



Saint George Greek Orthodox Church

70 West Street, P.O. Box 392, Keene, NH 03431-0392

Church: 603-352-6424

Website: www.stgeorgekeene.nh.goarch.org

Rev. Fr. Leo Schefe, Pastor

Fr. Leo's e-mail: frleo@clearwire.net

Fr. Leo's cell phone: (617) 435-3057

August 2013

Services Every Sunday / Κυριακή

Matins (Ορθρος) 9:00 -10:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία)

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Prosforo (Πρόσφορο) Bakers

August 4: Vasiliki Moore

August 18: Janet Harrison



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Worship Services in August

Sunday, August 4: 6th Sunday of Matthew

Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:6-14

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

Tuesday, August 6: Feast of the Holy Transfiguration

Epistle: St. Peter's Second Universal Letter 1:10-19

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday, August 11: 7th Sunday of Matthew

Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

Thursday, August 15: Feast of the Holy Dormition of the Theotokos

Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Sunday, August 18: 8th Sunday of Matthew

Epistle: St. Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians 1:10-17

Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

Sunday, August 25: 9th Sunday of Matthew

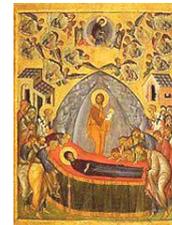
Epistle: St. Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Thursday, August 29: Beheading of St. John the Forerunner

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 13:25-33

Gospel: Mark 6:14-30



Calendar at a Glance (non-liturgical)

Paraklesis to Mother of God, Tuesdays, 6:00 PM

August 6, 13, 20, 27

(see page 5 for details)

Paraklesis to St. George, Thursdays, 6:00 PM

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

(see page 5 for details)

Ecclesiastical New Year, September 1

Daylight Savings Time Ends, Sun., November 3

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28

A calendar of events can be found on our website at

www.stgeorgekeene.nh.goarch.org

Father Leo's Ledger

In Communion with Christ

By Fr. Leo Scheffe



Communion with Christ is the term I use to sum up our blessed hope and other aspects of our life in Christ. To have a healthy relationship with one's Creator is the greatest aim of any human being, in short, the "one thing needful."

Someone may ask, "I have been forgiven all my sin, isn't that salvation?" Indeed, it is! We have been forgiven all our sins; we have been saved. When I say "we," I mean everybody—everyone who has ever lived from the first formed man, Adam, and also to the (yet unknown) last born of humanity. Truly, everyone has been forgiven their sins by Christ's death on the Cross on our behalf. The great sacrifice of our Lord resulted in the tearing up of the "handwriting against us" (that is to say, all of mankind) and the truth of the matter is confirmed by His Resurrection.

What else is there for us? Our blessed hope is not merely having our sins forgiven. Jesus, stemming from His great love for us, wants us to be transformed from within to be like Him (1 John 3:2). The first step in this transformation is the forgiveness of sins. Please don't inadvertently misconstrue my message—note that I'm not saying He wants to transform us, but rather that we be transformed into His likeness (not His essence). For us to be transformed, the action is termed "synergy," a co-operation between us and the Lord. We can do nothing to bring about personal transformation without Christ's help and Christ won't do anything to transform us without our cooperation, that is to say, He does not force His will on anyone.

Can we experience that blessed hope even in this life? Yes, I believe we can as it is akin to a healthy communion with Christ. When Jesus teaches about the Judgment to come, He separates the goats from the sheep, based on the relationship and not on particular deeds. He says, "Depart from me; I never knew you," Matt 7:23 and Luke 13:27. It must be said, however, that when Jesus says I never knew you, He also mentions the wicked deeds. One would expect wicked deeds in the absence of a healthy relationship with Christ.

Does that mean that our relationship with Christ is dependent upon our deeds? No, it is the other way around. Our deeds are indicative of our relationship. If we have a healthy relationship with Christ, it is likely that our deeds will reflect that relationship. So the issue is not about our deeds per se, but rather our relationship with Christ. How can we reasonably assess our relationship, our communion with Christ? Self-reflection is best, I think. It is a given that we are all sinners and fall more times a day than any of us would prefer to admit. However, for the sake of this article, I will provide a (non-exhaustive) list as food for thought:

When we sin, are we willfully sinning and actively engaging in rebellion? *No one is going to tell me what I will and won't do...* Are we comfortable with our sin? Do we struggle with our sins and call on God to help us? Or do we just give up and use the opportunity to indulge ourselves in sin?

