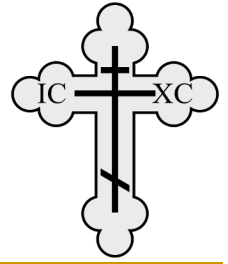




Agape



ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OCT-2019

Beloved in the Lord,

Since we have been talking about parish health lately, I thought I would describe what, in my opinion, a healthy parish's stewardship looks like. In a healthy parish, people understand that their need to give is greater than God's, or even the parish's, need to receive. Therefore, they give without even being asked, and they give generously out of a grateful heart. St. Paul captured this idea beautifully and wrote, "And so let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7)

Another quality of healthy stewardship is that the parish thinks first of its mission, vision, goals, values, ministries, and its purpose for existing. The parish focuses on the positive things happening in the parish, and they desire to keep these things going. A healthy parish puts forth a budget that says; this is what we need to be the church God has called us to be, and this is what we are going to need from each of you to make this happen.

Finally, a healthy parish understands that stewardship is more than just about money. If our mission is to succeed; if our vision is to be realized; if our goals are to be achieved; and if our ministries are to be impactful in the lives of others, then all of us need to give all of ourselves, our time, talent and treasure, to the work of being the Church.

It's time again to consider your Stewardship commitment for the coming year. There are many positive things happening in the life of our parish but there is much more to do. A parish is like any living organism, it is either getting healthier and growing or it is getting sicker and dying. Your stewardship commitment of time, talent and treasure will determine what will be true of our parish. Let me close with a quote from Fr. William Chiganos of Holy Apostles Church in Westchester, Illinois. He said, "...people don't give to need; they give to vision.... Church people don't stretch their giving because of need to meet the budget; they give more because they are able to see a vision of people being reached and God's purposes being accomplished in the life of the church and its ministry."

Here's hoping you see the vision too and give accordingly!

Father Jerry

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 opened the meeting asking what is our "brand"? Do we have an image or are we invisible? A thought to ponder.

-Craig Volz, Chair of the Salem mission's Steering Committee, gave us a report on the mission. We also spent considerable time discussing and coordinating the upcoming visit of the Metropolitan and Steve Tussing's ordination.

-Steve discussed the Metropolis' Youth Safety program. Anyone working with our children must pass a background check. The cost of the background check is \$17 per person. If there is someone working with our youth who cannot afford the background check, the parish will cover the cost.

-Minutes from September meeting and the treasurer's reports were approved.

-A "debrief" on Frederica Mathews-Green's visit was conducted and the council would like to thank the committee members and volunteers who made this event possible.

-The cost of the 2020 Liturgical calendars has been covered and there is still a small amount needed to purchase the new Paraklesis books.

-The 2020 proposed budget was discussed. It is a deficit budget but will still be presented at the October 27 parish assembly.

-Saint Nicholas Ranch is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The Metropolis has asked each parish to send a celebratory donation to the Ranch, and we will do so.

-Presvytera Krista West is donating new hardware for our new deacon's doors and new Royal Gates. Thank you, Presvytera Krista.

-The luncheon after Steve's ordination will also serve as a 25th anniversary celebration for Saint George. Yes, parishioners, we have been in our small church now for over twenty-five years. The next parish council meeting will be November 4th.

Treasurer's Report: As of October 31st

Operations Balance: \$60,788

Dedicated Funds Balance: \$22,618

Stewardship Report: Offerings of Treasure

(This is the fourth and final installment in our series on Christian Stewardship.)

In making our financial gifts to the Church, we are not paying for something. Just like our homes, we don't pay for the meals we eat or the rooms in which we sleep; we don't pay wages to anyone for services. We simply provide all the things necessary for our home to function efficiently and respond to the physical needs of the entire family. The same is true with the Church. We provide all the things necessary for the Church to function efficiently, to respond to the spiritual needs of all the members of the Body of Christ. Our hope each and every year is to meet our operating budget through our financial gifts. In order to achieve this goal, we ask our families to follow the Biblical directive of tithing (10% of one's treasurers). It's important though not to forget that Jesus was not interested in 5%, 7% or even a tithe; He was interested in 100% of the person.

