

# THE SPIRIT OF ST. GEORGE

## Newsletter of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church



The Spirit of St. George

Monthly except July/August

Volume XVI Number 9

April 2010

**Saint George**  
Antiochian Orthodox Church

*St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church*  
*A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America & of the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West*  
*4530 E. Gold Dust Avenue*  
*Phoenix, Arizona 85028-4221*

### Easter

by the Late Very Rev Nicon D Patrinos - [www.orthodoxchristian.info](http://www.orthodoxchristian.info)

Easter is the celebration of the day of the Resurrection. It is the greatest and oldest feast in the Christian calendar. Especially for the Orthodox, there is no greater feast than Easter including the feast of the Nativity (Christmas), which in the Western Church appears to be the chief feast of their ecclesiastical calendar. The reasons for the preeminence of Easter among the Orthodox are many, all based on a particular passage of St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians, "if Christ has not been raised then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" ( 15:14).

Characteristic of the importance of the Resurrection for the Orthodox is the fact that Easter is also called in Greek 'Lampri', the brightest day of all. The Resurrection light that is brought to the Orthodox home from the midnight service of the Resurrection is taken to be the visible symbol of a new



life in the resurrected Christ, a life of joy after the sorrow of the Cross. And though the Passion is observed with the depth and significance it befits the supreme sacrifice of Christ, it is His Resurrection that seals the redemption issuing from the Cross. Without it, the Orthodox feel, the divide drama would have remained unfulfilled in terms of the experience of human life by which a triumphant katharsis must follow all sacrifices including that on Golgotha. Every Sunday Liturgy of the year is devoted to the Resurrection

*(Continued on page 2)*



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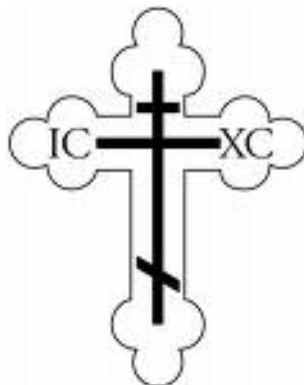
rather than to the suffering Christ. Hence the joyful tone of the Orthodox Eucharist and the underlying victory against the forces of evil implied in the Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ. In this respect, the etymology of Pascha claimed by some as deriving from the Greek verb 'paschein' (to suffer) is erroneous. The name Pascha is merely the approximate rendering by sound of the Hebrew name for Passover.

A long period of fasting preparation precedes the week of Passion, the Great Lent and the Holy Week leads to Good Friday. All together lead to the joy of Resurrection which lasts liturgically for forty whole days after it to the day of the Ascension of the Resurrected Christ. In the ancient Church, those who were preparing to be accepted in the life of Christ by Baptism were allowed to attend the service of Saturday night and were baptized early on Easter day and

received Holy Communion. Homes and entire towns were illuminated with the light of Resurrection taken from the celebrant after he proclaimed Christ resurrected at the Saturday midnight service before the Paschal Liturgy would begin. The famous Orthodox proclamatory hymn, 'Christ is risen from the dead by death trampling on death...!', remains for the Orthodox not only the crown jewel of the entire Orthodox hymnology, but also the symbol of national liberation of more than one of the Orthodox countries. The Saturday night vigil of the early Church has been retained by the Orthodox Church while in the West it was moved first back to the

afternoon and later to the morning of Holy Saturday so that the first Easter Mass came to be celebrated on Saturday. But since 1950 the Orthodox and ancient custom of holding the first Liturgy of Easter at midnight on Saturday - Sunday is being gradually restored in the Roman Church.

**'CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD BY DEATH TRAMPLING ON DEATH. AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE**



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## ***Bishop JOSEPH'S Visitations***

### **April 1, 2010**

St. Andrew Church, Riverside, CA  
*Passion Gospel Service*

### **April 2, 2010**

St. Nicholas Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA  
*Lamentation Service*

### **April 3, 2010**

St. Matthew Church, Torrance, CA  
*Paschal Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great*

### **April 4, 2010**

St. Michael Church, Van Nuys, CA

*Great and Holy Pascha*

### **April 7, 2010**

St. Nicholas Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA  
*Bright Wednesday Hierarchical Divine Liturgy*

### **April 10-11, 2010**

St. George Church, San Diego, CA  
*Episcopal Visit*

### **April 17-18, 2010**

St. Raphael Mission, Palm Springs, CA  
*Episcopal Visit*

### **April 24-25, 2010**

St. Mark Church, Irvine, CA  
*Patronal Feast Day and Orange County Order of St. Ignatius Dinner*

## ***Church Records***

### **Baptisms:**

Aiden Tiazkun: 2.27.2010 ~

Larissa Tiazdun

Thomas Raphael Doyle: 2.28.2010 ~  
Timothy & Helana Doyle

Emily Saikley: 2.28.2010 ~

Darrin & Layla Saikley

Jillian Emmarose Riester: 3.6.2010 ~  
Troy & Kristie Riester

Joslyn Habib: 3.27.2010 ~

Jacob & Lana Habib



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## April 2010 Servers

### Sunday April 4 Pascha

Epistle Reader	Anna Bronnenkant, Elias Mousa
Greeters	Joseph & Marina Sayegh
Ushers	Anthony Sahawneh, Hanna Saigh, Amanda Sahawneh, Majed Sayegh, Bob Foster, Roger Matta
Altar Servers	Roman Karadsheh, Noah Sweilem, Ray Banna, Layne Larsen, Brandon Horan, Zac Sayegh
Hall Lock-up	John Karadsheh
Coffee Hour	Pascha Breakfast

