

A PRAYER FOR LENT

The Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian is traditionally said many times throughout each day during Great Lent, in addition to our daily prayers.

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. (+)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to your servant. (+)

Yes, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sin and not to judge my brother, for You are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (+)

(The “(+)” indicates that those praying make a deep bow or prostration at this point.)

St. George Orthodox Church
6300 Bowden Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
www.JaxOrthodox.com
Address Service Requested



The Faith

The Newsletter of St. George

April 11, 2021

6300 Bowden Road, Jacksonville, FL 32216

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V. Rev. Fr. Kamal Al-Rahil; Pastor

Fourth Sunday of Lent
(John Climacus)

Tone 3 Eothinon 11

Epistle: Heb.6:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

Sunday Services

Matins ~ 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy ~ 10:00 AM

Office Hrs.:

Monday - Friday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Confession by appointment

Church Banquet Hall

Capacity: 160 people seated

NO Hall Rental during COVID-19 Pandemic

Church Hall is Closed until further notice....

Servers for Sunday April 11th, 2021
April is Antiochian Men Month!!

Epistle Readers:

English: Sbdn. Nadeem Tannous

Arabic: George Baghdan

Chanters:

Sbdn. Nadeem Tannous / George Baghdan / Tarek Kishek

Ushers:

Issa Odeh and Abe Kassees

Altar Servers:

Ameen Hakim, Jamil and Jean Fayad, Nicholas and Anthony Odeh.

Holy Bread of Oblation for Sunday April 11th

1. In loving memory of **Saleem Samaan (memorial service.)**, offered by the Deeb and Atallah families. May his memory be eternal.
2. In loving memory of **Ahlam and Elias Al-Hirsh**, offered by Abla Al Hirsh and family. May their memory be eternal.

PRAYERS CORNER

*Lord, You are the physician of our souls and body. We pray
You grant the following parishioners good health and
blessings:*

Sue Rafidi, Yousef Zacharia, Farid N. Bateh, Eddie Bateh, Zohour Anki,
Jamal Hanania, Albert and Betty Kishek, Sam and Pam Newey,
Clemance Hanania and Mary Kelly.



\$100 Fundraiser & Raffle!
(Virtually)

Saturday May 8th at 4pm

Ticket sales for this event has begun.

While we feel blessed to have been able to held another **virtual \$100 Fundraiser raffle** this year, we need your help to pursue this fundraiser again and to be a successful event as the previous year.

On behalf of **Diana Farhat**, PC Chairwoman , **Council members** and **I**, we thank you in advance for your continuous support for your beloved Church.

Please send your payment **ASAP** So we can send your Raffle tickets.

Donation: \$100 per ticket

Deadline on or before May 1st, 2021.

Payments Options

Please choose **ONE** of the following:

- 1st: Personal check**/payable to St. George Orthodox Church.
Memo: \$100 Raffle Ticket. (Please mail it directly to the church office)
- 2nd: Bill Pay** though your Bank Account - Mail directly to the church office - **Memo: \$100 Raffle Ticket.**
- 3rd: Pay by a Credit Card** over the phone-by calling **Mrs. Raoaa Essa @904-504-8360.**
- 4th: Cash** payment -delivered to the church office.

Items needed for Holy Week and Easter

The Lenten Season is upon us and soon, Holy week and Pascha will be here as well. With so many special services and traditions being observed during this time, the church is in need of certain items and we are kindly asking for your offering and support.

So, in order to make any kind of special offering during this blessed Season, **please contact Khourieh Ranwa** and specify the purpose of your donation.

We thank you and pray that you experience a most joyful and fruitful Lenten season and celebration of our Lord's Holy Resurrection.

Please Note:

1. All names of donors and their families will be remembered on the Altar during both services (Palm Sunday and Easter).
2. Please indicate your donation either in **honor** or in **memory** of loved ones or in **thanksgiving for** and given by who?