Care Ministry

With the coming of the holidays, the Care Ministry Team will be delivering festive gifts of love to our Homebound parishioners. The gifts are meaningful, but the real joy is in the friendly visits - both to the parishioner and the visitor. If you are aware of any parishioner who would enjoy and appreciate a holiday visit, please let us know. We are particularly interested in those who are unable to attend church regularly, lonely, socially isolated, disabled, or ill.

In Christ's Service,

Gloria Zeazeas-Timmons, Care Ministry Coordinator

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are in the midst of baking pastries for our annual Pasty Sale & Craft Fair. We are always looking for more helpers! Our next baking days are Nov. 11/12, two shifts: 11:00 & 3:00. Please see Presv. Maria or Julie Lenkoff for details. No experience necessary.

Please spread the word and distribute flyers for this festive event. It will be Dec. 7 & 8.

Missions and Evangelism Ministry Report

Dear fellow parishioners:

Some of the terms we use in Christianity have different meanings to the faithful. For example: how would you define evangelism? Do you think that evangelism is only for the "Evangelical Protestants"? Have we become complacent in our understanding that everyone in the world should have the opportunity to know Christ and be intimately known by Him?

Today, I found this document: Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America: Committee for Agencies and Endorsed Organizations: "Go and Make Disciples: Evangelization and Outreach in US Orthodox Parishes"

Here is a good definition of evangelization from this document:

For the Orthodox Church, "evangelization" would mean making people aware of the Orthodox Christian Faith and, subsequently, bringing them into the bosom of the Orthodox Church.

This goal includes:

1. An "external" evangelization. That is, winning for the Church the hearts of people who do not know the fullness of the Gospel and live without Christian Faith;
 2. An "internal" evangelization. That is, transforming nominal, non-practicing Orthodox into active members of the Church and re-catechizing and further educating existing members.
- In addition, evangelization efforts should also reach out to inquirers about the Orthodox Faith - those persons who have become disillusioned with their current faith communities and who are in search for a new "spiritual home."

These are the same goals for the Missions and Evangelism Ministry team here at St George!

We need to pay attention to our own personal growth in the faith and our witnessing it to those around us. Hopefully this coming year, our ministry team will offer some ways to increase both! May it be blessed!

Kathryn Becker

If you have any ideas or comments, please contact me:

beckerettes@msn.com

971-506-7161

Greetings from the Bookstore!

On November 15, the Nativity Fast begins. With this in mind, the Bookstore highlights lenten cook-books this month. There are several books currently in the Bookstore:

- * Fasting As A Family
- * Lenten Cookbook
- * When You Fast

New to the Bookstore:

- * Mastering the Art of Greek Cooking (a number of Greek dishes are vegetarian and appropriate for Lent.)

As the holidays are now approaching, I am happy to take suggestions or requests for items. Thank you for supporting the Bookstore!

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

PHILIA

Our International Mini Luncheon went very well, with tasty multicultural dishes gracing our buffet table. Mikaela Jaquette sang classical songs so beautifully that even little children sat quietly, enthralled by her lovely voice. Thank you to all who contributed to this event. And a reminder, since most of us have little cash on hand, that we take checks and credit cards.

With the Pastry and Gift Fair coming up, we are busily baking cookies and can always use some help. The schedule is posted below. Also, please let me know of someone who might like to be a vendor at our Gift Fair and I'll be happy to send them the info. There are flyers in the fellow-ship hall for preordering pastry as well as those advertising the event to share with friends and family or post in public places. This is a fundraiser for the parish so everyone's help will be appreciated.

Plans for the future:

Pastry baking - Tuesday, November 12 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Pastry packing - Wed, November 13 at 2 p.m. & Thursday, November 14 at 11 a.m.

Pastry and Gift Fair - December 7 from 11 to 3 & December 8 from 12:30 to 4:00

White Elephant Party - December 22 (or 29)

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

Next meetings: November 10, 2019 and January 5, 2020 Come join us!

