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*A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America • Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest  
His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America  
His Grace Bishop ANTHONY, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo*

*V. Rev. Father Nabil L. Hanna, Pastor  
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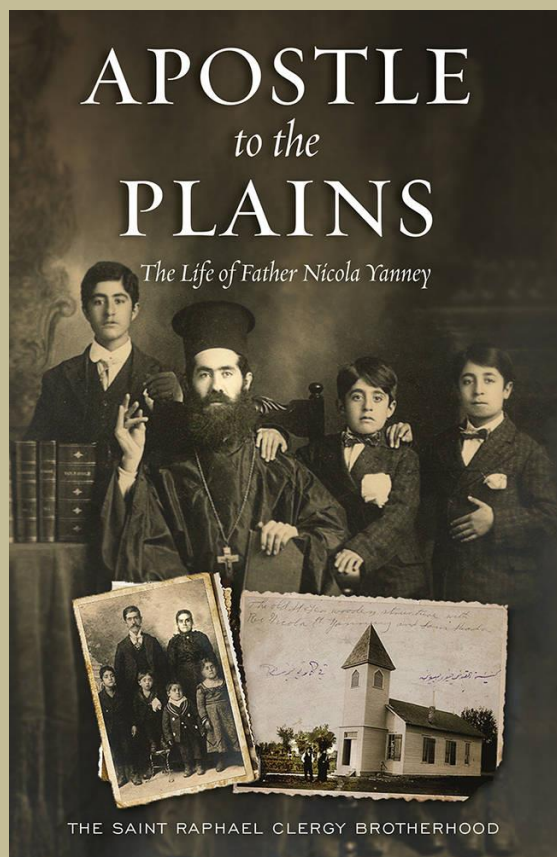
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**TONE 6**

**MARCH 15, 2020**

**EOTHINON 6**

## SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: COMMEMORATION OF GREGORY PALAMAS, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONIKA



*MARTYR AGAPIOS OF PALESTINE  
AND THOSE MARTYRED WITH HIM*

*APOSTLE ARISTOBOULOS OF THE SEVENTY,  
FIRST BISHOP OF BRITAIN*

*NEW-MARTYRS MANUEL OF CRETE  
AND PARTHENIOS*

As we face the uncharted challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, we find courage in the example of one of our righteous priests, Fr. Nicola Yanney.

Fr. Nicola served in America as a faithful missionary priest in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Heroically, he refused to neglect his duty to visit his sick parishioners during the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918. Eventually, he contracted it himself and died what we can consider a martyr's death.

*It is likely Fr. Nicola will be canonized in the near future. The image to the left is the cover of a new book about his life.*

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# LITURGY VARIATIONS

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## THIRD ANTIPHON: APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (TONE 6)

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When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou ledest Hades captive and wast

not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### Schedule of Regular Weekly Services

**Sundays:** Matins, 8:50 AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10 AM

**Wednesdays:** Vespers, 6:30 PM

**Saturdays:** Great Vespers, 5 PM

**Confession:** After Saturday Vespers  
During Sunday Matins  
Or by Appointment



*Remember to turn  
cell phones off!*

*See Calendar for Feast Days and Other Weekday Services Scheduled*

### Order for Holy Communion

Members of the Orthodox Church age seven and above must prepare for Holy Communion with a recent confession, prayer, fasting from all food and drink from midnight (unless medical condition preclude it), being in church *before* the Epistle and Gospel readings, and being at peace with everyone.

**As there are NO CHURCH SCHOOL classes today, children should sit with their parents and come to Communion with them.** An usher will dismiss your row from the center aisle. Then return to your place by a side aisle for the prayers of thanksgiving and the final blessing and dismissal. Please let choir members pass when they come down for Communion.

### A Warm Welcome to Our Guests

We are glad you are worshipping with us. Please note that participation in **Holy Communion is limited to members of the Orthodox Church** in good standing, who have prepared through prayer, fasting and confession.

For all others: though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread (from the large bowls). Please also sign our guest book, and introduce yourself to Fr. Nabil during the coffee hour. You may inquire with him how you can become a member.

## APOLYTIKIA AFTER THE ENTRANCE

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### Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 6) • طروبارية القيامة

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إن القوات الملائكية، ظهوروا على قبرك الموقر، والحراس  
صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند القبر طالبة جسداً  
لك. الطاهر، فسببت الجحيم ولم تجرب منه، وصادفت البتول

### Troparion for St. Gregory Palamas (Tone 8)

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O Star of Orthodoxy, Support of the Church  
and its Teacher, O Comeliness of ascetics,  
and incontestable Champion of those who  
speak in theology, Gregory the Wonder-  
worker, the Pride of Thessalonica and  
Preacher of grace, implore thou constantly  
for the salvation of our souls.

