

THE ST. GEORGE Grapevine

Jul-Aug. 2012 • Vol. 16, No. 6

St. George Orthodox Cathedral • Charleston, WV

Pastor's Corner

By Fr. Olof Scott



I don't know about you, but the longer I live the more I'm aware that my life has been, and is, full of twists and turns. There's hardly a straight stretch and, if there is one, it doesn't seem to last for long.

Case in point, starting life as a mixture of European-ethnic heritage (German, Scots/Irish and Swedish), raised Protestant, schooled in science and technology, I now find myself near the end of my life an Eastern Orthodox priest, married into a Ukrainian family and pastor of a primarily Arab-ethnic parish. Talk about a u-turn!

Recently I was preparing for a trip to Lebanon. I've never been there and it's been a goal for many years. The closest I've gotten in the past is Limassol, Cyprus.

Plans were coming along nicely since last fall. I was able to obtain a reasonably priced ticket and the arrangements for my stay were assured. I was to be the guest of our dear friends, the archpriest Father Mitri and his family, in Ayta El Foukhar. We would travel and visit sights throughout Lebanon during the last two weeks of June.

Then, out of the blue, another one of those twists or turns—soreness through the shoulders, unable to take a deep breath without tightness or slight pain. After being stubborn for two days, hoping it would go away, I made the “call.” Diagnosis—pericarditis and atrial fibrillation. Ultimate result—good-bye trip to Lebanon for the time being.

The words recorded in Proverbs (16:9) resound in my ears: “A man's heart plans his ways, but the Lord directs his steps.” It's times like these, along with reflections over my past life, that reveal the clarity of our relationship with God our Heavenly Father.

God created us in His image to grow into His likeness in order for us to be in

a relationship with Him. We accomplish this by our union with Him through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

God has a plan for each of us and it's our responsibility, living in this synergistic relationship stated above, to make sure that we are living according to His Will. This means that our individual “will” must be submissive to and be brought into line with His “Will” designed for us.

This should be obvious to us Christians because we pray every day as our Lord taught us, “Our Father Who art in heaven, ...Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven ...” We say this petition which is meant specifically for us and not just generally for the world at large.

Two other prayers that I personally use in my daily devotions were written by Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow (19th cent.). Both are beneficial in getting a sense of seeking and accepting God's Will for us.

The first is for the Acceptance of God's Will: “O Lord, I do not know what to ask of Thee. Thou alone knowest what are my true needs. Thou lovest me more than I myself know how to love. Help me to see my real needs which are concealed from me. I do not dare to ask either for a cross or for consolation. I can only wait on Thee. My heart is open to Thee. Visit and help me, for the sake of Thy great mercy. Strike me and heal me; cast me down and raise me up. I worship in silence Thy holy Will and Thine unsearchable ways. I offer myself as a sacrifice to Thee. I have no other desire than to fulfill Thy Will. Teach me how to Pray. Pray Thou Thyself in me. Amen.”

The second is a prayer for the Beginning of the Day: “O Lord, grant me to greet the coming day in peace. Help me in all things to rely upon Thy holy Will. In every hour of the day reveal Thy Will to me. Bless my dealings with all who sur-

round me. Teach me to treat all that comes to me throughout the day with peace of soul, and with firm conviction that Thy Will governs all. In all my deeds and words guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events let me not forget that all are sent by Thee. Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others. Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. Direct my will, teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to be patient, to forgive and to love. Amen.”

It is said that “hindsight is 20/20.” The older I get the more clearly I see the action of God's Will in my younger days. Equally clearer are those times that I stubbornly fought for my own will to be done resulting, not so much in failure, but in delaying what God wanted for me. He would patiently wait until His “still small voice” would penetrate my thick hide and finally make connection with my spirit.

