

# St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

March 8, 2020

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: Sunday of Orthodoxy أحد الأيقونات

Tone - 5 5<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel {Luke 24:12-35}

Greeters and Ushers **Muna Abuaita** and **Mary Khoury**

**Amal Abu-Aita, Janett Abuaita, Mary Ibrahim, and Katrin Mitri**

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 after liturgy, 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. Basil the Great** (*Bilingual sheets on the Narthex table*), we sing the following Special Hymns for today:

### Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for He took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

### Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5** (*same as above*)

لِنَسْبِخْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدُ لِلْكَلِمَةِ. الْمَسَاوِي لِلآبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدِمَ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ. الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِحَلَاصِنَا. لِأَنَّهُ سُرَّ وَارْتَضَى بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يعلَوْ عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ. وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

#### **Troparion for Triumph of Orthodoxy—Tone 2**

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

لصورتك الطاهرة نسجدُ أيها الصالح، طالبينَ غفرانَ الخطايا أيها المسيحُ إلهنا، لأنك قبلتَ أن ترتفعَ بالجسدِ على الصليبِ طوعاً لتُنَجِّيَ الذينَ خلقتَ من عبوديةِ العدو. لذلكَ نَهْتَفُ إليك بشكرٍ، لقد ملأتَ الكلَّ فرحاً يا مُخْلِصِنَا إذ أتيتَ لتخلصَ العالمَ.

### **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 طبيب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

### **Kontakion for Annunciation & Sundays of the Great Fast—Tone 8**

To Thee the Champion Leader do I offer thanks of victory. O Theotokos, Thou who has delivered me from terror; but as Thou that has that power invincible, O Theotokos, Thou alone can set me free from all forms of danger; free me and deliver me. That I may cry unto Thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom. إني أنا عبدك يا والدة الإله، أكتبُ لكِ راياتِ الغلبة، يا جُنديَّةَ مُحامية، وأقدمُ لكِ الشكرَ كمنقذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدائد. لكن بما أن لكِ العزَّة التي لا تُحارب، أعتقيني من صنوفِ الشَّدائد، حتى أصرخَ إليك: إفرحي يا عروساً لا عروس لها

**Epistle Reading:** *Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40* {1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast}

Reader: **Manal Abuaita** (Arabic) and **Miar Abu-Aita** (English)

**Gospel Reading:** *John 1:43-51* {1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast}

### Holy Bread Offerings

- Hiam Bathish, Peter and Mary Farah for the health of their families and in loving memory of sister-in-law **Amal** Farah (9 day), **Romero** Cena (9 day, Mary's father), **Yacoub**, **Marie** (parents), and **Hani** (brother) Farah.
- Fadi Rishmawi and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Husam** Rishmawi (9 day, cousin).
- Janett and Najeb Abuaita and Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother **Mary** Abuaita (1 year), father **Wahah**, uncle **Anton**, and **Michel**.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Adibah** Elias (+January 29<sup>th</sup>, Syria, aunt of Elias Hanna, Wafaa Elias, and Najwa Joubran), Dr. **Linn** Campbell (+February 3<sup>rd</sup>, brother-in-law of Sally Joseph), **Wadie** Abuaita (+February 9<sup>th</sup>, brother of Fouad), **Meha** Alkhouri (+February 9<sup>th</sup>, sister of Sandy Mitri), **Haifa** Zaid (+February 11<sup>th</sup>, Goddaughter of Aida Nassar and/aunt to Haneen Burbar), and **James** Crawford (+March 2<sup>nd</sup>, friend of Dn. Mike).
- 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, **Bishop Alexander** (Ottawa and Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Priest Robert** Royer, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Wadia** Albaba, **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Shawna** Hale, **Don** and **JoAnn** Hawkins, **Daisy** Isaac, **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Eva** Saseen (daughter of Nicholas), **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Habib** Skafi, **William** Sophiea Jr., **Lois** Teunion, and **Vicki** Toma (sister of Fr. Joe).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Renea** (Rakan) Bayouk, **Andrea** Jones (daughter of Nasri and Carol), and **Dina** (Laith) Maymoun.

