

St. George Orthodox Church

5191 Lennon Road • Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 732-0720

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

October 15, 2023

OCTOBER IS YOUTH MONTH THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. If you are a first-time visitor, please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you after liturgy, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship! Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word "*Liturgy*" means *work of the people* that means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God's grace to enter. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy.

Guidelines for Receiving Holy Communion for Orthodox Christians: Orthodox Christians fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by receiving Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command *to eat His Body and drink His Blood*. In order to be properly prepared to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should fast (no food or drink from midnight the night before), the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, being at peace with others, and striving to always love God and their neighbor. Frequent communion and regular confession are recommended for all faithful Orthodox Christians.

For other Christians: We welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately, we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (*antidoron*) which will be given when coming forward to venerate (kiss) the Holy Cross and receive the final blessing from the priest. Again, welcome!

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open for all parishioners and visitors. If you cannot attend, please pray with us through our livestream which can be seen on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintGeorgeOrthodoxChurchFlintMI>

If you have a smart TV, you actually have a web browser and YouTube app built in. All you have to do is start the browser app for YouTube and put the link in the address bar.

Youth (Teen SOYO) Month Greeters/Ushers:

Zayna Andoni , Joelle Sababa, and Hannah Zeidan

Epistle Reader: Nadine Khoury

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Nancy (Mike) Silpoch, Linda (Matt) Shadeed, and Sharon (Rick) Ballreich and Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of sister **Deborah** Salim (40 day).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Kamal** Bathish (+September 8th, brother-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Joseph** Boufaissal (+September 9th, husband of Shefaa), **Luceille** Nassar (+September 10th, wife of Basem), and **Yvonne** Holwey (+October 7th, friend of Fr. Joe and mother of Chris Holwey) ~ *may their memory be eternal!*
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: our **Bishop Anthony**, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Reader Fouad** and **Soad** Abuaita, **Philip** and **Janett** Abuaita, **Rasha** Abuaita, **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **Georgette** Abueita, **Iliyana** Abueita, **Jane** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **Mariam** Al-Khouri, **William** Alsahouri, **Naila** Banna, **Vera** Daoud, **Said** Farah, **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George** and **Suad** Gantous, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Karen** Mortensen, **Laura** Nassar, **Adam** Odeh, **Rahmeh** Rashmawi, **Elaine** Shaheen, and **Michael** Silpoch; **Jason** Dine who is under instruction/catechism to become Orthodox; **Laith**, **Dina**, and newborn **Liam** Maymoun (September 4th); **Mousa**, **Amanda**, and newborn **Nicholas** Rishmawi (September 19th); **Maroun**, **Julia**, and newborn **Mariella Noelle** Alatrash (September 23rd).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Ambur** (daughter of Joseph Haddad) and **Matt** Allison, **Gabriella** (daughter of Joseph & Mary Jo Ghattas) and **David** Ayyash, **Renea** and **Rakan** Bayouk, Drs. **Lindsey** and **Ryan** Brunner, **Casandra** and **Danial** Burbar, **Dania** and **Subdeacon Salim** Hanna, **Andrea** and **Josh** Jones, **Christine** (daughter of Ayman & Wafaa Elias) and Dr. **Matthew** Krinock, **Kari** (daughter of John & Theresa Farah) and **Panagiotis** Mikroudis, & **Jacqueline** (daughter of Anwar & Janet Abueita) and **John** Timm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by the *Family of Deborah Salim*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: October 22nd, November 19th, and 26th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge. Hosting includes bringing whatever you wish to serve, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$30. **For more information**, contact Manal Abuaita. *During the Nativity Fast (November 15th - December -24th) no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are to be served.*



St. Nicholas in Burton is hosting a “Trunk or Treat” next Saturday, October 21st after their Great Vespers (5pm). If you come to our Great Vespers (4pm), you can then go to St. Nicholas. It does not matter where you go! Decorate your trunks and bring treats! This is open to the community and all of our Orthodox Churches.

OUT-OF-TOWN Fr. Joe and Fr. Michael will be attending the **Midwest Diocesan Clergy Retreat** (October 19th-20th) and Fr. Joe will also be at the *Antiochian Women's Meeting* at the **Fall Gathering** (October 20th-22nd) in Toledo, OH. Fr. Joe will be back in the office on Monday, October 23rd. **For emergencies** while Fr. Joe and Fr. Michael are away, please call *Fr. Gabriel Bilas* (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-750-1401) or *Fr. Matthew Butrie* (St. Nicholas, 810-744-0070). Please pray for everyone's safe travels.

