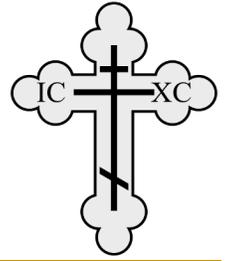




Agape



ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH JUNE 2019

Prayer Chain/Tree and Daily Prayers:

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

In addition to the Saturday evening Prayer Circle, we are adding a couple other ways we can support our parish and one another through prayer.

The first is through a Prayer Chain or Prayer Tree. This is basically a way we can more efficiently help pray for one another in times of immediate need. How does it work? It is pretty simple once all the initial pieces are in place. If someone, for example, has an upcoming surgery or job interview, or has a family member that was in a car accident or is struggling with some great need that they would like prayer for, then they call, text or email the "Lead" person or Fr. Jerry, and this person will start the "chain reaction" of getting these requests to everyone who wants to be involved praying for these needs. We have a volunteer to be this Lead: Noël Elizabeth Sumstine. Upon receiving the initial requests, she will set off the chain and send out an email to those who would like to be alerted of these requests this way. She will also call Bonnie Sollars, who will then either text or call people who have chosen to be alerted in this fashion. If there are too many for Bonnie to call, we will ask for additional volunteers. We are hoping that this will allow us to better support one another prayerfully in our immediate times of need.

Secondly, for those interested, we have made a created a "prayer for the day" that people can tack onto their daily prayers where we will be praying specifically for our parish members and/or ministries. There will be handouts provided with each day's prayer, and if there are specific people involved beyond the obvious, their names will also be included with the specific prayer provided. On Mondays, the prayer is for the Clergy, where we can specifically pray for Fr. Jerry, and other clergy members serving the church. Tuesdays we will remember the children in the parish, Wednesday is for our prison ministry, Thursday is for those sick, Friday for members of the parish and our families or whomever we want to remember, and Saturdays are for the reposed.

We recognize not everyone may want to participate, but if you are interested in being prayed for - especially on Fridays, or you have someone whom you would like remembered either for Thursday's prayers for the sick or Saturday's prayers for the reposed, please let Joanna Jaquette know, or write this down clearly on the sheets that will provided after lunch on Sunday. These names (Please provide baptismal names- just first names are sufficient) will then be put onto lists that people can pick up with the specific prayers.

Metropolitan Athanasios of Cyprus is fond of saying that prayer brings all good things to the soul. Please consider joining us in this important ministry!

Building a Stronger Orthodox Christian Community by: Spiritually growing together; Sharing the Orthodox Faith through fellowship, outreach, and philanthropy; Worshiping in a traditional Byzantine church; Supported through Stewardship

202 Hillview #1 Eugene, Oregon 97408
Phone: (541) 683-3519

Website: www.stgeorgeor.org
Email: frgerasimos@sntgrg.org

Parish Council

Father has challenged parish council members to attend one more activity per week at the church and to bring a friend – you! In that same vein, Stella Kallianis will be encouraging you to bring Orthodoxy into your home through the books available to you in the bookstore.

Steve Tussing is attempting to bring Orthodox students from both Oregon State and the University of Oregon closer to their faith by sharing time together while they are away from home – a critical juncture in their spiritual lives.

The council approved the purchase of new curtains for the Deacon's doors and Royal Doors. It also approved the professional painting of the doors on the west side of the building and the addition of another handicapped parking space.

The parish has added an Instagram page, and Steve continues to work on upgrading our church computer in a cost-effective way.

The parish has donated 159 pounds of food to Food for Lane County thus far in 2019.

Philia suggested profits from the Greek dinner go to the various ministries of the parish – excluding Philia; profits from the GyroFest go to Philia; and profits from the bake sale and Kafenion go to the building fund.

The suggestion was brought forth as a motion and passed unanimously.

A basketball hoop is being put up in the parking lot for our youth. Thank you Jaquettes!

