministry opener at Assumption Church</p>	<p>Feast Day of Saint Anthony the Great 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George</p>	<p>Fast Day 10:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>Fast Day</p>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>15th Sunday of Luke 8:30a.m. Orthros 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following Holy Communion Philoptochos Meeting following the Divine Liturgy</p>		<p>7:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>Feast Day of Saint Gregory the Theologian 9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church No Morning Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Orthodox Study Forum</p>	<p>Fast Day</p>	
29	30					
<p>17th Sunday of Matthew 8:30a.m. Orthros 10:00 am. Divine Liturgy Sunday School Class following</p>	<p>The Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George</p>					

The Council Connection

Save the Date – February 18: MARDI GRAS

This is always a fun evening with delicious food, dancing and great decorations (provided by Nancy Spurgetis who updated the tables last year with some terrific finds)! Tickets will be sold in advance and at the door. Additional information will be forthcoming. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Mary Rankin (cell: 563-263-2341; email: mbarton83@aol.com) or any council member.

Parish Council Oath of Office Scheduled for January 8

Please offer your support to those parishioners who will take the oath of office as Parish Council mem-

bers following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 8. Your prayers for the council and its ministry are greatly appreciated.

Seeking Shut-In Volunteers for Newsletter Ministry

Effie Skafidas has helped the parish out by attaching return address labels to boxes of 500 envelopes for mailing the hardcopy edition of *The Trophy-bearer* to those without access to email. Volunteers are being sought from parishioners on Father Michael's monthly visitation list to stuff envelopes, attach address labels and stamps for monthly mailings. If you can volunteer for one or two months of the year to provide this service, that would be fantastic! Between Father Michael and Mary

Rankin, the materials will be brought to and from your home for your convenience.

Young(ish) Adult Dinner and Forum Planned for February 12

There are no football games scheduled for this date, so a casual dinner and some fun activities will be provided beginning at 5 p.m. for parishioners who are in their 20's, 30's and up to and including mid-forties. Additional information will be sent out soon.

If you are interested in this event, please contact Mary Rankin (cell: 563-263-2341; email: mbarton83@aol.com).

Yours in Christ,

Mary Rankin

Mary Rankin
Parish Council
President

**Serving on
the Parish
Council is a
sacred
opportunity!
If you wish
to serve
please
contact
Father
Michael or
Mary
Rankin!**

Epistle Readers

**Sunday,
January 1, 2017**
**The Circumcision of the
Lord**
Ethan Kirkpatrick

**Sunday,
January 15, 2017**
12th Sunday of Luke
Isabella Elias

**Sunday,
January 29, 2017**
17th Sunday of Matthew
Alexa Florence



“O Lord, open my lips and
my mouth shall show forth
your praise!”

Anyone interested in being
an epistle reader should
contact the church office!

**Sunday,
January 8, 2017**
Sunday after Theophany
Michael Pyevich

**Sunday,
January 22, 2017**
15th Sunday of Luke
Angela Spurgetis

Parish Council Sunday Duty

**Sunday,
January 1, 2017**
John Mekus,
Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis
Mary Rankin

**Sunday,
January 15, 2017**
Dale Allison
Brad Crosson,
Mariellen Crosson
Mike Patramanis

**Sunday,
January 29, 2017**
Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert
Mary Rankin
Ken Stiegel

**Sunday,
January 8, 2017**
Joe Burmeister,
Mary Kay Eckert
Mary Rankin
Ken Stiegel

**Sunday,
January 22, 2016**
John Mekus,
Ted Pitsoulakis
Dennis Spurgetis,
Diane Spurgetis

Coffee Hour Hosts for January 2017

Sunday, January 1, 2017
hosted by:
Adrienne Johnson

Sunday, January 8, 2017
hosted by:
Jenny Bakeris

**Sunday,
January 15, 2017**
hosted by:
Diane Breckon

**Sunday,
January 22, 2017**
hosted by:
Christina Beck and Candice
Kalman

**Sunday,
January 29, 2017**
Candice Elias



**Fellowship
and fun!**

Community News

THEOPHANY CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

•On Thursday, January 5, the Eve of Theophany, beginning at 7:00 p.m. we will have the Vespers Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Blessing of the Waters

•The Great Blessing of the Waters on the Feast Day of Theophany, Friday, January 6, will take place following the 8:30 a.m. Orthros, as is the ancient Tradition of the Church (not following the Divine Liturgy).

