

ST. GEORGE *Chronicle*

Rev. Christopher Morris
Pastor

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

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SAVE THESE DATES

- SEPT. 11 - Pizza & Ice Cream Party
- SEPT. 18 - First Day of Sunday School
- OCT. 1 - Sponsor Lunch for Habitat for Humanity - Volunteers needed
- OCT. 7 & 8 - Garage Sale
- OCT. 29 - Lebanese Breakfast
- NOV. 19 - St. Helena Fall Bake Sale

Our Beloved Icons

by Subdeacon John Wolf

This month's Icon is entitled **The Triumphal Entrance of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.**

In the background of the icon we see on the left the Mount of Olives and to the right the city of Jerusalem. In the center, heading towards Jerusalem, is Jesus Christ upon either a donkey or a colt. The common understanding is that it was the donkey upon which Christ rode into Jerusalem, even though He

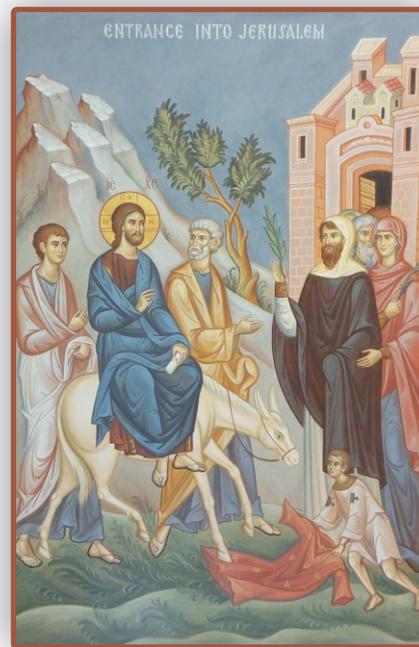
commanded both a colt and a donkey to be brought to Him. Nevertheless, both animals would have been shocking to the Jews in Jerusalem: the donkey because it is an animal of peace and the Jews expected a conquering, war-like, Messiah; the colt because it was an animal associated with the Gentiles, while the Jews expected the Messiah to be only for them.

In spite of His humble entry, the icon visibly depicts the invisible glory and identity of Jesus: through His halo, and through the scroll He holds, symbolizing Holy Wisdom.

Behind our Savior we see the Apostles John and Peter, seemingly perplexed by the event. This is not surprising, because they were already worried at Jesus' insistence in returning to Judea due to the Jews' threats (**John 11:7-10**). Now, not only is Jesus in Judea, but returning to Jerusalem itself, the seat of the Jewish religious authorities so determined to kill Him. They are also perplexed at Christ's choice of transport. "These things His disciples understood not at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things unto Him" (**John 12:16**)

The Hebrews, who had gathered to celebrate the Passover, come out of the gates crying out: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" They are carrying palm branches and a child has taken off his cloak and laid it before Christ. The message is clear: it is those with child-like

(continued on page 2)



*Sponsorship of the **Triumphal Entrance Into Jerusalem icon** at St. George Kearney, was offered by the Buchman, Neamu, Ramsey & Rehtus families.*

 **A note from Fr. Christopher . . .**

Dear Friends of St. George,

As many of you know, the Orthodox Church year begins on **September 1st**. On this day, we start over the cycle of feasts and fasts that give shape to our spiritual life. It's also a time for special supplications for the year to come.

As we begin this new church year, we ask for your prayers.

This coming year will be an important one in the life of our parish. We recently voted to buy more property and begin a longterm plan to build a new church hall. We are starting new ministries to engage the many talents that God has distributed amongst our parish family. We are continuing the beautification of our holy temple with our on-going iconography project.

While we ask for your prayers that all of these endeavors be successful, we need your prayers for something far greater. Holy Scripture warns us that it is quite easy to "gain the whole world" and yet forfeit our own soul. St. George is such a special place. Every year, our love for God and for each other grows deeper. And it is for this that we need your prayers—that no matter how many activities we do and wonderful dreams we dream, we will never neglect "the one thing needful." That prayer will always have the first place in our hearts. That all we think, do, and say will truly be to the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

So, please, keep us in your prayers. May God grant you all a blessed "New Year" of renewed faith!

Through your prayers,
Fr. Christopher



(continued from page 1)

simplicity and devotion who truly praise the Lord, whilst the adults – both the Apostles and the Jews – tend to get distracted and start wondering among themselves. In many icons the children taking off their clothes are revealed to be wearing white robes underneath, further emphasizing their purity and innocence.