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
julielenkoff2@comcast.net

Prison Ministry

We had two great meetings in October, and were able to deliver the special prayer cards we had made to help the men pray for those affected by abortion. During the summer, our reading led us into a discussion on abortion. We asked if the men would be interested in having a specific prayer to help them to pray for the women, babies, and families affected by abortion. They all agreed, and Fr. Jerry and Joanna set off to create a special icon prayer card. After a couple months, these finally arrived, and each man was happy to receive this card. If you are interested in joining the men, these cards can be found in the Nave at St. George's, and also in the bookstore at both St. George's and the Holy Cross Mission or ask Fr. Jerry.

As we approach Thanksgiving, we will once again be sending Thanksgiving cards to the members of our Bible Study. Please feel free to sign each card. The men always mention that they have received them, and are grateful to be remembered. Joanna will bring these to the meal on November 17.

Finally, Joanna was recently asked to add two people to the Wednesday's Prayer for those in Prison list. Please add Deborah and Anthony. Anthony has been on Death Row in Arizona for 32 years for a crime he maintains he is innocent. He is an Orthodox convert while in prison. Interestingly, after a series of correspondences with Bishop Athanasios of Limassol, Cyprus, he was put in contact with Geronda Paisios of St. Anthony's Monastery. Geronda Paisios visited him every other week, and eventually baptized him in 2000. He remains Anthony's spiritual father. Deborah, like many of the others on our list and in our Bible study, is an inquirer on the road to Orthodoxy. Thank you for continuing to pray for those incarcerated, and for our Bible Study outreach. If you are interested in joining us at Bible study or being a pen pal, please see Fr. Jerry. Thank you for your support.

From the Missions...

This past month, Holy Cross has had the incredible blessing of a new monthly service- Saturday Orthros. There are many people in our parish who have never been able to attend this wonderful teaching service that the church offers! Our choir is working on learning the hymns, and we are all learning to set our alarm clocks a little earlier on church days so that we don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the lives of Saints and the Feasts of the Church. Our next Orthros will be for St. Nektarios the WonderWorker on Nov. 9. If you would like us to light a candle for you at Orthros to honor St Nektarios and ask for his intercessions, please send your request to office@roseburgorthodoxchurch.org. We also invite you to join us for services that day, and to our delicious potluck fellowship and book study that follows (we are currently reading the Life of St. Paisios).

In Christ ~ Lisa Buck
Holy Cross Orthodox Church, Roseburg

Greetings from the Salem Mission,

October was a month of many opportunities in our local Orthodox world. Greek Festivals at area churches, retreats with guest speakers, and the St. John Monastery Benefit Dinner and Auction were all attended by various members of the Salem Mission.

This month we are excited to be planning for the visit of Metropolitan Gerasimos for a very full two days. God willing, Friday, November 29th he will be with us to bless the property we've bought, followed by Vespers, the naming of the mission, and a dinner together. Saturday, November 30th we'll be at St. John the Baptist in Beaverton for Steven Tussing's Ordination to the Diaconate and celebration luncheon. We are ever grateful for your prayers that have helped sustain us over the years and brought us to this eventful weekend.

In Christ,

Maria Hauser

November Celebrations

Birthdays

November 1st-Peregrine Groomer
November 9th-Diane Monger
November 10th-Omilie Doran
November 20th-Julie Lenkoff
November 23rd-Pete Drakatos
November 24th-Katie Hauser
November 27th-Emily Kaelin
November 30th-Ann Marie Kaelin

