

St. George Orthodox Church

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V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

March 7, 2021

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

صلاة السّحر لأحد مرافع اللحم

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open for all parishioners or 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.

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. 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 is invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

Holy Bread Offerings

- Lucy Abuaita, Mary Khoury, and their Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of father **Michel** Abuaita (9 day).
- Suheil and Aber Abuaita for the health of their family especially **Elias, George, Angel, Rachel, Andrew,** and **Laila** and in memory of uncle **Michel** Abuaita (9 day) and **Mary** Abuaita (2 year).
- Protodeacon Michael Bassett for the health of his family especially wife **Pamela Mary,** son **Christopher,** and **Louise** Simon on the occasion of their birthdays ~ *May God grant them many years!* ~ and in loving memory of **James** Crawford (1 year).
- Janett and Najeb Abuaita and Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother **Mary** Abuaita (2 year), father **Wahbah,** and brothers **Anton** and **Michel.**
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Victoria** Haddad (+January 26th, aunt of Kh. Leslee) and **George** Risk (+February 21st, uncle of May Gantos and Lina Burbar), **Malvina** Kaileh (+March 3rd, cousin of Aida Nassar), and **Reginald** Jehnsen (+March 4th, relative of Daisy Isaac).

- 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, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **Nabil** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Evelyn** Delbridge, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Gracyn** Haskins (granddaughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Nassem** Helal (father of Amani Helal), **Daisy** Isaac, **Danny** Isaac, **David** Jordan (cousin of Dn. Mike), **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Michael** Silpoch, and **William** Sophiea Jr.; Dr. **Ryan**, Dr. **Lindsey** [Farah], and newborn **Leah Nicole** Brunner (February 28th); **John** [son of Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee], **Nawal**, and newborn **Julian Joseph** Abud (March 2nd).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Haneen (Benan)** Burbar, **Jenny** [Abueita] (**Tony**) Salsa, **Sarah (Matthew)** Thomas [son of Doug and Sandy], and **Rachel** [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita] (**Andrew**) Sackllah.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORGIVENESS VESPERS Next Sunday at 12pm, we celebrate this beautiful service helping us to begin the Great Fast on the right foot by asking forgiveness of each other. We cannot love each other without forgiving each other and we are ALL called to love one another as Christ has loved us (John 15:12)! As one of the vesper 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 or ask someone to forgive us for what we did to them.

BANQUET CENTER SUPERVISOR NEEDED As the pandemic is slowly beginning to improve, our Center has many rentals in the months to come. We are in need of a Rental Supervisor to be here during rentals. Most rentals are on weekends (Friday-Sunday). Pay is up to \$75 per rental. If you are interested, please call the office 810-732-0720 and leave a message. This is a perfect part-time job for a responsible college student or young adult!

PLEASE FOLLOW OUR PROCEDURES Because of serious health concerns, **we all must wear masks at all times over our mouths and nose.** If this is difficult for you at this time, please watch our live-stream from home instead. Remember we are venerating icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching*) and the same for the priest's hand and the chalice at Holy Communion. Further, **our clergy and chanters are the only ones who should be singing at this time.** If you feel the need to sing, please do so **softly and with your mask on.**



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS at 2AM next Sunday, March 14th. Before going to bed this Saturday, remember to set your clocks AHEAD (“spring forward”) one hour.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEEDS EMAILS! We want ALL of our St. George children in our education program. To make this happen, we need email addresses for our children and their parents! Please send them to Director Janet Abueita (cooeita@aol.com) as soon as you can so none of our children are left out and they can enjoy and learn about our life in Christ. Every month, our Kindergarten - 6th Grade registered students receive a packet of fun things in the mail (an email is sent to everyone on Fr. Joe’s parishioner email list). Then on the last Sunday of each month (**THIS MONTH**, March 28th) our teachers have our CS Zoom Sunday at 12 Noon! Be a part of the FUN and send your email addresses to Janet TODAY!

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS Though everyone cannot attend church due to limited capacity or other reasons, **our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still very badly needed.** PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line 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

This Week	Today is Meat-fare Sunday , the last day we eat <i>meat, poultry, and their by-products</i> until Pascha (May 2 nd). This week is called Cheese-fare Week because <i>eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products</i> are <u>allowed</u> every day.	
Monday	Bible Study: Gospel of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian	6-8pm
Wednesday	Arabic-English Bible Study Gospel of St. John	12:30-2:30pm
Thursday	Parish Council Meeting	6:15pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions	5pm

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The Cure ~ *Forgiveness is the cure for judgment, anger, and resentment*

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ told us: “*Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you shall be forgiven.*” (Luke 6:37). In the Lord’s Prayer, Our Father, the very prayer given to His disciples after Christ was asked to teach them to pray, we say the words “*forgive us our trespasses [sins] as we forgive those who trespass against us*”. These strong words make it clear that we are to forgive others if we expect God to forgive us.

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Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk, in his book, "Journey to Heaven", says: "Do we forgive our neighbors their trespasses? God also forgives us in His mercy. Do we refuse to forgive? God, too, will refuse to forgive us. As we treat our neighbors, so also God does treat us. The forgiveness, then, of your sins or non-forgiveness, and therefore also your salvation or destruction, depend on you, yourself. For without forgiveness of sins there is no salvation."

Get out your Bibles, look up the Gospel of Luke, read chapter 6, and more! Love, FJ



Throughout Christ's ministry, He emphasized the need for us to be willing to forgive others. For if we expect to be forgiven, we must nurture a forgiving heart. If we hold grudges, and remember wrongs, we poison our souls, and love has no place in us.

"The drunkard, the fornicator, the proud – he will receive God's mercy. But he who does not want to forgive, to excuse, to justify consciously, intentionally... ..that person closes himself to eternal life before God, and even more so in the present life. He is turned away and not heard." (Elder Sampson of Russia)

As we are quick to forgive our neighbors, so God also forgives us in His great and loving mercy. If we refuse to forgive, God, too, will refuse to forgive us. Our salvation or destruction, depend on our willingness to forgive others, for without forgiveness of sins there is no salvation and entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.