

ANNIVERSARY OR OUR DEPARTED FOR THIS SUNDAY

<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME OF THE DEPARTED</u>	<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>
21	Elias Issa	3
21	Issa Qaqish	12
22	Freda Ross Michael	67
23	Alice Khoury	33
23	Nadia Makhlouta	15
23	Patricia Daher	14
24	Antoin Safadi	3
25	Peter Awad	10
25	Ramsay Saba	12
25	Abdo Aziz	65
27	John Abraham	36

- **Please**, pray for the health of the following parishioners: Ellen, Robert, Alex, Sam, Elias, Nassar, Valentine, George, Nina, Sonia, George, Beshara, Samer, Irene, Nadia, Mona, Christine and Toni, George, Jacqueline and Helena. If you have any names of people who need prayers, email them to father.

ETERNAL LIGHT

- **June 27:** in loving memory of **Violette Samaan** from **Nabil Samaan**.
- **We look forward to welcoming you back to church! Due to capacity restrictions for gatherings (15% capacity) in Ontario, we invite you to register for seats for Sunday’s liturgies through the Eventbrite invites emailed to you on a weekly basis.**

Please note that one ticket is required per person. Families from the same household should book tickets for each individual.

Additional Information:

- 1- Please follow the direction provided by ushers for seating
- 2- Please check-in before entering the church premises, A check-in table is available at the entrance.
- 3- For the safety of all parishioners and yours, it is mandatory to abide by the rules:
 - A- Wear a mask
 - B- Sanitize your hands at the entrance
 - C- Maintain 6FT distance

D- No socializing at the entrance.

Please note that every reasonable precaution has been and will continue to be taken by St. George Church to protect your health and safety.

Please do not enter the church if you have a temperature, feel ill or have been in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual over the past two weeks.

God Bless!

St. George Parish Council

- **2021 Graduates:** If your child is graduating high school or university, please send Amanda Qaqish directly his/her information with a picture. We need her his name, school graduating from, degree and what will he/she be studying at the university. Email all information to orthodoxchristianeducation@gmail.com.
- If you have boxes with your sacrifice during Lent for **Food for Hungry People**, please, write a check to St. George and put in the memo **Food for Hungry people. Please, don't bring the box with change in it**, just write one check for that purpose or e-transfer. May God bless you.

June Schedule of Services:

- **Feast of St. Peter and Paul will be celebrated on Monday June 28th with Orthros at 6:30 PM followed by the Divine Liturgy.**
- **Saturday Vespers will be cancelled for the month of July.**
- **Scholarships:** Scholarship funds made available to students attending of college and university from our parish. Prospective applicants must be active in the life of the church. Applications are available at the church office. Deadline for acceptance is August 15, 2021. The following is a list of available scholarship funds:

ALEXANDER & ROSE YOUNES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ISSA KHOURY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

FOUAD EL-HAGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ORTANSE EL-HAGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SALIM ELIAS ZABANA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

RAMI & JOANIE YOUNES SCHOLARSHIP

- **Father would like to thank the Sunday school team and the teachers for a job well done this past school year. The team and teachers did an amazing job with our children. Please, make sure you thank your children Sunday school teacher for all that she/he did to teach your children the Faith.**
- **Our annual Sunday School graduation will be held in church, followed by a barbecue outside as a drive thru/walk thru pick up. All students and their families are welcome to come and pick up their graduation gift, certificate and lunch.**

Graduation will be held on **SUNDAY JUNE 27, 2021 AT 12:00pm inside the church followed by a barbecue in the parking lot after liturgy.**

All of our Sunday school students JK - OTT2 are welcome!