HOUSE BLESSINGS

Call Father Michael if you wish to have your house blessed. Father Michael will be blessing homes from Friday January 6 through the beginning of Great Lent. All appointments are on a first

call first served basis, so telephone today

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Classes resume on Sunday January 8, 2017

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council Oath of Office will be administered and the Election of Officers will occur on Sunday January 8, 2017, following the Divine Liturgy

VASILOPITA CELEBRATION

Our Parish Family will be celebrating our Annual Vasilopita Celebration on Sunday, January 8, 2016.

HOSPITAL VISITS

If you or a family member are in the hospital, please call the office. Ever since the

change in the privacy laws, hospitals are reluctant to call churches. Please call us so that we can avoid missing our parishioners in their time of need.



Our Saint George Parish Community

PRAYERS FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Have we taken for granted our health? Some of our members who are no longer able to come to church would always appreciate a phone call just to say hello.

Emily Caras

Helen Corelis

Stella Cudworth

Elaine Froumis

Pat Grevas

Judy Pappas

Jim Patton

Xenia Patton

Effie Skafidas

Janice Smirles

Gordon Smith

Helen Smith

Jim Tsagaris

Prosphora Baking Schedule

Sunday, January 1, 2017:

Adrienne Johnson

Sunday, January 8, 2017:

Dena Manta

Sunday, January 15, 2017:

Randy Smith

Sunday, January 22, 2017:

Anne Kirkpatrick

Sunday, January 29, 2017:

Mary Kay Eckert

Election News

2017 Parish Council

Congratulations to the 2017 newly elected Parish Council:

Dale Allison

Joe Burmeister

Bradley J Crosson

Mariellen Crosson

Mary Kay Eckert

John Mekus

Mike Patramanis

Ted Pitsoulakis

Mary Rankin

Dennis Spurgetis

Dianna Spurgetis

Ken Stiegel

Sunday School News

Our Sunday School year is nearly half over. Our teachers and children have accomplished a lot, and have more to do. The only thing that can slow us down is a lack of children; please share your children, grandchildren, Godchildren with our Sunday

School program. This year's oratorical festival final will be in Minneapolis on April 29. Materials will be available for any interested Sunday School students. Participating in this annual event is a great way for our young people to learn and to get to-

gether with other young people who share their faith.

Also available is information on scholarship opportunities for our older children for their further education. Please see me or Father for information

HOPE/JOY NEWS

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. I pray God blesses us all in 2017 with a year full of health and happiness!

Well, the weather has certainly been cold and snowy lately! I hope everyone has been staying warm and dry.

Even though we didn't get to have our hot chocolate and donut get together in December because of the weather, many people still

donated hats, gloves and scarves for our donation tree. Thank you to all who donated from their hearts. All the donations will be given to SafePath Shelter in Moline, IL. Your generosity is going to help many people stay warm this winter.

Our next outing is going to be visiting the ice skating rink they built at Middle Park in Bettendorf. Keep a watch for the flyer

and email with details.

Remember, all kids between the ages of 3-12 are encouraged to join in the fun.

Please feel free to contact Presbytera Maria at pres-mariazoe@aol.com or Candace Elias at elias4130@yahoo.com with any questions.