Do we make haste to repent from our sin when we come to our senses and realize our fault?

Do we forgive others? Or do we prefer to hold grudges?

Will we make the commitment to overcome bad feelings with love? Or are we guilty of chronic despising or even hating someone?

Do we confess being a Christian before others? Jesus said "If you deny me before men, I will deny you before the Father," and, "Depart from me; I never knew you."

Do we make efforts to imitate God in His love, mercy and compassion?

Do we regularly meet together with the Body of Christ to worship Him? The Church is the Body of Christ, "the fullness of Him who fills all in all," Eph 1:23

Do we obey the admonitions of the Church for the cleansing of soul (the Mystery of Holy Confession) and assistance in subduing of passions (following the church's fasting days)?

Do we regularly partake of the Holy Eucharist? In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells us of the Eucharist: ...*"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have **no life** in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him [healthy communion]. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died [manna in the desert]; he who eats this bread will live forever."* John 6:53-58

As regards the Eucharist, I would want share with you two important points that a number of Orthodox seem unaware of: The person who stays away from the Cup, voluntarily severs his or her necessary communion with Christ. This reception of Christ into ourselves is so intrinsic to being united to Him--how can we expect to be in communion with Him if we refuse to partake either when present or by our absence? In more cases than not, I am convinced we do not realize how much we need His sanctifying grace and how great a gift the Eucharist is—God, who is fire, comes to abide in us and cleanse us from our sin—the foot washing referred to in John chapter 13.

If a besetting sin is the factor that keeps us away from the Chalice, why not address the sin in confession so that the road to healing/restoration and communion with Christ be opened? Please reflect on the above items as I pray the message falls on fertile hearts.

We should neither be presumptuous nor despairing about our communion with Christ.

The Church is often referred to as a hospital for sinners and I include myself among them. No one among us is any better than another. If we reflect on this and, as necessary, take steps to rectify/reconcile and love each other for His sake we'll find ourselves closer to one another and to Christ than we ever thought possible. Thus, our hearts will assure us of being in communion with Christ and at greater peace with all those God places in our lives.

In conclusion—there is one thing needful in this life and it is COMMUNION WITH CHRIST. If you don't have good answers to the above questions, it is reasonable for you to be nervous about your relationship with Christ. Despair not. It is not too late to reestablish the bond and renew it continually—repent, confess, cooperate with Him and brighten your precious soul. May God bless you always.

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Bulletin submissions and questions can be sent to church, attention: Susan Karalekas; e-mailed to susan@bridgesinn.net; or call Susan at (603) 358-6958

Sponsorship submissions and questions can be sent to

Please use this list to pray for members of our community who are sick or in need of God's care.

- **Hristianna Lanoue**
- **Donald Doubleday**
- **John Bardis**
- **Mark Raheb, for healing**
- **Constantine (Dean) Eleftheriou**



From time to time, we may remove names that have been on the list for a while. If you feel a name should remain on the list, or if you would like a new name placed on the list, please contact Fr. Leo.

Stewardship

*“God does not ask us for a contribution, because his Church is not a club to which we pay dues. He is asking for a total commitment -- **OUR LIFE!**”*

From the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America website, on Wealth and Stewardship

2013 Stewards of St. George Greek Orthodox Church

THANK YOU (ευχαριστώ) for your stewardship!

Harry & Angeline Ackerman	Charles Glimenakis	Susan Maydwell
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Thomas and Ellen Cakouros	Mark & Apostolia Lanoue	Diane Golfin Raheb
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Don & Irene Cheek	Stavroula Leristis	George & Youla Skipitaris
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Bill & Elaine Ellis	Sophia MacKinnon	Douglas Walker & Andrea Polizos
Peter Espiefs	David Maydwell	Kevin & Lisa Warren
Louis & Lisa Giannakakos		Lazarus & Ryanne Xanthopoulos

Sunday School Recognition

On Sunday, June 30th, we joyously recognized and promoted our Sunday School children.

