

# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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July 19, 2020

6th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 5  
Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils  
Ven. Macrina, sister of Basil the Great



## From the Fathers...

“The Lord remained silent before Pilate and Herod; He made no attempt to justify Himself. You must imitate His holy and wise silence when you see that your enemies accuse you, with every intention of certain conviction; they accuse only with the purpose of hiding their own evil intention under the guise of judgement.”

- St. Ignatius Brianchaninov



## Welcome Visitors!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed through your participation with us. In the Orthodox Church, the reception of Holy Communion is a mark of membership in the Church. Only those who have been united to the Orthodox Church through Baptism or Chrismation, and have prepared themselves through regular Confession, prayer and fasting are permitted to partake of Holy Communion. We encourage visitors to participate in our prayers and hymns and to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Literature about the Orthodox faith and this parish can be found in the vestibule. Please feel free to ask questions before or after the service, as well as join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship after the Liturgy.



O honored Fathers,/ you skillfully stitched together the garment of Christ, / which had been divided and torn apart by barking dogs./ You found it unbearable to see His nakedness,/ as of old Shem and Japheth could not bear to see the nakedness of their father./ You put to shame the wretchedness of Arius and those who agreed with him, // and who professed the madness that bears his name.

The Macedónians and Nestórians, the Eutýchians and Dióscorenes,/ the Appolinárians, Sabéllians, and Séverans,/ who were revealed as oppressive wolves in sheep's skins,/ you, as true shepherds, drove far away from the Savior's flock,/ having stripped the thrice-wretched ones of their sheep's skins. // Therefore, we call you blessed, O holy Fathers. *(Stichera of Lord, I Call)*

A PARISH OF THE BULGARIAN DIOCESE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

## TODAY'S WORSHIP - HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **Resurrection Troparion in Tone 5**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,/ co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,/ born for our salvation from the Virgin;/ for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,/ to endure death,/ and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

### **Holy Fathers Troparion in Tone 8**

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God,/ Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth./ Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith.//

O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

### **Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 5**

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior,/ shattering its gates as Almighty,/ resurrecting the dead as Creator,/ and destroying the sting of death./ Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,// and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit*

### **Holy Fathers Kontakion in Tone 8**

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church./ Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology,// It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

### **Steadfast Protectress of Christians in Tone 6**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians,/ constant advocate before the Creator;/ despise not the entreating cries of us sinners,/ but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith./ Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,/ for you always protect those who honor you!

### **Epistle: Romans 12:6-14**

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

### **Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8**

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."

And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!"

But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

## THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

**Sunday, July 19th**

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)**

*Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils*  
*Ven. Macrina, sister of Basil the Great*  
*Bl. Stephen, King of Serbia, and his mother, St. Militsa*  
*Romans 12:6-14, Hebrews 13:7-16*  
*Matthew 9:1-8, John 17:1-13*

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**Monday, July 20th**

**7:00 PM Adult Education (Online)**

*Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah*  
*Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Afanasy, Abbot*  
*James 5:10-20, Luke 4:22-30*

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**Tuesday, July 21st**

**8:30 PM Parish Council (Online)**

*Prophet Ezekiel*  
*Ven. Simeon of Emessa, Fool-for-Christ*  
*1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11, 1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12*  
*Matthew 13:54-58, Matthew 14:1-13*

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**Wednesday, July 22nd**

*Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalene*  
*Translation of Relics of Hieromartyr Phocas of Sinope*  
*1 Corinthians 7:12-24, Matthew 14:35-15:11*

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**Thursday, July 23rd**

*Martyr Trophimus, Theophilus and 13 others in Lycia*  
*Hieromartyr Apollinaris, Bishop of Ravenna*  
*1 Corinthians 7:24-35, Matthew 15:12-21*

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**Friday, July 24th**

*Martyr Christina of Tyre*  
*Holy Martyrs and Passionbearers Boris and Gleb*  
*1 Corinthians 4:5-8, Romans 8:28-39*  
*Matthew 13:44-54, John 15:17-16:2*

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**Saturday, July 25th**

**5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream and In Person)**  
*Dormition of Righteous Anna, mother of the Theotokos*  
*Holy Women Olympias the Deaconess and the Virgin*  
*Eupraxia of Tabenna*  
*Romans 12:1-3, Galatians 4:22-31*  
*Matthew 10:37-11:1, Luke 8:16-21*

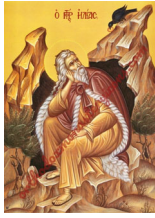
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**Sunday, July 26th**

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)**

*Hieromartyrs Hermolaus at Nicomedia*  
*Martyr Parasceva of Rome*  
*Repose of St. Jacob Netsvetov, Enlightener of Alaska*  
*Romans 15:1-7, Philippians 3:7-14*  
*Matthew 9:27-35, Mark 10:39-31, 42-45*

**If the Lord is God, Follow Him**



The Holy Prophet Elijah appears, with no introduction, at the beginning of the seventeenth chapter of First Kings (III Kingdoms in the Orthodox Study Bible.) We see that Elijah certainly is a prophet by the way he speaks God's word, but we also see that he is both the beneficiary and the performer of miracles.

