

SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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August 2, 2020

8th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 7
Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and
Archdeacon Stephen
Bl. Basil of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ



From the Fathers...

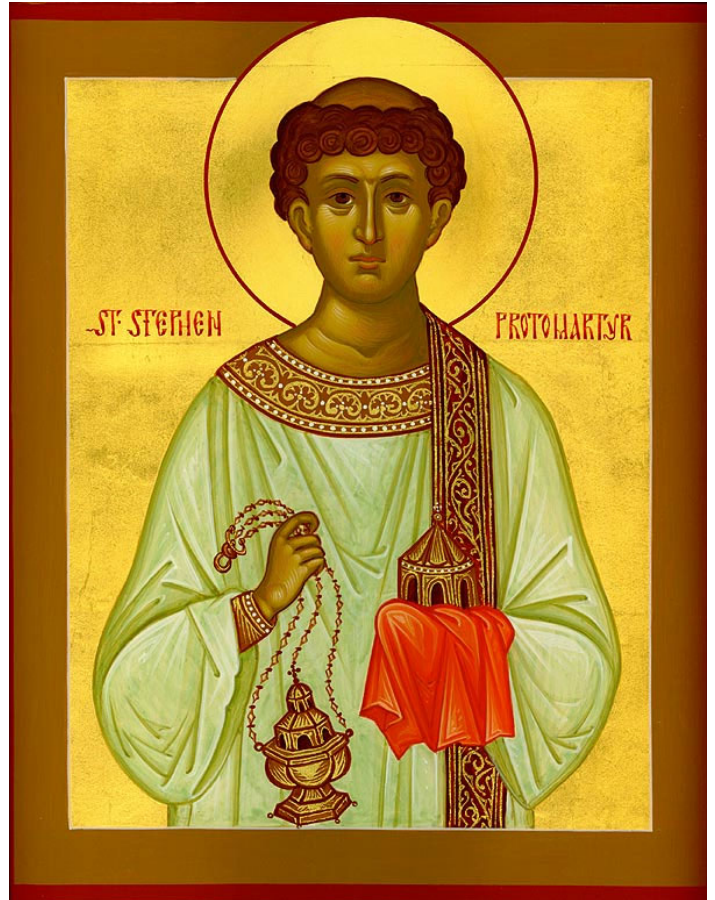
“He who busies himself with the sins of others, or judges his brother on suspicion, has not yet even begun to repent or to examine himself so as to discover his own sins.”

- St. Maximus the Confessor



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 Stephen, chosen by the Apostles,/ the first among the martyrs to suffer/ and the foundation of those who serve as deacons:/ thou dost enlighten with unfading light/ those who celebrate thy radiant feast with splendor,/ giving grace and mercy to thy servants. // By thy prayers, O martyr, guide them to everlasting life!

O Stephen, thou martyr of Christ,/ thou didst receive a crown of grace on thy head/ in accordance with thy name./ Thou didst adorn thy neck with a chain of virtues as with gold/ and becamest an all-wise dwelling of the Wisdom cherished by thee,/ keeping it as thy beloved.// Therefore thou hast been honored with grace and glory.

O most holy Stephen,/ thou didst appear as first among deacons and first among martyrs,/ for thy path was to holy things,/ and thou didst lead many martyrs to the Lord./ Thus, heaven was opened, and God appeared to thee.// Entreat Him that our souls may be saved! (*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 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death./ To the thief Thou didst open Paradise./ For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,/ and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,/ to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Greatmartyr George Troparion in Tone 4

As deliverer of captives/ and defender of the poor;/ healer of the infirm,/ champion of kings;/ victorious Great Martyr George,/ intercede with Christ our God;// for our souls' salvation.

St. Stephen Troparion in Tone 4

Thy relics have risen from the depths of the earth,/ like a treasury for the immortal life of all creation./ The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them,/ duteously honors thee, O Protomartyr Stephen.// Preserve us from error and heresy by thy intercession!

Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,/ for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers./ Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:/ "The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Great Martyr George Kontakion in Tone 4

As we the faithful flee to thee for refuge and seek thy protection and speedy help,/ We entreat thee, O Champion of Christ, that we who sing thy praises may be delivered from the snares of the enemy/ and from every peril and adversary,// that we may cry: "Rejoice, O martyr George!"

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

St. Stephen Kontakion in Tone 3

Thou wast the first to be sown on the earth by the Heavenly Husbandman, O all-praised one,/ and wast the first to shed thy blood on the earth for Christ, O blessed one./ Thou wast the first to receive the crown of victory from Him in heaven,// O Stephen, first of the suffering God-crowned martyrs.

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: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.

When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.

Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

Sunday, August 2nd

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (In Person Only)

Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr Stephen

Hieromartyr Stephen, People of Rome

Bl. Basil of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ

1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 14:14-22

Monday, August 3rd

7:00 PM Adult Education (Online)

7:00 PM Virtual Vacation Church School (Online)

Ven. Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus of Constantinople

Righteous Salome, Myrrhbearer, mother of Apostles

James and John

1 Corinthians 11:31-12:6, Matthew 18:1-11

Tuesday, August 4th

7:00 PM Virtual Vacation Church School (Online)

Holy Seven Youths (Seven Sleepers) of Ephesus

Martyr Eudoxia of Persia

1 Corinthians 12:12-26, Matthew 18:18-22, 19:1-2, 13-15

Wednesday, August 5th

7:00 PM Virtual Vacation Church School (Online)

Forefeast of the Transfiguration

Martyr Eusignius of Antioch

1 Corinthians 13:4-14:5, 1 Corinthians 14:6-19

Matthew 20:1-16, Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday, August 6th

Holy Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

2 Peter 1:10-19, Matthew 17:1-9

Friday, August 7th

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

Martyr Dometius of Persia

1 Corinthians 14:26-40, Matthew 21:12-14, 17-20

Saturday, August 8th

5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream and In Person)

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus

St. Myron, Bishop of Crete

Romans 14:6-9, Matthew 15:32-39

Sunday, August 9th

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

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

Apostle Matthias

Glorification of Ven. Herman of Alaska

1 Corinthians 3:9-17, Galatians 5:22-6:2

Matthew 14:22-34, Luke 6:17-23

Standing Up to Those in Power



The Church honors two men who, in different times and places and in very different ways, bravely confronted those in power. They are the Righteous Gamaliel and St. Basil, Fool for Christ.

We meet Gamaliel in the Book of Acts (5: 34-39). He was a Pharisee, and was Saint Paul's teacher. Paul emphasizes the

high quality of his education in the Jewish faith by saying he was "brought up...at the feet of Gamaliel" (22:3). That would impress everyone, for Gamaliel was "held in honor by all the people" (5:34). And Gamaliel himself was impressive in his deliberate, sensible way of thinking. When others were so enraged at the preaching of Peter and the other apostles that they wanted to kill them, Gamaliel stood against his fellow members of the body of spiritual elders, the powerful Sanhedrin. He recognized that the teaching of the apostles might be "of God" and warned the elders that if it was, they would "not be able to overthrow them." The elders took his advice, and freed the apostles (who would bravely disregard their order to refrain from further preaching in Jesus' name.) Gamaliel's cool, reflective manner was effective, but it is very different from that of another man who confronted power: Basil, the Holy Fool.

Many people, at least the Orthodox and those who have visited Moscow, know that the beautiful church in the Kremlin is named Saint Basil's Cathedral. But some aren't aware that it is not named for Saint Basil the Great, the fourth-century Church father. The Basil it is named for was born in the 15th century, to a poor family who lived near Moscow. After spending some time in the family work of shoemaking, he went to the big city and lived primitively, wearing little clothing and utterly ignoring the rules of "polite society." He challenged those who cheated others or failed to help the poor, and confronted people openly with their sins. But everything he did was for others' salvation, as when he entered low, stinking taverns to minister lovingly to people enslaved by drunkenness. While there were some who derided and abused him, many others recognized what he was doing and revered him.

Among these admirers was the Tsar himself, the ruler known as Ivan the Terrible. Saint Basil was able to scold the Tsar for letting his mind wander in church without making him angry; in fact, Ivan was greatly in awe of this man who could read his thoughts. Once during Great Lent, Basil offered the Tsar some meat. Ivan was shocked, and refused, saying that of course he did not eat flesh during the Fast. Basil replied that it mattered little whether he actually ate flesh, since he had killed so many people. In this way he urged Ivan to repent; his challenge to Ivan was a brave act of love. That kind of bravery, standing for truth against powerful forces, is the reason why these two men, Gamaliel and Basil, are honored by the Church.

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.

Fellowship for Young Adults (Pan-Orthodox Toledo)

Unfortunately, the Socially Distanced Bonfire for Teens and Young Adults scheduled for **this evening** has been **cancelled** due to weather conditions. We look forward to a bonfire on **August 30th at 7:00pm** at St George Woodley. Same plans: please wear a mask and bring your own lawn chair and snacks/drinks.! Please pray for good weather on the 30th!!!!

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.

Virtual Vacation Church School (Ages 12 and under)

Join us August 3rd, 4th and 5th for "Rooted in Prayer" activities. We will meet virtually at 7:00pm, take a break at 7:30 for crafts, and then hop back online at 8:00pm to share our creations, play some games online, and pray together. Wednesday evening will include an "Ask Fr Gregory" session. Children are asked to bring some questions to ask! Register with Vicki Ghareeb for link details (vickighareeb@gmail.com or 419 261-0396).

Feast of the Transfiguration

We will not be having services for Holy Transfiguration this year. Please tune in to watch the services live at the parish of your choice. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will **NOT** be having the blessing of fruit this year.

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

Birthdays:

Tanya Mackiewicz (8/2)
Phoebe Barton (8/2)
Emmelia Ghareeb (8/6)

Anniversaries:

Stan & Joanne Pentsos (8/4)

