



St. George

Orthodox Christian Church
Terre Haute, Indiana

The Messenger October 2020 Vol. 33 Issue 10

The Fruit of the Spirit...even in an Election Year

The Apostle Paul writes the following words to the Christians of Galatia (and also to you and me!): *“Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provocation of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ”* (Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2).

How different they seem from life as we often experience it! And yet, these words give us an image of what life lived according to the Gospel truly looks like. We are mistaken when we think that our real enemy is some group of people, some political ideology, something “out there.” When we think that, it’s easy for us to make excuses for why we don’t live according to the Gospel.

Christ tells us to forgive, but surely that doesn’t apply to that person who really hurt me, right? The Scriptures tell us to be gentle, kind, and self-controlled but those people over there have “dangerous” political beliefs, so surely it’s okay if I mock and belittle them, right? Christ tells us to be of good cheer, to have joy, but surely I can’t do that in the midst of a pandemic or civil unrest, right?

No, Christ’s words are without exception or qualification. There are no external life circumstances that excuse the hardness of my own heart, my own unwillingness to love my neighbor, my own internal judgment, anger, and mocking of others. That doesn’t mean I have to agree with everyone. I certainly can and should disagree with anything that isn’t according to Christ and the Scriptures.

But when I disagree, I should do so with love, peace, and patience. I should be kind, gentle, and self-controlled. And I must strive to do everything, to carry every cross, with the joy that comes from knowing that Christ is risen. The burdens of others are mine to carry in as far as God gives me strength. It does me no good to point to other people, ideas, or things, and use those to excuse my own lack of love. If I do that, my heart will go from bad to worse. I need repentance. I need Christ. I need grace. I need to put the Gospel above all else.

Parish Update during COVID-19 (Fall 2020)

Our weekend² liturgical schedule will be changed to offer our faithful the opportunity to join us each week. We are still keeping our attendance capacity limited to approximately 40 people inside the church proper at each service. However, there will no longer be an age restriction. We will offer a Divine Liturgy on Saturday at 10:00a, as well as on Sunday offer Matins (9:00a) and Divine Liturgy at 10:00a.

Based on the alphabet (your last name), you and your family will be "assigned" which day to join us. Check our parish publications for our liturgical schedule and the assigned alphabet listing. ALL weekday services will be OPENED to ALL. **Please reach out to your family members and other parishioners to help share this news!** Any questions, please contact Fr. Paul.

In order to accomplish this goal, we need some volunteers to make a commitment to attending weekly and serving as "ushers" to offer the necessary health procedures and protocols for those in attendance. **Your parish community is in NEED for your dedicated assistance.** If available, please contact Danny Tanoos (812-251-5781) to volunteer and learn more details.

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR LIMITED ATTENDANCE!

If you are back to a normal routine, if you are "out and about" - at work, on vacation, at school, going to stores and restaurants, etc. then you should be joining us for our weekly schedule of liturgical services. If you don't view the Church as "essential" to your life and seek an active participation with your parish community, then some reflection is a must of our priorities and values! To discuss further, please contact Fr. Paul.

We will still be **live-streaming** ALL liturgical services for those unable to join us in-person worship. Visit our Facebook Group – "St George Orthodox Church (Terre Haute, IN)." You don't need a Facebook account to access; simply visit our parish email or website for access.



Safety & Health Protocols in accordance 3 with the Directives of the Antiochian Archdiocese

- Those who feel sick or have a fever (above 99.5) – or have recently been exposed to someone who has – please do not enter the temple.
- Temple is to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after liturgical services.
- There should be six feet of space between persons not living in the same household.
- Hand sanitizer provided, as able, at the entrance for the faithful to use upon entering and leaving the Church. Faithful also encouraged to bring their own.
- The faithful are encouraged to wear face-coverings, and to remove only for the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Faithful are encouraged to open their mouths wide to receive Holy Communion and not close their lips on the spoon.
- Doors will be opened during and/or after services, as able, to allow fresh air into the building.
- Please observe proper hygiene practices – no hugging, handshakes, or kissing; proper handwashing, cough/sneeze into shoulder, etc.
- No Coffee (Fellowship) Hour until further notice. (If you would still like to host the holy oblation for one of the weekend days of Divine Liturgy, please do so – we ask families who are hosting to offer a special donation in lieu of hosting the fellowship meal).

