

June 11, 2023

# 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 prepare 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*)

- Roger and Sandy Isaac, Stephanie and Brian Silpoch, and their families for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother and grandmother **Evelyn** Delbridge (9 day).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Michael** Khal (+May 11<sup>th</sup>), **Samer** Alshouri (+May 14<sup>th</sup>, brother of William), **Mikhail** Albaba (+May 20<sup>th</sup>, brother of Wadia Albaba), **Kh. Martha** Lynch (+May 24<sup>th</sup>, Godchild of Kh. Leslee Abud), **Antonia** Molina (June 2<sup>nd</sup>, friend of Areen Bathish), and **Ghais** Al-Khouri (+June 3<sup>rd</sup>, cousin of Khaled Al-Khouri) ~ *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** Abuaita, **Philip** and **Janett** Abuaita, **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **Georgette** Abueita, **Jane** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **William** Alshouri, **Naila** Banna, **Vera** Daoud, **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George** and **Suad** Gantous, **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Laura** Nassar, **Adam** Odeh, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Sandy** Thomas, and **Christa** Whitehead; **Mejhdy**, **Jessica**, and newborn **Levi** Abu-Aitah who will be brought back into the life of our parish through the *Prayers of Churching*; **Alexander**, **Raghda** (Ishaq), and newborn **Iliana Marina** Wayne (May 30<sup>th</sup>). **Samer** Abuaita and **Mariann** Abulail who are to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Rania** and **Raed** AbuAita, **Julia** and **Maroun** Alatrash, **Renea** and **Rakan** Bayouk, **Dania** and **Subdeacon Salim** Hanna, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, **Aziza** and **Basheer** Hawwash, **Dina** and **Laith** Maymoun, **Amanda** and **Mousa** Rishmawi, & **Narmeen** and **Deeb** Shamshoum.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BANQUET CENTER RENTAL** Our Center is rented today. Please be respectful to our renters and their guests by not disturbing their event ~ Thank You!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** is in our Lounge and hosted by *Roger and Sandy Isaac, Stephanie and Brian Silpoch, and their families.*

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: June 18<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> ~ 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 our coordinator Manal Abuaita.

## **Midwest Diocesan 2023 Parish Life Conference**

Bishop Anthony and our host parish St. Mary-Palos Heights, Illinois invite you to our Annual **Midwest Diocesan Parish Life Conference** June 28<sup>th</sup>-July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hotel, Conference Registration, and all forms are available at their website: <http://www.antiochianevents.com/toledo.html>. Bishop Anthony and Fr. Joe encourage all of our parishioners to attend! God willing we will have parishioners in the **Bible Bowl** (Thursday night, June 29<sup>th</sup>) and **Senior Presentation** (Saturday night, July 1<sup>st</sup>) ~ come and cheer them on! Please take note of deadlines and make your reservations as soon as possible! We hope that as many of our parishioners as possible will participate.

# OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS



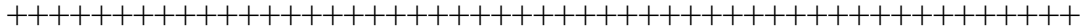
**Our stewardship, offerings, and donations are needed.** PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (or use the QR code to the left) or you can bring or mail your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

**LECTURE SERIES** at *Saint Mary Magdalene Church* in Fenton begins June 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be a mini 3-week lecture series "The Acts After Acts" which follows the lives of the apostles after the book of Acts until their deaths. They are offering this both online or in person. Sign up can be done by contacting the parish office or by using the sign-up link here <http://www.st-marymagdalene.org/adult-education>. For more information or questions, please contact Fr. Gabriel ([fgabrielsmm@gmail.com](mailto:fgabrielsmm@gmail.com)) or Protodeacon Michael ([schlaackm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schlaackm@sbcglobal.net)).

## COMING EVENTS

**Fasting Discipline** The **Apostles' Fast** (sometimes called the **Peter and Paul Fast**) always begins on the Monday (tomorrow) following **All Saints Sunday** (today, June 11<sup>th</sup>). During this Fast, we observe the traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, meat by-products, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with *fish, wine, and olive oil* allowed on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday until the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul on Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Monday      **Apostles' Fast begins**  
Thursday    **Parish Council Dinner Meeting** 6:15pm  
Saturday    **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm



## Evangelism ~ The Orthodox Way of Evangelism

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

Manifest destiny was the belief that the United States god-given right was to spread westward from sea to shining sea, spreading American beliefs across the continent. As we all know, the First Nations tribes (Indians) were seen as heathens, and fair game for the advancing peoples of European ancestry. Whole tribes were wiped from the face of the map, either by being slaughtered, or succumbing to the white man's diseases, for which they had no natural immunity. For those natives who were "lucky enough" to survive the occupation of their lands, relocation by force to reservations was the norm.

The "Christian" basis for this expansion, had as its roots the Calvinist doctrine of "Predestination," a false and horrid teaching that some were predestined to salvation, while others were not. The natural link between the two doctrines is obvious.

*continued ⇒*

By contrast, the Orthodox missionary monks to Alaska journeyed under strict orders from the Patriarch and the Czar, to respect the First Nations religion, culture, and peoples. They were under direct orders to avoid baptizing the natives, unless they sought to convert, and then only after they were fully catechized. The missionary monks befriended the natives, even to the point of protecting them from Russian fur traders, who mistreated them. They learned the native languages, and respected the local culture.

To this day, Alaska's Orthodox natives see Orthodoxy as their native religion, because the love and kindness shown to them by the Orthodox monks helped them see Christianity as the fulfillment of their own religion.

This has been the Orthodox way of evangelism from the earliest of times. Some have accused we Orthodox of not being missionary minded, not seeing that our missionary efforts are simply different from that of the west. We believe that God transforms hearts, so we, in turn, share our faith by loving those whom we wish to convert. Our evangelism is based in the heart, where love reigns.

