

## This Week at St. George

**Sunday, December 7, 2014**

<b>8:45AM</b>	<b>Matins</b>
<b>9:45AM</b>	<b>Bible Lesson</b>
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>

**Tuesday, December 9, 2014**

<b>7:30AM</b>	<b>Reading of First Hour—Brief Bible Study</b>
<b>6:00PM</b>	<b>Iconography Group @ Fr Jeffrey's House</b>

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014**

<b>6:00PM</b>	<b>Class on the Life of Moses</b>
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**Thursday, December 11, 2014**

<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Reading of Third Hour—Brief Bible Study</b>
<b>5:30PM</b>	<b>Akathist to the Theotokos the Inexhaustible Cup—Community Dinner</b>

**Friday, December 12, 2014**

<b>7:30PM</b>	<b>Acker Night—Firehouse Plaza</b>
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**Saturday, December 13, 2014**

<b>5:00PM</b>	<b>Great Vespers</b>
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### December Calendar

December calendars are printed and available in the Narthex

### St. Nicholas Day

Thank you to all who helped with the St. Nicholas Day event!

### Upcoming Akathist Service

Please join us and spread the word about the next Akathist to the Theotokos the Inexhaustible Cup which is this Thursday, December 11th at 5:30pm.

### Confession

During the Nativity fast, all are encouraged to make time to come to confession. Confessions are heard before and after weekday and Saturday services or by appointment.

### Acker Night

A quartet from St. George, under Jonathan McNeely's direction, will be singing hymns of the Church, and traditional folk hymns on Acker Night. Come see us at the Firehouse Plaza this Friday, December 12th beginning at 7:30pm.

### Icon Painting

This Tuesday night will be the first meeting of a group devoted to learning the theory and technique of icon painting at Father Jeffrey's house. Please see Father Jeffrey for details.

### 2014 Parish Christmas Card

We are putting together our annual Parish Christmas Card. If you would like your name to be included on the card, please see Anne Lunsford in the bookstore. A \$20 per family donation is requested. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO BE INCLUDED!**

If you have bulletin announcements, please contact Jill Normandin by Thursday to have your announcement included in the Sunday bulletin. Email [jillnormandin@gmail.com](mailto:jillnormandin@gmail.com) or call 928-533-3977 (email is preferable so no details are missed).



## St. George Orthodox Church of Prescott

Sunday, December 7, 2014—10th Sunday of Luke  
Served by Fr. Jeffrey Frate

**607 W GURLEY STREET, PRESCOTT, AZ 86305**  
**928-777-8750 WWW.PRESCOTTORTHODOX.COM**



### The Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19

Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

### The Gospel Reading is from Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

## PRAYER LIST

Matthew Bricker, Greg, Lauren and family, Aiden and Alyssa, Vanessa Bricker, Nathan Bricker, Kathy, Mary, Dan and Marcia Hill, Valentina Thommen, Fr. Makarios Mwaura and family (Kenya), Amber Brogger & children, Elena Cook, Walt Thayer, Vera Timotijevic, John Walendziak, Cynthia DeLeone, Roman Benyk, Thom Mellema, Karen Clark, Vadim, Kristina, Rochelle and Wayne Pedersen, Lisa, Emma Grace Findley, Mark and Jeannie Panos.

For our sons and daughters serving in the U.S. Armed Forces; Jordan Verespe, Don (Spyridon) Hock, Col. Stephen Close, Matthew Bricker, Matt Meyers, Jordan Lunsford, Joseph Peck and Benjamin Peck.

And for the departed Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Gabriel Cooke, may his memory be eternal.

And the newly departed Rita Dennett, sister of Anna Marie Kontonis.

As members of an Orthodox Christian family, we are called upon to pray for each other.

If you would like us to remember you or your loved one in our prayers, please contact the church office at 928-777-8750 or e-mail the name of your loved one to [jillnormandin@gmail.com](mailto:jillnormandin@gmail.com)

