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Issue No. 28

**Sunday of the Holy Fathers of Fourth Ecumenical Council  
Great-martyr Marina of Antioch in Pisidia**

Tone 4

Eothinon 5



**Reflection... There is Only One Priest  
Part III**

Both the universal priesthood and the specially consecrated priesthood derive from the unique priesthood of Christ. The bishop and the priest merely exercise in a certain place and at a certain moment in time the eternal Mediation of Jesus. A priest is nothing without the priesthood of Jesus Christ. He is a priest only to the degree that he is united to the person and the work of the Savior. Certainly, the priestly ministry can be "validly" accomplished by an unworthy priest. But how such a priest distances himself from Jesus' own purposes! The starting point, therefore, of all reflection on the priesthood should be this: one can be a priest according to the mind and heart of God only by becoming one with Jesus, the one and only true Priest.

*O Lord, I know that I am wholly unworthy to be counted among the ministers charged with public exercise of the universal priesthood of Your Church. He who receives such a commission should be better than those he represents. But I, to the contrary, am more culpable than they are, since I have been offered greater illumination and more abundant grace than they. I have often neglected and even profaned that grace. I am a priest only insofar as I participate in Your own infinitely holy priesthood; and nevertheless, I am so often far from You, doing things that displease You, refusing to do Your will, injuring souls by the very hand that You have consecrated to bless and to heal. O Lord, I confess my great misery! Make or remake of me a true priest, by drawing me to Yourself, the only Priest, the supreme Bishop of our souls.*

**Epistle:**

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice,  
O ye righteous. Blessed are those  
whose iniquities are forgiven!

The Reading from the Epistle of  
St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations.

(continued on page 2)

**Gospel:**

St. Matthew. (5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

(continued on page 2)



***Please Pray For The Health And Spiritual Welfare Of:***

*David Khoury, Nichole Roedding, Michael, Andrew and James Muawad, Mark Mackool, Marion Severs, Fares Fakhoury, Yvonne Holwey, Gladys Solomon, Said Muawad, Minerva Basila, Nour Dahdal, Sue Williams, Jeannie Packard and Jacque Williams.*

**Epistle:**

*(Continued from page 1)*

These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen

**Gospel...**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

\*\*\*\*\*

**Special Coffee & Donuts sponsorship Cost \$250.00**

- ♦ **July 10** - Bassam & Georgette Swaid
- ♦ **July 17** - Dr. & Mrs. Sevak Valijan
- ♦ **July 24** - Open
- ♦ **Call the church office for sponsorship.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Attention:**

- ♦ *If you wish to have your birthday or anniversary listed in the Observer, please call the church office and we will add it. Also, if you are going out of town on vacation or moving, please notify the office so we may change the mailing of the Observer.*

**Thank You!**

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**Holy Bread Of Oblation**

**For Sunday, July 17, 2022**

- ◆ In loving memory of Eva Fares & George Baghdan, offered by Lama Rajha

**Special Coffee & Donuts**

- ◆ This Sunday's coffee & Donuts are offered by Dr. Sevak & Christina Valijan, in memory of his mother Lucik. May her memory be eternal!

**Coffee & Donuts sponsorship**

- We are looking for sponsors to host. The donation will be \$250 for donuts and coffee and will serve approximately 100 people. We are looking forward to gathering again in fellowship. If you are interested please call the church office @248-589-0480.

**Monthly Dinner Sponsors:**

*Thank you all, sincerely, for generous sponsors. The purpose of the monthly dinners is to bring our parishioners together, and break bread, in love and fellowship. Call the church office for arrangements.*

