

# ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP, Primate  
Very Rev. Father Joseph Kimmett, Pastor  
Very Rev. Father Nifon Abraham, Pastor Emeritus



1 JUNE  
2008

SUNDAY  
OF THE  
BLINDMAN

**WELCOME** TO OUR VISITORS AND FRIENDS.  
IT IS A BLESSING TO HAVE YOU WITH US AT SAINT GEORGE .  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR PARISH,  
OR THE ORTHODOX CHURCH, PLEASE SEE THE PRIEST.

ONLY THOSE ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS WHO ARE REPENTANT OF THEIR  
SINS AND HAVE PREPARED THEMSELVES THROUGH FASTING ARE INVITED  
TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO VENERATE  
THE CROSS AND SHARE HOLY BREAD FOLLOWING THE LITURGY.

### THIS WEEK AT SAINT GEORGE

- Thursday - *Feast of the Ascension, Divine Liturgy 9:00 am*
- Saturday - *Great Vespers, 5:00 pm  
and Wine Reception*
- Next Sunday - *Matins - 9:00 am / Liturgy - 10:00  
Bible Bowl Study Session follows Liturgy*

### HOLY BREAD

The gifts are offered today by the family of Stanley Rossestky. A forty-day memorial will be served at the conclusion of the Liturgy. The gifts are also given by Angela Sepulveda

### COFFEE HOUR

Please stop downstairs after Liturgy today for coffee and refreshments; hosted by the family of Stanley Rossetsky, in his memory and by Angela Sepulveda.

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### ASCENSION

The fortieth day after Great and Holy Pascha is the Feast of Ascension. Divine Liturgy will be served this Thursday morning at 9:00 am.



### FAMILY NIGHT BBQ

The final Family Night of the season is also the **Church School BBQ**. It is June 15th, the Feast of Pentecost, just two weeks away. We'll fire up the grill at 5:00 pm.

### PLC FOR FAMILIES:

Many events and meals have been underwritten to make this year's Parish Life Conference easy on the pocket book. Make your hotel and conference reservations today. Registration form and schedules are in the parish hall. For more info, see: <http://worcesterdiocese.net/>



### Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday Encyclical

*I was in prison, and you visited me. (St. Matthew 25:36)*

June 1, 2008: The Sixth Sunday of Pascha

To all the Clergy and the Laity of the Holy Orthodox Churches in the Americas

We, the Hierarchs of SCOBA, are by the grace of God blessed to designate the Sixth Sunday of Pascha, this year on June 1, 2008, to be Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday in all Orthodox parishes of North America. For this reason, SCOBA took on the sponsorship of the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM), accepting it as an Agency of SCOBA, much like International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC).

We have embraced this diakonia in keeping with the example of our Lord, Who shunned not the sinners, but preached His message of love and forgiveness to tax collectors and sinners, and Who included visiting and ministering to prisoners as the basic expressions of Christian faith and love (St. Matthew 25:36). SCOBA encourages the faithful to learn about supporting prison ministry and the prison ministers who actually enter these institutions to bring the Gospel of hope and salvation to the incarcerated.

Most prisoners suffer from the burdens of their consciences, from their confinement, and from their fears of being unable to function in society. By guiding them to the spiritual way of life found in the Church, we not only help to make better citizens for our society, but we also make potential citizens of God's Kingdom. By teaching prisoners the joy and perspective on life that repentance brings, we open to them the path to conversion leading to the fullness of life granted by Christ.

We ask all of our parishes to find ways to support OCPM, and perpetuate this good work, which can literally bring salvation to countless prisoners by providing literature and ministry opportunities to those who thirst for God's mercy and compassion.