Please come dressed to take a picture with Abuna

- The Sunday School needs teachers for September. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Amanda Qaqish. orthodoxchristianeducation@gmail.com
- Sunday School registration for next year will be open late August, more details to follow. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Qaqish orthodoxchristianeducation@gmail.com
- **PLEDGE FORM 2021:** Please fill your pledge form if you have not done so as to allow us to budget for this year. **Please see attached form.**
- **Kindly Submit your Contribution through the Following Methods: Connect to the Church Website www.stgeorgeto.org Click on *Donate***
- **“e-transfer” info@stgeorgeantiochianchurch.org Account Name: St. George Church**
- **PayPal, or send your Cheque by Mail to: St. George Antiochian Church, 9116 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill ON, L4B 3M9**
Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. (Psalm 112:5)
- **Bookstore: New icons have just arrived in our bookstore. The Bookstore is located in the church’s basement. Icons are great gifts for newborn, new home, your car or your children, and Christmas gifts. Please see Colette El-Hajj or Odette Boutros to see these new icons.**
- **Please, don't forget to send your sacrificial giving to your church of St. George via e-transfer, or you can still bring your envelope with you and place it in the box by the candles. Your sacrificial giving (financial donation/support) will keep our doors open.**
- **Canned Food Drive:** please bring non-perishable canned food to donate to the needy and place them in the box outside in the Narthex.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021

TONE 8 / EOTHINON 1

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

RIGHTEOUS SAMPSON THE HOST OF STRANGERS; MARY AND JOANNA THE MYRRH-BEARERS

NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

الشماس: مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمَثْرُوبُولِيَّةِ بُولْسَ وَالْمَطْرَانَ
يُوحَنَّا وَفَكَ أُسْرِهِمَا وَعَوْدَتِهِمَا سَالِمِينَ، إِلَى الرَّبِّ
نَطْلُبُ.

- *During the Little Entrance, chant the Resurrectional Apolytikion. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is "O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead..." After the Little Entrance, chant the apolytikia in the following order:*

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

أَنْحَدَرْتَ مِنَ الْعُلُوِّ يَا مُتَحَنِّنٌ، وَقَبِلْتَ الدَّفْنَ ذَا الثَّلَاثَةِ
الْأَيَّامِ، لِكَيْ تُعْتِقَنَا مِنَ الْآلَامِ، فَيَا حَيَاتِنَا وَقِيَامَتَنَا، يَا
رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

APOLYTIKION OF ALL SAINTS IN TONE FOUR

Thy Church, O Christ God, hath regaled herself in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout the entire world, as in porphyry and purple. Through them she lifteth her voice crying: Turn with Thy compassion toward Thy people, and grant peace to Thy city, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، إِنَّ كَنِيْسَتَكَ مُتَسَرِّبَةً بِدِمَاءِ شُهَدَائِكَ
الَّذِينَ فِي الْعَالَمِ كَبْرِفِيرَةٍ وَأَرْجُوَانٍ، وَبِهِمْ تُتَادِيكَ قَائِلَةً:
وَجْهَ رَأْفَتِكَ لِشَعْبِكَ، وَامْنَحِ السَّلَامَ لِعَبِيدِكَ، وَهَبْ
لِنَفُوسِنَا الرَّحْمَةَ الْعُظْمَى.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS IN TONE EIGHT

*(**The original melody**)*

As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, * the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. * Through their earnest entreaties, * keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, * through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الْبَارِيُّ الْخَالِيقَةَ، إِنَّ الْمَسْكُونَةَ تُقَدِّمُ لَكَ
كَبَوَاكِرِ الطَّبَّيْعَةِ الشُّهُدَاءَ اللَّابِسِي اللَّهِ.
فَبِتَضَرُّعَاتِهِمْ أَحْفَظْ كَنِيْسَتَكَ فِي سَلَامٍ دَائِمٍ، مِنْ
أَجْلِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ يَا جَزِيلَ الرَّحْمَةِ.

THE EPISTLE OF ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

God is wondrous in His saints.

In the churches, bless ye God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:33-12:2)

Brethren, all the saints through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Perfecter of our faith.

