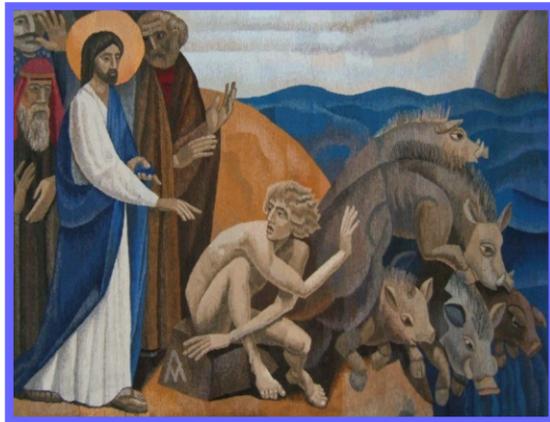


Scripture Readings

EPISTLE Galatians 2:16-20 Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GOSPEL Luke 8: 26-39 At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Gospel Reflection: Naming the Darkness Within



Today's Gospel recounts the story of the Gadarene demoniac delivered by the Lord Jesus from Satan. The man was possessed for years, living among the tombs, suffering physical trauma, and driven into the desert by evil spirits until he was made whole by the power of God. Jesus knows all this, yet asks: "What is your name?" for He is addressing the demons, not their victim - and they answered "Legion," as in countless. They became disturbed, threatened by the presence of the Lord. Yet they found their home in that demoniac and were determined not to leave his body, no matter the suffering they caused him. Jesus expelled the evil spirits, casting them into a herd of swine and rescuing the demoniac from a lifetime of possession. Yet those who witnessed the deliverance were struck not by joy, but by fear. They could not bear the power of the

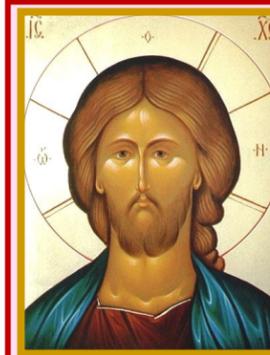
Christ in their midst, for Jesus had exposed the presence of evil, and they asked the Lord to depart from their midst. So it can be with us. We run from the light of Christ's power as it seeks to destroy sin amid the darkness in our hearts. We deny the great need we have to acknowledge and confess our own sins. Perhaps we even grow comfortable giving into our baser impulses. There are many times when we simply prefer the darkness. In response, Jesus shines his light into our hearts, today and every day. He heals. He delivers. He mercifully binds up our wounds. Rather than avoid His power, we need to name our sins and failings head-on, to own them and surrender all of them to the Christ of God. Only in such an honest surrender will we experience spiritual deliverance as did the Gadarene demoniac. We too will be free to give God glory and praise for the wonder He has wrought in us!

Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

Sunday, October 28, Orthros 8:45 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



This feast day celebrates the appearance of the Mother of God in the tenth century. As his life was ending, St. Andrew of Constantinople, joined by his disciple St. Epiphanius and others, witnessed the Mother of God, along with St. John the Baptist and other saints and angels, during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, near the city gates in the northwestern section of Constantinople. Several relics of the Theotokos were kept at the Blachernae Palace, including her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century. The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt and remained in prayer for a long time, her face filled in tears. She then removed her veil and spread it over the people as a sign of her protection, for during that time Constantinople was threatened by barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering. The icon of the feast of the Protection of the Mother of God shows the Theotokos standing above the faithful, draped with a veil, with her arms outstretched in prayer. On both sides of her are angels. On the lower right of most icons of this feast are St. Andrew and St. Epiphanius, who both saw this vision of the Mother of God – joined by the twelve apostles, bishops, holy women, monks and martyrs - spreading her veil in protection over the congregation.



How Much Are You Willing to Give?