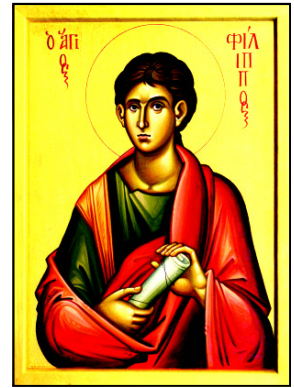


Parish Family News

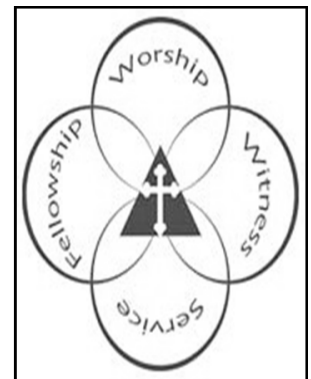
Jonathon Stratton: Grandson of Martha and John Stratton's Graduated Dec. 12, 2016. During the St. Ambrose University Veterans Graduation Ceremony

The Doctors Pjevich have been asked to serve as

chairs of the Quad City American Heart Association Gala on Jan 28, 2017



St. Philip the Deacon is the patron saint of Religious Education. He was an inspired evangelist and teacher whose missionary work brought a multitude of new believers to Christ in Samaria and other cities. along the coast of Palestine



The Four Circles of Youth Ministry:
Worship
Witness
Fellowship
Service

Any one of you who is in trouble should pray; anyone in good spirits should sing a psalm. (James 5:13)

We are adding a new section in the Trophybearer. This section is dedicated to news about our Parish Family. Do you have a budding actor in your family? Tell us when and where they are acting! Do you or yours play an instrument? Tell us! Is anyone sick in your families? Tell us who to pray for! All submissions should be either emailed to Father Michael at frmike99@gmail.com or handwritten and given to Father Michael by the 15th of the month.

Vasilopita 2017



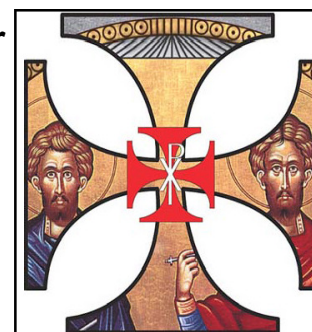
On Sunday, January 8, 2017 Vasilopita will be distributed at the end of liturgy in honor of St. Basil and best wishes for a healthy, peaceful New Year, 2017. In addition to a gift of a slice of this favorite sweet bread, some

lucky person will be the recipient of a hidden Vasilopita coin. Tradition tells that this coin will bring you a blessed new year.

Of course, in honor of St. Basil a special collection will be taken at the end of liturgy to help support the academy bearing his name in Garrison, New York.

And if this isn't enough, we will also hold a raffle for the extra loaves of bread. Each loaf will contain a wrapped coin to share with your family.

Tickets will be sold at the bookstore (Stavro Logo for those who do not remember our name) beginning Sunday, January 1st and following liturgy Sunday, January 8th. Father Michael will draw the winning ticket(s) in the green room. **Cost of each ticket is one ticket for \$5.00, three tickets for \$10.00.**



Saints Cosmas and Damianos the Patron Saints of Philoptochos
Focus on Philoptochos

Help us to Help Others

Philoptochos Corner

January will be a busy month for Philoptochos. We will be hosting a Vasilopita Sunday brunch following Divine Liturgy on January 8.

Also, our Philoptochos ladies have been in-

vited to join the Assumption Philoptochos at Assumption in East Moline on Saturday January 21 at 2:00 for fleece blanket making (no sewing required) and fellowship. The blankets will then be

donated the our Chicago Diocese Quilt-a-Thon service project.

Upcoming Philoptochos meetings will be January 22, March 26, and April 30 after liturgy.

EVENING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

January 25-Susan Coin and Jenny Bakeris

February 22-Dr. Vickie Pyevich and GOYA

March 22-Georgjean Pitsoulakis and friend

Anyone interested in participating in this worthwhile ministry should contact Dena Manta at 332-1684.

