

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!**

**المسيحُ وُلِدَ! فمجدوه!**

**2022 Nativity (Birth in the Flesh) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

### **Live Streaming of Divine Services**

St. George is open for all parishioners or 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.

**Welcome to St. George:** It is a joy to have you worshipping with us as we celebrate our Savior's Nativity (*Birth*) into the world. For those who have committed themselves to the Orthodox Faith (*through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation*) it also means, if prepared, the reception of Holy Communion. Preparation includes the Sacrament of Confession within the last 2 months, prayer, and fasting {no food or drink from 12pm/noon today}. If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father Joe or Father Michael. If you are not an Orthodox Christian or not prepared, please know that you are invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

## **Nativity Poinsettia Offerings**

*(Remembered during the Service of Preparing the Gifts [bread and wine])*

- **Jamal** and **Manal** Abuaita for the health of their children **Dr. Tamer**, **Dr. Yara**, **Samer** and **Marianne**, **Philip** and **Janett** Abuaita, **Jamal** and **Mariam** Ghanim, and **William** Sahouri.
- **Luai** and **Rasha** Abuaita for the health of their family especially **Zahra**, **Marcos**, and **Joy**.
- **Anwar** and **Janet** Abueita for their health and the health of **Tony**, **Chrissy**, **Haleena**, **Maliyah**, **Tony**, **Michael**, **Iliyana**, **John**, **Jacqueline**, **Leah**, **Tony**, **Jenny**, **Mathew**, **Lukas**, and **Georgette** and in loving memory of **Yacoub**, **Peter**, **Alice**, **Nasim**, **Basim**, **Asmahan**, **Mannah**, **Jaber**, **Raiie**, and **Affia**.
- **Hiam** Bathish for her health and the health of **Rudaina**, **Lubna**, **Amer**, **Areen**, **Reem**, and their families and in loving memory of husband **Emil**, **Naif** and **Julia** Bathish, and parents **Yacoub** and **Marie** Farah.
- **Ayman** and **Wafaa** Elias for the health of their family and in loving memory of children **Joselyn** and **Elias**.
- **Subdeacon Salim** and **Dania** Hanna for the health of **Danial** Alghanim, **Jamela** Shtiwi, their families and the **Hanna Family**, and health of and in loving memory of **Roza** Alied, **Amena** Shadaeda, **Habeeb** Alghanim, **Shhadah** Alied, **Majed** Alied, and **Tony**.
- **JoAnn** Shahin Hawkins for her health and the health of the **Shahin**, **Hawkins**, and **Rhinehart** Families and in loving memory of the departed **Brackett**, **Shahin**, **Moore**, **Hawkins**, **Ojile**, and **Rhinehart** Families.
- **Danny** Isaac for the health of his family and in loving memory of **Edward** Isaac, **Norma** Rynek, and **Debbie** Isaac.

- **Najwa** Joubran for her health and the health of her family and in loving memory of her departed family members.
- **Martin** and **Jennifer** Khoshaba and Family for their health and the health of **Emma, Ava, Fareda, Najwa**, and all their family and in loving memory of **Hermes** and **Emil** and all departed family members.
- **Victoria** Nassar for the health of her family and in loving memory of husband **Jamil**.
- **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif for the health of the **Nassif, Saseen, Farah**, and **Abdella** Families and in loving memory of son **Paul**.
- **Richard** Shaheen for the health of his family and in loving memory of **JoAnn** Merrelli, **Fred & Mamie** Shaheen, and **Harry** and **Patricia** Haddad.
- **Doug** and **Sandy** Thomas for the health of their family especially **Laney, Morgan, Jordan**, and **Landon** Thomas and in loving memory of **Jean** and **Alex** Khouri, **Virginia, Marvin**, and **Ken** Thomas.
- **John** and **Lauren** Zerka for the health of their family especially **Daniel** and **Nazera** Czerniak, **Lindsay, Korey, Sullivan** and **Bennett** Lester, **Lauren** and **John** Zerka, **Milad** and **Georgette** Zerka, **Danny, Asmahan, Christopher, Michael**, and **Joseph** Zerka, **Joyce, Ryan, Alexander, Alivia**, and **Adriana** Schlee, **Samantha** Zerka, **Kameel** Ansara and **Donna** Meyer and in loving memory of **Leonard** and **Evelyn** Czerniak, **Laurie** Crisp, **Andrew** and **Jeanette** Cassis, **Antoine** and **Layla** Nehme, **George** and **Nazera** Zerka, and **Michael** Zerka.

