

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Very Rev. Dr. Fr. Kamal Alrahil, Pastor

Deacon Raphael (Eric) Bateh

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, November 8, 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.



WORSHIP & OFFICE SCHEDULE

Sunday Services

9:00 AM: Matins (Orthros)

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy

Note: *Confession is available by appointment only.*

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed (Office Only)

Contact Information

904-448-1855

Email: stgeorgejax@comcast.net

Website: jaxorthodox.org

Sunday, November 8, 2026



Ushers: Nicholas and Nicky Joseph

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION FOR SUNDAY, November 8, 2026



Victor and Lamis Anki and family

For the health and well-being of their children and grandchildren. **Many years!**

Upcoming Meetings Schedule | November 2026

- **Teen SOYO Meeting & Fellowship**
  - **Date:** Wednesday, November 4, 2026
  - **Time:** 6:00 PM
  - **Activity:** Meeting followed by fellowship
- **Ladies Auxiliary Meeting & Fellowship**
  - **Date:** Thursday, November 12, 2026
  - **Time:** 6:00 PM
  - **Activity:** Meeting followed by fellowship
- **Parish Council Meeting**
  - **Date:** Monday, November 16, 2026
  - **Time:** 7:00 PM

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Bassam and Alissar Aouil
Victor and Lamis Anki
Ray and Sanaa Anki

Sunday, November 15, 2026
Vicky Akel
Bassam and Dina Atallah
Jamal and Sanaa Awwad
Ramzi and Rula Awad

Sunday, November 22, 2026
Fr. Kamal and Kh. Ranwa Alrahil
Michel and Poliana Azar
Bader and Jeanette Bajalia
Joe and Sandy Bajalia

Sunday, November 29,2026
Abla Bateh
Wardeh Bateh
Suad Bateh
Salwa Bateh



Teen SOYO Corner



Welcome to the Teen SOYO Corner!

Teens in Action: Thanksgiving Food Drive

We are collecting non-perishable items for our annual **Thanksgiving Food Drive** to help families in need across our local community. Please bring your donations of canned goods, boxed meals, and other non-perishable staples to church. **Deadline to drop your items is Sunday November 15th**

Upcoming Events

Teen SOYO Monthly Meeting **(Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 6:00 PM):** Join us for our regular gathering! Please remember to bring **$10.00** for our annual local chapter dues. If you have already paid, thank you so much for your promptness.

Youth Activity: Pizza & Climbing (Sunday, Nov. 8): The teens will meet at the church for a pizza lunch immediately following the Divine Liturgy before heading out to **Blocker Boulders**.

Saturday Dec 5 at 6PM: Sunday School and Teen SOYO **Christmas Party**

Sunday, December 6th: Teen SOYO **Christmas Bake Sale**

🍁 November Season of Gratitude 🍁

As the air turns crisp and the leaves fall, November invites us to slow down and notice the good all around us. It is officially National Gratitude Month—a beautiful time to look past the rush of daily life and appreciate the small, steady moments that truly matter.

Take a quiet moment today to reflect: **What are three things you are holding close to your heart?** Let us approach His throne with clear hearts, using this season to reflect, confess, and rest in His absolute forgiveness.

St. George Church calls upon all our church families to focus this month on the profound Grace of God. Let us learn and teach our children and grandchildren how to live with thankful hearts, praising God for His endless blessings, our health, safety, and prosperity.

One of the greatest ways to show our appreciation is to gather together. Join us this Sunday at church to thank God for everything He has done. He is our Ultimate Savior and Protector.

Never forget that prayer is the most powerful fortress on earth. Without our Lord, we cannot continue, but with Him, all things are possible.

Scripture to Carry This Week:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." — Psalm 107:1

See you on Sunday, church family! 🙏✨



Sunday School Holiday Schedule Updates

Please note the following upcoming changes and breaks for our Sunday School classes as we head into the holiday season:

- **No Classes (Thanksgiving Weekend): Sunday, November 29, 2026**
- **Last Class Before Christmas Break: Sunday, December 13, 2026**
- **Classes Resume: Sunday, January 10, 2027**

We wish all our students, teachers, and families a wonderful, safe, and blessed holiday season!

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

December is a beautifully busy and blessed month here at St. George. As we journey through Nativity fast, we invite you and your family to join us for worship, fellowship, and celebration.