Does that mean that I can now discern God's Will in my current health condition? No, but my past experience now tells me to continue to strive to make the words of the prayers above my own. By doing so I prepare my life as fertile ground to eventually see His Will and to accept it into my life. In this way is the only hope for my salvation as it is for each of us. ✙

RADIO PROGRAM

“Come Receive the Light”

Our parish continues to be a supporting partner of the popular Orthodox radio program, “Come Receive the Light,” which airs on WCHS, 580 AM, Sundays at 8:00 A.M. There is no better way to grow in the knowledge of the Orthodox Faith, to be inspired and to prepare for the Divine Services than to tune in every Sunday morning. It costs you nothing and you gain something. ✙



Labor Day Weekend! Sept. 1-3, 2012

St. George Cathedral • Charleston, WV

SATURDAY EVENING:

8 pm - Midnight: Hafli, Arabic Food -
St. George Conference Center Ballroom.

SUNDAY:

10:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy followed by special coffee
hour - St. George Cathedral and Conference Center

7 pm - 1 am: Dinner and Hafli - St. George Conference Center
Ballroom; DJ - St. George Gymnasium

MONDAY:

10 am: Golf Outing,
Scarlet Oaks Country Club - Bring your own clubs!

Hafli entertainment: Live Arabic Music by Zack Baalbaki of Detroit, MI

Early Bird Ticket Deadline August 1, 2012

For more info:

St. George Cathedral • Charleston, WV • 304-346-0106
www.stgeorgecharleston.org/

Reduced room rates are available at Embassy Suites May 1-July 31, 2012. Use the SGG code when making your reservation.

Room Reservations:

Embassy Suites Hotel • 300 Court Street
• Charleston, WV 25301
www.EmbassySuitesCharlestonWV.com
Phone: 304-347-8700
1-800-EMBASSY

TICKETS:

A registration desk will be at St. George Conference Center for ticket purchase, ticket pick up, and seating chart for Dinner table assignments. Registration desk will be open Saturday evening prior to start of the day's events.

ST. IGNATIUS is hosting a Wine and Cheese Reception / Silent Auction / Raffle, Friday August 31, 2012 in the St. George Conference Center Ballroom. Members are selling \$50 raffle tickets to raise money for the new CAMC Cancer Center. Contact Chairperson Neva Haddy or any St. Ignatius member for details.



How to Fix a Brain Freeze

To quickly cure an ice cream headache, press your tongue or your thumb flat against the roof of your mouth—the more pressure you apply to the roof of your mouth, the faster the headache will subside. An ice cream headache occurs when the nerves in the roof of your mouth get extremely cold and your body thinks your brain is freezing. To compensate, your body sends more blood to the brain to warm it. The “overheating” causes pain.

Benjamin Abo, Adjunct Instructor, Emergency Medicine Specialist, University of Pittsburgh. ✝

MANNA MEAL is in need of drivers for the “Meals-On-Wheels” program. If interested, please call 304-345-7121.

Grapevine Deadline Alert!

To all Clergy, organizations, and parishioners who contribute to the Grapevine: Please be advised that we are going to try out for one year a Quarterly newsletter.

Articles for the Grapevine must cover three months at a time instead of two months beginning with the September issue which will cover Sept./Oct./Nov. meetings, socials, etc.

We understand we may miss certain dates or functions that may not have been set yet, but at least make mention in organizational articles of possible events coming soon and to watch the bulletin for details.

This experimental year will cut down on rising costs of printing the newsletter and hopefully sending it out in a more timely manner.

We hope our Grapevine readers continue to read and appreciate our efforts in providing to you this newsletter. Any suggestions are always welcomed!

Remember: Deadline for Sept/Oct/Nov issue is Aug. 15, 2012.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Editor



THE ST. GEORGE Grapevine

St. George Orthodox Cathedral
P.O. Box 2044
Charleston, WV 25327
304-346-0106

A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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Produced by The Fellowship of St. John the Divine, to promote activities and events about and for parishioners of St. George Orthodox Cathedral. We only list events as they are reported to us by organization reporters. We reserve the right to edit copy for space. Contact your church organization reporter for news or send your comments to The Grapevine, c/o St. George Orthodox Cathedral, Attn. Editor or email ritakee@aol.com.

