

# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

REV. FR. GREGORY BRUNER: DEAN

(779) 875-1084 | FRGBRUNER@GMAIL.COM

738 GLENWOOD ROAD, ROSSFORD, OHIO 43460 | [HTTP://WWW.STGEORGEROSSFORD.ORG](http://www.stgeorgerossford.org)

**August 30, 2020**

12th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 3

Afterfeast of the Beheading of the Forerunner

Translation of the Relics of St. Alexander Nevsky



## From the Fathers...

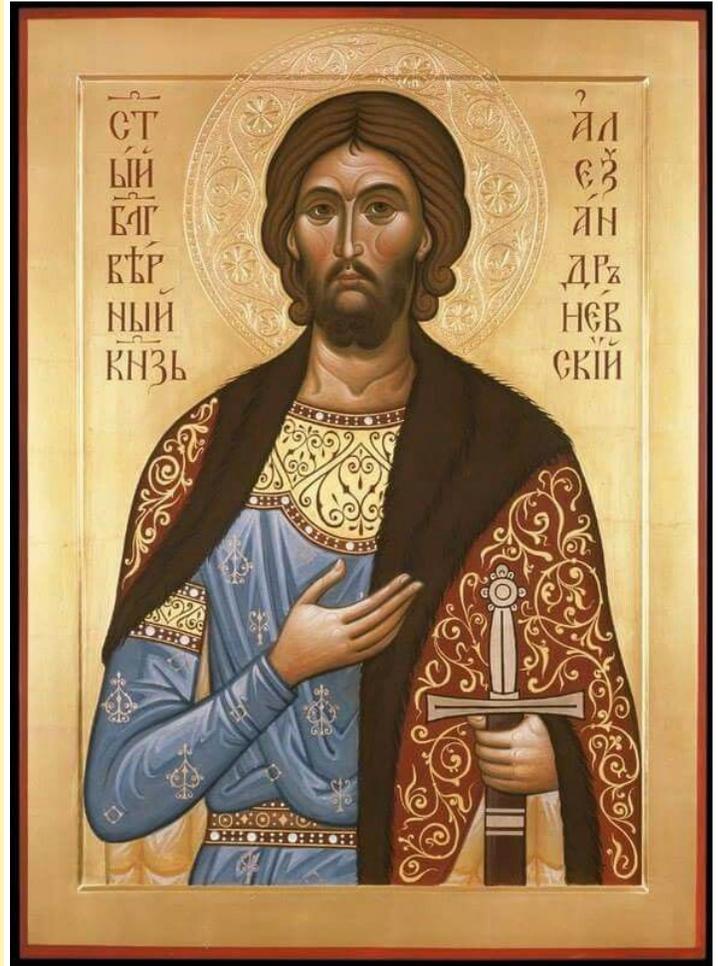
“God will not our prayers unless we acknowledge ourselves to be sinners. We do this when we ponder on our own sins alone, and not those of our neighbor.”

- Ven. Moses the Ethiopian



## 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.



Thy life was in accordance with thy name, O right-believing Prince Alexander; for having helped thy nation with thy courage and goodly governing on earth, thou dost now help thy people by thy supplications in heaven. Wherefore, we honor thee and in thee our God Who is glorified in His saints.

Greater love hath no man than he who layeth down his life for his friends. With such love didst thou love thy people, bravely setting out to defend them against the weapons of the adversary, as God protected thy head on the day of battle.

Be glad, O land of Estonia! O land of Russia, and thou, O Baltic Sea, clap your hands! O River Neva, spread forth thy streams! For, lo! thy prince and master, who hath liberated thee from the Swedish yoke, doth celebrate his triumph in the City of God. Him do the river's streams make glad. *(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 3

Let the heavens rejoice!/ Let the earth be glad!/ For the Lord has shown strength with His arm./ He has trampled down death by death./ He has become the first born of the dead./ He has delivered us from the depths of hell,/ and has granted to 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.

### Forerunner Troparion in Tone 2

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,/ but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner./ Thou wast shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,/ for thou wast deemed worthy to baptize in the steams of the Jordan Him Whom they foretold./ Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,/ thou didst proclaim to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh, Who takes away the sin of the world,// and grants us great mercy.

### Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 3

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One,/ leading us from the gates of death./ On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;/ with the Prophets and Patriarchs// they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

### 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!"

### Forerunner Kontakion in Tone 5

The glorious beheading of the Forerunner/ became an act of divine dispensation,/ for he preached to those in hell the coming of the Savior./ Let Herodias lament, for she entreated lawless murder,/ loving not the Law of God, nor eternal life,// but that which is false and temporal.

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

### Ss Alexander, John, and Paul Kontakion in Tone 8

Set a flame by the love of Christ, O glorious ones,/ you took up the yoke of His precious Cross, revealing yourselves as followers in His footsteps by your way of life,/ and you became partakers of His divine glory,/ divinely-wise Alexander, with wonderful John and glorious Paul.// As you stand before His throne, earnestly pray for our souls!

