

St. George Orthodox Church

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V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

December 10, 2017

27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MARTYRS MENAS, EUGRAPHOS & HERMOGENES OF ALEXANDRIA

Tone 2

5th Matins Gospel {Luke 24:12-35}

Altar Servers: **EVERYONE** {Shane Gantos, captain}

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.

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 2

When Thou did submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou did destroy hell with Thy Godly power! And when Thou did raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ Thou giver of Life, Glory to Thee, O our God!

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 2 (*same as above*)

عندما انحدرت إلى الموت أيها الحياة الذي لا يموت. حينئذٍ أمت الجحيم ببرق لا هوتك. وعندما أقمت الأموات من تحت الترى. صرّح نَحْوَك جميعُ القوَاتِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ. أيها المسيحُ الإلهُ معطي الحياة المَجْدُ لَكَ.

Troparion for Saints Menas, Eugraphos, Hermogenes—Tone 8

Since they had slain through their abstinence and struggles the fiery ragings and fierce motions of the passions, the staunch Martyrs of Christ God laid hold on the graces to drive off the pains and illnesses of the sick and work wonders both while living and after death. Strange indeed is the miracle: that these bare bones should pour forth such overflowing streams of cures. Glory be to our only God.

إِنَّ شُهَدَاءَ الْمَسِيحِ، إِذْ أَنْهَمُ أَمَاتُوا بِالْإِمْسَاكِ وَتَبَاتِ الْأَهْوَاءِ الْمُحْرِقَةِ وَحَرَكَاتِهَا، نَالُوا نِعْمَةً، لِيَطْرُدُوا أَسْقَامَ الْمَرْضَى، وَيَصْنَعُوا الْعَجَائِبَ فِي الْحَيَاةِ وَبَعْدَ الْمَمَاتِ. فَبِالْحَقِيقَةِ إِنَّهُ لَعَجَبٌ مُسْتَعْرَبٌ أَنْ عِظَامًا مُجَرَّدَةً تُفِيضُ الْأَشْفِيَّةَ، فَالْمَجْدُ لِإِلَهِنَا وَحْدَهُ.

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 أيتها المسكونة إذا سمعتِ ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة الذي سيظهر لنا بمشيئته طفلاً جديداً وهو الله قبل الدهور.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 6:10-17* {27th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Luke 13:10-17* {10th Sunday of St. Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Zahra Abuaita and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of husband, father, and grandfather **Hanna** (December 6th).
- St. George Parish for the health of our families especially the members of our **Choir and Chanters** -- *May God grant them many years!* and in loving memory of their departed members especially: **Yacoub Abueita, Betty Brackett, Kamelia Brackett, Bishara David, Laura Gantos, Norma Isaac Rynek, George Jamra, Alex Khouri, Jean Khouri, John Khouri, Dolores Khouri, Marty Newman, Thelma Nickola, Betty Salim, Norma Salim Lazar, Sylvia Sophiea, and Gloria Ward.**
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Qusta Qassis** (+November 8th, nephew of George Ishaq and Issa Odeh), **Jamil Nassar** (+November 16th), and **John Takach** (+November 25th, father-in-law of Camela Takach).
- 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, Androlla Abu Aita, Asma Abuaita** (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Shafiq Abuaitah, Jane Abueita, Abla Abufarha, Ceasar and Naila Banna, Emil Bathish, Vera Farah, Mariam Ghanim** (Manal's mother), **Phyllis Good, Carol Haddad, Roland Haddad, Salwa Haddad, Daisy Isaac, Daniel Isaac, John Isaac, Nawal Iseid, Sally Joseph, Nicola Khoury, Danny Mortensen, George and Renee Nassif, Aida Raffoul, Elaine Shaheen, Mary Salim, Michael Silpoch, William Sophiea Jr.; Lameese Porada** and newborn **Avery Elizabeth** who were brought back into the life of our parish through the Prayers of Churching.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Ola Alqazaha** and **Ghaida Awad.**

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Fouad and Souad Abuaita and Family*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: December 31st ~ 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, please see Manal Abuaita. *During the Christmas Fast (November 15th - December 24th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, or their by-products are to be served.*

THE SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) If you are 8 years or older, have been away from the Church, or have not had Confession in the last 2 months and desire to come back and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, please remember you must offer a confession of your sins first. During this time of preparation during the ***Christmas Fast*** is a perfect opportunity. Father Joe is not the only Orthodox priest in the area and if you would prefer to go for confession to one of the other local priests, feel free to do so (*please just let Fr. Joe know*): Fr. Angelo Maggos from Assumption Church (810-771-4611) Fr. Gabriel Bilas from St. Mary Magdalene (810-750-1401) or Fr. Matthew Butrie from St. Nicholas Church (810-744-0070). The important thing is not who hears your confession, but that you participate in the Holy Sacrament on a regular basis. **Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life (*Christ in Holy Communion*).** (*Revelation 22:14*)

CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS We are now able to take Credit or Debit Card purchases and donations. If you would like to make a purchase or a donation, please come to the office during normal Office Hours (see below) or call to do it by phone.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS Help decorate our church for our Lord's Nativity (Christmas) by donating a Poinsettia or two. Names of the Living and Departed will be remembered when Fr. Joe and Dn. Mike prepare the Holy Gifts of Bread and Wine for the Christmas Liturgy (evening of December 24th). Forms are on the narthex table -- *Thank You!*

PARISH PRE-CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT, THIS SATURDAY! Great Vespers at 4pm, followed by the greatest story ever told. Don't be late or you may miss a very special visitor. Our Lenten Meal follows (*below*), please see Anaam Abueita or Evette Rishmawi to sign-up. To help *brighten their day*, we will make Christmas cards and cookies for our shut-ins and our local soup kitchen. There will also be Karaoke, Games, and a Christmas movie playing in the lounge (popcorn included!). The Family Nights are sponsored by our Church School. REMEMBER, this night is for EVERYONE in our St. George FAMILY! Thank you and God bless you for all you do for our children! If you have any questions, see our Church School Director Janet Abueita.

Lenten Potluck Dinner ~ please bring according to the first letter of your last name:

<u>A-J</u>	<u>K-R</u>	<u>S-Z</u>
Main Dish	Side Dish or Bread	Drink or Desserts

ST. GEORGE WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER All Women of St. George are invited to attend our annual Christmas Dinner at the Redwood Steakhouse (5304 Gateway Center, Flint, MI 48507) on Wednesday, December 27th at 5:30pm. The cost is \$25 per person and must be paid in advance to reserve your spot (deadline is Friday, Dec. 22nd. To reserve your spot or for more information, contact Janet Abueita (810-691-0956) or Areen Bathish (810-691-0722). There will be no gift exchange, but you may make a donation to our Church as a Christmas Offering.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AT ST. GEORGE! (see flier on Narthex Table) A wonderful evening is planned! For more information or to make paid reservations, please contact Shouky Zerka (810-287-1601) or Elie Damouni (810-730-8959) TODAY! Adults: \$60; 12 years and younger: \$30. Paid reservations MUST BE PURCHASED by December 25th!

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly offerings need to be \$5,630 to meet our 2018 Budget. On December 3rd, our offerings were \$3,080, so we were short \$2,550 ☹

COMING EVENTS

This Week	On Wednesday, 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.
Monday	English Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 3-5pm Altar Society Decorating for Christmas 5:30pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 12:30-2pm Nativity Fast Prayer Service 6pm SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm
Thursday	Parish Council Dinner Meeting 6:15pm Any parishioner is welcome to come, observe, and make comments at the appropriate time on the Agenda.
Saturday	Great Vespers & Parish Pre-Xmas Family Night (see above) 4pm <u>NOTE TIME!</u>



Our parish is collecting "COATS FOR KIDS" to help the Salvation Army with their distribution in time for winter. You can help by bringing new and/or clean, gently used coats, along with winter accessories (mittens, gloves, hats, snow boots, snow pants, etc.) to be placed in the box in the hallway. Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

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.

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

➤ 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.

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

December 10, 2017

Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of Our God-protected Archdiocese:

Blessings and greetings to all of you in the Name of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ!

One of the hallmarks of our Orthodox Christian faith is the beauty of our worship. Our ecclesiastical music, when done with prayer and skill, can elucidate the rich theology of our hymnography in such a way that worshippers can exclaim – as did the emissaries sent by Saint Vladimir – “we know not whether we are in heaven or on earth!”

Because we owe such a tremendous amount of gratitude to our choirs and our chanters, we set aside the second Sunday of December to honor them for the key role they play in our liturgical life. I offer thanks especially for the work of the Department of Sacred Music in working so diligently to expand the repertoire of music and to make it accessible to all. In addition, the department offers the Sacred Music Institute to help our choir members and chanters learn more about this sacred art and fine tune their God-given talents.

To support this work, which is so vital our Orthodox Christian liturgical lives, I ask each parish of this Archdiocese to offer a second collection on December 10, 2017 and to offer special recognition to those who are fulfilling this sacred ministry.

Wishing you all a holy and grace-filled continuation of the fast and joyous feast of the Nativity, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

Christmas Decorations



I would like to donate _____
Poinsettia plants @ \$20.00 each.

Poinsettias = \$ _____

Other decorations = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

At the Prothesis service where the bread and wine is prepared to offer at the Christmas Liturgy (which becomes the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion), Father will remember the 'Living' and 'Departed' members of our family and friends.

Please print clearly!

For the health of:

In loving memory of:

From: _____

Deadline: Sunday, December 17th

Make checks payable to *St. George Orthodox Church/Decorations*

Please include this form and your donation in a **Pew Envelope**
and place it in the Sunday Offering Tray – Thank You!