### Troparion of St. George (Tone 4; Russian)

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As Deliverer of captives and Defender of the  
poor, Healer of the infirm, Champion of  
kings, victorious Great-Martyr George,  
intercede with Christ, our God, for our souls'  
salvation.

### Kontakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)

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O victorious Leader of triumphant hosts, we,  
your servants who have been delivered from  
danger, sing our grateful thanks to you, O  
Theotokos. As you have power which is  
invincible, set us free from every danger,  
that we may cry out to you: Rejoice, O  
unwedded Bride!

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

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### Prokeimenon (Psalm 11.7, 1 LXX; Tone 5)

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You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.  
*Verse:* Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

### Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (1.10-23; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)

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"In the beginning, You O Lord, did found the  
earth, and the heavens are the work of your  
hands; they will perish, but You remain; they  
will all grow old like a garment, like a man-  
tle You will roll them up, and they will be  
changed. But You are the same, and your  
years will never end." But to what angel has  
He ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I  
make your enemies a stool for your feet?"  
Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth

to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was

valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him.

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### **Gospel According to St. Mark (2.1-12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

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AT THAT TIME, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy!

Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

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### **HOLY OBLATIONS AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

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- By Karen and Alyska Hilty, in memory of mother/grandmother Dorothy Havrilak (2-year memorial) and father/grandfather Michael Havrilak (memorial).
- For all those who have been affected by the coronavirus and their loved ones, for Alexander Azar II and for all the healthcare workers on the front lines of the pandemic.
- For the good health of our iconographers: Dr. George Kordis, Kanellos Kanellopoulos, Maria Panou, Alkiviadis Pappas and Polychronis Vichos and their families in Greece.

*A sign-up sheet for baking and offering the prosphora (altar bread) is posted on the bulletin board, next to the elevator. You can also contact Thelma Hoover at (317) 782-1633.*

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### **WE SERVE THE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL TODAY**

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In the service books, follow the right column, labeled "St. Basil," where there are two columns to participate in the Prayer of the Anaphora.

His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE**  
OF NORTH AMERICA

March 13, 2020

Beloved in Christ,

Greetings and blessings to all of you in the Name of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

During these holy days of Lent - this time of fasting, prayer, and repentance - we are preparing ourselves to commemorate the Life-giving and Saving Passion of our Lord and His Glorious Third-day Resurrection. On the night our Lord was betrayed, He gathered His disciples in the Upper Room to strengthen them in their Faith before the coming trials and tribulations. While speaking plainly about the suffering that was to take place, He said to them encouragingly: "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Our Lenten journey this year has the added trial of the worldwide spread of a novel coronavirus. This virus has landed on the shores of our North American continent and begun its spread into various cities within the boundaries of our Archdiocese. As our Lord strengthened the courage of His disciples before His Passion, He is calling us to faith and courage *today*. We are hearing the warnings that the spread of the disease will quicken without more dramatic measures, and we need to say honestly that we could be entering into a time of significant trial. As Orthodox Christians, we should remind ourselves that in the world we will always have tribulation.

We must all decide what we will do during this time. Will we panic and become paralyzed with fear? Or will we recall the words of our Lord that despite this time of trial, we can take heart that He has indeed overcome the world? Even in the face of sickness and death, we as Orthodox Christians are called to remember that the Tomb is empty, for our Christ has shattered the gates of death and opened Paradise to all. We celebrate the death of death and ask: "Oh, death where is thy sting? Oh, hades where is thy victory?"

Having said that, I would like to offer a few words about the seriousness of the threat we face. I have heard some of our clergy and faithful downplaying the threat by saying things that may be factually true but can also be misleading. Yes, the disease COVID-19 will only have mild symptoms in the vast majority of cases. Yes, the

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

seasonal flu has at this point caused considerably more deaths during this flu season than COVID-19. Yes, most Americans are still considered to have low degree of risk of contracting the coronavirus. However, the daunting problem we are facing is one of avoiding the spike in cases that could easily happen without taking serious precautions. As we have seen in other countries, the virus can spread quickly, and if even a small percentage of people require hospitalization, our hospitals will be overrun.

On the same night before His Passion, the Lord asked His disciples: “to love one another as I have loved you.” We know that people who are older and have underlying health problems are the most susceptible to having a serious illness develop from COVID-19. We must remember that although the vast majority of us may have only a mild illness if infected, our own careless spread of the virus could result in the unnecessary hospitalizations and deaths of many of our vulnerable brothers and sisters. We have to show our Christian love by cooperating with our civil authorities to do what can be done to protect them.