### Sunday April 11

Epistle Reader	John Doumani
Greeters	Becky Abrahams, Amanda Sahawneh
Ushers	George Odeh, Sarah Foster, Marion Saba, John Doumani, David Ziton, Dino Sayegh
Altar Servers	Andrew Stokich, Chase McBride, Christopher Stokich, Mark Markor, Sayeed Sweis
Hall Lock-up	Eva Quomsieh
Coffee Hour	Open

### Sunday April 18

Epistle Reader	Marion Saba
Greeters	John & Nikki Doumani
Ushers	Lauren Sayegh, Miriam Hasou, Amanda Haddad, Khalil Saigh, James DeRienzo, Elias
Altar Servers	Roman Karadsheh, Noah Sweilem, Ray Banna, Layne Larsen, Brandon Horan, Zac Sayegh
Hall Lock-up	Issa Sweilem
Coffee Hour	Ray & Caroline Saigh, Ralph & Camilia Saigh

### Sunday April 25

Epistle Reader	James Saliba Jr.
Greeters	Bill & Valerie Wier
Ushers	Freddy Dahdal, Kathy Nasser, Abeer Sayegh, Louis Hasbany, James Saliba, Joe Doku
Altar Servers	Andrew Stokich, Chase McBride, Christopher Stokich, Mark Markor, Sayeed Sweis
Hall Lock-up	Pete Doku
Coffee Hour	Alan & Gail Horan



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## April 2010 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> <b>Vesperal Liturgy</b> <b>9am</b>  <b>12 Passion Gospels</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Royal Hours</b> <b>9am</b> <b>Apokathelosis</b> <b>3pm</b> <b>Lamentations</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Vesperal Liturgy</b> <b>10am</b>  <b>Hajme/Rush Service</b> <b>11pm</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Pascha</b>  <b>Baouth/Agape srv @ noon</b>	<b>5</b> <b>BRIGHT WEEK &gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>6</b> <b>BRIGHT WEEK &gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>7</b> <b>BRIGHT WEEK &gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>8</b> <b>BRIGHT WEEK &gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>9</b> <b>BRIGHT WEEK &gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Great Vespers</b> <b>5pm</b>
<b>11</b> <b>Orthros 8:50am</b> <b>Divine Liturgy 10am</b> <b>Sun Schl after Comm.</b>	<b>12</b>  <b>Aerobics 6:30pm</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Chant Class 5:30pm &amp; PATHWAYS 6:30pm</b> <b>Adult Education 6:30pm</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Teen Bible Study 6:30</b>  <b>Boot Camp 6:30pm</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Great Vespers 5pm</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Orthros 8:50am</b> <b>Divine Liturgy 10am</b> <b>Sun Schl after Comm.</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Andre House 2:30pm</b>  <b>Aerobics 6:30pm</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Chant Class 5:30pm &amp; PATHWAYS 6:30pm</b> <b>Adult Education 6:30pm</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Teen Bible Study 6:30</b>  <b>Boot Camp 6:30pm</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Great Vespers 5pm</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Orthros 8:50am</b> <b>Divine Liturgy 10am</b> <b>Sun Schl after Comm.</b>	<b>26</b>  <b>Aerobics 6:30pm</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Chant Class 5:30pm &amp; PATHWAYS 6:30pm</b> <b>Adult Education 6:30pm</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Teen Bible Study 6:30</b>  <b>Boot Camp 6:30pm</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!



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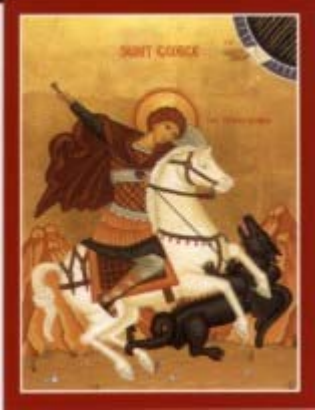


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**Visit our website: [www.stgeorgeaz.org](http://www.stgeorgeaz.org)**

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

4530 E. Gold Dust Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85028



## THE SPIRIT OF ST. GEORGE

<b>Church Services</b>	
Saturday Great Vespers	5:00 pm
<b>Sun. Matins</b>	<b>8:50 am</b>
Sun. Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>After Communion</b>
Evening Feast Days	6:30 pm

Office: (602) 953-1921 Fax: (602) 953-2460

E-mail: [abouna@stgeorgeaz.org](mailto:abouna@stgeorgeaz.org)

Office Hours 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Tuesday – Friday

The Rev. Fr. Christopher Salmay (602) 765-6069

Just a reminder ... Confessions are heard on Saturday evenings before Great Vespers, or anytime, by making an appointment with Fr. Christopher.

Parishioners are encouraged to submit articles for consideration.

Please note the deadline for submitting articles for approval is the 10th of the month before the actual issue date.