

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

JANUARY 05, 2025



5191 LENNON ROAD

FLINT, MI 48507

OFFICE: (810) 732-0720

WEB SITE: saintgeorgeflint.org

SATURDAY: VESPER SERVICE @ 400 P.M.

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

CONFESSION BY APPOINTMENT

V. REV. FR. AMIN HOULI

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REV. FR. MICHAEL BASSETT

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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!

THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

When Israel went out of Egypt, and the house of Jacob from among a barbarous people; Judah became His sanctuary; Israel His dominion.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The sea beheld and fled: Jordan turned back. What aileth thee, O sea, that thou fleddest? And thou Jordan, that thou didst turn back? (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

I am filled with love, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. For He hath inclined His ear unto me, and in my days will I call upon Him.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

The pangs of death have encompassed me; the perils of hades have found me. Tribulation and sorrow have I found, and I called upon the name of the Lord. (Refrain)

Merciful is the Lord, and righteous; and our God hath mercy. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let them now who fear the Lord confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. The Lord is God and hath appeared unto us. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR

On this day Thou hast appeared unto the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, is signed on us who sing Thy praise and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN (Sung in place of "Holy God")

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Dynamis!

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus. (2:11-14; 3:4-7)

My son Titus, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world; awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for Himself a people of His own who are zealous for good deeds. When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy

Spirit, which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

الرسالة

مُبَارَكُ الْآتِي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ.

إِعْتَرِفُوا لِلرَّبِّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ، وَإِنَّ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ رَحْمَتَهُ.

فَصَلُّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى تِيطُسَ. (2:11-14؛ 3:4-7)

يا وُلْدِي تِيطُسَ، لَقَدْ ظَهَرَتْ نِعْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْمُخْلِصَةِ لِجَمِيعِ النَّاسِ. وَهِيَ تُؤَدِّبُنَا لِنُنْكِرَ النِّفَاقَ وَالشَّهَوَاتِ الْعَالَمِيَّةَ، فَتَحْيَا فِي الدَّهْرِ الْحَاضِرِ عَلَى مُقْتَضَى التَّعْقُلِ وَالْعَدْلِ وَالتَّقْوَى، مُنْتَظِرِينَ الرَّجَاءَ السَّعِيدَ وَظُهُورَ مَجْدِ إِلَهِنَا الْعَظِيمِ وَمُخْلِصِنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ الَّذِي بَدَّلَ نَفْسَهُ لِأَجْلِنَا لِيُقْتَدِينَا مِنْ كُلِّ إِثْمٍ، وَيُطَهِّرَ لِنَفْسِهِ شَعْبًا خَاصًّا، غِيورًا عَلَى الْأَعْمَالِ الصَّالِحَةِ. فَلَمَّا ظَهَرَ لَطْفُ اللَّهِ مُخْلِصِنَا وَمَحَبَّتُهُ لِلنَّاسِ، خَلَّصْنَا هُوَ لَا لِأَعْمَالٍ فِي الْبِرِّ عَمَلْنَاهَا نَحْنُ، بَلْ عَلَى مُقْتَضَى رَحْمَتِهِ، بِغَسْلِ الْمِيلَادِ الثَّانِي وَتَجْدِيدِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ الَّذِي أَفَاضَهُ عَلَيْنَا بِسَخَاءِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مُخْلِصِنَا، حَتَّى إِذَا تَبَرَّرْنَا بِنِعْمَتِهِ نَصِيرُ وَرَثَةً عَلَى حَسَبِ رَجَاءِ الْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (3:13-17)

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by Thee, and Thou dost come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, He went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on Him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

الإنجيل

فَصَلُّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (3:13-17)

