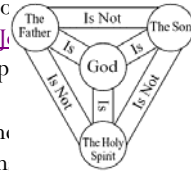




## The blessed Holy Trinity: the central faith of the Orthodox Church

Fr. George Pulikkottil, D. Th.

The Orthodox Christians always worship and glorify the Triune God - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The central doctrine of Orthodox Christianity is thus well explained by the words of the [Nicene Creed](#): "the Father is [God](#), the Son is [God](#), and the [Holy Spirit](#) is [God](#), and yet there are not three [Gods](#) but one [God](#)." In this Trinity of Persons, the Son is begotten of the Father by an eternal generation, and the [Holy Spirit](#) proceeds by an eternal procession from the Father. Yet, notwithstanding this difference as to origin, the Persons are co-eternal and co-equal: all alike are uncreated and c



the Church teaches, is the revelation regarding [God's nature](#) which [J of God](#), came upon earth to deliver to the world and which she prop foundation of her whole dogmatic system.

In [Scripture](#), there is as yet no single term by which the Three Divin denoted together. The word *trias* (of which the Latin *trinitas* is a tran in [Theophilus of Antioch](#) about A.D. 180. He speaks of "the Trinity of God [the Father], His Word and His Wisdom". The term may, of course, have been in use before his time. Afterwards, it appears in its Latin form of *trinitas* in [Tertullian](#). In the next century the word is in general use. It is found in many passages of [Origen](#). The first creed in which it appears is that of Origen's pupil, [Gregory Thaumaturgus](#). In his *Ekthesis tes pisteos* composed between 260 and 270, he writes: "There is therefore nothing created, nothing subject to another in the [Trinity](#): nor is there anything that has been added as though it once had not existed, but had entered afterwards: therefore the Father has never been without the Son, nor the Son without the Spirit: and this same Trinity is immutable and unalterable forever."

**New Testament:** The evidence from the Gospels culminates in the baptismal commission of [Matthew 28:19](#). It is manifest from the narratives of the [Evangelists](#) that Christ only made the great truth known to the Twelve step by step. First He taught them to recognize in Himself the [Eternal Son of God](#).

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### NTD PG TWO

His Grace Paulose Mar Milithios Metropolitan of Kunnamkulam Diocese, and Assistant to the present Catholicose of the East and Malankara Metropolitan, has been nominated as the 91<sup>st</sup> successor to the Apostolic throne of St. Thomas by the Holy Episcopal Synod and the Managing Committee of our Church. The Malankara Association has been called on Oct 12 to ratify this nomination. Please continue to pray for Milithios Thirumeni, and all other leaders of our Church.

**FROM FRONT PAGE** When His ministry was drawing to a close, He promised that the Father would send another Divine Person, the [Holy Spirit](#), in His place. Finally after His [resurrection](#), He revealed the doctrine in explicit terms, bidding them "go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" ([Matthew 28:19](#)). The phrase "in the name" (*eis to onoma*) affirms alike the [Godhead](#) of the Persons and their unity of nature. The use of the singular, "name," and not the plural, shows that these Three Persons are that [One Omnipotent God](#) in whom the Apostles believed. Indeed the unity of [God](#) is so fundamental a tenet alike of the Hebrew and of the [Christian religion](#), and is affirmed in such countless passages of the Old and New Testaments, that any explanation inconsistent with this doctrine would be altogether inadmissible.

The supernatural appearance at the baptism of Christ is often cited as an explicit revelation of Trinitarian doctrine, given at the very commencement of the Ministry. The [Evangelists](#), it is true, see in it a manifestation of the Three Divine Persons

**Old Testament:** The early Fathers were persuaded that indications of the doctrine of the Trinity must exist in the Old Testament and they found such indications in many passages. Many of them not merely believed that the Prophets had testified of it, they held that it had been made known even to the Patriarchs. They regarded it as certain that the Divine messenger of Genesis 16:7, 18, 21:17, 31:11; Exodus 3:2, was [God the Son](#); they considered it evident that [God the Father](#) could not have thus manifested Himself. They held that, when the inspired writers speak of "the Spirit of the Lord", the reference was to the Third Person of the Trinity.