### 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).

- If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.
  - Since Church School is staying in church after Communion for the *Procession of the Holy Icons*, our children and their parents can receive Holy Communion together! Everyone may wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss you.
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** is hosted by *Janett and Najeb Abuaita*.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: March 29<sup>th</sup> ~ 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, see Manal Abuaita. *During the Great Fast (March 2<sup>nd</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup>), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

**PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT** is on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Nicholas-Burton, MI. The retreat begins at 10am and is completely free (donations will be accepted for expenses). The speaker is Fr. Bogdan Bucur. See the insert for details and making reservations ~ the deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>!

**PARKING LOT PLEDGES** Our goal is \$80,000 (we have raised over \$40,000 so far including half of the Valentine Gala profits) and we are so thankful for those who have donated and pledged. If you have not already, please pick up a form (in the Lounge), fill it out, and put it in the Offering Tray. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings (those forms are on the Narthex Table if you need one). Again, thank you to our Parking Lot donors:

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud	Anonymous	Betty Froberg
Dn. Mike and Pam Bassett	Ladies Auxiliary	Bill and Sue Shaheen
Khader and Lucy Abuaita	Tony Daoud	Richard Shaheen
Anwar and Janet Abueita	Ayman and Wafaa Elias	Bob and Lois Teunion
Laila Abud	John and Theresa Farah	

**CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS** We can make donations and purchases by Credit or Debit Card. This can be done by coming to the office or calling 810-732-0720 during Office Hours.

- **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 weekly/monthly. Just call or go online with your banking institution to get the form you need.

## COMING EVENTS

This Week	The <b>Great Fast</b> continues until our celebration of <b>PASCHA: our Lord's Resurrection</b> on April 19 <sup>th</sup> . The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i> ) is observed on all weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, <i>wine and olive oil</i> are allowed.
Monday	<b>Great Compline</b> صلاة النوم الكبرى 6:30pm
Wednesday	<b>Lenten Hours</b> at St. Nicholas 10am <b>Presanctified Liturgy</b> * القداس السابق تقد يسه & <b>Lenten Potluck</b> 6pm at *St. Nicholas (2143 South Center Road, Burton 810-744-0070)
Friday	<b>Akathist to the Virgin Mary</b> خدمة المديح (Madayeh) 6:30pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm

## Why Attend Church? ~ Can't God's temple be duplicated at home?

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

Over the years, I have met people who have chosen not to join a church, choosing, rather, to "worship" at home. Some have convinced themselves church is a waste of time; feeling they can be close to God staying home on a Sunday morning. Others believe none of the churches teach the Bible "according to their own interpretation"; choosing to worship in the privacy of their own home and assuring themselves they will not hear any false teachings.

Some people have chosen to stay away from church because of past conflict with a clergyman, or perhaps got tired of hearing pleas for money and have convinced themselves giving to a charity and not the church is money better spent (in reality, churchgoers and givers tend to outspend non-church goers in charitable giving!).

In truth, God has given us the Church as the very place wherein we can grow spiritually, while enjoying the protection and blessing of weekly contact with other believers. Just like an earthly family, we do not always enjoy the presence of other members, but it is often those difficult and uncomfortable moments that help us grow the most. As well, there are blessings that would never be experienced, should we remain apart from fellow Christians.

In Luke 4:16, we read that Our Lord Jesus Christ was regularly in the temple, for "*He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom.*" It was Christ's regular practice to go to "church", "*As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place.*" If Our Lord Jesus made it a priority to meet together with other believers, how can we excuse ourselves from doing the same?

Perhaps the most important reason for weekly church attendance lies in the fact that it is only in the church where we can receive Holy Communion, for Our Lord went so far as to say that unless we eat of His flesh and drink of His blood, we will have no life in us (John 6:53). It is in the reception of Holy Communion where we receive the grace needed to grow spiritually, and where we are empowered to live in all holiness and truth.

Finally, the neglect of corporate (community) worship grieves the Holy Spirit who lives within the individual believer and the Church as a whole, "*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*" (Ephesians 4:30)

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## The Synodikon of Orthodoxy

As the prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the teachers have dogmatized, as the Universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ awarded: thus we declare, thus we assert, thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor His saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshipping and reverencing Christ as God and Lord; and on the other hand honoring His saints as true servants of the same Lord of all and accordingly offering them veneration.