<http://www.stgeorgecharleston.org/>

The St. George Grapevine is published every two months and is mailed during the first week of the month.



Did You Know.....? Lest We Forget!

Hierarchs who served the Antiochian Archdiocese in North America, in chronological order in which they served.

The Metropolitan ANTONY (Bashir) arrived in the United States from Douma, Lebanon in 1922 as an Archdeacon, with a delegation from the Patriarchate of Antioch, composed of Metropolitan GERASIMOS (Messera) of Beirut and Archimandrite Victor AbouAssaley of Aitha Al Foukar, in order to attend a convention of the Episcopal Church in Portland, Oregon to discuss Orthodox-Episcopal relations, and to study the possibility of uniting the Arabic-speaking Orthodox from the Russian Archdiocese to the Patriarchate of Antioch. While in North America, the delegation visited parishes and individuals in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Cuba. Archdeacon Antony then spent almost two years in Mexico with his beloved mother and family, translating the New Testament into English (unpublished) and the English writings of Gibran Kahlil Gibran into Arabic, with the author's official endorsement. He was ordained to the priesthood and elevated to the dignity of Archimandrite (celibate priest) in 1922. In 1924, he was assigned to the pastorate of



Sorry so late on this issue of the Grapevine.....lack of power and loss of Internet service caused a bit of delay.

St. George Church in Vicksburg, MS, and given the responsibility of visiting several communities in the Midwest Region. In 1927, he became pastor of St. George Church in Terre Haute, IN, and in 1930 was transferred to St. George Church in Detroit, MI. After the untimely death of Archbishop VICTOR (AbouAssaley) in 1934, Father Antony was appointed Vicar of the North American Archdiocese until his consecration as Metropolitan Archbishop on April 19, 1936, by Metropolitan THEODOSIUS of Tyre and Sidon, Lebanon (and later Patriarch of Antioch). His consecration was marred by the consecration in Toledo, OH on the same day of Archimandrite Samuel David to the episcopacy. This schism became known as the Toledo/New York division in North America. Metropolitan ANTONY met with Presidents Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1942 and Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1959. His headquarters were in Brooklyn, NY and while there he befriended all of the Arabic literary writers in the New York based Pen League (Al-Rabitah Al-Qalamiyyah), namely, Ameen Rihani, William Catzefia, Abdelmasih Haddad, Elias Atallah, Rashid Ayoub, Nadrah Haddad, Nasib Aridah, Wadi Bahout, Michail Naimy, Elia Abou Madey, Philip Khuri Hitti and Gibran Kahlil Gibran.

The unfortunate schism lasted until 1975, long after the deaths of both Archbishop SAMUEL (1958) and Metropolitan ANTONY (1966). However the episcopate of Metropolitan ANTONY was a very fruitful one. He immediately began to organize the New York Archdiocese with a Board of Trustees to assist him, he encouraged the English language in all

church services, he had translated more than 30 books on Orthodox history, dogma, prayers, church school lessons and music, founded THE WORD in English in 1957, encouraged the establishment of new missions, young men to study for the holy priesthood in Orthodox seminaries on scholarships, brought priests from The Middle East to pastor churches here, organized the youth movement (SOYO) on regional and national levels whose primary purpose was to establish church schools, choirs and charitable work, approved the E.O. stamping on identification tags of men and women in the armed services, was the first Orthodox hierarch to open a session of the U.S. House of Representatives with prayer, established the Western Rite for converts to Orthodoxy, helped to establish the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in America, as well as the forerunner to SCOPA, encouraged Orthodox administrative unity to match our unity of Faith, joined the World and National Council of Churches (served as Vice President), and pledged a large sum of his own money for the Balamand Seminary in Lebanon (paid after his death by his successor, Metropolitan PHILIP (Saliba). He was deeply loved and respected by people in the Archdiocese and other Orthodox jurisdictions and non-Orthodox churches as well. After a very brief illness, Metropolitan ANTONY fell asleep in the Lord on February 16, 1966, and is buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, NY. At the time of his death there were 75 New York parishes and 12 Toledo parishes (St. George Charleston being one of the largest parishes in the Toledo Archdiocese). Metropolitan ANTONY will be remembered as the founding father of the American Orthodox Church. May His Eminence rest in eternal peace!

