

# ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

December 22, 2024



5191 LENNON ROAD  
FLINT, MI 48507  
OFFICE: (810) 732-0720  
WEB SITE: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

**SATURDAY: VESPER SERVICE @ 400 P.M.**

**SUNDAY: ORTHROS @ 8:50 A.M. - DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.**

**CONFESSION BY APPOINTMENT**

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Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. If you are a first-time visitor, please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you after liturgy, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship! 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. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy.

**Guidelines for Receiving Holy Communion for Orthodox Christians:** Orthodox Christians fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by receiving Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly prepared to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should fast (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 striving to always love God and their neighbor. Frequent communion and regular confession are recommended for all faithful Orthodox Christians.

**For other Christians:** We welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signify-

Ing a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (antidoron) which will be given when coming forward to venerate (kiss) the Holy Cross and receive the final blessing from the priest. Again, welcome!

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (THE GENEALOGY)  
GREAT-MARTYR ANASTASIA THE DELIVERER FROM POTIONS AND HER  
TEACHER THE MARTYR CHRYSOGONOS**

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE**

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 unto 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.

**APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN TONE FOUR**

Be thou ready, Bethlehem, Eden hath opened unto all. Ephrathah, prepare thyself, for now, behold, the Tree of Life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the holy Virgin. Her womb hath proved a true spiritual Paradise, wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, and as we eat thereof we shall all live, and shall not die as did Adam. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime.

**APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO**

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

**TROPARIAN OF ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR**

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.

**KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE**

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the

Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

### THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Nativity)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

الرسالة (للأحد الذي قبل عيد الميلاد)

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

لَأَنَّكَ عَدَلْتَ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (11: 9-10؛ 32-40)

يَا إِخْوَتِي، بِالْإِيمَانِ نَزَلَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ فِي أَرْضِ الْمِيْعَادِ نُزُولَهُ فِي أَرْضٍ غَرِيبَةٍ، وَسَكَنَ فِي خِيَامٍ مَعَ اسْحَقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ الْوَارِثَيْنِ مَعَهُ لِلْمُوعَدِ بَعَيْنِهِ. لِأَنَّهُ انْتَضَرَ الْمَدِينَةَ ذَاتِ الْأُسُسِ الَّتِي صَانَعَهَا وَبَارَكُهَا. وَمَاذَا

أَقُولُ أَيْضاً؟ إِنَّهُ يَضِيقُ بِي الْوَقْتُ إِنْ أُخْبِرْتُ عَنْ جِدْعُونَ، وَبَارَاقَ، وَشَمَشُونَ، وَيَفْتَاخَ، وَدَاوَدَ، وَصَمُوئِيلَ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، الَّذِينَ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا الْمَمَالِكَ، وَعَمَلُوا الْبِرَّ، وَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، وَسَدُّوا أَفْوَاهَ الْأَسُودِ. وَأَطْفَأُوا حِدَّةَ النَّارِ، وَنَجَّوْا مِنْ حَدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَتَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَصَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ فِي الْحَرْبِ، وَكَسَرُوا مُعْسَكَرَاتِ الْأَجَانِبِ، وَأَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ بِقِيَامَةٍ. وَعَذَّبَ آخَرُونَ بِتَوْتِيرِ الْأَعْضَاءِ وَالضَّرْبِ، وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجَاةِ لِيَحْصَلُوا عَلَى قِيَامَةٍ أَفْضَلِ. وَآخَرُونَ ذَاقُوا الْهُزْءَ، وَالْجَلْدَ، وَالْقَيْوَدَ أَيْضاً وَالسِّجْنَ. وَرُجِمُوا، وَنُشِرُوا، وَامْتَحِنُوا، وَمَاتُوا بِحَدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَسَاحُوا فِي جُلُودِ غَنَمٍ وَمَعِزٍ، وَهُمْ مُعَوِّزُونَ مُضَائِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ — وَلَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَحِقًّا لَهُمْ — وَكَانُوا تَائِهِينَ فِي الْبَرَارِيِّ، وَالْجِبَالِ، وَالْمَغَاوِرِ، وَكُهُوفِ الْأَرْضِ. فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ مَشْهُوداً لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ سَبَقَ فَتَنَظَرَ لَنَا شَيْئاً أَفْضَلَ، أَنْ لَا يَكْمَلُوا بِدُونِنَا.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Nativity: "The Genealogy")

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan -

the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportations to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

الإنجيل (للأحد الذي قبل عيد الميلاد: أحد النسبة)

فَصَلُّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (1:1-25)