With paternal blessings and love in the Risen Christ,

+Archbishop DEMETRIOS, Chairman +Metropolitan PHILIP, Vice Chairman  
and the hierarchs of SCOBA

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John (9:1-38)**

**Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.**

As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

**Glory to Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.**

TOTAL DEPOSIT <i>MAY 25</i>	PLEDGES	LONG-RANGE (MEMORIALS & DONATIONS)	TRAY	DONATIONS FOR PASCHA	FFHP (TO DATE)
<b>\$1428.00</b>	\$990.3.00	\$189.00	\$239.00	\$2505.00	\$410.00



**PRAYERS OF OBLATION AND DONATIONS**

Rhaouf and Lila Khandir . . . . . *in memory of Toufik and John*  
 Dolores Elias . . . . . *for the health of Kh Elizabeth Bethoney*  
 Bill & Helen Abril and Family . . . . . *in memory of Stanley Rossetsky*

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Pray** for the good health of the servants of God: Archpriest Edward, Priest Robert, Khouriyee Elizabeth, Deacon Elias, Stephanie, Mary, Florence, Alice, Hayes, Katrina, Elsa, John, Jeanne, Gregory, Albert, Dimitri, James, Frederick, Anne, Grace, Renee, Robert, Nicole, Mary, Pauline, Ioana, Nicolae, Kathleen, Lillie, Jennifer, Edward, Carrie, Sam, Camille, Michael, Mikayla, Christopher, Nancy, Kenneth, Joy, Claudia, Thomas, Sarah, Nicholas, Charles, Catherine, Joyce, Janice, Barbara, Beverly, John, Katherine, Mary, Beverly, Najlae, Irene, Edmond, Helen, George, Frances, Marlene, Felecia, Catherine, Lana, Gail, Margaret, Brian, Nicole, Marion, Donna, Linda, Edmond, Emaline, Carrie, Nicholas, George, Lovee, Elizabeth, Sarah, Charles, Jenine, Josephine, George, Sandy, Edward, Michael, Madeline, Rosemary, John, Margaret, Sarah, Nima, Dean, David, Sterling, William, Mary.

**Pray** for the newly departed handmaiden of God Khouryia Joanne Abdalah.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Leeann Plouffe - Chairwoman  
 Barbara Campbell, Paul Eysie, Camille Florio (Secretary), Andrew Howard (Vice Chairman),  
 Marlene Lupaczyk, Marwan Samman (Treasurer), Linda Thomas and Sharon Weiskerger

**CHURCH LEADERS**

Ladies of Saint George - Katie Birtwell, President	Church School - Rich Plouffe, Superintendent
Parish Chanter - Paul Eysie	Choir Director - David Franciosi
Teen Advisor - Michele Markatos	Teen President - Jenna Weiskerger
Ushers - Andrew Howard & Marwan Samman	Epistle Reader Coordinator - Lovee Thomas
Bible Bowl Team Leader - Emily Shay	Seminarian - Michael Razook
Web-Master - Ekaterina Oleinik	Scholarship Committee Chair - Helen Abril
Church Custodian - Gerry Mullen	

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## HYMNS OF PASCHA

Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

المسيح قام من بين الأموات و وطى الموت بالموت و وهب الحياة للذين في القبور	Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι, ζωήν χαρισάμενος!	Христос воскрес из мертвых, смертию смерть поправ, и сущим во гробех живот даровав!
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Hristos a înviat din morți, Cu moartea pre moarte  
călcând, Și celor din morminte Viață dăruindu-le!

### Eisodikon

*In the gathering places, bless ye the Lord God from the springs of Israel,  
O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing unto thee, Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5)

*Let us believers praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of  
the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh,  
to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrection.*

### Troparion of Saint George, Patron of our Community (Tone 4)

*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.*

### Paschal Kontakion (Tone 8)

*Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal! Thou didst destroy the power of Death!  
In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, Rejoice! to the myrrhbearing women,  
granting peace to Thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen!*

### EPISTLE & GOSPEL

**Prokeimenon and Verse:** Thou, O Lord shalt preserve us, and keep us from this generation. Save me,  
O Lord; for the godly man there is no more.

### **The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (16:16-34)**

As they were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days.

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But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

### Alleluia

*The Gospel is printed on the next page*

English: Christ is risen! Truly, He is Risen!

Greek: Kris-tos a-nes-tee! A-lee-thos a-nes-tee!

Arabic: Al ma-seeh qām! Ha-qām qam!

Slavonic: Kris-tos vos-kres-se! Vo-ee-stee-nu vos-kres-se!

Romanian: Hristus A Inviat! Adeverat a Inviat!

Priest: Glory to His Holy Third-day Resurrection.

People: We adore His Holy Third-day Resurrection.

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