

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Transfiguration -- August 6th

It is good for us to be here

Upon Mount Tabor, Jesus revealed to his disciples a heavenly mystery. While living among them he had spoke of the kingdom and of his second coming in glory, but to banish from their hearts any possible doubt concerning the kingdom and to confirm their faith in what lay in the future by its prefiguration in the present, he gave them on Mount Tabor a wonderful vision of his glory, a foreshadowing of the kingdom of heaven.

These are the divine wonders we celebrate today; this is the saving revelation given us upon the mountain; this is the festival of Christ that has drawn us here.

Let us listen, then, to the sacred voice of

God so compellingly calling us from high, from the summit of the mountain, so that with the Lord's chosen disciples we may penetrate the deep meaning of these holy mysteries, so far beyond our capacity to express.

Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow him with all speed, yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in his radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into his own likeness, making us for ever sharers in his Godhead and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of.

Sermon of St. Anastasius of Sinai

ST. GEORGE ROMANIAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

EPARCHY OF ST. GEORGE IN CANTON

1123 44TH St NE, Canton, OH 44714

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Most Rev. John Michael Botean, Bishop - 330-493-9355

Very Rev. Ovidiu Marginean, Rector - 330-492-8413

Very Rev. Iuliu Muntean - 330-493-9355

Fr. Deacon Remus Orian – 330-809-2500

Schedule for Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Vespers: 6:30 p.m.

Day of Feast: 10:00am and 6:30 p.m.

Confessions: See calendar or at any time by request.

August 2, 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

This Sunday: Epistle 1 Cor 3:9-16

Gospel Matt 14:22-34

Next Sunday: Epistle 1 Cor 4:9-15

Gospel Matt 17:14-21

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

Monday 8/3	8:30am Divine Liturgy: In St. Panteleimon Church (wood)
Tuesday 8/4	8:30am Divine Liturgy: Safe travels for Viorel Badiceanu
Wednesday 8/5	8:30am Divine Liturgy: H/S Stella and Johnnie Lazar and Family
Wednesday 8/5	6:30pm Vespers for Transfiguration
Thursday 8/6	10:00am Divine Liturgy: For Holy Day of Obligation
Friday 8/7	8:30am Divine Liturgy: For the living and deceased members of the Ladies Auxiliary
Saturday 8/8	No Liturgy
Sunday 8/2	10:00am Divine Liturgy

Church Bulletin donated in August 2020 by ...

All scheduled services will be held and can be viewed and prayed with at stgeorge.click2stream.com. Make sure to click on the volume to unmute at the bottom right hand corner. Also, we are every Sunday on St. George Cathedral Facebook.

Sunday Collection: July 26, 2020

Sunday envelopes	\$437.00
<i>Unirea Canton</i>	\$40.00
Candles	<u>\$24.00</u>
Total	\$501.00

Online Donations **\$100.00**

Donation: +Yeona Hales by Jerry and Pat Woody **\$25.00**

Someone lit a candle and prayed for you last Sunday:

In memory of all Zagan Family Members	The Zagan Family
+Husband Dan Cseak	Natalie Cseak
+All family members and angel +Trisha	Del and Sandy
H/S All family members	Del and Sandy
Special Intention for Family	Doru Jacobs
+Joyce Reynolds – 23 years	Dave and Debbie Murari
H/S Susie Preston and Carol Frazier	Dave and Debbie Murari
Special Intention	Dave and Debbie Murari
H/S Stella, Johnny and Adrian Lazar and Family	Mircea Cristea
H/S Virginia Rogers	Mircea Cristea
H/S Earl and Amparo Adkins	Mircea Cristea
Health and Salvation	Mihai and Elena Florea
Special Intention	Mihai and Elena Florea
+Ana Poplacean – 50 years	Maria Poplacean
+Tillie Surdu – 3 years	Maria Poplacean

+++

Special Announcement:

Please pray for: Sr. Agnes Scalero, William Galida and Ana Heim, Earl Adkins, End to Corona Virus attack, Clore Family, Georgeta Barcutian, Grace Mary Fein, Barbara Greavu, Connie McAdams, Suzie Dragos, Doris Rotar, Virginia Rogers, Stella Lazar and all who need our prayers.

