

# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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August 16, 2020

10th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 1

Afterfeast of the Dormition

Translation of the Image "Not-made-by-hands"



## From the Fathers...

"If God the Father chose Her, God the Holy Spirit descended upon Her, and God the Son dwelt in Her, submitted to Her in the days of His youth, was concerned for Her when hanging on the Cross - then should not everyone who confesses the Holy Trinity venerate her?"

- St. John Maximovith



## 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.



With what unworthy lips shall we bless the Theotokos?/ She is more honored than the creation,/ and more holy than the Cherubim and all the Angels./ She is the immovable Throne of the King,/ the Abode in which the Most High has dwelt./ She is the salvation of the world, the Holy Place of God,/ Who richly grants unto the faithful great mercy on this her holy feast.

What songs filled with awe / did all the Apostles of the Word offer thee, O Virgin,/ as they stood round thy deathbed and cried aloud in wonder:/ "The Palace of the King withdraws;/ the Ark of Holiness is raised on high./ Let the gates be opened wide,/ that the Gate of God may enter into abundant joy,/ she who without ceasing asks great mercy for the world!"

What spiritual songs shall we now offer thee, O most holy one?/ For by thy deathless Dormition thou hast sanctified the whole world,/ and hast been translated to the places above the world,/ there to perceive the beauty of the Almighty,/ and, as His Mother, to rejoice in it exceedingly./ Thou art attended by ranks of Angels and by the souls of the just, O pure Virgin.// Join them to ask for us peace and great mercy! (*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 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,/ while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,/ Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world./ The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:/ "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!/ Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind!"

### Icon "Not-made-by-hands" Troparion in Tone 2

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One;/ and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God./ Of Thine own will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh/ and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy./ Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee:/ "Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior, // by coming to save the world."

### Dormition Troparion in Tone 1

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity./ In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos./ Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

### Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,/ raising the world with Thyself./ Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished./ Adam exults, O Master!/ Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// "Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

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

### Icon "Not-made-by-hands" Kontakion in Tone 2

Uncircumscribed Word of the Father,/ as we behold the victorious image of Thy true incarnation,/ not made by hands, but divinely wrought/ in Thine ineffable and divine dispensation towards us, // we honor it with veneration.

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

### Dormition Kontakion in Tone 2

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,/ who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions./ For being the Mother of Life, // she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

### Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.



### Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him."

Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

## THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

**Sunday, August 16th**

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

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Translation of the Image "Not-made-by-hands"*

1 Corinthians 4:9-16, Colossians 1:12-18

Matthew 17:14-23, Luke 9:51-56, 10:22-24

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**Monday, August 17th**

**7:30 PM Adult Education (Online)**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Martyr Myron, Presbyter of Cyzicus*

2 Corinthians 2:3-15, Matthew 23:13-22

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**Tuesday, August 18th**

**6:30 PM Parish Council (Online)**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria*

2 Corinthians 2:14-3:3, Matthew 23:23-28

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**Wednesday, August 19th**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Martyr Andrew Stratelates and those with him*

2 Corinthians 3:4-11, Matthew 23:29-39

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**Thursday, August 20th**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Prophet Samuel*

*Rest of Hieromartyr Alexander Hotovitzky*

2 Corinthians 4:1-6, Hebrews 13:7-16

Matthew 24:13-28, Luke 12:32-40

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**Friday, August 21st**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy*

*Martyr Bassa of Edessa and her sons*

2 Corinthians 4:13-18, Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51

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**Saturday, August 22nd**

**Vespers Canceled**

*Afterfeast of the Dormition*

*Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia and his companions*

1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Matthew 19:3-12

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**Sunday, August 23rd**

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

*Leavetaking of the Dormition*

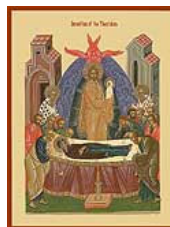
*Martyr Lupus, slave of St. Demetrius of Thessalonica*

*Hieromartyr Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons*

1 Corinthians 9:2-12, Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 18:23-35, Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

## Two Icons Full of Love



The icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos shows the Mother of God lying on her deathbed. Jesus Christ, surrounded by angels, tenderly holds her luminous soul which in His glory He has taken to Himself. Her face is serene, and she is surrounded by the apostles.

"Dormition" means "falling asleep." Saint Paul writes in I Thessalonians 4:13: "I do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others do who have no hope."

The icon of the Dormition shows the reason for hope. Death cannot have the final word, because Christ is taking His mother to heaven. The apostles are sad, but not prostrate with grief, because they know the fulfilled promise of the Lord. The angels in the icon show that those heavenly beings will be there for us, too.

The hymns for the feast of the icon are also encouraging. The troparion and kontakion say that in her falling asleep, the Theotokos does not forsake the world but continues to pray for us. Just as Christ continues in His love for His mother, she is consistent in her loving concern for the world.

Mark 14:58 reads: "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands." This is the source of the title of the icon "Not Made by Hands." John's Gospel records that "the temple He was speaking of was His body. After His resurrection His disciples recalled what He had said, and they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken" (John 2:20-1).

There are a few stories of how the icon's image came to be. The one traditionally accepted by many sources is related in the "Prologue from Ochrid." We read that Prince Abgar of Edessa in Syria heard of Christ's miracles and healings. He sent a messenger to Palestine imploring Christ to come and heal his leprosy.

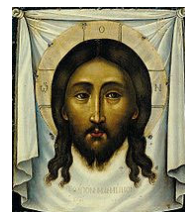
Rather than leave Palestine, Christ gave Ananias a cloth on which He had wiped His face, leaving a perfect impression. When Abgar kissed it, most of the leprosy fell away, and later when he received baptism from the apostle Thaddeus he was completely healed.

Abgar put the cloth in a gold frame and placed it at the entrance of the city of Edessa for people to venerate. Above it he wrote, "O Christ our God, everyone trusting in You shall not be put to shame."

When a grandson of Abgar fell into idolatry, believers hid the image to keep it from destruction. Centuries later, with the city under Persian attack, the Theotokos told the Bishop of Edessa where to find the long-forgotten icon.

He found it and processed around the city with it. The Persian army miraculously retreated.

Once again, the Theotokos did not forsake the world. Once again, the world was given a healing, loving image of Christ, Who is "the image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15), the One who heals and loves us all.



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.

**Fellowship for Young Adults (Pan-Orthodox Toledo)**

We are looking forward to a Socially Distant Teen/Young Adult Bonfire on **August 30th at 7:00pm** at St George Woodley. Please wear a mask and bring your own lawn chair and snacks/drinks.! Please pray for good weather on the 30th!!!!

**12th Annual St. George Golf Tournament**

The 12th Annual St. George Golf Tournament will take place on **Saturday, September 12, 2020.** Save the date!

*How Can I Help? I Don't Golf*

The Golf Committee is requesting your help in making our Golf Tournament a great success. Due to the current pandemic, as well as a decrease in hall rentals, your help is needed in this annual fundraiser. Here are some ways you can help:

1. Sponsor a sign
2. Donate a gift card for prizes (gas card, favorite restaurant, or grocery card)
3. A money donation for expenses
4. Donate golf related prizes (golf balls, hats, gloves, T-shirt)

See Stan Pentsos with any questions!

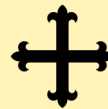
**We are praying for...**

**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**

Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships are available.



**Celebrations**

**Anniversaries:**

Fr. Gregory & Ksenia Bruner (8/21)  
Tim & Laura Barton (8/22)

