***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 Church School: 10:30 AM

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

**14th Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2013**

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

LUNCH SPONSORS: Dragan & Jelena Arandjelovic

COLLECTION & USHERS:

ALTAR HELPERS: Thomas Frazer

**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:** 2 Corinthians 1:21-12:4-

 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts .Moreover I call God for a record upon my soul, that to spare you I came not as yet unto Corinth. Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand. But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness. For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me? And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 22:1-14-

And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

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**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**HEALTH OF:** Geneva Jokich, Jennie Pjanich, Zora Droca, Spaso Droca, Heather Komnenović, Ninko Stakić, Ranko Tepsić,Stacy, Irma Riordan, Daniel Pană, Jill Dragon Sandy, Cedomir Djokovic, Miroslav Helbich.

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**Dragan & Jelena Arandjelovic:** Celebrate the sixth anniversary of marriage. **Congratulations;Please stay for delicious LUNCH (barbique pig) in Church Hall.**

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**THANK YOU TO:Sasa Krsmanovic for roasting pig for today,s LUNCH.**

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***Just a reminder…*** Please remember that the deadline for the weekly bulletin is Wednesday evening at 9 PM. If you would like something to be included and cannot make the deadline, please call Fr. Petar at (513) 542-4452 or on his cell at (513)544-7481 and let him know. Your message may not be able to be included if we are not aware of it. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter!

**The Holy Great-martyr Euphemia-***Euphemia was born in Chalcedon. Her father Philophronus, a senator, and her mother Theodorisia were devout Christians. Euphemia was a beautiful virgin in body and in soul. When the Proconsul Priscus held a feast and offered sacrifices to Ares in Chalcedon, forty-nine Christians avoided this foul sacrificial offering and hid themselves. However, they were discovered and brought before Priscus. Among them was St. Euphemia. When the arrogant Priscus asked them why they defied the imperial decree, they replied: ``Both the emperor's and your command should be obeyed, if they are not contrary to the God of heaven; but if they are contrary to God, they should not only be disobeyed, but should also be opposed.'' For nineteen consecutive days, Priscus imposed various tortures on them. On the twentieth day he separated Euphemia from the others and began to flatter her for her beauty, attempting to win her over to idolatry. As his flattery was in vain, he ordered that the virgin be tortured again. First, they tortured her on the wheel, but an angel of God appeared to Euphemia and shattered the wheel. Then they threw her into a fiery furnace, but she was preserved by the power of God. Upon seeing this, two soldiers, Victor and Sosthenes, came to believe in Christ, for which they were thrown to the wild beasts, and thus gloriously ended their earthly lives. Euphemia was then thrown into a pit filled with water and every kind of poisonous vermin; but she made the sign of the Cross over the water and remained unharmed. She was finally thrown to the wild beasts and, with a prayer of thanksgiving to God, gave up her spirit. Her parents buried her body honorably. Euphemia suffered in the year 304 and entered into eternal joy. She is also commemorated on July 11.*

**HOMILY-on the Lord, the holder of power-***I have power to lay it* [My life] *down and I have power to take it again* (John 10:18).

The divine power of our Lord Jesus Christ manifested itself in His complete power over Himself. If divine power could be separated from divine love, then it could be said of Christ that He would have been able to incarnate, or not incarnate; or again, that He would have been able die, or not die. But, He became incarnate according to His divine love for men and, according to this same inexpressible love, He gave Himself up to death as a *Good Shepherd* for His sheep (John 10:11). A man who kills himself does not truly have power over his life, for he does not kill himself by his own power, but rather by the power of sin, or by the power of the devil, or by the power of some other grave circumstance. So also, a man whom others kill has no power over his life, nor can he speak for his life before his murderers: he cannot say *I have power to lay it down*, for he must lay it down unwillingly. Only our Lord Jesus Christ could say in the presence of his murderers, the Jews: *I have power to lay it down.* Having that power, He could, by a miracle that would have been easy for Him, have made all the Jews perish before they crucified Him on the Cross. Yet He foresaw the saving fruits of His death, and that is why He willingly gave Himself up to be slain.
*And I have power to take it again.* With these words He foretold His Resurrection. Therefore, the Lord both died and resurrected by His divine power.
O Almighty and man-loving Lord, how beautifully Thou didst plan the salvation of men by Thy divine power and love. Help us, O help us, that we might embrace that salvation!
To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

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

**September 29, 2013**

**Stewardship Reflection**

 In his famous work known as The Ladder of Divine Ascent, St. John Climacus writes how our life can be perfected in a union with Christ. He illustrates 30 steps that are necessary to reach Jesus and the Kingdom of God. Through these steps, we make changes in our lives that help us to become Christ-like, to experience Christian perfection which is to live just as Jesus did.
As we reflect upon these steps, let us focus our Stewardship efforts on Time, Talents and Treasures. Pray and consider how we can make a difference and let's remember St. John's guidance that we "live just as Jesus did" and exercise all of the gifts that God has provided to us. St. John's theme is living our daily life for the Heavenly (which is everlasting) and not the earthly (which is temporary).

***Fill out the "STEWARDSHIP" form for 2013. Please give your time and talents!***