

GOD KNOWS THE PERFECT TIME

Have you ever prayed so feverously, asking God's help in solving a problem, providing for a financial need or healing a physical ailment? Have you ever looked up to the heavens and wondered why it seemed that God was ignoring you, or had abandoned you, especially when you needed Him the most? You are not alone. Most people have felt the same way.

But we must remember that even when we don't sense God's presence, His loving care is always around us. In Psalm 46:10, God says *"Be still, and know that I am God."* The Hebrew word for "still" means to "cease striving." This seems like bad advice, especially when it's human nature to take a difficult situation and try to control it. We feel vulnerable and want an immediate resolution. We feel abandoned when we must wait. But God has specific purposes and plans for us. Rest assured the outcome is in His wise Hands and His timing is always perfect.

During His darkest hour, even Jesus questioned The Father. *"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* (Matt. 27:46). He spoke these words of abandonment in the name of humanity. He sought to put an end to the alienation of mankind from God. But as the Bible tells us, God had a bigger plan. Jesus was crucified and later rose from the dead to save us from sin.

Are you disappointed in the pace of God's plans? Trust in the Lord. When we put our problems into God's Hands, we can rest in God's care.

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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

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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 JULY 19, 2026

TONE 6 / EOTHINON 7

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

APOLYTIKION OF PENTECOST IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

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.

We Celebrate Today

On July 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the **Venerable Macrina**, sister of Basil the Great; and **Venerable Dios of Antioch**.

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in 451 against the Monophysites.

Verses

Shunning opposite errors like the sea monsters Scylla and Charybdis,

The Fathers steer the Church on a straight course to safety.

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ's human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites ("mono", meaning "one" and "physis", meaning "nature"), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense

of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

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, Robert Taylor.

+Birthdays & Anniversaries, July. Haylee Hull Nix (19), Mark & Rebecca Antwine, (21), Nicholas Saway (22), Joy Logue, Jarret & Jori Whitley (23), Claire Griner, Lauren Nosser (24), Taylor Thomas, Marlene Middleton (25), Cynthia Freeny (26), Mattie Sue Antwine (27), Alan Evans (28),

+Holy Bread & Coffee Hour are offered today by the Habeeb family in memory of the handmaid of God Maha.

+40 days Memorial Service. A trisagion prayer for the handmaid of God Maha Habeeb, will be held today.

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

+Antiochian Women. Line Dance Party at Southern Cultural Heritage Center on Wednesday July 22, 2026 from 5:30 to 8:30.

There will be an hour-long tutorial for two different dances (one of which is Greek dance), then 2 hours for the "Dance Party." The Women of St. George will pay the \$10 fee for anyone that would like to participate and the event is for church members family/friends – guys and gals. There will be a concession stand and cash bar. We hope to see you there!! Please respond to this email if you would like to attend, including anyone you have invited. Email Lori west or call if you have any questions. 601-831-1071

The Church Fathers Teach

"And in the fourth holy and great Oecumenical Council, I mean the one at Chalcedon, we are told that it was in this form that the Hymn was sung; for the minutes of this holy assembly so record it. It is, therefore, a matter for laughter and ridicule that this 'Thrice Holy' Hymn, taught us by the angels, and confirmed by the averting of calamity, ratified and established by so great an assembly of the holy Fathers, and sung first by the Seraphim as a declaration of the three subsistence of the Godhead, should be mangled and forsooth emended to suit the view of the stupid Fuller as though he were higher than the Seraphim. But oh! the arrogance! not to say folly! But we say it thus, though demons should rend us in pieces, 'Do Thou, Holy God, Holy and Mighty One, Holy and Immortal One, have mercy upon us.'"

John of Damascene, Orthodox Faith, 10(A.D. 743), in NPNF2, IX:54

DIVINE LITURGY JULY 19, 2026

“DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM”

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Fathers)

*Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O ye righteous.
Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven!*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

The GOSPEL

(For the Holy Fathers)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”