We have been in touch with epidemiologists and civic leaders to do our part in containing the spread of the virus. Last week, we sent directives to our clergy based on the advice we had received at the time. We also cautioned that we were dealing with a rapidly evolving situation that will require us to update the directive as we receive new information and guidance.

As we have heard many times now, all of us need to adopt extremely good hygiene practices – frequent hand washing, cleaning often-touched surfaces, sneezing and coughing into our elbows, and limiting hugs, kisses, and handshakes. The sick need to stay home and contact their healthcare providers if they show symptoms of COVID-19. The elderly and vulnerable need to severely limit their travel and exposure to crowded places. Anyone who can work from home is encouraged to do so. Our priests and parish councils were instructed to take necessary precautions to limit the spread of this virus in our parishes last week.

We are now entering a time where we will be asked more and more by the civil authorities to engage in social distancing and cut down on unnecessary travel and events. We can expect that there will be different levels of these requests in different areas of the country – depending on the severity of local outbreaks – so we will respond as the situation dictates. In the spirit of love for our vulnerable neighbors and service to our communities, I am instructing our clergy and parishes to abide by the directives of their local civil authorities.

In this same spirit, we will postpone all events and retreats on the deanery and diocesan level through the end of this month. We do not want any unnecessary travel

*“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)*

at this critical juncture. In fact, we have already postponed two Lenten retreats of the Dioceses of the East that were to take place at the Antiochian Village in the coming weeks. After this Sunday, we ask that our parishes postpone any non-worship event that would bring together more than 100 people. We will leave it up to the discretion of the pastor, in consultation with the local bishop, to cancel Sunday School, coffee hour, potlucks, etc. due to the proximity of each parish to areas of outbreak and the advice of the local authorities.

To be clear, we will not stop the liturgical life of our parishes unless specifically ordered to do so by the local authorities. We need the prayer of the Church and the Holy Mysteries. As I instructed our clergy last week, *Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is without any question or doubt the Medicine of Immortality, not a source of disease. The Church, over her two-thousand-year history, has experienced countless plagues and has never wavered on this point, and we will not do so now.*

Beloved in Christ, I ask of all of us to increase the fervency of our prayers to Almighty God. Our Lord also spoke on that fateful night of the greatest love we can offer, the love of one who lays down his or her life for another. Our health care workers, first responders, and clergy will be asked to courageously put themselves in harm's way to care for and minister to the sick, and they need our prayers and support. We must pray to God to grant wisdom and discernment to the civil authorities of our land. We must pray for the sick and their loved ones. We must use this holy season to repent and grow to love God and our neighbor more fully.

We are likely entering into a time of trial. We pray that the measures we are taking in conjunction with the civil authorities will slow the spread of the virus in our communities. We pray that our Lord, the Physician and Healer of our souls and bodies, will look down on our world with mercy and compassion and speedily deliver us from this pestilence. We also pray that He will grant to all of us faith and love, courage and strength, wisdom and discernment to do our part – each and every one of us. We have the assurance of our Faith, that in the end, our Lord has overcome the world.

With paternal love and prayers and for all of you, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**+JOSEPH**

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

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**“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom!” (Luke 12:32)**

*As we take the coronavirus pandemic seriously, with faith and love, please note the following changes to our schedule and procedures:*

**1. Saturday Vespers, Matins/Liturgy on Sunday and all Lenten Liturgical Services** continue on the regular schedule.

- We advise those who are feeling ill, are elderly, have diabetes or lung issues or compromised immune systems to stay home.
- **Venerate** icons or the gospel book or the cross with just a ‘gesture,’ but **do not touch the item with your lips or hand**. While the Greek word in the Bible for veneration literally means to “approach and kiss,” for now, approach as if to kiss, but then back away. The same goes for the priest’s hand.
- We **cannot pass collection bowls** person to person, so we will have the offering box in the narthex to receive your tithes and offerings.
- For **Holy Communion**, as we have always instructed, please **tilt your head back, and open your mouth wide**, so the priest or deacon will be able to turn the spoon in your mouth easily, *without* touching your lips or tongue.
- For receiving the **antidoron** (blessed bread) after Holy Communion and at the dismissal, the Archdiocese has directed us to implement the more ancient practice. That is, *instead* of everyone reaching into the bowl with their own hands, **cup your hands together, and the priest (at dismissal) or an assistant (after Communion) will drop a piece of the blessed bread in them**. The priest and assistants will have washed their hands thoroughly, so please do not touch or kiss their hands. While it is



traditional to kiss the priest's hand when receiving a blessing, for the time being, you may just make a 'gesture' of veneration for the priest's hand (as described above).