عَجِيبٌ هُوَ اللهُ فِي قَدِيسِيهِ،

فِي الْمَجَامِعِ بَارِكُوا اللَّهَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى
الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الْقَدِيسِينَ، بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا الْمَمَالِكَ، وَعَمَلُوا الْبِرَّ، وَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، وَسَدَّوْا أَفْوَاهَ الْأُسُودِ. وَأَطْفَأُوا حِدَّةَ النَّارِ وَنَجَّوْا مِنْ حِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَتَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَصَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ فِي الْحَرْبِ، وَكَسَرُوا مُعَسْكَرَاتِ الْأَجَانِبِ. وَأَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمَوَاتَهُنَّ بِالْقِيَامَةِ، وَعَذَّبَ آخَرُونَ بِتَوْتِيرِ الْأَعْضَاءِ وَالضَّرْبِ، وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجَاةِ لِيُخْصَلُوا عَلَى قِيَامَةِ أَفْضَلِ. وَآخَرُونَ ذَاقُوا الْهَزْءَ وَالْجَلْدَ وَالْقَيْوَدَ أَيْضًا وَالسِّجْنَ. وَرَجِمُوا وَنُشِرُوا وَامْتُحِنُوا وَمَاتُوا بِحِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَسَاحُوا فِي جُلُودِ غَنَمٍ وَمَعَزٍ وَهُمْ مُعَوَّزُونَ مُضَايِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ. وَلَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَجِيبًا لَهُمْ، فَكَانُوا تَائِهِينَ فِي الْبَرَارِيِّ وَالْجِبَالِ وَالْمَغَاوِرِ وَكُهُوفِ الْأَرْضِ. فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ مَشْهُودًا لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوْعِدَ. لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ سَبَقَ فَنَظَرَ لَنَا شَيْئًا أَفْضَلَ، أَنْ لَا يَكْمَلُوا بِدُونِنَا. فَتَحْنُ أَيْضًا إِذْ يُحْدِقُ بِنَا مِثْلَ هَذِهِ السَّحَابَةِ مِنَ الشُّهُودِ فَلِنَلْقِ عَنَّا كُلَّ ثِقَلٍ وَكُلَّ خَطِيئَةٍ مُحِيطَةٍ بِنَا، وَلِنُسَابِقَ بِالصَّبْرِ فِي الْجِهَادِ الَّذِي أَمَانَا، نَاطِرِينَ إِلَى رَتِيسِ الْإِيمَانِ وَمُكْمَلِهِ يَسُوعَ.

THE GOSPEL OF ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to His disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ
الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ، كُلُّ مَنْ يَعْتَرِفُ بِي قُدَّامَ النَّاسِ، أَعْتَرِفُ أَنَا بِهِ قُدَّامَ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَمَنْ يُنْكِرُنِي قُدَّامَ النَّاسِ، أَنْكِرُهُ أَنَا قُدَّامَ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَبًا أَوْ أُمَّأَ أَكْثَرَ مِنِّي فَلَا

worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.” Then Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name’s sake, will receive a hundred fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”

يَسْتَحِقُّنِي، وَمَنْ أَحَبَّ ابْنًا أَوْ بِنْتًا أَكْثَرَ مِنِّي فَلَا يَسْتَحِقُّنِي. وَمَنْ لَا يَأْخُذُ صَلِيبَهُ وَيَتَّبِعُنِي فَلَا يَسْتَحِقُّنِي. فَأَجَابَ بُطْرُسُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: هُوَذَا نَحْنُ قَدْ تَرَكْنَا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ وَتَبِعْنَاكَ، فَمَاذَا يَكُونُ لَنَا؟ فَقَالَ لَهُمَ يَسُوعُ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ تَبِعْتُمُونِي فِي جِيلِ التَّجْدِيدِ، مَتَى جَلَسَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ مَجْدِهِ، تَجْلِسُونَ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا عَلَى اثْنَيْ عَشَرَ كُرْسِيًّا تَدِينُونَ أَسْبَاطَ إِسْرَائِيلِ الْاِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ. وَكُلُّ مَنْ تَرَكَ بِيُوتًا أَوْ إِخْوَةً أَوْ أَخَوَاتٍ أَوْ أَبًا أَوْ أُمَّا أَوْ امْرَأَةً أَوْ أَوْلَادًا أَوْ حُقُولًا مِنْ أَجْلِ اسْمِي، يَأْخُذُ مِئَةَ ضِعْفٍ، وَيَرِثُ الْحَيَاةَ الْأَبَدِيَّةَ. وَكَثِيرُونَ أَوْلَادٌ يَكُونُونَ آخِرِينَ، وَآخِرُونَ يَكُونُونَ أَوْلَادًا.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF ALL SAINTS IN TONE EIGHT

