

**The Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Colossians.**

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

**The Reading is from Gospel According to Saint Luke.**

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

**40 DAY OF LITURGY:** We will once again this year will be doing a 40 day's of liturgy for the Christmas fast season.

**Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> –East Moline–** Orthros: 8:00 a.m. Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> –East Moline–** Orthros: 8:00 a.m. Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> –Rock Island–**Orthros: 8:00 a.m. Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

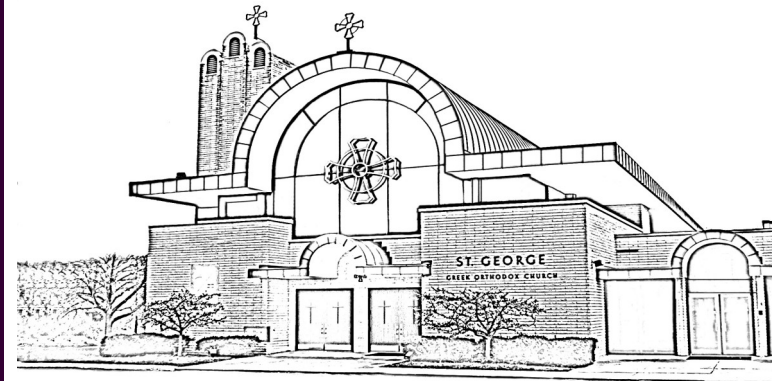
**Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> –East Moline–** Orthros: 8:00 a.m. Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> –Rock Island–** Orthros: 8:00 a.m. Liturgy: 9:00 a.m.

**Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> –Rock Island–** Orthros: 8:30 a.m. Liturgy: 9:30 a.m.

**COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT:** While we pray and work for the reconciliation and unity of all the world's Christians, the reality remains that there is still no intercommunion between our Orthodox Churches and the Churches of the West. This means that only baptized, chrismated and observant Orthodox faithful receive Communion in our churches. At the same time, we warmly welcome all non-Orthodox to join us in prayer and celebration, and humbly offer to all present the *Antidoro* bread of fellowship at the end of the service. We offer this important symbol 'instead of the Gifts', in the words of the Apostle Paul, 'Till we *all* come to the unity of the Faith' (Eph. 4.13).

# Saint George Greek Orthodox Church



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**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**  
**Sunday of the Holy Forefathers**  
**The Martyrs Thyrsos, Leucios & Callinicos**

**READINGS:** Epistle: Colossians 3: 4-11  
Gospel: Luke 14: 16-24

**THE NICENE CREED & LORD'S PRAYER:** Cards are located in the backs of the pews. Everyone is encouraged to recite them out loud.

**COMMUNION PRAYERS:** Everyone who is planning to receive Holy Communion is encouraged to read the prayers before Holy Communion on page 29 in the Red service books.

**COUNCIL DUTY:** Angela Spurgetis, Joe Burmeister & Gus Pappas

**TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Will be hosted by Vickie Patramanis in honor of Mike Patramanis's Birthday. HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE!

**GOYA SERVICE PROJECT: COLLECTING WINTER ITEMS FOR THOSE LESS FORTUNATE:** We are still collecting items for the King's Harvest shelter. Winter items such as hats, coats gloves, scarves & boots for men, women & children. Next Sunday will be the last chance to drop items off. We will be taking them there on Christmas Eve. Thank you for showing Christ's love to those in need.

**PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT:** To Remember our parishioners who are unable to be with us on Sunday services because of illness. Take a moment to say a prayer for them and to give them a call to see how they are doing, especially during this hectic Nativity season. So please keep Ted Bagatelas, Elaine Froumis, Anne Allen, Janice Smirles & Stella Cudworth.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WITH CONGREGATIONAL SINGING:** On Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> our Sunday School teachers and children will once again be putting on a wonderful Christmas Program following Divine Liturgy. This a blessed opportunity where we get to see what our children are doing and learning while at Sunday School. Parents please make every effort to have your children in attendance that Sunday so we can once again have great participation.

**YOUTH NEWS:** We will be having two youth events on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. First immediately following Divine Liturgy we will be holding our Sunday School Christmas pageant. Following that our youth will be doing their annual Christmas caroling for our shut ins and nursing home parishioner's. Please mark this worthy ministry onto your monthly calendars. God Bless!

**PHILOTOCHOS CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Will be today at 12:30 p.m. at Home of Alexa Florence in Davenport. We hope to see many of you there with us.

**SHUT IN VISITATIONS:** If you know anyone who is unable to come to church any longer due to health reasons please contact Fr. Christodoulos so he can them to the Shut in list and go by to see during the Nativity Season.

**THE SIN OF BUSYNESS:** In today's Gospel lesson the Lord tells a parable about busy people. "A man," He said, "gave a banquet and sent out invitations." In other words, what God offers us in the Gospel is comparable to a great banquet. Christianity, above all, is not a command but an offer; not a demand but a gift. One by one those who were invited to the banquet offered their excuse for not being able to come. They were all too busy. What Jesus is saying here is that man can become so busy making a living that he can forget to make a life. God can be crowded out so easily by the trivial and the frivolous. The things that matter most are at the mercy of the things that matter least. He is telling us also that important duties in life that keep us from God are not duties at all but sins.

**WHO ARE THE FOREFATHERS?** According to the hymns of the Feastday of the Forefathers, the following persons are mentioned:

1. persons of the earliest biblical period – Adam, Abel, Seth, Noah, Enoch and others;
2. the Patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Jacob's twelve sons known as the Twelve Patriarchs;
3. women such as Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Miriam, Deborah, Esther, Ruth, Judith and others;
4. all the prophets such as Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah, Malachi and others down to John the Baptist;
5. special figures in the Old Testament such as Melchizedek, Job, David and others;
6. the three young men – Sahdrach, Meshach and Abednego – rescued by God from Nebuchadnezzar's blazing furnace.

**HOLY CONFESSION:** As we approach the Nativity of the Lord, we would like to remind all our faithful that they should participate in the Sacrament of Holy Confession. If anyone would like to make an appointments please contact Fr. Christodoulos at the office.

**THANK YOU:** The Ladies Philoptochos Society wishes to thank everyone who supported their Christmas Holiday Baklava & Pie Sale by either baking or donating items or purchasing our sweet-tasting goodies

**YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED!** We remind our faithful that the Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. **Please be prompt and on time!** Please turn off cell phones before entering church. No conversation should take place during worship. During the reading of the Gospel people in the narthex should not be purchasing or lighting candles but standing reverently and listen to the reading. If possible avoid using center aisle during high points of Divine Liturgy. Lipstick and lip-gloss should be removed before kissing icons, receiving Holy Communion and kissing the hand of the priest. When receiving antidoron, please use both hands and do not allow the crumbs to fall to the floor.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Our Coffee hour is now being done by signing up. So please take a moment and sign yourself up for a Sunday Fellowship hour. It is a great chance to give something back to the community. Thank you & God Bless