2. **Church School** will be suspended from this Sunday and going forward until further notice.
3. **Coffee hour** will be suspended from this Sunday and going forward until further notice.
  - Please then leave directly after services. It will be difficult, but we must **refrain from touching one another**. Do not go down to the lower level at all, and do not congregate in the lobby.
4. **All other gatherings** are suspended – Wednesday pitch-in, Friday Lenten suppers, meetings, etc., until further notice.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **NO COFFEE HOUR ON ACCOUNT OF CORONAVIRUS SITUATION**

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There will be NO church school or coffee hour until further notice. Until this crisis passes, we are only holding liturgical services.

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### **PRAYERS NEEDED**

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Alexander Azar II, our parishioner who moved to Washington DC, with his family, to serve our country as Secretary of Health and Human Services, asks all of us for our prayers. He is in a very difficult position trying to handle this crisis. Let us all pray that the Lord will grant him wisdom and fortitude.

We pray for all those who have been affected by the novel coronavirus (named CoViD-19) and their loved ones and for all the healthcare workers on the front lines, taking care of them, and all our civil authorities working to protect us.



## WELCOME TO OUR ICONOGRAPHY TEAM

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Dr. George Kordis, Kanellos Kanellopoulos, Maria Panou, Alkiviadis Pappas and Polychronis Vichos arrived on the last flight from Europe to Indianapolis, Thursday evening. They started working promptly. *We appreciate not only what they are doing for us but how difficult it must be for them to be away from their families at this difficult time.*

### PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL WHILE THE ICONOGRAPHY WORK IS ONGOING.

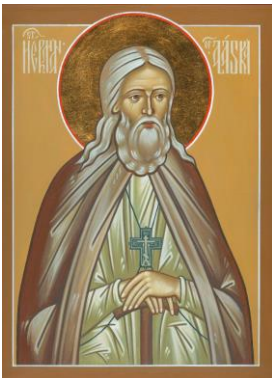
We have lifts and equipment in the nave of the church, and there's plywood covering the marble floor in the areas where the lifts will roll.

- The edges of the plywood sheets are uneven. Step carefully, so you don't trip!
- Please watch your children carefully, so they don't play on or try to climb on equipment.

**All the spaces for standing male and female saints have now been designated**, but we still have many sponsorship opportunities, especially for festal icons and narthex iconography. Please contact Fr. Nabil right away.

**We are now at \$300k toward meeting the \$350k challenge** to complete iconography and pay off our second mortgage. *We're most of the way there! Through your generosity, we will meet our goal. You don't have to sponsor a whole icon; any donation amount will help us pay off the mortgage, which comes due in April.*

The iconographers are staying at the St. Thekla House, and we need to provide them a hearty lunch every day. You are invited to sign up for meals at [tinyurl.com/feediconographers](http://tinyurl.com/feediconographers)



## LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL MISSION TEAM

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We are now forming a team to go to Alaska in August. Our parish and the Central Indiana Mission Teams have formed a special relationship with St. Herman's Seminary and Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Kodiak (where St. Herman's relics are housed). We are being given the privilege of being the only mission team to go at the time of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Herman.

Our task this time will be to help the local community prepare for and host the large number of dignitaries and pilgrims expected for the commemoration (unlike previous mission trips to Alaska, which had focused on carpentry and painting). The pilgrimage will take place on August 7-9, so our mission team needs to be there several days before and remain through a couple of days after. Exact dates will be announced soon. **Contact Brad Tingwald at [dbtingwald@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbtingwald@sbcglobal.net) or (317) 306-8467 for more information and to sign up.** *Space is limited.*

# REVISED LENTEN SERVICES SCHEDULE



*In Addition to the regular, weekly services:*

**Saturday Vespers and Confession, 5 p.m.**

**Sunday Matins: 8:50 a.m. • Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.**

**Mondays — Great Compline at 7 p.m.**

**Wednesdays — 6:30 p.m. for the Presanctified Liturgy.**

- *On March 25, we celebrate the Great Feast of the Annunciation.*

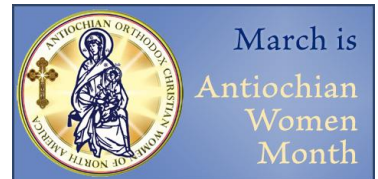
**Fridays — Little Compline with the Akathist Hymn to the Theotokos at 7 p.m.**

**Sunday Evenings —** Vespers is at 5 p.m. at a different church each week (see calendar).

**The Fifth Thursday, April 2 —** We serve the **Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete** and **Life St. Mary of Egypt** at 7 pm.

