



ST. GEORGE Chronicle

FEBRUARY 2020



The Very Rev. Christopher Morris
Pastor

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

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SAVE THE DATES

**GREAT FEAST OF THE MEETING
OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE**
Sunday, February 2

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Sunday, February 9

SEASON OF THE TRIODION BEGINS
Sunday, February 9
Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
Sunday, February 16

ST. GEORGE SPRING BREAKFAST
Saturday, February 22

MEATFARE (JUDGMENT) SUNDAY
Sunday, February 23

**CHEESEFARE SUNDAY
FORGIVENESS SUNDAY "SUNDAES"**
Sunday, March 1

GREAT FAST BEGINS - PURE MONDAY
Monday, March 2

MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT
March 13-15

HOLY PASCHA
April 19

68th DOWAMA - PLC 2020 page 3
June 10-13/Fort Collins, CO

SCHOOL IS NOW IN SESSION



New uniforms, new desks, and a classroom full of new adventures. The **Orthodox Girls school in Kenya** has begun a new semester of learning. With love, help and coordination from Mother Johanna of **Holy Archangel Michael Monastery** in Weatherby, MO and generous benefactors of **St. George Orthodox Church Kearney**, several of these girls are able to attend this first semester that began in January 2020.



It is the desire of the **St. George Ladies Society** to offer continued support to this school. The Orthodox Church is thriving in Kenya, though poverty is great. Giving girls the gift of education will help them lead their families out of poverty and inspire others to work hard and pursue their dreams.

Suggested donation is \$5.00 with donations going to the girls school in Kenya. The ladies society will also offer a variety of popular ethnic foods for sale at the breakfast. Church tours will be available to see the beautiful hand-painted iconography that adorns our sanctuary.



The parish at St. George will host their **Annual Spring Breakfast** on Saturday, February 22, 2020, from 7:00-11:00 AM.

We look forward to seeing you. Your time and donations are appreciated. *Thank You*

♥♥♥
Together
we can
make a
difference
♥♥♥



**GIRLS
SCHOOL
IN KENYA**



Saint Nicholas Party - December 2019

Families at St. George were able to celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas with our annual fellowship activities. The children all placed their shoes on the steps of the entryway into the sanctuary as we made our way into the worship service. After Vespers, the children were surprised to see their shoes filled with St. Nicholas chocolate coins, oranges and peppermint treats. We all enjoyed an evening meal together, followed by

the storytelling of the life of St. Nicholas. The older children then tied blankets together while the younger children colored bookmarks to attach to night lights. These items were later donated to local foster care organizations. Ornament crafting was the last highlight of the evening. Everyone was able to take a homemade Christmas Nativity icon ornament home that evening.



Kits



Soft Blankets

WE GET LETTERS . . .



Dear St. Helena Ladies Society,

Thank you so much for the beautiful messages and card. It means so much to me. I can see your smiling faces in all your names. God bless each of you. My heart is there and I keep your voices with me. I will always feel close to you. Nimir and our family are doing well and wish you the best year yet. Thank you again for your kindness.

Much love,
Margo Maloley



Our Sympathy

TO THE FAMILY OF:

Kh. Anastasia, on the loss of her godson, *Ephrem Talley, age 14*, on December 22, 2019.



MAY HIS
MEMORY
BE
ETERNAL

Dear Youth Group Christmas Carolers,

What a treat to have you surprise us with cheerful smiles and Christmas songs in December! It was a JOY to see you all.

Love, Mark & Joanie Klein



SAVE THE DATE

June
10th-13th
2020

Close to Home!

2020 Diocese of Wichita
Parish Life Conference

At the Hilton Hotel
Fort Collins

Hosted by:
The parish family at
St. James Orthodox
Church
Fort Collins, CO



68th Annual DOWAMA PLC

[important more information](#)



Birthdays

February 5

Paul Steinbrink

February 10

Bessie Shada

February 12

Darlene Liakos

February 22

Demetrios Theoharis

February 23

Micah Hadley

Kh. Anastasia Morris

February 25

Samaria Kennedy

February 26

Pete Theoharis

GOD GRANT YOU
MANY YEARS

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 19

Nimir & Margo Maloley

February 27

John & Mary Maloley

Donations

Gratefully Received

Donation to the **mortgage burning campaign** from Varthie and LeeAnn Eliakis in *memory of Jake and Esther Jacobs.*

Donation to the **Saint George Iconography project** from *Michael Yanney.*

Anonymous donation to the **Saint George Youth Group.**

May God bless you all for your generosity!

In Memory of

Donation to **Saint George Church** in memory of *Father Nicola and his family and Bill and Yvonne (Yanney) Pape* from Jim and Anne Pape.

Our Baptism Congratulations

To **PHOEBE GENE KREMER** on Saturday, December 21, 2019.

Proud parents are Micah and Christine Kremer, along with her five siblings: Ezri, Cedar, Henri, Solace and Everest. God parents are Fr. Phillip and Amanda Denny.

GOD GRANT
YOU
MANY YEARS

MINISTRY UPDATES



Thank you ladies for your attendance at our January meeting. Our next meeting is planned for **March 8th**. We will meet at the St. Raphael House, following coffee hour.

