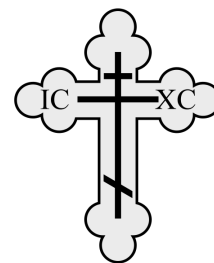




Agape



ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH NOV. 2018

Stewards of the Faith

Having faith can be difficult. Keeping faith in the face of doubt is the ongoing struggle of every Christian since the earliest days of Christianity. Thomas the Apostle, will forever be remembered as “Doubting Thomas” because he doubted the first reports of the Resurrected Christ.

Faith is our trust in God. Faith is our trust that He watches over us and has a plan for us. Living with the uncertainty of daily life requires faith. Uncertainty also invites doubt. But doubt does not indicate a lack of faith. As theologian and philosopher Paul Tillich has written, “Doubt is not the opposite of faith; it is one element of faith.” Doubt is a part of our journey of faith. We need to face our doubt honestly and directly. Faith is often accompanied by struggle with doubt. But doubt can also lead us to a greater faith.

Stewardship of our faith in Jesus Christ calls us to do those things that protect and strengthen the faith that lies within us. Taking time to learn about our Orthodox Christian Faith, praying to God for understanding and guidance, and worshiping with others as the Body of Christ – all these things protect and strengthen our faith. Faith is not a big rule book of “dos and don’ts.” It is about loving and seeing Jesus Christ in others. Stewardship of our faith in Jesus Christ calls us to do those things that reflect our faith to others, living our faith through our actions. There is no better way to share the faith that lies within us than to see Jesus Christ in others and to love and care for them.

Research has shown that as Christians we seek three things from church: Transcendence, Significance and Fellowship. Transcendence is to know God and to experience His presence. This we do through prayerful participation in Liturgy and the sacraments. Significance is the desire to have a purpose – to do something meaningful – most often in service to our fellow man. Fellowship is connecting with others through meaningful relationships. The Church offers opportunities for Transcendence, Significance and Fellowship, and in their pursuit, we also serve and support the Church and fully become members of the Body of Christ. To be stewards of the faith we are also called to be stewards of our local church which nurtures our faith and the faith of others. Stewardship is an act of faith. When we believe, stewardship follows. Stewardship is faith in action; action motivated by humble gratitude to God for his blessings in our life.

We begin our 2019 Stewardship Campaign this month and ask you to think about stewardship as an act of faith. As an act of faith and trust in God. As an act of faith and trust in God’s plan for our parish. It will be difficult at times to have faith and trust. There will be times of doubt and uncertainty. But we should remember that, “All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ”, and trust that God will continue to bless the good work begun here many years ago. Please prayerfully consider your stewardship commitment for 2019 and return your pledge card by the end of November. Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

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**Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,**

Thank you for your attendance and participation in our Fall Parish Assembly. It is the hope of the Parish Council that it was informative for those that attended. This was also our first Assembly where we have sent out the Assembly reports ahead of time to give all a chance to look over everything and have a better understanding of what is taking place during the Assembly. We will continue to do so for future Assemblies. Further this time of year has us putting together a budget for next year and seeking nominations for Parish Council elections. For our budget we're looking to make more of an investment in our ministries and evangelism efforts. By spreading the word of God, Jesus Christ, to our whole community & becoming a more active part of it we will grow as a parish. Parish Council is an opportunity to serve the entirety of the Parish in a leadership role to guide our Parish during our terms and impact the direction for the future beyond them. We're fortunate that our Parish has been able to avoid church political divisions, & make decisions through consensus. It has been a blessing as President that I've never had to cast a tiebreaking vote, as we've never been in that situation. This makes for a fruitful service as council members. Further we are taking a slightly different approach to recruiting candidates, & seek nominations of candidates to gain more candidates. As well as ensuring that no one feels forced or obligated beyond their term. We hope to foster a Parish Council where all qualified stewards, including young adults, take a chance to serve on the Parish Council, rotating through responsibilities & mentoring those developing as leaders.