For safety reasons, the council is asking children under ten not be left unsupervised in the playroom. Please bring them to the Nave to participate in the services.

At the very least, bring them to the Narthex where there are speakers and glass through which they can observe the services.

Father informed the council Emily Kaelin will be leaving in August to attend graduate school at Arizona State. Thank you, Emily, for all the things you've done for the parish. You will be missed.

Father will be out of town June 17 to June 21.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Our annual Gyrofest will be Sunday, July 21, after church. Please tell your family and friends to join us!

Pres. Maria

OUR STEWARDSHIP OFFERING

Our giving to the Church should be obvious, for everything we have comes from the Lord. God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. Nothing exists or comes into our possession apart from God. Our offerings should serve as a symbol of our thanksgiving to God. When we forget this important truth, we are also likely to forget about God. The result will be a truly false sense of self-reliance. When Christ came in the fullness of time, He did not abolish the Law and Prophets; He fulfilled them (Mt.5:17). He not only fulfilled the Old Covenant, but He established a New Covenant. In the Old Testament, we know that the commandment was to tithe. In the New Testament, Jesus does not directly address tithing. Instead, he points to a widow who is seen giving two copper coins in the Temple treasury. Jesus uses this widow as an example of giving to His disciples. She didn't just give ten percent; she gave everything she had! "And He called His disciples to Him, and said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living.'" (Mk.12:43-44).

This is the spirit of sacrificial giving that our Lord holds up as the most perfect way to give. Of course, not everyone is able to give away everything when they walk into church. We have responsibilities that require us to manage our money and be wise to meet the needs of our families. There is, however, an important principle derived from the example of the widow. Jesus is trying to illustrate for us a spirit of giving which teaches us to depend on Him; to remember He is the Giver of all good things; to be free from greed; and to become grateful and cheerful givers of our first and our best.

Treasurer's Report:

Operations Balance: \$50,788.

Dedicated Funds Balance: \$25,523.

Please note there is still some income forthcoming from the Greek dinner. There are also some expenses yet to reconciled at this time.

Missions and Evangelism report Christ is Risen!

Thank you so much for all the help with the Blessing Bags which we were able to distribute during Lent. I hope many of you were able to “bless” someone in need with one or more of the bags. I heard from many parishioners that they had positive responses when they gave individuals the bags. Hopefully we can do it again next year. As a side note, there are still a few bags available so if you’d like to “bless” someone still, please contact me.

Missions Possible is well underway and we have collected over \$1600! Glory to God! We will be continuing the collections until Pentecost. Please contribute in one of the boxes in the fellowship hall. One easy way to give: add some funds when you receive one of the espresso coffees that Michael is now able to make for us on Sunday mornings.

I want to let you all know about a recent podcast on Ancient Faith that is very relevant to Missions. It is a three part presentation by Dr. Nathan Jacobs to the clergy at the OCA Midwest conference this May. His topic is “The Nones and Dones”. He defines the groups and also explains how Orthodoxy is particularly well positioned to reach the Nones especially. A None is someone who doesn’t have any relationship with a religious faith and is generally 20-30 years of age. It’s very fascinating. Please go to ancientfaith.com and scroll to the bottom of the home page and look for Reaching the Nones and Dones.

Have a wonderful summer—Your sister in the journey, Kathryn Becker

Greetings from the Bookstore!

Summer is on its way, and the days will be warmer, longer, and hopefully, less hectic. Here are some book highlights for your summer reading. I hope you can enjoy them.

The Gurus, the Young Man, and Elder Paisios (Dionysios Farasiotis). Popular in Greece since its first publication in 2001, this book is a narrative of both outward adventures and inner struggles. What stands out most in this book is the radiant image of Elder Paisios, possessed of divine gifts, laboring in prayer for his fellow man, and overflowing with unconditional love for his fellow man. Through this, one sees the uncreated Source of the elder's love and the author's spiritual transformation.

