

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Very Rev. Fr. Dr. Kamal Alrahil, Pastor
Deacon Raphael [Eric] Bateh



WEEKLY BULLETIN
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026



**The Weekly Bulletin is an official publication of Saint George
Antiochian Orthodox Church in Jacksonville, Florida.**

*A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America.*



SUNDAY SERVICE

Matins ~ 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy ~ 10:00 AM

(Confession: By Appointment Only)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday (9:00AM - 1:00 PM)

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

Church email: stgeorgejax@comcast.net



Sunday, January 25, 2026

Jad Hanania and Dr. Justin Bateh

St. George Church Banquet Hall

CAPACITY:

Hall Banquet Seating

160 without dance floor

130 with dance floor

Our Church Hall is available for RENTAL for your next Celebration (*i.e. Baptism, Graduation, Birthday, Retirement, Rehearsal Dinner; etc...*)

You may call the church office at 904- 448- 1855 for questions about reservation dates and availability.





Current Church Servers

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)

The Brotherhood of Noble Joseph consists mainly of the liturgical staff. The goal is to create an environment where the people are engaged in worship and prayer. The Brotherhood of Noble Joseph hopes to achieve this goal by improving communication, advance preparation, and strengthening bonds as a brotherhood, not merely a staff.

The Brotherhood of the Noble Joseph

Clergy

V. Rev. Archpriest Dr. Kamal Alrahil- **PASTOR**

Reverend **Deacon** Raphael (Eric) Bateh

Sacristans and Servers

Subdeacon Nadeem Tannous

Subdeacon Dr. Jarrod Mousa

Subdeacon Ameen Hakim

The Current St. George Chanters

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Col. 3:16).

Lead English Chanter -Reader Tarek Kishek

Chanter Sbdn. Nadeem Tannous

Lead Arabic Chanter Sally Dham (*Bilingual, Arabic and English*)

Chanter George Abboud (*Bilingual, Arabic and English*)

Chanter -Reader Dr. Elias Farah

Youth Chanter: Hiba El Issa, Juliana, Elizabeth and Sophia Fakhouri.

Head Ushers: Nicholas Joseph and Issa Odeh

Altar Boy Captains: Nicholas Odeh and Edmond Saoud

Altar Boy Captain's Assistants: Anthony Odeh and Andrew Saoud

Altar Boy members: Michael Al Ashhab, Matthew Messink, Thomas and Lucas Bateh, Caleb and Christian Campbell, Dany Jarjour, Jimmy Thomas, Christian Bajalia, Anthony Sanjar, Andrew Rustom, Frank Mackoul the III and Noah Fakhouri.

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION- SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered by:

Nada Yacoub Hanania and family

In memory of beloved sister **Fadwa Michel Mashnie**. *May her memory be eternal!*

Naeemeh Hanania and family

In memory of **Jamal Hanania**. *May his memory be eternal!*



Holy Bread Guidelines

Based on the updated guidelines, here is what you need to know regarding Holy Bread offerings for Sunday services:

- **Advance Notice Requirement:** You must call the church office at least **two weeks in advance** to schedule your offering
- **No Last-Minute Requests:** Requests made **2–3** days before or on the night before the service **can no longer** be accepted.
- **Purpose:** These updates are implemented to ensure Sunday services remain prayerful and orderly.
- **Capacity Limits:** To ensure the priest can properly commemorate each name during the service, Sunday offerings are limited to **five families** per Sunday.
- **Prayer List Names:** Each family may submit a list of up to **seven (7) names** of departed loved ones to be mentioned during the Proskomedia (preparation of the gifts).
- **Offering Fee:** A **\$20 cash fee** per family is required to help the church offset the costs of providing the Holy Bread.
- **Mandatory Attendance:** Offering Holy Bread is a communal act of worship. You **must be present** in person during the Liturgy to offer the bread and pray for your loved ones.
- **Attendance:** You **must be present in person** during the Liturgy; offerings **cannot** be accepted if the family is not in attendance
- **Delivery:** The Holy Bread should be brought to the church on Saturday evening or at least two hours before the Sunday Liturgy begins.
- **Memorial Services:** If you are scheduling a memorial service, you must offer Holy Bread.
- **Antidoron:** After the service, a loaf of the holy bread will be given back to the family to share.