Sick and homebound: Magdalene Florian (Florida), Alex and Theresa Gonyias (Home), Ann Stimer (Home), Maria Poplacean (Canton Regency Rm.#256), Aurelia Lupsor (Canton Christian Home) Natalie Cseak (St. Joseph, Louisville), Eugene Popa (St. Joseph, Louisville) and Irene Pontones (Chapel Hill Retirement Community)

For holy Baptism contact the parish office at least one month prior to the date requested.

For First Reconciliation contact the parish office when your child turns 7.

For Weddings contact the parish office at least six months prior to the date requested.

To guarantee announcements for the bulletin, they need to be given to the office by Wednesday prior to the Sunday bulletin. Thank you!

To facilitate **accurate counting**, please use separate checks/cash for the special collection, candle and Sunday collection envelopes. Thank you for your attention to this detail!

Please let the office know if you have an upcoming surgery, illness, etc., so we can put you on our prayer list. Thank you!

Altar Candelabrum for August 2020 is donated by **the Craciun Family for the health of Mrs. Georgeta Barcutian and Mrs. Mary Cornea.**

Left Iconostasis Candelabrum for August 2020 is donated by **Earl and Amparo Adkins for health.**

Right Iconostasis Candelabrum for August 2020 is donated by ...

Blessed Virgin Mary Candelabrum for August 2020 is donated **Dave and Debbie Murari**.

If you would like to sponsor a candelabra for any month of the year in honor of a living member or in memory of any loved ones that have passed away, please get in touch with the Church office and Ann will be able to schedule it for you. Thank you for your continuous support of the Church!!!

Prescura for August 2020: Amparo Adkins, Suzie Dragos, Elena Florea, Ann Fosnaught, Maria Marcu, Debbie Murari, Jacqui Oprean, Virginia Rogers, Patricia Wendt, Dodi Zbuka and Psa. Gabriela Marginean.

Announcements

The Cookie Room is in the process of being remodeled. Feel free to stop by and check it out, but please be careful about touching anything!

Stairs to the large hall has been redone. We don't have to worry about tripping on ripped carpet.

For the sick and homebound, St. George Cathedral offers a **live stream** of the Divine Liturgy which can be found at the following website: stgeorge.click2stream.com. Please make sure that you turn on the sound at the bottom right hand corner of the screen.

Amazon donates a percentage of your purchases to the charity of your choice when you go to smile.amazon.com. As you are shopping online, you can go to choose the St. George Cathedral. Thank you for using smile.amazon.com!

Parish events:

St. George Cathedral will host a **curbside Romanian Heritage Festival on Sunday, August 23. For guaranteed orders, all orders need to be placed by August 19 6:00pm at www.stgeorgeoh.org**. Payment needs to be made when placing the order. Online ordering is easily done, but if you have no access to a computer, orders can be placed over the phone by the

office with payment made by credit card. Additional food may be available. There will be no booklet, no raffle. Sponsors for the Festival would be gratefully accepted! Please consider how you can help to make this the best Festival yet while maintaining social distancing!

Stewardship committee will meet on Wednesday, August 12 at 6:30pm. Contact Fr. Ovi if you are interested in attending.

To Tickle Your Funny Bone 😊

1. Your church started a new stewardship drive - every time you give, your chance of winning increases.
2. There's no money for new choir robes, so the choir has started wearing their bathrobes during the service.
3. The last few Sundays the treasurer has gotten up halfway through the service and turned the heat / air conditioning off.
4. The preacher's wife has worn the same dress every Sunday for the past three years.
5. The ushers are starting to drool and growl as they collect the offering.
6. The offering plates have been sold and replaced with ice cream buckets.
7. The treasurer has started wearing sackcloth and ashes.
8. You can't call the church office because the phone has been disconnected.
9. Parking meters have been installed in the church parking lot.

And the most important reason...

10. As a Christian church member, you understand the privilege it is to have a partnership in the Gospel! (See Malachi 3:8-10).