Martyr Lucian of Antioch – October 15

The Hiero-martyr Lucian, Presbyter of Antioch, was born in the Syrian city of Samosata. At twelve years of age he was left orphaned. Lucian distributed his possessions to the poor, and went to the city of Edessa to the confessor Macarius, under the guidance of whom he diligently read Holy Scripture and learned the ascetic life. For his pious and zealous spreading of Christianity among the Jews and pagans, Lucian was made a presbyter.

In Antioch Saint Lucian opened a school where many students gathered. He taught them how to understand the Holy Scriptures, and how to live a virtuous life. Saint Lucian occupied himself with teaching, and he corrected the Greek text of the Septuagint, which had been corrupted in many places by copyists and by heretics who deliberately distorted it in order to support their false teachings. The entire Greek text of the Bible which he corrected was hidden in a wall at the time of his confession of Christ, and it was found during the lifetime of Saint Constantine the Great.

(continued on p. 4)

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During the persecution of Diocletian, Saint Lucian was arrested and was sent to prison in Nicomedia, where for nine years he encouraged other Christians with him to remain steadfast in their confession of Christ, urging them not to fear tortures or death. Saint Lucian died in prison from many terrible tortures and from hunger. Before his death, he wished to partake of the Holy Mysteries of Christ on the Feast of Theophany. Certain Christians who visited him brought bread and wine for the Eucharist. The hiero-martyr, bound by chains and lying on a bed of sharp potsherds, was compelled to offer the Bloodless Sacrifice upon his chest, and all the Christians there in prison received Communion. The next day the emperor sent people to see if the saint was still alive. Saint Lucian said three times, "I am a Christian," then surrendered his soul to God. The body of the holy martyr was thrown into the sea, but after thirty days dolphins brought it to shore. Believers reverently buried the body of the much-suffering Saint Lucian.

Saint Lucian was originally commemorated on January 7, the day of his death. Later, when the celebration of the Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist was appointed for this day, the feast of Saint Lucian was transferred to October 15. The October date may be associated with the dedication of a church which was built in Antioch by Saint Helen (May 21) over Saint Lucian's holy relics.

Although he was only a priest, sometimes Saint Lucian is depicted in the vestments of a bishop. The Stroganov Guide for Iconographers was published in Russia in 1869, based on a 1606 manuscript. There Saint Lucian is depicted wearing a phelonion and holding a Gospel. He does not wear the omophorion of a bishop, however. Another handbook, the Litsevoy Podlinnik, states that Saint Lucian is to be depicted with the omophorion. It may be that the Russians thought of Saint Lucian as a bishop because of his importance to the Church, and so that is how they depicted him. Similarly, Saint Charalampus (February 10) is depicted as a priest in Greek icons, and as a bishop in Russian icons.

Troparion (Tone 3) of St. Lucian:

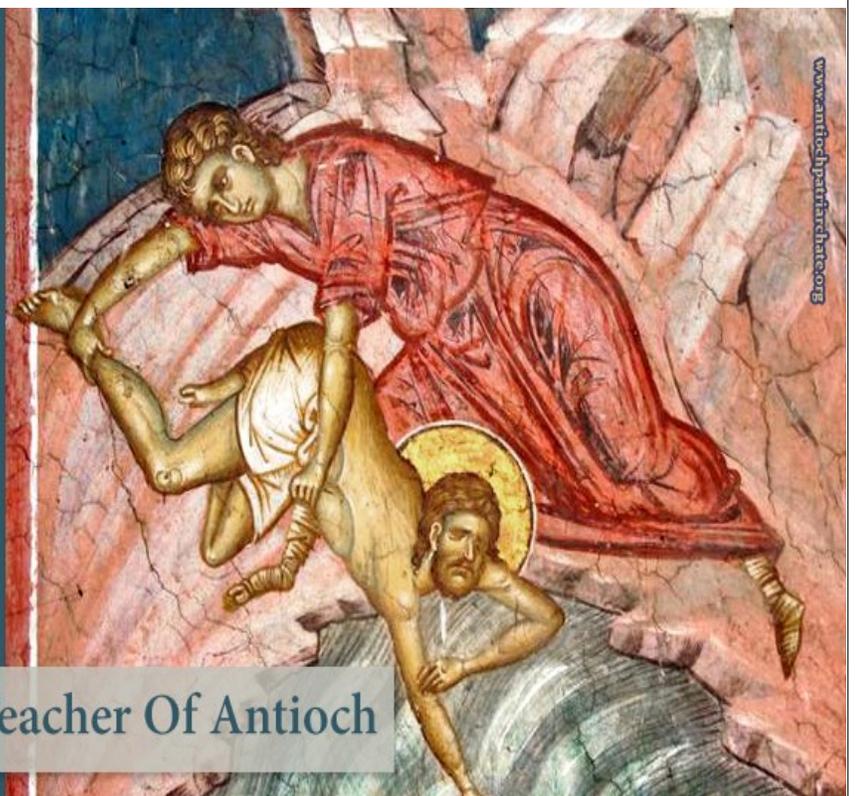
Radiant with the Spirit, you taught true knowledge of the true faith; a trainer of martyrs, O Lucian, you were glorified in contest. Intercede with Christ our God that He may grant us great mercy!