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright. Alleluia.

ابْتَهِجُوا أَيُّهَا الصِّدِّيقُونَ بِالرَّبِّ. لِلْمُسْتَقِيمِينَ يَنْبَغِي التَّسْبِيحُ. هَلِّلُوِيَا.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; **of our righteous father Sampson the host of strangers; and Mary and Joanna the myrrh-**

الكاهن: أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْهَذَا الْحَقِيقِي، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، بِشَفَاعَاتِ أُمِّكَ الْكَلِيَّةِ الطَّهَارَةِ وَالْبَرِيَّةِ مِنْ كُلِّ عَيْبٍ؛ وَبِقُدْرَةِ الصَّلِيبِ الْكَرِيمِ الْمُخَيِّ؛ وَبِطَلَبَاتِ الْقُوَّاتِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ الْمُكَرَّمَةِ الْعَادِمَةِ الْأَجْسَادِ؛ وَالنَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيمِ السَّابِقِ الْمَجِيدِ يُوْحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الْمَشْرَفِينَ الرُّسُلِ الْجَدِيرِينَ بِكُلِّ مَدِيحٍ؛ وَأَبِينَا الْجَلِيلِ فِي الْقَدِيسِينَ يُوْحَنَّا الذَّهَبِيِّ الْقَمِّ رَئِيسِ أَسَاقِفَةِ الْقُسْطَنْطِينِيَّةِ، كَاتِبِ هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ الشَّرِيفَةِ، وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الْمَجِيدِينَ الشُّهَدَاءِ الْمُتَأَلِّقِينَ بِالظَّفَرِ؛ وَأَبَائِنَا الْأَبْرَارِ الْمُتَوَشِّحِينَ بِاللَّهِ؛ ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِ (ة) (فُلَانِ، فُلَانَةَ) شَفِيعِ(ة) وَحَامِي(ة) هَذِهِ الرَّعِيَّةِ الْمُقَدَّسَةِ؛ وَالْقَدِيسِينَ الصِّدِّيقِينَ جَدِّي الْمَسِيحِ الْإِلَهِيِّ، يُوَاكِمِ وَحَنَّةً؛ وَالْأَبِ الْبَارِ شَمَشُونَ مُضِيفِ الْغُرَبَاءِ، وَحَامِلَاتِ الطَّيِّبِ مَرْيَمَ وَجُوَانَا - وَجَمِيعِ

<p>bearer —and of all the saints of all ages who are well-pleasing to God, whose memory we celebrate today—have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.</p>	<p>القَدِّيسِينَ الَّذِينَ أَرْضُوا اللَّهَ بِأَعْمَالِهِمِ الصَّالِحَةِ - الَّذِينَ نَقِيمُ تَذْكَارَهُمُ الْيَوْمَ، وَجَمِيعِ قَدِّيسِيكَ، إِرْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا بِمَا أَنَّكَ صَالِحٌ وَمُحِبٌّ لِلْبَشَرِ.</p>
<p>Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.</p>	<p>الكاهن: بِصَلَوَاتِ آبَائِنَا الْقَدِّيسِينَ، أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، اِرْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا.</p>
<p>Choir: Amen.</p>	<p>الجوقة: آمين.</p>
<p><i>These texts have been prepared by the Department of Liturgics of the Antiochian Archdiocese. Portions of the Archdiocesan Service Texts include texts from The Menaion, The Great Horologion, The Pentecostarion, The Octoechos, and The Psalter of the Seventy, which are Copyright © Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, Massachusetts, and are used with permission. All rights reserved. These works may not be further reproduced, beyond printing out a single copy for personal non-commercial use, without the prior written authorization of Holy Transfiguration Monastery.</i></p>	