في ذلك الزمان، أَقْبَلَ يَسُوعُ مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ إِلَى الْأُرْدُنِّ إِلَى يوحنا لِيَعْتَمِدَ مِنْهُ. فَكَانَ يوحنا يُمَانِعُهُ قَائِلًا: أَنَا مُحْتَاجٌ أَنْ أَعْتَمِدَ مِنْكَ، أَوْ أَنْتَ تَأْتِي إِلَيَّ؟ فَأَجَابَهُ يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: دَعِ الْآنَ، فَهَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي لَنَا أَنْ نُتَمَّ كُلَّ بَرٍّ. حِينئذٍ تَرَكَهُ. فَلَمَّا اعْتَمَدَ يَسُوعُ، صَعِدَ لِلْوَقْتِ مِنَ الْمَاءِ، وَإِذَا السَّمَاوَاتُ قَدْ انْفَتَحَتْ لَهُ، فَرَأَى رُوحَ اللَّهِ نَازِلًا مِثْلَ حَمَامَةٍ وَحَالًا عَلَيْهِ. وَإِذَا صَوْتُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ قَائِلًا: هَذَا هُوَ ابْنِي الْحَبِيبِ، الَّذِي بِهِ سُرِرْتُ.

The Holy Theophany

Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Holy Theophany, or Epiphany, of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Verses

Christ's Baptism, having rent open the Heavens, leadeth therein all such as do not defile it.

On the sixth the Forerunner baptized Christ in the river.

When our Lord reached thirty years from His physical birth, He began His teaching and saving work. He Himself signified this "beginning of the beginning" by His baptism in the River Jordan. St. Cyril of Jerusalem says, "The beginning of the world: water; the beginning of the Good News: Jordan." At the time of the baptism of the Lord in water, the Father was revealed to the sense of hearing; the Spirit was revealed to the sense of sight, and in addition to these, the Son was revealed to the sense of touch. The Father uttered His witness about the Son, the Son was baptized in the water, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove hovered above the water. John the Baptist witnessed and said about Christ, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world." When John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation were shown. That is to say: The Lord took upon Himself the sins of mankind and died under them (immersion) and became alive again (the coming out of the water); and we must die as the old sinful man and become alive again as cleansed, renewed and regenerated. This is the Savior and this is the path of salvation. The Feast of the Epiphany (Theophany in Greek) is

Also called the Feast of Illumination. For us, the event in the River Jordan illuminates, by manifesting to us God as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. Also, every one of us through baptism in water is illumined by this, that we become adopted by the Father of Lights through the merits of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.



**AS MANY OF YOU AS HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST HAVE PUT
ON CHRIST. ALLELUIA.**

أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ، الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا.

FOR BLESSING HOMES CALL

CALL: FR. AMIN @ (248) 709 -1186/ OFFICE (810) 732 - 0720

FR. MICHAEL @ (989) 627 - 9580/ OFFICE (810) 732 - 0720

SUMMER CAMP

REGISTRATION OPENS TODAY,

JANUARY 5TH AT 5:00 P.M. EST!

DO NOT WAIT TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN



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).



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.



Upcoming Events

- ⇒ Today: Festal Liturgy for the Great Feast of Theophany followed by
 - *Blessing of the Waters in the Church—immediately after Liturgy*
 - *Service of the Vasilopita in the Banquet Center*
- ⇒ Wednesday 6:00 PM: *Arabic divine liturgy*
- ⇒ Saturday 4:00 PM: *Vespers & Confessions*
- ⇒ 1/16, Thursday 6:00 PM: *Parish Council*
- ⇒ 1/23, Thursday 5:00 PM: *Winter Dinner for Dormition Monastery*

A BLESSED 2025

THE CLERGY AND THEIR FAMILIES , PRAY AND WISH THE WHOLE COMMUNITY OF SAINT GEORGE CHURCH IN FLINT, A BLESSED IN NEW YEAR FULL WITH FAITH, JOY, HOPE AND PEACE.

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 Shafiq Abuaitah, Fr. Joseph & Kh. Leslee 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, Subdeacon 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 and Evan Sanford; our Expectant Parents: Dania and Subdeacon Salim Hanna, Watan and Karim Assaad, Marianne and Samer Abuaita.

Servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: Newly Departed Evelyynn Afara (+12/6), aunt of May Gantos and Lina Burbar, George Yacoub Abuaita (+12/20).

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.