

St. George Orthodox Church

5191 Lennon Road • Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 732-0720

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

March 19, 2023

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!

Antiochian Women's Month Greeters/Ushers:

Amirah and Dania Hanna and Natalie and Nicole Khoury

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. 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, and being at peace with others. Everyone else, including visitors, are invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. Again, welcome!

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.

Antiochian Women's Month

Epistle Reader: **Wafaa Elias** (Arabic) and **Khouriya Leslee Abud** (English)

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Hiam Bathish for the health of **her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren** and in loving memory of husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather **Emil** (3 year), **Dannie Jones, Jose Ramirez, Yacoub** and **Marie Farah**, and **Naif** and **Julia** Bathish.
- Elias Hanna, Najwa Joubran, Wafaa Elias, and Feryal Joubran for the health of their families and in loving memory of father **Salim** Hanna (35 year), mother **Badia** Khoury, **Joselyn, Elias, Ibrahim, and Ghaith**.
- Emil and Eline Abueita for the health of their family especially son **Elias** on the occasion of his tonsuring to be a Reader ~ *May God grant him many years!*
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Iskandar** Farah (40 day, brother of Salim), **Farid** Nassar Nassar (+February 15th, Lansing, nephew of Karim Nassar), **Angelo** Bastounis (+February 26th, friend of parishioners), **Riyad** Hayek (+March 2nd, cousin of the Hayek Family), and **Bryan** Campbell (+March 4th, brother in law of Kh. Pam Bassett).~ *may their memory be eternal!*
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners and their friends who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Fr. Angelo** Artemas (friend of Fr. Joe), **Sahar** Abdallah, **Reader Fouad** Abuaita, **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **George** and **Georgette** Abueita and **Kristo** (brother, mother, and friend of Anwar), **Jane** Abueita, **Philip** Abueita **Youssif** Abousamra, **Danial** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alsahouri, **Sanaa** Alqassis (daughter of Zahra Abuaita), **Walid** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Vera** Daoud, **Valland** Frangi (sister of Ron Haddad), **Elias** Gantos, **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Loretta** Karpelenia (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Nejma** Khair (mother of Esperanza Abuaita), **Michael** Khal, **Scott** Allen, **Antonia** Molina, and **Reuben** Reyes (friends of Areen Bathish), **Laura** Nassar, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Kameel** Srouji (son-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Laura** Teunion-Smith (granddaughter of Bob Teunion), **Christa** Whitehead, and **Samantha** Zerka (cousin of Lauren Zerka/Goddaughter & niece of Victoria Zerka); **Ghassan, Jasanta**, and newborn **Luciana** Al-Khoury who will be brought back into the life of our parish through the *Prayers of Churching*.
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Rania** and **Raed** AbuAita, **Jessica** and **Mejhdy** Abu Aitah, **Julia** and **Maroun** Alatrash, **Katrina** and **Gary** Gagne, **Aziza** and **Basheer** Hawwash, **Dina** and **Laith** Maymoun, **Narmeen** and **Deeb** Shamshoum, and **Taylor** and **Jeffrey** Tipton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Hiam and Areen Bathish*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: April 23rd, May 14th and 28th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge. *Hosting includes bringing whatever you wish to serve, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards.* St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$30. **For more information**, contact our coordinator Manal Abuaita. *During the Great Fast (February 27th - April 15th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

BE A PART OF HISTORY!

OUR GALA IS MAY 12TH!

The excitement is building, can you feel it? The renovation of our Banquet Center is moving along and looks so different; like brand new! To celebrate the end of the renovation, we are having a **Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala** on Friday, May 12th (during the 40 day Paschal season, we do not need to fast!). Information is on the Narthex Table and online at our St. George Website (saintgeorgeflint.org) ~ you can also purchase tickets online on our website at this same link. Tickets are also available from any of our Gala Committee members: *Raghad Farah, Tony Daoud, Rula Alkazaha, Areen Bathish, Aida Nassar, Jeanette Nassif, Evette Rishmawi*, or in our church office. For more information about being a sponsor, please speak with one of our committee members.

▶▶ We are looking for major sponsors / benefactors. Our committee is dedicated to raise as much funds as possible to start paying off our \$450,000 loan. This is our house and we need everyone to step up, especially those who are capable! Please look at the sponsorship levels and be one of our benefactors with a sacrificial offering. Over 50 years ago, our St. George ancestors stepped up to build our beautiful church and complex at a cost just under \$1,000,000 (in today's dollars, \$7,872,599)! They did it because of their love of God, the love of their children, and the love of all future generations...yes, US!



