



THE MESSENGER

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
BANGOR, MAINE

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AMBROSE &
MARINA
SMITHERMAN

JULY/AUGUST 2014



THE HOLY GREAT MARTYR SAINT PROCOPIUS

July 8

From the Prologue:

Procopius was born in Jerusalem of a father who was a Christian and a mother who was a pagan. At first, his name was Neanias. Following the death of his father, the mother raised her son completely in the spirit of Roman idolatry. When Neanias matured, Emperor Diocletian saw him and, at once, took a liking to him and brought him to his palace for military service. When this nefarious emperor began to persecute Christians, he ordered Neanias to go to Alexandria with a garrison of soldiers and there to exterminate the Christians. But, on the road, something happened to Neanias similar to that which happened to Saul [Paul].

In the third hour of the night there was a strong earthquake and, at that moment, the Lord appeared to him and a voice was heard: "Neanias, where are you going and against whom are you rising up?" In great fear, Neanias asked: "Who are You Lord? I am unable to recognize You." At that moment, a glowing cross as if of crystal appeared in the air and from the cross there came a voice saying: "I am Jesus, the crucified Son of God." And further, the Lord said to him: "By this sign that you saw, conquer your enemies and My peace will be with you." That experience completely turned him around and changed the life of Commander Neanias. He issued an order to make the same kind of cross which he saw and instead of going against the Christians he, with his soldiers, turned against the Agarians who were attacking Jerusalem. He entered Jerusalem as a victor and declared to his mother that he is a Christian. Being brought before the court, Neanias removed his commander's belt and sword and tossed them before the judge thereby showing that he is only a soldier of Christ the King. After great tortures he was cast into prison where the Lord Christ, again, appeared to him, baptized him and gave him the name Procopius. One day twelve women appeared before his prison window and said to him: "We too are the servants of Christ." Accused of this they were thrown into the same prison where St. Procopius taught them the Faith of Christ and particularly about how they will receive the martyr's wreath. For that reason in the marriage ritual of the betrothed, St. Procopius is mentioned along with the God-crowned Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena. After this, those twelve women were brutally tortured. Witnessing their suffering and bravery, the mother of Procopius also believed in Christ and all thirteen were slain. When St. Procopius was led to the scaffold, he raised his hands toward the east and prayed to God for all the poor and misfortunate, orphans and widows and especially for the Holy Church that it may grow and spread and that Orthodoxy shine to the end of time. And to Procopius there was a reply from heaven that his prayers were heard after which he joyfully laid his head under the sword and went to his Lord in eternal joy. St. Procopius honorably suffered in Caesarea in Palestine and was crowned with the glorious wreath of immortality on July 8, 303 A.D.

Dear Fellow Members of the St. George Family,

Summer is in full swing and the Folk Festival is right around the corner! Please remember to attend church services and maintain your support of Saint George. July and August have been traditionally a period of operating challenge for the Parish so we need your help. Our guest book has been signed by many visitors this year who have visited our beautiful parish.

Cathy and I are very busy planning for this year's folk festival. Should any of you ever have any questions or suggestions about the festival please do not hesitate to contact us. Remember we NEED your help and cannot succeed unless everyone volunteers. Cathy is organizing the volunteers and she will be asking you for shift coverage. Please make her job easy by giving whatever time that you can.

Please remember that the festival is a time to show our visitors, what a special place Saint George and that the doors of Orthodoxy are open wide for all to come and see. "For we are His workmanship, created in Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Our church belongs to you, the parishioners of Saint George and the Parish Council strives to maintain a culture of respect, peace, love and order through transparency and humility.

We will miss you Georgia Paul, Please watch over us.

Yours in the love of Our Lord,
Truly He has risen!
Lee P. Speronis
President, Parish Council 2014

Receive *The Messenger* Via E-Mail

If you have not been receiving the church's monthly newsletter, *The Messenger*, via e-mail and would like to, please give your e-mail address to Presvytera Lisa or e-mail it to her at **nounalisa@yahoo.com**. E-mail addresses will not be shared and will only be used for sending "The Messenger" and for other pertinent church-related announcements.

Underwriting *The Messenger*

We invite parishioners to help subsidize our newsletter. You can support publication of *The Messenger* in the following ways:

Sponsor the Monthly Dedication Page @\$75.00 per month.

