

July 14, 2019

**HOLY FATHERS OF THE FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

**أحد آباء المجامع المسكونية السبعة**

Tone - 3 4<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel {Luke 24:1-12}

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. John Chrysostom** {*the Golden-Mouth*},  
we sing the following Special Hymns for today:

**Third Antiphon** (during the Little Entrance)

**Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has done a mighty act with His own arm. He has trampled down death by death and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades granting the world the great mercy.

**Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel**

**Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3**

لتفرح السماويات وتبتهج الأرضيات. لأن الرب صنع عزا" بساعده، ووطئ الموت بالموت، وصار بكارا" للاموات.  
وأنقذنا من جوف الجحيم، ومنح العالم الرحمة العظمى.

**Troparion for the Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council—Tone 8**

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise who did establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee!

أنت أيها المسيح إلهنا الفائق التسبيح، يا من أسست آباءنا القديسين على الأرض كواكب لامعة، وبهم هديتنا جميعاً إلى الإيمان الحقيقي، يا جزيل الرحمة المجد لك.

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

### **Kontakion for the Virgin Mary—Tone 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned, but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee. Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

يا شفيعة المسيحيين غير الخازية الوسيطة لدى الخالق غير المرذودة لا تعرضي عن اصوات طلباتنا نحن الخطاة، بل تداركينا بالمعونة بما انك صالحة، نحن الصارخين نحوك بايمان، بادري الى الشفاعة واسرعي في الطلبة يا والدة الإله المتشفعة دائماً بمكرميك.

**Epistle Reading:** *Titus 3:23-4:5* {St. Kyriaki}

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 6:22-33* {3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew}

### Holy Bread Offerings

- Ric and Martha Shahin for the health of their family and the **Shahin, Hawkins, Rhinehart, and Moore Families**.
- We also pray for the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Darryl** Bray (+July 9<sup>th</sup>, known to our Preschool Director, Jessica Blake).
- 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), **Sahar Abdallah**, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Georgette** and **George** Abueita, **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Betty** Froberg, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Roland** and **Ronald** Haddad, **Shawna** Hale, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal & Nimer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Adam** Odeh, **Aida** Raffoul, **John** Salomon, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoeh, **William** Sophia Jr., and **Lois** Teunion; **Raad**, **Sandy** and newborn **Luka** Qumsieh (June 16<sup>th</sup>); **Gary**, **Katrina** and newborn **George** Edward Gagne (June 27<sup>th</sup>).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Jennifer** (Michael) Habbo {daughter of James and Maggie David} and **Kari** (Panayiotis) Mikroudiss {daughter of John and Theresa Farah}.

### 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).

- Since Church School is not in session, our children and their parents will receive Holy Communion together! Please wait in your pew until an usher comes to dismiss you.
- If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.
- If you have a special need, let one of the ushers know so they may assist you.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RENTAL** Our Banquet Center is rented today. Please be respectful to our renters and their guests by not disturbing their event. Thank you!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** is in our Lounge and hosted by *Ric and Martha Shahin*.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: July 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<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.

### **COMING EVENTS**

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i> ) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
TODAY	<b>Pan-Orthodox Softball Game at St. Pius Catholic Church-Flint</b> 3pm
Thursday	<b>Parish Council Dinner Meeting</b> 6:15pm Any parishioner is welcome to come, observe, and make comments at the appropriate time on the Agenda.
Friday	Abufarha Baptism 5pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm

## **The Dark Side ~ When we experience the "dark side" of the Church**

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

For those who have experienced what has been called the "dark side" of the Church, the struggle to remain faithful to the Orthodox Faith can seem daunting. The dark side is the result of the sinful, fallen nature of all of us who make up the Body of Christ. It is that part of each of us that is yet to have been transformed, and made whole. This is especially difficult for pious believers when that dark side rears its ugly head through those who serve the Church as her clergy. But if we see this dark side for what it is, and know that it is not actually coming from the Life of the Church, but from the great Enemy of our souls, we realize that our common fallen nature is vulnerable to the attacks of Satan, who as the enemy of God, attacks those who serve the Church with an especially hardened hatred. When priests and bishops are seen as operating in a shameful way, and we see no love in them, we can find ourselves wondering if there is anything to the

Church. When the Church fails us, be it her clergy, or fellow members of a parish, we can feel especially betrayed, and wonder why we remain at all.

Like all human institutions, the Church can fall short of her calling, and her special vocation as hospital of the soul, can appear no different than any other human institution. Rather than receiving the needed love, and the resulting healing of the soul, the parishioner may feel as though they've been abused. Parish intrigue can turn the hospital into an insane asylum, and we come away feeling hurt and disrespected. We look at political organizations, businesses, institutions of higher education, and other human based institutions, and see this dark side of the human condition, and we can see that this dark side is really not about the divinely instituted Church, nor her clergy, but about the Evil One.

When we look at our common enemy, we see that this dark side is really not about the Church, but about ourselves, and our own common failure to submit our whole selves, and all our life, into the hands of Our Saviour. It is in this submission to Christ, that healing will take place, and we will be made whole. That is the point in which we can stop blaming our clergy, or our bishops, and take the blame upon ourselves. The dark side is coming from within our own fallen nature, and it is we who are in need of acting according to the gospel message. We are the enemy of Christ, and it is our sin that is responsible for the dark side that resides within the life of Christ's Church.

When we confront our own fallen nature, and blame only ourselves for the debilitating dark side, we usher in the Light of Christ, and all is made whole. When we've done that, we are no longer able to see the sin of others, and we look upon everyone that seems to have failed us, in a new light. We look at them as Christ. Be it Christ crucified, or Christ glorified, we see only Christ. It is then that we emerge out of the long, dark tunnel, having been purified by the action of the Holy Spirit. We are made whole (holy), and the failures of others are no longer noticed by us, and we see only the love of Christ in the faces of our brothers and sisters. The dark side is transformed, and we are made stronger for having suffered as we did, and we will have experienced the truth in the saying that God allows difficulties, humiliations, and hardships, as the way to draw us closer to Him, and make us stronger.

When this happens, we will know that God is Our Father, and He desires His children to grow in wisdom and strength. Because of His great love for us, He allows us to experience pain and rejection, knowing it will make us stronger. Just as an earthly father knows an overprotected child does not grow in wisdom and strength, God, as the good father, changes us into loving, compassionate, and giving persons, and the darkness shall be no more.

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- If you know of a parishioner who has given birth, fallen ill, or admitted to the hospital, please call the church office or let Father Joe know.