

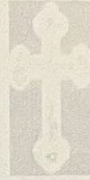
DON'T EVER CHANGE? NONSENSE!

If we would all go back and read what our friends wrote to us in our high school yearbook, we would probably find that most of the comments were not very original or creative. "Remember all the fun we had in history class?" "I'll never forget you." The one that seems to be used repeatedly is this: "Don't ever change!" Now it's a nice thought at first glance, and I suppose it is meant as a compliment, but have you ever considered how unfulfilled our lives would be, in fact, if we never changed? What if our job performance never changed? What if our relationships with family and friends never changed? A changeless life is, indeed, a wasted life.

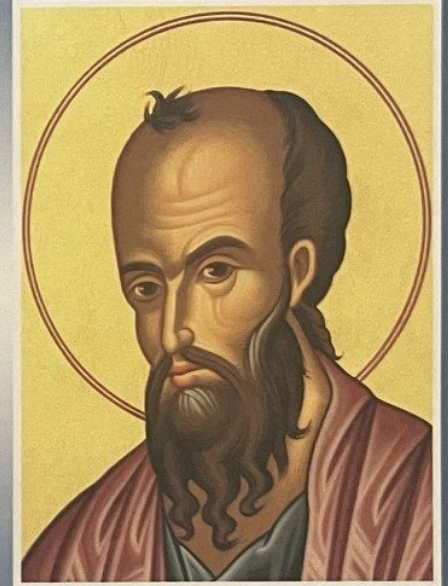
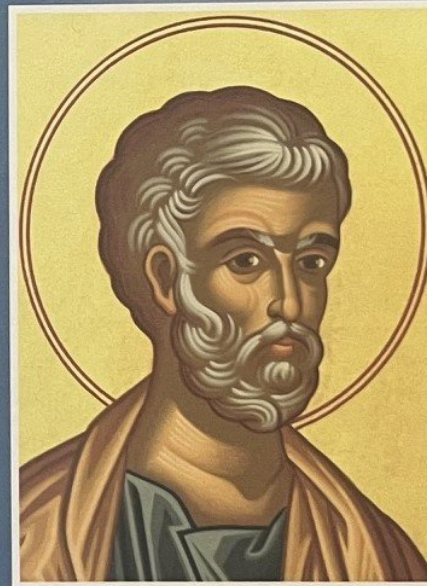
In all aspects of life, there must be an upward spiral of progression. We must be constantly striving to improve ourselves in everything we do, and nowhere is this more evident than in our spiritual lives. Our Orthodox Faith places great emphasis on the concept of repentance. What does repentance mean? It means to change ourselves and to better ourselves. An Orthodox Christian who goes through life without changing will have great difficulty entering the kingdom of heaven.

The Apostles Peter and Paul are prime examples of individuals who made dramatic changes in their lives. Peter was loud and boisterous when he first followed Christ, but his denial of His Master at a critical time proved that he was "all talk and no action." Later, Peter was able to channel his impetuous energies in a much more positive direction as he took a leading role in spreading the Gospel after our Lord's Resurrection. Paul was a hater and persecutor of Christians. After he literally "saw the light" on the road to Damascus, Paul became arguably the greatest of all missionaries, taking Christ's message throughout the Roman Empire. Don't ever change? Hopefully this is advice none of us will ever follow!

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.



APOSTLES PETER & PAUL



Welcome our Visitors! We invite you to venerate the cross at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. However, only Orthodox Christians who are in good standing and who have prepared by prayer, fasting, and Confession may receive Holy Communion.

A Gift of Blessing

Visit the Church Gift Shop.

See the Beautiful Icons, Crosses & Home Censers

2709 Washington St. Vicksburg, MS 39180

Parish Office: 601-636-2483

Fr. Gabriel's cell: 713-357-8871

Email: stgeorge2709@gmail.com

web page: www.stgeorgevicksburg.org

Church Calendar: Check the Link. <http://www.stgeorgevicksburg.org/service.html>

SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Very Rev. Father Gabriel Karam, Pastor

Saturday Great Vespers 6:00 p.m. - Sunday Orthros 9:15 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. - Confessions: By Appointment

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2026

TONE 3 / EOTHINON 4

APOLYTIKION OF PENTECOST IN TONE THREE

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 become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

As deliver 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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Prayer when you enter the church

I will come into Your house in the greatness of Your mercy: and in fear I will worship toward Your holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; make Your way straight before me, that with a clear mind I may glorify You forever, One Divine Power worshiped in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

We Celebrate Today

On June 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the precious relics of the holy and wonderworking **Unmercenary Cyrus and John**.