Word of Life

“We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life” (EV 86).

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

May the Lord generously provide
for the needs of all mothers
as they dedicate themselves
to caring for their children;

Let us pray to the Lord, Lord have mercy.



Happy Birthday! La mulți ani!!

Maria Marcu – August 3rd
Nicole Wolters – August 3rd
Theresa Gonyias – August 3rd
Willow Parker – August 3rd
Jamey Putt – August 4th
Miles Wolters – August 4th
Johnnie Maier, Jr. – August 5th
Michael Muntean – August 5th
Sr. Felicia Danca – August 5th
Kathy Walsh – August 7th
Sylvia Stoffer – August 9th

	Mon 8/3	Tue 8/4	Wed 8/5	Thu 8/6	Fri 8/7	Sat 8/8	Sun 8/9
	Dormition Fast - common abstinence						
	Nicole Wolters'	Jamey Putt's birthday	Sister Felicia Danca's	Dispensation (Harti)	Katherine Walsh's	Emilian the	Sylvia Helen Stoffer's
	Theresa Gonyias	Miles Henry Wolters'	Johnnie Maier Jr.'s	Fish permitted	Ven. Dometius,		Apostle Matthias.
	Maria Marcu's	Dave and Debbie	Michael Muntean's	+TRANSFIGURATION	Abstinence		10th SUNDAY AFTER
	Willow Parker	Seven Holy Youths of	Forefeast of the	Dispensation (Harti)			
	Ven. Father Isaac,		Abstinence	Fish permitted			
9am	Liturgy: in St. Panteleimon 8:30am - 9:30am	Liturgy: Safe travels to Viorel Badiceanu 8:30am - 9:30am	Liturgy: H/S Stella and Johnnie Lazar and Family 8:30am - 9:30am		Liturgy: For the living and deceased members of the Ladies Auxiliary		
10am				Divine Liturgy: Holy Day of Obligation 10am - 11:15am			Divine Liturgy 10am - 11:30am
11am							
12pm							Coffee: 11:30am - 12:30pm
1pm	SILCO come to inspect kitchen 1pm - 2pm						
2pm							
3pm							
4pm							
5pm							
6pm							
7pm			Great Vespers 6:30pm - 7:30pm				

SUMMER, IN OUR WORLD at least, is traditionally a time for sun and fun: cookouts, the beach, pool parties and the like. Yet in the midst of summer – in the week which has been compared to the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning – we are called to fast. The first two weeks of August are observed in the Byzantine Churches as the ***Fast of the Theotokos***, in preparation for the feast of her Dormition on August 15.

In the early Church, the Dormition Fast was generally observed in both East and West. Pope St. Leo the Great mentioned it in the mid-fifth century in connection with the seasons of the year: “The Church Fasts are situated in the year in such a way that a special abstinence is prescribed for each time. Thus, for Spring, there is the Spring Fast, the Forty Days {the Great Fast}; for summer there is the Summer Fast... [the Apostles’ Fast]...for Autumn there is the Autumn Fast, in the seventh month [Dormition Fast]; for Winter there is the Winter Fast [Nativity Fast].”

Today the Coptic, Malankara and Syriac Churches, as well as the Byzantine, continue to observe this 14-day fast period. In the Armenian and Maronite traditions, the fast lasts for one week rather than two. In the traditional calendar of the Roman Church, August 14 is observed as a day of fasting in preparation for this feast.

This fast period is one of several aspects of this celebration which has earned it the title of the “summer Pascha,” a feast pointing to the ultimate resurrection of all flesh at the

last day. Just as the feast of Christ’s resurrection is paired with the feast of the Annunciation (March 25), the Dormition is paired with the feast of Christ’s Holy Transfiguration (August 6). As Pascha is preceded by the Holy Friday evening observance of the Burial of Christ, the Dormition is marked in many places by a comparable burial service for the Theotokos, when lamentations patterned after the Holy Week hymns are sung. In some places a burial shroud (epitaphios), with the image of the Dormition, is carried in procession as well.

