



All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb. 1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people, and guides to that which is profitable (Deut. 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps. 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents. In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Church, wisely honouring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for

the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him. But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

EPISTLE Hebrews 2:2-10

BRETHREN, if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

TODAY'S READER: WILLIAM LUCAS

GOSPEL Luke 8:41-56

AT THAT TIME,, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.



THE HOLY ARCHANGELS: GUARDIANS AND INTERCESSORS

We celebrate this feast of unity between angels and humans, and this unity is not in the "life to come" at the end of times — it starts in this world: the angels direct, guard the sons of God who are struggling in this world; they are glad with every sinner returning to God; they convey the prayers to God's throne. Hence, there is a common liturgical work between angels and humans. The angels offer a non-stop continuous doxology and mental worship with humans to God. They offer to the Holy Trinity the Trisagion: "with these holy powers, we sinners say the trisagion, 'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, the heavens and earth are filled with Thy glory, hosanna in the highest, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest' ". They gather around the holy altar with the priest to serve with him the liturgy. The angels are also a "heavenly army." Their leader and head is Archangel Michael, who is one of the seven spirits in front of God's throne. "O Holy Archangel Michael glorified, God has placed you head of their Hosts, Powers, Angels and Archangels, Dominions, and Principalities" The archangels or head of all the angels are seven in number. They are Seraphim, the closest to God. They are Michael (which means "Who is like God,") Gabriel (hich means "God's power,") Raphael (which means "God's mercy,") Salaphael (which means "prayer to God,") Orael (which means "God's light,") Yajoudael (which means "God's glory,") and Barakael (which means "God's blessing.")

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

O Commanders of the Heavenly Host, we the unworthy beseech you, that through your entreaties you will fortify us, guarding us in the shelter of the wings of your ethereal glory, even as we fervently bow before you crying: "Deliver us from all danger, as Commanders of the Powers on high!

PRAYER LIST: Antonia “Nitsa” Kempf, Margaret Karas Campbell, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaiois, Katherine Panagakos, Priscilla Preuss, George Virvan, Sylvia Basdekas, George Speris, Mariah Smiley, Joseph Saxton, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi who is gravely ill, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Georgia Loukas, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Ashley Lyvers, the child Alexis Ross, Thomas Jenkins, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** (Col.) Fr. Alexander Webster, Rev. Fr. John Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Lt. Mikael Johnson, Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy.

MEMORIALS

A Memorial Service will be offered today for: **Irini Fragkiadakis (40 Days)** requested by Ioannis and Olga; for **Evanthia Kiassa (40 Days)** requested by the Dimitrios and Maria Sgouveakos family; for **William Galanis (1 Year)**, requested by his father John, wife Linda and children Anna, Evangelia, and Christina, his brother Steve and sister Tina; for **Iralia Pastras (3 Years)** requested by Athena (her daughter) and George Georgiou, and grandchildren; and for **Coralia Marmaras (3 Years)**, requested by her husband Vassilios, sons Nikos and Simos, daughter Angelina and grandchildren. May their memories be eternal!



Friday, November 13, is the **Feast of Our Holy Father Among the Saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople** and author of the Divine Liturgy celebrated in every Orthodox Church throughout the world. Orthros will be served at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. Join us in celebrating the life of this great Church Father and Hierarch.

Among the many Angels God's has given us, is our Guardian Angel — our personal protector and intercessor. Memorize this prayer to your Guardian Angel and pray it daily that you may be kept in God's grace:

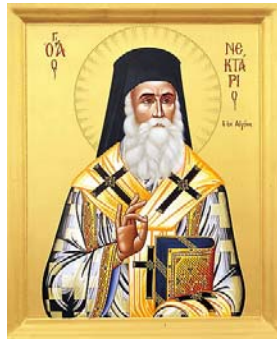


PRAYER TO THE GUARDIAN ANGEL

O Holy Angel of God, guardian and protector of my soul and body, forgive me every transgression which I have committed this day. Deliver me from all evil influences and temptations, so that I may not anger my God by any sin. Pray for me that the Lord may make me worthy of His grace and to become partaker of His eternal Kingdom with the help of the Most Holy Theotokos and of all the Saints. Amen.

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.



FEAST OF ST. NEKTARIOS TO BE CELEBRATED AT THE MONASTERY BEARING HIS NAME

Tomorrow, November 9, is the Feast of St. Nektarios of Aegina, Metropolitan of Pentapolis in Egypt. His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos will celebrate a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy marking the first-ever feast day observance at the **St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Monastery and Retreat Center** in Emmitsburg, MD. The Liturgy begins at 9:00 a.m. The Monastery is located on 8704 Hampton Valley Rd., Emmitsburg, MD. Our parish will be joining the Metropolitan to celebrate St. Nektarios feast and to thank God for the gift of the Monastery. Please consider coming to this special celebration.

BIBLE STUDY has begun again. It meets Thursdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This semester’s topic is *The Book of Psalms*. It is perhaps the most used book of Sacred Scripture in Orthodox prayer and worship. Come learn about these beautiful songs and make the Psalms a greater part of your everyday prayer.

FIFTY PLUS The November 11 meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. in the Founders Hall. Guest speaker is Demetrios Stavrakas who will speak on “The Federal Reserve and You as the Consumer” Everyone is welcome! Sunday, November 22 is our annual pre-Thanksgiving bake sale after Divine Liturgy.

FEED THE HUNGRY is in need of drivers and cooks to deliver and prepare food for the local **shelters** **THE NEXT FEED THE HUNGRY SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 15.** Contact is Peggy Hackman * 301-340-6027 * or email her at hackmans@comcast.net



SERIES ON THE FATHERS OF THE CHURCH

The final Bible Study class for this semester will be on November 12. Following that, we begin a 4-part series on the Fathers of the Church. The times are the same as Bible Study (Thursdays 10:30 a.m. to noon and 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) The dates are **Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, and 17.** The series will be given by Chrysostomos. Join us to learn more about the Church Fathers who, after the Holy Apostles, are the foundation stones upon which Orthodox theology and spirituality are built.

PHILOTOCHOS SOCIETY Stop by the Philoptochos Table in the Grand Hall this morning! We have our official Christmas Ornament available for sale. It’s truly beautiful and your donation supports our mission of serving others in need. Please sign up to be included in our community Christmas Card. The deadline is **today**. Your donation, in any amount is greatly appreciated. Our card is mailed out to the entire parish. Please be a part of our St. George family Christmas Greeting Card this year!

THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGELS

NOVEMBER 8, 2009



THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE

7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, Maryland 20817

Office 301-469-7990 + Fax 301-469-5945

www.stgeorge.org

Proistamenos: Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas

Email: FrAntokas@stgeorge.org

Rev. Fr. George Khitiri

Email: FrGeorge@stgeorge.org

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Despotides, Emeritus