The bones now appeared of the Unmercenary Martyrs

Gush forth mighty torrents of unmercenary marvels.

On the twenty-eighth appeared Cyrus with fellow contender John.

Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria, prayed fervently to God to destroy the idolatrous impurity in the town of Menuthis where a pagan temple was located and where the power of the demons ruled. An angel of God appeared to the patriarch and told him that Menuthis would be cleansed of its impurity if he translated the relics of Saints Cyrus and John from Canopus to that town. The patriarch did this immediately and built a church there in their honor. Ammonius, the son of Julian the mayor of Alexandria, was healed of scrofula; a Theodore was healed of blindness; the wife of Theodore from poisoning, a Eugenia of dropsy as well as many other people were healed of various diseases and torments by the relics of these saints. This all occurred in 412.

On this day, we also commemorate the holy martyr Papios; and Paul the Physician of Corinth. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+Healing & Recovery Bishop Nicholas, Fr. Paul Yerger, Dea. Terry, Kh. Janet Henderson, Joy Logue, Dolores Nosser, Rick Collins, George Michael Nasif, Lynne Abraham, Pam Smith, Irene Tzotzolas, Michael Farris, Athena, Georgia, Andrea Simon, Chuck Abraham, Carla Leese, Rex Whiteaker, Drew Anderton.

+Birthdays & Anniversaries, June. Brian West (28), Jaime Thomas (30).

July. Roxy Kabanova (4), Hugh Cummings (8), Kathy Saikley Saway (13), Emil Ellis (14), Haylee Hull Nix (19), Mark & Rebecca Antwine, (21), Nicholas Saway (22)

+Holy Bread & Coffee Hour are offered today by Suzane and Greg Hull and their family.

+Keep in your prayers. Our Catechumens, Cole Gary, Who is preparing himself for the Holy Sacrament of Chrismation.

+The Apostles Lent will end on Monday June 29 after the divine Liturgy.

+Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul. Is Monday June 29.

Orthros and Liturgy for the Feast are served on Monday starting @ 5:30pm.

+Parish Council Meeting July 14th. @ 6 pm.

+The Archdiocese 23rd Biennial Clergy Symposium @ the Antiochian Village July 20-24.

"The Shepherd Knows His Sheep: Reading the Parish, Serving the Flock"

Guest Speakers His Eminence Metropolitan Jacob of Buenos Aires and All Argentine, and Dr.

Tarek Mitri "Deputy Prime Minister of Lebanon and President of Saint George University of Beirut."

+Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is offering clergy and the faithful new ways to get involved in this essential work. The OCPM Advocates are committed to increasing awareness of prison ministry in parishes across North America. An upcoming Zoom Orientation on Thursday, June 23 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern. Additionally, the newly launched OCPM Clergy Corps is a team of priests and deacons called to do prison ministry together as a special, dedicated calling.

The Church Fathers Teach

If someone wants to be protected from tricks and remain healthy in the faith, he must confine his faith first to the authority of the Holy Scriptures, and secondly to the Tradition of the Church. But someone may ask, is not the canon of Scripture sufficient for everything, and why should we add thereto the authority of Tradition? This is because not everyone understands the Scriptures in the same way, but one explains them this way and another that way, so that it is possible to get there from as many thoughts as there are heads. Therefore, it is necessary to be guided by the understanding of the Church ... What is tradition? It is that which has been understood by everyone, everywhere and at all times ... that which you have received, and not that which you have thought up ... So then, our job is not to lead religion where we wish it to go, but to follow it where it leads, and not to give that which is our own to our heirs, but to guard that which has been given to us.

—(St. Vincent of Lerina, Notes of a Pilgrim)

DIVINE LITURGY JUNE 28, 2026

“DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM”

THE EPISTLE

((For Fourth Sunday after Pentecost))

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Clap your hands all ye peoples.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (6:18-23)

Brethren, having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:5-13)

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you; many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.