Look at what is happening in December at our parish:

Thursday, December 3rd at 5:30 PM | Evening Divine Liturgy (Arabic)
Come celebrate the **Feast of St. Barbara and St. John of Damascus**. The Divine Liturgy will be chanted **100% in Arabic**. Following the service, join us in the church hall for a traditional social coffee hour featuring ***Burbarrah*** (delicious, boiled wheat), lovingly hosted and offered by Sophie Salameh in honor of our Orthodox traditions.

Saturday, December 5th from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM | Sunday School & Teen SOYO Christmas Party

Bring the whole family together for a festive family-style celebration! We will have a special visit from Santa, a delicious dinner, a musical concert, and so much more. **Stay tuned for further details!**

Sunday, December 6th | Feast of St. Nicholas & Teen SOYO Bake Sale
Join us as we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas. Don't forget to stop by the hall after services to support our youth at the Teen SOYO Christmas Bake Sale—perfect for picking up holiday treats!

Thursday, December 10th at 5:30 PM | Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Dinner
A wonderful evening of fellowship and holiday cheers. Cost is **$35.00** per person. Please see **Naila Hanna** in the church Hall for payment. **Deadline to pay is Sunday November 27th**.

Saturday, December 19th at 5:00 PM | The Order of St. Ignatius Christmas Dinner
Members and friends of the Order of St. Ignatius are invited to gather for our annual Christmas dinner and fellowship. **Please see Hikmat Saoud for RSVP and Payment.**

Sunday, December 20th | Feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch
We honor the holy hierarchy and martyrdom of St. Ignatius of Antioch during our Sunday service.

Thursday, December 24th at 4:30 PM | Christmas Eve Service
Welcome the birth of our Savior, Christ the Lord! Please join us as we gather in anticipation and joy for our beautiful Christmas Eve service.

الهدف الروحي لأنشطتنا وفعالياتنا في كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس

المسيح في وسطنا! حقًا هو كائن وسيكون!

أعزاءنا أبناء الرعية وأصدقاء عائلة كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الأرثوذكسية،

نكتب إليكم لنشارككم تذكيرًا لطيفاً وحيويًا في آن واحد، بشأن الهوية المقدسة لرعيتنا ومركزها الثقافي والاجتماعي، إن كنيستنا، كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس، هي هيكل مقدس مكرّس حصريًا لمجد الله. وفي ظل مجتمع معاصر يزداد علمانية يومًا بعد يوم، يختلط الأمر على البعض فيظنون اللقاءات الكنسية مجرد مناسبات اجتماعية عادية. ولذلك، يجب علينا دائمًا أن نحذر من التعامل مع كرم المسيح وكأنه نادٍ اجتماعي دنيوي.

إن الكنيسة هي مكان العبادة المهيبة والشركة المقدسة. وبينما نحن نحتفل ونحتفل بوفرة – ألا أن فرحتنا يتجلى دائمًا في السياق الجميل والمهيب لإطار روحي. وصفتنا كمسيحيين أرثوذكس، بحد ذاتها تعني «الإيمان المستقيم» و«المجد المستقيم» (Orthodoxia)، فإن الكلمة «أرثوذكسية» (التسبيح الحقيقي) معاً. وبناءً على ذلك، فإن الهدف الأساسي لكنيستنا وجميع خدماتها هو أن نبارك الله، ونسبحه، ونمجده.

ولكي نخافظ على مجتمعنا معافيًا روحيًا ومستقيمًا مع الإنجيل المقدس، يُرجى إبقاء المبادئ الأساسية التالية نصب أعينكم في كل ما يخص حياة الرعية:

متجذّرون في الروحانية الأرثوذكسية:

يجب أن يكون كل نشاط واجتماع، وفعالية تُقام تحت اسم القديس جاورجيوس مرتبطًا ارتباطًا مباشرًا بحياتنا في المسيح. نحن لا نجتمع لمجرد تمضية الوقت أو السعي وراء الترفيه الدنيوي، بل نجتمع كجماعة إفخارستية لتقوية إيماننا، ونتعلم، ونتقرب أكثر من الله.