It is evident that a clear knowledge of the mystery was granted to the Prophets and Saints of the Old Dispensation. It may be readily conceded that the way is prepared for the revelation in some of the prophecies. The names *Emmanuel* ([Isaiah 7:14](#)) and *God the Mighty* ([Isaiah 9:6](#)) affirmed of the Divine Nature of the promised deliverer.

In the Book of the Wisdom of Solomon we find a still further advance. Here, Wisdom is clearly distinguished from Jehovah: "She is. . . a certain pure emanation of the glory of the [almighty God](#). . . the brightness of eternal light, and the unspotted mirror of [God's](#) majesty, and the image of his goodness" ([Wisdom 7:25-26](#). Cf. [Hebrews 1:3](#)). She is, moreover, described as "the worker of all things" (*panton technitis*, 7:21).

All these above mentioned things along with many other passages of the Holy Scripture constitute the revelation of the Holy Trinity. The matter seems to be correctly summed up by Epiphanius, when he says: "The One [Godhead](#) is above all declared by Moses, and the twofold personality (of Father and Son) is strenuously asserted by the Prophets. The Trinity is made known by the Gospel."

Photographs in this edition of the Gazette courtesy of:  
UIUC Campus Ministry— George Varghese

#### Gazette Staff and Board

Fr. M. K. Thomas

Fr. George Pulikkottil

Liju Paul (Malayalam Ed.)

Liju Varghese (English Ed.)

**1. Sunday — Third Sunday after Festival of Holy Cross**

Reading — Acts 7: 2-5, Romans 8: 1-11, St. Mark 2: 23-28

**7. Saturday — Ignite Meeting @ Church 2PM****8. Sunday — Fourth Sunday after Festival of Holy Cross**

Reading — Acts 21: 17 - 26, I Cor. 1: 21-29, St. Luke  
16: 9 -18

**14. Saturday — Women of Faith @ Christy John, Morton Grove 11.30AM-1PM****15. Sunday — Fifth Sunday after Festival of Holy Cross**

Reading — Acts 22: 22-29 , I Timothy 6: 13-21, St. Matt.  
23: 1-12

**21. Saturday — October Fest & Drama@ Church 2-9PM****22. Sunday — Sixth Sunday after Festival of Holy Cross**

Reading - Acts 21: 27 -40, I Cor. 5: 6-13, St. Luke 18: 18-27

**29. Sunday — Seventh Sunday after Festival of Holy Cross**

Reading — 1 Peter 2: 15-17, I Cor. 6: 9-11, St. Matt. 5:21-26  
MMVS Monthly Meeting after Holy Qurbana

**Planning Ahead**

November 4&5– Perunnal @ Church

November 18– MMVS Bible Study 2-4pm @ residence of Betty Gladstone, Chicago

November 17-27- Holy Land Trip

**Prayer Requests**—Please send your prayer requests to [www.1church.org/prayerteam.html](http://www.1church.org/prayerteam.html). We will join you in bringing your requests before God.

Questions or prayer requests - Please contact:

Julie Polachira-815.295.2469; [jpolachira26@yahoo.com](mailto:jpolachira26@yahoo.com)

Stacy Thomas-847.722.0446; [stacy\\_thomas79@yahoo.com](mailto:stacy_thomas79@yahoo.com)

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**Original articles from church members are always solicited, please submit your articles to [info@gregoriangazette.com](mailto:info@gregoriangazette.com).**

**Chicago Visit**-Liju Yohannan

On September 21, 2006 the UIC and DePaul University students had their first Campus Ministry at Justin and Alwin Joy's apartment. There were about 10 students, including George Achen, who attended this meeting. The purpose of this event was to have a time of fellowship, as well as establish a foundation to allow our students to come together spiritually. We established a need to focus our ministry on current day issues (i.e. Da Vinci Code, War, etc) that we face in our society and being able to defend our faith in the context of these issues. Also, we want to continue to grow in our personal faith especially in the campus settings, and all the pressure that surrounds the "college life." Overall, this was a great starting point for the UIC and DePaul area campus ministry. As we eagerly began our discussion on some of the issues facing the Da Vinci Code, it was evident that when we gather in the name of Christ, our meetings will be blessed and fruitful. This area campus ministry will meet once every two months. For more information, please contact: Liju Yohannan or Justin Joy. ".if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin." 1 John 1:7

**UIUC Visit**-Jaison Panicker

The goal of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Campus Ministry is to incorporate and instill religious aspects of living an Orthodox Christian life in an educational environment. In order to achieve this goal, we plan to focus on study, worship, and fellowship. By integrating these aspects into our group, we believe that we can collectively grow in our faith toward God.

