

# St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

October 18, 2020

## HOLY APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST LUKE

### Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open with a limited number of parishioners each week. Only those who are scheduled may attend. If you are not on the list and would like to be part of the rotation, please contact Fr. Joe (810-732-0720 or [njja@aol.com](mailto:njja@aol.com)). View our livestream at:

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.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*the Golden-Mouth*},  
The **Special Hymns** we sing are on the Bilingual sheets from Fr. Joe's Email.

### Holy Bread Offerings

- Naim Zuraiqat and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of wife, mother, grandmother, and sister **Diana** (40 day).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Eloisa** Rishmawi (+September 15<sup>th</sup>, mother of Emil Rishmawi), **Hanna** (Shawki) Khoury (+September 21<sup>st</sup>), and **Saliba** Totah (+September 24<sup>th</sup>, brother-in-law of Basil Andoni).
- 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, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Sami** and **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **Nabil** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Kendall** Ayoub (brother of Cam Takach), **Naila** Banna, **Emil** J. Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Evelyn** Delbridge, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Shawna** Hale, **Donald** Hawkins, **Nassem** Helal (father of Amani Helal), **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Michael** Khal, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Michael** Silpoch, **William** Sophiea Jr, and **Lois** Teunion; **Philip**, **Katie** [daughter of Bill and Sue Shaheen], and newborn **Sophia** Quackenboss (September 26<sup>th</sup>).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Juliana** (Essa) AbuAita, **Nawal** (John) Abud [son of Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee], Dr. **Lindsey** [Farah] (Dr. Ryan) Brunner, and **Jenny** [Abueita] (Tony) Salsa.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL HAS BEGUN! we want ALL of our St. George children in our education program. To make this happen, we need email addresses for all children and their parents! Please send them to Director Janet Abueita ([cooeita@aol.com](mailto:cooeita@aol.com)) as soon as possible so none

of our children are left out and they can enjoy and learn about our life in Christ. Every month, our registered students will receive a packet of fun things in the mail. Then on the last Sunday of each month our teachers will have a CS Zoom Sunday at 12 Noon! Be a part of the FUN and send your email addresses to Janet TODAY!

**OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS** Though everyone cannot attend church due to limited capacity or other reasons, **our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still very badly needed**. PLEASE help our/your parish by continuing to bring or send your offerings to St. George. You can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line 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 FOLLOW OUR PROCEDURES** Because of serious health concerns, **we all must wear masks at all times**. Please remember we can venerate icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching at this time*) and the same for the priest's hand and the chalice at Holy Communion. Further, **only our clergy and chanters may sing**. When you come to church, the front is roped off so the singing of the clergy and chanters can keep everyone safe (*singing, like sneezing and coughing, can propel air droplets 20 feet!*) ~ if you want to sing, please do it **very softly and with your mask on**.

### COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i> ) is also observed on Wednesday and Friday.	
Monday	<b>Bible Study:</b> <i>Gospel of John the Evangelist and Theologian</i>	6-8pm
Wednesday	<b>Arabic/English Bible Study:</b> <i>Gospel of John</i>	12-2pm
	<b>The Relationship Project</b>	7:30pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b>	5pm

## PARKING LOT PLEDGES: WE NEED YOU!

Our goal is \$80,000 (we have raised almost \$43,000) and we are so thankful for those who have donated and pledged. If you have not already, please pick up a form, fill it out, and send it to the church. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings. Again, thank you to our donors!

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud  
 Rose Ayoub  
 Dn. Mike & Pam Bassett  
 St. George Preschool  
 Jamal and Manal Abuaita  
 Khader and Lucy Abuaita  
 Anwar and Janet Abueita  
 Laila Abud  
 Anonymous

Ladies Auxiliary  
 Tony Daoud  
 Ayman and Wafaa Elias  
 John and Theresa Farah  
 Betty Froberg  
 Dr. David & May Gantos  
 Subdeacon George and  
 Suad Gantous

Ronald Haddad  
 Elias and Amirah Hanna  
 George & Jeanette Nassif  
 Fadi & Evette Rishmawi  
 Bill and Sue Shaheen  
 Richard Shaheen  
 Bob and Lois Teunion

