

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

June 18, 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 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*)

- Karam and Aida Nassar for the health of their family especially son **Fred** and niece **Heather** on the occasion of their birthdays ~ *May God grant them many years!*
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Michael** Khal (+May 11th), **Samer** Alshouri (+May 14th, brother of William), **Mikhail** Albaba (+May 20th, brother of Wadia Albaba), **Kh. Martha** Lynch (+May 24th, Godchild of Kh. Leslee Abud), **Antonia** Molina (June 2nd, friend of Areen Bathish), **Evelyn** Delbridge (+June 3rd), and **Ghais** Al-Khouri (+June 3rd, 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, **Shafiqa** 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; **Alexander**, **Raghda** (Ishaq), and newborn **Iliana Marina** Wayne (May 30th); **Samer** and **Mariann** (Abulail) Abuaita and **Branden** and **Letizia** Jones who were 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, **Letizia** and **Branden** Jones, **Christine** and **Matthew** Krinock (daughter of Ayman and Wafaa Elias), **Dina** and **Laith** Maymoun, **Amanda** and **Mousa** Rishmawi, & **Narmeen** and **Deeb** Shamshoum.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is in the Lounge and is not hosted today ☹️. Please offer a donation to help cover our costs, thank you!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: July 23rd and 30th ~ 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.

Combined Pan-Orthodox

Vacation Church School

Hosted by St. George on Saturday, August 12th

Fliers and Registration Forms on the Narthex Table or see

our St. George website (see link on the top of page 1). We are in need of volunteers to help! Please see Janet Abueita for information or to volunteer!

July 30th is the Deadline to Register!

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 28th-July 2nd. 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 29th) and **Senior Presentation** (Saturday night, July 1st) ~ 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!

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The **Apostles' Fast** (sometimes called the Peter and Paul Fast) continues. 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 29th.

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

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Dad ~ On Being a Good Father

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

I'll forever be grateful for the love and support I received from my father. He never let a day pass without giving his two sons assurance of his love and acceptance, and always demonstrated the importance of living an honest life. He was kind to everyone, generous almost to a fault, forgiving the wrongs done to him by others, looking for the good in everyone, and always demonstrating the importance of being true to oneself.

My father converted to the Orthodox Faith while in his mid-seventies, along with my mother. Although I was raised in the Lutheran Church by a devout mother, my dad was not much for "formal church", as he put it.

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His way of worshipping God, he would say, was to enjoy God's creation on the golf course. My dad would say he felt God's presence in nature, but felt his boys needed to attend church just as he'd been required to do when he was a boy (he'd been raised in the Episcopal Church). He always supported my mother in her commitment to our Lutheran parish, where she served for years as the choir director and organist.

I taught Church School and Vacation Church School while still in the eighth grade, and intended to one day become a Lutheran minister. Both my parents were proud of me, and supportive of my future goals. Since my father believed everyone should be free to go with their heart, he never pressed either me, or my brother, to push for a career that would somehow make him proud. He didn't believe any parent should live through their children by forcing them to do what he wants. Rather, he encouraged us to live a life grounded in their own heart of hearts.

It is always a joy for me to meet a father who visibly encourages his children, and speaks proudly of his kids accomplishments even though their life choices may not have been his own ~ a father who encourages his children to be true to themselves. Being a good father, especially in these difficult times of economic and moral decline, is not an easy task. Yet, the father who keeps his eyes focused on Christ, prays for his children, and demonstrates his unconditional love for them, will, in the end, have been a good father.