The pace of our lives today is such that we often find ourselves being tossed from one task or event to another. We meet people, keep schedules, do our jobs, run around, fulfill our responsibilities, pay our bills — all at a feverish pace. There is a sense at times, that we rarely experience the fulness and meaning of everything we do in the course of a day, and in that sense we can often feel like giving 100 percent is just too much to ask. Sadly, that is often how we feel about Jesus. We "fit Him in" when we can, at times He is an afterthought, we hear His word and shrug our shoulders "Sounds nice, but I just can't give Him everything He wants! After all my life is already busy." So we settle. We give Jesus 10, 25 or at maximum 30 percent of our heart's attention, our discipleship, and hope He is ok with that. "After all," we say, "He understands." He asks for daily prayer, Bible reading, faithful and regular worship, doing the works of love. He calls for our ALL, not just the percentage we are willing to give Him. Putting it squarely, "When Jesus calls a person, He bids him come and die." All -- not pieces. How much of yourself do you give the Lord?

For Their Health and Salvation

His Eminence Metropolitan +Panteleimon; His Eminence Archbishop +Pavlos of Aleppo and His Eminence Mar +Gregorios Ioanna of Aleppo, who were kidnapped; Metropolitan +Kallistos of Diokleia, Anatoly Seraphim, Georgia Mavromihalis, Robert West, Amanda Lawrence, Ourania Mantzouranis, Maria Kritzas, Cathy, Janie Pappas, Eleni Gourmani, Anne Savas, the child of God Trey Anderson, Dimitrios Papapostolou, Angela Apidououlos, the child of God Amelia Marghi, the child of God Seraphina Marie Vasilatos, Adib Marghi, Betty Jean Dubard, Aris Peterson, Nicholas Ellis, Katherine Ellis, Kelly, Jon Wood, Tom Dale, Joy Kizzie, Marie Burpeau, Bill Pastis, Evangelia Pantazakos, George Dizelos, Constantina Speris; Andrew Katson; Selena Pappas

FOR THE BLESSED REPOSE

Eleni Tziallila (40 Days)

May she rest in peace and rise in glory, and may her memory be eternal!



SPIRITUAL LIFE AND LEARNING

2018-2019 BIBLE STUDY: "The Gospel of St. John: Beholding the Glory" This year's Scripture study focuses on the fourth Gospel, composed by St. John the Theologian. Join us every Thursday at 10:30 AM or 7:00 PM in the Church library to explore the depths of the Gospel written by "the disciple whom Jesus loved."

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2018-2019: "The Shared Experience of the Orthodox Christian Faith." Our theme this year is that our faith is not primarily about ideas or concepts, rules and regulations. It is about our relationship and our personal connectedness with Jesus Christ in the experience of our everyday lives. Following Divine Liturgy on Sundays.

ADULT INQUIRY CLASS: For adults interested in joining the Orthodox Church. Through discussion, speakers, and personal sharing, adults will be preparing to receive Baptism or Chrismation. Sessions will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesdays (except October 31 and November 21) in the Church Library. Contact Fr. Dimitrios for more information or to sign up at 301-469-7990.



NATIVITY FAMILY RETREAT

Our parish will hold a Nativity Family Retreat on Saturday, November 17, 2018, from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The theme of the retreat will be "Why Do We Need God?" The Guest Speaker will be Prof. Alex Younes, former Professor at the Toronto Orthodox Theological Academy. The offering per family is \$20.00 and online registration is at <http://www.stgeorge.org> The day will include prayer, presentations, discussion groups, Vespers and a family dinner (FASTING). As we prepare to commemorate the coming of God's Eternal Word in the flesh, make time as a family to join us.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

FEED THE HUNGRY: TODAY is Feed the Hungry Sunday. Please volunteer to help prepare, package, and deliver meals to the hungry and homeless in the Bethesda shelters. Join us in the kitchen at 11:30 AM, following Divine Liturgy. "Insofar as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me." (Matthew 25:40)

