



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Orthodox Life

Rise Through the Ranks

Do you have what it takes to rise through the ranks? There are nine orders of Bodiless Powers, grow in knowledge and rise through each order.

The Nine Orders of Bodiless Powers are:

Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Principalities, Dominions, Powers, Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim.

This is how it works. It is entirely voluntary:

Step 1. Sign up with Orthodox Life Directors

Step 2. Have your picture taken by an Orthodox Life Director

Step 3. Learn and memorize the challenges

Step 4. When you have one memorized, present it to Father Nick and watch your picture rise through the nine ranks of Angels .

Step 5. When you have achieved all 9 ranks, Father Nick owes you ice cream.

The Challenges can be presented in any order. Note: The Challenges are easier to memorize if you think about what you're saying and what these things mean to you. For example: What are we talking about in the Creed? What do the Ten Commandments mean? Feel free to ask your teachers, parents, or Father Nick questions about any of these.

THE NINE CHALLENGES

1. **The Lord's Prayer** – Memorize the following:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

2. **The Creed** – Memorize the following:

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge the living and dead. His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.

Amen.

3. **The Hymn of St. George**

As the one who sets the captives free, and the protector of the poor; as physician to the sick and champion defender of kings, bearer of trophies are you, O great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.

4. **Ten Commandments (+2) – In Order**

1. No other god
2. No graven images
3. Do not take the Lord's name in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy
5. Honor your mother and father
6. Do not kill
7. Do not commit adultery
8. Do not steal
9. Do not bear false witness
10. Do not covet

Greatest Commandment: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength

Second Greatest Commandment: Love your neighbor as yourself

5. The Twelve Apostles (+1) – Any Order

1. Peter
 2. Andrew
 3. James
 4. John
 5. Nathanael (aka Bartholomew)
 6. Philip
 7. Judas (aka Thaddeus – Not Judas Iscariot who betrayed Christ)
 8. Simon the Zealot
 9. Thomas
 10. Matthew
 11. James the Lesser
 12. Matthias (picked by drawing sticks)
- + Paul (Chosen by Christ on the Road to Damascus)

6. The Twelve Major Feast and Dates/Times of the Year (+1)

1. Nativity (Birth) of the Theotokos (September 8),
 2. Elevation of the Holy Cross (September 14)
 3. Presentation of the Theotokos (November 21)
 4. Nativity of Christ (December 25)
 5. Theophany (Epiphany) (January 6)
 6. Presentation of Christ to the Temple (February 2)
 7. Annunciation of the Theotokos (March 25)
 8. Palm Sunday (Sunday before Pascha)
 9. Ascension (40 Days after Pascha)
 10. Pentecost (50 Days after Pascha)
 11. Transfiguration of Christ (August 6)
 12. Dormition of the Theotokos
- BONUS: Pascha – The Feast of Feasts!

7. Seven Major Sacraments (There are more, know these)

1. Baptism
2. Chrismation
3. Eucharist/Communion
4. Confession
5. Unction
6. Marriage (not required)
7. Ordination (not required)

8 . Jesus Prayer

Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me a sinner.

9. Favorite Bible Story