O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead, before Thy Passion, thou didst



confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we, like babes, carry the insignia of triumph and victory, and cry to Thee, O vanquisher of death,

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.



* GARAGE SALE * GARAGE SALE *

OCT. 7th & 8th (Fri. eve and Sat. morning) at the Klein's, (1407 8th Ave, Kearney)

They can accept your donations starting **Wed. Oct 5th, after 5:00 pm**. Please call Mark to schedule a drop-off time (cell 308-293-5090) or send an email to:

stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com.

Volunteers? YES, the more we have, the smoother it goes. Opportunities include: setting up Fri. morning, working anytime during the hours we are open (Fri. eve and Sat. morning) and/or taking down displays after 12:00 pm Saturday.

All proceeds will go to the Building Fund at St. George.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

September 1st

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND CHURCH
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR THESE VERY IMPORTANT
ORTHODOX FEAST & CHURCH DATES
2016 - 2017**

Ecclesiastical Calendar

Pascha and The Twelve Great Feasts of the Church

Great and Holy Pascha is known as the Feast of Feasts and Festival of Festivals. It is the Day of Resurrection, the feast of complete joy, hope, and renewal. Twelve other great feasts highlight important events in the life of Christ and His Mother, the Theotokos.



Twelve Great Feasts

The Nativity of the Theotokos	September 8
The Elevation of the Holy Cross	September 14
The Presentation of the Theotokos	November 21
The Nativity of Christ	December 25
The Epiphany (Theophany) of Christ	January 6
The Meeting of Christ in the Temple	February 2
The Annunciation of the Theotokos	March 25
Palm Sunday	Sun. before Pascha
The Ascension of Christ	40 days after Pascha
Pentecost	50 days after Pascha
The Transfiguration of Christ	August 6
The Dormition of the Theotokos	August 15

Moveable Ecclesiastical Dates

Sunday of Zacchaeus	January 29
Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee	February 5
Sunday of the Prodigal Son	February 12
Sunday of Last Judgment (Meatfare Sun)	February 19
Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sun)	February 26
Great Lent Begins - Clean Monday	February 27
Sunday of Orthodoxy (Bring your Icons)	March 5
Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas	March 12
Sunday of the Holy Cross	March 19
Sunday of St. John the Ladder	March 26
Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt	April 2
Saturday of Lazarus	April 8
Palm Sunday	April 9
Holy (Good) Friday	April 14
Pascha (Our Easter)	April 16
Ascension	May 25
Pentecost, The Descent of the Holy Spirit	June 4
Holy Apostles Fast Begins	June 12
<i>Western Easter</i>	<i>April 16</i>

COME BUILD WITH US

"Honoring our Past, Building our Future"

St. George Church with Parish Hall and Courtyard



By your prayers, we have received the blessing of our Metropolitan Joseph and have signed a purchase agreement on the property to the north of the parish house. The Parish Council, Building and Grounds Ministry, Finance Ministry, along with Fr. Christopher, are working together, to prepare the necessary information needed to launch a successful building and fund-raising campaign. This long-term vision will require lots of prayer and sacrificial giving. Through the prayers of St. George and St. Raphael, may we continue to work towards the Glory of God, and continue the work that our founders began 100+ years ago.

• A PRAYER MINISTRY • *for the Departed*



I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.
HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE MAY DIE,
HE SHALL LIVE. - John 11:25

"There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in

all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all." (1 Corinthians 12:4-7).

We have a new Ministry at St. George! **A Prayer Ministry for the Departed** will offer a 40-day Memorial by reading the "Akathist Prayer for the Departed" each day, for 40 days. Volunteers will be able to pick the day they would like to pray this prayer. This devotional time is offered by lighting a candle during their private time, *either at St. George or at their own prayer corner at home*, and reading the Akathist. Generally, most Akathists can be read in 10 minutes and books will be provided for each volunteer. If you feel this ministry is something you would like to be a part of, please speak to Fr. Christopher or Joanie.

THANK YOU'S . . .

Many thanks to Margo, Theo, Victoria, and Virginia for helping with food, to Joanie, Kim, and Amy for helping decorate, and to Sarah for helping coordinate our parents' 50th anniversary celebration! The food was delicious and the decorations were fantastic. Thank you for helping make it a very special day.

