

April 7, 2019

4TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST:
VENERABLE JOHN OF THE LADDER القديس يوحنا السلمى

Tone - 4 1st Matins Gospel {*Matthew 28:16-20*}

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, 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 4

Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen granting the world great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 4 (*same as above*)

إن تلميذات الرب تعلمن! من الملاك بشرى القيامة البهجة، و طرحن القضية الجدية و خاطبن الرسل مفتخراتٍ و قائلاتٍ قد سبي الموت و قام المسيح الإله مانحاً العالم الرحمة العظمى.

Troparion for St. John of the Ladder of Virtues—Tone 8

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

للبرية غير المثمرة بمجاري دموعك أمرت. وبالتنهّدات التي من الأعماق أثمرت بأتعايبك إلى مائة ضعف. فصرت كوكباً للمسكونة متألئناً بالعجائب يا أبانا البار يوحنا. فتشفع إلى المسيح الإله أن يُخلص نفوسنا.

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 لك رايات العَلْبَةِ، يا جُنْدِيَّةَ مُحَامِيَّةٍ، وأقدِّمُ لك الشُّكْرَ كَمُنْقَذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ. لكنَّ بما أنَّ لك العِزَّةَ التي لا تُحَارَبُ، أعتقيني من صنوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ، حتى أصرخَ إليك: إفرحي يا عروساً لا عروس لها

Epistle Reading: *Hebrews 6:13-20* {4th Sunday of the Great Fast}

Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:17-31* {4th Sunday of the Great Fast}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Fares and Sahar Abdallah for the health of their family and in loving memory of Fares' cousin **Ilham** Abd Elkarim (April 2nd).
- Protodeacon Michael and Pam Bassett for the health of their family especially Goddaughter **Zoe** Moore (17th) and **Carolyn** Sadd (Dn. Mike's Aunt) on the occasion of their birthdays and **Pamela Mary** on the occasion of her name's day -- *May God grant them many years!* – and in loving memory of **Louise** Tweel (9 years, Dn. Mike's Aunt).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Joachim** Al-Khourri (+February 28th, uncle of Khaled Al-Khourri), **Suad** Andoni (+March 4th, mother of Vera Daoud), **Cesar** Banna (+March 6th, husband of parishioner Naila), **Mary** Abuaita (+March 9th, mother of Janett, Shafiq, and Najeb), **Linda** Abuaita (+March 15th, niece of Fouad and Suad Abuaita), **Martha** Abraham (+March 20th, Godmother of Fr. Joe), **Michael** Abdallah (+March 24th, father of Nasri), and **Donna** Stewart (+March 25th, mother of Kelly Sanderson).
- 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, Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Laila** and **Sahar** Abdallah, **Androlla** Abu Aita, **Salwa** Abu-Aitah, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Georgette** Abueita, **Khaled** and **Mariam** Al-Khourri, **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Betty** Froberg, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** and **Ronald** Haddad, **Shawna** Hale, **Patti** Harris, **Daisy** Isaac, **Ida** Isaac, **Nawal** & **Nimer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **Danny** Mortensen, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Nawal** Odeh, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elias** Rishmawi, **John** Salomon, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch, **William** Sophiea Jr., and **Lois** Teunion.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Ola** (Michael) Alqazaha, Dr. **Lindsey** (Dr. Ryan) Brunner, **Katrina** (Gary) Gagne, **Diana** (Ayman) Khair, **Natalie** (Shadi) Qumsieh, and **Sandy** (Raad) Qumsieh {daughter of Issa and Esperanza}.

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Fares and Sahar Abdallah*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: May 26th ~ 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 11th – April 27th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

LENTEN POTLUCK DINNERS Our Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting Lenten Potluck Dinners (in the LOUNGE this week) after our celebrations of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. Please bring what is listed below according to the first letter of your last name. If you have any questions, please see or call our coordinators Anaam Abueita 810-962-1033 or Wafaa Elias 810-875-3398.

FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH

<u>A-F</u>	<u>G-J</u>	<u>K-R</u>	<u>S-Z</u>
Relish Dish or Bread	Salad or Side Dish	Main Dish	Desserts

HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) If you are 8 years or older, have been away from the Church, or have not had Confession in the last 2 months and desire to come back and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, please remember you must offer a confession of your sins first. During this time of preparation during the Great Fast is a perfect opportunity and because it’s the Great Fast and for your convenience, Fr. Joe will be hearing confessions after Coffee Fellowship TODAY Sunday, April 7th. Father Joe is not the only Orthodox priest in the area and if you would prefer to go for confession to 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). **Blessed are those who wash their (baptismal) robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life (Christ in Holy Communion).** (*Revelation 22:14*)

CHILD CARE Fr. Joseph and the Parish Council respectfully request that parents keep track of their children and teens while at St. George. Children and teens, have been roaming and some running around inside and outside of the building. No children or teens should be in the Lounge by themselves AT ANY TIME! For both spiritual and security reasons, we need to keep our children and teens with us at all times! Thank You!

- As a reminder, during Divine Services the Lounge is reserved for those who have a problem with the incense or overflow. No one else needs or should be there.

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 (see below).

- **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.
- **OFFICE HOURS** Our office manager, Kelly Dotson, works on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (10am-4pm); Tuesdays and Wednesdays (1pm-4pm). Kelly can be reached during office hours at 810-732-0720 or kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com.

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The Great Fast began on March 11 th and continues until our celebration of PASCHA: our Lord's Resurrection on April 28 th . 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	Great Compline صلاة النوم الكبرى 6:30pm
Wednesday	Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas 10am Presanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقدسه & Lenten Potluck 6pm
Friday	Akathist to the Virgin Mary خدمة المديح (Madayeh) 6:30pm OCF at St. Mary Magdalene 7pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

Pride: The enemy of faith is pride

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

The absolute necessary element for salvation is faith. Faith saves us because faith brings us into communion with God, and the source of faith comes as the freely given grace that is a gift from our loving Lord.

The enemy of faith is pride, for pride destroys faith. Pride makes us believe we do not need God, and pride is what leads many into the abyss of atheism, for pride makes us believe that there is nothing beyond ourselves. Pride leads us to believe that we are all important, and that nothing exists beyond ourselves. Once pride takes hold, our heart grows hard, and faith grows cold and dies.

During our Lenten journey, it is good for us to remember the words of Saint Maximos the Confessor, who said, *"The demons that wage war on us through our shortcomings in virtue are those that teach unchastity, drunkenness, avarice and envy. Those that wage war on us through our excessive zeal for virtue teach conceit, self-esteem and pride; they secretly pervert what is commendable into what is reprehensible."*

When we are filled with pride, we must recall the saint's warning, for repentance is the cure for pride, and only through repentance can we rekindle the grace that brings life to our faith. Humbling ourselves before God, and giving ourselves over to divine worship, brings us back into the natural relationship that was preordained for us before the fall, and faith grows as grace rebounds.

PASCHA DINNER PARTY

**ST. GEORGE
ORTHODOX CHURCH**
5191 LENNON RD. FLINT,
MI

**Sunday, April 28,
2019 at 4 PM**

St. George is hosting a Pascha Dinner Party and we want to celebrate together as a parish.

There will be music, games, and a raffle. Tickets are \$30 per person and kids under 3 are free! RSVP on Facebook or call/text a number below for reservations.

B.Y.O.B.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ANWAR ABUEITA | (810) 394-2918, FADI RISHMAWI | (810) 625-5790, AND KHALED ABUAITA | (810) 343-2614