All Saints Sunday Fr. Luke A. Veronis

The saints of the Church represent quite a wide range of fascinating people. Some were apostles, prophets and martyrs; bishops, priests and ascetics; men and women; rich and poor; old and young; some who were murderers and thieves early in their lives; others were prostitutes and quite immoral in their behavior; all who were sick and broken to some degree, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually; many who were quite lost in their lives.

Jesus Christ cares and loves all people, no matter who they are or what they've done, and if we allow Him, He takes us from where we are, and transforms us into a new creation! We heard this clearly in the Gospel reading the day after Pentecost, which was also the Feast of the Holy Spirit. **“The Son of Man, Jesus Christ, has come to save those who are lost.”** In this reading, our Lord uses the vivid analogy of a shepherd caring for his sheep. When the Good Shepherd realizes that one of His sheep are lost, He can't stay content counting the 99 sheep that are safe. He seeks to save the lost, to go out and look for those who are broken, sick, suffering, those who feel abandoned, alone and afraid. Jesus Christ loves each of His children, no matter what they have done in their lives, and no matter how lost they may be!

I often think of the countless saints of our Church who were so adrift in their lives. **St. Fotini**, the Samaritan woman, who married five different husbands and still didn't find what she was looking for. What a broken and despised woman she must have been! **the apostle Paul** was a religious, violent fanatic persecuting and even killing the first Christians? **St. Moses the Ethiopian** was a fearsome bandit and criminal, who even robbed defenseless monks. **St. Mary Magdalene** represented a confused, broken, demon-possessed woman, with little hope for her future. **St. Zaccheus** was a man without principle, stealing from the poor to become rich. And throughout history we can read about others who seemed desperately lost, yet who found new life and meaning and purpose in Jesus Christ. Even today, I have met people who were addicted to drugs and alcohol, who spent time in prison for terrible crimes, who hated God and professed militant atheism, who lived broken lives, and yet who encountered Jesus Christ and became new creations, living radically different lives under the guidance of Christ Jesus!

Today on All Saints Day, we highlight that our Church does not understand saints as people holy from their mother's womb. Some saints may have led devout and pious lives from a young age, learning from their Christian parents and growing in the grace of the Lord. Many others, however, had nothing to do with God until later in life.

What is common among all saints, though, is how each one discovered a living, intimate relationship with God, opening their hearts to the movement of the Holy Spirit, and dedicating themselves to following the ways of Christ's Kingdom. These saints struggled to obey Christ's commandments, no matter how difficult, and become lights of divine love in the world.

We could say that for many saints, and for many of us, there comes a clear distinction between B.C. and A.D. – a time “Before Christ” and a time “Anno Domini, In the year of our Lord.” **“Before Christ,” we live our lives according to our own desires, passions, and needs. “Before Christ,” we follow the influence of the world, with its ways and interests. “Before Christ,” our ego and self-centered attitude dominate our lives.**

“Anno Domini”, living “in the year of the Lord” implies that something other than ourselves stands at the center of history. Living “in the year of the Lord” means that we understand and acknowledge God as the beginning and end of everything. He is the Source of life, the Giver

of life, and the Sustainer of life. Living “in the year of the Lord” means we live our lives according to His will, not ours. In the year of the Lord, Christ’s teachings and commandments become the central influence in our lives, overriding the influence of the media, society and the opinion polls of the world around us! As Christians, and potential saints, God calls us to live now “in the year of the Lord.”