*Thank you and may God grant you all many years!*

## Holy Bread Oblations (Offerings)

- **Khaled** and **Sally** Abuaita for the health of their children **Watan, Karim, Ayham**, and **Majd** and in loving memory of Aunt **Mary**, Grandmother **Rahma**, **Androlla** Abuaita, and **Saher** Abuaita.
- We also pray for the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Aida** Raffoul (+November 24<sup>th</sup>).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Metropolitan Paul** and **Archbishop John** who are in captivity, our local hierarch **Bishop Anthony, Sahar** Abdallah, **Reader Fouad** Abuaita, **Sally** Abuaita, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Khader** AbuAita, **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **Jane** Abueita, **Chelsy** Abufarha, **Youssif** Abousamra, **Danial** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alshouri, **Sanaa** Alqassis (daughter of Zahra Abuaita), **Walid** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Valland** Frangi (sister of Ron Haddad), **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Dannie** Jones, **Loretta** Karpelenia (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Judy** Mikhail, **Antonia** Molina (friend of Aren Bathish), **Karam** Nassar, **Laura** Nassar, **Issa** Odeh, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Christa** Whitehead, and **Samantha** Zerka (cousin of Lauren Zerka and Goddaughter and niece of Victoria Zerka).
- Those who are with child: **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khouri, **Katrina** and **Gary** Gagne, and **Taylor** and **Jeffrey** Tipton..

### Reception of Holy Communion

Please remember only ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS who have PREPARED themselves may partake of Holy Communion. *“But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.”* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Fasting December 25<sup>th</sup> until January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES AND CHURCH CALENDARS** Please pick up yours (and other family members and friends) so we do not have to mail them! If your name is not listed, let Fr. Joe know. Unfortunately, we did not receive our full order. A list of those missing is on the table, but will be coming soon. The calendars (*please take 1 per family*) are a gift from our Ladies Auxiliary ~ thank you, Ladies! Our children will receive their envelopes in Church School. **Parents**, please make sure your children get their *Offering Envelopes*!

**ST. BASIL'S DAY!** Next Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, we remember St. Basil the Great and the Circumcision in the flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will be celebrating St. Basil with his special bread (and coin!) along with special prayers. Plan on attending!

## **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

The incomprehensible and inexplicable Nativity of Christ came to pass when Herod the Great was reigning in Judea. He was in every way foreign to the royal line of David; rather, he had received his authority from the Roman emperors, and had ruled tyrannically over the Jewish people for some thirty-three years. The tribe of Judah, which had reigned of old, was deprived of its rights and stripped of all rule and authority. Such was the condition of the Jews when the awaited Messiah was born.

Our Savior was born in Bethlehem, a city of Judea, where Joseph had come from Nazareth of Galilee, taking Mary his betrothed, who was great with child, that, according to the decree issued in those days by the Emperor Augustus, they might be registered in the census of those subject to Rome. Therefore, when the time came for Mary to give birth, and since there was no place in the inn, the Virgin's circumstance forced them to enter a cave which was near Bethlehem. Having as shelter a stable of animals, she gave birth, and swaddled the Infant and laid Him in the manger (Luke 2:1-7). From this, the tradition has come down to us that when Christ was born He lay between two animals, an ox and an ass, that the words of the Prophets might be fulfilled: "*Between two living creatures shalt Thou be known*" (Habbakuk 3:2), and "*The ox knows his owner and the ass his master's crib*" (Isaiah 1: 3).

But while the earth gave the new-born Savior such a humble reception, Heaven on high celebrated majestically His world-saving coming. A wondrous star, shining with uncommon brightness and following a strange course, led Magi from the East to Bethlehem to worship the new-born King. Certain shepherds who were in the area of Bethlehem, who kept watch while tending their sheep, were suddenly surrounded by an extraordinary light, and they saw before them an Angel who proclaimed to them the good tidings of the Lord's joyous Nativity. And immediately, together with this Angel, they beheld and heard a whole host of the Heavenly Powers praising God and saying: "*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men*" (Luke 2:8-14).

### **COMING EVENTS**

Monday	St. George Women's Christmas Dinner	5:30pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers</b>	4pm (note time change during the winter!)
Next Sunday, Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Matins</b> 8:50am	<b>Divine Liturgy</b> 10am <i>as normal</i>

The Right Reverend  
Bishop ANTHONY



Diocese of Toledo and  
The Midwest

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

**Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

December 25, 2022

To the beloved Clergy and faithful of our Diocese Family,

**Christ is Born! *Glorify Him!***

**المسيح وُلِد! فمجّدوه!**

*Christ is born glorify Him. Christ is come from heaven receive Him. Christ is on earth be ye lifted up. Sing to the Lord all the earth and praise Him with joy, all people. For He has been glorified.*

From the First Nativity Canon, Ode 1

As you rejoice with your family, friends, and brothers and sisters throughout the world, know that He is born so we can receive Him. He is born on earth, to bring us back to heaven, to paradise, to the garden of Eden, to live with Him and to eat with Him at the heavenly banquet.

He is the King of kings, and the Lord of lords, because our Lord is born to die. In His death, he destroys death and He saves us from death. Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is born so our sins can be forgiven.

As He humbly becomes a babe, let us humbly receive Him today and every day! Receive Him so His love, peace, and joy may abide in your hearts forever and ever, alleluia, alleluia!

May He who was born in a cave and lay in a manger for our salvation bless you always.

*+ Bishop Anthony*

+Bishop ANTHONY

**Bishop of Toledo  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America**

*"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)*

**Midwest Diocesan Chancery**  
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