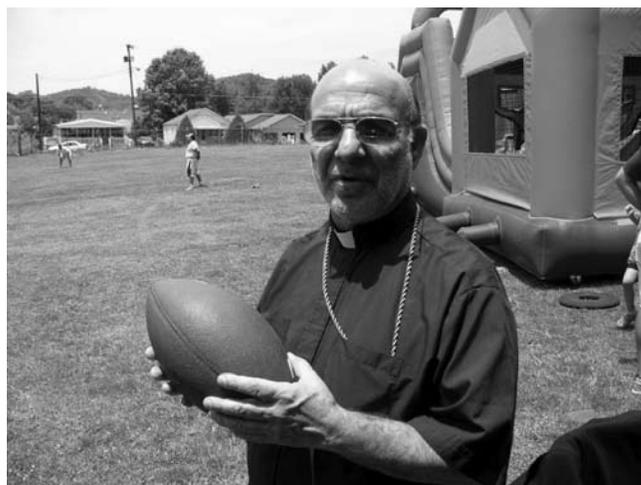


Arabic/English Numbers

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1. _____ | a. Arbaa |
| 2. _____ | b. Sabaa |
| 3. _____ | c. Tamaneh |
| 4. _____ | c. Ashara |
| 5. _____ | e. Thalatha |
| 6. _____ | f. Ithna Ashar |
| 7. _____ | g. Khamsah |
| 8. _____ | h. Wahid |
| 9. _____ | i. Setteh |
| 10. _____ | j. Tisa |
| 11. _____ | k. Ithnan |
| 12. _____ | l. Ihd ashar |

Bishop THOMAS getting ready for a game of football at our annual picnic.

Thanks to to all that made this year's picnic a success!





Word Search - JULY & AUGUST

S T A E H R E M M U S H E
 B E A C H T R I P O O L E
 T R I N U F R E M M U S E
 F S C E A B E A H C S U V
 O L A R L O C S I Z L L E
 U O N E T A C A V I C B L
 R O U F A T O R A D O A E
 T P E N P I C N C N O C H
 H G R O A N I N A R T K T
 O N A C R G U R T R O T N
 F I N E D I N G I V I O O
 J M E F I R E W O R K S E
 U M O I S N O I N E R C V
 L I V L E N T O S S U H I
 Y W O H E A O B C H O O L
 E S K S O W R I R I F O R
 B O A I N G N R N O R L A
 H U R R I C A N E U R E R
 B A C A I T D E R R E V U
 N C I P R A O H E A T R H

1. FOURTH OF JULY
2. FIREWORKS
3. PICNICS
4. REUNIONS
5. PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE
6. VACATIONS
7. SWIMMING POOLS
8. LIVE ON THE LEVEE
9. BACK TO SCHOOL
10. BEACH TRIP
11. HURRICANE
12. TORNADO
13. SUMMER HEAT
14. SUMMER FUN
15. BOATING

Candles!

Someone once called the Orthodox Church "The Candlelight Kingdom."

We have candles at Easter, candles at weddings, candles at baptisms, candles on the altar table, candles before icons, candles everywhere.

Lighting a candle is like praying because we never light a candle without praying.

Lighting a candle reminds us that Jesus is "the light that shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).

Lighting a candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world. "Whoever follows Him does not walk in darkness but has the light of life" (John 8:12).