Offerings For Holy Week and Pascha

It would be a great joy for me (for us) to offer a donation of (\$___) towards the following:

_____Charcoal

_____Wine for Altar

_____Oil

_____Eggs

_____Candles

_____Altar misc. items

_____Holy Thursday Crown

_____Good Friday Cross

_____Easter Floral Arrangements

Membership Dues:

Steady cash flow is VITAL for the continuity of St. George Church and its ministries.

If you **are financially able**, we would appreciate your contributions (donations) to your beloved St. George Church.

Three methods of Payment for Your Pledge Dues

1. **Check / Cash** may be **sent via mail** to the church office, or you may place it on Sunday Tray Collection (Basket is located in the Church Foyer.)
2. **Bill Pay: Online Bill Pay**, is set up through your Bank Acct.
3. **PayPal** : Donate online via Credit Card. It is a secure online donation through our church website: **www.Jaxorthodox.com** .

Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter!!

As attendance is **limited** due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will **notify** you regarding Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter procedures, once **received** a new directives from the Archdiocese.

However, Father Kamal and the Parish Council are working diligently to ensure the safety of our community and following the directives set by the Archdiocese and CDC . Having said that, the safety protocols of our church published on our bulletin, Website and Facebook, are still in effect.

Mask and social distancing are still required at our church at all times.

We thank you for your understanding and following all the guidelines set by the Archdiocese and CDC. May GOD grant us all patience and wisdom to persevere.

Current Guidelines for St. George Attendance:

Beloved Family of St. George,
CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!

The procedures described **below** are in accordance with both the most recent government regulations and the Archdiocese directives. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the archdiocese always defers to the more recent state and local directives to keep our parishes healthy and safe.

Church attendance has been split into two alphabetical categories by last names. Families with the letters **A thru J** are invited to attend one Sunday. Those with last names beginning with **K thru Z** will be offered the opportunity to attend the following Sunday (**attendance will then alternate every other Sunday based on said last names**).

{If you are **unsure** which Sunday is for your family, please **check** your **weekly Bulletin email** or **contact** the Church Office or **check** your church Facebook page.}

Attendance at the liturgy is **limited to 120 people** inclusive of clergy, chanters and servers. If you would like to attend liturgy, you **must sign up** (**register**).

Sunday April 11: K-Z

Sunday April 18: A-J

The church will be maintaining a list of those who signed up, and names will be checked at the door as well. As always, St. George services will continue to **be live-streamed** and we thank you for following these guidelines and abide by our safety protocols during this pandemic.

What should I do when I get to church?

You must arrive **no later than 10:00** am on Sunday. **After 10:15 am, no one** will be available to give you access to church .

We will be closing the doors at 10:15 am sharp to avoid parishioners needing to touch the door, as well as to give time to the ushers to follow the check in procedures before the read of Epistles and Gospel.

With regard to **accessing the church**, we determined that the best way to prevent a bottleneck at the Narthex is to direct parishioners to one open church entrance door. There, parishioners will have the opportunity to check in, sanitize their hands, and have their temperature taken prior to being escorted by ushers to their seats.

If you had registered to attend and are **UNABLE** to be there on time, please let us know.

Anyone who is considered "**at-risk**" by CDC guidelines, please continue to watch services remotely.

Masks covering the mouth and nose must be worn at all times. Though sanitizers will be available in the foyer near the candles, please also bring your **own hand sanitizer**, and use it frequently.

If you choose to light a candle, please sanitize your hands before and after, and reach for it using a tissue. As baskets will not be passed during liturgy, please leave any offering or pledge dues in the trays in the foyer .

Only those living in the same household should sit together. It goes without saying that there should be **no kissing, handshakes and hugs.** Remember that social distancing is the key.

When coming to communion, please leave ample room with the person in front of you and the person in back of you.

Communion will continue in accordance with the church's tradition.

Tilt your head back and open your mouth wide to allow Father Kamal to put the Body and Blood in; **do not close** your lips on the spoon. **Do not wipe** your mouth with the communion cloth after receiving communion. After you receive communion, please put your mask on before returning to your seat.

The Antidoron (holy bread) will not be handed out after communion. It will be distributed after the dismissal by the front doors of the church.