The Paraclisis to the Theotokos

In the Byzantine Churches of the Mediterranean world, the most prominent feature of the Dormition Fast is the celebration of the Paraclisis to the Theotokos, a service invoking the Virgin’s intercession for those we commemorate during the service. It is said that, as the Virgin sensed her approaching death, she prayed continually for her Son’s disciples and for those who would believe their message. And so, as the feast of the Dormition draws near, we ask her prayers for our Church and our loved ones with a similar intensity.

The Paraclisis to the Theotokos is patterned in part on Orthros (Matins). There is an opening psalm, troparia, a Gospel reading, and a canon, concluding with an incensing of the whole church and a solemn veneration of the Virgin’s icon. Intercessory litanies for those whom we are commemorating are interspersed throughout the service.

There are actually two canons used, which give their names to the service as a whole. The Small Paraclisis includes the older canon, composed in the ninth century by Theosterictus the Monk. This Paraclisis may be used at any time throughout the year. The Great Paraclisis, which is only sung during the Dormition Fast, was composed in the thirteenth century by the Emperor Theodore II Ducas Lascaris, in exile due to the Fourth Crusade. As a rule, these two services are sung alternately on successive nights during this Fast (the Great Paraklisis always being sung on Sundays). Neither service is sung on Saturday night or on the eves of the Great Feasts themselves.

For What Do We Pray?

Our liturgical books indicate that this service is prayed “in times of distress and sorrow of soul.” The opening troparion expresses these emotions: “We will never cease, O Mother of God, although unworthy, to proclaim your power. If you no longer intercede for us, who will deliver us from so many misfortunes? Who would ever have preserved us free until now? We shall never leave you, O Lady, for you always save you servants from all tribulations.”

The canon of the Small Paraclisis is sung to a lively melody and expresses confidence in the Theotokos’ care for us, in troparia such as these:

- “You who carried within you the Benefactor of all and the Cause of every good favor, let His abundant grace spring forth to all of us. You have the fullness of

power, since you've given birth to the Lord, the Almighty One."

- "Give me your pure joy, Virgin pure and immaculate, you who gave birth to the cause of happiness, and fill my heart with the gladness of your Son, our God.

The Great Paraclisis adds other notes to our picture of the Virgin as our intercessor:

- "I profess you, O Lady, to be truly Theotokos: you who have both banished and triumphed over the might of Death, for as the source of Life, you freed me from Hades' bonds, raising me to life, though I was fallen down to earth."
- "The turmoils of this life encircle me like bees around a honeycomb, O Virgin. They have seized my heart and now hold it captive, and I am pierced with the stings of afflictions, O Maiden. Yet, O all-holy one, be my defender, my helper and my rescuer."

One unusual feature of these canons is the following pair of hymns sung after each one, with a metany after each verse:

- "Deliver your servants from all dangers, O Mother of God, for to you, after God, we flee for refuge. You are our impregnable fortress, Our intercessor."
- "O Mother of God, worthy of all praise, look down with compassion upon the ills of my afflicted body and heal the infirmities of my soul."

Finally the celebrant solemnly venerates the icon of the Theotokos as the following glorification (or megalynarion) is sung: "May the lips of all heretics be sealed

because they refuse to bow before your all-holy icon, which is fashioned after the blessed *Hodigitria*, depicted by the holy Luke the Apostle."

This hymn reflects the iconoclastic controversy during which this service was composed. The iconoclasts refused to venerate icons of Christ, His Mother or the saints and for over a century persecuted those who did venerate them.

The *Hodigitria* mentioned here is the image of Christ enthroned on the arm of His Mother who points to Him, showing us the way to the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. The original of this icon was reputedly painted by St. Luke. The most famous icon in Constantinople, it was lost during the fall of the city to the Turks in 1453.

Another observance associated with this Fast in the Byzantine tradition, is the outdoor procession with the Holy Cross on August 1. Due to its climate, Constantinople was subject to insect-borne diseases at this time of summer. A procession was held each day of the Fast, praying for relief. Water was blessed and sprinkled over the city as well. Today this observance is remembered on the first of this month with a procession and the Lesser Blessing of Water.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



The Fast of the Theotokos