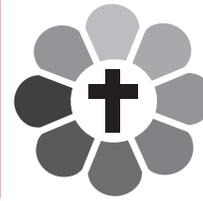
Our Ladies Winter Social was rescheduled for January 19, due to weather conditions, and we had a great turn out. We hope to do more of these as time permits. If you would like to host a future gathering for the Ladies, talk to Kim or Sarah.

The Annual Church Spring Breakfast will be **Saturday, February 22**. Tickets and advertising flyers are available now in the parish hall basement. Suggested donation is \$5.00. An ad for social media is also available for those who would like to help spread the word this way. Let Joanie know if you have any questions.

We will host our first **Forgiveness Sunday "Sundaes" on March 1st**.

Subdeacon Michael and Sarah organized a wonderful **Holy Bread workshop** on Saturday, January 25th. We had eight new bakers attend and had a lot of fun! We offered a free raffle for attending; Jeannie Hoff was our winner of a new linen bread pouch donated by Joanie. Many thanks to our helpers Levi, Dione, Kim, Darlene, and Joanie, who helped encourage our bakers. It was a fun day to exchange bread making tips with each other. If you missed the workshop and are interested in learning how to make bread, see Subdeacon Michael or Sarah. ***

Our **Saint Nicholas Day** activities included making soft blankets and preparing night-light kits to be given to local foster care organizations in our community.



saint
george
youth
group

We first stopped at Compass. This non-profit organization provides resources and education to help both local foster youth and foster families. We were able to talk with a representative and ask questions about local needs and what services they provide to both children and foster families. We learned that there are about 40 families in the Kearney area that provide foster care for children who are taken out of their unstable, potentially dangerous homes. We left feeling inspired by the people at Compass and the foster care families who in quiet humility offer love to others in need in our community. The night-lights we donated are given to children when they first come into foster care and many times do not have basic necessities. The night-lights help the children feel a bit more at ease at night in a new place.

The second stop was Foster Care Closet. This non-profit organization is new to Kearney. They offer new clothing to foster care families for the foster care child who is placed in their home. Many times when children are taken out of an unstable home, they don't have clothing with them. The foster care child can "shop" in the Foster Care Closet for new shoes, clothing, coats, underwear and blankets. All items are purchased with donated funds and/or are new donated items (like the blankets the youth made and gave to them). The representative mentioned that the children really enjoy soft blankets like the ones we donated. We enjoyed a tour of the "closet/store" together and were able to ask their program manager questions.

It was a heart-warming experience to visit both places and donate our Saint Nicholas Day items to local children through these programs. **It was a joy to give!**

Do you have a favorite recipe to share with your church family? The Chronicle would enjoy publishing your recipe, baking tips, or stories. Please send to: stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com

DESSERTS

Lenten No-Bake Brownie Bites

- 1/2 cup unsweetened shredded coconut flakes
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup walnuts
- 1/2 cup almonds
- 6 Medjool [Brand] dates
- 1 tbsp water
- 1 tbsp maple syrup
- pinch of salt

Instructions:

Put 1/2 cup walnuts and 1/2 cup almonds in food processor. Grind until small pieces. Then, add the rest of the ingredients one at a time. Mix it up again until combined with a texture similar to dough. Roll into balls. Place them on a plate or in a bowl, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for about an hour before serving. Enjoy your delicious, healthy, No-Bake Brownie Bites!



RECIPE
favorites



ST. GEORGE BULLETIN BOARD

YOU'RE INVITED TO



Our Annual Spring

**ST. GEORGE
CHURCH
BREAKFAST**

Saturday, Feb. 22nd

7:00 to 11:00 am

**TICKETS & FLYERS
AVAILABLE NOW**

*Let's spread the word and together
we can extend joy-filled hospitality!*

Please see sign-up sheet in parish hall basement for time slots that you can volunteer to help. Even one hour makes a difference.

Thank You

**ALL
PARISH
MEETING
SUNDAY
FEB. 9th**

**Plan now
to attend,
we need
you!**



Baby Shower

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER IN HONOR OF

Amber Hartley

SUNDAY **FEB 23** AT 12:00PM
2020

ST. RAPHAEL HOUSE, 1505 AVE. G
LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

REGISTERED AT TARGET & AMAZON



Congratulations

**OUR 3rd
QUARTER
KIDZONE
WINNER**

**for
2019
WAS
OLIVIA!**



Olivia won a \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift card for her submission to the Chronicle newsletter for KIDZONE.

Thank you Olivia, for sharing your story about reading to a baby chick.

– *The Chronicle*



Ladies Society will host
Forgiveness Sunday "Sundaes"

*and everyone is invited
for ice cream*

Sunday, March 1st
After Forgiveness Vespers

we hope to see you all!