God bless our Sunday School teachers:

Apostolia Lanoue

Ekaterini Leristis

Sigrid Scholtz-Karabakakis

Tasia Pananas

We are grateful to the teachers who gave their time and talents, to all the children who participated, to the parents who encouraged their children's attendance, and to Fr. Leo who continually provided support and encouragement.



TWO PARAKLESIS SERVICES EACH WEEK

The church offers two prayer services each week-- one to the Mother of God (Theotokos or Panagia) and one also to the Great Martyr George.

Tuesday at 6:00 PM – Paraklesis to Mother of God

Thursday at 6:00 PM – Paraklesis to St. George

Fr. Leo will commemorate names of people submitted to him on the evenings you participate in either service.

Please submit only names of the living to be commemorated during these services.

SPECIAL FASTING DAYS

The following days are held as fasting days in August, in addition to the usual Wednesday and Friday fasting days:

Dormition Fast: honoring the Theotokos and her Holy Dormition, August 1- 14

Strict fast day: the beheading of St. John the Forerunner, August 29

Reminder: Making a Check Out to Saint George Church

Please note on the memo line at the bottom of your check the fund or purpose for which the check is intended, e.g., stewardship, candles, Christmas Card. This will insure that your offering is properly recorded within our accounting system. It is also best to write one check for each fund, rather than one large check to be split among two or three funds.

To pay for candles by check, please make out the check for the exact amount of the candles.

We cannot cash checks at the candle tray. For example, it is not permissible to place a \$20.00 check in the tray, pay \$10.00 for candles, and take \$10.00 in change. When that check is deposited, it would incorrectly appear in the church records as a \$20.00 donation.

For your information, a list of current funds is listed below. From time to time there may also be special funds, for example, when donations were made to a flood and tornado fund.



List of current funds:

Book Store	Donation (unspecified/goes in general fund)	**Memorial Trust Fund
Building/Renovation Fund	Easter Gift	Missions/Outreach
Bulletin Sponsorship	Easter Flowers	Picnic
Candles	Fall Dance	Religious Education
Christmas Bazaar	Fellowship Hour	Robes for Altar Boys
Christmas Card	Flood/Tornado/Disaster Relief	St. Basil Academy
Christmas Donation	Fund Flower Donations	St. George Dinner
Clergy Wages Fund	GOYA	Stewardship
* Discretionary Fund	IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities)	Unspecified (goes in general fund)

* To be used at Father Leo's discretion to help someone in need

** Checks made out "In memory of _____" will go to the Memorial Trust Fund unless specified otherwise

We appreciate your cooperation and thank you for your help.

New Robes for Altar Boys

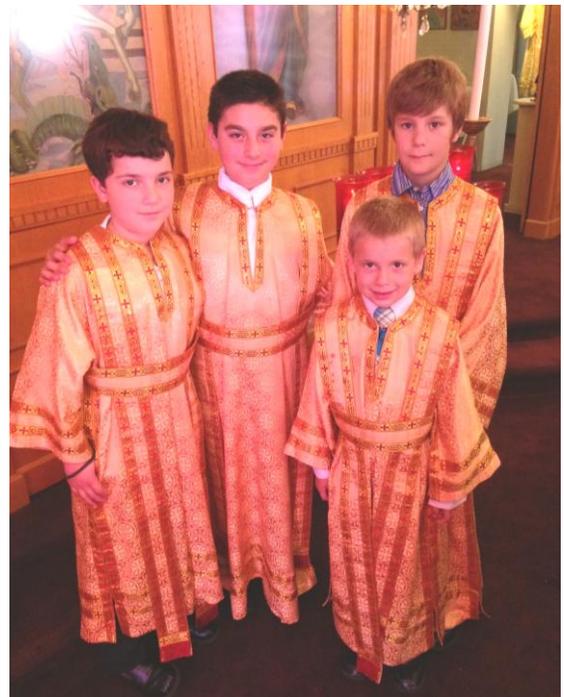
Have you noticed the new robes for the altar boys?

