***St. George Serbian Orthodox Church***

*5830 Glenview Avenue*

*Cincinnati, OH 45224, USA*

Very Reverend Petar Petrović Divine Liturgy: 10:30 AM

Church: (513)542-4452 Feast Day Liturgy: 8:00 AM

Mobil: (513)544-7481 Confession: before Divine Liturgy

Email: [blagoslov@cinci.rr.com](mailto:blagoslov@cinci.rr.com) Church School: 10:30 AM

Home page: [www.stgeorgecinci.org](http://www.stgeorgecinci.org)

**31st Sunday after Pentecost January 26th, 2014**

HOLY BREAD: Protinica Gordana Petrović R**EADER:** Adam Meador

Lunch Sponsors: Sasa & Evelina Lazic with children Nina and Aleksandar

COLLECTION & USHERSThomas Frazer

ALTAR HELPERS: Thomas Frazer, Adam Meador, Marko Petrovic.

**WELCOME!** Wewould like to welcome our visitors with us today. We invite you to follow the Divine Liturgy, which begins on page 28 of the Blue Service Books. **WE REGRET THAT THE DIVISION OF CHIRISTIANITY DOES NOT PERMIT US TO OFFER COMMUNION TO NON-ORTHODOX OR THOSE OF THE CHURCH WHO ARE UNPREPARED.** However, please come forward at the end of the Divine Liturgy to venerate the Cross and receive the Antidoron - blessed bread - as a token of love and fellowship. **PLEASE RESPECT THE HOLY LITURGY BY ARRIVING TO CHURCH ON TIME AND PARTAKING IN THE LITURGY TOGETHER WITH THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION.** The prosperity of our Church is in your hands! Please remember to leave your contact information by signing the guest book before you leave the Church.

**EPISTLE:** Ephesians 4:7-13 -

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:  
  
**GOSPEL**-Matthew 4:12-17 - Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
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**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS-HEALTH OF:** Jennie Pjanich, Zora Droca, Spaso Droca, Heather Komnenović, Stacy, Irma Riordan, Daniel Pană, Jill Dragon Sandy, Cedomir Djokovic, Miroslav Helbich,Diana Shyam, Joe Mishurda, Eliana Meador.

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**CHURCH NEEDS SPONSOR FOR LUNCH , CAKE AND COFFEE FOR February**

We are asking all who are willing to please be a good steward and volunteer your **time and treasure** to be a **sponsor for coffee hour or lunch.**

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**SPONSORS FOR TODAYS CELEBRATION:SASA,EVELINA,NINA & ALEKSANDAR LAZIC**

**GIFT FOR CHILDREN:DR. SLOBODAN & EILEEN STANISIC WITH CHILDREN SOPHIA AND ALEKSANDAR**

**ICONS FOR CHILDREN:SPONSORS(KUMOVI) SASA & EVELINA LAZIC WITH CHILDREN NINA AND ALEKSANDAR.**

**THANK YOU TO LJUBOMIR VUJIC: FOR SNOW REMOOVAL FROM PARKING LOT.**

**FORY DAYS PRAYER AFTER CHIELD BIRTH TO:ELIANA MEADOR**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPONSORS(KUMOVI) FOR ST. SAVA CELEBRATION FOR 2015**

**HOMILY- About the Kingdom of God which is within**

The Kingdom of God is within you" (St. Luke 17:21).

All that belongs to God carries the seal of immortality. And, the Kingdom of God is immortal.

If we desire to breathe the air of immortality, we must enter within ourselves, within our hearts, within the Kingdom of God.

Outside of ourselves is the air of time, the air of transitoriness and decay in which the soul breathes with difficulty. The kingdom of nature is the sensual kingdom; hence, a foreign kingdom in comparison to our soul which represents our inner kingdom. Why do men love to reside for a long, long time in a foreign land? Why do they rarely and reluctantly enter into their own home? Whenever we think about the world, we think about that which is foreign land. Whenever we converse about the sensual world, we converse about a foreign land. Living by the senses, we are similar to a man who rushes around all day to the homes of strangers, and only at night, returns to his own home to sleep. And so, we dedicate our vigilance to death and our sleep to immortality! We come to ourselves; we return to ourselves only in sleep. But, even our sleep is dreaming of our reality, i.e., even when we are in our own home, in an unconscious state, we dream of foreign homes: Our dreams are sensual, for our consciousness is sensual. And so, we are in a foreign land; we are strangers in reality and in dreams. We are constantly outside ourselves.

The Lord wants to return us to ourselves, in His home and to His homeland. For us, the Kingdom of God is within us: outside of ourselves is a foreign land. In order to escape from a foreign land and find our true home, in which we directly encounter God, we must enter within ourselves, into our hearts. There is the King, there also is the Kingdom.

O Lord, King of the angels and saints, show us the riches and the light of Your Kingdom within us. That we may love Your kingdom more than we love the foreign land of the sensual, the kingdom of change and transitoriness.Amen

***St. George Serbian Orthodox Church***

**January 26th, 2014**

**Stewardship Reflection**

As we reflect on our commitment to God and the Church, let us consider how we use our gifts so that we can make a good account before the Dread Judgment Seat of Christ. Do not lay up for yourself, treasures on earth...But lay up for yourself treasures in Heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matt 6:19-21)   
  
In Father John Mack's book, Ascending the Heights, A Layman's Guide to the Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 16 discusses the spiritual illness of avarice. Avarice is the insatiable greed for riches; inordinate, miserly desire to gain and hoard wealth. This is man's desire to have more and to gain more - at any expense. The more complicated our lives become and the more we own, the more we have to worry about care and preservation. With each step up the financial ladder, we make new purchases, incur new debt and have less to share with those who are in need.  
  
Are you living for Heaven or for all that is here on this earth? Do you believe in God or do you believe in your financial planner? Having all the the things that you feel are necessary is not wrong but this pursuit is distorting from the one thing which alone is needful - personal Salvation!  
  
The recommended cure for this illness is poverty or simplicity of life. The more we focus on the Heavenly, and less on the Earthly, the closer we are to God, as Stewards, with what He has given us.