Now is the time for us to show our love of God, our children, and future generations. Be a part of this major event. If you haven't seen the progress of the renovation, see Tony Daoud on Sundays for a glimpse! I'm excited and you should be too! May God continue to bless our St. George Family and enable us to produce fruit like those who built our church in 1971 did!

HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) If you are 7 years or older, have been away from the Church, have not had Confession in the last 2 months or so, and desire to come back and receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, please remember you must offer a confession of your sins first. During this time of preparation during the Great Fast is a perfect opportunity. Confessions can be heard before or after most services except after Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy and Sunday Divine Liturgy. Because it is so important and for your convenience, Fr. Joe and Fr. Michael will hear confessions after Coffee Fellowship Sunday, April 2nd. Fr. Joe is not the only Orthodox priest in the area, or at St. George, and if you would prefer to go to Fr. Michael or one of the other local priests, feel free to do so (*please just let Fr. Joe know*): Fr. Gabriel Bilas from St. Mary Magdalene (810-750-1401) or Fr. Matthew Butrie from St. Nicholas Church (810-744-0070).

Let everyone in our St. George Family prepare and partake of our Lord in Holy Communion. The important thing is not who hears your confession, but that you participate in this Holy Sacrament on a regular basis. **Blessed are those who wash their (baptismal) robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life (which is Christ).** Revelation 22:14



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 to the left) 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!

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The *Great Fast* began on February 27th and continues until our celebration of **Pascha: our Lord's Resurrection** on April 16th. The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on all weekdays; on Saturdays and Sundays, *wine and olive oil* are allowed. On Saturday, we celebrate the Great Feast of the **Annunciation** (March 25th). The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy*) is observed and *fish, wine, and olive oil* are allowed.

Monday **Great Compline** صلاة النوم الكبرى 6pm

Weds. **Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas** 10:30am

Combined Pan-Orthodox **Presanctified Liturgy** القداس السابق تقد يسه & **Lenten Refreshments** at St. Nicholas 2143 South Center Road, Burton 6pm

Friday **Little Compline and Akathist to the Virgin Mary** خدمة المديح (Madayeh) 6pm

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

Complaining ~ Complaining Weakens Our Resolve

by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

If we are always complaining about how unfairly we are treated, we will have failed in our imitation of Christ, Who was abused by His enemies unto death. We should strive to reign with Our Lord by loving our enemies and never complain. Christ looked towards His Heavenly Father and when we are tempted to complain we should gaze upon the cross.

Complaining disturbs the heart and distracts us from the Path. Complaining weakens our resolve and interferes with the acquisition of peace and holiness. When we complain we are rejecting the role of suffering as a means towards the union with God. Complaining keeps our heart from soaring to the heavens and experiencing the joy that can be had when we surrender ourselves into the protective arms of Jesus.

St. George Orthodox Church Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala



Friday May 12, 2023

Saint George Banquet Center ~ 5191 Lennon Rd, Flint

Private Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - 6pm (offered for \$2,500 sponsor levels & above)

Cocktails and Social Hour - 7pm Followed by Dinner catered by Chef Luis Fernandes - 8pm

Dancing and Entertainment to follow Featuring the singer Jad Soudah & The Violinist Maria Bassil

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors ~ As of March 15

- St. George Ladies Auxiliary Graciously Donating \$15,000
- Mr. Philip Abuaita & Sons; Jamal, George, Khaled, Tony & Families ~ Diamond Sponsor
- Mr. Tony Daoud, In Honor of his Parents Mr. & Mrs. Issa Daoud ~ Diamond Sponsor
- Mr. Fouad Abuaita & Sons Khaled & Emil Abuaita & Families ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Basil & Mrs. Hiam Andoni ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mrs. Hiam Farah Bathish, In Memory of Emil N. Bathish ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. John Farah & Mr. Greg Farah & Families ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Danny Isaac & Family ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Amjad & Mrs. Elham Ishak ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Lubna, Branden & Devin, In Memory of Dannie Jones ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mrs. Sally Joseph & Children, In Memory of Edward Joseph ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Fadi & Mrs. Evette Rishmawi ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Richard A. Shaheen, In Memory of Parents Fred & Mamie Shaheen, Sister/Brother In Law Patricia & Harry Haddad, & Niece Joann Merrelli ~ Platinum Sponsor
 - Mr. Basil & Mrs. Houda Farah, In memory of Mary Said Farah ~ Gold Sponsor
 - Ms. Vicky Farah, In Memory of Jerry & Vera Farah ~ Gold Sponsor
 - Mr. Khaled & Mrs. Maysoon Khoury & Family ~ Gold Sponsor
 - Mr. Fares & Mrs. Sahar Abdallah ~ Silver Sponsor
 - Anonymous ~ Silver Sponsor
 - Dr. Raouf Mikhail & Family ~ Silver Sponsor
 - The Nassar Family ~ Silver Sponsor
 - Mr. George & Mrs. Jeanette Nassif & Family ~ Silver Sponsor
 - Sorensen Gross Construction ~ Silver Sponsor
 - Mr. & Mrs. Michel Ansara & Family ~ Bronze Sponsor
 - Mr. Mounir Awad & Family ~ Bronze Sponsor