These beautiful robes cost \$300 each and we are welcoming donations. If you would like to donate a robe (at \$300.00) or contribute towards the robes, any amount would be appreciated. (Please put "Robes for Altar Boys" in the memo line of your check.)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the altar boys for serving at St. George.

We also extend our gratitude to Peter Bradshaw and Joe Truman who coach and guide the young altar boys in the altar each Sunday.

Editor's note: We extend a special thank you to Joe Truman for providing the photos of the altar boys and the Sunday School Recognition on page 5.



Obituary: Heather “Eleni” Bosworth



Heather Bosworth, 53, of Peterborough died unexpectedly at the Milford Medical Center in Milford, NH on June 23, 2013. She was born in Syracuse, NY on March 10, 1960 to Ernest Guignon and Barbara Johnson.

Heather had lived in the Monadnock region since 1985. She worked as a caregiver at Crotched Mountain Home Healthcare. Heather worked at the Monadnock Worksource as a one-on-one Life Skills Teacher. She loved spending time with her family and friends. She enjoyed, and was very skilled at, puzzles and word games. Heather was a gifted writer and artist. She loved to visit the farm and spend time with baby animals. She loved all babies and children. She had a special way with them. She was a very sweet, empathetic and intelligent woman. All of her children believe her to be an angel on earth.

Heather is survived by her daughter Heidi Anne Bosworth of Bennington, her son Nathaniel Josiah Bosworth of Peterborough, her daughter Jillian Abigail Bosworth of Peterborough, her daughter Rosalie Olivia Bosworth of Nashua and her son Gaelan Elijah Bosworth of Peterborough. She is also survived by her father Earnest Guignon, her mother Barbara Ricci, her brother Joseph Guignon, and her sister Tracy Roseneck.

Visiting hours were held on June 28th at Jellison Funeral Home in Peterborough. A Trisagion service was held on June 29th at Jellison Funeral Home, with Father Leo Schefe officiating. Burial followed at Pine Hill Cemetery in Peterborough.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made in Heather's name to the Monadnock Worksource, 225 Concord Street, Peterborough, NH 03458.

Jellison Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements and provided this obituary.

Heather's friends at St. George will miss her greatly. May her memory be eternal.



Help is Needed for Fellowship Hour

**Do you enjoy fellowship hour?
Are you disappointed when there is no
fellowship hour after the liturgy?**



Most of us will answer “yes” to both of these questions. The camaraderie and socializing with our St. George friends after the liturgy each Sunday is important to most of us.

Fellowship Hour can only happen with coordination and volunteers. Now that Carolyn Blastos has stepped down from the coordinator's role (thank you Carolyn for your years of service!!!), we will organize Fellowship Hour on a month-to-month basis.

For the month of September, Connie Phelps will be coordinating Fellowship Hour. Please contact Connie at 603-547-6661 or see her at church if you are willing to host a Fellowship Hour in September or contribute in any way.

For the month of October, Irene Cheek will be coordinating Fellowship Hour. Please contact Irene at 603-835-8087 or 603-547-7622 or see her at church if you are willing to host a Fellowship Hour in October or contribute in any way.

Other opportunities to help with Fellowship Hour:

- Set-up and clean-up
- Donation of cash (check) – please put “Fellowship Hour” in memo line
- Donation of paper plates, plastic utensils, paper towels, ground coffee (regular and decaf), paper cups, napkins, sponges
- Coordinate Fellowship Hour for November or December
- Sign up on the sign-up sheet in Hellenic Hall

See Maria Bradshaw or call her at (603) 357-2143.





Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
70 West Street, PO Box 392
Keene, NH 03431-0392

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Keene, NH 03431

Permit No. 149

Return Service Requested

LUNCH & LIVES

Every Thursday at 12:00 noon

Hellenic Hall

Please join us for a noon hour ministry
on Thursdays in Hellenic Hall
to learn about the lives of Orthodox Saints.

Bring your lunch.

Dessert and beverages will be provided.

Listen to the reading of a Saint's life
while you eat.

For details, please contact Presvytera Candace.

In Loving Memory of Marion Bardis

John G. Bardis

George and Karen Bardis

James and Jean Bardis

Jesse Bardis

Emma and Megan Bardis



May Her Memory Be Eternal