

## Scripture Readings

**EPISTLE 2 Timothy 2:1-10** Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hardworking farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

**GOSPEL Matthew 15:21-28** At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.



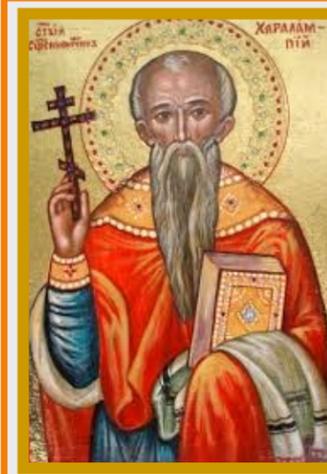
## Don't Give Up On God — Persist



Today's Gospel passage illustrates how far a Christian will go to secure what is needed from a beneficent, all-loving God. Jesus is approached by a Canaanite woman whose ethnic background is repulsive to a faithful Jew. The desperate woman asks Jesus to deliver her daughter from demonic possession. The Lord's disciples are annoyed that she bothers the Lord (and them!) – yet she persists. She is indefatigable. Jesus appears indifferent and seemingly ignores her. Yet ever the rabbi, Jesus well knew the lesson He was teaching even as he likened her to a dog. The woman was not deterred by the Lord's harshness, responding that "even the dogs get their share of the crumbs which fall from the master's table." She is determined to obtain Christ's mercy for her possessed daughter, humbly begging that simple phrase "Lord, help me!"

Rising above insult, she keeps fixed on her daughter's deliverance, subjugating herself in humility and persistence until she elicits from the Rabbi from Nazareth healing and hope for her daughter. A harsh lesson turned into a redemptive moment. It was this persistence that moved the Son of God to enter the dark and festering precincts of the girl's soul to drive from it Satan and all his minions. In our prayer, we, like that frantic Canaanite mother, can discover the closeness of God in the asking and in the waiting, by persistence, by never giving up, and in a humble spirit – surrendering our ego-wants, letting go of all that is not our life's focus and our heart's true treasure. It is in this encounter with God, however uneasy it may make us feel, that our cries will be heard, our thirst will be slaked, and we will feel Him draw closer to us. In the relentless asking and waiting, He will intrude on the often-shaky ground of our soul by His Divine Light and cast the sinister shadows from us. You and I can know that God is listening. With Jesus, heart spoke unto heart and love saw the face of love. That same Lord stands ready today to hear your cries. Don't give up - ever. Endure the waiting - always. He will respond to you for one compelling reason - He loves you!

## The Holy Martyr and Hierarch Haralambos (Feb. 10)



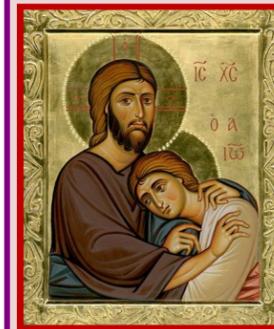
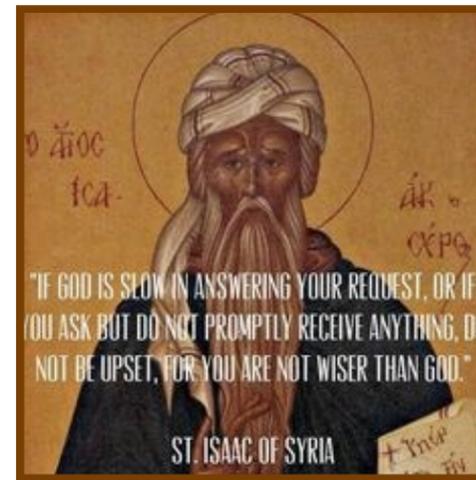
St. Haralambos was a second century bishop in Magnesia, near Ephesus. He successfully spread faith in Christ the Savior, guiding people on the way to salvation. Roman authorities arrested and tried him, and he confessed his faith in Christ and refused to offer sacrifice to idols. Despite his advanced age of 113, he was subjected to monstrous tortures, during which he proclaimed, "I thank you, brethren, that you have restored my spirit, which longs to pass over to a new and everlasting life!" The authorities later entreated the saint to show mercy on them, and the torturers were healed through the prayers of St. Haralambos. During this a multitude of Roman officials and citizens came to believe in Christ and asked to be baptized. Furious, the Emperor Septimus Severus ordered St. Haralambos to be brought to him in Antioch, tortured along the way and again upon arrival in Antioch. God protected the saint, and he remained unharmed. Many miracles were worked through his prayer: he raised a dead youth, and healed a man tormented by devils for thirty-five years, so that many more people, including the Emperor's daughter, began to believe in Christ the Savior. Finally, the emperor sentenced St. Haralambos to beheading with a sword. During his final prayer, the heavens opened and the saint saw the Savior and a multitude of angels. The holy martyr asked Him to grant that the place where his relics would repose would never suffer famine or disease. He also begged that there would be peace, prosperity, and an abundance of fruit, grain, and wine in that place, and that the souls of these people would be saved. By the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed. The fragments of his holy relics, which are to be found in many places in Greece and elsewhere, accomplishing frequent miracles.

