

December 1, 2019

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ PROPHET NAHUM

Tone - 7 2nd Matins Gospel {Mark 16:1-8}

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*},
we sing the following Special Hymns for today:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 7

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 7 (*same as above*)

حَطَمْتَ بِصَلَابِكَ الْمَوْتَ، وَقَنَحْتَ لِلصَّنِّ الْفِرْدَوْسَ، وَحَوَّلْتَ نُوْحَ حَامِلَاتِ الطَّيِّبِ، وَأَمَرْتَ رُسُلَكَ أَنْ يَكْرَزُوا، بِأَنَّكَ قَدْ قُمْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، مَانِحاً الْعَالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعَظْمَى.

Troparion for St. George—Tone 4

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings: Victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

بما أنك للمأسورين محرر ومعتق، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضد وناصر، وللمرضى طيبب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion in Preparation for the Nativity (Birth) of Christ—Tone 3

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice O earth at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by His

own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

اليوم العذراء تأتي إلى المغارة لتلد الكلمة الذي قبل الدهور ولادة لا تُفسر ولا يُنطق بها فافرحي أيها المسكونة إذا سمعتي ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة الذي سيظهر لنا بمشيئته طفلاً جديداً وهو الله قبل الدهور.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 2:14-22* {24th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Luke 18:35-43* {14th Sunday of St. Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Ily Haddad and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of father, brother, grandfather, and uncle Roland Haddad (40 day).
- We also pray for the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Raja** Bannoura (October 29th, Beit Sahour).
- 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** (Diocese of Ottawa, Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Sahar** Abdallah, **Housam** Abousamra, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Georgette** Abueita, **Nayfeh** Alsahouri, **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Shawna** Hale, **Daisy** Isaac, **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Adam** Odeh, **Aida** Raffoul, **Reem** Ramirez, **Eva** Saseen (daughter of Nicholas), **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **William** Sophia Jr., and **Lois** Teunion; **Michael**, **Jennifer** {daughter of James and Maggie David}, and newborn **Mela Marie** Habbo (November 12th); **Noti**, **Kari** {daughter of John and Theresa Farah}, and newborn **Matthew** Mikroudis (November 16th). **Ghassan** Al-Khoury and **Jasanta** Kahush who are to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Renea** (Rakan) Bayouk and **Dina** (Laith) Maymoun.

Communion Hymn (for the Lord's Day)

(Refrain) Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

(Verse) Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! (Refrain)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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).

- Since Church School is in session, please allow our Staff and then our Children to receive Holy Communion first! As always, please follow our Ushers' directions ~ thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by the *Roland Haddad and Ily Hill Family*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: December 8th and 29th ~ 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.

HELP TO BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS! For Christmas, our parish is participating in the **North End Soup Kitchen Angel Tree** this year. Sixteen children are looking for "angels" to brighten their Christmas. Gift range is between \$20 and \$30. Attach the provided gift tag that has the child's name, the code number to the gift, and place in gift bags. Please return the gifts by December 8th. The Angel Tree with tags can be picked up during Coffee Fellowship. If you have any questions, please speak with our coordinator May (810-869-4012), Gabby, or Lauren Gantos. Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

Parish Christmas Program ~ Saturday, December 14th

- ▶▶ Great Vespers and a Special Visitor at 5pm
 - ▶▶ Each age group of our Church School will be singing two songs. **PARENTS**, ask your children what songs they are singing and practice at home! If they can play an instrument or sing a solo, please see Janet Abueita TODAY!
 - ▶▶ Lenten Potluck Dinner (*sign up with Amal Abu-Aita or Evette Rishmawi*)
 - ▶▶ Family Night (karaoke, trivia, games for everyone!)
- ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED!**

PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY Unfortunately, we did not have a quorum and could not have our annual parish meeting. It has been rescheduled for January 12, 2020~please plan on attending! **RESCHEDULED GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROXIES** are given to those who cannot attend the meeting because of medical treatment or illness, those confined to their homes, or those with written verification of a prior travel commitment. A VOTING member who cannot attend the meeting may have another VOTING member vote on their behalf. PLEASE NOTE: To better our procedures for Proxies, they are available in the church office beginning on Sunday, December 15th and must be returned back to the office by Sunday, January 5th. Proxies received after January 5th will be considered invalid. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of our **Credentials Committee** (Anwar Abueita, Fadi Rishmawi, or Fr. Joe).

ST. GEORGE WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY All Women of St. George are invited to attend this Christmas Lunch Party at the Redwood Steakhouse (5304 Gateway Center, Flint, MI 48507 off Hill Road and US 23) on Sunday, January 5th at 1:30pm. The cost is \$25 per person, must be paid in advance to reserve your spot, and the deadline for reservations is Sunday, December 29th. To reserve your spot or for more information, contact Hiam Bathish (810-238-2152) or Wafaa Elias (810-630-0639). There will be no gift exchange, but please make a donation to our Church as an extra Christmas Gift!

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly parishioner offerings (not including other income) need to be \$4,792 to meet our 2019 Budget. On November 24th, our offerings were \$2,510 so we were short \$2,282 😞! Please support the good works of St. George!

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.

- The **Narthex** (where we light candles) is the entrance to the Church. After you leave the Lounge and enter the Narthex, remember there are people praying in the Church. Any talking can be heard 😊. If you are late for Divine Services and the doors are closed, please pray with us and the Ushers will let you know when you may enter the church – Thank You!

COMING EVENTS

This Week	On Friday, November 15 th , we began the traditional forty-day CHRISTMAS FAST in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Christ on December 25 th . The Fast is divided into two periods. The <u>first period</u> is until December 19 th when the traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, oil and their by-products</i>) is observed on all days except Tuesdays and Thursdays when <i>wine and oil</i> are allowed and Saturdays and Sundays when <i>fish, wine, and oil</i> are allowed. There is no fasting on Thanksgiving Day.
Monday	Bible Study: <i>Gospel of John the Evangelist and Theologian</i> 6-8pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Bible Study: <i>Gospel of John the Theologian</i> 12-2pm Altar Society Decorating 2pm Christmas Fast Service 6pm SOYO Wednesday follows until 8:30pm
Thursday	Combined Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas 6pm <i>at St. Nicholas (2143 South Center Road, Burton 810-744-0070)</i>
Friday	Pan-Orthodox Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) at St. George 7pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

The Mystical Supper

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

At the Mystical Supper in the Upper Room Jesus gave a dramatically new meaning to the food and drink of the sacred meal. He identified Himself with the bread and wine: *“Take, eat; this is my Body. Drink of it all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant”* (Matthew 26:26-28).

Food had always sustained the earthly existence of everyone, but in the Eucharist, the Lord gave us a distinctively unique human food – bread and wine – that by the power of the Holy Spirit, has become our gift of life. Consecrated and sanctified, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. In the Eucharistic meal God enters into such a communion of life that He feeds humanity with His own being, while still remaining distinct. In the words of St. Maximos the Confessor, Christ, *“transmits to us divine life, making Himself eatable.”* The Author of life shatters the limitations of our createdness. Christ acts so that *“we might become sharers of divine nature”* (2 Peter 1:4).

From the moment Christ instituted this Mystery, the Eucharist became the center of the Church’s life and her most profound prayer. The Eucharist is both the source and the summit of our life in Christ. It is in the Eucharist that the Church is changed from a mere human community into the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and the People of God. The Eucharist is the pre-eminent sacrament, as it completes all the others and recapitulates the entire economy of salvation. Through the Eucharist, our new life in Christ is renewed and increased. The Eucharist imparts life and the life it gives is the life of God.