Fr. Christopher and Kh. Anastasia

Dear Church Families,

John and I want to thank all of you who so generously helped with our 50th anniversary celebration. Father Christopher, Kh. Anastasia, Angie & Ment planned and you dear people made it happen. The decorations, the food, and the lovely cards and gifts we received made it a very special time for John and I. What a loving church family we have.

Yours in Christ,
Margaret



Dear Phil and Ashley,

Thank you for donating the **August Mystery Basket Raffle**. It was fun to finally win! I'll definitely use the frozen drink station and put the gift card to good use since I'm going back to school in a few weeks.



Thanks, James

Hello St. George parish family,

Sherry and I would like to thank you all, for your many prayers! Our family is growing, everyone is healthy, very happy and God blessed us with a little boy!



God Bless You,
Ramy Rizk and family



Birthdays

September 4
Amy Hadley

September 10
Alexis Hadley

September 17
Kollins Maloley

September 24
Mary Maloley

September 27
Amanda Denny

Donations *Gratefully Received*

Donation to the **Chronicle** from Margo and Nimir Maloley

Donation to the **Chronicle** from Anonymous donor

“He who is kind to the poor, lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.”

- Proverbs 19:17

Please send additions or corrections to:
stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com

In Honor of

Donation to the **St. George Bulding Fund**, in honor of John & Margaret Morris 50th Anniversary, from Joe and Linda Maloley.

Donation to the **St. George Bulding Fund**, in honor of John & Margaret Morris 50th Anniversary, from Tim & Tracey Shada.

Donation to **St. Helena Ladies Society** in honor of those who so generously helped with John and Margaret's 50th anniversary celebration, from Fr. Christopher and Kh. Anastasia.

May God bless you all for your generosity!





Women's
BOOK STUDY

NEW BOOK, NEW TIME

The **Women's Book Study** group will meet every other Monday, beginning August 29th, from 4:00 to 5:00. If you would like to volunteer your home for a meeting place, please let Kh. Anastasia know.

Our next book has been announced and are ready for purchase in the bookstore. Several of the ladies have commented that this looks like a fun book to read. ***Tears and Repentance, True Experiences in a Greek Taxi Cab.*** We hope to see you there - bring a friend!



The 20-40 group is looking for volunteer/service projects! Talk to Levi if you have ideas. Also, our group loves meeting at different places. Whether you are in the 20-40 group or just feel called to open your home as a meeting place, please talk to Levi or Sarah. We promise to pick up after ourselves!

Our **next meeting is Sept. 18th at 6:30 pm.** Rocky & Dione Steinbrink have offered to host us at their house - Thank you!

Please talk to Sarah or visit our **Facebook** page for more information.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The St. George Sunday School teachers are excited for the 2016-2017 school year! Thanks to a donation from Judy Yacio, we will kick off the year with a **pizza and ice cream party on Sunday, Sept. 11.** The entire parish is invited to our party during coffee hour as we celebrate the summer **Creative Arts Festival winners** and look forward to the school year.

The first official day of Sunday School will be September 18th. We have made some slight changes for this year. The two youngest classes will be meeting in the same room but at different times. Kids **ages 3 through Grade 1** will be meeting immediately following Divine Liturgy. This means that they will not go downstairs for coffee hour until after their classroom lesson. Teachers (Miss Amy and Miss Ronda) will escort this class to the parish house basement immediately following Liturgy. Parents, you are welcome to save some snacks or make a plate for the little kids so they have a treat to enjoy when they return from class.

Grades 3-6 will enjoy coffee hour snacks after Liturgy and when they hear the bell ring, it will be time to line up with their teachers (Miss Kim and Miss Ashley) for coffee hour. **The teens** will do the same and have class with Sarah upstairs at the parish house.

Thank you for your flexibility as we try out what we think is best for all students.

Finally, we would LOVE your help if you feel called to volunteer in the classroom. Both of the younger classes welcome anyone interested in being a teacher's assistant, craft helper, or just another loving adult presence in the room. The class for grades 3-6 could be quite large this year so please see any teacher if you would like to help! Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the youth at St. George! May it be a blessed and fun year!



New Books! New Items!

Thank you for your support. Your purchases allow the Bookstore to continue adding new merchandise.

Gift Cards are always available - See Levi for your gift giving needs.



