

April 21, 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!

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 signifying 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!

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.

Holy Bread Offerings (*Oblations*)

- Issa Odeh and George Ishaq for the health of their families and in loving memory of brother-in-law **Marwan** Al-Sahouri (9 day).
- Adeeb and children MaryRose, Samer, Ramzy, and Paul Bathish for the health of their families and in loving memory of wife and mother **Inam** Farah Bathish (40 day).
- Hiam Bathish and Naila Banna for the health of their families and in loving memory of sister **Inam** Bathish (40 day).
- Amir, Jacob, and Jordan Abu-Aita and family for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother **Mary** Abu-Aita (40 day).
- Karam and Aida Nassar for the health of their family especially **Fred, Omar, Sarah, and Salam**, and Godchildren **Natalia** and **Nicholas** Kaileh on the occasion of their 10th birthday ~ *May God grant them many years!*

BAPTISM/CHRISMATION DAYS

The Church School offers the Holy Bread for our students who are celebrating the day of their *New Birth* {Baptism and/or Chrismation} into the Church this coming week:

- **Christopher** Abu Aita ~ April 22nd
- **Gisel** Awad ~ April 24th
- **Romanos** and **Rubina** AbuAita ~ April 29th

May they be children of the Light and heirs of eternal good things. {Baptismal Service}

- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Archbishop Nathaniel** (Romanian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America), our **Bishop Anthony, Fr. Joe** Abud, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Abeer** Abuaita, **Reader Fouad & Soad** Abuaita, **Philip & Janett** Abuaita, **Rasha** Abuaita, **Sami & Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **George** Abueita, **Georgette** Abueita, **Jane** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **William** Alsahouri, **Naila** Banna, **Douglas** Coone, **Vera** Daoud, **Said** Farah, **Joseph** Gagne, **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George & Suad** Gantous, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **John** Joseph, **Danny** Mortensen, **Karen** Mortensen, **Laura** Nassar, **Jeanette** Nassif, **Adam** Odeh, **Rahmeh** Rashmawi, **Elaine** Shaheen, and **Michael** Silpoch; **Danial**, **Casandra**, and newborn **Isla Danial** Burbar (March 21st), and **Josh**, **Andrea**, and newborn **Suraya Hanna** Jones (March 28th); your servants **Jaden** Turner, **Evan** Sandford, and **Maria** Kirk who are in catechism (under instruction) to become members of our Orthodox Faith.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Jameela** Al-Sumairat (+March 24th, grandmother of Dania Hanna) ~ *may her memory be eternal!*
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Stephanie** and **Nadim** Burbar, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, & **Vera** and **Luay** Sababa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP AND MEMORIAL BREAKFAST is hosted by *Hiam Bathish and Naila Banna, and the Family of +Mary AbuAita.*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: May 12th and 26th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information are 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**, please contact our coordinator Manal Abuaita 810-577-0028. *During the Great Fast (March 18th – May 4th) no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are to be served.*

REMEMBER that fasting from food is only one part of the Great Fast! Check out the Archdiocese Website at: <https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/1494> for a number of Great Fast resources.

“He that feeds the hungry also feeds God and the hunger of one is the shame of all.”

+Metropolitan PHILIP of thrice-blessed memory (more on his life is at antiochian.org/dashboard?name=Metropolitan%20Philip%20of%20Thrice%20Blessed%20Memory)

ORTHODOXY 101 Not meeting again until after Pascha!

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS!

Parents!!! The Church School’s **Palm Sunday Bake Sale** and **Pascha Egg Hunt** are quickly approaching. If you would like to donate towards the Egg Hunt, please drop your wrapped candy or any Pascha items that can be sold at the Bake Sale to the Church School Office ASAP. Baked items need to be dropped off at the church THIS Saturday, April 27th from 1-4pm. Thank you in advance. For any questions please feel free to contact me at 810-691-0956. This is a great time of the year to get closer to God, to know His Love, and to love Him! Thank you and God bless you for all you do for your children. *Janet Abueita, Church School Director*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (REPENTANCE OR CONFESSION) Like the prodigal son, we need to return to our Heavenly Father all of the time, but especially during the Great Fast. Everyone should make a confession at least once during the Fast. Plan ahead and do not wait until the 11th hour!!! If you do not do so on a regular basis, confessions are heard on Saturdays after Great Vespers, before or after most services during the Great Fast, or Sunday after Coffee Fellowship. Confessions will not be heard after Holy Tuesday afternoon. Also, none will be heard on Sunday mornings during Matins until Fr. Joe returns.

GREAT AND HOLY WEEK EXCUSE LETTER Most of our K-12 and college students have had their “spring break vacation” already; many revolving around the Western celebration of Pascha. For us, the Great and Holy Week begins on the evening of Palm Sunday, April 28th, and goes to the morning of Great and Holy Saturday, May 4th. This once-a-year special week is meant for all of our faithful parishioners, young and old. If your child needs to have a letter from me to be excused from school, music lessons, karate classes, or any sport activities, there are some available on the shelf by the large bulletin board in the Lounge.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be \$7,588 to meet our 2024 Budget. On Sunday, April 7th, our offerings were \$2,382; we were short \$5,206! 😞 **Please keep up with your offerings!** If you have not already, fill out your *2024 Offering Form*, put it in Sunday’s Offering Tray or send it to the church (5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507). May God bless you for supporting His parish of St. George and offering as He wants for our salvation!

➤ **God bless our Church School students who offered \$338 in March!**



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 Monday, March 18th, and continues until our celebration of **Pascha: our Lord's Resurrection** on May 5th. 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.

Monday	Great Compline صلاة النوم الكبرى 6pm
Wednesday	Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas 10am <i>Combined Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgy</i> & القديس السابق تقد يسه Lenten Dinner at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm
Friday	Little Compline and Canon of the Raising of Lazarus صلاة النوم الصغرى مع قانون البار لعازر 6pm
Saturday	Combined Pan-Orthodox Preparation of Gifts/Divine Liturgy for the Raising of Lazarus/ مع قانون البار لعازر/ صلاة النوم الصغرى مع قانون البار لعازر/ at Assumption 9:30am Clean and Decorate for Palm Sunday 1-4pm Great Vespers and Confessions 4pm

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Sayings of the Saints

Do not let pass any opportunity to pray for anyone, either at his request or at the request of his relatives, friends, of those who esteem him, or of his acquaintances. The Lord looks favorably upon the prayer of our love, and upon our boldness before Him.

Besides this, prayer for others is very beneficial to the one himself who prays for others; it purifies the heart, strengthens faith and hope in God, and inspires our love for God and our neighbor. When praying, say thus: *'Lord, it is possible for Thee to do this or that to this servant of Thine; do this for him, for Thy name is the Merciful Love of All and the Almighty.'*

St. John of Kronstadt