

# 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

May 17, 2020

**المسيح قام! حقا قام! Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!**

Confessions  
8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44  
8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91  
10:00am

Memorial Service  
Trisagion p.183

## Live Streaming of Divine Services

ALL services are served only with clergy, an altar server, and a few chanters. They are not open to the public. Please view our livestream at:

YouTube ~ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpLWfxMIJK4uQOV41ekE6Wg> or

Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/St-George-Flint-254638524560302/>

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.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** *{the Golden-Mouth}*,  
The **Special Hymns** we sing are on the Bilingual sheets from Fr. Joe's Email.

## Holy Bread Offerings

- The Shadeed, Hawkins, Brackett, Shahin, and Rhinehart Families for the health of their families and in memory of **Luci** Brackett Shadeed (40 day).
- Protodeacon Michael and Pam Bassett for the health of their family especially **Zoe** Moore (Goddughter) on the occasion of her day of Baptism and **Christa** Whitehead (Goddughter) on the occasion of her birthday and in loving memory of **Gary** Dines (40 day) and **Naomi** McCarron (17 year, aunt).
- The Salomon and Andoni Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother **Widad** Salomon (1 year).
- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their family and in loving memory of son **Paul** (45 year).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Evelyn** Deligorges (+April 12<sup>th</sup>, sister of Alex Deligorges) **Helga** Lamb (+April 30<sup>th</sup>, mother of Rick, owner of Swartz Funeral Home), and **Yacoub** Zureikat (+May 10<sup>th</sup>, father of Sahar Abdallah and Dr. George).
- 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), **Anwar** Abueita, **Eman** Abufarha, **Wadia** Albaba, Dr. **Usama** Albedd (Sally Abuaita's brother), **Naila** Banna, **Emil J.** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayotis** Deligorges, **Micheline** El-Chaer, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Shawna** Hale, **Donald** Hawkins, **Daisy** Isaac, **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Mary** Khal (sister of Aida Nassar), **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen,

**Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Habib** Skafi, **William** Sophiea Jr, **Lois** Teunion); **Martin**, **Jennifer** [daughter of Najwa Joubran], and newborn **Ava** Khoshaba (May 10<sup>th</sup>).

- We also pray for those who are with child: **Renea** (Rakan) Bayouk, **Andrea** Jones [daughter of Nasri and Carol Haddad], and **Katie** (Philip) Quackenboss [daughter of Bill and Sue Shaheen].

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: May 31<sup>st</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, contact Manal Abuaita (810-577-0028).

**OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, AND DONATIONS** This is a very difficult time for us and everyone around the world as we deal with COVID-19. Though parishioners are not able to attend church, PLEASE help our parish by continuing to send your offerings to St. George. This can simply be done by going to our website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) or by sending your offerings to St. George in the mail.

**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, fill it out, and send it to the church. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings. Again, thank you to our donors!

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud  
Dn. Mike and Pam Bassett  
St. George Preschool  
Khader and Lucy Abuaita  
Anwar and Janet Abueita  
Laila Abud

Anonymous  
Ladies Auxiliary  
Tony Daoud  
Ayman and Wafaa Elias  
John and Theresa Farah  
Betty Froberg

Dr. David and May Gantos  
Bill and Sue Shaheen  
Richard Shaheen  
Bob and Lois Teunion

## COMING EVENTS

This Week	There is no fasting until our celebration of the Great Feast of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven on the 40 <sup>th</sup> day after His Resurrection (May 28 <sup>th</sup> ).
Thursday	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> 6:15pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers</b> 5pm