The St. George Youth Group met at Dairy Queen on August 18th to catch up on summer activities and plan for the upcoming year. The group is eager to complete necessary forms to become a member of the **DOWAMA Teen SOYO (Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations)** and be able to access resources across the diocese and connect with other **SOYO** groups. Stay in touch for more news about this exciting step!

The youth group picked Sunday evenings as a tentative meeting time for the upcoming year. More specifics will be sent out soon. On August 21 the group went out for lunch after Liturgy and purchased items for the **September Mystery Basket Raffle.** You will not want to miss this one, especially if you have kids, are a kid, or consider yourself a kid at heart!! We look forward on sharing this basket with you on Sept. 11th!

ST. GEORGE BULLETIN BOARD

Our Baby Congratulations to:

To proud parents **Ramy and Sherry Rizk**, and to grandparents **Adel & Mounira Rizk** and to Sherry's parents **Fr. Rows & Susan**, on the birth of **Matheus Ramy Adel Rizk**. Matheus (which means "gift of God") was born August 3, 2016.



Matheus
Ramy
Adel
Rizk



GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS



"The basis for Spiritual progress is the practice of temperance in all things."
- St. Basil the Great

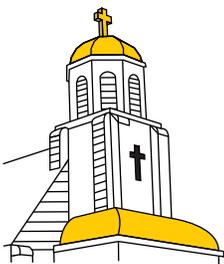
You're Invited to Our Fall

BAKE SALE

ST. HELENA LADIES SOCIETY

Saturday, Nov. 19th
9:00 am

- Kibbe & Stuffed Grape Leaves
- Meat Pies
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Fruit Pies
- Cookies
- Sweet Breads
- Baklava
- Flat Bread
- Rice
- Gift Ideas
- Holiday Favorites



GARAGE SALE

Oct. 7th
and 8th



When:

Friday, Oct. 7th, from 2:00pm - 6:00pm
Sat. Oct. 8th, from 8:00am - 12:00pm

Where:

Klein's house - 1407 8th Ave, Kearney

NO PRICE TAGS

A "Free-Will Offering" Sale for St. George
Volunteers are Welcome to help

Plan now to attend and/or help with our
Annual Fall St. George

LEBANESE BREAKFAST

Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016
7:00 am to 11:00 am

Volunteer opportunities include:
Selling Tickets, Prep and set-up evening before,
Cooking Eggs, Frying Bread, Serving,
and Clean-up.

"Many Hands Make Light Work"

Kollins



Happy 1st Birthday

ST. GEORGE SCRAPBOOK



Happy 50th Anniversary

John & Margaret



MAY GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS

Christ is Everything.
He is Joy,
He is Life,
He is Light,
He is Love.

- St. Porphyrios

August 12th

1966-2016



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FASTING DISCIPLINE DURING SEPTEMBER

During this period, the normal
fasting traditions are observed:
abstain from meat, poultry and
dairy products on **Wednesdays
and Fridays.**



The **Elevation of the
Cross**, Monday,
September 14th is a
strict fast day.

NOTHING HAPPENS

“The Lord is present
everywhere, and
nothing happens
without His will or His
permission, either in
this life or in eternity.”

- Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica



NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS



Feast Day - September 8



Year-to-date for 2016

FINANCIAL REPORT

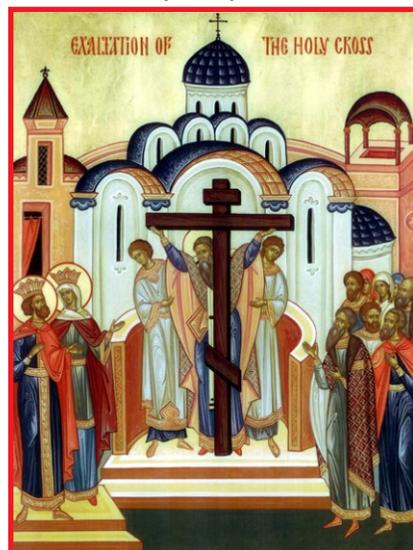
As of **August 24** ... We
have received \$56,519
of the \$91,000 we have
budgeted
for pledges.

As of **August 24** ... We
have received \$12,872
of the \$19,000 we have
budgeted
for trays and candles.

Thank you!

THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Feast Day - September 14



Troparion

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

Kontakion

As Thou was mercifully crucified for
our sake, grant mercy to those who
are called by Thy name; 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.

“And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26