*(Louder)* **This is the Faith of the Apostles, this is the Faith of the Fathers, this is the Faith of the Orthodox, and this is the Faith which has established the Universe!**

## صلاة أحد الأرثوذكسية

إننا كما عاينت الأنبياء، كما علمت الرسل، كما تسلمت الكنيسة، كما اعتقد المعلمون، كما اتفقت آراء المسكونة معاً، كما أشرقت النعمة، كما اتضح الحق، كما انطرد الكذب، كما استعلنت الحكمة، كما جاد المسيح بالجوائز، هكذا نعتقد، هكذا نتكلم، هكذا نكرز، مُنذرين بالمسيح إلهنا المسكونة "الحقيقي، ونكرم قديسيه، بالأقوال والتأليفات والمعاني والضحايا والهيكل والأيقونات. فأما المسيح فنسجد له كسيد واله، ونعبده، وأما القديسون فنكرمهم لأجل السيد العمومي، كخدام له أخصاء، ونقدم لهم السجود بحسب النسبة.

**"هذا إيمان الرسل، هذا إيمان الأباء، هذا إيمان المستقيمي الرأي، هذا الإيمان قد وطد.**

The Prokeimenon بروكيمنن

(Tone 7) – Thrice

Who is so great a God as our God?  
Thou art our God, who doest  
wonders.

أَيُّ إِلَهٍ عَظِيمٍ مِثْلُ إِلَهِنَا؟  
أَنْتَ هُوَ اللَّهُ الصَّانِعُ الْعَجَائِبِ وَحَدِّكَ.

His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

March 8, 2020

Reverend Fathers, Esteemed Members of the Parish Council, and Beloved Faithful:

Greetings and blessings to you in the Name of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I pray that, having completed the first week of the fast, you have been strengthened by the beautiful services and fasting discipline in order to complete the rest of this holy journey.

The Sunday of Orthodoxy is a day of triumph of correct doctrine over error and of truth over falsehood, of right over wrong. Sadly, in our current world, error too often trumps truth, falsehood overshadows correct doctrine and right and wrong are mixed up in the name of “love” of “political correctness” of “inclusiveness” and other well-intentioned, but misguided theology and secular laws. Therefore, each year on this day, it is meet and right that we ask the faithful to contribute towards the education and formation of our young men studying for the holy priesthood so that they may both teach defend the faith “once and for all delivered to the saints” to our faithful and as witnesses to the world.

It is been a long-standing tradition in our archdiocese to give scholarships to our seminarians studying for the priesthood. They are answering a high-calling and giving of themselves to serve others. This often entails leaving family and friends behind along with their secular employment. As such, this is the least we can do to thank them for giving of themselves and to make sure that they enter this sacred ministry as debt-free as possible so that they may serve all of you without this additional distraction and burden. As you are undoubtedly aware, the cost of education continues to rise. We therefore ask that you give generously to keep our seminarian scholarship account well-funded so that we might, in turn, provide for those who will someday provide for and serve all of you.

Wishing you all a holy and spirit-building Fast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

**+JOSEPH**

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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# *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 this Lenten Retreat by Fr. Bogdan Bucur!**



## **Our Covenant with God: Lessons from the Patriarchs, Prophets, Scribes, and Pharisees**

Fr. Bogdan will discuss some Biblical texts including the persons of Abraham, Jacob, Esau, Moses, and the woman caught in adultery.

**Saturday,  
March 21, 2020**

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church • 2143 S Center Rd • Burton, MI**

**Please RSVP by March 15 to (810) 744-0070 or  
[stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com)**

9:30 am – 10 am

10 am – 11:30 am

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

12:30 pm – 2 pm

2 pm – 2:30 pm

2:30 pm – 4 pm

4:30 pm

Registration and Refreshments

Presentation #1 with question & answer

Lunch (free will offering)

Presentation #2 with question and answer

Break/Snacks

Presentation #3 with question and answer

Vespers and Confessions

### ***Guest Speaker: Fr. Bogdan Bucur***

Fr. Bogdan Bucur is a priest of the Antiochian Archdiocese who received his M.Th in Orthodox Theology at the University of Bucharest in his native Romania and then came to the United States to study under then-Archimandrite Alexander (Golitzin) at Marquette University where he received his M.A. in Theology and Ph.D. in Religious Studies. He serves as the priest of St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church, Butler, PA and is Associate Professor of Theology at Duquesne University. He is a scholar of early Christianity, with a special interest in the link between reception history of the Bible and doctrinal developments in early Christianity and the Byzantine tradition