Feast Days

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

November 9th-St. Nektarios
 Diane Monger, Brian Kaelin

November 14th-St Phillip
 Brad Thomas, Richard Green

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

November 30th-St Andrew
 Andrew Lilles, Andrew Pirrello

Wedding Anniversaries

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

Baptized in Christ/Chrismated

November 4th-Bridgid Groomer

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 1st and the breakfast on Saturday, November 2nd . Many hands make for light work so please lend us yours!
- **Openings:** There are openings for someone to volunteer to clean on Saturday, November 9th and November 30th. One of my favorite stories about St. Nektarios, who's memory is commemorated on November 9th, is the story of how he cleaned the bathrooms of the school, he was the director of ,because the janitor and the school board president couldn't agree on a contract for the janitor and so the janitor went on strike. Here was a bishop of the Church, cleaning toilets while others just argued. Seems to me there might be a blessing for anyone who cleans on that day (just saying). There is also an opening for someone to host fellowship on Sunday, November 24th. Are you thankful for God's abundant blessings? How about helping then on this Sunday before Thanksgiving?
- **Nativity Fast:** The Nativity Fast will begin on Friday, November 15th and end on Christmas Day, December 25th. The "Winter Pascha" is a wonderful opportunity to prepare ourselves spiritually for the birth of Christ. As with the other major Fasts, it is recommended that you participate in the Sacrament of Confession. The "world" around us pre-celebrates Christmas and gives no heed to preparation and anticipation. Therefore it misses out on so much. Don't miss this opportunity to nurture your soul and more fully experience the Incarnation.
- **Happy Thanksgiving:** Grateful to God for all of you!
- **Celebrations:** You are invited to join us as we celebrate two major events happening in November. On Friday, November 29th, Metropolitan Gerasimos will be in Salem to bless their new property, and officially name the church. On Saturday, November 30th, our Pastoral Assistant, Steve Tussing will be ordained to the Holy Diaconate, by Metropolitan Gerasimos, at St John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Beaverton. Please see Father Jerry or Steve if you want more information. Please also be in prayer for the community in Salem and for Steve, Katie and the kids. AXIOS!
- **Hi Everyone:** Can you believe it is almost time for the Nativity Fast? We are less than one month away. With this in mind, it is time to get our Nativity Psalter Group(s) together again. This is an opportunity to read one Kathisma per day during this fasting period. The Psalter is divided into 20 sections called Kathisma. Provided we have at least 20 group members, the entire Psalter will be read each day every day of the fast twice through. In addition, we also pray for each of our group members with our readings. This is a wonderful way to set some time aside for quiet contemplation, scripture reading and prayer as we journey towards Nativity. If this is something you would be interested in participating in (we do this at home on our own time-no group gatherings....and we just do the best we can) please contact Joanna Jaquette, and she will get the group assignments together. As we get closer to our start date on November 15, Joanna will send the assignments with complete instructions. Please email Joanna at: nightengalegreen@gmail.com with Psalter Group in the subject line. Thank you!
- **2020:** As we look ahead to 2020, there are a few things to be thinking about. You should receive your 2020 Stewardship letter and card sometime this month, and we ask that you prayerfully consider your need to give of your time, talent and treasure, to God's work. One of the ways to give of your time is to serve on the Parish Council. If you are willing to serve the Church as a Parish Council member for a two-year term, please see Art Mehas or Father Jerry.
- **Monthly Celebrations:** Each month I print the names of those celebrating a birthday, name day or feast day, that month. I pull that information from our old database, and in turn, miss many celebrations. Stella has volunteered to help with the new database and with data entry. Please see Stella or myself, so we can add your celebrations to our new database and honor you on your special days.

KOINONIA

	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	
FELLOWSHIP	Mueller	Lilles	Becker	OPEN	
GREETER	Stella	Helen S	John & Gloria	Jerry R	
PROSFORON	Creech	Lilles	Kaelin	Markopoulos	
FLOWERS	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
READERS	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	Brad Thomas	
CLEANING CREW	11/2 Markopoulos	11/9 OPEN	11/16 Mueller	11/23 Kaelin	11/30 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	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
FAMILY WELLNESS	Ashli Mueller 541-731-3319
FELLOWSHIP	
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	Presbyteria Maria 971-678-5112

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

A Good word...

“A strange illness has appeared in our days – the passion for distractions. Never before was there such a desire for distractions; people have forgotten how to lead a serious life for the good of others; they have no spiritual life and are bored. They exchange the profound content of a spiritual life for distractions! What madness!

- St. John of Kronstadt (1829-1908)