During this past week, this 1st week after Pentecost, the Church begins reading the Gospel of Matthew once again. And we start off with the fundamentals of our faith as seen in the Sermon on the Mount. In this description of life in the Kingdom of God, Jesus describes for His followers what life is like “in the year of the Lord.” Becoming a saint, making a sincere attempt to follow Christ (and such sainthood is the potential and call of each of us) implies striving to follow the concrete and everyday teachings of God, no matter how hard they appear.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns us, **“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go by it.”** The way of evil is easy. We don’t have to do much. Just follow our fallen instincts; go with the flow of society; take the easy path that the majority in opinion polls often promote; and we will be walking that wide and broad path that leads to destruction! Countless people, unknowingly, walk that wide path simply because it’s easy, they don’t give it much thought.

“But narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Mt 7:13-14) Our Lord is telling us that FEW will find the Kingdom of God!!!

Yes, it is hard to become a saint! Surely it is difficult to faithfully follow the path of God. “To love your enemy. To forgive those who hurt you. To show mercy to those who don’t deserve it. To turn the other cheek and not allow anger to linger in our hearts. To understand that adultery begins with lustful thoughts, and murder begins with unchecked anger. To bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. To seek above all else the Kingdom of God.”

Holiness will not be reached, unless one consciously seeks after the ways of God. And yes, it surely requires great effort on our part. It won’t simply happen on its own. In fact, the path of sainthood is impossible with our own effort. But we aren’t alone. If we live “in the year of the Lord”, we realize that God is with us and ready to help us. Christ has sent His Holy Spirit to dwell in us and inspire us! He has given us the Church to nourish us and direct us! Jesus will not allow any temptation to come to us that is greater than the strength we have within. When we strive to do our part, sincerely, He readily will do His part. And His part is much greater than ours. We take one step forward, and He will carry us for the next 10 steps. We struggle to take another step in His Kingdom, and He will hold us in His arms for the next 20 steps. Our Lord is faithful in aiding us, but He expects and waits for us to put forth our own sincere and wholehearted effort as well.

Today, on this feastday of All Saints, let us remember all those men and women who chose to live “in the year of the Lord,” who struggled to walk on the narrow path, and who allowed God to help them grow in their holiness. May we not only honor their memories, but more importantly may we learn from them, imitating their effort and lives in following the ways of the Lord!

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Christ is in our Midst,

We have suffered an unprecedented time to say the least, however, over the past 18 months, our church has been blessed with your love, your passion and commitment and it was through your ongoing generosity and unwavering support that we were able to keep St. George open and operational during this unprecedented time. On behalf of Fr. George, Parish Council members, and members of the Church's Maintenance Committee, we want to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the continued support each and everyone has given.

As many of you are aware, prior to the pandemic, our church was in need of certain infrastructure repairs, however, due to the pandemic and Provincial wide restrictions, we were forced to place many urgent maintenance repairs on hold. Unfortunately, it is time that we must address these urgent repairs. As you know, the church requires ongoing maintenance and upkeep, not just for the beautification but for the safety and comfort of our community and surrounding neighbours.

Now with your support we would like to launch a summer fundraising campaign commencing this July 2021, to help cover the cost of some of the immediate and urgent repairs within our church and surrounding property. These repair and replacement costs are estimated to be \$100,000 and include, but not limited to, the following:

1. Air Conditioner unit is currently nonoperational and requires replacement;
2. The parking lot "catch basins" require cleaning and "manhole covers" to be replaced.
The City of Richmond Hill has inspected the basins and has given notice to the church;
3. The Wood Fence surrounding the church property has fallen and requires immediate repair.

As you know, everything with age comes maintenance and up-keeping. And as such, our church is over 30 years old and we must up-keep the building and surrounding property. With your help and ongoing generosity, we can meet our maintenance goals for 2021.