Become a Messenger Patron @ \$50.00 for the year.

ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL 2014

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Christopher Limberis.....	942-9243
Jack Montgomery.....	945-6022
Donna Walter.....	576-0765
Tim Kulikowski.....	(607)-237-4399

HAPPENINGS

Fr. Adam's Revised Summer Schedule

Fr. Adam plans to be on vacation from Monday, June 30th through Saturday, July 12th. On Sunday, July 6th, the church will be open at 10 a.m. for candles and prayers.

Fr. Adam also plans to assist at the Metropolis of Boston Summer Camp for Session 4, during the week of July 21st, but he will be at church on Sunday. He also plans to spend some time at Camp during the next week, Session 5.

For Parish emergencies during these times, please contact a Parish Council member

Women's Orthodox Book Group

The Book Group has decided on its next book to read. It is *Everywhere Present* by Fr. Stephen Freeman and published by Ancient Faith Press. For more information on the Book Group please contact Marina Smitherman at 866-7717. All ladies are welcome!

Northeast Harbor Divine Liturgy

Fr. Adam will be celebrating Divine Liturgy on Mt. Desert Island on Saturday morning, August 2nd, at 10 a.m., at the beautiful, historic church, St. Mary's-by-the-Sea, in Northeast Harbor. All parishioners and visitors are welcome, especially those living along the coast. St. Mary's-by-the-Sea is located at the junction of Kimball and South Shore Roads in Northeast Harbor. Please call Fr. Adam for more information (947-4709).

St. George "Greek Taverna" at the American Folk Festival

August is a special month at St. George Church with our annual "Greek Taverna" food booth at the wonderful American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront. This year's Folk Festival runs the weekend of August 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

Festival Booth Volunteers Are Needed!

St. George Church parishioners and friends who volunteer to run the food booth are the ones who make it all so special! Lots of volunteers are needed to keep the booth running smoothly. Please consider volunteering for one or more shifts. To volunteer, call Cathy Speronis at 570-4423 or email at cooksotasty@gmail.com or look for the sign-up sheet at church. It is a rewarding time of service and fellowship!

Spanakopeta Baking

On Sunday, August 17th, during coffee hour, pre-made, frozen Spanakopeta will be distributed to those who would like to help bake it in preparation for the Folk Festival Food Booth. Everything you need is provided to make the job as easy as possible. It is easy and not too time consuming. For more information, or to volunteer, please call Presvytera Lisa (947-4709).

St. George Festival T-Shirts

The blue and white St. George T-Shirts are available in sizes S to 3XL. To order a shirt, please call Presvytera Lisa (947-4709).

American Folk Festival!



August 22nd ,23rd &24th

Visit the St. George Greek Taverna

Stop by the Taverna for some fabulous food,
Lemonade, and of course Greek dancing!

**Volunteers always needed
Always appreciated!**

See page 3 for details.



Hold the Date - 11th Annual ESTIA Conference

The 11th Annual ESTIA Conference will be about "Building Sustainable Communities: International, National and Local Perspectives." It is planned for October 24 - 25, 2014, at the Wells Conference Center, on the University of Maine campus in Orono (Registration fee: \$50, Students \$35).

For more information or to register visit

<http://estiamaine.org/2014/04/15/11th-annual-conference-building-sustainable-communities/>

Fund Raising for Chris Limberis

Chris Limberis has been a life-long member of St. George Church; however four years ago a diagnosis of pulmonary fibrosis was life-changing. Last October, his name was placed on the UNOS list for a lung transplant and this past **March 25th the miracle of a new life was given to him.** He has been given the gift of many more years to spend with his family and friends who mean the world to him.

Chris' family and friends have the task of raising funds to assist with the monumental expenses they have incurred for his surgery and after-care. To assist him with these out-of-pocket expenses, a fundraising campaign in Chris' honor has been established with HelpHOPELive, a nonprofit organization that has been assisting the transplant community for 30 years. All donations are tax-deductible, are held by HelpHOPELive in the Northeast Lung Transplant Fund, and are administered by HelpHOPELive for transplant-related expenses only. Please consider making a contribution:

To donate, call [806-642-8399](tel:806-642-8399) or visit helphopelive.org and look for [Chris Limberis on the homepage](#), or

Make checks payable to: HelpHOPELive

Note on the memo line: In honor of Chris Limberis

And send to: HelpHOPELive, 2 Radnor Corporate Ctr, 100 Matsonford Rd, Ste 100, Radnor, PA 19087

Thank you for your prayers and consideration!

