

REACHING GREAT HEIGHTS

Throughout the course of Church History, there have been many men and women who have done their best to live Christ-like lives. Then there have been some who took things a step beyond what God expects of all of us. One such person was SIMEON THE STYLITE. Simeon was born of peasant parents in Syria in the late 4th century. At an early age, Simeon made the decision to give his life totally to the Lord. He became a monk at 18, immersing himself in unceasing prayer and severe fasting, sometimes lasting 40 days.

Always looking to further perfect his ascetic life, Simeon - at the age of 30 - constructed a 60 foot pillar in the Syrian desert outside of Antioch and made this perch his home. Here he kept a solemn vigil, sometimes standing for days in prayer. Needless to say, Simeon attracted a great deal of attention. People from all walks of life would make a pilgrimage to his pillar, beseeching this remarkable man to help them with their troubles. Many miracles were attributed to the intercession of St. Simeon. There were those who would continually urge him to come down, arguing that he could reach more people as a priest - or even as a bishop. Simeon could not be persuaded to descend from his pillar, maintaining that he had made a vow to the Lord to stay aloft for the rest of his earthly life.

Simeon was to remain on his pillar for some forty years, staying there until his death in 459 AD. His remains were taken to Antioch and placed in a church there that was built in his memory. In life, Simeon the Stylite deprived himself of comfort and pleasure, but in death, he found true joy and happiness in the kingdom of heaven!

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

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

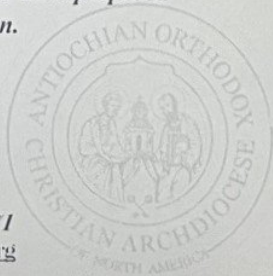
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Church Calendar: Check the Link. <http://www.stgeorgevicksburg.org/service.html>

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 OCTOBER 04, 2026

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 7

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting the life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the heavens cried out to Thee, O Life-giver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom, Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

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 after any meal

We thank thee O Christ our God, that thou hast satisfied us with thine earthly gifts, deprive us not of thy heavenly kingdom; but as thou camest into the midst of thy disciples, O Saviour, and gavest them peace, come also among us and save us. Amen.

We Celebrate Today

On October 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the **Hieromartyr Hierotheos**, bishop of Athens.

Verses

Of old Hierotheos to Thee was consecrated;
Now gone hence, O Word, he hath to Thee been united.
On the fourth dawn, the grave covered Hierotheos.

He was a friend of Dionysios the Areopagite, and received the Christian faith from the Apostle Paul a little after Dionysios. This Apostle later made Hierotheos the first bishop of Athens. At the time of the Dormition of the most holy Mother of God, Hierotheos arrived in Jerusalem, carried by the clouds, and took part in the funeral. With his divine singing, he brought heartfelt joy to many and showed himself to be greatly inspired. He labored greatly for the sake of the Gospel, brought many pagans to the truth, governed his flock well and finally ended a martyr for Christ in the first century.

On this day, we also commemorate the **Hieromartyr Peter of Capitolia** in Syria; and **Martyrs Domnina and her daughters** of Syria. 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, 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, Jim Angelo (6), Ellis & Laura Thomas, Charles Moses (7), Alexandra Tzotzolas (13), Debbie Abraham, Pam Smith, Albert Dornbusch (15), Greg Hull (16), Ali Grace Luke (17), Ann Garrison Thomas (20).

+Holy Bread and Coffee Hour are offered today by Tasos and Anna Ioannides and their families.

+ Prepare and Share. A Potluck branch after the Liturgy, next Sunday Oct. 11. For any question contact Angela Angelo 601-372-6797.

+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 Events:

+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.

A 3-part series "reflection of our Ancestors"

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

The Church Fathers Teach

There is a strange pride which presents itself as the standard of humility. This false humility is almost wholly the product of self-righteous hypocrisy. It is perhaps, indeed, the most transparent kind of false humility—and yet, it is probably the most frequent....

Many find, in their desire to "fit into society," a rather strange basis upon which to accuse others of arrogance. One cannot so boast if he thinks that Orthodoxy rises out of him, not out of God. Such a thought is horribly prideful and those who think thus, proclaiming that out of humility they cannot proclaim their religion to be the true religion, arrogantly deny Orthodox tradition, sadly deny a strong witness to others, and betray themselves as falsely humble. Such ecumenism is not really a form of humble love for others and for their Faith; it is a denial of the Orthodox Faith. It stands nakedly inadequate before the true ecumenism of the Fathers.

Archimandrite [now Archbishop] Chrysostomos
From Humility, Volume I of the "Themes in Orthodox Patristic Psychology" series, pp. 31-36

DIVINE LITURGY OCTOBER 04, 2026

“DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM”

THE EPISTLE

(For the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:6-11)

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the Sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

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THE GOSPEL

(For the Second Sunday of Luke)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: “As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”