To all the questions of his persucutors, the Saint invariably replied:

“ I am Christian ”

He did not lack eloquence, but he knew very well tha only by faith and love does one conquerer.

Holy Hieromartyr Lucian, Teacher Of Antioch



Learn from the Writings of the Church Fathers

– St. John Chrysostom (4th century), “The Cult of the Saints”

Homily of Praise on the Holy Martyr Lucian

Section 8: With these thoughts in mind he mocked the Devil’s wickedness, despised his evildoing, and gave in to not one thing that he saw. So, when that foul [demon] saw nothing further happening to him, he escorted him back into court and tortured him and applied incessant questions. But to each question he replied only: “I am a Christian.” And when the executioner said: “What country are you from?,” said: “I am a Christian.” “What’s your occupation?” “I am a Christian.” “Who are your parents?” To everything he said: “I am a Christian.” With this single unadorned statement he struck the Devil’s head and constantly and unremittingly inflicted wounds on him. Even though he had taken part in the education [offered] in the outside world, he knew clearly that there was no need for rhetorical skill in such contests as these, but faith. Not for cleverness of argument, but a God-loving soul. “One statement is sufficient,” he said, “to rout the Devil’s entire phalanx.” And while to those who don’t scrutinize things precisely his answer seemed to be out of sequence, if a person is attentive, they would see the martyr’s wisdom in this too.

For the person who says “I am a Christian” has revealed both their country and family history and occupation. Let me explain how. The Christian does not have a city on earth, but the Jerusalem in heaven. “For the heavenly Jerusalem, which is our mother,” scripture says, “is free” (Galatians 4:26). The Christian doesn’t have an earthly occupation, but arrives at the heavenly way of life. “Our citizenship,” scripture says, “is in heaven” (Philippians 3:20). The Christian has as relatives and fellow citizens all the saints. “We are fellow citizens of the saints,” scripture says, “and God’s own” (Ephesians 2:19). In consequence, with a single statement he taught precisely who he was and from where and of whom and what he spent his time doing. And with this utterance he quit his life and departed safe and sound for Christ, bringing [with him] his deposit and through his experience advising those after him to resist and to fear nothing except just sin and denying [Christ].

Section 9: Knowing these things, then, let us too in a time of peace practice the exercises of war, so that, when war does arise, we too might erect a brilliant trophy. He despised starvation, let us too despise overeating and suppress the stomach’s tyranny, so that, if a time were to come which sought courage of this dimension from us, through having practiced in advance in the lesser events, we might appear brilliant in the wrestling ring. He boldly addressed prefects and emperors. This, too, let us now do, and even if we are seated among meetings of rich and illustrious Greeks, let us confess the faith with boldness. Let us mock their error. Even if they attempt to exalt their [beliefs] and purge ours, let us not keep silent nor take it meekly, but reveal their shamelessness and praise in hymns every Christian belief with great wisdom and boldness.