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Street Pastors Training: The Church in Action on the Streets

A Street Pastor is a church member with a concern for their community, who is willing to engage people in need where they are. Bangor Area Street Pastors seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in our community. They are a multidenominational, multi-church initiative to live the gospel in Bangor. To be a Street Pastor, you need to be over 18, a church member, and able to commit to training sessions. These sessions will include counseling skills, drug awareness, sociology, knowing your community, role and responsibility, and safety. The training in Bangor will be offered during the last two weeks of August. For more information or to request an application, please contact Anna Phillips urabus96@gmail.com also visit www.streetpastors.org.uk

We Give Thanks!

To Maria and Paul Flanzala, and to Patricia Egan and Thekla Nason, for teaching the Sunday Church School Children this year! Also, special thanks to the parents for bringing their children to church!

To Jack and Hopie Montgomery for offering the Kollyva in memory of Patty Michaud's parents.

To Athena Brontas for her donations to the church kitchen.

To David Walter, Marina Smitherman, and Kyvele St. Peter for offering Prosfora.

Thanks to everyone who donated items to the Church Yard Sale!

Sincere thanks to everyone who worked on the church yard sale this year! A huge thanks to Donna Walter who had the vision of a "mini-festival" yard sale at the church. Also to workers Marina & Ambrose Smitherman, Sharon Lealos, Kathy Fitzpatrick, Susan Brontas, Phyllis Kelley, Jack Montgomery, Eleni Angel, Presvytera Lisa, and to Paul and Luke Flanzala who were indispensable for the packing up efforts.

Thanks to Fr. Adam, assisted by David Walter, who conducted the tours of our beautiful church to our visitors. This added a new dimension to the yard sale.

Thanks to Cathy Speronis for baking the delicious *kourambiedes* (Greek butter cookies) that were for sale at the yard sale's "Greek Cafe," and to Lee Speronis for arranging for the *baklava* that was also a big hit at the cafe.

Thanks to Nikko Turlla at Angelos Pizza on Hammond Street for providing pizza for the yard sale workers!

Thanks to the "Angel Helpers" from Bar Harbor who arranged for the sorting and donation of the left over clothes and household goods to homeless and other shelters in the Central Maine area.

To Lee Speronis and Kathy Fitzpatrick for their beautification efforts to spruce up the outside of the church. It looks lovely!

To dear +Georgia Paul for providing for her beloved St. George Church. Part of her bequest has been used to provide scholarships for St. George children to attend the Metropolis of Boston Camp this summer.

+May Georgia's memory be eternal+

Sanctuary Candles

On Sunday, June 8th, Sophia Wirta lit the Sanctuary Candle for the health of her brother Nicholas George.

Memorials

On Thursday, May 8th, "St. John the Theologian," Fr. Adam offered a memorial service for the souls of John Howard, Juanita Pellon, Richard Jon Angel, and his uncle John Metropoulos.

On Sunday, May 11th, by Bogdan & Raluca Rusu for the souls of their grandparents.

On Sunday, June 29th, by Patty & Bert Michaud, a 25-year memorial for the soul of Patty's mother, Rita, and a 21-year memorial for the soul of her father, Earl Zoidis.

+May their memory be eternal+

Sincere thanks also to the Rusu and Michaud families for offering the coffee hours on those Sundays in memory of their loved ones.

Recent Deaths

Helen Skoufis Rozos passed away in Yarmouth, Maine, on June 13th. She was 91 years old. She grew up at St. George Church and married Constantine (Gus) Rozos at St. George in September of 1946. The daughter of Greek immigrants John L. and Katina (Boretos) Skoufis, she was sister to Georgia Paul, along with her sister Anne Anthony of La Jolla, CA, and her brother Peter Skoufis (deceased) of Washington, D.C. Our sincere condolences to her family, and especially to her children Jack Rozos of Holy Trinity in Lewiston, and Stephanie Masters and Michael & Sharon Rozos of Florida.

