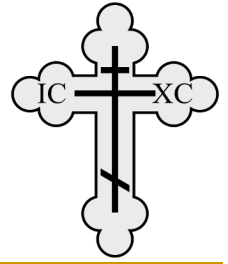




Agape



ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MAY 2019

Catechetical Homily for Pascha by St John Chrysostom

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Whosoever is a devout lover of God, let him enjoy this beautiful bright Festival. And whosoever is a grateful servant, let him joyously enter into the joy of his Lord. And if any be weary with fasting, let him now receive his reward. If any has toiled from the first hour, let him receive his just debt. If any came after the third, let him gratefully celebrate. If any arrived after the sixth, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. If any have delayed to the ninth, let him come without hesitation. If any arrived only at the eleventh hour, let him not be afraid by reason of his delay; for the Master is gracious and receives the last, even as the first. He gives rest to him, who arrives at the eleventh hour, as well as to him, who has labored from the first. He is merciful to the one who delays, and nourishes the first. He gives also to the one, and to the other He is gracious. He accepts the works, as he greets the endeavor. He honors the deed, and the intent He commends.

Let all of you then enter into the joy of our Lord. The first and second enjoy your reward. Your rich and poor, rejoice together. You temperate and you heedless, honor the day. You who fasted, and you who did not, rejoice today. The Table is richly laden. All of you, fare sumptuously on it. The calf is a fatted one; let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith. All of you enjoy the riches of His goodness. Let no one grieve poverty; for the universal Kingdom has been revealed. Let no one grieve over sins; for forgiveness has dawned from the tomb. Let no one fear death; for the Death of our Saviour has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it. He despoiled Hades, when He descended thereto. He embittered it, having tasted of His flesh. Isaiah foretold this when he cried out: "You, O Hades, have been embittered by encountering him below." It was embittered, / - for it was abolished. It was embittered, / - for it was mocked. It was embittered, / - for it was slain. It was embittered, / - for it was annihilated. It was embittered, / - for it is now made captive. It took a body, and, lo, it discovered God. It took earth and, behold! It encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ Is Risen, / and You are annihilated. Christ Is Risen, / and the demons have fallen. Christ Is Risen, / and the Angels rejoice. Christ Is Risen, / and life is liberated. Christ Is Risen, / and the tomb is emptied of dead; for Christ, having risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who fall asleep.

To Him be the glory and the dominion to the Ages of Ages. Amen.

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

Christ is Risen!

The Emergency Response Plan and Safety Guidelines were presented. After much discussion, it was suggested that the reports be condensed and any material not pertinent to Saint George be removed. Liability factors were also discussed. The council expressed much appreciation to Gloria Timmons and Michael Creech for their efforts in putting these documents together. Highlights of the reports were to be presented at the April parish assembly. The bids for painting the west doors was greater than anticipated and additional bids are being sought.

The council had viewed the presentations made by Father Evan Armatas at the clergy-laity conference. Father Armatas has suggested various ways to gauge the health of a parish, and the council is looking into several of his suggestions to improve Saint George. Ministry heads will be asked to view the presentations as well.

Our parish is growing in positive ways!

Saint George Stewardship Committee

CHRIST IS RISEN and His flock continues to grow.

We now have forty-nine stewards offering \$173,500 for the ministries of Saint George. In addition, we have ten "free will" members who have not filled out a stewardship card but are giving on a regular basis. Thanks be to God!

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are having our annual Evening in Greece Dinner on May 11th. We are expecting a full house and lots of fun. All reservations have been accepted.

Thanks to all who are helping put on this wonderful event.

Our next fundraiser will be the Gyrofest, July 21st.

Presbytera Maria

Treasurer's Report:

Balances as of April 29th:

Operations Balance \$54,619

Dedicated Funds Balance \$23,635

Missions and Evangelism Ministry

Christos Anesti!

Now that we have finished our Lenten journey, we can perhaps direct our hearts more towards missions again. The Missions Possible campaign has been underway and continues through Pentecost. Our goal again this year is \$2000 and we have approximately \$500 so far, about 1/4 of the way!

The campaign helps support the six mission parishes in our Metropolis, three of which we have a connection to:

1. The Mission in Salem – which our own Father Jerry and pastoral assistant Steve Tussing serve. The parish there is making a concerted effort to pay off their property loan so they can make plans to build. How exciting is that?!
2. Holy Cross in Roseburg – where Father Jerry also serves. Their community is still growing and needs our prayers and support.
3. Lastly, the Mission in Lake Havasu City, Arizona has a familiar face to many of us – Father Timothy Pavlatos! Since relocating back to Arizona this last year, Father is now helping this mission 1-2 Sundays/month. I was fortunate to make friends with their parish council president during the Clergy/Laity conference this spring. This parish now has their own space and is currently trying to furnish it!