The God we Orthodox Christians worship, is the God of love and mercy, and the only way to bring others into a relationship with this God, is to love them into God's Kingdom. We don't pronounce them as heathens, who are destined to hellfire, but God's children, created in His image and likeness. We invite them into the Church as our brothers and sisters, because we love them, and desire that they not only have God as their Father, but the Church as their Mother.

## Matthew 28:18-20 RSV

### 28:18

- And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

### 28:19

- Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

### 28:20

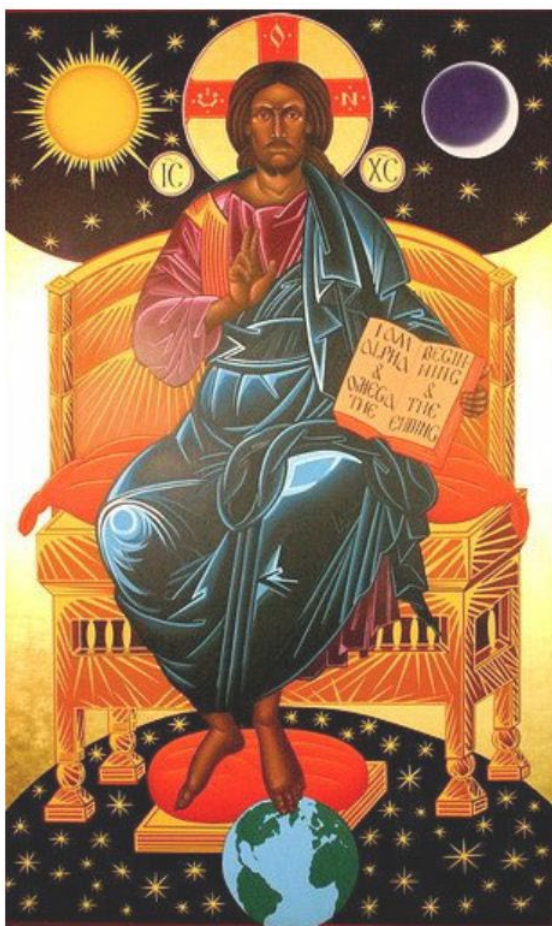
- teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

**St. George is hosting!**

**We need parents and young adults to help!**

Please contact Janet Abueita, our Church School Director, for more information or questions ([cooeita@aol.com](mailto:cooeita@aol.com) or 810-691-0956) ~

**TODAY!**



THE PAN-ORTHODOX  
CHURCHES OF GENESEE COUNTY  
VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

**Saturday, August 12**  
**10:00am -5:00pm**

FOLLOWED BY PAN-ORTHODOX  
VESPERS 5:00PM

HOSTED AT  
ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH  
5191 LENNON RD | FLINT 48507

# "REFLECTING THE LIGHT OF THE SON"

-Exploring the Transfiguration and the Dormition-



The Pan – Orthodox Churches of Genesee County  
presents  
**VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL 2023**

Hosted by St. George

# August 12th

**Who:** All children ages 4 through 11

**What:** “Reflecting the Light of the Son” - Exploring the Transfiguration and Dormition

**Where:** St. George Orthodox Church (5191 Lennon Rd, Flint, MI 48507)

**When:** August 12th — Registration 10:00am —VCS 10:30am to Vespers 5pm

**Why:** As Orthodox Christians we celebrate the major feast days of the Church.  
It is imperative that our children understand the ‘Why’ behind the celebration.

**How:** Fill out a registration form for each child that will be attending and turn it into your parish representative or sign-up online.

**Parish Representatives:**

Holy Assumption: Fr. Peter

St. George: Janet Abueita

St. Nicholas: Michelle Gerzevske

St. Mary Magdalene: Terri Oginsky

**Registration closes July 30th**

**Tentative Itinerary**

10:00am—10:30am Arrive & Register  
10:30am –11:00am Morning Prayers & Expectations  
11:00am– 1:00pm Morning Sessions on the Transfiguration  
1:00pm—2:00pm Lunch  
2:00pm—2:30pm All Group Activity  
2:30pm—4:30pm Afternoon Sessions on Holy Dormition  
4:30pm—5:00pm Snack & Parent Pick-up  
5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers

**Groups:**

Group A: Ages 4, 5, & 6

Group B: Ages 7, 8, & 9

Group C: Ages 10 & 11

Children 12 years and older can sign-up to be student helpers.

Scan this code to register online



✚ For additional information please contact your parish representative (listed above)

✚ There is no fee for a child to participate in VCS, however please consider a free-will offering to the Pan-Orthodox Fund to help cover the cost of the event.

# 2023 Vacation Church School Registration Form

(Please fill out one form for each child attending)

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Patron Saint/ Baptismal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Home Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Allergies or important information:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please Check this Box if you DO NOT want us to use sunscreen or bug spray on your child

Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: will you be staying with your child? YES  NO

Lunch: Cheese Pizza, Salad, Raw Veggies, Fruit & Juice

Snack: Popsicles and Popcorn

Emergency Contact: Emergency Contact 1: _____ Phone _____ Emergency Contact 2: _____ Phone _____
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✚ For additional information please contact your parish representative:

Holy Assumption: Fr. Peter

St. George: Janet Abueita

St. Nicholas: Michelle Gerzevske

St. Mary Magdalene: Terri Oginsky

✚ There is no fee for a child to participate in VCS, however please consider a free-will offering to the Pan-Orthodox Fund to help cover the cost of the event.

✚ Please return this completed form (1 per child) to your parish representative by **Sunday, July 30th.**