An Inner Step Toward God; Writing and Teachings on Prayer by Father Alexander Men. Available for the first time in English, this collection of Father Alexander Men's prayers, teachings, and writing on prayer center on the theme of taking "an inner step of faith" toward God. Many topics are covered including prayer as a loving response to God, the body and prayer, prayer as a sacramental encounter, meditation in prayer, and exercises that may enhance prayer.

Special Agents of Christ. A Prayer Book for Young Orthodox Saints. This prayer book was written by the author of the popular teen prayer book *Hear Me* especially for young teens. *Special Agents of Christ* serves as a "training manual" to prepare children for serving in Christ in the real world, with sections for daily prayers, prayers for life's challenges, preparations for confession, and much more.

And for your safe travels during the Summer, the Bookstore has travel and car icons, and prayer cards, books, and bracelets. Wherever your travels take you this summer, "do not forget prayer, it is the life of the soul."

Wishing you many blessings and much peace. In Christ, Stella Kallianis

CARE MINISTRY

Need meals during an emergency or time of illness? Would like a visit in the hospital, care center, or at home? Need emergency transportation or emergency child care? Need support during difficult situations or time of grief? The Care Ministry Team is available to assist parishioners at these times.

Blessings, Gloria Zezeas-Timmons, Care Ministry Coordinator

PHILIA

"An Evening in Greece", May's fundraising dinner event was deemed a success. "Thank you" to all who attended and helped to make it happen. Graduations are in full swing for both kids and grownups. To celebrate Heather's, Philia is planning to take her out to dinner in mid-June. Then in July it'll be the Gyro-Fest, a low-keyed fundraiser which as the name implies, is devoted to gyros. We hope you will all join us for tasty food and camaraderie.

Plans for the future:

- Community Court Lunches - June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20.
- Gyro Fest - July 21st

For info on wedding or baptismal items contact Gloria at 541-424-0575 or via email at zezeastimons@gmail.com. And if interested in Rada cutlery and products please ask Julie.

Next meetings: June 9, 2019 & July 14, 2019

Reminder: Philia is a philanthropic organization open to ALL women in the parish. Come and join us! We could always use helping hands and helpful minds.

Julie Lenkoff, Philia Coordinator

Prison Ministry Update:

Christ is Risen!

For the past several years, Fr. Jerry, along with other volunteers, and myself, have been providing a Bible Study for a group of men at Oregon State Penitentiary. We are reading through the gospels using the different commentaries by St. Theophylact, discussing questions as we go along. During Lent this year we covered several sections of Fr. Alexander Schmemmann's book, Great Lent. As most of these men have limited experience with Orthodoxy, they enjoyed learning more about the themes of Great Lent, and how it helps prepare us for the celebration of Christ's resurrection. They all received their Pascha cards, and thank everyone for remembering them. Hopefully we can do this at each major holiday.

One of the biggest challenges in being in prison is being "forgotten" by those on the "outside". Letters and cards are a great way to help those encourage those who are incarcerated, and has been shown to reduce recidivism or repeat incarceration. The Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) has a helpful set of guidelines for becoming penpals and helping people, as Hebrews 13:3 says, "Remember those in prison..." If you would like to write to one of these men, each of them would appreciate it. Several expressed interest in having a pen-pal, and most will write back as they are able. It is not always easy to afford paper, envelopes and stamps, but they appreciate hearing from people regardless.

"I received your beautiful "Happy Easter" card and wanted to thank everyone for the kind and thoughtful gesture." Nicolas

Please see Fr. Jerry for more information on becoming a pen-pal, or on volunteering at the Bible study. Personally, volunteering at OSP is a highlight of my month.