St. George Cathedral cordially invites you to join the men of St. George for the Nineteenth Annual:

**Men's Lenten
Retreat 2020**

as

Father Evan Armatas
presents:

Saving Relationships

March 13-15, 2020

Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life
900 Cathedral Avenue, Victoria, KS

YOUTH GROUP VISITS

Monastery



MY FAVORITE THING TO DO

- go hiking through the woods
- staying in the monastery
- hiking through the trails



MY FAVORITE PERSON AT THE MONASTERY AND WHY

- Mother Johanna, because she is caring and told good stories about when she went to Kenya
- Sister Georgia
- Brother Tikhon
- Fr. Alexii, because he is so kind and understanding during confession

THE HARDEST THING ABOUT BEING AT THE MONASTERY

- hiking in a long skirt
- sleeping on a very hard cot
- I wanted to eat lunch
- sleeping in such a small room
- having to wake up so early and go to church



In November 2019, several members of our St. George Youth Group visited the monastery of **Holy Archangel Michael and All Angels Skete**, located in Weatherby, Missouri. [Thank you to Father Christopher, and our adult volunteers Micah, Sarah and Amanda that provided transportation and supervision for this overnight trip.] When the students were given the opportunity to share about their visit, here's what a few had to say –



I THINK OTHER KIDS SHOULD VISIT A MONASTERY

- It is an amazing experience for Orthodox Christians. I had tons of fun!
- it feels like you're visiting more than just somebody's home
- to be able to pray there
- It is a really good chance to truly experience God; you feel closer to him at a monastery. Fr. Alexii said that God pays special attention to monasteries, and so they are a good place to pray.

ONE THING I LEARNED

- they are going to build a chapel in the garden area
- they live their whole life praying
- the monastery is very small
- they have bee hives and one of the trails is named a Native American word for thanksgiving, which in Greek is the word "Eucharist".
- the monastery is actually three monasteries, not one

STORIES ABOUT OUR VISIT

- we were doing a scavenger hunt and I got to meet a chicken. They were super cute, until they wanted a bite of my pinecone!
- we almost got lost on the trail. ← ← ← ←
- when we were hiking on the trails, we came to a place that was just a big loop called Zacchaeus Circle. [It used to be called Sycamore Circle because it was lined with Sycamore trees.] When the monastery bought the property they changed the names. The monastics name a lot of their trails like that because of things they see there. There is one trail with an icon of a warrior saint (whose name I forgot) who had seen a giant stag with a cross in it's antlers. Well, one day they were hiking on this trail and they saw a huge stag, which reminded the monastic of this saint. It is so fun going to the monastery and learning all of these cool things about it.



ST. GEORGE SCRAPBOOK



Youth Group donates Blankets to **Foster Care Closet** and Night lights to **Compass of Kearney.**



**FLOUR
WATER
YEAST
SALT...
add
smiles
= FUN!**



**HOLY BREAD
WORKSHOP**
January 25, 2020

Subdeacon Michael and Sarah organized a Holy Bread Workshop. We gained eight new bread makers and learned great tips from several helpers. While the ovens baked our bread, love and smiles warmed our hearts.
Thanks for attending and sharing!



Love comes...



in all shapes
and sizes

 Do not give up, the beginning is always the hardest.

**God Always Rewards
Generosity**

ST. GEORGE
Chronicle

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OUR FEBRUARY FASTING

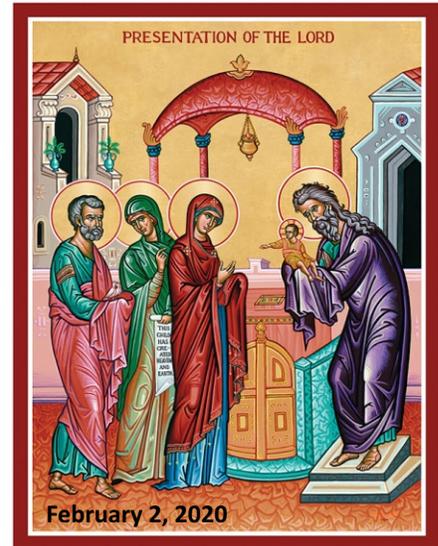
The traditional fasting discipline (fast from meats, poultry, fish, eggs, and dairy products) is observed on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Feb. 23rd is **Meatfare (Judgment) Sunday**. No meat is permitted after this Sunday, but eggs, cheese and other dairy, as well as fish, are permitted on all days of the week following this Sunday.

March 1st is **Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday**.

March 2nd is **Pure Monday**, and begins the Great Fast. From this day until **Pascha**, the traditional fasting discipline is kept on weekdays (unless otherwise noted on the calendar) with katalysis for wine and oil on Saturdays and Sundays.

During Pure Week it is traditional to keep a total fast until after the Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts on Wednesday.



Great Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple

“Here is how you should respond to the misfortunes of others: Give something to the needy, even if it is a little; it is not [little] to the one who is utterly destitute, nor to God either, if it is the best in your power. Offer your hearty goodwill, in lieu of a large donation; if you own nothing, shed a tear; compassion, that issues from the heart, is a great balm for the afflicted, and sincere sympathy goes a long way in lightening the burden of misfortune.”

— St. Gregory the Theologian



DECEMBER 21, 2019

Our parish family just grew by two feet!



Phoebe Gene Kremer

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