2016 Stewards

Father and Presbyteria Michael Constantinides	Harry G. and Susan Coin	Louis and Amanda Kantzavelos
Deacon and Deaconess Paul Speed	Harry S. and Paula Coin	George and Diane Karoules
Father and Presbyteria Chris Matos	Nick and Nancy Coin	Chris and Lennice Kaval- lieros
Jorge and Basema Alias	Stan and Kay Coin	John and Jennifer Kay
Ray and Connie Allen	Helen Corelis	Ermioni Keber
Dale and JoElaine Allison	John and Shan Corelis	Quinn and Anne Kirkpatrick
Jeff and Elaine Amidon	Brad and Mariellen Cros- son	Deborah Kutsunis
John and Pat Andrews	Cleo Dalamaggas	George and Linda Kut- sunis
Mike and Nancy Avgenackis	Angeline Douglas	Ted and Debra Kutsunis
Paul and Christine Baga- telas	Jayme Eckert	Chris and Nikki Lebessis
Ted and Karen Bagatelas	Steve and Mary Kay Eckert	Jennifer Lensgraf
Tom and Jenny Bakeris	Daniel and Mari Elias	Jason Leon
Benjamin and Georgena Barnes	Maurice and Sue Elias	Von Lillios
Pascal Booras	Tony and Candace Elias	Darlene Lingris
Frances Bourboulas	Scott and Alexa Florence	Tasso and Francie Liras
Diane Breckon	Elaine Froumis	Dena Manta
Spiro Bruskas	George Gnatovich	Emmanuel and Tracy Mathews
Elaine Burmeister	Nick Grevas	Nancy Mathews
Joe Burmeister	Pat Grevas	John and Linnea Mekus
Hillary Callas	Theo J. Grevas	Helen Moorhead
John and Darcy Callas	Michael Gust	Steve Morgan
Peter Caras	Pete and Arlene Gust	Ken and Pam Mott
Emily Caras	Gus and Irene Harb	Marguerite Nelson
Peter and Becky Caras	Nidal Harb	Anthony and Marianne Nichols
Maria and Stephen Chiang	Vanessa Hayden-Porter	Pauline Nichols
Carol Chickris	Nick and Claudette Jannes	Demetrios and Kathy Papageorgiou
George and Nancy Coin	Tim and Kathy Joannides	
	Scot and Adrienne John- son	
	Candice Kalman	
	Georgia Kalomas	

***We are deeply grateful
to our Lord Jesus Christ
for our faithful and
committed Stewards.
Listed here are the
individuals/families who
pledged their
commitment
in 2016!***

2016 Stewards

Chris Pappas	Dennis and Marina (Yokas) Reese	John and Martha Stratton
Gus and Kerri Pappas	Effie Skafidas	Marge Stratton
Judy Pappas	Frank J. and Mary Jane Skafidas	James and Elizabeth Teros
Matt and Lori Pappas	Tom Skafidas	Stephanie Thodos
Nick Pappas	Janice Smirles	Veronica Tolescu
George and Alexia Patramanis	Gordon and Helen Smith	Gus and Virginia Tripilas
Mike and Vickie Patramanis	Randy and Chris Smith	Ellen Tsagaris & Dino Milani
Angela Perantinos	Angela Spurgetis	James Tsagaris
Marina Pikis	Colette Spurgetis	Gafo Tuku
Ted and Georgjean Pitsoulakis	Dennis and Nancy Spurgetis	Ted Vlahos
Demetrios Pliakos	Diana Spurgetis	Frank Vretis
Ann Polilo	Mary Spurgetis	Bill and Diane Whitehead
Mike and Vickie Pyevich	Nick and Fran Spurgetis	Kim and Mary Winters
Mary Rankin	Ted Spurgetis	Kulla Wiss
Jovanka Rastovic	John and Despina Stathopoulos	John and Joanne Zaimis
David Ray	Ken and Helen Stiegel	Connie Zeroth

There is your brother, naked and crying! And you stand confused over choice of floor covering.
St. Gregory of Nyssa

Church Etiquette

In the Orthodox Church, there are many customs and traditions that are an important part of our worship. Some are cultural and some are pious customs. Some are essential and some are not. From time-to-time, we need to address some of these various etiquette issues to better inform the faithful

THE IMPORTANCE OF PUNCTUALITY

The time to arrive at Church is before the service starts. If you arrive after the Divine Liturgy begins, try to enter the Church quietly and observe what is

happening. If the Epistle or Gospel is being read or the Little or Great Entrance is taking place, wait until it is finished to quickly find a seat. Try not to interrupt the Liturgy by your entrance. The best way to avoid this situation is to arrive on time.