كِتَابُ مِيلَادِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ ابْنِ دَاوُدَ ابْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ. فإِبْرَاهِيمُ وَوَلَدَ إِسْحَاقَ، وَإِسْحَاقُ وَوَلَدَ يَعْقُوبَ، وَيَعْقُوبُ وَوَلَدَ يَهُوذَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ. وَيَهُوذَا وَوَلَدَ فَارِصَ، وَفَارِصُ وَوَلَدَ حَصْرُونَ، وَحَصْرُونَ وَوَلَدَ أَرَامَ. وَأَرَامُ وَوَلَدَ عَمِينَادَابَ، وَعَمِينَادَابُ وَوَلَدَ نَحْشُونَ، وَنَحْشُونَ وَوَلَدَ سَلْمُونَ. وَسَلْمُونَ وَوَلَدَ بُوعَزَ مِنْ رَاحَابَ، وَبُوعَزُ وَوَلَدَ عُوبِيدَ مِنْ رَاعُوثَ، وَعُوبِيدُ وَوَلَدَ يَسَّى، وَيَسَّى وَوَلَدَ دَاوُدَ الْمَلِكِ. وَدَاوُدُ الْمَلِكِ وَوَلَدَ سُلَيْمَانَ مِنَ التِّي كَانَتْ لِأُورِيَا. وَسُلَيْمَانُ وَوَلَدَ رَحْبَعَامَ، وَرَحْبَعَامُ وَوَلَدَ أَبِييَا، وَأَبِييَا وَوَلَدَ آسَا. وَآسَا وَوَلَدَ يَوْشَافَاطَ، وَيَوْشَافَاطُ وَوَلَدَ يُورَامَ، وَيُورَامُ وَوَلَدَ عُزْرِيَا. وَعُزْرِيَا وَوَلَدَ يُوَثَامَ، وَيُوَثَامُ وَوَلَدَ آحَازَ، وَآحَازُ وَوَلَدَ حِرْقِيَا. وَحِرْقِيَا وَوَلَدَ مَنَسَّى، وَمَنَسَّى وَوَلَدَ آمُونَ، وَآمُونَ وَوَلَدَ يَوْشِيَا. وَيَوْشِيَا وَوَلَدَ يَكُنْيَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ فِي جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ. وَمِنْ بَعْدِ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ، يَكُنْيَا وَوَلَدَ شَالْتَيْئِيلَ، وَشَالْتَيْئِيلُ وَوَلَدَ زَرْبَابِلَ. وَزَرْبَابِلُ وَوَلَدَ أَبِيهَوْدَ، وَأَبِيهَوْدُ وَوَلَدَ أَلْيَاقِيمَ، وَأَلْيَاقِيمُ وَوَلَدَ عَازُورَ. وَعَازُورُ وَوَلَدَ صَادُوقَ، وَصَادُوقُ وَوَلَدَ أَخِيمَ، وَأَخِيمُ وَوَلَدَ أَلْيَهَوْدَ. وَأَلْيَهَوْدُ وَوَلَدَ أَلْعَازَارَ، وَأَلْعَازَارُ وَوَلَدَ مَتَّانَ،

وَمَتَّانُ وُلَدَ يَعْقُوبَ. وَيَعْقُوبُ وُلَدَ يَوْسُفَ رَجُلَ مَرْيَمَ الَّتِي وُلِدَ مِنْهَا يَسُوعُ، الَّذِي يُدْعَى الْمَسِيحَ. فَكُلُّ الأَجْيَالِ مِنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِلَى دَاوُدَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً، وَمِنْ دَاوُدَ إِلَى جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً، وَمِنْ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلاً. أَمَّا مَوْلِدُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ فَكَانَ هَكَذَا. لَمَّا خُطِبَتْ مَرْيَمُ أُمُّهُ لِيَوْسُفَ، وَجَدَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَجْتَمِعَا حُبْلَى مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَإِذْ كَانَ يَوْسُفُ رَجُلًا صِدِّيقًا، وَلَمْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يُشْهَرَهَا، هَمَّ بِتَخْلِيَّتِهَا سِرًّا. وَفِيمَا هُوَ مُتَفَكِّرٌ فِي ذَلِكَ، إِذَا بِمَلَائِكَةِ الرَّبِّ ظَهَرَ لَهُ فِي الْحُلْمِ، قَائِلًا: يَا يَوْسُفُ ابْنَ دَاوُدَ، لَا تَخَفْ أَنْ تَأْخُذَ امْرَأَتَكَ مَرْيَمَ. فَإِنَّ الْمَوْلُودَ فِيهَا إِنَّمَا هُوَ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَسَتَلِدُ ابْنًا فَتُسَمِّيهِ يَسُوعَ، فَإِنَّهُ هُوَ يُخَلِّصُ شَعْبَهُ مِنْ خَطَايَاهُمْ. وَكَانَ هَذَا كُلُّهُ لِيَتِمَّ مَا قِيلَ مِنَ الرَّبِّ بِالنَّبِيِّ الْقَائِلِ: هَا إِنَّ الْعَذْرَاءَ تَحْبَلُ، وَتَلِدُ ابْنًا، وَيُدْعَى عِمَّا نُؤْتِيْلَ (الَّذِي تَفْسِيرُهُ اللهُ مَعَنَا). فَلَمَّا نَهَضَ يَوْسُفُ مِنَ النَّوْمِ، صَنَعَ كَمَا أَمَرَهُ مَلَائِكَةُ الرَّبِّ. فَأَخَذَ امْرَأَتَهُ. وَلَمْ يَعْرِفْهَا حَتَّى وَلَدَتْ ابْنَهَا الْبِكْرَ، وَسَمَّاهُ يَسُوعَ.