Personally, I know that I am blessed to be involved in this ministry because I realize how crucial college is in terms of religion. There are many different opportunities and distractions continually overwhelming students, and sometimes they need a place for refuge. These disruptions can be counterproductive and can lead students astray without proper guidance. In addition, obtaining the necessary guidance is harder to find due to the distance of our home church.

On Sunday, September 10, the first UIUC Campus Ministry meeting took place. There were a total of nine members who attended the meeting. Of these nine members, six of them were current members of our parish and the rest were MGOCSM members from our sister parishes. In addition, George Achen was able to come down and take part in the gathering. The meeting began with time in fellowship to further build our closeness within the group. We then discussed how this group can be utilized to help students with real life problems/issues that they face everyday. We closed with prayer and a few words of advice from Achen. For more information, please contact Jaison Panicker or Mathew Mani.

Please continue to pray for this ministry as well as for all the students attending colleges.

### Managing Committee

The September monthly Managing Committee Meeting was held at Chain O'Lakes State Park in Spring Grove, Illinois on Saturday September 9. The meeting, accompanied with a barbecue cook out, was well attended by the immediate family of the committee members. The food and fellowship along with the boat ride was just great – lot of fun!

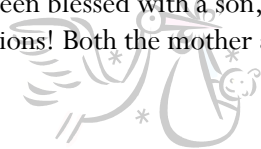
### Prayer Meetings

The Prayer Meetings for the month of September were held on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at the residence of Jacob and Aji Thomas, Round Lake and on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the residence of Jacob and Mariamma Phillip, Mt. Prospect. For holding prayer meetings, please contact Paul Babu at 630.227.0344.

### Yuvajana Prasthanam

Yuvajana Prasthanam participated in the Evening prayers at Church on Sat Sep 2 led by Rev Fr Paul Isaac and Rev Fr V.V. Mathukutty.

Tiju and Anu Joseph have been blessed with a son, Nathan on Wednesday, September 27. Congratulations! Both the mother and the baby are doing fine.



### Importance of Character-Jainamma Alexander

Of all the important possessions on earth, character is the most important. Others are health, wealth and learning, for a person is rightly judged only by his character and not by his position. It is the noblest status of a person constituting a rank in itself, and an estate in the general goodwill. It exercises a greater power than wealth and position and secures all the honor without the jealousies of fame. It carries with it an influence which always tells, for it is the human nature in its best form and it is the result of proved honor, which perhaps more than any other commands the general confidence and respect of mankind.

Though a person may have comparatively little learning, slender abilities and small wealth, yet if his character be of sterling worth, he will always command an influence. Hence, it is the force of one's character that raises him in the eyes of others, and this the real beauty, glory, and honor of life lies in character, and it is advisable that every person should take utmost care in forming his or her character.

The new Academic year started on Sun Sep 3 at 8.45 AM . Over 80 students and 25 teachers are participating in the program this year. Classes began from Junior KG to Senior grade with syllabus and lesson plan being distributed in class. A child can start the Sunday School when he or she completes 4 years as of Sep 1. A general photo of the Sunday School was taken on Sun Sep 17 by Varghese John to be put up on the Church website. That Sunday immediately after the HQ the first Parents' Teachers' Meeting was held. The meeting gave the parents an opportunity to meet with the teachers of their children's class and discuss their concerns. Also, this creates a positive environment for the students and teachers to work. The first Sunday School Teachers Meeting of the new Academic year was held on Sat Sep 23 at church. The topic of discussion, "Bible – the Word of God," was led by Tiju Joseph and assisted by Julie Polachira. The discussion was fruitful and it gave us an insight of how we should study the Bible along with the Traditions and Cannons. The aspect of belief was emphasized by George Achen. Review of the academic year, class progress and concerns, calendar, Music Ministry, Charity Drive , Parent Teachers Coordinators program, and centralized exams for 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades were discussed. It was decided to distribute the awards and prizes of the '05-'06 academic year on Dec 23 during the Sunday School Family Night . The Music Ministry presented a skit about the Feast of the Cross on Sun Sep 24 after HQ. It was a short skit well presented, directed by Smitha Mathen, Muth Varghese and Jerry Panicker and it reminded us of the story of the discovery of Jesus' Cross.