PAN-ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS CONCERTS FROM 1992 AND 1993 These videos have recently been found and we would like to put them on DVDs. A signup sheet for pre-ordering is on the Lounge Bulletin Board (outside of the offices). The cost will be no more than \$15 for each DVD. Please signup TODAY, last chance!



2023 PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY is scheduled for Sunday, November 12th, immediately following Divine Liturgy. Members in good standing both spiritually (*attending church*) and in their financial stewardship (*offerings to the church*) are considered Voting Members and may speak and vote on any non-canonical matter presented at the meeting. Report Packets with Minutes and the Proposed 2024 Budget will be mailed at the end of October. Please review the Report Packet that will be sent and plan on attending.

- **GENERAL ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBER** is defined in our Constitution as: *all persons, regardless of sex, eighteen (18) years of age and over, who have been baptized and accepted as members of the Holy Orthodox Church according to its teachings, who accept, profess and practice the faith and discipline of the Holy Orthodox Church and who subscribe to the temporal maintenance of the Parish, through payment of such dues, pledges and assessments.*
- **General Assembly Proxies** are given to those who cannot attend the meeting because of medical treatment or illness, those confined to their homes, or those with written verification of a prior travel commitment. A VOTING member who cannot attend the meeting may have another VOTING member vote on their behalf. PLEASE NOTE: To better our procedures for Proxies, they will be available in the church office beginning today, Sunday, October 15th and must be returned back to the office by Sunday, November 5th. Proxies received after November 5th will be considered invalid.

Parish Council Vacancies

- If you would like to be nominated or would like to nominate qualified (*see below*) parishioners for the 3 expiring terms on the Parish Council, please submit names to a member of the **Nominating Committee** (Raed AbuAita, Tony Daoud, or Fr. Joe). The deadline to be a nominee is October 23rd and all nominees must attend a **Parish Council Nominee Seminar** on Monday, October 23rd from 7-8pm. If you will be attending, please let Fr. Joe know. If this day and time does not work for you, speak with Fr. Joe to reschedule another time before the deadline of October 22nd.

Parish Council Qualifications (from our Parish Constitution)

- *No member of the Parish Council shall be under the age of 18 years of age (excluding any ex-officio member) and no Voting Member of the Parish shall be eligible to become a member of the Parish Council unless such person has been a voting member of the Parish for a period of one year and has fulfilled the canonical requirements of the Orthodox faith. Further, nominees must worship at St. George at least 3 out of 4 Sundays a month; shall be exemplary (model) members of St. George; participate in extracurricular ministries of the parish (such as: Fundraising, Parish Council committees, Educational, etc.); participate in the Holy Sacraments of Confession and Communion on a regular/frequent basis; and attend a Nominee Seminar.*

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.

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| TODAY | 3rd and 4th Grade Class with Fr. Joe |
| Monday | Bible Study: <i>St. Paul's Letter to the Romans</i> 1:30-3:30pm |
| Tuesday | Men's Fellowship 6pm |
| Wednesday | Arabic Bible Study: <i>St. Paul's Letter to the Romans</i> 12:30-2pm |
| Thurs.-Fri. | Midwest Diocesan Clergy Retreat and Fall Gathering in Toledo, OH |
| Saturday | Great Vespers and Confessions 4pm |

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Sayings of the Spiritual Leaders

"Hell can't be made attractive, so the devil makes attractive the road that leads there." + St Basil the Great

"The truly intelligent man pursues one sole objective: to obey and to conform to the God of all. With this single aim in view, he disciplines his soul, and whatever he may encounter in the course of his life, he gives thanks to God for the compass and depth of His providential ordering of all things. For it is absurd to be grateful to doctors who give us bitter and unpleasant medicines to cure our bodies, and yet to be ungrateful to God for what appears to us to be harsh, not grasping that all we encounter is for our benefit and in accordance with His providence. For knowledge of God and faith in Him is the salvation and perfection of the soul."

+ St Anthony the Great

"A true friend prays to God for his friend. A true friend cares about the salvation of a friend's soul. To draw a friend back from false ways and set him on the true path – that is precious friendship. The Saints of God are man's greatest friends."

+ St Nikolai Velimirovic

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Once a man was asked,
"What did you gain by
regularly praying to God?"

