

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

December 3, 2017

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPHET ZEPHANIAH

Tone 1 4th Matins Gospel {*Luke 24:1-12*}

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 1

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud to Thee, O giver of life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy kingdom! Glory to Thy providence, O Thou who alone art the lover of mankind.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 1 (*same as above*)

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حُفِظَ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ. قُمْتَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيُّهَا الْمَخْلُصُ، مَا نَحْنُ الْعَالَمُ الْحَيَاةَ. لِذَلِكَ قَوَاتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، هَتُّفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهِبِ الْحَيَاةَ. الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِنَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِكَ.

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.

بِمَا أَنْكَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرَّرٌ وَمَعْتَقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ، وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ، وَعَنْ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مَكَافِحٌ وَمَحَارِبٌ، أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي الشَّهَادَةِ جَاوَرِجِيُوسُ اللَّابِسِ الظَّفَرِ، تَشْفَعْ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ إِلَهِهِ فِي خِلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

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 سمعت ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة الذي سيظهر لنا بمشيئته طفلاً جديداً وهو الله قبل الدهور.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 5:8-19* {26th Sunday after Pentecost}

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

Holy Bread Offerings

- Emile and Hiam Bathish for their health and the health of their children, grandchildren, and great grandchild and in loving memory of **Jihan Damouni** (40 day, sister of Emil), parents **Yacoub** and **Marie Farah** and **Naif** and **Julia Bathish**.
- Douglas and Sandy Thomas for the health of their family and in loving memory of Sandy's parents **Jean** (3 year) and **Alex Khouri** (25 year).
- Janett Abuaita and Family for the health of their family especially husband **Philip** and daughter-in-law **Manal** 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: **Ghadeer Al-Awash** (+Oct. 30th, cousin of Raeda Andoni), **Qusta Qassis** (+Nov. 8th, nephew of George Ishaq and Issa Odeh), **Jamil Nassar** (+Nov. 16th), and **John Takach** (+Nov. 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), **Hanna Abuaita**, **Shafiqah Abuaitah**, **Jane Abueita**, **Abla Abufarha**, **Cesar** and **Naila Banna**, **Emil Bathish**, **Tom David**, **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**, **John & Nakhleh Khoury**, **Nicola Khoury**, **Danny Mortensen**, **Basem** and **Laura Nassar**, **George** and **Renee Nassif**, **Aida Raffoul**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **Mary Salim**, **Michael Silpoch**, **William Sophiea Jr.**; **Janeen Farah** and newborn **Georgio Aiden** who were brought back into the life of our parish through the Prayers of Churching; **Lameese Porada** and newborn **Avery Elizabeth** (November 2nd); **Luka Mitri** who was brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and reception of his First Communion.

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 *Jamal Abuaita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: December 10th and 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.*

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT takes place every 2nd Friday of the month (THIS Friday, December 8th). Registration is at 6:30pm and play begins at 7pm. If you would like to help for a couple of hours, volunteers would be greatly appreciated. If you want to play, that's even better! Please contact our coordinator Hiam Andoni (810-813-1076 or handoni@hotmail.com) for more information.

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*)

HELP TO BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS! This year for Christmas, our parish is participating in the **North End Soup Kitchen Angel Tree**. 30 children are looking for "angels" to brighten their Christmas. Gift range is between \$20 and \$30. Attach the provided gift tag which has the child's name, the code number to the gift, and place in gift bags. Please return the gifts by NEXT Sunday, December 10th. The Angel Tree with tags will be in our Banquet Center during Coffee Fellowship. If you have any questions, please speak with our coordinator May Gantos (586-531-8120). Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

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.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly offerings need to be \$5,630 to meet our 2018 Budget. On November 26th, our offerings were \$1,469, so we were short \$3,261 ☹

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!*

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.
TODAY	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting in the Lounge after Divine Liturgy
Monday	English Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 3-5pm
Tuesday	Combined Pan-Orthodox Evening Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas of Myra 6pm <i>at St. Nicholas (2143 South Center Road, ½ mile south of Lippincott Burton 810-744-0070)</i>
Wednesday	Arabic/English Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 12:30-2pm Nativity Fast Prayer Service 6pm SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm
Friday	Euchre Tournament 6:30pm OCF at St. George 7pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm





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!

DECEMBER 3RD ~ PROPHET ZEPHANIAH

The Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias) was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah and the Prophetess Oldama. This Prophet was from the tribe of Simeon, and was the ninth of the Twelve Minor Prophets of the Old Testament. He was the son of Chusi (Cushi), from the tribe of Levi, or according to some, the great-grandson of King Hezekias. He prophesied in the years of Josias, who reigned in the years 641-610 before Christ. His book of prophecy is divided into three chapters. His name means "Yah is darkness." The prophet lived at the royal court, where he preached repentance and helped King Josiah eliminate idol-worship.

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- **REGULAR OFFICE HOURS** Our secretary, Kelly Dotson, works on 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.



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S. Center Rd.
Burton, MI 48519
810-744-0070

Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 9, 2017
10 am - 1 pm

Ethnic Cookies and Many Other Baked Goods

Cookies Sold by the Pound

Stock up your freezer for the Holidays

Hot Beverages