#### Ignite

The new Bible Study was held on Saturday September 23 at the residence of 2:00 PM at Church Women's Page where George Achen led the participants in the Bible study and Jim Fuller led the prayer. We were discussing the Parable of the Sower (Matt 13:2-9) and please bring your BIBLES!! Meen curry sale on Sep 17 Sun for charity and it was a great success! If you missed out this time, be sure to buy some delicious food next time!

#### Health Camp

A Health Camp to screen blood pressure and diabetes was organized at our church on Sunday September 24 by Mr. Panicker and Gen (Chayalath Theology Production ) by Rev Fr Mathew Vaidyan have started at our Church. Please contact Ms. Marykutty Mathews, Mr. Paul Babu or George Achen for more information.

#### Divyabodhanam

**Feast of the Holy Cross Word Search**

Z V U K U Y E M S C  
 S S I P L M M A S W  
 U A G C O N D N N C  
 S V S R T U R M G H  
 E E J J J O M T Y R  
 J D G J U P R C H I  
 G X N Q X T N Y P S  
 P S E V E I H T H T  
 X I C R O S S M U F  
 Q U E E N H E L E N

**Christ Jesus Cross Jesus Judas Queen Helen Rome Saved  
 Thieves Victory**

Contest is open to Sunday School students only. If multiple submissions have the same number of correct answers, the prize winner will be selected at random. Please submit the entries with your name in the Gregorian Gazette Submissions box in the library.

**Answers to Last Month's Quiz: 7)Samson, 8) Saul, 9) Mary of Bethany, Nehemiah, 11) Jonah, and 12) James the son of Zebedee**

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

1. Jocelyn Varghese
2. Jacob George
3. Rubin Samuel
3. Sharon Chacko
5. Joseph Mani
6. Shawn Varghese
8. Nina George



# Come One, Come All!

ENJOY FESTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT!!!

FUN & GAMES, FOOD & SALES, DRAMA & FELLOWSHIP!

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006 FROM 2.00PM TO 9.00 PM

**WHERE:** ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH, 1125 N. HUMPHREY AVE  
OAK PARK, IL 60302 (708)848.4120

**WHAT:** GAMES AND FUN CONDUCTED BY THE YOUTH

SALES OF *FOOD -AMERICAN AND KERALA* STYLE INCLUDING THATTU  
KADA

SALE OF *HOME GROWN VEGETABLES AND FRUITS, HOME MADE  
PICKLES, EMBROIDERED*

*NOVELTIES, AND OTHER USEFUL ITEMS* FOR USE AT HOME.

LUCKY DIP (\$10/TICKET) – 1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE 8 OZ. GOLD COIN, 2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE  
\$50, 3<sup>RD</sup> \$ 25

EVERY FAMILY IS REQUESTED TO BUY OR SELL AT LEAST 2  
TICKETS.

DEMOCRATIC AUCTION – WATCH OUT FOR DETAILS!

CHILDREN'S VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM FOR 1 HOUR  
BEFORE START OF DRAMA

DRAMA IN THE EVENING BY ST. GREGORIOS ARTS CLUB,

**WHY:** TO RAISE \$ 10000.00 TOWARDS THE CHARITY DRIVE,  
2006 OF THE CHURCH. THE FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION  
OF CHURCHES IN THE POOREST DIOCESES OF KERALA WHOSE ANNUAL  
INCOME IS LESS THAN \$1000.

BUSINESSES/PERSONS ARE WELCOME TO SPONSOR THE EVENT  
OR DRAMA OR PARTS THEREOF! TO ASSIST, VOLUNTEER AND  
PARTICIPATE IN THE CHILDREN'S VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, PLEASE  
CONTACT SAJI KORAH (630 832 7862) OR E-MAIL  
[SKORAH@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:SKORAH@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

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