



St. George Orthodox Church of Prescott

Sunday, September 4, 2016—11th Sunday of Matthew

Served by Fr. Jeffrey Frate

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METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

The Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12

BRETHREN, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading is from Matthew 18:23-35

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailors, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

PRAYER LIST

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, Karen Clark, Vadim, Kristina, Rochelle and Wayne Pedersen, Lisa, Mark and Jeannie Panos, Presvy Jenny Nicolaou Newlin, Ben Banks, Maria Carolina, Bill Kountanis, Michele and McKenzie.

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

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

And the departed Helen Wells, Bob (Timothy) Hunt, John Tupy, Kayla Mueller, Khrystyna Gavryushenko and the newly departed Kathy Hunt.

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

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

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION FOR ST BABYLAS IN TONE FOUR

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

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 FOR THE NATIVITY

Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death, O Immaculate one, by thy holy Nativity, which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offences, celebrate by crying to thee: the barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.



Babylas the Holy Martyr (September 4)

Saint Babylas was the twelfth Bishop of Antioch, being the successor of Zebinus (or Zebinas); he was beheaded during the reign of Decius, in the year 250, and at his own request was buried in the chains with which he was bound. The Emperor Gallus (reigned 351-354) built a church in his honour at Daphne, a suburb of Antioch, to put an end to the demonic oracles at the nearby temple of Apollo. When Julian the Apostate came in 362 to consult the oracle about his campaign against the Persians, the oracle (that is, the demon within it) remained dumb until at last, answering Julian's many sacrifices and supplications, it told him, "The dead prevent me from

speaking." It told Julian to dig up the bones and move them. Julian, then, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "leaving all the other dead, moved only that Martyr." He commanded the Christians to take away Saint Babylas' bones, which they did with great solemnity and triumph. When this had been done, a thunderbolt fell from heaven destroying with fire the shrine of Apollo, which Julian did not dare rebuild. Saint John Chrysostom preached a sermon on this within a generation after.



Moses the Prophet & Godseer (September 4)

The Prophet Moses-whose name means "one who draws forth," or "is drawn from," that is, from the water-was the pinnacle of the lovers of wisdom, the supremely wise lawgiver, the most ancient historian of all. He was of the tribe of Levi, the son of Amram and Jochabed (Num. 26:59). He was born in Egypt in the seventeenth century before Christ. While yet a babe of three months, he was placed in a basket made of papyrus and covered with pitch, and cast into the streams of the Nile for fear of Pharaoh's decree to the mid-wives of the Hebrews, that all the male children of the Hebrews be put to death. He was taken up from the river by Pharaoh's daughter, became her adopted son, and was reared and dwelt in the King's palace for forty years. Afterward, when he was some sixty years old, he fled to Madian, where, on Mount Horeb, he saw the vision of the burning bush. Thus he was ordained by God to lead Israel and bring it out of the land of Egypt. He led Israel through the Red Sea as it were dry land and governed the people for forty years. He wrought many signs and wonders, and wrote the first

five books of the Old Testament, which are called the Pentateuch. When he reached the land of Moab, he ascended Mount Nabau, on the peak called Phasga, and there, by divine command, he reposed in the sixteenth century before Christ, having lived for some 120 years. The first two Odes of the Old Testament, "Let us sing to the Lord" and "Attend, O heaven, and I will speak," were written by him. Of these hymns, the first was chanted by the shore of the Red Sea as soon as the Israelites had crossed it; the second, in the land of Moab, a few days before his repose. The Holy High Priest Aaron was the elder brother of the Holy Prophet Moses. He was appointed by God to serve as the spokesman of Moses before the people, and also before Pharaoh, in Egypt. Afterwards, in the wilderness, he was called to the ministry of the high priesthood, as narrated in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers in the Old Testament. The name Aaron means "enlightened."

Prayer for Evangelism in Ourselves and in Our Community

God of truth and love: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Hear our prayer for those who do not know You. That they may come to a saving knowledge of the truth, and that Your Name may be praised among all peoples of the world. Sustain, inspire, and enlighten Your servants who bring them the Gospel. Bring fresh vigor to wavering faith; sustain our faith when it is still fragile. Continually renew missionary zeal in ourselves and in the Church, and raise up new missionaries who will follow You to the ends of the world. Make us witnesses to Your goodness full of love, full of strength, and full of faith for Your glory and the salvation of the entire world. Through the prayers of all the missionary saints, Have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

This Week at St. George

Sunday, September 4, 2016

9:00AM

Orthros

10:00AM

Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

6:30PM

St. George Sisterhood Meeting

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

6:00PM

St. Romanos Chant School

Friday, September 9, 2016

6:00PM

Desert GOYA Event—St. Katherine's in Chandler, AZ

Saturday, September 10, 2016

5:00PM

Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy Start Time

The start time for Divine Liturgy changes to 9:30am on September 11th.

Church School

September 11th will be our first Sunday of Church School. This year Church School will begin immediately after the children have received Holy Communion at the Divine Liturgy. Please allow the children and their teachers to receive Holy Communion first.

Bunco Night

The Ladies Group is planning a family fun night of bunco on Friday, September 16 at 7 pm. Everyone (young, old, individual, family, male, female) is invited to an evening of fun and bunco in the church hall. No knowledge of the game is necessary, if you can roll dice, you can play. Mark your calendars and save the date. We are asking \$5 per family and all funds raised will go towards the St. George Sisterhood's charitable projects during the year. Hope to see you there!

Orthodox Youth Event—September 9th

Hosted at St Katherine's Church in Chandler, our Valley Orthodox Youth ministry kicks off the 2016-17 year, on Friday evening, September 9!

An exciting night that will include among other things, various games, great talks, prayer, and plenty of dancing, this event will begin at 6:30p on Friday night, and will wrap up around 10p! For those 6th-12th grade youth wishing to participate in this regional Orthodox event, be sure to tell your parents, and contact Fr. Jeffrey, or Ty Freedman. More details will soon be announced!

Men's Group

Raymond Zogob, and Jesse Lall are in the process of developing a Men's Group here at St. George. The first several sessions will be based on a curriculum we've obtained from the Antiochian Archdiocese. The first meeting is scheduled for September 19th at 7pm.

Readers Needed

If you are an Orthodox steward of our parish and interested in reading the Epistle occasionally on Sunday mornings, please see Fr. Jeffrey or Kenny. There will be a training session for new readers on Sunday September, 4th. Following Liturgy.

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

St. George Parish Council: Gina Clark, President, George Rizk, Vice President, Kally Key, Treasurer, Matt Maxwell, Secretary and Council Members, Ty Freedman, Laretta Gioia, Kenny Scott, Robert Smith, and Raymond Zogob.