*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 15:1-11

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

### Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "

The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

## THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

### Sunday, August 30th

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

7:00 PM Pan-Orthodox Toledo Bonfire (Woodley)

*Afterfeast of the Beheading of the Forerunner*

*Ss. Alexander, John, and Paul the New of Constantinople*

*Translation of the Relics of St. Alexander Nevsky*

1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Matthew 19:16-26

### Monday, August 31st

7:30 PM Adult Education (Online)

*Placing of the Cincture of the Most Holy Theotokos*

*Hieromartyr Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage*

2 Corinthians 8:7-15, 2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5

Mark 3:6-12, Mark 3:13-19

### Tuesday, September 1st

*Church New Year*

*St. Simeon the Stylite (the Elder) and his mother*

*Righteous Joshua the Son of Nun*

1 Timothy 2:1-7, Colossians 3:12-16

Luke 4:16-22, Matthew 11:27-30

### Wednesday, September 2nd

*Martyr Mamas of Caesarea in Cappadocia and his parents*

*Ven. Anthony & Theodosius of the Kiev Caves*

2 Corinthians 9:12-10:7, Mark 3:20-27

### Thursday, September 3rd

*Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia*

*St. Pheobe, Deaconess at Cenchreae near Corinth*

*Martyr Basilissa of Nicomedia*

2 Corinthians 10:7-18, Mark 3:28-35

### Friday, September 4th

*Hieromartyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch*

*Holy Prophet and Godseer Moses*

*Martyr Hermione, daughter of St. Philip the Deacon*

2 Corinthians 11:5-21, Mark 4:1-9

### Saturday, September 5th

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

*Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth*

*St. Kassiani the Melodist*

1 Corinthians 2:6-9, Matthew 22:15-22

### Sunday, September 6th

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

*Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae*

*Martyrs Eudoxius, Zeno, and Macarius*

*St. David of Hermopolis in Egypt*

1 Corinthians 16:13-24, Matthew 21:33-42

### Joshua, an Old Testament Saint



Joshua, the son of Nun, is the man who succeeded Moses as Israel's leader and took the people into the Promised Land. The Book of Joshua describes his exploits as commander of the armies of Israel that marched into Canaan and followed God's instructions: "But in the cities...that the Lord your God gives you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes, but you shall utterly destroy them, the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites...that they may not teach you their abominable practices which they have done in the service of their gods" (Deuteronomy 20: 16-18a).

Some commentators see these verses as examples of the "bloodthirsty" Old Testament God who is so different from the merciful God of the New Testament that they can hardly be the same deity. Joshua, to these commentators, is a killer and no hero.

But archaeological research has shown that the Canaanite civilization was deeply decadent. Child sacrifice, sexual perversion and gruesome cruelty to slaves and conquered enemies were common. We know that the Israelites were susceptible to the influence of their neighbors. For example, they wanted a king, as we read in I Samuel 8: 5, because all the other nations had kings. There was a real danger of Canaanite practices and attitudes infecting and eventually consuming Israel, a risk that Canaan might "teach you their abominable practices."

The Canaanites had been given plenty of warning about what Israel could do. We know this from the words of Rahab, a harlot who lived in the big Canaanite city of Jericho and who had sheltered the two spies Joshua sent to "spy out" the land before Israel attacked. (The fall of Jericho is famously described in Joshua 6:20.) Rahab says, "For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed" (2: 10). She asks Joshua to let her family escape, and he honors his promise to do so. Hebrews 11:31 mentions Rahab as a woman of faith who "did not perish with those who were disobedient." Unlike the repentant Ninevites in the Book of Jonah, the disobedient Canaanites chose not to change their ways.

Joshua saw his duty to God in total obedience. He seems to acknowledge, speaking shortly before he dies, that it is not always an easy choice to obey God. But his own decision is unequivocal: "And if you be unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (24: 15).

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. We are now allowed to have 100% of social distancing capacity. Sign-up for church services is available online.

**Face masks are now required to be worn during all services.**

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.

**Welcome New Catechumens**

This morning we received Simon, Beth, Andromeda, and Lazarus as catechumens, and look forward to fully receiving them into the Church in the future. Congratulations!

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

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

**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.

**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:**

Gordon (Nicholas), Susan (Susanna), 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, Jachin, Simon, Beth, Andromeda, and Lazarus



**Sanctuary Lamp**

Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships are available.



**Celebrations**

**Birthdays:**

Nancy Angin (8/30)  
Simon Pappas (8/31)  
Nick Ostas (9/2)  
Naomi Barton (9/3)  
Katie Ranck (9/4)  
Cosmo Timofeev (9/4)  
Ariana Allen (9/4)

**Name's Days:**

Archbishop ALEXANDER (8/30)  
Alexandr Edelman (8/30)  
Aleksandr Kireyev (8/30)  
Joshua Pappas (9/1)  
Vicki Ghareeb (9/5)  
Elizabeth Ghareeb (9/5)  
Elise Allen (9/5)