Life-long member of St. George Church and the daughter of church founders, Georgia Paul, passed away near family in Portsmouth, NH, on July 1, 2014. She was 96 years old. Her funeral was back at her beloved St. George Church on July 9th, conducted by Fr. Ted Toppses of Holy Trinity Church in Lewiston. Georgia had a bright spirit and was loving and active her whole life. She will be greatly missed. She was also very recently predeceased by her sister-in-law Helen Skoufis and her sister Helen Rozos. Our sincere sympathy and prayers to her whole family, including sons George and Jon Predaris and nephew Jack Rozos.

+May their memory be eternal+

Please pray for health of:

Chris Limberis, Nicholas George, Maria & Gene Muller, Chip Fitzpatrick, Barry Levine, Christian Meyer, Sophia Wirta, Brian Page, Kyvele St. Peter, Eleni Nawfel, Kosta Shanos, Jason Nicholas Anovich, Theodosia Kelley, Mary Limberis, Marianna DeJesus, Elizabeth Markowsky, Eleni Angel's cousin Alexis, and her brother-in-law Methodios, Stefania, Kay Gaddis, Nancy Lowd, Yelena Aleksyeva, Augie's father August, Quantan Fabiano, Electra Giatrelis, Helen Speronis, Alyce Speronis, Aristeia Halkedis, Gene Lachner, Lourdes Wellington, Richard Spencer, Lisa Henderson, Ussi, and for all the Christians who are struggling in the world.



The Fathers say, “If we desire to bring peace to ourselves by trying to reconcile others, we shall never have peace.” That is, if we want to derive peace from others becoming peaceful, we shall not be at peace. So a person must find peace within himself internally. “Make peace within yourself,” says Abba Isaac, “and then heaven and earth will make peace with you.”

- Elder Ephraim



JULY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Father Adam & Presvetera Lisa on Vacation until July 12th	1	2	3	4	5 NO GREAT VESPERS
6 Church open for prayers and lighting candles 10 am	7	8	9	10	11	12 NO GREAT VESPERS
13 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 5th Sunday of Matthew	14	15	16	17 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for St. Marina	18	19 NO GREAT VESPERS
20 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 6th Sunday of Matthew Prophet Elias	21 Fr. Adam at	22 the Metropois	23 of Boston	24 Camp in NH	25 Til July 26th	26 NO GREAT VESPERS
27 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 7th Sunday of Matthew Saint Panteleimon	28	29	30	31	August 1 Fast of the Dormition of Theotokos begins	August 2 10 am Liturgy at St. Mary's by the Sea in Northeast Harbor No Great Vespers
August 3 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew	August 4 6 pm Paraclesis	August 5	August 6 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ	August 7	August 8 6 pm Paraklesis	August 9 No Great Vespers

AUGUST 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Fast of the Dormition of Theotokos begins	2 10 am Liturgy at St. Mary's by the Sea in Northeast Harbor No Great Vespers
3 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew	4 6 pm Paraklesis	5	6 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for the Trans- figuration of Jesus Christ	7	8 6 pm Paraklesis	9 NO GREAT VESPERS
10 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew	11 6 pm Paraklesis	12	13	14 6 pm Great Vespers for the Kimisis of the Theotokos	15 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for the Kimisis of the Theotokos	16 NO GREAT VESPERS
17 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew	18	19	20	21	22 American Folk Festival Booth thru Sunday	23 AFF Booth NO GREAT VESPERS
24 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew AFF Booth	25	26	27	28 5:30 pm Vesperal Liturgy for St. John the Baptist	29	30 NO GREAT VESPERS
31 9 am Orthros with Liturgy following for 8th Sunday of Matthew	September 1 9am Orthros with Liturgy following for Ecclesiastical New Year	September 2	September 3	September 4	September 5	September 6 NO GREAT VESPERS

**ST. GEORGE GREEK
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**This issue of The Messenger is sponsored
by Stephanie (Rozos) Masters
In loving memory of her Uncle and Aunt
Peter J. and Helen M. Skoufis
+May their memory be eternal+**

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