



**St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church - Weekly Bulletin**

Sunday, September 2, 2018

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd TONE 5 14th Sunday after Pentecost
Martyr Mamas , St John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople**

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 4 Troparion *(Martyr Mamas)*

Thy holy martyr Mamas, O Lord, / through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons// Through his intercessions save our souls!

Tone 4 Troparion *(St John the Faster)*

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith, / an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence; / thy humility exalted thee; / thy poverty enriched thee.

Hierarch Father John, / entreat Christ our God// that our souls may be saved!

Tone 5 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Martyr Mamas)*

Holy Mamas, lead thy people as a flock to life-giving pastures / with the staff God has given thee; / crush the invisible and fierce enemies beneath the feet of those who honor thee! / For all of those who are in danger// have received thee as their fervent intercessor.

Matthew 22:1-14 (*Gospel*)

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.”’ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

A Labor Day reflection

Psalm 127: 1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, / the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; so he gives to his beloved sleep.

All human “houses”—families, royal families, religious communities, cities, nations—are ultimately dependent

on the unseen providential presence and activity of God.

Many of us tend to get anxious about the responsibilities we may have in any one of these areas. We diligently work to “build the house” and watch protectively over it. But even in church life we can go about our tasks as if it all depends on us. In my experience workaholicism is endemic to church life, and verse 2 is its sad definition: rising up early and going late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil. We often behave individually and in committees and meetings as if God is simply an absent landlord and not the ever-present master builder and all-seeing watchman. The Tower of Babel is an instructive warning here (Genesis 11:4-9). *And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name... And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men were building. And the Lord said, “Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to building the city.*

God does require our creative, energetic and zealous labor, but the final results of our best work - whether success or failure -are a gift that reflect His providential assessment of what’s needed at the time. Indeed, there is nothing that we may deem as “failure” that God can’t use as raw material for our good and the good of all our “houses.” As St Paul wrote, “We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose” (Rom 8:28).

Copied from OCA: [Home](#) / [Work of the Church](#) / [Reflections in Christ](#) / [Fr. John Jillions](#) / (July 31st 2014)

Calendar of Events – Starting today: September 02

Sunday	9/02	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy
Monday	9/03	
Tuesday	9/04	
Wednesday	9/05	2:00-5:00pm Office Hours
Thursday	9/06	
Friday	9/07	6:00pm - Great Vespers with Litiya
Saturday	9/08	Nativity of the Theotokos 9:10 - Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy 6:00pm - Great Vespers, confessions
Sunday	9/09	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy 11:00am Trisagion for The Departed 12:00pm St George Myrrh Bearers

Weekly announcements, looking ahead:

- ◆ Office Hours this Wednesday 2-5pm.
- ◆ The montly meeting of the Myrrh Bearers of St George will be held today in the Church School room after Divine Liturge
- ◆ On Saturday **September 29th** our parish will be holding a carwash from 9am-12noon. Vespers will coincide with completion of the fund raising activities, so bring your car in for a shine, come help out, and pray with us.
- ◆ **Church School resumes September 23rd.** We are looking for a teacher to work with Matushka. Please speak with Father Michael.

Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers during the week.

For good health and healing: Abram, Souraya, Alice, Basil, Jacob, Collette, Christina, Connie, Eddie, Peter, Nikos, Gary, Gary, Georgia, Ruth.

For a new Job: Mario, Jason, Janice, Jamileh.

Special prayers: to the firefighters and those in fire areas. Lord Jesus Chrust, please give them strength to persevere.