“LET US ATTEND”

In some Orthodox cultures, crossing one’s leg is taboo and considered to be disrespectful. In our American culture, while there are no real taboos, we tend to cross our legs to get comfortable when sitting. Crossing one’s legs in Church is

not permitted, not because it is “wrong”, but rather because it is too casual and relaxed for being in Church. Remember, sitting in Church is a concession, not the normative way of prayer. You surely do not want to get too relaxed and let your mind drift off. In fact when you do sit in Church, you should sit attentively. Keep both feet on the floor, ready to stand at attention, which is what “let us attend” means.

St. George Stewardship Notes



End of 2016 QUICK FACTS (as of December 27, 2016)

\$143,715.07 =
Amount given to 2016
stewardship since Jan. 1
by 136 Households

\$1,057.00 =
Average stewardship per
household at this date

\$274,893.00 =
Amount needed for the
ministries of
St. George Parish for
2016

Stewardship Bouquet Continues to Blossom!!

- Thanks to the 52 households that have submitted a 2017 pledge card as of 12/27/16 for a total of \$80,584 pledged.
- Of these submissions, 32 homes have increased their pledges over 2016 rates.
- Of those who have increased their pledge, six increased by \$1,000.00, two by \$600, one by \$500, and nine by \$400.
- Total increase of stewardship pledges by the 32 stewards is \$12,580!
- It's not too late to contribute to this bouquet, which is on display in the hall by the Narthex door!

The Holy Prophet Malachi (January 3)

The Holy Prophet Malachi lived 400 years before the Birth of Christ, at the time of the return of the Jews from the Babylonian Captivity. Malachi was the last of the Old Testament prophets, therefore

the holy Fathers call him “the seal of the prophets.” Manifesting himself an image of spiritual goodness and piety, he astounded the nation and was called Malachi, i.e., an angel. His prophetic book

is included in the Canon of the Old Testament. In it he upbraids the Jews, foretelling the coming of Jesus Christ and His Forerunner, and also the Last Judgment (Mal 3:1-5; 4:1-6).



The Holy Prophet Malachi

Saint Dometian of Melitene (January 10)

Saint Dometian, Bishop of Melitene, was born and lived during the sixth century, in the time of the emperor Justin the Younger. He was married but was widowed, and thereafter he became a monk and lived a strict and holy life.

At thirty years of age he was chosen bishop of the city of Melitene (in Armenia). Wise and zealous in questions of faith, strong in word and deed, St Dometian quickly gained fame as a good and dedicated pastor. More than once he carried out

government commissions in Persia to avoid conflict with the Greeks. Beloved by all, St Dometian often received rich gifts, which he distributed to the poor. Both during his life and after his death in 601, St Dometian was glorified by God with miracles.



Saint Dometian

The Veneration of the Chains of Saint Peter (January 16)

The Veneration of the Honorable Chains of the Holy and All-Praised Apostle Peter: In about the year 42, on the orders of Herod Agrippa, the Apostle Peter was thrown into prison for preaching about Christ the Savior. In prison he was held secure by two iron chains. During the night before his trial, an angel of the Lord removed these chains from the Apostle Peter and led him out from the prison (Acts 12:1-11).

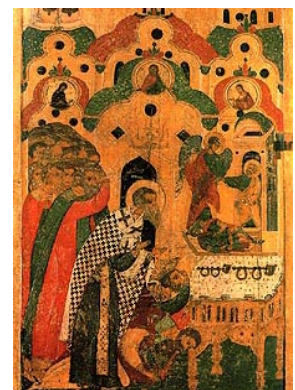
Christians who learned of

the miracle took the chains and kept them as precious keepsakes. For three centuries the chains were kept in Jerusalem, and those who were afflicted with illness and approached them with faith received healing. Patriarch Juvenal (July 2) presented the chains to Eudokia, wife of the emperor Theodosius the Younger, and she in turn transferred them from Jerusalem to Constantinople in either the year 437 or 439.