Coffee Hour Hosting Guidelines

"And above all things, have fervent charity among yourselves, for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging." (1 Peter 4:8-9)

Coffee Hour is designed for the purpose of fellowship after the Divine Liturgy. **Hosts** are encouraged to provide sweet dish for coffee hour.

Please note: If you are assigned to bring sweets, please do so. If you know that you will not be at church, please send in your sweets with another family member or relative.

Having a social hour with no sweets reflects poorly on the church and the people who are hosting social hour that week. Let's make every effort to be faithful & generous during our scheduled time of service to the Lord.

Please note The offering of Sweets for Sunday coffee social hour comes around **only 2-3 times** per year, per family as part of our membership responsibilities towards the church. Therefore do your best to be generous in this regard showing that we, the Middle eastern community are still known for our generosity and hospitality.

Also please ensure that the sweets you are offering are presentable in an appropriate dish. **For example;** If you are buying pre-made sweets, please make sure to unpack them and put them on a disposable tray. If you are buying a cake , please pre-slice the cake and present it on a disposable tray. The church offers the coffee, condiments and napkins for the sweet table.

You are offering sweets to the church and to your brothers and sisters in Christ, *therefore treat the members of our community the way you would treat your guest when they come to visit you at home.*

Thank you for sharing in the fellowship of the St. George's community.

Social Coffee Hour Sponsors for the month of January

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Jeremy and Nichole Campbell
Timothy and Christine Conner
Adnan and Mouna Dayoub
Jacob and Bertha Deeb

Sunday, February 1, 2025

Ron and Amanda Delgado
Salwa Eadeh
Waleed and Jamie Eadeh
Daoud and Rana El Issa

Sunday, February 8, 2025

Jonathan And Raoaa Essa
Kareem and Helen Essa
Dr. Ibrahim and Nadine Fahdi
Salem and Dalia Fakhouri

Sunday, February 15, 2025

Mikhail and Aida Fakhouri
Jerry and Rania Fakhouri
Kamal and Vinna Fakhouri
Jamil and Kathy Fakhouri



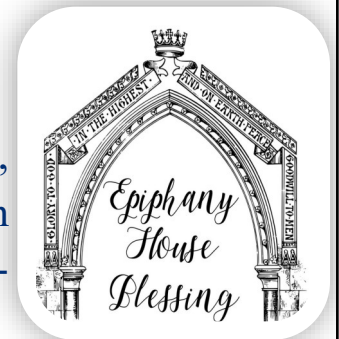


**You are invited to join us on
Godparent Sunday
Sunday , February 1, 2026**

All Godparents, parents, friends and family are invited to join us as we celebrate and honor our Godparents with a special prayer service and light refreshment following the Divine Liturgy in the church hall. **SEE YOU THERE !**

We Would Love to Visit You! It's

House blessings have begun as we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany. All those who wish to have their house blessed, please **call the church office** or Khourieh Ranwa to make an appointment for Fr. Kamal to come and visit you and your family to pray together and bless your home



Arabic Divine Liturgy



"Let's spread some love on Valentine's Day!"

An **Arabic** Divine Liturgy will be held on **Saturday, February 14, at 10:30am** followed by lunch (Restaurant TBA)

Language: Primarily Arabic, intended for those who appreciate or use the Arabic liturgical tradition



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR

St. George's Arabian Festival Night (One Day Festival)

Saturday, March 14, 2026
11am– 10 pm

This outdoor event, hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary of St. George, will feature a variety of activities and authentic Middle Eastern food.

Event Details



Location: St. George Orthodox Church
6300 Bowden Road, Jacksonville, FL 32216

Admission: \$5.00 per person
(kids under 12 are free)

Activities & Offerings

- **Entertainment:** Music and dance performances.
- **Family Fun:** A dedicated Kids Zone for children.

Atmosphere: An outdoor event with tents and chairs provided for comfort.

Come and enjoy great food, dancing,





2026 Annual General Assembly Sunday, February 8th, 2026 In person and Via Zoom

The Parish Council is made up of **12** members (elected for 3 years by the General Assembly), 3 members appointed for one year by the Pastor, and all of the Organizations' Presidents.

Every year the council elects from within its ranks, a chairperson and executive officers. In addition, committees are appointed to run the affairs of the parish.

The Pastor, as the appointed representative of the Metropolitan, has the ultimate responsibility for our church. For a synergistic and effective arrangement of our church, the priest, the council, and every parishioner has to work in harmony, much like the Holy Trinity is three persons in one, so must this relationship be.