عائلة واحدة متحدة في المسيح:

نحن مدعوون لنكون عائلة روحية، متحدة بقوة في أحزاننا وأفراحنا على حد سواء. إن خططنا وبرامجنا موجهة تمامًا نحو العائلة، ومصممة لتشمل البالغين، والشباب، والأطفال كجسد واحد غير منقسم في المسيح.

مساحة مقدسة لعمل مقدس:

إن مركزنا الاجتماعي هو امتداد مادي لإيماننا المقدس. وقد وُجد لبناء جسد المسيح من خلال المحبة (الشركة المقدسة)، والخدمة المجتمعية، والمحبة المتبادلة. وهو يتميز تمامًا عن أماكن الترفيه الدنيوية.

فهم الفرق بين الكنيسة والعالم العلماني:

هناك خط فاصل مطلق ولا مساومة فيه بين كنيسة المسيح والنادي الاجتماعي، فالكنيسة هي بيت الله الحي، وباب السماء، ومذبح مقدس مكرّس حصريًا للقداس الإلهي، والصلاة العميقة، والخشوع المهيب أمام القدير. وليست قاعة فعاليات علمانية للتأجير أو التطوع للتسلية الدنيوية.

وعندما نخلط بين الترفيه والعبادة الإلهية، فإننا نخفف من هيبة القداسة. فالترفيه يسعى إلى تسلية الأنا البشرية وتشتيتها؛ أما الشركة الأرثوذكسية الحقيقية فتسعى إلى تواضع النفس، وتجلي القلب، وتوحيد الله. إن شركتنا تحت سقف الكنيسة ليست حفلة علمانية أبدًا، بل هي امتداد مقدس للمذبح، مرساة دائمًا في إيماننا الأرثوذكسي.

إننا نحب رعيتنا وممتنون بعمق للحياة الحيوية في كنيستنا. دعونا نواصل العمل معًا بروح الوحدة، ضامنين أن كل ما نقوم به يشرّف ويعود بنا إلى المسيح، وكنيسته، وخلاصنا.

محبتكم في المسيح،

الإكليروس وإدارة الرعية

كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الأرثوذكسية

St. George Orthodox Church

FAITH • WORSHIP • COMMUNITY

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be.

†

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the St. George Orthodox Church Family,

We are writing to share a gentle yet **vital reminder** regarding the sacred identity of our parish and its **Cultural and Fellowship Center**. Our St. George Church is a holy sanctuary dedicated exclusively to the glory of God. In a modern society that is **increasingly secular**, it is easy to mistake church gatherings for ordinary social events. However, we must always guard against treating the vineyard of Christ as a **secular social club**.

The Church is a place of solemn worship and holy fellowship. While we celebrate—and celebrate abundantly—our joy is always transfigured within the beautiful, reverent context of a spiritual setting. As Orthodox Christians, the very word **Orthodoxia** signifies **both "right belief" and "right glory"** (true praise). Therefore, the fundamental purpose of our church and all its ministries is to bless, praise, and glorify God.

To keep our community spiritually healthy and aligned with the Holy Gospel, please keep the following core principles in mind for all parish life:

Rooted in Orthodox Spirituality:

Every activity, meeting, and event [activity, mentained io event held under the name of St. George must be directly connected to our life in Christ. We do not gather simply to pass the time or seek worldly entertainment. We gather as a Eucharistic assembly to strengthen our faith, learn, and grow closer to God.

One United Family in Christ:

One United Family in Christ: We are called to be a spiritual family, firmly united in both our sorrows and our joys. Our plans and programs are strictly family-oriented, designed to nurture adults, youth, and children as a single, undivided body in Christ.

Sacred Space for Sacred Work:

Our Fellowship Cected in Work: Our Fellowship Center is a physical extension of our sacred temple. It exists to build up the body of Christ through agape (holy fellowship), community outreach, and mutual love. It is distinct from worldly entertainment venues. Understanding the Church vs. The Secular World There is an absolute, uncompromising line between the Church of Christ and a social club.

†

The Church is the **living House of God**, the gate of heaven, and a sacred sanctuary dedicated exclusively to the Divine Liturgy, deep prayer, and awe-inspiring reverence for the Almighty.

