

**EPISTLE I CORINTHIANS 4::9-16**

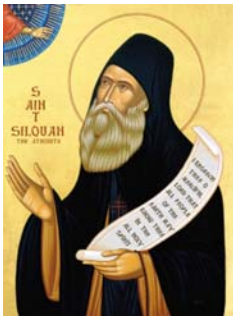
BRETHREN, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

**GOSPEL MATTHEW 17:14-23**

AT THAT TIME, a man came up to Him and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day."

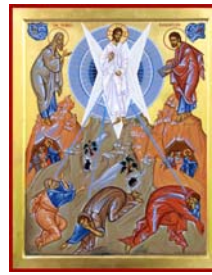


**ST. SILOUAN OF MT. ATHOS ON LOVE OF ENEMIES**



The soul cannot know peace unless she prays for her enemies. The soul that has learned of God's grace to pray, feels love and compassion for every created thing, and in particular for mankind, for whom the Lord suffered on the Cross, and His soul was heavy for every one of us. The Lord taught me to love my enemies. Without the grace of God we cannot love our enemies. Only the Holy Spirit teaches love, and then even devils arouse our pity because they have fallen from good, and lost humility in God. I beseech you, put this to the test. When a man affronts you or brings dishonor on your head, or takes what is yours, or persecutes the Church, pray to the Lord, saying: "O Lord, we are

all Thy creatures. Have pity on Thy servants and turn their hearts to repentance," and you will be aware of grace in your soul. To begin with, constrain your heart to love enemies, and the Lord, seeing your good will, will help you in all things, and experience itself will show you the way. But the man who thinks with malice of his enemies has not God's love within him, and does not know God. If you will pray for your enemies, peace will come to you.



**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

The disciples fell on their faces, for they could not bear, as created beings, the vision of glory. Only when Jesus touched them and told them to arise and not be afraid, were they able to return to the reality they knew. Our own credal statement, "Light of Light," with reference to the Son is testimony to our faith that God is light and that the Son is also light, and is related to this vision as the eternal, uncreated light on Mt. Tabor. The same declaration of the Father concerning Christ's eternal Sonship had been heard at the very beginning of His public work, at His baptism. It was at that time that the Holy Spirit descended upon Him (Luke 3:22), and He began His prophetic ministry, that is, His mission to preach the Kingdom of God and to declare the will of God for mankind. A cloud overshadows Him (the cloud was frequently the image of God's glory and the symbol of the Holy Spirit's descent in the Old Testament. It is then, at this point, that the prophetic ministry gives way to Christ's priestly ministry. The Transfiguration is not only another revelation of the Holy Trinity, but also another anointing for Christ's work, this time for the sacrifice, in which Jesus would be not only the priest who sacrifices, but the victim who is sacrificed. "O thou who before the ages art God the Word, O thou who art clothed with light as with a garment, thou wast transfigured before thy disciples, O Master, and didst shine forth more radiantly than the sun. Verily, Moses and Elias did stand before thee, clearly showing that thou art the Lord of the quick and the dead,

glorifying thine ineffable providence, thy mercy, and thy great condescension wherewith thou didst save the lost."

**FEAST OF THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION**

This coming **Friday, August 6, is the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus Christ.** Orthros will be at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy followed by the Blessing of Grapes at 9:30 a.m. Please make every effort to come celebrate this great feast of the Lord.

**THE PARAKLESIS**



The Paraklesis in honor of the Most Holy Theotokos begins this week, prior to the Feast of the Dormition. It will be offered on August 2, 4, 9, 11 and 13 at 7:00

p.m. Make a good preparation for the Feast by joining us for the Parakelsis. Prayer sheets to remember your living loved ones are available at the candle stand. **Today the Church begins a Strict Fasting period prior to the Dormition. Wine/oil are permitted on Sundays and fish is permitted on the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration.**

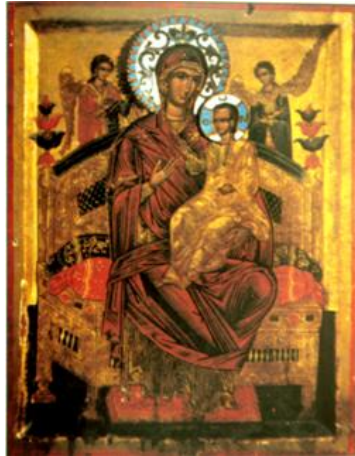
**MEMORIALS**

A Memorial Service will be offered today for **Stephan Hagestary (3 years) and Alice Hagestary (6 years)** requested by their daughter Lisa Hagestary. May the Lord give them a place with the Just and may their memory be eternal!