Qualification Requirements

A candidate must:

A– He/ She must be twenty years of age or older.

B– He/ She has been a voting member of the parish for a period of the past two consecutive years, and has met his/her financial pledge to the church.

C– He/ She has fulfilled the Communicant's requirements of the Orthodox faith; (meaning in good standing spiritually).

A nominating committee is appointed every year to search for the candidates that can best serve the needs of our church.

If you are interested please Call **ONE of the Nominating Committee members below:**

Fr. Kamal Al-Rahil, Pastor @ 904-448-1855

Miss . Beverly Michael, Parish Council Chairwoman @ 904-333-5671

Mr. Jad Hanania; Parish Council Vice Chair @ 904-655-1945

Dr. Justin Bateh @ 904-662-3936

Mr. Issa Odeh @ 904-868-7199

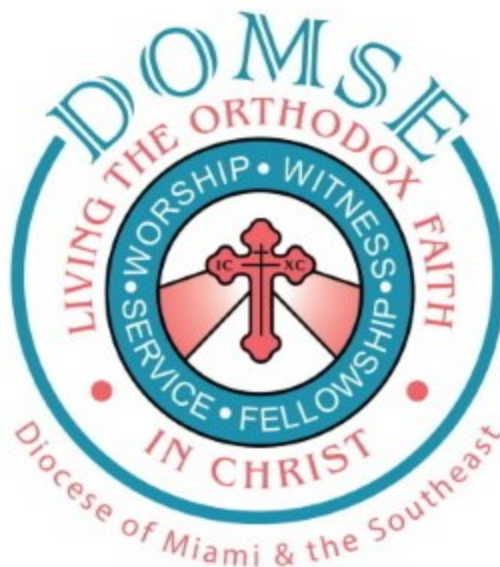
DOMSE Clergy & Winter Retreats 2026 (In person)



Hosted at St. Elias, Atlanta, GA

Clergy Retreat: January 28 – January 29, 2026

Winter Retreat: January 30 – January 31, 2026



ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF JACKSONVILLE

"Funeral Policy and Customs"

"This document outlines the funeral customs and policy at St. George Church, Jacksonville, FL."

A **One (1)-Day** service package includes viewing, funeral service, and Burial/Interment...

Viewing / Visitation: 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

This means that the viewing or visitation period for the deceased will be open from **9:00 AM to 10:30 AM**, allowing people to come and pay their respects for a timeframe ranging from one hour to a maximum of one and a half hours.

Funeral Service Begins at 10:30 AM

(Eulogies will be given after the main funeral service)

This means that when people come to pay their respects during the viewing hours, there will be no formal speeches or eulogies given; all eulogies will be delivered solely at the conclusion of the funeral service itself.

Key points to remember:

Viewing is for quiet reflection:

During the viewing time, people can simply come to see the deceased, offer condolences to the family in a quiet and respectful manner, and share personal memories without a structured speech.

Eulogies at the service: The designated time for sharing stories and eulogies about the deceased will be at the end of the funeral service, where everyone will gather for the main ceremony.

Please note: Fr. Kamal has the **discretion** to approve an additional evening visitation or viewing period solely based on **necessity** and specific circumstances; otherwise, it is a one-day service

Interment Service, a Trisagion Prayers, at the graveside

(after the Funeral service)

An "**Interment Service with Trisagion Prayers**" at the graveside, following a funeral, refers to a brief ceremony where a priest or religious leader recites the Trisagion prayer, a traditional Orthodox prayer meaning "thrice holy," as the deceased is laid to rest, essentially marking the final act of burial and offering prayers for the departed soul to find peace in the afterlife.

Orthodox Funeral Traditions

The body of a departed communicant of the Church should be brought into the church on the day of burial.

- ♦ Burials **may not be celebrated** on **Sundays** during the year.
- ♦ Burials **should not be celebrated** on Great Feast days and the body should not be brought into the church.
- ♦ Burials **may not be celebrated** on Holy Friday, Holy Saturday, or the Sunday of Pascha. The body **is not brought** into the church on those days

Mercy Meal after Interment

A "**Mercy Meal**" refers to a meal shared by family and friends after a burial service.

"**Mercy**" signifies the act of showing compassion and kindness, reflecting the purpose of the meal to provide support to the grieving family.

