

# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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September 20, 2020

15th Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 6  
Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross  
Greatmartyr Eustathius of Rome



From the Fathers...

“Unless a man gives himself entirely to the Cross, in a spirit of humility and self-abasement; unless he casts himself down to be trampled underfoot by all and despised, accepting injustice, contempt and mockery; unless he undergoes all these things with joy for the sake of the Lord, not claiming any kind of human reward whatsoever – glory or honor or earthly pleasures – he cannot become a true Christian.”

- St. Mark the Ascetic



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.



Today Thy precious Cross, O Savior Christ,/ shone forth radiantly like the sun,/ set up and ex-alted on the all-glorious Place of the Skull,/ on Thine all-holy mountain:/ openly revealing that by it, O all-powerful Lord,/ Thou hast raised our nature to the heavens, // for Thou art the Lover of man.

Stretching forth his hands, / Moses vanquished Amalek,/ prefiguring the image of the Cross./ Now we, bowing down before the Tree of the Cross,/ trample the cunning plots of the enemy underfoot,/ since we have Christ as our champion,/ Who was lifted up on it in the flesh, // slaying the serpent and saving mankind. *(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 6**

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;/ the guards became as dead men./ Mary stood by Thy grave,/ seeking Thy most pure body./ Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it./ Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life./ O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead,// glory to Thee.

### **Exaltation of the Cross Troparion in Tone 1**

O Lord, save Thy people,/ and bless Thine inheritance!/ Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians/ over their adversaries;/ and by virtue of Thy Cross,// preserve Thy habitation!

### **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.

### **Greatmartyr Eustathius Troparion in Tone 4**

Thy holy martyr Eustáthius and his wife and sons, O Lord,/ through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God./ For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries,/ and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.// Through their intercessions, save our souls!

### **Resurrection Kontakion in Tone 6**

When Christ God the Giver of Life,/ raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,/ He bestowed resurrection on the human race.// He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **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*

### **Greatmartyr Eustathius Kontakion in Tone 2**

Having openly imitated the Passion of Christ,/ and having eagerly drunk of His cup, O Eustáthius,/ thou becamest a partaker and fellow-heir of His glory,// receiving divine forgiveness from on high from the God of all.

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

### **Exaltation of the Cross Kontakion in Tone 4**

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake,/ grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God;/ make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,/ granting them victories over their adversaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

### **Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you.

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your

sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

### **Gospel: Matthew 22:35-46**

Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"

Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?"

And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

## THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

### Sunday, September 20th

9:30 AM Chrismation of the Barton Family  
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)  
7:00 PM Church School (Online)

*Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross*  
*Greatmartyr Eusthatus, Placidus, and those with them*  
*Holy Martyr and Confessor Michael of Chernigov*  
Galatians 2:16-20, 2 Corinthians 4:6-15  
Mark 8:34-9:1, Matthew 22:35-46

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### Monday, September 21st

*Leavetaking of the Exaltation of the Cross*  
*Apostle Quadratus of the Seventy*  
*Uncovering of the Relics of St. Dimitry of Rostov*  
Galatians 4:28-5:10, Luke 3:19-22

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### Tuesday, September 22nd

*Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope*  
*Prophet Jonah*  
*St. Peter the Tax-collector*  
Galatians 5:11-21, Luke 3:23-4:1

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### Wednesday, September 23rd

*Conception of the Glorious Forerunner and Baptist John*  
*Virgin-Martyr Irais of Alexandria*  
Galatians 6:2-10, Galatians 4:22-31  
Luke 4:1-15, Luke 1:5-25

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### Thursday, September 24th

*Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla*  
*New Martyrs of Alaska, Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut*  
Ephesians 1:1-9, Romans 8:28-39  
Luke 4:16-22, Luke 21:12-19

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### Friday, September 25th

*Ven. Euphrosyne of Alexandria*  
*Ven. Sergius, Wonderworker of Radonezh and All Russia*  
Galatians 5:22-6:2, Luke 6:17-23

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### Saturday, September 26th

5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream and In Person)  
*Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian*  
*Ven. Efrem, Wonderworker of Novgorod*  
1 John 4:12-19, John 19:2-27, 21:24-25

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### Sunday, September 27th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)  
7:00 PM Church School (Online)  
*Martyr Callistratus and his company*  
*Apostles Mark, Aristarchus, and Zenas of the Seventy*  
2 Corinthians 6:1-10, Luke 5:1-11

### Saint Thecla



**Saint Thecla was a contemporary of Saint Paul who became an evangelizer after hearing his teachings.**

Thecla was born to a rich family in Iconium, a town in Asia Minor. She was expected to marry, and marry well. In fact, her mother had a young man picked out for her. He had an excellent position and could offer Thecla a secure life. This was important in Thecla's day because an unmarried woman could find

herself with no support and no money. Marriage assured a stable place in society, with children to carry on the family name.