**PRAYER LIST:** Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaios, Katherine Panagakos, Priscilla Preuss, George Virvan, Sylvia Basdekas, George Speris, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi who is gravely ill, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Ashley Lyvers, the child Alexis Ross, Joseph Papadakis, Marilyn Kauffman, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, Estrella Grandea Ocampo, Stephanie Skanderis, Georgia Haldas, Eric Ricasa, William Coulopoulos, Milton Kayafas, Mary Agis, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** (Col.) Fr. Alexander Webster, Rev. Fr. Nicholas Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios and PFC Brett Hughes.

## **PASTORAL VISITATIONS**

Please inform the Church Office 301-469-7990 (ext 300) of any loved ones who are hospitalized or “shut-ins,” so they may be visited and receive the grace of Holy Communion.



### **FROM THE AKATHIST TO THE MOTHER OF GOD “HEALER OF CANCER” (TO BE SAID FOR THOSE AILING FROM THE DISEASE)**

#### **First Prayer to the Mother of God**

O All-Gracious, most wondrous Mother of God, Pantanassa, Queen of All! I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof! But as Thou art the lovingly compassionate Mother of the merciful God, say the word that my soul may be healed and my weakened body strengthened. For Thou hast unconquerable might, and all Thy speech hath power, O Queen of All! Do Thou gain the victory for me, do Thou supplicate for me - that I may glorify Thy most glorious name, always, now and ever, and unto endless ages. Amen.

#### **Second Prayer to the Mother of God**

O Most-Pure Mother of God, O Queen of All! Hearken unto our much-afflicted sighing before Thy miraculous Icon, brought to Russia from the land of Athos. Look upon Thy children, suffering from unhealed ailments, who fall down before Thy holy image with faith! As a bird covers its nestlings with its wings, so do Thou now, who art ever present, cover us with Thy greatly healing omophorion. In that place where Hope be.

There where bitter sorrows overcome us, there will Patience and Rest be revealed. Where the torment of despair dwells in the soul, there will shine the ineffable Light of Divinity! Console the fainthearted, strengthen the weak, bestow softening and enlightenment upon embittered hearts. Heal Thine ailing people, O All-merciful Queen! Bless the minds and hands of our physicians, that they might serve as instruments of the All-powerful Physician, Christ our Saviour. We pray before Thine Icon, that Thou mightest truly live with us, O Sovereign Lady! Stretch out Thy hands, filled with healing and cures, O Joy of the sorrowful, Consolation in afflictions, that having speedily received miraculous help, we may glorify the Life-creating and Undivided Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, unto the ages of ages. Amen.

## **ST. GEORGE BULLETIN**

### **10TH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW PROCESSION OF THE CROSS**

**AUGUST 1, 2010**



Because of the many diseases that occur in the month of August, the custom prevailed of old in Constantinople to carry the precious Wood of the Cross in procession throughout the city for its sanctification and its deliverance from illnesses. It was brought forth from the imperial treasury on the last day of July and placed upon the Holy Table of the Great Church of the Holy Wisdom; and beginning today, until the Dormition of the Theotokos, it was carried in procession throughout the city and was set forth for veneration before the people. We devoutly adore the Cross of Christ this day, asking for protection and healing for us, our loved ones, and all people. Thy Cross we adore, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify!

#### **Resurrectional Apolytikion**

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, \* and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. \* You rose on the third day, O Lord \* and Savior, granting life unto the world. \* For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver: \* Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; \* glory to Your eternal rule; \* glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

#### **Kontakion of the Cross**

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

#### **THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE**

7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda,  
Maryland 20817  
Office 301-469-7990 + Fax 301-469-  
5945

[www.stgeorge.org](http://www.stgeorge.org)  
Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas  
Proistamenos:  
Email: [FrAntokas@stgeorge.org](mailto:FrAntokas@stgeorge.org)

Rev. Fr. George Khitiri  
Email: [FrGeorge@stgeorge.org](mailto:FrGeorge@stgeorge.org)

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Despotides,  
Emeritus