Joanna Jaquette

From the Missions...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ ~
 During Holy Week, we walked a spiritual journey from death to life. In May, that journey was lived out in three meaningful events at Holy Cross. We mourned with Cynthia and Joe Galaktionoff at the passing away of their son, Michael. At the funeral Father reminded us that though we do go through times of Lamentation, we don't stay in that place but rather look forward to the rejoicing in the Resurrection. This was reinforced as we celebrated the 40 day Memorial Prayers and a luncheon on behalf of the repose of Jo Ann Kluge, who along with Cynthia was a founder of Holy Cross. The seeds that they planted in Faith have borne fruit, most recently evidenced by the first Baptism in our upstairs Chapel! On May 11 Steve and Pam Gray entered the Church, taking the names Benedict (St Benedict of Nursia) and Martha (St. Martha of Bethany). May they live for us! Thank you for your prayers for Holy Cross, Roseburg!
 In Christ ~ Lisa Buck

**Greetings from the Salem Mission,
 Christ is Risen!**

We are exceedingly grateful for the work of Metropolitan Gerasimos, Thomaida Hudanish, Fr. Jerry, Lisa Buck, and the entire Missions and Evangelism Ministry Team. Their focus to help grow Orthodoxy in America is very much appreciated as we seek to grow Orthodoxy in Oregon, and specifically in Salem. We are all excited to see new people coming through the doors to learn more about the Church, experience the life of the church through the services and becoming acquainted with the community, and grow in their faith. It is such a blessing and encouragement to see people finding their spiritual home in our local communities. The Mochas for Missions campaign is a great opportunity and reminder for all of us to participate in investing in the work of growing Orthodox Christianity, and we stand in awe of our Lord as He blesses every effort, small and great.

Thank you for your prayers!
 Maria Hauser

June Celebrations**Birthdays**

June 8th-James Stephenson
June 9th-Paras Markopoulos
June 16th-Larisa Lilles
June 18th-Julie Rundt
June 21st-Aftasie Doran

Feast Days

June 3rd-St Kevin
 Kevin Kaelin

Wedding Anniversaries

June 6th-Bill & Lisa Lilles
June 15th-John & Georgia Lallas
June 27th-Mark & Maria Hauser

Baptized in Christ/Chrismated

June 14th-John Timmons
June 26th-Lester & Debi Wilson

Many Years! Chronia Polla!

News and Events

What's New!

- **First Saturday Breakfast:** The dates of the First Saturday Breakfast in June are: Food prep on Friday, May 31st and the breakfast on Saturday, June 1st. Many hands make for light work so please lend us yours!
- **Missions Possible:** Our 2019 Missions Possible campaign, that supports the Missions and Evangelism efforts of our parish and Metropolis, wraps up on Sunday, June 16th. Please make sure to turn in your donation boxes and make your contribution to our effort by then. Thanks for your support!
- **Tuesday schedule:** The schedule for Tuesday evenings has been changed. There will be Readers Vespers each Tuesday evening at 6 pm, followed by an Inquirer/Adult Education class at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!
- **Ascension:** Please join us for the divine services for the feast of Ascension beginning with Great Vespers on Wednesday, June 5th, at 6 pm, and followed by Orthros & Divine Liturgy on Thursday, June 6th, beginning at 9 am.
- **Saturday of Souls:** There will be Orthros, Divine Liturgy and Memorial Prayers on Saturday, June 15th, beginning at 9 am, for the Saturday of Souls before Pentecost. Please join us for the divine services and remember to bring Koliva and a list of names of departed Orthodox for commemoration.
- **Pentecost:** The feast of Pentecost falls on Sunday, June 16th. **Orthros and Divine Liturgy will begin one-hour earlier on that day** and be followed by the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost. A special luncheon will take place after the divine services.
- **Father Jerry's absence:** Father Jerry will be out of the office and out of town, June 17th-21st.. If you have an emergency and need a priest, please contact St John the Wonderworker Serbian Orthodox Church and Fr John Suvak.
- **Monastery Feastday:** With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, and spiritual Father of the Holy Monastery Geronda Ephraim, you are cordially invited to celebrate with us the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Forerunner, Sunday, June 23rd for Great Vespers & Orthros, and Monday, June 24th, for Divine Liturgy followed by lunch.
- **Arbor Day Foundation:** We thank Jan Schmidt for planting two trees in honor of our parish!
- **St John Family Camp:** Registration is now open for the 2019 St John Family Camp program. The dates of the program this year are: Sunday, July 28th to Friday, August 2nd. For more information visit the website of St John the Wonderworker Serbian Orthodox Church.
- **Monastery Trip:** Lisa, Adrienne, and Bonni are visiting the monastery in Goldendale, WA July 12-14. If you are interested in joining us please let us know soon. The sisters would like to know how many of us to expect. Please let us know if you have any questions!
- **Young Adult Conference:** The Metropolis of San Francisco announces a Young Adult Conference, Labor Day Weekend, August 29th-September 2nd. Young Adults, ages 18-35, are invited for a weekend of worship and fellowship, engaging workshops, inspiring speakers, community service and time at the beach. For more information, visit <https://sanfran.goarch.org/events>.