Greg Sebastian, President

STEWARDSHIP 2019

The new year is only two months away. With the beginning of a new calendar year, we are asked to renew and embrace our stewardship of Saint George. Stewardship is not an obligation or dues. It is an expression of our faith. We must recognize everything we as parishioners and clergy have emanates from God - our very lives, our health and well-being, and all of our worldly possessions. In acknowledgement of this, we are asked to give of our time, talents and treasure (the three T's) as thanks to God. 2019's stewardship theme

is "Stewards of the Faith." Take a few minutes to read this year's tri-fold brochure and be energized and committed to the mission of the church. Please give prayerful consideration to your 2019 "thanksgiving." Stewardship cards and the aforementioned brochures are available in the Narthex. The completed cards can be placed in the "Stewardship" box also located in the Narthex. Please make every effort to return your card by December 2nd.

Saint George Stewardship Committee**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Our committee is preparing for our largest fundraiser - the Annual Bake Sale & Craft Fair. It will be held Dec., 8 & 9. We are asking for volunteers to help make cookies. Baking days are: Nov. 12 & 14 and the Sunday after Thanksgiving we will make baklava. Many hands are needed, so please talk to Julie or Presv. Maria if you can help.

Also, if you would like to show your handmade crafts, please see Julie about reserving a table for the event.

If anyone would like to donate ingredients for our baking sessions, please see Pete Drakatos or Presv. Maria.

Thank you!

Presbytera Maria

Greetings from the Bookstore!

The Bookstore can be a great way to generate extra revenue that can be used to fund the other ministries. It provides outreach to visitors in the way of offering materials to familiarize them with the Orthodox faith. As well as offering those that are already Orthodox reading materials to help them deepen their understanding and faith.

Thank you for your continued support of the Bookstore!

In Christ,
Cassandra Batterson

Greetings from the Missions and Evangelism Ministry Team:

Since moving here, I have been trying to get a feel for what St. George has done in the past and what we might want to do in the future to increase the overall visibility of St. George and Orthodoxy in the area. Recently we have been blessed to be part of a Metropolis wide survey and project for evangelism with 3 other parishes. We meet every few weeks via video conference calls led by Thomaida. These meetings are very inspiring and have helped us formulate a few ideas. Our ministry team is currently very small with Kathryn, Father Jerry, Greg Sebastian and Gloria Timmons being the main group. The M&E ministry also supports the welcome committee, bookstore and outreach events, therefore the heads of those ministries (Larissa Lilles and Stella Kallianis) are also informally part of the group. We definitely encourage others with a heart for evangelism to become part of our group. We are trying to meet monthly (third Sunday) after Liturgy.

Some of the projects that have occurred/will occur are:

1. A successful Missions Possible campaign.
2. As part of the In-reach and Adult education, Father has begun our adult education on knowing our faith after Liturgy.
3. With Steve Tussing being part of the ministry team with Father, we hope to increase educational opportunities for college students and perhaps the community, as well.
4. We are having a cross made to install on top of our sign on Coburg to increase our visibility.
5. We have asked to have the M&E ministry be part of the budget as a line item.
6. We will be making new Welcome packets that have been designed by the Metropolis and customizable for each individual parish.
7. Future outreach events to be determined. (My understanding is that the parish has done a variety of outreach events over the years and I hope to perhaps do a survey to determine which areas parishioners are most interested in pursuing in the future).

Please feel free to contact me with any ideas or questions you may have.

Kathryn Becker; beckerettes@msn.com; 971-506-7161

Care Ministry

One of the welcomed benefits of the Care Ministry is visiting the homebound, those unable to come to church because of their declining health. We visit eight orthodox individuals, all but one, who are members of St. George. To remember them on holidays, we take them gifts including a Greek food item, which are most appreciated. The idea is to share our faith and love.

I would like to introduce you to one homebound individual. Her name is Dina and she lives in an assisted living facility in Eugene. Dina was born and raised in Greece. Upon coming to the United States, she made her home in Salt Lake City, Utah where she lived with her husband and together they raised two children – a son and a daughter. A long-time, active member of the Greek Orthodox Church there, she misses her church, friends, and activities. Years later after the death of her husband, Dina moved to Eugene to be near her daughter and family. She visited St. George upon first moving here until her health problems prevented her from leaving home.

Dina is a gracious, lovely 92-year-old woman who relies on her Orthodox faith for strength. She is very interested in contributing to help others – especially children. To date, Dina has made hundreds of knit hats “To keep the children warm.” These colorful hats have been donated to IOCC in the past and, most recently, to CASA (Benefiting local foster children). She also has shared the warmth by donating hats to St. Ann’s in Corvallis for their community’s children in need. Care Ministry volunteers have assisted her in these efforts. We are thankful for Dina’s love and inspiration. Please keep Dina and our other homebound parishioners in your thoughts and prayers.