We will have a Fundraising Thermometer shown in the church's weekly bulletin to show the progress of the fundraising campaign. It is through our strength in numbers, that together we will achieve and exceed our financial goals to keep our church fully functional and operational.

We are forever grateful.

Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Maintenance Committee:

George Boutros
Kathy Kakish



ST. GEORGE ANTIQHOIAN CHURCH

SUMMER BYZANTINE CHANT CLASS

St. George welcomes all who are interested in learning practical chanting as well as Byzantine notation to participate in a series of chanting classes from July 8th - Sept 2nd every Thurs at 6:30-8:00pm.

Youth ages 10-16 years old who wish to learn Byzantine notation are invited to join our Byzantine kids chant class every Thursday evening at 5:30-6:15 pm from July 8th - Sept 2nd.

Classes will take place at St. George Church, 9116 Bayview Ave.

Contact Alexa Ishac at alexa.ishac@gmail.com or (647) 960-6963 or Jimmy Haddad at (647) 961-4551 to register or for more information.

**ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
9116 BAYVIEW AVE.
RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO
L4C 7B5**

APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CONFIDENTIAL

Date: _____

Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Mobile:** _____

Email Address: _____ **S.I.N:** _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____

Annual House Hold Income: _____

Occupation of Supporting Parents or Guardian: _____

Reason for Requesting Scholarship Funds? Please give a brief summary of your financial needs including other sources of income to be used towards your education.

A LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE FROM THE INSTITUTION. A RECEIPT SHOWING FULL PAYMENT OF TUITION. All documents and receipts to be attached.

Scholarship Committee Members

Priest: _____

Chair Person: _____

Member: _____

Member: _____

Member: _____

Scholarship Committee Meeting Minutes for Approval to be Attached: _____

Approved By: _____ **Amount:** _____

Title: _____ **Signature:** _____

Date: _____

STATEMENT: To the best of my knowledge, all of the information in this application is true and accurate.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

It is understood that merit award winners' names will be released to donors and published in the Church Bulletin as a condition of the award.

The use, retention and disclosure of personal information collected from this form is done in compliance with privacy legislation including, but not limited to, the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act.

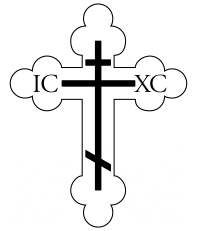
**Kindly return this Application with any supporting documents in a sealed envelop to;
Scholarship Committee, Business office of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
9116 Bayview Ave. Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 7B5**



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

9116 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, ON, L4B 3M9

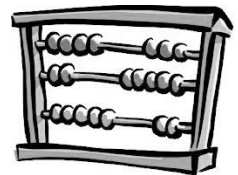
2021 ANNUAL DONATION PLEDGE FORM



“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

“Honour the Lord from your righteous labors, and offer Him the first fruits from the fruits of your righteousness.” Proverbs 3:9

St. George needs your help. The cost to operate and maintain our church is going up and your financial pledge allows us to budget effectively.



FAMILY INFORMATION (Please complete a separate form for each tax contributor)

Name: _____

Address: _____

TEL: _____

Email: _____

By providing my email address I agree to receive emails from St George Antiochian Orthodox Church. You can withdraw from such emails at any time.

Why Pledge?

- It is a way of offering thanks to God from the fruits of our labours
- So the church can manage a budget
- To be able to vote

In thanks for all the many blessings God has bestowed upon me, and my family, I pledge to make the below annual donation.

(A) Archdiocese dues:

(# of baptised household members ____ x \$35) (A) \$ _____

(B) Donation to St George Antiochian Orthodox Church:

Small weekly amounts make donations easier:

\$10 / week = \$520 annually; \$20 / week = \$1,040 annually;

\$50 / week = \$2,600 annually; \$100 / week = \$5,200 annually;

10% of your income or what you can afford as thanks to God (B) \$ _____

Total Annual Pledge (add (A) + (B)) (A + B) \$ _____

Your pledge can be paid through your church envelopes, in a single lump sum payment or in multiple payments. Cheques should be made payable to St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church.

