

**WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS**

Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card. We invite you to join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall following the Liturgy.

**RECEIVING COMMUNION**

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

**HOLY OBLATION BREAD AND MEMORIAL WHEAT**

If you are offering Holy Bread, please pick up your portion on top of the chanter stand at the end of Liturgy.

If you are offering Memorial Wheat, please provide (300) 3oz Dixie cups.

Please notify the Church Office by end-of-day Tuesday.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE DUE TUESDAY END-OF-DAY.**

## ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

5311 Mercer, Houston, Texas 77005 [www.stgeorgehouston.com](http://www.stgeorgehouston.com)

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### February 18, 2018

**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of Emil Bechara (2 years), Nawal Bechara, Rizk, Fareed, George, and Joseph, and for the health of Souheil & Mariana and the Haddad family, Laura, Riad Bechara & family, Hoda Jaoude & family, Sadik & Wadia Haddad by Souheil & Mariana Haddad.

**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of William and Virginia Attra and for the health of the families of Bill & Betty Attra, Robert Attra, Rosalie & Louis Abercia and Carolyn A. & Albert Nahas by Carolyn A. & Albert Nahas.

**HOLY OBLATION** is offered in memory of Halim Nakhoul Barbar, Abel Castillo-Lucio, and Leonardo Castillo by Oussama & Jesse Barbar.

**CROWN REMOVAL:** Aaron & Dalia Steichen.

**TODAY IS MISSION SUNDAY.** As we begin our journey toward Great Lent and Christ's glorious Resurrection, let us remember that the salvation He made possible is to be shared with the world. Please share the work of Orthodox missions and pray for those who hunger and thirst for Christ and for our missionaries. If you'd like to join the mission ministries of the Church, please reach out to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) at 877-463-6784 or [www.ocmc.org](http://www.ocmc.org). Short and long term volunteers, as well as financial support, is needed.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES	
Sunday, February 18	5:00p Forgiveness Vespers
Monday, February 19	6:00p Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Tuesday, February 20	6:00p Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Wednesday, February 21	6:30p Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Potluck (hosted by Parish Council)
Thursday, February 22	6:00p Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Friday, February 23	6:30p Akathist to the Theotokos
Saturday, February 24	6:00p Great Vespers / Confessions
Sunday, February 25	8:45a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy 5:00p Pan-Orthodox Vespers (at St. Anthony in Spring)

## EVENTS

**ALMS BOXES FOR FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE CAMPAIGN:** Please pick up your alms box to use every day during this Lenten Season.

**ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL CLEAN MONDAY RETREAT:** "Holy & Great Lent: The Road of Charity & Mercy". 10a-2p Monday, February 19 in the Martel Hall of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral (3511 Yoakum Street, 77006). Guest speaker is the Very Reverend Archimandrite Dr. Nathanael Symeonides.

**BIBLE STUDY** 10a every Tuesday.

**SENIOR BINGO:** 11a Tuesday, February 20.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** 7p Tuesday, February 27.

**MARCH BUS TRIP:** Thursday, March 8. Bus leaves at 10a for St. Paraskevi Monastery.

**FORTY HOLY MARTYRS LENTEN RETREAT:** "Can the Church's Scripture Save Us Today?" March 2-3. Guest speaker will be Fr. Paul Tarazi. For more information, visit [www.40martyrs.org](http://www.40martyrs.org).

**ST. JOSEPH LENTEN RETREAT:** "Three Biblical Ways to Know Christ." 9:30a-3p Saturday, March 17. Guest speaker will be Fr. Chad Hatfield, the President of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary, where he teaches Missiology & Evangelism courses. \$30/person or \$50/couple before March 1, \$30/person after March 1, \$10 childcare; lunch included. Visit [www.saintjosephorthodox.org/](http://www.saintjosephorthodox.org/) for more information.

**2018 PLEDGE CARDS** are available in the Narthex, Office Lobby, and online.

**PERSONAL SECURITY:** When visiting St. George, please be conscious of your personal & property security. Never leave any valuables, including purses, briefcases or electronics, visible in your car. In the past, some of these have been stolen. Be especially cautious going to & from your car after dark & whenever possible ask someone to go with you. Your safety is always our concern.

**NEW ST. GEORGE SMARTPHONE APP:** Download our "My Church by echurch" app from the app store (St. George keyword is "SGOCC APP") or text "SGOCC APP" to 77977. If you need sign up assistance, see Eddy in the Hall after Liturgy.

**YEARLY GIVING STATEMENTS** are available at **mySTGEORGE**. If you have not already created your **mySTGEORGE** account, you can access the link at our website, [stgeorgehouston.com](http://stgeorgehouston.com). Once your account is created, your statement will be immediately available.

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

**2018 CAMP ST. RAPHAEL:** Registration is now open. Applications are posted online at [www.campstraphael.org](http://www.campstraphael.org). St. George attends Session 2 (7/1 until 7/7). Don't wait to register.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** 9:30a-12:30p June 4-8 at St. George. \$35/child.

