

LEARNING ABOUT GOD? NOT SO FAST!

Have you noticed how obsessed we have become in doing things quickly! We have express lines in supermarkets, express lanes at toll booths — you can even find restaurants with express buffets! From morning to night, we find ourselves rushing around, constantly checking our watches so that we aren't late for our next appointment. It has rightly been said that we are all in a hurry to get nowhere!

There is one area of our lives, however, where our pace needs to slow down a bit, and that is in the practicing of our Faith. Practicing our Faith properly takes time. We cannot rush through our morning and evening prayers and expect to derive any benefit from them. There is no "Reader's Digest" version of the Divine Liturgy and other liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church. Their lengthy and often repetitious hymns have been so constructed to enable us to "lay aside all

earthly cares" and to transport ourselves to a timeless place.

Nowhere is this need to "take our time" spiritually more important than when we read the Sacred Scriptures. The Bible is not a book that lends well to "speed reading!" Its holy books were written centuries ago, and they reflect the culture and values of another era. In studying the Word of God, it is imperative that we take care that we digest every verse so that we fully understand its intended message. In Psalm 119:15, it is written: "I will meditate on Your precepts and contemplate Your ways." What a perfect way to experience the Scriptures: slowly and deliberately.

It's probably too late for us to quit "living life in the fast lane." But it is NOT too late for us to "drive in the slow lane" as we travel the path that leads to the Kingdom of Heaven.

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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.

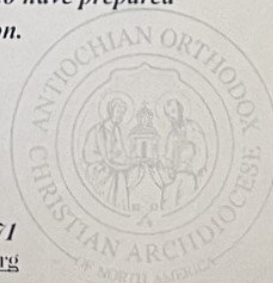
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Email: stgeorge2709@gmail.com web page: www.stgeorgevicksburg.org



In Times of Trouble



It Gives Us Peace

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 SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

TONE 8/ EOTHINON 6

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

APOLYTIKION FOR THE MARTYRS IN TONE FOUR

*(**Be quick to anticipate**)*

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 September 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate holy Martyr **Kallistratos and the holy 49 Martyrs** with him.

Verses

When Kallistratos' neck with a sword was sundered,

He was joined to the Martyrs' triumphant army.

On the twenty-seventh Kallistratos and company were taken up hence.

Kallistratos was a soldier. One night, one of his colleagues caught him praying and reported him to the harsh commander Persentinus. He ordered Kallistratos to offer sacrifice to idols, which Kallistratos immediately refused to do. Then Kallistratos was harshly beaten and thrown into the sea, but God's power preserved him, and he emerged from the sea unharmed. Seeing Kallistratos' endurance and his miracles, 49 soldiers came to believe in Christ the Lord, and they were beaten and thrown into prison along with him. In prison, Kallistratos instructed his

companions in the Faith and encouraged them. They showed great courage in suffering, and the Lord showed great power through them. The wicked torturer sent soldiers to the prison at night, and they slew Kallistratos and the other 49. They suffered for the truth in 304.

On this day, we also commemorate the **Apostles Aristarchos, Zenon and Mark** of the Seventy. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+Healing & Recovery Bishop Nicholas, Fr. Paul, Dea Terry, Kh. Janet, 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, Drew, Robert Taylor, Gregory Thomas, Helen Abraham, Hannah Bonelli, Alan Evans.

+Birthdays & Anniversaries, Sept. Dobie Nosser (28), Mary Grace Mousa (29), Alan & Sandra Evans, Nicholas James Angelo (30).

Oct. Mary Rantisi Mousa, (1), Ann Habeeb, Daniel Habeeb, Christina Smith (2), Leigh Ann Nosser, Evangelia Ioannides (4), Michael Saway, Dorothy Mauro (5), Norma Massey, Bruce Mackay, Gail Lee, Jim Angelo (6), Ellis & Laura Thomas, Charles Moses (7),

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

+Lazarus Account. Has been reestablished to help people in dire need of financial support. If you would like to help, make your donation online, cash or by check to St. George, earmark "Lazarus Fund".

+Upcoming * Fall Festival, Sunday November 1 @ 4pm. We will have a cake walk, bingo, cotton candy and popcorn. Hotdogs, chili and all the fixings will be provided by volunteers and will be cooked in our kitchen. please bring sweets and prizes for bingo.

*** Fall Kibbee Sale, Saturday October 17.**

+ 120th. Anniversary's Celebration for St. George Church. Save the Dates.2

A 3-part series "reflection of our Ancestors"

Wednesday September 30th Wednesday October 21st and Saturday November 14th.

The Church Fathers Teach

A Christian must be courteous to all. His words and deeds should breathe with the grace of the Holy Spirit, which abides in his soul, so that in this way he might glorify the name of God. He who regulates all of his speech also regulates all of his actions. He who keeps watch over the words he is about say also keeps watch over the deeds he intends to do, and he never goes out of the bounds good and benevolent conduct. The graceful speech of a Christian is characterized by delicateness and politeness. This fact, born of love, produces peace and joy. On the other hand, boorishness gives birth to hatred, enmity, affliction, competitiveness, disorder and wars.

(St. Nektarius of Aegina, The Path to Happiness, 7)

DIVINE LITURGY SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

“DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM”

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THE EPISTLE

(For the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them,” says the Lord, “and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the First Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets.” And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.