## For our Visitors this morning!

If this is your first visit to an Orthodox Christian liturgy we welcome you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! The Eastern Orthodox Church traces her lineage back to the Day of Pentecost, the birth of the New Testament Church. We are liturgical in worship, using the liturgies developed in the fourth century and attributed to St. John Chrysostom, and St. Basil the Great, also, the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy attributed to St. Gregory Dialogos, Pope of Rome. Liturgy literally means, "work of the people", and it seems these services are attributed to these three saints because they were in every sense of the word champions of the people, caring for their flocks with true wisdom and discernment, and not afraid to suffer on their behalf, and on behalf of the truth. We are the "Church of the Bible" since it was in the bosom of the Church that the New Testament developed and was given birth. We are hierarchical in structure, visibly witnessing to, and manifesting, the reality that the grace of God flows from our one great High Priest and Hierarch, Jesus Christ, through the communion of hierarchs throughout the world to the entire body of the faithful, even to the smallest child. The apex of our worship experience is to commune with God in the Body and Blood of Christ. He Himself taught in the Gospel of St. John, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh...For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." (Jn 6:51,55) In light of this, the Divine Liturgy of the Orthodox Church is essentially Eucharistic, meaning it is offered in thanksgiving to the One Triune God who continuously sends down the Holy Spirit upon us and the bread and wine that we offer, making these humble things, for us the unworthy, the precious Body and Blood of Christ. **Please note that Holy Communion is reserved for those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves with prayer and fasting to receive the Holy Mysteries.** We do invite you to receive the blessed bread (antidoron) which is offered to all after the dismissal, and please do join us at the conclusion of the Divine Service for our fellowship meal in the hall next door. May the Lord richly bless your worship with us in this morning's Divine Liturgy!

## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

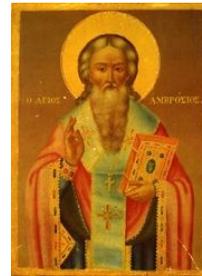
While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

## APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE

Liberator of captives, defender of the poor, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, O trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

## KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.



## Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (December 7)

This Saint was born in Gaul in 340, and was a member of the Roman Senate. After the death of Auxentius, the Arian Bishop of Milan, a violent dispute arose among the Orthodox and Arians about who would succeed him. Ambrose, desiring as Governor of the province to restore the peace, attempted to mediate between them. As he spoke to the people, eloquently persuading them to elect a new bishop without tumult and disorder, a young child, inspired from on high, suddenly cried out "Ambrose, bishop!" To his astonishment and dismay, the people immediately took up this cry themselves, and over his many protests, he was raised to the episcopal throne of Milan on December 7, 374. A great Father of the Church, he wrote many works in Latin, and was both an unwearied opponent of Arianism, and a fearless accuser of emperors when they transgressed the law of God. Having lived fifty-seven years, he reposed on April 4, on the eve of Pascha, in the year 397.



## The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos (December 9)

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, since Saint Anna, the Ancestor of God, was barren, she and her husband Joachim remained without children until old age. Therefore, sorrowing over their childlessness, they besought God with a promise that, if He were to grant them the fruit of the womb, they would offer their offspring to Him as a gift. And God, hearkening to their supplication, informed them through an Angel concerning the birth of the Virgin. And thus, through God's promise, Anna conceived according to the laws of nature, and was deemed worthy to become the mother of the Mother of our Lord.



## Herman the Wonderworker of Alaska & First Saint of America (December 13)

Saint Herman (his name is a variant of Germanus) was born near Moscow in 1756. In his youth he became a monk, first at the Saint Sergius Hermitage near Saint Petersburg on the Gulf of Finland; while he dwelt there, the most holy Mother of God appeared to him, healing him of a grave malady. Afterwards he entered Valaam Monastery on Valiant Island in Lake Ladoga; he often withdrew into the wilderness to pray for days at a time. In 1794, answering a call for missionaries to preach the Gospel to the Aleuts, he came to the New World with the first Orthodox mission to Alaska. He settled on Spruce Island, which he called New Valaam, and here he persevered, even in the face of many grievous afflictions mostly at the hands of his own countrymen in the loving service of God and of his neighbour. Besides his many toils for the sake of the Aleuts, he subdued his flesh with great asceticism, wearing chains, sleeping little, fasting and praying much. He brought many people to Christ by the example of his life, his teaching, and his kindness and sanctity, and was granted the grace of working miracles and of prophetic insight. Since he was not a priest, Angels descended at Theophany to bless the waters in the bay; Saint Herman used this holy water to heal the sick. Because of his unwearied missionary labours, which were crowned by God with the salvation of countless souls, he is called the Enlightener of the Aleuts, and has likewise been renowned as a wonderworker since his repose in 1837.

**"Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works! If you see a poor man, take pity on him! If you see an enemy, be reconciled to him! If you see a friend gaining honour envy him not! If you see a beautiful woman, pass her by! For let not the mouth only fast, but also the eye, and the ear, and the feet, and the hands, and all the members of our bodies. Let the hands fast, by being pure from pillaging and avarice. Let the feet fast, by ceasing from running to hateful theatres and along the pathways of sin. Let the eyes fast, being taught never to fix themselves rudely upon handsome countenances, or to busy themselves with strange beauties. For looking is the food of the eyes, but if this be such as is unlawful or forbidden, it mars the fast; and upsets the whole safety of the soul; but if it be lawful and safe, it adorns fasting. For it would be among things the most absurd to abstain from lawful food because of the fast, but with the eyes to touch even what is forbidden."**  
— St. John Chrysostom