Lighting a candle reminds us to believe in the light and to walk in the light that we may become children of light.

Many Orthodox Christians light a candle when they first come to church. Doing this reminds us that when we were baptized we received Jesus Who is the light of the world.

Like Him we are to be lighting candles of hope and love in the lives of people.

As we light a candle before entering church we can pray the beautiful words of the Psalmist:

*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
 (Psalm 27:1).* ✠



TRUST in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

PROVERBS 3:5-6



Baseball Psalm

The Lord is my Manager:

I shall not quit.

He maketh me to run in green out fields.

He leadeth me along the straight basepaths.

He restoreth my place in the heavenly lineup.

He leaderh me in reading life's signals
 for His game 's sake.

Even though I walk up to a volley of devilish pitches,

I will gear no strikeout,

for Thou art with me.

Thou dost promise me a bonus

in the presence of my opponents.

Thou anointest my sore spots with balm:

My locker runneth over.

Surely my statistics will be forgiven me

all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the Eternal Hall of Fame.

by Barbara Loots, Kansas City, MO ✠



Church School News



By Layla Michael

I hope that everyone has been enjoying their summer break. First, I would like to congratulate John Michael Asseff for winning first place in the Creative writing festival, and Leeann Mobayed for winning second place in the Creative Arts category. Congratulations to them and also a big thank you goes out to all those who participated in this years Creative Arts Festival.

The church school has raised \$150.00 for Food For The Hungry. Thanks to everyone who helped raise money for such a worthy cause.

Our church school, would like to welcome a few people that have volunteered, Gina DosSantos is the new lead preschool teacher. Diane Nester, and Zeina Mitias are the new assistant preschool teachers. Karen Skaff is our new 2nd grade teacher. May God grant them many years. Thanks to them and people like you for helping out in our church school.

We do have an opening for a high school church school teacher, so, if you are interested in this position please contact me as soon as possible.

Lastly, mark your calendars, August 29 after church we will have our annual kick off luncheon, we will register children and have some surprises to start off another new year.

September 9 will be our first day of church school starting at 9:45 am. Please do your best to be on time. I look forward to seeing you all in church this summer, enjoy your summer vacations!!



Senior Fellowship

Thirty-seven people attended our last get-together and beat the heat with make-your-own ice cream sundaes! Unfortunately, the sound system hindered the sound quality of the movie, "The Help," but a few stayed until the end. Thank you for coming out but do apologize for the equipment failures.

On September 16, our Golden Parishioners will be honored with dinner and entertainment. Watch the bulletin for details. Our next get-together will be late October.

Some of our seniors are looking for a handyman that can be trusted to do small jobs around the house. If any parishioners know of such a person or persons please contact Maryann Skaff.

Stay cool. See you in September! 

Antiochian Women - (Ladies Guild)

Hope your summer was spectacular and cool, ladies! We will resume our meetings on August 6th at 7 PM. (Check Bulletin). Preparations for our annual dinner will begin soon! Volunteer positions are available to all parishioners, so contact dinner chairwoman, Mary Dooley, or President, Joy Browne. All women of St. George are welcomed at our meetings and encouraged to participate in all projects of the Guild. If you have a special talent to share, please come to a meeting the first Monday of each month at 7 PM. See you in August! 

St. George Cathedral Foundation News

by Dr. Edward Howard, President

It's obvious to many that the economy and faith go hand in hand. And especially so in our own lives as we watch and listen to numerous reports regarding finances and investments. When we're up, we praise God; when things go wrong, we pray to God. But one thing for sure is the stability that God promises us in His lessons of taking care of all of our needs, no matter what.

