

*A Non-Network Church in the Diocese of Albany and the Episcopal Church  
U.S.A.*

# St. George's Kalendar

2006

The Reverend Dr. W. David McSwain, Rector

You are cordially invited to Historic Saint George's Church

30 North Ferry Street, Schenectady, New York 12305

The Reverend Dr. William David McSwain, Rector

## Solemnity of the Martyrdom of St. George

**A Colonial Festival of Worship and Music**

10:00 AM

Sunday, May 7, 2006

### FESTIVE MUSIC

Brian Hoffman, Music Director at St. George's Church

The St. Dunstan's Early Music Consort

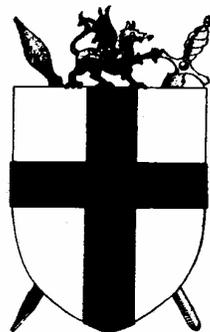
The St. Nicholas Children's Choir

Gary Van Slyke on the Penny Whistle

### Authentic Colonial Food

English Tea

Games & Fun for Children



## ST. GEORGE A.D. 303?

It is universally agreed that St. George was a martyr who suffered at Diospolis in Palestine, probably under Diocletian. His life is cloaked in legends; including the slaying of the dragon. He is the model of knighthood and the acknowledged patron saint of England, Aragon, Portugal and Germany, also of Genoa and Venice, and protector of Ferrara. In the East he is especially honored as the patron saint of soldiers. Pope Benedict XIV officially approved his veneration as protector of England.

He is most often depicted as a youth in armor, often mounted, and slaying a dragon, his shield and lance pennant being a red cross on a white background.

### THE LEGEND of ST. GEORGE

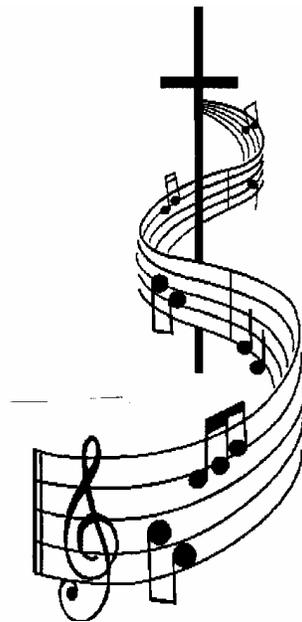
“He was riding one day in the province of Lybia, and there he came upon a city called Sylene, near which was a marshy swamp. In this lived a dragon “which envenomed all the country”. The people had mustered together to attack and kill it, but its breath was so terrible that all had fled. To prevent its coming nearer they supplied it every day with two sheep, but when the sheep grew scarce, a human victim had to be substituted. This victim was selected by lot, and the lot just then had fallen on the king’s own daughter. No one was willing to take her place, and the maiden had gone forth dressed as a bride to meet her doom. Then St. George, coming upon the scene, attacked the dragon and transfixed it with his lance. Further, he borrowed the maiden’s girdle, fastened it round the dragon’s neck, and with this aid she led the monster captive into the city. “It followed her as if it had been a meek beast and debonair.” The people in mortal terror were about to take flight, but St. George told them to have no fear. If only they would believe in Jesus Christ and be baptized, he would slay the dragon. The king and all his subjects gladly assented. The dragon was killed and four ox-carts were needed to carry the carcass to a safe distance. “Then were there well XV thousand men baptized without women and children.” The king offered St. George great treasures, but he bade them be given to the poor instead. Before taking his leave the good knight left behind four behests: that the king should maintain churches, that he should honor priests, that he should himself diligently attend religious services, and that he should show compassion to the poor.

It was during this time a great persecution began against the Christians. George, seeing that some were terrified into apostasy, in order to set a good example went boldly into a public place and cried out, “All the gods of the paynims and gentiles are devils. My God made the heavens and is very God.” Diatianus the “provost” arrested him and failing to move him by cajolery had him strung up and beaten with clubs and then tortured with red-hot irons. Our Saviour, however, came in the night to restore him to health. Several more attempts were made on George’s life, but did not succeed. Diatianus’s wife witnessing these things was converted, but her husband ordered the saint to be decapitated, which took place without difficulty, though Datianus himself returning from the scene was consumed by fire from Heaven.” Taken from: *Butler’s Lives of the Saints*



## The Music of St. George's

**On Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 p.m., a concert will be given by all of the various music ensembles of St. George's Church. Performers will include; The St. Cecilia Choir, The St. Dunstan Early Music Consort (vocal and recorder consorts), The St. Nicholas Children's Choir, and Organists Aniko Szokody, Jeff Wengrovius, Victoria Von Arx and Brian Hoffman. Composer's works in the program will include: Hildegard von Bingen, Gerald Finzi, Perotin, John Dunstable, Heinrich Isaac, Matteo Asola, Brian Hoffman, Franz Liszt and Marcel Dupre.**



**Historic St. George's Episcopal Church**  
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Schenectady,

**St. George's Church**  
**SPRING CONCERT**  
**Sunday May 21, 2006**  
**3:00 P.M.**

### **The Patron Saint of England – Saint George**

St. George was a brave Roman soldier who protested against the Roman's torture of Christians and died for his beliefs. The popularity of St. George in England stems from the time of the early crusades when it is said that the Normans saw him in a vision and were victorious.

St. George is always depicted as a knight carrying a shield with a red cross (or banner) usually sitting upon a horse and killing a dragon.

His emblem a red cross on a white background is the flag of England and part of the British flag. St. George's emblem was adopted by Richard the Lion Heart and brought to England in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The king's soldiers wore it on their tunics to avoid confusion in battle.