Blessings, Gloria Zeazeas-Timmons
Care Ministry Coordinator

PHILIA

The International Mini was deemed a success. The food was enjoyed by all, our dance troupe, clad in colorful costumes, remembered the choreography to the Russian dance, and Ron entertained us with his rendition of Romanian songs. We are extremely grateful for your generous donations to our efforts. Our Philia's bulletin board above the glass case has a display of thank you letters from various agencies to which we had contributed including a certificate from Eugene Muni for our participation in their Community Court lunch program.

If you had been greeted by the tantalizing aroma emanating from the kitchen this last week, it's because we are now busily baking and planning for the Pastry and Gift Fair, St. George's biggest fundraiser. Please keep our cookies in mind when thinking about Christmas giving.

Plans for the future:

- * Pastry Baking -November 12 - 15
- * Parishioner Pastry Pickup - December 2
- * Pastry and Gift Fair - December 8 & 9
- * Philia's White Elephant Party - December 23

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 meeting: November 11, 2018 and (possibly) December 30, 2018

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

COFFEE CHAT :

Reminder: I will be coming around this month with signup sheets for the 2019 fellowship schedule. Please check your calendars and be ready to select the days that would work for you.

Those that remain blank will be turned into potlucks.

Julie Lenkoff, Fellowship Coordinator

CLEANUP CORNER:

Please contact Neal at nealzoumboukos@msn.com or plan to come during the week when the church is unlocked for your scheduled cleaning. And please remember that the fellowship hall is part of it. Streaked dirt and sticky stains are not very appealing. All cleanup supplies can be found in the pantry. Reminder: please check your calendars to find the days that would be most convenient for you to sign up to clean the church. Three signups would be appreciated.

Julie Lenkoff, Cleanup Coordinator (email: julielenkoff@comcast.net)

From the Missions...**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ ~**

Thank you for your prayers for Holy Cross, Roseburg!

In October, we were visited by Missions and Evangelism director Thomaida Hudanish, who talked to us about the importance of our personal stories. She encouraged us that we can impact others by simply listening and sharing our history, why we love our Church, or what Christ has done for us. It was very inspirational for us, and we pray we can shine the light of Christ by being aware of the small opportunities that are presented to us daily. November will be a month of 'planning' for us, as we work on creating a 'vision-driven' budget; please continue to pray for us, that we wisely use the gifts God has given us. We'd also love to have you visit us in November!

Check out our website for service times: RoseburgOrthodoxChurch.org

In Christ ~ Lisa Buck, Holy Cross Roseburg

Greetings from the Salem Mission,

By God's grace and the diligence of Stacy (our resident realtor who has been keeping her eye out for property for us for many years) and the Real Estate Committee, we closed October 22nd on some property for the future site, God willing, of the Salem parish. This is an important milestone in the life of the parish and we thank and give glory to God. We now own property and have something tangible to build our future on. What a great blessing!

Fr. Jerry said there's a Greek saying that loses much in English translation, that goes something like, "With God's help let us now attain to higher things." There is still much that's yet ahead to attain to higher things, but in the meantime, we thank you for your prayers that God continues to bless us and the good work begun in Salem, Oregon.

With gratitude and our prayers for you all,

Maria Hauser

November Celebrations

Birthdays

November 10th-Omilie Doran
 November 20th-Julie Lenkoff
 November 23rd-Peter Drakatos
 November 24th-Katherine Hauser
 November 27th-Emily Kaelin
 November 30th-Ann Marie Kaelin

Feast Days

November 8th-Holy Archangels
 Michael Buck, Michael Creech, Michelle Creech,
 Mikey Creech

November 9th-St Nektarios
 Diane Monger, Brian Kaelin

November 14th-St Philip
 Brad Thomas, Richard Green

November 25th-St Katherine
 Kay Mehas, Katherine Drakatos, Katie Hauser

November 26th-St Innocent
 Leo Hall

November 30th-St Andrew
 Andrew Lilles

Wedding Anniversaries

November 15th-Panayiotis & Ann
 November 19th-Dimitri & Elena

Baptized in Christ/Chrismated

Many Years! Chronia Polla!

