

EPISTLE Romans 6: 18-23

BRETHREN, having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

TODAY'S READER: STELLA COMINOS

GOSPEL Matthew 8: 5-13

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.



**FEAST OF THE ICON OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS
"HODIGITRIA" AT THE MONASTERY OF XENOPHON
ON MT. ATHOS**

JUNE 20

St. Luke the Evangelist painted this icon on wood himself. When the most holy Mother of God saw it, she was pleased with it and blessed it. St Luke presented the icon to Theophilus, a state official for whom he wrote the Acts. of the Apostles. The icon was later taken from Antioch to Jerusalem, and sent from there by the Empress Evdokia to Constantinople as a gift for Pulcheria, the Emperor's devout sister. Pulcheria placed it in the Church of Blachernae, which was her own

foundation. The most holy Mother of God once appeared to two blind men and led them into the church to her icon, and restored the sight of them both. For this reason, the icon has become known as 'Hodigitria' - 'She who shows the way'. When the armies of the Persian king, Chozroes, and of Kagan, leader of the Scythians, attacked Constantinople, Patriarch Sergius carried the icon around the city ramparts, and the most holy Mother of God saved the Christians from the unbelievers. The forces of the enemy became confused, the sea began to heave about and the boats began to sink. The enemy soldiers who remained alive saved themselves by fleeing. Ever since then, a commemoration of this miracle wrought by the most holy Mother of God has been held on the Saturday of the Fifth Week of the Great Fast, with the reading of the Akathist. During the iconoclast period, this icon was taken to the monastery of the Pantocrator and sealed up in a wall with a burning lamp hanging before it. It was found later, unharmed by its immuring. *Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

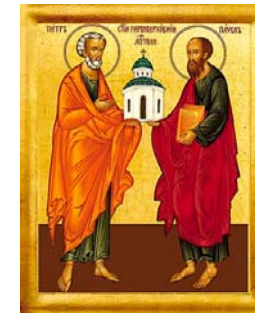


**PRAYER OF
BLESSING FOR
FATHERS**

Almighty and Eternal God our Father, we thank you for our earthly fathers, those to whom you have entrusted the responsibility to provide loving protection of their families and guidance of their children. We thank you, also, for our priests and bishops, whose spiritual fatherhood is so vital to the faith of your people. May our earthly fathers imitate the manly courage of Abraham, Jesse and Joseph, and all the holy fathers of the past in providing wise counsel to the children you have given to their care. And may our spiritual fathers be guided by the examples of Saints Peter and Paul, all the Apostles and their saintly successors. Give them valiant faith in the face of confusion and conflict, hope in time of trouble and sorrow, and steadfast love for you, for their families, and for all your people throughout the world. Assist all fathers of families, all spiritual fathers -- our Priests and Bishops -- and all Christian men, that through your Grace they may steadily grow in holiness and in knowledge and understanding of your Truth. May they generously impart this knowledge to those who rely on them. May all families support the fatherly role and may your Church support and sustain the fatherly shepherds that are given to us by your grace. As you, our Heavenly Father, so loved the world, sending your only Son to be our Savior and Redeemer, we ask you to help all men to imitate His fatherly gentleness and mercy toward those who are weak; His humility, perfect obedience to your Will, and fearless witness to your Truth. May their lives be examples to all of heroic fidelity to

PRAYER LIST: Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaos, 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, Theodosia Karmiris, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** (Col.) Fr. Alexander Webster, Rev. Fr. John Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, and 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios

you. We ask your blessing on all those to whom you have entrusted fatherhood. May your Holy Spirit constantly inspire them with justice and mercy, wisdom and strength, fidelity and self-giving love. May they receive your Grace abundantly in this earthly life, and may they look forward to eternal joy in your presence in the life to come All glory to you, God our Loving Father, to your Son and to your All-Holy, Good, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



**FEAST OF
SS. PETER AND
PAUL**

We will join our brothers and sisters at SS. Peter and Paul in Frederick for the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul on June 29. Metropolitan Evangelos will preside at Great Vespers on June 28 at 7 p.m. Orthros and the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will begin at 9 a.m. Join us in Frederick for this celebration of these two Apostles.

40 DAY BLESSING

A 40-Day Blessing will be given today to **Elena**, daughter of Jean-Michel and Desi Ferat. May God grant her many years!

MEMORIALS

A Memorial Service will be offered today for **Vasiliki E. Aloupis (10 years)** requested by her children, Panagioti and Ageliki. May her memory be eternal!

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.

SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Camp Good Shepherd, which is the summer camp of the Metropolis of New Jersey and located in Branchville, NJ, will be holding two sessions for GOYA aged persons (12-18) and one session for JOY aged children (7-11). The first GOYA session is from July 11-17 and the second session is from July 18-24. The JOY session is from July 25-31. For further information and for registration forms, please visit the Metropolis of New Jersey website: www.nj.goarch.org, or contact Fr. George: frgeorge@stgeorge.org.

Ionian Village, the official summer camp of our Archdiocese, will be holding two summer sessions for GOYA aged youths. Session 1 will be held from July 1-20 and session 2 from July 25 through August 15. For further information and registration forms, please visit the website www.ionianvillage.org, or contact Fr. George: frgeorge@stgeorge.org.

Orthodox Youth Day will be held at Paramount's Kings Dominion on Thursday, June 24th. All GOYA groups from the Greek Orthodox parishes in DC, Maryland, and Virginia will be participating. What a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and fun. If you are interested in attending, please contact Fr. George ASAP at frgeorge@stgeorge.org

A REMINDER

When you make your stewardship offerings by check, PLEASE REMEMBER TO WRITE ON THE MEMO LINE “2010 STEWARDSHIP.” Checks are coming in without ANY identification or with “Donation” written on them. Please assist our financial staff by indicating that your offering is TOWARDS STEWARDSHIP — otherwise the offerings will be placed in the general fund rather than under your stewardship pledge. Many thanks!

ST. GEORGE BULLETIN

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ST. MATTHEW
JUNE 20, 2010**



In today's passage from St. Matthew we witness the healing of the centurion's servant. It is the total submission of the centurion that causes Jesus to remark how he has not found such a depth of faith in all of Israel. He tells Jesus that only *a word* from him will heal the man. The centurion is in touch with Jesus' power—strange for a Roman soldier at that time. The story challenges us to examine just how strong our faith is in Jesus' healing power. How much are WE willing to submit like the centurion to Jesus word? How ready are we to change our lifestyles to truly LIVE our Orthodox faith? If a pagan soldier trusted Jesus, how much more ought we who follow Him as His disciples. He is the healer. He will mend our brokenness. He will keep His promise. Are YOU submitting to Him each and every day?

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. * For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. * He trampled death under foot by means of death; * and He became the first-born from the dead. * From the maw of Hades He delivered us; * and He granted the world His great mercy.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 24
NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN
THE BAPTIST**

**Orthros 8:30 am.
Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.**

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE

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

www.stgeorge.org
Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas
Proistamenos:
Email: FrAntokas@stgeorge.org

Rev. Fr. George Khitiri
Email: FrGeorge@stgeorge.org

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Despotides,
Emeritus