Reassuring, huh!! The stability and foundation of our faith, no matter what troubles us or what is going on in the world of finance, is our church and the Divine Liturgy we witness each week. Can you imagine arriving to church on a Sunday morning to find the lights out and the sanctuary dark. Not a good thought. This foundation and those you have elected to lead it would not let that happen. Good common investment sense and the bylaws of this foundation ensure that this cathedral will be open and standing for years to come. Our faith in the Lord and also in each other as parishioners of this cathedral are the common bond that will keep the lights on for those who follow us. Yes, the economy and faith do go hand in hand and the investment one makes to this faith and to this cathedral will be one of the best you'll ever make. 

SCREEN TEST

1. Adam Sandier portrays a hockey fanatic who discovers that he's a gifted golfer in this comedic I 996 flick. Do you know the title?
2. The wife of Archibald Leach had a starring role in Caddyshack II. Can you name her? And, for extra credit, do you know her husband's stage name?
3. Dino Crocetti and Joseph Levitch starred in the farcical film The Caddy. You know them better by their stage names. What are they?
4. Follow the Sun starred Glenn Ford and Anne Baxter in a film about what golfing legend?
5. Who starred in the I 996 romantic comedy, Tin Cup, about a small town Texas golf pro who attempts to qualify for the U.S. Open?

CHIP SHOT

"You know you're on the Senior Tour when your back goes out more than you do."

-Bob Bruce



"Love and self-control free the soul from passions; spiritual reading and contemplation deliver the intellect from ignorance; and the state of prayer brings it into the presence of God Himself."

—Saint Maximos the Confessor





July 2012

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

CALENDAR

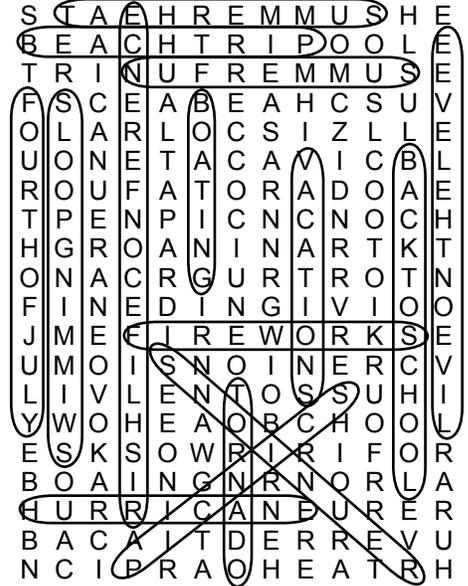
August 2012

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Deadline for next issue:

Aug. 15, 2012. Place articles in box outside Church office or email ritakee@aol.com

Answers to Word Search



July:

- 1: Marriage Blessing, 12:30 PM
- 4-8: Parish Life Conf.
- 11: Parish Council, 7:30 PM

16-20: Clergy Symposium (Fr. Olof & Fr. Stephen attending)

26: Communion for Shut-ins

27: Wedding Rehearsal, 6:00 PM

28: Manna Meal Preparation, 9:30 AM; Wedding, 4:30 PM

29: Baptism, 12:30 PM

Answers To Screen Test
 1. Happy Gilmore; 2. Dyan Cannon ...
 Her husband was Cary Grant; 3. Dean
 Martin and Jerry Lewis; 4. Ben Hogan;
 5. Kevin Costner



August:

- 1: Dormition Fast begins; Parish Council, 7:30 PM
- 5: Feast of Transfiguration

6: Ladies Guild, 7:00 PM

14: Evening Liturgy–Dormition, 6:30 PM

21: FSJD, 7:00 PM

23: Communion for Shut-ins

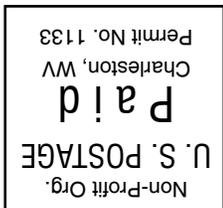
25: Manna Meal Preparation, 9:30 AM

28: Evening Liturgy–Beheading of John Baptist, 6:30 PM

31: Wine & Cheese/Silent Auction/Raffle

Answers: 1-h; 2-k; 3-e; 4-a; 5-g;
 6-i; 7-b; 8-c; 9-f; 10-d; 11-l; 12-f

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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