But something happened to Thecla that made her turn away forever from her mother's dream. The apostle Paul, who had been in Antioch, traveled to Iconium and began teaching at a house near Thecla's. She sat in her open window for three days and nights, listening as Paul spoke about the blessings of giving everything to God. Thecla decided not to marry and to devote her life to Jesus Christ.

Her fiancé Thamyris was furious and complained to the local governor that Paul was a bad influence. Because Thamyris was so prominent, Paul was arrested and imprisoned.

Late at night Thecla secretly went to the prison, bribed the guards, and stayed to hear Paul's teaching. When her family found her, they turned her and Paul over to the authorities. Paul was driven from the city and Thecla was sentenced to death. Her mother was so angry at her daughter's disobedient "madness" that she wouldn't intervene.

Thecla was tortured, but God delivered her from death. She found her way to Antioch and soon met Paul there. She helped him preach, and together they did good work for the Lord.

But once again a powerful person, this time the city governor, tried to turn Thecla toward marriage. When she hurt his pride by refusing he denounced her to the authorities. She was arrested and sentenced to die in the arena. But the wild beasts wouldn't harm her, and when their attempt to drown her also failed, the officials were so frightened that they let her go. She retreated to a rocky desert cave in the mountains near the town of Ma'aloula, Syria. Through her prayer she converted many and gathered other women monastics around her. She counseled people and healed the sick, never asking for money.

Even there, though, she was pursued. Jealous pagan doctors sent young men to harm the saint, now an old woman. But God heard her prayers and opened up a fissure in the rock of the cave. Thecla rushed into the space, which immediately closed up again.

Today you can visit Thecla's cave, and see in it the still-running spring that provided water for her. The nuns who live in the Mar Thecla monastery there will tell you her story, and show you the fissure in the rock where this saint, "Equal to the Apostles", left the world and joined her Lord in the Kingdom.

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.

**Congratulations and Many Years!**

Many years to the entire Barton Family: Tim, Laura, Ethan, Naomi, Olivia, Daniel, Phoebe, Ezekiel, & Jachin (along with Chloe) who were all chrismated into the Orthodox Church this morning! Many years to their sponsors as well!

**Online Adult Education**

Please join us for an Adult Education series “Mothers and Martyrs: An Examination of Women Saints in the Orthodox Church”. The final class will be held on **Monday, September 28th at 7:30pm**. The Zoom link is sent through our email list.

**Church School**

Church School continues **Sundays at 7pm ONLINE**. Please email Vicki Ghareeb at [vickighareeb@yahoo.com](mailto:vickighareeb@yahoo.com) to register your children. Upon registration, you will receive the link to the classes. We are looking forward to growing in Faith and fellowship as creatively as possible!

**Diaper Collection**

As we were unable to serve the St. Peter and Paul community with meals during COVID, The Outreach Ministry will be taking a diaper collection in September and October. The diapers will delivered to St. Peter and Paul in November to be dispersed to the community. Thank you for your support.

**Outreach Ministry Card Ministry**

St. George's card ministry would love to send you e-cards to help celebrate your birthday, Names Day, and anniversaries. Please help the card ministry by emailing St. George's Outreach Ministry at [outreachministry@stgeorgerosford.org](mailto:outreachministry@stgeorgerosford.org) with your email, birthday, Name's Day with your patron saint, and anniversary to help build our database! We need everyone's individual email addresses so cards can be sent directly to you! We cannot wait to celebrate with you!

**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.

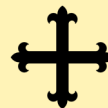
**Catechumens:**

Simon, Beth, Andromeda, and Lazarus



**Sanctuary Lamp**

The Sanctuary Lamp is lit today on behalf of the entire St. George community for the Barton Family! May God grant you all many years!



**Celebrations**

**Birthdays:**

Austin Timofeev (9/24)  
John Timofeev (9/25)  
Leslie Timofeev (9/26)