CARE NOTE: People are like stained glass windows. They sparkle when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

KOINONIA

	6/2	6/9	6/16	6/23	6/30
FELLOWSHIP	Creech	Kaelin	Pentecost Luncheon	Payne	Jaquette
GREETER	Stella	Helen S	John & Gloria	Jerry R	Larisa
PROSFORON	Creech	Lilles	Kaelin	Strand	Markopoulos
FLOWERS	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
READERS	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas
CLEANING CREW	6/1 Kaelin	6/8 Sollars	6/15 Open	6/22 Open	6/29 Julie & Adrienne

GET INVOLVED!!!

Look through this list of organizations, programs, and ministries at our parish, then call the contact person and get involved!!!

PARISH COUNCIL	Neal Zoumboulos 541-344-4485
SAFETY COMMITTEE	Gloria Zezeas Timmons 541-484-0575
BOOKSTORE	Stella Kallianis 541-274-9110
PHILIA WOMEN'S GROUP	Julie Lenkoff 541-345-2107
CHURCH SCHOOL	Ann Marie Kaelin 541-335-1331
CHANTER/CHANT GROUP	Brad Thomas 541-689-9690, Ann Marie Kaelin 541-335-1331
FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN	Art Mehas 541-485-8671
FELLOWSHIP	Bonnie Sollars 541-852-9496
STEWARDSHIP	Neal Zoumboukos 541-344-4485
GREETERS	Larisa Lilles 541-484-7525
CARE MINISTRY	Gloria Zezeas Timmons 541-484-0575
PRAYER CIRCLE	Bonnie Sollars 541-852-9496
MISSIONS & EVANGELISM	Kathryn Becker 971-506-7161
FUNDRAISERS	Presbytera Maria 971-678-5112

^{ies}
Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
202 Hillview 1
Eugene, OR 97408-5018

Ways to share the Good News!

- Ask a coworker to coffee
- Invite a coworker to your house
- Put people on your prayer list
- Share a church post on Facebook
 - Write an old friend
 - Text an old friend
- Buy a friend flowers, attach an icon to it
 - Buy an icon for a friend
- Go to a monastery, invite a friend
- Ask a neighbor to come over for dinner
 - Write out your testimony
- Buy gift cards for local food places like Subway, McDonald's and hand them to people in need.
 - Wear an Orthodox Cross and be ready to explain what it is.
 - Add a prayer for missions/evangelism to your daily prayer routine.
 - Grab a bunch of church 'business' cards and commit to always having one on hand.
- Write a short sentence answering the question, 'Why do you go to Church'. Practice it, so you can speak with boldness when asked that question.
 - Practice smiling (with your eyes as well as your mouth) at people who look very different than you!
 - Do the "fresh eyes" experiment of seeing the parish as though you're arriving for the first time
 - Watch a video--you can suggest a specific one--about Orthodoxy
- Review the information that your parish website offers to guests. Note all the questions or thoughts that you have as you do these things and discuss them with your priest or others!