## RECOGNIZING OUR LADIES

March is Women's Month in the Archdiocese. During this month we ask our ladies to serve as ushers, readers, etc., in order to highlight the indispensable role our women have served throughout Christian history up to and including the present.



## FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE

As we fast, we always need to remember the poor. Please take a Food for Hungry People offering box from the narthex, and make it a practice to put something into it as you sit down for every meal.

## SUPPORT REID WESLEY'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Reid Wesley is raising funds for his Eagle Scout Project. This project will include making a trail entrance sign to replace the current sign that has rotted. A bridge will be built across the creek bed to allow for trail extension, replacing the wooden pallet currently in place. Donations can be made in two ways:



1. Check made out to St. George Church, with Eagle Scout Project noted in memo.
2. GoFundMe page that can be accessed by the following link or searching for Reid Wesley Eagle Scout Project on the GoFundMe website.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/v87nk-meditation-trail-entrance-sign-and-bridge>

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

*Please include in your daily prayers the following—those struggling with acute illness and those newly departed this life—from our parishioners and those for whom they have requested our prayers. (Names are kept for 40 days, the date indicated after the name, and may be renewed upon request.)*

### LIVING

**Alexander** Azar II – for wisdom and strength - and all our civil authorities working to protect us

**Michael** Matly, 4/18

**Sabah** Ayad Mneizel, 4/14

**Kathleen** Albert, 4/14

Newborn **Josiah** Vazquez, 3/31

**Michael** Jeffrey Campbell, 3/28

**Maria** Caroline Vine and the **child** she is carrying, 3/27

**Christopher** Saba, IU Medical Center, 3/18

**Helen** Nasser Johnson, Avon Rehab., 3/18

**Lucia** Fedor, Liza Nahas' mother, 4/23

**Devin** Ryan, friend of Candace Livingston, 4/14

**Alice** Capshaw, Chris' mother, 4/7

**Youssry** Iskander, Fr. Nabil's uncle, 4/6

**Christina** Nash, daughter of Jamise Kafoure, 4/5

**John** Gardener, friend of Jeff George, 3/31

**Gil** Foster, uncle of Stephanie Haines, 3/18

**All those suffering from illness, violence or want** in this country and throughout the world

### DEPARTED

**Fr. David Buss**, Fr. Nabil's spiritual father 4/7

**Frederick** Corey, 3/24

**Steven** Wise, friend of Gabriella Nahas, 4/9

**Thomas** Sankey, Jeff's brother, 4/5

**Mary** Lou Saikley, Margaret Sankey's aunt, 3/24

**The victims of illness and violence** throughout the world

## ST. GEORGE PARISH CALENDAR

### March 2020

<b>Sun. 15</b>	<b>Matins</b> , 8:50 am <b>Divine Liturgy</b> , 10 am <b>Lenten Vespers</b> , 5 pm at Ss. Constantine & Elena Church (3237 W. 16 <sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis)
<b>Mon. 16</b>	<b>Great Compline</b> , 7 pm
<b>Tue. 17</b>	<b>Parish Council</b> , 7 pm
<b>Wed. 18</b>	<b>Presanctified Liturgy</b> , 6:30 pm
<b>Fri. 20</b>	<b>Little Compline with Akathist</b> , 7 pm
<b>Sat. 21</b>	<b>Great Vespers</b> , 5 pm • <b>Confessions</b> heard
<b>Sun. 22</b>	<b>Matins</b> , 8:50 am <b>Divine Liturgy</b> , 10 am <b>Lenten Vespers</b> , 5 pm at Joy of All Who Sorrow Church (1516 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis)
<b>Mon. 23</b>	<b>Great Compline</b> , 7 pm
<b>Wed. 25</b>	<b>Great Feast of the Annunciation</b> <b>Divine Liturgy</b> , 6:30 pm
<b>Fri. 27</b>	<b>Little Compline with Akathist</b> , 7 pm
<b>Sat. 28</b>	<b>Great Vespers</b> , 5 pm • <b>Confessions</b> heard
<b>Sun. 29</b>	<b>Matins</b> , 8:50 am <b>Divine Liturgy</b> , 10 am <b>Sacrament of Unction</b> , 5 pm at St. Nicholas Church (7855 N. Marsh Rd., Indianapolis)
<b>Mon. 30</b>	<b>Great Compline</b> , 7 pm

See the full calendar and latest additions and updates at [www.stgindy.org/calendar](http://www.stgindy.org/calendar)