It is not a secular event space to be rented or adapted for worldly amusement. When we confuse entertainment with divine worship, we dilute the sacred. Entertainment seeks to amuse and distract the human ego; the Orthodox fellowship seeks to humble the soul, transfigure the heart, and glorify God. Our fellowship under the church roof is never a secular party—it is a holy extension of the Altar, always anchored in our eternal faith. We love our community and are deeply thankful for the vibrant life of our parish. Let us continue to work together in unity, ensuring that everything we do points back to Christ, His Church, and our salvation.

In Christ,

The Clergy & Parish Administration

St. George Orthodox Church



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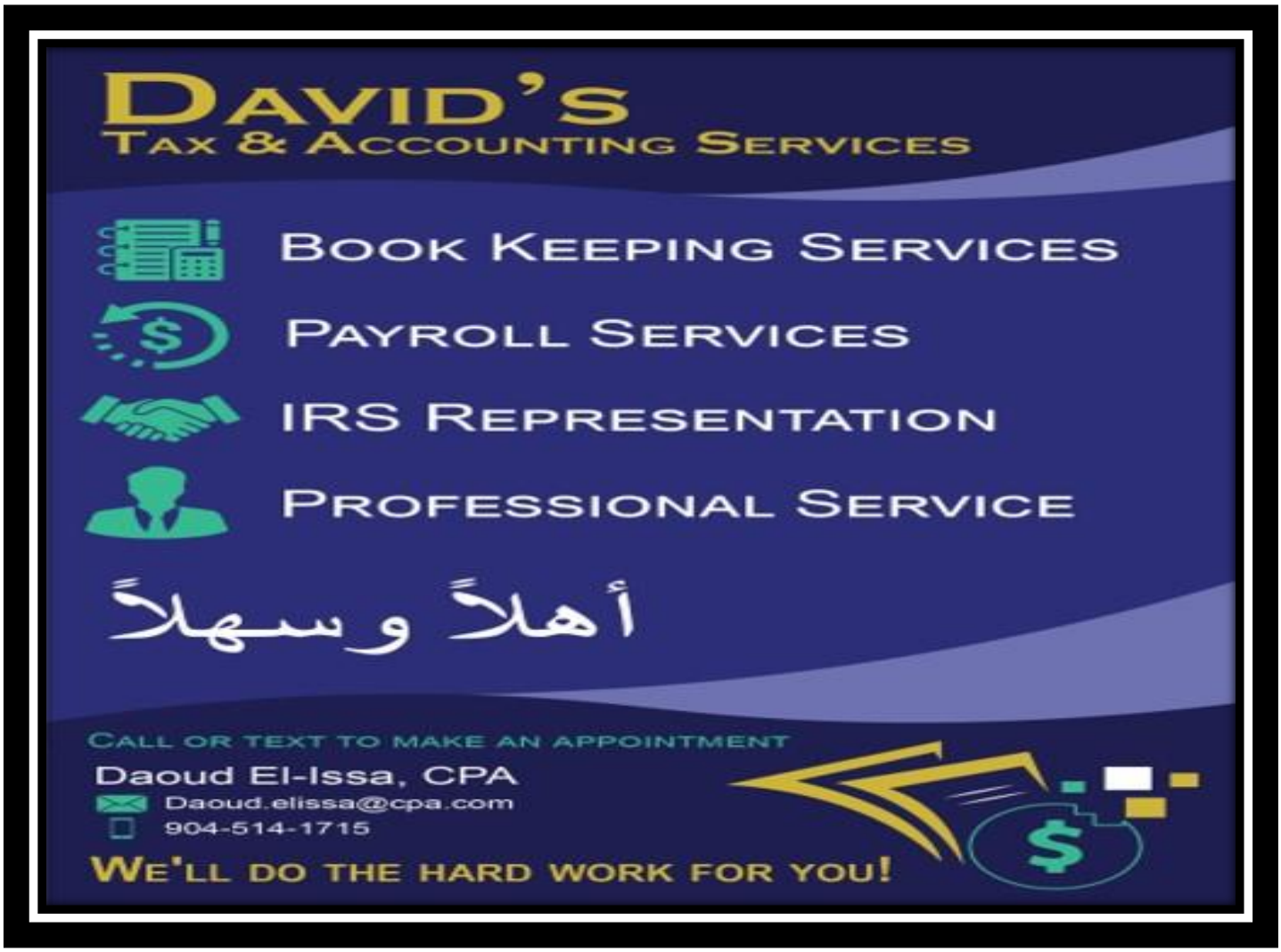
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