USHERS WELCOME: Please consider serving our faith community by helping keep our Divine Liturgy prayerful, beautiful and well-ordered, while caring for the Narthex. We welcome all men and women to serve as ushers. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4AAAAB2EA4FA7-Ecclesiastical>

GREEK SCHOOL: Adult classes are in session. Register at <https://stgeorge.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/238/responses/new> - Beginning Oct. 16, a conversational class to supplement Greek School instruction is offered every Tuesday for free to all students five years and older. Register online at: <https://stgeorge.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/247/responses/new> - For information, please contact Eirini Iatrou at eirini.iatrou@gmail.com

ORTHODOX YOUTH MISSION TEAM: St. George GOYANs and adult leaders are forming an Orthodox Youth Mission Team to participate July 7-13, 2019 in the Appalachian Service Project, working with families in this very poor region of the United States to help make their homes "warmer, safer and drier." Registration deadline will be in November – contact Athena Kaiser for information at 240-498-0870 or avkmail@verizon.net

Kindly bring this Bulletin home for deeper review and family discussion of the Gospel lessons and divine grace offered to you today. Many thanks!



THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE

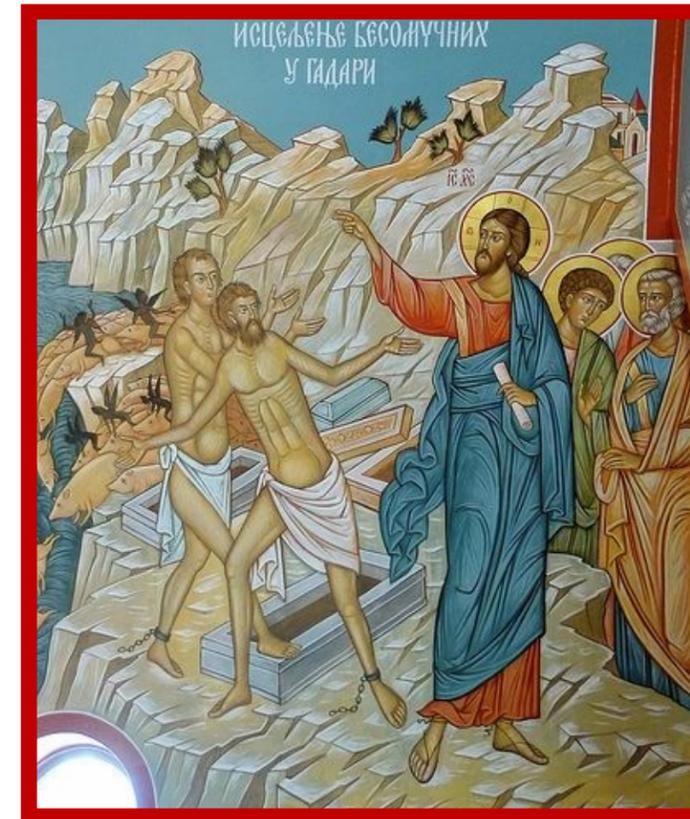


Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas, Presiding Priest



FrAntokas@stgeorge.org

7701 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817 www.stgeorge.org Tel: 301-469-7990



Icon of Jesus and the Gadarene Demoniac

6TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE ST. HILARION THE GREAT OCTOBER 21, 2018



Friday, October 26

**ST. DEMETRIOS THE
MYRRH-STREAMER**
(Name Day of Fr. Dimitrios)

Orthros 8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Resurrection Apolytikion Tone 4

Joyous tidings of Thy wondrous Resurrection; that the angel proclaimed to the women disciples, and brought an end to the ancestral curse, and with pride they announced to the other Apostles: Death hath been despoiled, and risen is Christ our God, bestowing upon the world great mercy.

Apolytikion of St. George

O Trophy-Bearer, Great Martyr George, who freed captives, supported the poor, healed the sick, was a champion of kings, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved!

Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτῆς, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστῆς, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός, βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.