The man replied, "Nothing..
But let me tell you what I lost:
Anger, Ego, Greed, Depression,
Insecurity, and Fear of Death."

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Awareness Day

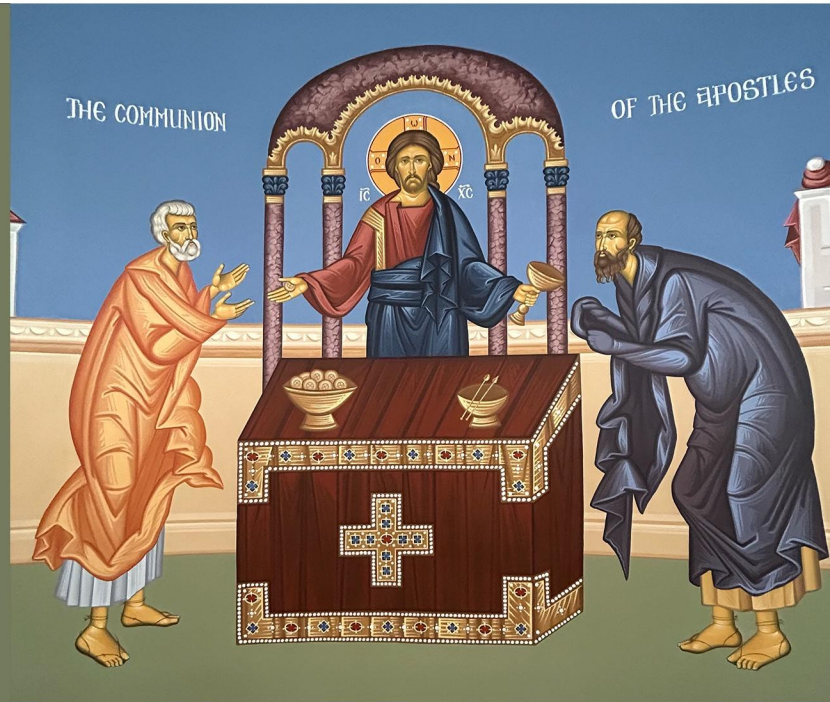
AS NAC TEEN SOYO PREPARES TO SPONSOR THE 43RD ANNUAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS CAMP, WE ASK FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND HELP IN MAKING THIS MINISTRY POSSIBLE. APPROXIMATELY 300 ATHLETES AND COACHES PARTICIPATE IN OUR CAMP EACH YEAR. TEEN SOYO MEMBERS TRAVEL FROM ACROSS OUR ARCHDIOCESE TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME, TO LIVE IN SERVICE TO OTHERS AND TO FULFILL THE CALL TO DO ALL THINGS.

"AS WORKING FOR THE LORD, NOT FOR MEN." (COL. 3:23)

Next Sunday, October 22nd, our teens will request your financial donations to enable them to sponsor the 43rd Annual Special Olympics Sports Camp, which will be held at the Antiochian Village, in August of 2024. Your donations make it possible for every athlete to attend this event free of charge and also help Teen SOYO members travel to serve as Coaches at the camp.

As an expression of gratitude for your donation to this effort, teens will be handing out bookmarks with the icon of the Communion of the Apostles. Thank you for considering the support of this wonderful ministry that allows our children to be a witness and blessing to others!

Please make checks payable to your local Teen SOYO group with "SOAD 2023" in the memo. Donations can also be made online at www.teensoyo.org/special-olympics.



DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, NAC Teen SOYO covers the cost of the camp, approximately \$75,000, through the generosity of our fellow parishioners. Through the years, we have hosted more than 8,500 athletes and coaches. Around 1,200 of our teens have had the unique experience of being a coach or volunteer at the camp.





ANTIOCHIAN
HOUSE of STUDIES

ARCHDIOCESAN SUNDAY FOR AHOS

(Antiochian House of Studies)

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

Archdiocesan Sunday for AHOS

will take place every year on the Sunday of the Parable of the Sower.

The purpose of Archdiocesan Sunday for AHOS (Antiochian House of Studies) is to raise awareness to support the future clergy & lay leaders of our archdiocesan. We kindly ask you to bring an offering on this day.



**Sunday,
October 15, 2023**

How can I
donate?

Visit www.ahos.edu or scan the QR code.



You can also donate by check sending directly to:

AHOS
1020 Baseline Rd
La Verne CA 91750

AHOS is a 501(c)(3). All donations are tax-deductible