So, when you have opportunity to set aside some extra money that you may normally use for that latte or special treat, think of our brothers and sisters in Christ in these mission parishes that need our support – both financially and prayerfully. You can write a check with Missions Possible in the memo line or take one of the boxes in the fellowship hall home. Fill it up and return!

Thank you so much!

Truly He Is Risen! Kathryn Becker

Greetings from the Bookstore!

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

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(Excerpt from "Truly Risen," Life Transfigured, A Journal of Orthodox Nuns, Orthodox Monastery of the

Transfiguration, Pascha 2019)

O, God of Light, we thank You for Christ, Your Own Sacrifice, and His Holy Mother, Who prays all Mankind - forgiven by Him - will forgive and love one another! Truly Risen. Amen.

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

**PHILIA**

In April, Philia held another successful fundraiser, just in time for our Easter. A big thank you to Gloria who headed the baking of the Tsoureki, and to all who helped in its production as well as in the purchase of this tasty Greek Easter bread.

A reminder that The Evening in Greece, a dinner event at St. George is coming up on May 11. If you are interested in attending, please fill out a reservation form soon. Flyers and order forms are located in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions please contact Julie or Pres.

Also, please be aware that there are people in our parish who are allergic to peanuts. To avoid issues, it is recommended that you refrain from bringing any food items that contain nuts.

- Plans for the future:
- Evening in Greece - May 11 at 6:30 (reservations required)
- Community Court Lunches - June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20.

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

**Next meetings: May 5th (since May 12 is Mother's Day) and June 9, 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

The icon of the Resurrection explained:

We shall try here to point out the main features of the Orthodox icon which is entitled "The Descent into Hell". The first thing to note is that it depicts the results of the event of the Resurrection for people and for the world.

Christ, in the centre, is wearing shining white garments and is within a mandorla. He is holding the hands of Adam and Eve and raising them from death, into which they were brought by their erroneous choice in Paradise. With this action, which is dynamic (we might almost say explosive) our attention immediately focuses on the central meaning of the scene: "and raising Adam up with Himself", the Salvation of humankind. It is significant that both are emerging from tombs.

Christ is standing firmly on two pieces of wood lying in such a way as to form a cross. These are the gates of Hell, which Christ demolished through the grace of His cross. With death, they closed, but were not powerful enough to hold Him in thrall. All around, there are broken and now useless bits of locks and chains which, until then had sealed off any escape route from Hell. Below all this there is the blackness of Hell, which, until the Resurrection was the end of the road for humankind.

To the left and right of Christ stand people who had lived on earth before Him. All turn to Him in expectation of their salvation. Among them there is, first, Saint John the Baptist, and also the prophets and the righteous of the Old Testament, such as the Prophet King David.

At the rear of the composition there are hills, which, in some depictions feature representations of prophets (e.g. David and Jonas), who had foretold the mighty event of the Resurrection. They are holding scrolls with their prophecies written upon them.

In conclusion, we would mention the white raiment worn by Christ, which symbolizes the joy of the Resurrection and prefigures our own Resurrection, which will follow.

## From the Missions... Christ is Risen!

Thank you, brothers and sisters in Christ, for your hospitality to Holy Cross this past week. We had 20 from Roseburg at the Pascha service, and we went home with a renewed vision for increasing services at our humble parish in the future. We cannot achieve this without your prayers, and we are grateful for your continued prayers, encouragement, and mentoring. We are also excited to see your vibrant support of the Missions Possible campaign! We have directly benefitted from the programs that this campaign makes possible, and strongly feel the Metropolis' Missions and Evangelism Ministry is a key partner in the growth of Orthodoxy in the West. As Father urged us in his Paschal homily, we have been given a great gift, and now we must go share the good news of Christ's glorious Resurrection!

Truly, He is Risen! ~ Lisa Buck, Holy Cross, Roseburg

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

Greetings from the Salem Mission,

We are rejoicing with Dan Lute who was received into the Church at St. George on Holy Saturday. He chose to take the name of the holy and righteous Prophet - King David. Glory to God!

We are overwhelmingly grateful to God and his servant Fr. Alban, as we celebrated a new level of fullness of services throughout Great Lent and Holy Week and our second Pascha at the Salem Mission. The leadership and teamwork of every faithful member of the parish is a beautiful blessing as all the details for services and events come together. This year we decided to have our Agape-Pascha Potluck at Bush Park, and God granted a beautiful afternoon together.

We send our love and prayers to everyone at St. George on your parish feast day also!

Truly He is Risen!  
Maria Hauser

## May Celebrations Birthdays

May 2nd-Michael Buck  
May 7th-Andrew Lilles  
May 10th-Michael Becker  
May 13th-Neal Zoumboukos  
May 14th-Elena Kokkino  
May 15th-Michelle Creech  
May 17th-Ben Hauser  
May 19th-Kay Mehas  
May 20th-Art Mehas  
May 25th-Maria Hauser  
May 27th-Jason Taylor  
May 30th-Brad Thomas

## Feast Days

May 8th-St Emilia  
Emily Kaelin  
May 21st-SS. Constantine & Helen  
Elena Kokkino, Lisa Lilles, Eliana Hauser  
May 23rd-Holy Myrrbearer Mary  
Maria Hauser

## Wedding Anniversaries

May 17th-John & Gloria Timmons  
May 19th-Art & Kay Mehas  
May 24th-Jerry & Joanie Rundt

## Baptized in Christ/Chrismated

May 29th-Michael Creech

Many Years! Chronia Polla!