News and Events

What's New!

- **First Saturday Breakfast:** The dates of the First Saturday Breakfast in November are: Food prep on Friday, November 2nd and the breakfast on Saturday, November 3rd. Many hands make for light work so please lend us yours!
- **Catechumenate:** Tom and Marie Drakes were enrolled as Catechumens in October. Please be praying for them to be united to the Church in due time.
- **Monastery Work Party:** There will be a work party at St. John the Forerunner Monastery in Goldendale, WA, the weekend of November 30th-December 2nd. We're looking for a few sturdy men and women to help prepare the monastery for winter. Please see Father Jerry if you are interested.
- **Pastoral Assistant Report:** Before providing an update on the pastoral assistant ministry I wanted to reiterate my gratefulness for you welcoming me and my family into the community. Your kindness and warmth have been a blessing for me and my family. I am full of joy to be able to assist and serve you all! I know there are some of you I haven't met yet and I look forward to meeting all of you. Please pull me aside to introduce yourself and I hope we can sit down and chat at coffee hour. As far as an update for my pastoral assistant role, I am just getting started but already have been active getting plugged, learning the ropes from all of you, and learning from Fr. Jerry. Below is a list of the activities I've been involved with over the last month: * Liturgical – Serving in the altar at St. George's on Sunday and assisting the choir at the Salem Mission Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday (I alternate each weekend between Salem and Eugene). I was blessed to be able to preach in September on one Sunday. * Teaching – Assisting with adult education with Fr. Jerry and lead a discussion class in Salem & Eugene. * Ministry – I had the blessing to be able to join the Council of Ministries meeting in September. Moving forward I'll be helping with education, OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship – College Ministry), and visitation ministry. I will be at St. George's every other Tuesday to see how I can help strengthen these ministries and help out in any other way I can as well. * Administration – Attended St. George's Parish Council meeting in October and steering committee meetings for the Salem Mission. Provide any administration support as needed. In service to our Lord, Steve Tussing

Our Russian Dance Troupe!



KOINONIA

	11/4	11/11	11/18	11/25	
FELLOWSHIP	A & L Lilles	B & L Lilles	Pos	POTLUCK	
GREETER	Stella	Helen S	John & Gloria	Jerry R	
PROSFORON	Freezer	Lilles	Kaelin	Markopoulos	
FLOWERS	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
READERS	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	
CLEANING CREW	11/3 Mueller	11/10 OPEN	11/17 B & L Lilles	11/24 OPEN	

GET INVOLVED!!!

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

PARISH COUNCIL	Greg Sebastian 541-220-9560
SAFETY COMMITTEE	Gloria Zeazeas Timmons 541-484-0575
BOOKSTORE	Stella Kallianis 541-274-9110
PHILIA WOMEN'S GROUP	Julie Lenkoff 541-345-2107
CHURCH SCHOOL	Ann Marie Kaelin 541-335-9256
CHANTER/CHANT GROUP	Brad Thomas 541-689-9690, Ann Marie Kaelin 541-335-9256
FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN	Art Mehas 541-485-8671
FELLOWSHIP	Julie Lenkoff 541-345-2107
STEWARDSHIP	Neal Zoumboukos 541-344-4485
GREETERS	Larisa Lilles 541-484-7525
CARE MINISTRY	Gloria Zeazeas Timmons 541-484-0575
PRAYER CIRCLE	Bonnie Sollars 541-852-9496
MISSIONS & EVANGELISM	Kathryn Becker 971-506-7161
FUNDRAISERS	Presbytera Maria 971-678-5112

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Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
202 Hillview 1
Eugene, OR 97408-5018

A good word...

St. Porphyrios: . . . A person can become a saint anywhere. . .

It is a great art to succeed in having your soul sanctified. A person can become a saint anywhere. He can become a saint in Omonia Square*, if he wants. At your work, whatever it may be, you can become a saint through meekness, patience, and love. Make a new start every day, with new resolution, with enthusiasm and love, prayer and silence — not with anxiety so that you get a pain in the chest.” — St. Porphyrios, Wounded by Love

* Omonia Square: the commercial center of Athens, also synonymous with vice and corruption