The miracle from which Elijah benefits saves his life. It's a time of famine, and God tells him to go to the brook Cherith that flows into the Jordan, and drink water from the brook. God says, "I shall command the ravens to feed you there."

When the brook dries up, God prepares Elijah to perform a life-giving miracle for someone else, telling him to go to Zarephath, where a widow will take care of him.

Elijah finds the widow, who readily gives him a cup of water. But when he asks for bread she tells him that she has so little that she and her son will probably soon die. Elijah prophesies that the Lord will furnish her with flour and oil. Just as he promises, "the bin of flour was not used up and the jar of oil did not run dry."

But the widow's son dies, and she bitterly confronts Elijah: "You came to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son." God answers Elijah's plea to restore the son's life. With that, the widow is able to say, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

As God's prophet, Elijah does much good, but he must also confront evil. When he meets King Ahab, Elijah reminds the king that he has forsaken the worship of the true God and followed after the false gods, the Baals, of his wife Jezebel. He has thrown the people into uncertainty, which Elijah challenges: "How long will you be undecided between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him, but if Baal, follow him." Then Elijah shows in spectacular fashion that God triumphs over all false deities. Victorious, he orders the execution of all 450 of Baal's prophets.

Events like this execution make some see God as brutal, even murderous. But this alien religion of Baal—powerfully patronized by the queen, Jezebel—had moved "into the very heart of Israel, contaminating and corrupting the people from one end of the Northern Kingdom to the other" writes Norman Podhoretz in his book "The Prophets". The Old Testament shows us that God protects His people and His truth, sometimes by destroying unrepentant, dangerous and arrogant enemies like the prophets of Baal.

Elijah appears to the disciples at the Transfiguration. He is alive in Christ, as we will be if we overcome the temptation to let ourselves be "undecided between two opinions," and follow the Lord because He is God.

**HAVE A QUESTION OR NEED TO CHAT? CALL OR EMAIL FR. GREGORY.**



**Updated Guidance for COVID-19**

**Reopening Guidelines**

The Cathedral remains in Stage 4 of the reopening process for the time being.

Per the order of the Ohio Department of Health, due to Wood County being placed under a Level 3 Public Health Advisory, **face masks are now required to be worn during all services.** This will continue until the county has moved back to at least Level 2.

Exceptions to the face mask requirement set forth in the Public Health Order pertinent to St. George are as follows:

- individuals are under 10 years of age (and cannot reasonably keep from handling the mask),
- those with respiratory conditions that restrict breathing, mental health conditions, or disability that contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering,
- officiants of religious services (altar servers will wear face masks).

Those who fall in the vulnerable populations should remain at home.

**Online Adult Education**

Please join us for an Adult Education series “Mothers and Martyrs: An Examination of Women Saints in the Orthodox Church” on **Monday evenings starting at 7:30pm.** Online classes will be held via Zoom. The Zoom link is sent through our email list.

**Parish Council**

The monthly Parish Council meeting will take place online on **Tuesday, July 21st at 8:30pm.**

**Fellowship for Young Adults**

Pan Orthodox Toledo will offer fellowship opportunities for our Young Adults on the **1st Sunday of each month at 4:00pm beginning in AUGUST!** We will meet on Zoom until in person meetings are permitted. Together the Toledo parishes invested in the Relationship Project curriculum published by Faithtree. By exploring questions like *What is our true identity?*, *What does it mean to be a child of God?*, *What is the true meaning of intimacy?*, and *What does the Church say about good mental health?* this compelling group study allows you to lead your youth in discovering who they are in Christ. This program provides extensive support as you create a safe space for your teens to wrestle with the possible differences between what the world may suggest, versus what the Church teaches as truth.

**Virtual Vacation Church School**

VVCS will meet August 3rd, 4th, 5th @ 7:00PM for children ages 12 and under. This year’s theme is *Rooted in Prayer.* We will meet on Zoom for a lesson, then break to do a craft at home, then rejoin on Zoom to share our craft, and play a game or two! Please email or text Vicki Ghareeb at [vickighareeb@gmail.com](mailto:vickighareeb@gmail.com) or text: 419-261-0396 to register by August 1st (at the absolute latest!!) so we can deliver a supply box to each registered family with all the materials necessary for the crafts!

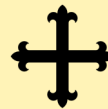
**We are praying for...**

**Health and Well-Being:**

Soteria, Maria, Tanya, Lawrence, Kathleen, Karen, Panka, Barb, and the kidnapped hierarchs Metropolitan Boulos and Archbishop Yohanna of Aleppo; and those being persecuted for their faith in the Middle East.

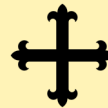
**Catechumens:**

Tim, Laura, Ethan, Naomi, Olivia, Daniel, Phoebe, Ezekiel, and Jachin.



**Sanctuary Lamp**

The Sanctuary Lamp is lit today by Sally Grather for the health of her sister Sharon (Soteria).



**Celebrations**

**Birthdays:**

Thaddeus Bruner (7/20)  
Kathy Dimitroff (7/22)  
Aleksandr Kireyev (7/22)

**Name’s Days:**

Cindy Hopper (7/19)  
Lora Kneisel (7/19)  
Sarah Allen (7/22)  
Anna Margheritino (7/25)