Indeed, just as the emperor carries his diadem around on his head, let us, too, carry around our confession of faith everywhere. For his crown doesn’t adorn him in the same way as our faith and our confession of it usually adorns us. Let us do this not just through words, but also through actions themselves and demonstrate through everything a life worthy of that confession, so that we don’t cast shame on our teachings in the poor quality of our works, but rather, in glorifying our Master through everything, enjoy honor both here and there. May we attain all these things through the grace and loving kindness of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom and with whom be glory, power, and honor to the Father, together with the holy and life-creating Spirit, now and always, and forever and ever. Amen.



Providence Medical Group/St. George Two Man Scramble

Sunday, October 18, 2020

Rea Park Golf Course, Terre Haute, IN

Tee-off: Noon

Cost: \$85 per player - \$75 with Rea Park Season Ticket

The entry fee includes: Green Fees, Cart, Prizes, Food and Beverages

For more info or to register call Tony Tanoos at 812-232-2000 or
St. George Orthodox Church at 812-232-5244.

CONTINUED PLEDGING & CONTRIBUTIONS—2020

We recognize that we are living in an uneasy time with the spread of the coronavirus. We hope that you continue your financial contribution and support to your Church. Even while limited in attendance, our obligations and expenses do not cease.

Online payments are still an excellent method to support the church - visit our parish website (stgeorgeterrehaute.com) and click the "DONATE" button/link at the bottom of the homepage to contribute financially. This donation option utilizes **PayPal** (E-commerce platform). If you usually bring cash or checks to the church for your pledge, please put those funds aside and bring them when you join us in-person OR mail a check to the Church Office. THANK YOU!

4 WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE



SMART PHONE



MAIL



SUNDAY

Orthodox Prayers

“O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications....”



**Please include the following people in your daily prayers.
Prayer requests may be made to Fr. Paul Fuller (frpaul.fuller@gmail.com).**

LIVING

Those suffering from the Coronavirus throughout the world;
Those suffering in Lebanon, Syria, & the Ukraine;
Metropolitan Paul & Archbishop John (Aleppo, Syria);
Kalea Ellis; Aziz Haddad (Phoenix);
Laura Burdick (friend of Nancy Ellis); Betty Azar;
Donald (husband of Mary Ann Denning); Noble Corey;
Pam White (mother of Preston); Jaimie Ellis;
Tiah & child she bears; Karen (wife of Christ Milienu);
Lauren Meena (cousin of Fr. Paul); Denise Issa;
Richard Asfour (uncle of Kh. Ramia); George Ellis

Special Petition: For all our doctors, nurses, medical professionals, scientists, volunteers, emergency personnel, and law enforcement agents, for those striving to help the sick and finding a cure in our current distress.

DEPARTED

+Those newly departed from the Coronavirus throughout the world
+Those newly departed from the tragedy in Beirut
+Mary Lou Saikley (2/13/20)
+Paul Tanoos (7/26/20)
+JR David (7/30/20)
+EJ Mike (9/8/20)

St. George Orthodox Church
1900 South Fourth Street
Terre Haute, IN 47802

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Return Service Requested

Holy Oblation & Fellowship Hour – 2020

If you'd like to offer the Holy Oblation (including prayer list), please contact Fr. Paul for arrangements.

- Oct 4 Jim & Tricia Tanoos
Oct 11 Kal & Christy Ellis
Oct 18 **AVAILABLE –**
Providence Medical Group/St. George Golf Scramble
Oct 25 Noble & Roseann Corey
Nov 1 Fuller Family Pdn. Elias Corey & Family
Nov 8 **AVAILABLE**
Nov 15 Lueke Family
Nov 22 **AVAILABLE –** Thanksgiving Baskets Charity
Nov 29 Zeck Family

Even with limited attendance, we ask families to continue to offer the Holy Oblation. Since we aren't having Fellowship Hours currently, we ask families to offer a donation to the Church in lieu of providing a meal.

“The Messenger” is the monthly publication of our Community at

St. George Orthodox Church
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Terre Haute, IN 47802

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www.stgeorgeterrehaute.com

Please check our website for updates on all services, gatherings, and events.

Liturgical Schedule

- Sunday** 9:00 AM Matins
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Wednesday 6:00 PM Vespers
Saturday 6:00 PM Great Vespers

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