

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

February 11, 2018

3RD PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY: SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (MEATFARE SUNDAY)

صلاة السحر لأحد مرافع اللحم

HIEROMARTYR BLAISE, BISHOP OF SEBASTIA

Tone 3 3rd Matins Gospel {Mark 16:9-20}

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.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*The Golden-Mouth*}, we sing these special hymns:

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has done a mighty act with His own arm. He has trampled down death by death and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades granting the world the great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3 (same as above)

لتفرح السماويات وتبتهج الأرضيات. لأن الرب صنع عزا" بساعده، ووطئ الموت بالموت، وصار بكرًا" للاموات. وأنقذنا من جوف الجحيم، ومنح العالم الرحمة العظمى.

Troparion for St. Blaise—Tone 4

You have become like the Apostles in their situation, a successor to their throne, finding indeed the intelligent ladder, O God-inspired. Therefore, you have followed the Word of God in righteousness and striven unto blood (*martyrdom*) for the faith. O martyr among priests, Blaise, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

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 for Sunday of the Last Judgment—Tone 1

When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire flows before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge.

إذا أتيت يا الله على الأرض بمجد، فترتعد منك البرايا بأسرها، ونهر النار يجري أمام المنبر، والصحف تُفتح والخفايا تُشهر، فنجنني حينئذٍ من النار التي لا تُطفأ وأهلني للوقوف عن يمينك، أيها الديان العادل.

Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2* {3rd Pre-Lenten Sunday: Last Judgment}

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 25:31-46* {3rd Pre-Lenten Sunday: Last Judgment}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Dannie and Lubna Jones and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Rudy Jones** (3 day, Dannie's father).
- Protodeacon Michael and Pamela Bassett for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Stanley Brooks** (5 years, brother-in-law).
- Ayman and Wafaa Elias for the health of their family and in loving memory of son **Elias** (15 years).
- Khaled and Sally Abuaita for the health of their family, their Godchildren, and especially **Hanna**.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Deacon David** Lazar (+January 6th, husband of the late Norma Lee [Salim]) and **Ricky** Namey (+January 29th, cousin of Leslee Abud).
- 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**a Abuaitah, **Jane** Abueita, **Abla** Abufarha, **Maher** Alatrash, **Cesar** and **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Alex** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elaine** Gejoff, **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** Haddad, **Salwa** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Daniel** Isaac, **John** Isaac, **Nawal** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh**, **Nicola**, and **Saba** Khoury, **Chuck** Koory, **Danny** Mortensen, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Deborah** and **Mary** Salim, **Michael** Silpoch, **William** Sophia Jr.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Dunyia** Abufarha (daughter-in-law of Ibrahim and Eman) 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

GODPARENT SUNDAY BREAKFAST Our Church School is having a delicious breakfast today in celebration and in honor of all of our Godparents and Godchildren. Adults \$5 each; Children 10 and under \$3 each. Everyone is invited!!! Any profits go to our Education Program.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: February 18th and 25th ~ 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. *Cheesefare Sunday is February 18th, no meat products are to be served. During the Great Fast (February 19th – April 7th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

FR. JOE—OUT-OF-TOWN Fr. Joe will be attending the national Antiochian Women’s meeting at the Antiochian Village on Friday, February 16th to Saturday February 17th. He will be returning late Saturday evening so Divine Services on Sunday will take place as normal. For emergencies while Fr. Joe is away, please call Protodeacon Michael Bassett (St. George, 989-627-9580) Fr. Angelo Maggos (Assumption, 810-771-4611), Fr. Gabriel Bilas (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-750-1401) or Fr. Matthew Butrie (St. Nicholas, 810-744-0070). Please pray for Fr. Joe’s safe travels.

FORGIVENESS VESPERS Next Sunday at 12:30pm, we celebrate this beautiful service helping us begin the Great Fast on the right foot by forgiving each other. We cannot love each other without forgiving each other! As one of the hymns says: *Let us set out with joy upon the season of the Fast, and prepare ourselves for spiritual combat. Let us purify our soul and cleanse our bodies; and as we fast from food, let us abstain also from every passion. Rejoicing in the virtues of the Spirit, may we persevere with love, and so be counted worthy to see the solemn Passion of Christ our God, and with great spiritual gladness to behold His Holy Pascha.* Plan on attending! [ALTAR SOCIETY MEMBERS: During this service we change the candles and cloths to Lenten purple – please plan on attending.]

WHAT IS FORGIVENESS? To stop feeling anger toward someone who has done something wrong; to stop blaming others; to stop feeling anger about something; to forgive someone for what they have done to us.

MAINTENANCE FUND As everyone was reminded at our recent 2017 Parish General Assembly, all of our families are asked to give \$100 a year ~ above and beyond their regular offerings ~ to help with the constant cost of fixing and repairing things around our complex. This is different than the Improvement Fund envelope. If you used the envelope and put \$100 or more, it was applied to the Maintenance Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

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

➤ **OFFICE HOURS** Our secretary, 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.

COMING EVENTS

This Week	Today is Meat-Fare Sunday , the last day we eat <i>meat, poultry, and their by-products</i> until Pascha (April 8 th). <i>Eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products</i> are allowed on all days this week.
Monday	Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 3-5pm
Tuesday	Altar Society Dinner Meeting see <i>Theresa Farah for information</i> 6pm Pan-Orthodox Book Club at St. George 6-8pm
Wednesday	Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 12:30-2pm 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	No Great Vespers

FEBRUARY 11TH ~ SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (ALSO MEATFARE SUNDAY)

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will "*render to every man according to his deeds*" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love; it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting gradually prepares us for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611
St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720
St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 South Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1701
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

Come, Join Us for 2018 Lenten Retreat!

Saturday, March 3, 2018

at

St. George Orthodox Church ❖ 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507

Healing Our Diseases: The Church as a Spiritual Hospital

Presented by the **Very Reverend
Father Josiah Trenham, PhD.**

A native Southern Californian, Father Josiah attended Westminster Seminary California, receiving his M.Div. in 1992 while studying under some of the most influential teachers in the Reformed tradition. In 1993, he was ordained to the Holy Priesthood of the Orthodox Church and in 2004 he was awarded a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Durham, England. Father Josiah has served as pastor of St. Andrew Orthodox Church in Riverside, California, since 1998. He is an Adjunct Professor of Theology at St. Katherine College in San Marcos, California (2010 – present), and was an Adjunct Professor at California Baptist University (2003-2010). Father Josiah has published numerous articles and two books and is also the founder of Patristic Nectar Publications, a non-profit ministry. His weekly homilies are available on his podcast, The Arena, produced by Ancient Faith Radio.



10am – 11:30am	Presentation #1
11:30am – 12pm	Breakout Session for Discussion
12:15pm	Lunch (free will offering)
1pm - 2:30pm	Presentation #2
2:30pm – 3pm	Breakout Session for Discussion
3pm-3:30pm	Presentation #3
3:30pm – 4pm	Breakout Session for Discussion
4pm – 4:30pm	Wrap-up
5pm	Great Vespers and Confessions

**RSVP by calling 810-732-0720 or
email stgeorgeflint@gmail.com by February 28th**

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*