

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

February 25, 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!

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.

Holy Bread Offerings (*Oblations*)

- Ayman and Wafaa Elias for the health of their family and the **Youssif** and **Salwa** Abousamra Family and in loving memory of **Housam** Abousamra (9 day) and son **Elias** (22 year).
- Khader and Lucy AbuAita, Nicola and Mary Khoury, and their Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of father **Michel** (3 year) and **Abouna Brahim** Qassis (8 year).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Archbishop Nathaniel** (Romanian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America), our **Bishop Anthony**, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Abeer** Abuaita, **Reader Fouad** and **Soad** Abuaita, **Philip** and **Janett** Abuaita, **Rasha** Abuaita, **Sami** and **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **George** Abueita, **Georgette** Abueita, **Jane** Abueita, **Mary** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **William** Alsahouri, **Naila** Banna, **Vera** Daoud, **Said** Farah, **Joseph** Gagne, **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George** and **Suad** Gantous, **Phyllis** Good, **Daisy** Isaac, **John** Joseph, **Karen** Mortensen, **Laura** Nassar, **Jeanette** Nassif, **Adam** Odeh, **Rahmeh** Rashmawi, **Elaine** Shaheen, and **Michael** Silpoch; **Abdulla**, **Amira**, and newborn **Yasmine** Farah (January 10th); Dr. **Matthew**, **Christine** (*daughter of Ayman & Wafaa Elias*), and newborn **Maximus Paisios** Krinock (January 21st); **John**, **Jacqueline** (*daughter of Anwar & Janet Abueita*), and newborn **Henry John** Timm (January 24th); **Matt**, **Ambur** (*daughter of Joseph Haddad*), and newborn **Ivy Grace** Allison (January 24th); **Boutros** and **Athar** (Ghareeb) Abdalla who were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Panayiotis** Khair (+January 12th, uncle of Husam Khair), **Nellie** Makhoulf, (+February 4th, sister of Gisele Farah), and **Housam** Abousamra (+February 13th) ~ *may their memory be eternal!*
- We also pray for our expectant parents: Drs. **Lindsey** and **Ryan** Brunner, **Casandra** and **Danial** Burbar, **Andrea** and **Josh** Jones, **Kari** (daughter of John & Theresa Farah) and **Panagiotis** Mikroudis, & **Vera** and **Luay** Sababa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Lucy Abuaita and Mary Khoury*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: March 3rd, 10th, and 17th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information are 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**, please contact our coordinator Manal Abuaita 810-577-9870. *Cheese-Fare Sunday is March 17th (no meat) and during the Great Fast (March 18th – May 4th) no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are to be served.*

OUT-OF-TOWN Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee are on vacation until February 27th. **For emergencies** while Fr. Joe is away, please call first Fr. **Michael Bassett** (St. George, 989-627-9580), then Fr. **Peter Bistolarides** (Assumption, 810-771-4611), Fr. **Gabriel Bilas** (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-750-1401), or Fr. **Matthew Butrie** (St. Nicholas, 810-744-0070). Please pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee's safe travels.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be \$7,588 to meet our 2024 Budget. Last Sunday, February 18th, our offerings were \$4,350, we were short \$3,238 😞 **Please keep up with your offerings!** If you have not already, please fill out your 2024 Offering Form. You can put it in Sunday's Offering Tray or send it to the church (5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507). Thank you for supporting St. George and offering as God wants for our spiritual health!

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS



Our stewardship, offerings, and donations are needed. PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (or use the QR code to the left) or you can bring or mail your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507. As always, THANK YOU for your generosity and love of our St. George!

PLEASE HELP ~ KIDNEY NEEDED!

One of our parishioners is in desperate need of a kidney transplant. Everyone has 2 kidneys, but only need 1 to live. Both of their kidneys are not working properly. If you are inspired to see if you could be a donor and want more information, please speak with Fr. Joe ~ *thanks!*

CAMP ST. GEORGE SUMMER CAMP Like the program at the Antiochian Village, Camp St. George serves young people ages 9-17 who come from parishes throughout our Midwest Diocese (mostly the western part). After not meeting last year, they are hoping to bring Camp St. George back in 2024. But they need help. The most critical component in making it happen is sufficient staffing, particularly counselors. Will you consider being a candidate? Applicants should be at least 18 years old, have a solid grounding in the Orthodox Faith, and be regular in Church attendance. They also need to exhibit patience while leading children in a faith-based, natural environment. Staff applications will be available at CSGlowa.org soon. Some details: Camp St. George meets June 30-July 6, 2024 at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point, Iowa. Staff arrive two days prior for training. For more information or questions, contact Camp Director Fr. Fred Shaheen at shaheenf@hotmail.com.

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline Since today is our 1st Pre-Lenten Sunday, as we remember the teaching of our Lord in His story of the *Publican and Pharisee*, there is no fasting this week.

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

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Put Aside Resentment ~ We Must Not Repay Evil For Evil

by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

The decision to forgive another person a wrong done to us begins when we decide to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge. To forgive someone does not mean that we forget what they did to us, for this may be impossible. The memory of the

hurt might always remain with you, but when you decide to forgive the person who wronged you, the grip of resentment is put aside. When we forgive someone it is even possible to find yourself filled with compassion and empathy for the person, for the act of forgiveness opens the heart to God's grace.

