

St. George Orthodox Church

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V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

May 16, 2021

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

المسيح قام! حقا قام!

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

- Khaled and Sally Abuaita for the health of their family and all the people suffering at this time in Jerusalem and Gaza.
- We also pray for the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Nadia** Kaileh Qatato (+May 5th, aunt of Aida Nassar).
- 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**a Abuaitah, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **William** Alsahouri, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis** Good, **Gracyn** Haskins (granddaughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Daisy** Isaac, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Marlen** Odeh, **Giries** and **Juliette** Qumseya, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, and **William** Sophia Jr.;

Tony, Jenny [Abueita], and newborn **Lukas Salsa** (April 20th); **Danial** Burbar and **Casandra** Hayek who are to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

- We also pray for those who are with child: **Mirna (Tamer)** Abuaita [son of Khader and Lucy], **Haneen (Benan)** Burbar, **Rachel (Andrew)** Sackllah [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita], and **Sarah (Matthew)** Thomas [son of Doug and Sandy].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARE YOU VACCINATED? DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AND NEED ANSWERS? We are blessed to have a number of medical professionals in our parish and all of them want you to get your Covid-19 vaccine ASAP. There is lots of wrong information on TV and social media. Don't be fooled; it could cost you or your family and friends in a sad way! If you have any questions or need truthful information, please contact Dr. Lindsey (Farah) Brunner: text ONLY, please 810-908-9213 or lnfarah2009@hotmail.com.

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!

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**.

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE MINISTRY

We are looking for a special person to lead our Preschool & Childcare Ministry. The Preschool has been in operation since 2018 and has had over 30 children in attendance. Though currently closed and without a Program Director we have a valid Child Care License. With proper staffing and leadership it could be reopened at any time. Dn. Michael, Kh. Leslee, Kelly (our Church Office Manager) and others are ready to assist you! We have a list of previous clients as well as a growing list of families looking for the intimate, faith based setting that we offer. Rooms are set up, in place, and waiting for children! Curriculum is purchased, learning centers are in place, and there is plenty of outdoor play space! This is an excellent opportunity for the right person to provide a needed service / ministry to the community and help generate revenues for St. George Church and have nearly full autonomy with minimal risk. If you are interested or you know someone who might be, contact the Preschool at 810-732-1500, stgeorgeschool17@gmail.com, or talk with Dn. Michael or Kh. Leslee.

- The national **Food For Hungry People** program during the Great Fast is now over. Please empty your boxes and send your donation to the church either with a check or online at our website: <https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>.

- **Thank you**, AGAIN and AGAIN, to our regular *Holy Bread Makers* **Sally** Abuaita, **Abeer** Abuaita, **Elaine** Abueita, **Wafaa** Elias, and **Aida** Nassar, others who have made Holy Bread, and for all of their hard work for the Glory of God!

Paschal Greeting and Response

Used until Our Lord's Ascension on the 40th day after Pascha (June 10th)

English: Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

Arabic: Al-Maseeh Qam! *Haqqan Qam!*

Greek: Christos Aneste! *Alethos Aneste!*

Slavonic: Christos Voskrese! *Voistinu Voskrese!*

COMING EVENTS

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|-----------|--|--------------|
| This Week | There is no fasting until the Friday (June 11 th) after our celebration of the Great Feast of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven on the 40 th day after His Resurrection (June 10 th). | |
| Monday | Bible Study: <i>Gospel of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian</i> | 6-8pm |
| Wednesday | Arabic-English Bible Study <i>Gospel of St. John</i> | 12:30-2:30pm |
| Thursday | Parish Council Meeting | 6:15pm |
| Saturday | Great Vespers and Confessions | 5pm |

Postponing ~ I postpone the day of my own repentance

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

Every aspect of my life should be a reflection of my faith in Christ, yet I utterly fall short in living this out as a reality. I find it difficult to look closely at myself, and at my relationships with others. How easily I fall into the trap of judging others, finding fault with them, while allowing myself to avoid that which needs to change in me.

Continued ⇨



In focusing on the failures of others, I postpone the day of my own repentance. I am walking backwards. Step-by-step, I retreat from the way of the Lord. I avoid true spiritual progress, clinging to self-will, and to my ego. Trying desperately to preserve my honor, I sacrifice my inheritance.

I do not honor Christ by my example, nor reflect His love and righteousness in my life. Self-examination (prior to Confession, the Holy Sacrament of Repentance) is the most difficult of tasks, and laziness is the real enemy. So I reach out to my Lord, as one walking in the wilderness, and cry, *Lord have mercy on me.*

Yes, Abbot Tryphon is speaking about himself, BUT it is for ALL of us! *Get out your bible and read the Gospel of St. Matthew chapter 4 about the Temptations of Christ, Jesus' first words (verse 17), calling of His 12 Apostles, and His 1st teachings and healings in St. Matthew's Gospel! ~ love, FJ*



His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

May 12, 2021

Beloved Faithful in Christ,

Greetings and blessings to you and your families in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!

I pray that you had a blessed feast of Holy Pascha. We remember the difficulties imposed on us this time last year due to the pandemic, and it was a joy to travel and commemorate the week of the Life-giving and Saving Passion of our Savior and His Glorious Third-day Resurrection with so many of faithful.

When I ascended the archiepiscopal throne of this God-protected Archdiocese, I promised to make our youth and young adults a focus of my ministry. When I think of the struggles, privations, and civil strife of the last year, my heart goes out first and foremost to our young people. During these trying times, they were cut off from grandparents and family members, school and sports, important life events and social activities. Most importantly, many have lost touch with the Church. When the churches opened again to the faithful, I have been disappointed to see that in many cases the families with children have been the last to return.

Upon my request, the Assembly of Canonical Bishops agreed to declare this year of 2021 as the Year of Youth. We need to take this time as pastors, parents, parish council members, teachers, advisors, and the youth to return to the Father's House and commit ourselves and each other to Christ.

I have asked Fr. Nicholas Belcher to lead our efforts to revitalize our youth and young adult ministries. He will be reaching out to all our dioceses, clergy, parents, teachers, lay leaders, and young people to assess the needs of our young people – to ask what are we doing well and what can we do better? He will be joined by a task force of lay and clergy leaders who are experienced in the areas of Christian education, youth ministry, young adult ministry, and camping.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my deepest thanks and appreciation to those who have worked so hard over the years on behalf of our young people. Particularly, we thank these individuals for their years of leadership and dedicated

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

service: Fr. Joseph Purpura of the Department of Youth and Parish Ministry, Carole Buleza of the Department of Christian Education, and Fr. Anthony Yazge of the Department of Camping as well as the Young Adult Ministry. May our Lord bless them for their excellent stewardship of these ministries over the years!

As we begin this time of reflection and planning for the future, Fr. Nicholas will serve as a point person for the Young Adult Ministry, Anna Sarah Farha for the Department of Christian Education, Fr. Philip Rogers and Erin Ghata for the Department of Youth, and Khalil Samara for the Department of Camping to make sure we are continuing the important work of these ministries.

Nothing could be more important to my ministry as the Metropolitan Archbishop of this Archdiocese than our youth. I ask that we all engage in this process with open minds and hearts and prayer. We will be updating all of the Parish Life Conferences this summer about this important work, and we will have a strategic plan to present to the Archdiocese Convention.

With prayerful best wishes for a blessed and grace-filled celebration of this Pentecostarion period, I remain,

Your Father in the Risen Lord,



+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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