We thank you for your generosity and may God bless you.

This form is for annual donations but covers multiple years, not just the current year. You may increase or decrease your pledge at any time by completing a new form or by contacting the church office.

Signed

Date

Frequently Asked Questions About Pledging

1) Do I get to vote at the annual parish meeting?

As per church constitution, only those who have completed a pledge form and fulfilled their pledge are eligible to vote at the annual parish meeting.

2) Why is St. George asking for pledges instead of just tray offerings?

Largely this is so that we can effectively plan and budget expenditures based on cash flows. Just like in your own household where you need to budget and time your expenses with your cash inflows to ensure you have money on hand, the church also needs to do the same to pay its bills. Pledges help us to do that.

3) Why do I have to commit to a dollar amount?

Knowing what each parishioner will pledge permits the creation of a proper budget.

4) Is there a minimum dollar amount I have to pledge?

No, there is no minimum. The church only asks that you give God a priority in your life. Remember that all you have is the result of God's blessings upon you. Giving back to God is a way of honouring Him and thanking Him for all of those blessings.

5) How often do I have to make payments towards my pledge?

The church will accept whatever frequency you can manage but the more often they are made the more cash flow the church has on hand to meet its regular expenses. Payments can be made through your church envelope, a single lump sum payment or multiple payments. The examples on the form show how even small weekly amounts can make pledging easier.

6) What if my circumstances change and I cannot financially fulfill my pledge?

That is okay. The church understands that circumstances change. No one will come to collect money from you although we may mail a general reminder notice regarding pledge payments. The church only asks that you give God a priority in your life.

7) Does this pledge cover this calendar year only?

No, while you are pledging an annual amount, this is a perpetual pledge that carries over year to year. That way you do not have to keep filling out this form each year.

8) What if I want to change my pledge amount?

You can increase or decrease your pledge amount by simply completing a new pledge form or by contacting the church office.

Only those who have completed a pledge form and fulfilled their pledge are eligible to vote at the annual parish meeting as required by our church constitution.

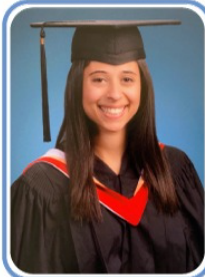


Congratulations to our 2021 Graduates

With the Blessing of our Father, our church is so proud to congratulate the students in our community who have graduated from highschool and university this year.

We will be providing all graduates with a gift to honour their hard work. Gifts will be presented on Sunday June 27 in church after liturgy.

Congratulations, may God bless you and protect you in your future endeavors.



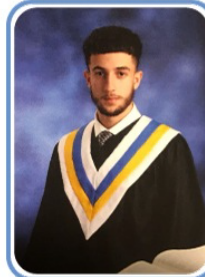
Kristina Issa
Graduated from York University with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Health Science with a minor in Psychology.



George Sinanios
Graduated from McMaster University Engineering



Julia Kakish
Graduated from University of Guelph, Bachelor of Biomedical Science



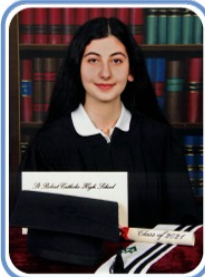
Mousa Aleilan
Ryerson Engineering



Joil Alassaf
Biomedical science York University



Youssef Freiga
Engineering Ryerson



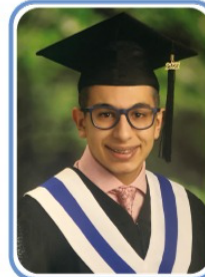
Talia Deratani
Physical and Environmental Science U of T Scarborough



Tony Zidan
Biochemical Sciences York University



Mari Alkassam
Life Science University of Toronto



Mathew Alhaddad
Electrical Engineering Humber College

*Sunday School Admin Team
Orthodox Christian Education
St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church Richmond Hill*