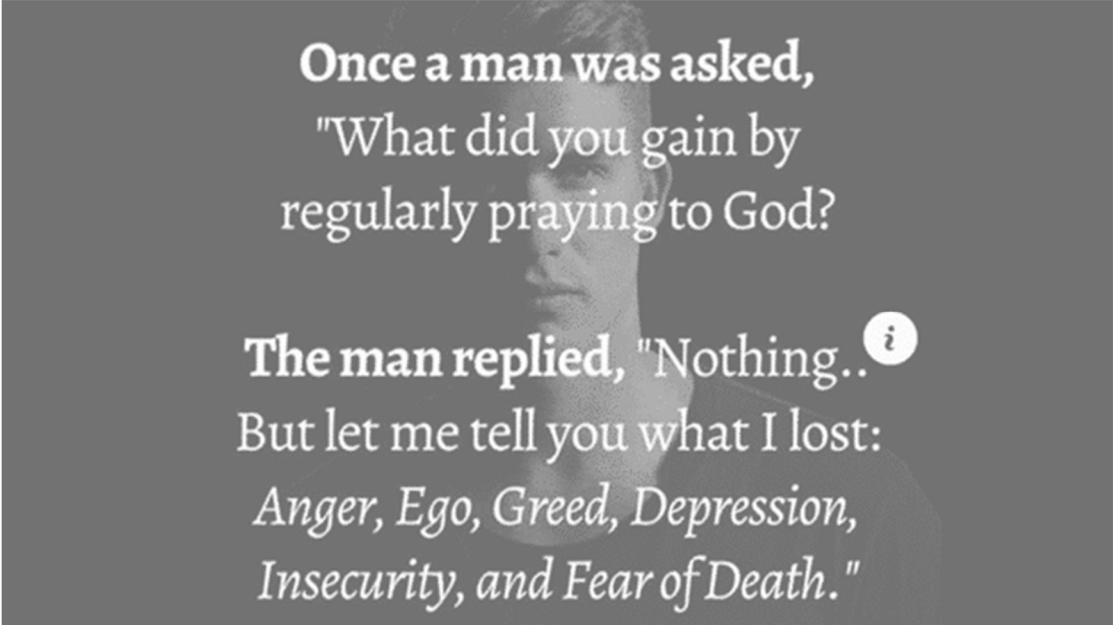
When we forgive someone, we are not denying their responsibility for hurting or offending us, nor are we justifying their act. We can forgive them without approving or excusing their transgression against us. The act of forgiving another opens our heart to the peace that brings closure to hurt and pain, and opens us up to the love and peace that comes from living a life without resentment.

If we find ourselves struggling to forgive, it is a good reminder to recall those hurtful things we've done to others, and remember when we've been forgiven. It is especially good to recall how God has forgiven us, and call upon Him to give us the grace needed to put aside our resentment, and truly forgive the other person. Being quick to forgive, and putting aside all thoughts of revenge will open our hearts to a joyful and peaceful life.

Finally, if we pray for those who've offended us, we open the door to all kinds of possibilities. When we ask God to help the person who has been unkind and hurtful, our own hearts receive healing, for when we've forgiven others, grace abounds.

"Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it." (1 Peter 3:9)

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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.*"

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 25th	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week MARCH 3rd	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare MARCH 10th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 17th FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 24th	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 31st	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent APRIL 7th	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent APRIL 14th	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 21st	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY MAY 3rd	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! MAY 5th NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

التريودي-الصوم الأربعيني المقدس-الأسبوع العظيم-الفصح المقدس

رزامتكم لعام ٢٠٢٤ من صفحة أرثوذكس Orthodox



الأحد ٢٥ شباط: بداية التريودي - أحد الفريسي والعشار
(لا يصام في هذا الأسبوع يومي الأربعاء والجمعة-أسبوع المخالفين)

الأحد ٣ آذار: أحد الإبن الشاطر

السبت ٩ آذار: سبت الأموات (سبت الرّاقدين)

الأحد ١٠ آذار: أحد مرفع اللحم (أحد الدّينونة)

الأحد ١٧ آذار: أحد مرفع الجبن (أحد الغفران)

الإثنين ١٨ آذار: بداية الصوم الأربعيني المقدس

الأحد ٢٤ آذار: الأحد الأوّل من الصوم - أحد الأرثوذكسيّة



أحد رفع الأيقونات المقدّسة

الإثنين ٢٥ آذار: عيد بشارة والدة الإله

الدّائمة البتوليّة مريم العذراء (مسموح فيه بأكل السمك)

الأحد ٣١ آذار: الأحد الثّاني من الصوم - أحد القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس

الأحد ٧ نيسان: الأحد الثّالث من الصوم أحد الصّليب الكريم المحيي

الأحد ١٤ نيسان: الأحد الرّابع من الصوم أحد أبينا البار يوحنا السّلمي

الأحد ٢١ نيسان: الأحد الخامس من الصوم - أحد أمنا البارة مريم المصريّة

أحد ٢٨ نيسان: أحد الشّعانين (يُسمح بأكل السمك)

الإثنين ٢٩ نيسان: بداية الأسبوع العظيم

سبت ٤ أيار: سبت الثور

أحد ٥ أيار: أحد الفصح العظيم المقدس



إثنين ٦ أيار: الإثنين الباعوث

