

St. George Orthodox Church

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

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

January 13, 2019

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY الظهور الإلهي

(Theophany is an "appearance of God") or sometimes it's called
Epiphany (a sudden perception or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something)

Tone - 8 11th Matins Gospel {John 21:15-25}

Altar Servers: **EVERYONE**

Confessions
8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44
8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91
10:00am

Memorial Service
Trisagion p.183

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship in our Banquet Center!

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. We believe Holy Communion to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Holy Communion can be given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting (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 attending the Divine Liturgy regularly. Please know everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*the Golden-Mouth*}, *please follow the special Hymns on the bilingual sheets available on the Narthex Table.*

Holy Water Icon Bottles

- Elie and Diane Ghattas for the health of her family.

Holy Bread Offerings

- Kh. Suheila Qassis, George, Jalal, and Suheil Abuaita and Family for the health of the family and in loving memory of brother **Hanna** (40 day) and **Imad** Abuaita (40 day, brother of Dr. George).
- Protodeacon Michael and Pamela Bassett for the health of their family and in loving memory of friend **John** Hanley (40 day).
- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Adel** Saseen (21 year, Jeanette's mother), **Joseph, Paul, Ferris, Aminee, Nick, Nabea, Rose, Joseph, Mona, Khouriya Joanne, and Barbara.**
- 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, **Bishop Alexander** (Ottawa and

Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Laila** and **Sahar** Abdallah, **Androlla** Abu Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Manal** Abuaita, **Cesar** and **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Betty** Froberg, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nemer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **Kirolous** Meshraky, **Danny** Mortensen, **Karam** Nassar, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch, **William** Sophica Jr., and **Lois** Teunion; **Nicholas**, **Karen** and newborn twins **Emily** and **Evelyn** Shaheen (January 3rd, Nicholas is the son of Drs. Ron and Kathy).

- We also pray for those who are with child: **Jenny** (Hanna) Abuaita, **Ola** (Michael) Alqazaha, Dr. **Lindsey** (Dr. Ryan) Brunner, **Walaa** (Rami) Khoury, **Natalie** (Shadi) Qumsieh, and **Sandy** (Raad) Qumsieh {daughter of Issa and Esperanza}.

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

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP MEMORIAL MEAL is hosted by *The Family of +Hanna Abuaita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: January 20th and 27th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge and includes: bringing whatever you wish to serve and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$25. For more information, see Manal Abuaita.

7TH ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX WINTER DINNER (SEE FLIER IN LOUNGE!) Thursday, January 17th All proceeds support the Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, MI. We are hosting and begin with **Vespers** sung by the Nuns at 5:30pm; **Social Hour** with *Displays and Gift Shop from the Monastery*, along with *visiting with the nuns* is at 6:15pm; **Dinner and Presentations** begin at 6:45pm with the **Benediction** at 8:30pm. The cost is \$35 for Adults and \$25 for Students. For more information and make reservations, (deadline is TODAY!), please see Deacon Michael.

NEW TIME FOR MONDAY BIBLE STUDIES!

Beginning this week, we are moving our Monday Bible Study from the afternoon to the evening from 6-8pm. The main reason is to provide the opportunity for more people to participate! Come and learn as we continue our study of the *Acts of the Apostles*. If you have never attended, start this month ~ no previous education is necessary! For more information or any questions, please contact Fr. Joe.

CANDLE PRICES This is just a reminder that the bees wax and votive candles are \$1.00 each and the 7-day candles are \$5 each. Parents are asked to be with their children at all times so they do not burn themselves or take too many candles.

PARTICIPATING IN THE BODY AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD (HOLY COMMUNION) Holy Communion is not just for children, it is for ALL of us. Everyone should be prepared by fasting from the evening before, praying to God that He accepts us, and always asking God to forgive our sins, along with the Sacrament of Repentance (Confession) around every 2 months if you are taking Holy Communion every week. The Divine Liturgy IS the partaking of Holy Communion. All of the prayers before and after Holy Communion – from 10 am until the Liturgy ends – are focused on one thing; the partaking of Holy Communion. If you have questions, please speak with Fr. Joe.

PREPARATION FOR THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) There are many different ways to prepare for this Holy Sacrament. One way is based on the Ten Commandments as a starting point. Information in both English and Arabic are available on the Narthex Table – please help yourself!

- **PLEASE put all cell phones on silence while in church, thank you!**
- The **Narthex** (where we light candles) is the entrance to the Church. After you leave the Lounge and come into the Narthex, please remember there is only praying here. If you are late for Divine Services, the Ushers will let you know when you may enter the church – Thank You!

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES AND CHURCH CALENDARS Please pick yours up (and other family members and friends) so we do not have to mail them! If your name is not listed, let Fr. Joe know. The calendars (please take 1 per family) are a gift from our Ladies Auxiliary. Our children will receive their envelopes in Church School. Parents, please make sure your child gets their *Offering Envelopes*.

CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS We can make donations and purchases by Credit or Debit Card. This can be done by coming to the office or calling 810-732-0720 during Office Hours (see below).

- **OFFICE HOURS** Our office manager, Kelly Dotson, works on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (10am-4pm); Tuesdays and Wednesdays (1pm-4pm). Kelly can be reached during office hours at 810-732-0720 or kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com.

AUTHENTIC FAITH:

The Church must proclaim the Good News in all humility and love

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

If She is true to herself, the Church acts with an authority that is grounded in love. She holds within her realm the authority to make her people the children of God. She has the authority to forgive, and the capacity to love. And just as her Head, Jesus Christ, She exists to serve, and not to be served. She guides her people with love, recognizing that each person is unique, and is to be ministered to with an authority that is based on serving, not being served.

Christianity itself is in crisis, and many people are embracing the materialist approach of self-help, rather than ascetic struggle and self-denial. Increased numbers of young

people are turning to atheism, or wandering in a wasteland of spiritual confusion, having witnessed the betrayal of Christian morality and faith by many religious leaders.

“The incarnation of Christ was considered and was celebrated by the Fathers of the Church and the worshiping ecclesiastical community as the abolishing of religion and its transformation into a Church. In fact, the memorable Father John Romanides had said in the most categorical way that Christ became human, in order to free us of the illness of religion.” (Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos).

Until we put off religion, and put on Christ, we will continue to fail in our vocation as servants. Unless the Church demonstrates, with holiness and humility, and in imitation of the Image of Our Savior as servant, the Church will have become nothing but a religion that has lost her way, and the authentic witness of Christ will have been lost.

The youth of today are drawn to authenticity, and until they see Christ in the lives of churchman who are living icons of Christ, and who are loving, humble servants of this very Christ, they will continue looking for truth in a wasteland of spiritual confusion. The Church must proclaim the Good News in all humility and love, for *“the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve”* (Mark 10:45).

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i>) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
Monday	Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 6-8pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 12-2pm SOYO Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm
Thursday	Pan-Orthodox Dormition Dinner 5:30pm
Friday	Pan-Orthodox Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) at St. George 7pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

- If you know of a parishioner who has given birth, fallen ill, or admitted to the hospital, please call the church office or let Father Joe know.
- If you would like to host Coffee Fellowship in memory of a loved one, the occasion of a birthday, a wedding anniversary, or in thanksgiving to God, sign up on the poster in the Lounge or speak with Manal Abuaita.
- If you would like to offer Holy Bread (*Holy Oblation*) in memory of a loved one, for the health or safety of a loved one, or to commemorate a special occasion, you may phone the church office (810-732-0720) by 12 Noon of the Wednesday before. If in memory of a loved one, please state whether you would like to have a **Memorial Service** near the end of Divine Liturgy. It is always appropriate to have a Memorial Service on the 3rd, 9th, and 40th day after one’s falling asleep along with the yearly anniversary. It may also be done on the 6th month anniversary. If you would like to make the Holy Bread, please see/contact Aida Nassar 810-433-1515.



GODPARENT SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 10TH

We are excited to announce the
19th Annual **Godparent Sunday**
sponsored by our Church
School.

This day will allow our Godparents and Godchildren to “reconnect” with each other and help us understand the joy and beauty of that special relationship! Please make note of the following:

2018-19 Church School Theme

- ❖ *Children (or parents) INVITE your Godparents to Divine Liturgy and Meal as soon as possible!*
- ❖ *Godparents INVITE your Godchildren to Divine Liturgy and Meal as soon as possible!*
- ❖ *Godparents and Godchildren should prepare themselves with Confession before February 10th so they can participate in Holy Communion together!*

⇒ An **Invitation** (to be sent by Godparents to Godchildren or Godchildren to Godparents) is on the **previous page**.



***A delicious meal for Godparents, Godchildren, and our
WHOLE parish is being planned!***

Adults -- \$5 Children under 10 years of age -- \$3
~~ All donations will go to our Christian Education Program ~~



Godparent Sunday February 10th

2018-19 Church School Theme

Dear _____,

On Sunday, February 10, 2019 we will be having "Godparent Sunday" at St. George Orthodox Church. It would be an extra special day if you would attend the Divine Liturgy with me. Matins begin at 8:50am and Divine Liturgy begins at 10am. If we are prepared, we can receive Holy Communion together. Fr. Joe is available for confessions on Saturdays after Great Vespers at 5pm, by appointment during the week, or from 8:30am-9:30am on Sunday mornings.

Our St. George Men's Fellowship is having a delicious meal following the service that day. Maybe we could plan on staying and enjoying it together!

I hope that we can be together on this special day!

Love in Christ,