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### In Blessed Memory

Maria Leontiadou (8 Years)  
John Nicholas Deoudes (5 Years)

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



### "Great Lent: A Season of Healing and Hope"

Our annual Lenten Lecture Series begins on Wednesday, Mar. 13 with the theme: "Great Lent: A Season of Healing and Hope." In the tradition of the Holy Fathers, the Church is a spiritual hospital bringing comfort, compassion and restoration to our challenging and often wounded lives. We all can identify with this human need. On five Wednesday evenings following the Presanctified Liturgy and a Lenten Supper, we will explore the reality of healing in the Orthodox Church, including healing from trauma, in our relationships, spiritual healing, Christ as the Wounded Healer, and the Resurrection of the Lord as the glory of all healing. There will be a different speaker for each evening and a time for questions. The dates are Mar. 13, 20, 27, Apr. 3 and 10. Presanctified Liturgy will be at 6:00 PM, followed by the Lenten Supper at 7:00 PM and the presentation. Make time for your spiritual life this Great Lent.

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## Save, Have Mercy Upon, and Protect

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, Jessica, 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, Nicholas Ellis, Katherine Ellis, Kelly, Jon Wood, Tom Dale, Joy Kizzie, Bill Pastis, Evangelia Pantazakos, George Dizelos, Constantina Speris; Andrew Katson; Selena Pappas

## SPIRITUAL LIFE AND LEARNING

**BIBLE STUDY:** “The Gospel of St. John: Beholding the Glory” held on Thursdays at 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM. This year’s Scripture study focuses on the fourth Gospel, composed by St. John the Theologian. Both groups are currently on Chapter 7. 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:** “The Shared Experience of the Orthodox Christian Faith,” Sundays in the Church Library following Divine Liturgy. Our faith is not about ideas or concepts, rules and regulations, but our relationship and daily connectedness with Jesus Christ. Through the Orthodox Christian Network’s live Facebook stream, the class reaches thousands in the United States, Canada, and dozens of countries worldwide. Enjoy the archives at <http://myocn.net/orthodox-christianvideo-programs/adult-study-classes/>

**ORTHODOX 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. The theme is “Living the Liturgy.” Sessions held Wednesdays, Feb. 6-Mar. 6 at 7:30 PM in the Church Library. Contact Fr. Dimitrios for more information or to sign up at 301-469-7990.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**ST, GEORGE MISSION TEAM:** Will meet TODAY, following Divine Liturgy, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**GODPARENT/GODCHILD LUNCHEON:** TODAY, Noon-3:00 PM. Adults \$20, children 4-15 \$15, children under 3 are free. For information or to reserve a table, contact Fran Solovieff at [Fpvlantis@aol.com](mailto:Fpvlantis@aol.com) or Maria Campbell at [MariaDCampbell@yahoo.com](mailto:MariaDCampbell@yahoo.com)

**PHILOPTOCHOS:** TODAY, hosting fellowship after Divine Liturgy throughout February. Please visit the “P.I.T.” (Philoptochos Information Table) to join or renew your membership, learn about our upcoming events, and support our outreach programs. Support our mission to “promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach to preserve the sanctity of life and family and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.”

**GOYA:** 3rd Annual Sights & Sounds Arts Festival, Mar. 2-3. All 7-12 grade youth are encouraged to share their unique abilities through a wide use of creative mediums including painting, drawing, photography, music, dance, drama, and writing. Required participant registration fee of \$20.00 includes an event T-shirt. Please indicate your individual and/or group participation categories at <https://stgeorge.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/269/responses/new> and support our Arts Festival by becoming a “Patron of the Arts” or purchasing a Program Book advertisement. Ad rates and artwork submittal information are at <https://stgeorge.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/271/responses/new>

**ST. JOHN ORATORICAL FESTIVAL:** Sunday, Mar. 10, 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM. For information, contact festival chairman Nick Moniodis at [nickmoniodis@gmail.com](mailto:nickmoniodis@gmail.com)

**“BE THE BEE” RETREAT:** Steven Christoforou, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, will lead a daylong program for 6-12 grade youth (9:30 AM – 5:00 PM) and an evening program for young adults 18-25 (7:00 PM), to share the Gospel in a clear and accessible way and helping young men and women see Christ at work in their lives. Watch their videos at <https://www.youtube.com/y2am>

**JAMES G. PULOS SCHOLARSHIPS:** April 1 application deadline. Established through a bequest by John Pulos, college scholarships are available to select graduating high school seniors. Participant families must be stewards in good standing at St. George. Applications can be found at <https://stgeorge.org/scholarship-opportunities/> The entire application can be completed online except the high school transcript, which must be mailed to: Pulos Scholarship c/o Greek Orthodox Church of St. George, 7701 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda, MD 20817.



# THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE



Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas, Presiding Priest

[FrAntokas@stgeorge.org](mailto:FrAntokas@stgeorge.org)



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## SUNDAY OF THE CANAANITE WOMAN ST. HARALAMBOS THE MARTYR

**FEBRUARY 10, 2019**

**Resurrectional 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 to 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!

**Ἀπολυτίκιον**

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