**Monthly Dinner Schedule for the year**

**2022-2023**

**September- Open**

**October - Open**

**November - Walid Khalife**

**December - Mr. & Mrs. George Semaan**

**January - Open**

**February - Open**

**March - Open**

**April - Mr. & Mrs. Fadi Issa**

**May - Open**

**June - Open**

**Saint Marina-** Even though they refused to accept the Messiah, pagans of the third century realized that Christianity added a certain wholesomeness to its adherents, particularly to Christian girls whose purity gave added dimension to their beauty and stirred passions within the hearts of pagans who saw no such chastity in their own women. Numbered among the lovelies who made the supreme sacrifice was a girl named Marina who was born in Antioch during the reign of Emperor Claudius II (A.D. 270), an era in which Christianity was gaining, but nevertheless faced a relentless enemy in the polytheists, who still abounded after centuries of idolatry. Whether mother died giving birth to her, her pagan priest father, Edesios, had no choice but to entrust the newborn child to another woman and to go about his affairs, unaware of the fact that the foster mother was a Christian. When Marina reached maturity, she had learned to love Jesus Christ with all her heart and had no fear when at last she told Edesios, who had never been much of a father to her anyway and whose resentment she could endure. Knowing the depth of the Christian faith, the father made no effort to dissuade her but simply took the news with contempt and walked away talking to one of his gods. Left to her own devices, Marina carried on her affairs with her devout mother, affairs which included regular church attendance. It was while walking to church that the eighteen-year-old girl was spotted by no less a personage than the prefect of the province, Olymbrios. Unfortunately for Marina, it was a case of love at first sight. He made himself known to her and thereafter called on her with a view to making her his wife, even though he knew that she had no love for him. Out of respect for his office as well as out of common courtesy, Marina entertained the suitor in a pleasant manner, taking care not to offend him with an abrupt rejection, but this discretion only served to delay the inevitable, and the days grew more and more ominous with the realization that he would soon enough propose and she would have to deny him. When at last he asked for her hand, she declined as politely as possible, explaining that she had pledged her life to Jesus Christ and was waiting for the moment when she could enter his service in some manner. The explanation was in no way discouraging and Marina was asked to reconsider his proposal, for which he was willing to give her a little more time. He held out the promise of a life of ease as the bride of the prefect, which he hoped would sway her after some deliberation. The rap on the door came at last and Marina was led away to be tried on charges of treason, among other things, for which she was found guilty and sentenced in methodical fashion after having heard herself branded a traitor by sycophants of the prefect. What took place thereafter is said to have been as vicious an assault on the human body as a fiendish mind could devise. Marina was stripped naked, whipped and burned with candles, allowed to heal and then tortured again in the same fashion over an agonizing period until she was finally beheaded. Death came to this devout girl on 17 July 289.

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### ***Happy Birthday...***

7/16- David Deratany, Tony Gigliotti  
7/17- Fredy Nagher  
7/20- Gabriela Nasr

### ***Happy Anniversary***

7/18- Rany & Marcella Nasr



***May the Lord Jesus Christ bestow  
his blessings upon them***

### ***Welcome***

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, under the Primacy of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph, Archbishop of New York and of all North America, and whose auxiliary Bishop is Anthony who resides in Toledo, Ohio The mission of St. George Church is to serve God in the Greater Detroit Area by commitment to the Gospel Command and to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ through faith, hope, and love.

St. George Church follows the faith and practice of the Apostles and Disciples of Christ handed down by the ancient Christian fathers and twenty centuries of Church tradition. Genuine Christian life nurtures and stimulates our spiritual and moral development.

To join the community of St. George of Troy or to find out more information, please give your name, address, and telephone number to one of the ushers. Father Joseph will be happy to contact you and answer any questions. We hope this day will be spiritually rewarding for you. Please join us in the

#### **Do You Know It Costs....**

- \$ 60.00 per baptized Soul for Archdiocese dues totaling \$40,000 per year?
- Utilities in June 2022 cost us . \$4200.00 . Help us meet our chalolenge

#### **DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP?**

Please use your pledge envelopes **regularly. Thank you!**

***Sunday, July 17, 2022***

### **CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

St. George website [www.stgeorgeoftroy.com](http://www.stgeorgeoftroy.com).

Father Joseph - [father@stgeorgeoftroy.com](mailto:father@stgeorgeoftroy.com)

Church Office - [office@stgeorgeoftroy.com](mailto:office@stgeorgeoftroy.com)

The Observer - [observer@stgeorgeoftroy.com](mailto:observer@stgeorgeoftroy.com)

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***English Reader:*** Carol Stidham

***Arabic Reader:*** Aida Mazer

***Ushers and Greeters:*** Thomas & Sandy Wilkonson, Jandark George, Jihad & Amal Fakhoury