Memorial Donations / Gifts

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of your departed loved ones to Saint George Orthodox Church.

[**Donating** to a church **in memory** of a loved one is a meaningful way to honor their life and legacy by contributing to a cause they likely valued, allowing their memory to live on through positive action while also providing support to the church ministries that may have been important to them; it's a way to turn grief into a positive act of giving back.]

Memorial Services

It is the custom now at our St. George church to have memorial services on the **40th, 6 months, and 1 year after death**. The day of death is counted as the **first** day.

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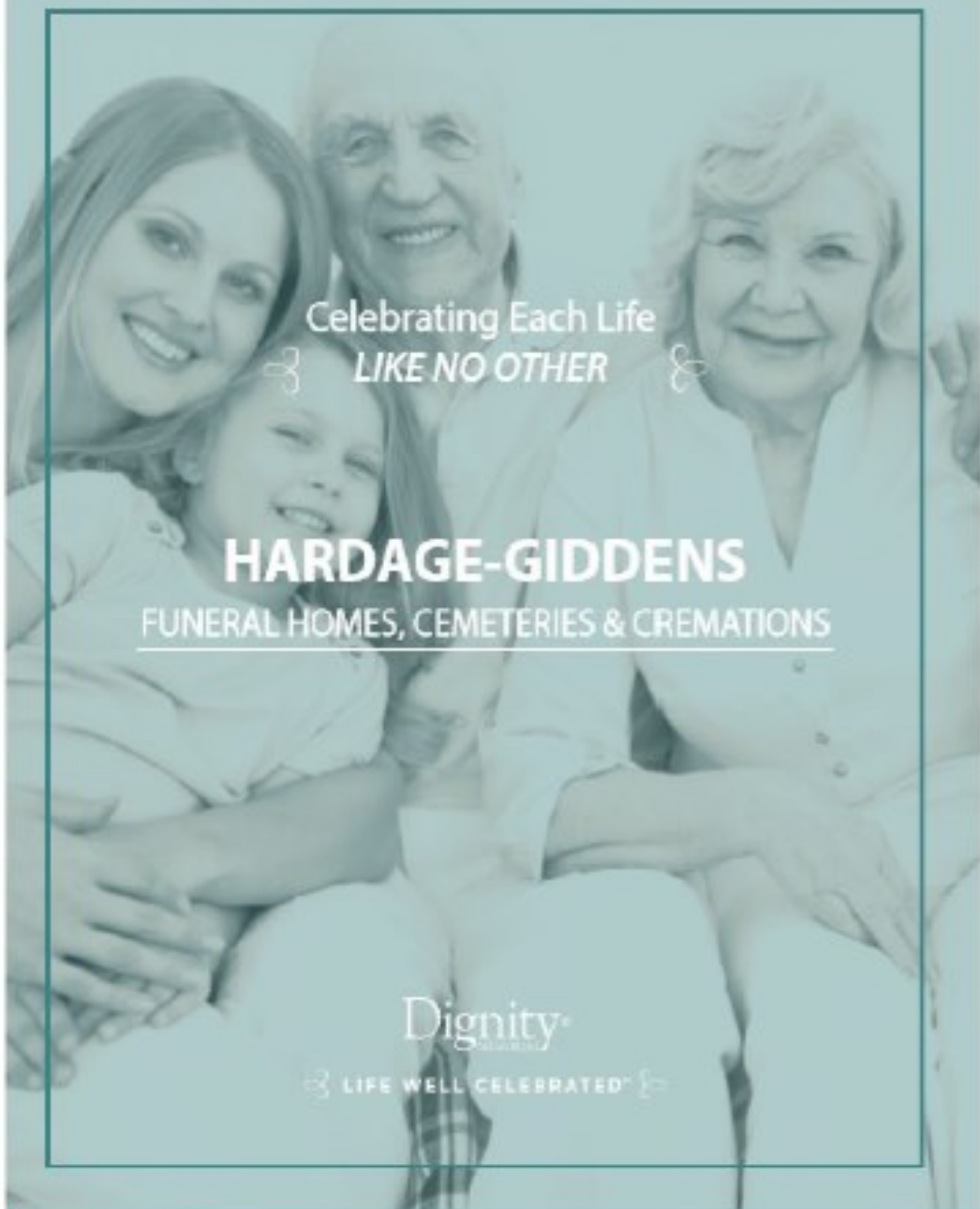


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