Eudokia sent one chain to

Rome to her daughter Eudoxia (the wife of Valentinian), who built a church on the Esquiline hill dedicated to the Apostle Peter and placed the chain in it. There were other chains in Rome, with which the Apostle Peter was shackled before his martyrdom under the emperor Nero. These were also placed in the church.

On January 16, the chains of Saint Peter are brought out for public veneration



The Veneration of the Chains of Saint Peter

The Holy Prophet Malachi (January 3)



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...If you change from inhumanity to almsgiving, you have stretched forth the hand that was withered. If you withdraw from theaters and go to church, you have cured the lame foot. If you draw back your eyes from a harlot ... you have opened them when they were blind ... These are the greatest miracles. St. John Chrysostom

The Veneration of the Chains of Saint Peter (January 16)



The Veneration of the
Chains of Saint Peter

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Venerable Xenia of Rome, and her two female servants (January 24)

Saint Xenia of Rome, in the world Eusebia, was the only daughter of an eminent Roman senator. From her youth she loved God, and wished to avoid the marriage arranged for her. She secretly left her parental home with two servants devoted to her, and set sail upon a ship. Through the Providence of God she met the head of the monastery of the holy Apostle Andrew in Milassa, a town of Caria (Asia Minor). She besought him to take her and her companions to Milassa. She also changed her name, calling herself

Xenia [which means “stranger” or foreigner” in Greek].

At Milassa she bought land, built a church dedicated to Saint Stephen, and founded a woman’s monastery. Soon after this, Bishop Paul of Milassa made Xenia a deaconess, because of her virtuous life. The saint helped everyone: for the destitute, she was a benefactress; for the grief-stricken, a comforter; for sinners, a guide to repentance. She possessed a deep humility, accounting herself the worst and most sinful of all.

In her ascetic deeds she was guided by the counsels of the Palestinian ascetic, Saint Euthymius. The sublime life of Saint Xenia drew many souls to Christ. The holy virgin died in 450 while she was praying. During her funeral, a luminous wreath of stars surrounding a radiant cross appeared over the monastery in the heavens. This sign accompanied the body of the saint when it was carried into the city, and remained until the saint’s burial. Many of the sick received healing after touching the relics of the saint.



Saint Xenia of Rome

Martyr Athanasia and her daughters at Canopus in Egypt (January 31)

The Christian woman Athanasia and her three young daughters were arrested because they were Christians. Theoctiste was fifteen; Theodota, was thirteen; and Eudoxia, was eleven. Saints Cyrus and John hastened to the prison to help them, for they were concerned that the women might renounce Christ when faced with torture.

Saints Cyrus and John gave

them courage to endure what lay before them. Learning of this, the ruler of the city arrested Saints Cyrus and John, and seeing their steadfast and fearless confession of faith in Christ, he brought Athanasia and her daughters to witness their torture. The tyrant did not refrain from any form of torture against the holy martyrs. The women were not frightened by the suf-

ferings of Saints Cyrus and John, but courageously continued to confess Christ. They were flogged and then beheaded, receiving their crowns of martyrdom.



Martyr Athanasia and her daughters at Canopus in Egypt

Family Ministry

Offered By Assumption, Saint George and Saint Nicholas Orthodox Churches

Your Life Meets Your Faith



January 16, 2017
6:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m.

At Assumption Orthodox Church:
4900 Kennedy Drive, East Moline, Illinois 61244

Adult book discussion
"Saint John Chrysostom on Marriage and Family"

Separate Program for children
Dinner offered
Free-will donation appreciated!



Answers to Last Month's "Test Your Faith..."