## Transcendent Joy ~

**In the Divine Liturgy we experience transcendent joy**

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

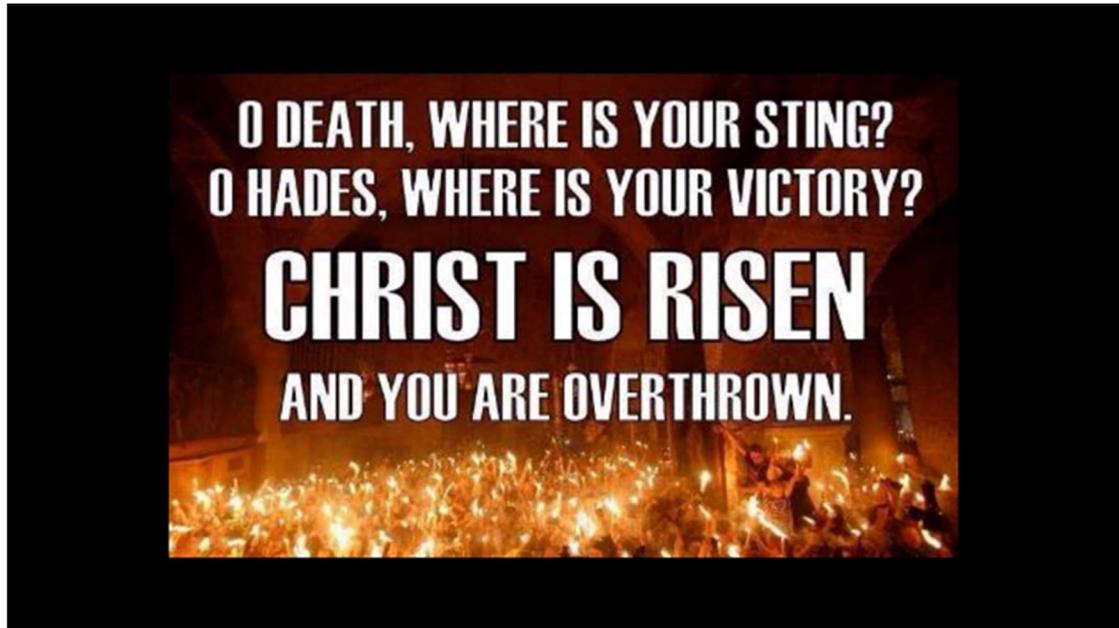
As Orthodox Christians, we know that whenever we enter into the Divine Liturgy we can experience a transcendent joy that leads to a deep sense of gratitude, and this in turn translates into a profound happiness that connects us to the Eternal Kingdom. We walk out of the service with a renewed sense of gratefulness which translates into a vision of all that is good in our world. We see that there are good people who are part of our lives, and that we are surrounded by beauty. Even the imperfections that abound,

including our collective experience of this pandemic, becomes the foundation for lifting up the spirits of those around us. Being happy ourselves we are more likely to bring about happiness in others.

Being happy nurtures those random acts of kindness that everyone loves to experience, and promotes goodness and kindness among even strangers. People love it when other people are good to random people. This happiness becomes like a magnet, and even strangers are drawn to us.

There is nothing that brings about satisfaction like being grateful for our life, for the lives of those around us, and for the love God has for us. In all of this we need to remind ourselves that it is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy. Living in a joyful state, we become vehicles for a transcendent joy that brings about healing for those around us, and even the whole of the world is changed.

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## **Bishops and Priests ~ Bishops serve as Christ among us, and priests as the presence of the bishop among his people**

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

The bishop is to be both a servant to his people and father to his flock. He represents Christ in the midst of his diocese, and must be compassionate, sweet, longsuffering, humble, and kind hearted. He must be available to his people. The bishop must be humble, lest he fall into the trap of seeing this sacred office as his divine right to lord over those under him.

The love and respect shown to our bishops is the same as the love shown to fathers by their children. As Christ in their midst, the bishops rule not by tyranny and fear, but by love and holiness of life. They serve as archetypes of the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for his flock.

The honor we show our bishops is honor that is shown to Christ Himself, just as when we kiss icons, our love and honor are passed on to the archetype. We call our bishops Lord in the Liturgy, not because they are princely overlords, but because they are Christ in our midst. We love and honor them, because they, like Christ, first loved us. And the love and honor we show them (as icons of Christ) are passed on to the prototype, Christ Himself.

Just as bishops serve as Christ among us, so too the priests serve as the presence of the bishop among his people. They must also be humble and holy servants of their people. They must be loving fathers in the midst of their congregations, knowing that they represent the bishop and therefore Christ Himself.

The love of Christ must be visible in the fatherly humility of the priest for his people, and he must lead his people in showing love and respect for their bishop. Priests must support their bishops, realizing the heavy burden that rests upon their shoulders. The priest must pray for his bishop, support his bishop, and love his bishop, even as his own father.

Keeping these biblical images of priests and bishops, the Church is able to keep Her focus on Christ and is protected from becoming like the worldly governments and institutions that surround Her. The Church, in Her wisdom, knows that the world does not need another worldly institution but rather the saving power of a hospital for the soul. The world is in terrible decline and desperate for the example of the selfless service and sacrificial love that only the Church can offer.

The world needs Christ, not simply religion, and the Church cannot be Her intended self without her bishops and priests becoming simple, humble, holy servants. The Church's clergy must serve in imitation of the Lord, in all humility and love. If we priests and bishops are to be true to our vocation, we must remember, "*a servant cannot be greater than his Master*" (John 13:16).

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