## JOY CLUB

**MOVIE & GAME NIGHT:** 6:30p Friday, February 23. Dinner provided. RSVP with Dn. George Katrib.

## TEEN SOYO

**CAMP AT HOME/FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT:** 10a Saturday, March 3 at St. Anthony in Spring. Please contact Dn. George Katrib for more information.

## OCF (COLLEGE)

**CAMPUS LUNCH:** 12p-2p (2/20) at St. Thomas; (2/27) at Rice.

**BOWLING @ UH:** 6p Thursday, March 1. Dinner provided. All college students invited. RSVP with Dn. George Katrib.

**PROJECT MEXICO SPRING BREAK TRIP:** March 9-15.

# FORGIVENESS SUNDAY (CHEESE FARE)

❖ **The Antiphons and Little Entrance as in the service book.**

❖ **After the Entrance, the following are chanted:**

*The Troparion of the Resurrection in tone 4:*

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

*The Troparion of St. George in tone 4:*

As deliverer of captives, and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

*The Kontakion for Forgiveness Sunday in tone 6:*

O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, and givest understanding and intelligence, the Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father; for behold, I shall not refrain my lips from crying to Thee, O Merciful One, have mercy upon me who am fallen.

## The Epistle

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

O clap your hands, all ye nations.

*The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (13:11-14:4)*

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

## The Epistle in Arabic

رَتِّلُوا لِإِلَهِنَا رَتِّلُوا.

يَا جَمِيعَ الْأُمَّمِ صَفِّقُوا بِالْأَيْدِي.

**فصل 13:11-14:4** رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل رومية

يا إخوة إنَّ خلاصنا الآن أقرب مما كان حين آمنَّا \* قد تَناهَى الليل واقترَبَ النَّهارُ فلنَدعُ عنَّا أعمالَ الظلمةِ ونلبسَ أسلحةَ النُّورِ \* لنسلُكَنَّ سُلوكاً لائقاً كما في النَّهارِ لا بالفُصوفِ والسُّكْرِ ولا بالمصْاجعِ والعَهْرِ ولا بالخِصامِ والحَسَدِ \* بل البشوا الرَّبَّ يسوعَ المسيحَ ولا تَهتمُّوا بأجسادِكُم لِقضاءِ شَهواتِها \* مَنْ كانَ ضَعيفاً في الإيمانِ فاتَّخِذُوهُ بغيرِ مُباحثَةٍ في الآراءِ \* مِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَعتَقِدُ أنَّ لَهُ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ . أَمَّا الضَّعيفُ فَيَأْكُلُ بَقَوْلِ \* فلا يَزِدِرِ الذي يَأْكُلُ مَنْ لا يَأْكُلُ ولا يَدِينُ الذي لا يَأْكُلُ مَنْ يَأْكُلُ فَإِنَّ اللهَ قَدِ اتَّخَذَهُ \* مَنْ أَنْتَ يا مَنْ تَدِينُ عَبْدًا أجنبيًّا . إِنَّهُ لِمَوْلَاهُ يَنْتَبُتُ أو يَسْقُطُ . لَكِنَّهُ سَيَنْتَبُتُ لِأَنَّ اللهَ قَادِرٌ على أَنْ يُنْتَبِتَهُ \*

## The Gospel

*The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (6:14-21)*

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

## The Gospel in Arabic

**\* (6:14-21) فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر**

قال الربُّ إن غَفَرْتُم للناسِ زَلاتِهِم يَغْفِرُ لكم أبوكُم السَّماوي أيضاً \* وإن لم تَغْفِرُوا للناسِ زَلاتِهِم فأبوكُم أيضاً لا يَغْفِرُ لكم زَلاتِكُم \* ومتى صُمْتُم فلا تَكُونُوا مُعَبِّسِينَ كالمُراءيين . فَإِنَّهُمْ يُنْكِرُونَ وجوهَهُم ليَظْهروا للناسِ صائِمِينَ . الحقُّ أقولُ لَكُم إنَّهُم قد أَخَذُوا أَجْرَهُم \* أما أَنْتَ فإذا صُمْتَ فادهنْ رأسَكَ واغسلْ وجهَكَ لئلا تَظْهَرَ للناسِ صائِماً بل لأبيك الذي في الخَفِيَّةِ . وأبوك الذي يَرَى في الخَفِيَّةِ يُجازيكَ علانيةً \* لا تَكْنُزُوا لَكُم كُنُوزاً على الأرضِ حيثُ يفسدُ السُّوسُ والأكلَةُ وَيَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ وَيَسْرِقُونَ \* لكن اكنُزُوا لَكُم كنُوزاً في السَّماءِ حيثُ لا يفسدُ سوسٌ ولا أَكلَةُ ولا يَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ ولا يَسْرِقُونَ \* لِأَنَّهُ حيثُ تَكُونُ كُنُوزُكُم هناك تَكُونُ قُلُوبُكُم \*

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## The Gospel

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