The Sacraments

Across

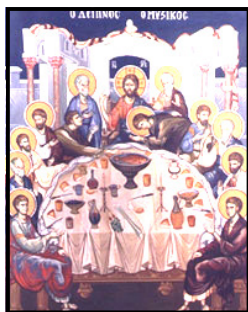
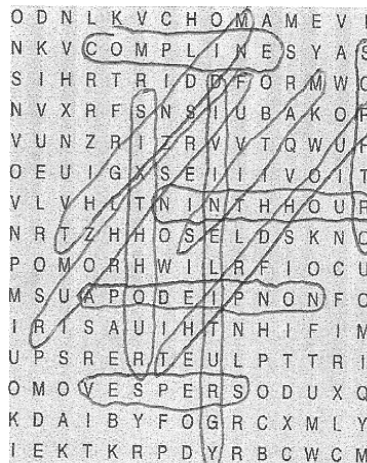
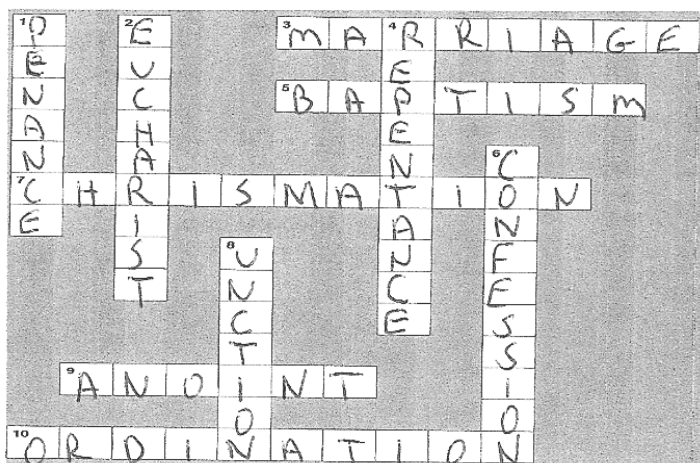
3. The sacred union of a man and a woman.
5. The sacrament of rebirth.
7. Anointing with oil for receiving the Holy Spirit.
9. To apply oil to as a sacred rite.
10. The sacrament of orders: priest, deacon, bishop.

Down

1. An act of self-abasement, mortification, or devotion performed to show sorrow or repentance for sin.
2. Holy Communion.
4. To turn from sin, feel regret for one's wrongdoings, and change one's actions away from sinfulness.
6. We tell the priest our sins at _____.
8. To anoint with oil for healing; a service from Holy Week.

Daily Cycle of Services

- Divine Liturgy
- Apodeipnon
- Ninth Hour
- Sixth Hour
- Third Hour
- First Hour
- Midnight
- Compline
- Orthros
- Vespers
- Hours



The Sacraments of the Church

Parish Registry

WEDDING

Hilary Callas and Anthony Frakes were united in the Sacrament of Holy Marriage on December 3, 2016 and the sponsor was Peter Callas.

Thoughts to Ponder

Wherever we live, we observe two common items made of glass: windows and mirrors. We look *through* a window but *at* a mirror. A mirror simply reflects what is in front of it. We look, in a mirror to see how we look, but we don't need a mirror to see how other people look; we need a window.

Our life style can be like a window or like a mirror. "Window" people look beyond themselves, at other people, at the world. "Mirror" people see only themselves. Therein lies their misery.

Christ and His followers are "window" people. Through Christian stewardship they find life's highest joy in helping support God's work in the world through His Church

Test Your Faith...

The Old Testament

Across

1. The great warrior-king of the Hebrew nation.
4. Saturday, the seventh day of the week.
5. The one river of Palestine.
6. The second of the twelve minor prophets.
7. Capital and spiritual center of historic Judaism.

Down

2. Old Testament messianic prophet.
3. The major feast observed by the Jews that commemorates the liberation of the Hebrew nation from bondage in Egypt.

Old Testament Writings

- Lamentations
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Songs
- Chronicles
- Proverbs
- Daniel
- Psalms
- Esther
- Ezra
- Ruth
- Job