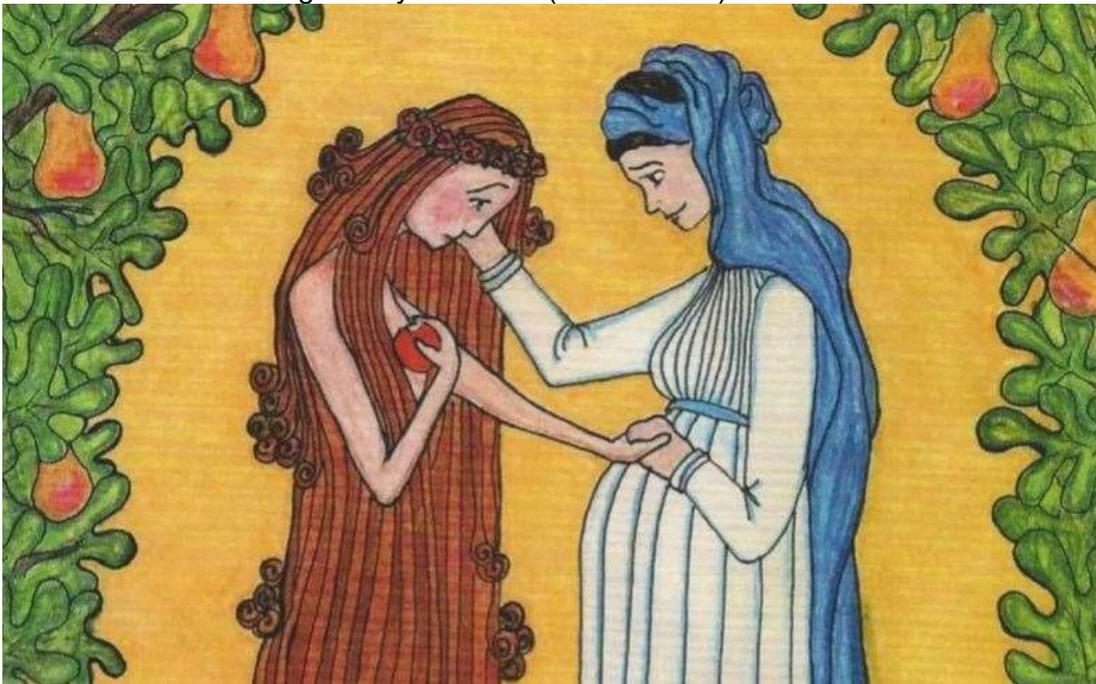
## Mary the Mother of God ~ *The place of the Holy Virgin in the life of a Christian*

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

The Holy Virgin is a stumbling block for many Protestants looking into Orthodoxy. The idea that this woman described in the Gospels in such humble terms could be called "Mother of God" seems unbiblical to them. She was never called Mother of God in the Bible, they say, so why would she be given such an exalted title? She was, they think, simply the mother of Jesus.

From the earliest of times the Church has seen fit to call her exalted among women, even more exalted than the heavenly hosts. Her role in the history of salvation has been seen as pivotal from the time of the very first century for her humility and obedience before God made her the "New Eve".

The Virgin Mary with child (Jesus Christ) consoles Eve



Whereby death entered the world through the disobedience of the first mother, Eve, the Holy Virgin became the New Eve the moment she answered, "*be it done according to Thy word*" (Luke 1:38), agreeing to be the Mother of Christ.

*continued* ☞



The very first icon was painted depicting Mary holding the child Jesus by none other than the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke whom we remember on this day. The Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God at left was painted on a board from the table at which the Savior ate together with His All-Pure Mother and Righteous Joseph. The Mother of God, upon seeing this image, exclaimed, *“Henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed.”* (Luke 1:48), *“the grace of both My Son and Me shall be with this icon.”* She was thus recognized by the Church for her pivotal role with the title Theotokos, which means Birth-giver of God or God-bearer.

The Council of Ephesus, the Third Ecumenical Council out of seven, decreed in 431AD that Mary is *Theotokos* because her son Jesus is one person who is both God and man, divine and human. To call her only the mother of Jesus was seen as

heretical because to do so would be to suggest that Jesus was simply a man, apart from being God at the same time. The balance of being both God and Man was thus preserved by the Church from the earliest of times.

The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to announce to the Virgin the birth of the Savior: *“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women.”* (Luke 1:28) This angelic salutation forms a part of the hymn of the Church most frequently sung in her honor, in imitation of the words of this angelic messenger of God. Elizabeth, the Virgin’s cousin, considered it an honor for the Mother of her Lord to visit her. *“And why is this granted me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?”* (Luke 1:43) There is no difference between saying “Mother of God” and “Mother of the Lord”. Surely, God is the Lord! (Psalm 118:27) During her visit to Elizabeth, the Blessed Virgin spoke the words that form the principal hymn sung in her honor at the Matins service.

*“My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.”* (Luke 1: 47-48)

Elizabeth, having been “filled with the Holy Spirit”, cried out: “Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.” (Luke 1:41, 42) This honor given the Theotokos by her cousin is exactly what all generations of the Church do when they call her blessed. When Jesus beheld His mother and His disciple John standing by the cross, He entrusted John with her care, but He also established a new spiritual relationship between them in saying to the disciple: “Behold thy Mother!” (John 19:27) In making this declaration, our Lord made His Mother the Mother of all Christians!

The Virgin Mary and John the Evangelist at the Cross of Christ