## News and Events

**What's New!**

- **First Saturday Breakfast:** The dates of the First Saturday Breakfast in May are: Food prep on Friday, May 3rd and the breakfast on Saturday, May 4th. Many hands make for light work so please lend us yours!
- **Reclaiming the Great Commission:** In early April over 20 lay leaders from our parishes, (Eugene,, Salem and Roseburg) came together to watch and discuss the four presentations Fr Evan Armatas did at this year's Metropolis Clergy Laity Assembly. In the near future, we will offer the presentations again, for ministry leaders, ministry team members, and anyone else interested in learning more about how parish health positions a parish to reclaim the Great Commission. Be on the lookout for the announcement!
- **"Thank You":** We thank our choir and acolytes for their service throughout the year but especially for Great Lent and Holy Week. Special thanks also to Lisa Lilles for coordinating the Pancake Breakfast; our Parish Council for hosting the Palm Sunday Luncheon; Katharine Drakatos for coordinating the flowers; Pete Drakatos for preparing the delicious Avgolemeno soup and Lamb; Lisa Buck for coordinating the egg-dyeing; Liana Creech for coordinating another successful Egg Hunt; Julie Lenkoff for organizing additional readers for the AGAPE Vespers service; and all of you who donated funds to cover our unbudgeted Pascha expenses. (Please forgive me if I forgot to mention you)
- **Pascha Challenge:** One of the barriers to parish health and therefore parish growth here at St George is that most people in the parish only show up to church for Divine Liturgy on Sunday. If that describes you, you are hereby challenged to get to church one extra time per week. Your choices are: Bible Study on Tuesday evenings at 6 pm or Thursday mornings at 10 am; Adult Ed class on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm; Great Vespers on Saturday evenings at 6 pm; or Orthros on Sunday mornings at 8:50 am. In order to grow in the likeness of Christ and for your own emotional and spiritual health, I encourage you to accept the challenge!
- **Baptized in Christ:** On Holy Saturday we received into the Church: Andrew Pirrello (Neal Zoumboukos, sponsor), Dustin (Cornelius) Payne (Germanus Strand, sponsor), Reuben (Vladimir) Avalos, Gabriel Avalos, Zephaniah (George) Avalos, and baby Reuben (Vladimir) Avalos, (Mark Lipson, sponsor), Jamie (Maria) Avalos, Rachel-Leah Avalos, and Isabela (Mary) Avalos (Joan Rundt, sponsor). May they live for us!
- **Missions Possible:** Our Missions Possible campaign continues this month as we continue to raise funds to support the Missions and Evangelism efforts of our parish and Metropolis. Your donations also support our own missions parishes in Salem and Roseburg.
- **Wild about Education:** Agia Sophia Academy's 15th Anniversary Gala will take place on Saturday, June 1st, from 5-9 pm, at the Oregon Zoo. Come celebrate International Children's Day with special guest, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos. Festivities include: Cocktail Reception, Live Auction, Paddle Raise Dinner, and a VIP Giraffe Feeding Experience. For reservations or more information, visit the website of the event at [www.asagala.com](http://www.asagala.com).

# KOINONIA

|                      | 5/5                         | 5/12                 | 5/19          | 5/26            |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>FELLOWSHIP</b>    | Hermela                     | Potluck              | Payne         | Mehas           |  |
| <b>GREETER</b>       | Stella                      | Helen S              | John & Gloria | Jerry R         |  |
| <b>PROSFORON</b>     | Creech                      | Lilles               | Kaelin        | Strand          |  |
| <b>FLOWERS</b>       | OPEN                        | OPEN                 | OPEN          | OPEN            |  |
| <b>READERS</b>       | Brad Thomas                 | Brad Thomas          | Brad Thomas   | Brad Thomas     |  |
| <b>CLEANING CREW</b> | 5/4<br>Thomas<br>Zoumboukas | 5/11<br>Greek Dinner | 5/18<br>Open  | 5/25<br>Sollars |  |
|                      |                             |                      |               |                 |  |

## GET INVOLVED!!!

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

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

<sup>ies</sup>  
Saint George Greek Orthodox Church  
202 Hillview 1  
Eugene, OR 97408-5018

### **A good word...**

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship, the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One! We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, and Thy Holy Resurrection we praise and glorify; for Thou art our God, and we know no other than Thee; we call on Thy name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's Holy Resurrection! For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His Resurrection. By enduring the Cross for us, He destroyed death by death!