### St. George SERVICES

- **Great (Royal) Hours of the Nativity of our Lord, Monday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 PM.**
- **The Nativity of our Lord Tue Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Orthros at 4:50 PM Divine Liturgy at 6:00.**
- **Arabic Divine Liturgy for The Nativity of our Lord Wed Dec 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 AM.**
- **Bilingual Divine Liturgy (Circumcision of Our Lord) Wed Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

#### Saint Nicholas Church Services

Mon, Dec. 23 - 6 pm Royal Hours

Tues, Dec 24 - 6 pm Vespers Divine

Liturgy

Wed, Dec 25 - 10 am Divine Liturgy

#### Saint Mary Magdalene Church Services

Tue Dec 24th: Royal Hours 10AM

Community Holy Supper, 5:30 PM

Christmas Vigil: 7:00 PM

Wed, Dec 25th: Divine Liturgy, 10 AM

### ST. GEORGE WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

All Women of St. George, members, family, and friends, are invited to attend this Christmas Dinner Party at the Redwood Steakhouse (5304 Gateway Center, Flint, MI 48507 off Hill Road and US 23) on Thursday, December 26th at 4:00pm. The cost is \$30 per person and must be paid in advance to reserve your spot. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, December 22nd. To reserve your spot or for more information, please contact our coordinators Areen Bathish (810-691-0722) or Janet Abueita (810-691-0956).

## Teen SOYO Wants YOU!!!

All teens of St. George are encouraged to participate in our teen group – Teen SOYO (Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations). Our group has dedicated leadership who will not be happy until all teens of St. George are participating! Whoever is reading this please pass it along to a teen in your house or to Godchildren, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, sons, & daughters. We are gathering on Friday, January 10. 5:00 pm –7:00 pm. If you would like to know more, come to our get-togethers, scan the QR code to sign up, or contact President Cezar Abuaita (810-986-1434 or [cezarabuaita@icloud.com](mailto:cezarabuaita@icloud.com)).



## OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS

### BELOVED MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF ST. GEORGE

***EACH OF YOU SHOULD GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE DECIDED IN YOUR HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. (2 CORINTHIANS 9:7)***

Our stewardship, offerings, and donations are needed. PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (or use the QR code below) 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! Online Donations will accept Credit / Debit Cards or ACH (transfers from a banking account) and can be set for automatic donations. Call the Church Office (810-732-0720) if you need help with this.

Automatic Giving. Did you know most banks and credit unions offer automatic bill payment services? You can set it up so they send a check from your account to St. George for the amount you designate. This can be a onetime event or done automatically weekly/monthly. Just call or go online with your banking institution to get the form you need.



## Save The Date

Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup> , 2025.

We celebrate the Theophany

Our sermon is for the children of St. George Church

**And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me." St. Mark (9: 36-37)**

## PRAYER LIST

Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: Sahar Abdallah, Abeer Abuaita, Reader Fouad and Soad Abuaita, Philip and Janett Abuaita, Rasha Abuaita, Sami and Shafiqa Abuaitah, Fr. Joe Abud, Laila Abud, Georgette Abueita, Youssif Abousamra, Basil Andoni, Naila Banna, Cynthia Brooks, Douglas Coone, Kristy Corcoran, Vera Daoud, Wafaa Elias, Said Farah, Elias Gantos, Subdeacon George and Suad Gantous, Phyllis Good, Lee Harris, Daisy Isaac, Danny Mortensen, Karen Mortensen, Kevin Myott, Laura Nassar, George Nassif, Adam Odeh, Betty Ramsdale, Sdn. Dr. Elie Sadik, Elaine Shaheen, Richard Shaheen, Michael and Nancy Silpoch; our Catechumens who are under instruction to become members of our Orthodox Faith: Maria Kirk, Evan Sanford; our Expectant Parents: Dania and Subdeacon Salim Hanna, Watan and Karim.

Servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: Newly Departed William Alsaouri (+11/19), Valerie Cowan (+11/20), the sister of Katherine Moore, Mother Apolinar-ia (+11/22) - Dormition Monastery, Genevieve Perez (+11/25) - Friend of Fr. Michael, Evelyn Afara (+Dec. 6th), aunt of May Gantos and Lina Burbar; George Abueita (+Dec. 21st)

## **Live Streaming of Divine Services**

St. George is open for all parishioners and visitors. If you cannot attend, please pray with us through our livestream which can be seen on 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.