Presenting Sponsor - \$50,000/20 tickets

Emerald Sponsor - \$25,000/20 tickets

Diamond Sponsor - \$10,000/10 tickets

Palladium Sponsor - \$7,500/10 tickets

Platinum Sponsor - \$5,000/8 tickets

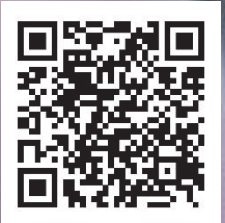
Gold Sponsor - \$2,500/6 tickets

Silver Sponsor - \$1,500/4 tickets

Bronze Sponsor - \$1,000/2 tickets

Individual Tickets - \$200 Scan QR Code to purchase tickets or sponsorship ~ Please Make Checks Payable to St. George Orthodox Church

St. George Orthodox Church Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala



Sponsorship Opportunities:

- The Gala will be held on: Friday May 12, 2023 at 7pm at the Renovated St. George Banquet Center
- Individual Tickets = \$200 per person
- Cocktail Attire
- Funds raised to support the recent renovation of St. George Orthodox Church Banquet Center

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS	PRESENTING \$50,000 (Only One)	Emerald \$25,000	Diamond \$10,000	Palladium \$7,500	Platinum \$5,000	Gold \$2,500	Silver \$1,500	Bronze \$1,000
Gala Tickets	20	20	10	10	8	6	4	2
Sponsor Name/Logo on all Event Prints & Signage	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sponsor Recognition from Podium during the Gala	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Sponsor Recognition during church's "Coffee Fellowship" on May 14 th	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Pre-event Private Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 6pm	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Name/Logo on the Permanent Donor Wall	*	*	*	*	*			
Opportunity to address the audience from the podium	*	*						
Host an event, for free, at the newly Renovated Banquet Center	*							
Sponsor Name/Logo on (Step & Repeat) Photo Background	*							

Please note:

- Your contribution is tax-deductible by the maximum extent allowed by law
- Sponsors are guaranteed to be listed on the event's prints & signage, if received by May 1, 2023
- All Sponsors will have **Premium Reserved Seating** per Sponsorship Level
- Name/Logo **Size & Location** on Permanent Donor Wall per Sponsorship Level
- Below an example of the Permanent Donor Wall to be installed in the Banquet Center Lobby
- Scan QR code to purchase tickets or sponsorship directly through official church website



St. George Orthodox Church
St. George Orthodox Church
Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala

Attn: Kelly Dotson
St. George Orthodox Church
5191 West Lennon Rd.
Flint Township 48507
kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com



Please print name of Individual or Business as it should appear on printed materials:

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Sponsorship Level: _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please charge my: *Visa / MasterCard / American Express*

Account #: _____

Expiration date: ____/____

Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to St. George Orthodox Church

Those companies eligible for logo recognition (see Sponsor Levels & Benefits) please submit your company/business logo to kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com to be included in promotional materials. Logos MUST be received no later than May 1, 2023.



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 007/2023

March 19, 2023

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

Christ is in our midst!

This Sunday, March 19, is the ninth anniversary of the repose of Sayyidna PHILIP of thrice-blessed memory. I call upon all our churches to pray the Trisagion Prayers of Mercy for the repose of his soul, and let us remember what he accomplished in the history of this blessed archdiocese. He ministered as its chief shepherd for 48 years, working tirelessly and continually as a dedicated hierarch in the service of his Archdiocese as well as the Antiochian Patriarchate. He strived to heal the then-existing fractures and divisions between Antiochians in this land and succeeded admirably. After these divisions had been healed, he concentrated his efforts on further strengthening the archdiocese and expanding it. During his tenure, he increased the number of its parishes from 65 to 262. He strived to spread the Orthodox Faith beyond the existing ethnic boundaries and inaugurated an epoch of Orthodox evangelism in North America, by communicating with other faithful Christians and welcoming them into the Antiochian Church.

Let us pray today to our God, who is good and loves mankind, that our father Metropolitan PHILIP may now enjoy the unfading splendor of His heavenly kingdom.

Praying that all of you will be always under the warm wings of our Christ, I am,

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Saba', is written over a stylized blue line that forms a large, sweeping 'S' shape.

✠ SABA

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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