

## 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

Rev. Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

July 25, 2021

# Glory to Jesus Christ!

## *Glory Forever!*

### 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.

**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

- Laila Abud and Family for the health of their family especially her new great-grandson **Julian** Joseph and in loving memory of husband **Joseph** (15 year), parents **Thomas** and **Julia** Shehab, brother **Roy** and **Beverly** Shehab, mother-in-law **Saada** Abud. **Babe** and **Helen** Krusienski, **Elias**, **Anna**, **John**, **Helen**, **Charles**, and **Martha** Abraham, **George**, **Randy** and **Abraham** Abud, **Amelia** Elias, **Charles** and **Lila** Abud, **Jack** and **Judy** Korb, **Philippe** and **Adele** Melkin, **Donald** and **Phyllis** Feilder, and **Anton** and **Raquel** Ahee.

- The Nassif children for the health of their families on the occasion of their parents **George** and **Jeanette's** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of being united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony ~ *may God grant them many years!*
- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their children and grandchildren especially daughter **Renee** on the occasion of her birthday ~ *may God grant her many years!*

### Baptism/Chrismation Days

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

● **Liliana** Abufarha and **Julian** Alkazaha – July 19<sup>th</sup>

● **Marcos** Abuaita– July 25<sup>th</sup>

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

- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Suad** Awwad (July 7<sup>th</sup>, mother of Wafa Alsaouri) and **Stephen** Bruckman (+July 7<sup>th</sup>, great-grandson of Daisy Isaac).
- 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, **Amal** Abu-Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **William** Alsaouri, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Thuraya** Elias (mother of Ayman), **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George** Gantous, **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, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **William** and **Elise** Sophiea Jr.; **Matthew**, **Sarah**, and newborn **Landon** Thomas [June 10<sup>th</sup>, grandson of Doug and Sandy]. **Joelle Grace** Bayouk who is to be brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation and the reception of her First Communion.
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Mirna** and **Tamer** Abuaita [son of Khader and Lucy], **Amira** and **Abdallah** Farah, **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khoury, **Haneen** and **Benan** Burbar, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, **Kari** and **Panagiotis** Mikroudis [daughter of John and Theresa Farah], **Elise** and **Jarrett** Lane [daughter of Habeeb & Denise Ghattas and Jill Smith], and **Rachel** and **Andrew** Sackllah [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita].

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** is hosted by *The Nassif Children and their Families*.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<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, contact Manal Abuaita (810-577-0028). *During the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Fast (August 1<sup>st</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>) and on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> when we remember the Beheading of St. John the Baptist, no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are to be served*. **Thank you to George and Amal Abu-Aita who hosted last week in honor of Cezar's birthday!**

**NEW COVID-19 PROCEDURES** Based on the quickly changing directives and guidance from Metropolitan Joseph, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and our state government, our Parish Council has NEW PROCEDURES. We all want the safest place for all of our parishioners to worship. **PLEASE FOLLOW:**

1. Those who are vaccinated may wear a mask, **but are not required to.**
2. **PLEASE, *if you are not vaccinated*** because of medical or other reasons, **you must wear a mask and maintain social distancing.**
3. Pews in the back of the church are for **those who would like to be social distanced and those who are not vaccinated.**
4. **Our first breaking of bread together** took place on July 4<sup>th</sup> and we are now continuing with our normal Coffee Fellowship!

Our live-stream will continue. Remember we are venerating icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching*) also, please bow to the priest or at the chalice for Holy Communion.

**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 as soon as possible. There is lots of wrong information on TV and social media. Don't be fooled; it could cost you, your family, or friends in a tragic way! If you have any questions or need truthful information, please contact Dr. Lindsey (Farah) Brunner: text ONLY, please 810-908-9213 or [Infarah2009@hotmail.com](mailto:Infarah2009@hotmail.com). **If you or someone you know needs help making an appointment or need to be driven to one, please call the church 810-732-0720.**

### COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, meat by-products, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i> ) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm

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## **COURAGE AND FAITH ~ Verses Anxiety and Unease**

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

If we are easily offended, or lose our peace of mind when someone treats us badly, inner peace cannot be attained. The Christian who lives his life with internal strife and worry edifies neither other Christians, nor does he reflect anything of Christianity that would be attractive to those who have no faith. Such a person can even be a serious stumbling block for others because his religiosity seems to be the cause of his weakness.

Saint Paul says, "*Love is not irritable or resentful....Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things*" (1 Corinthians 13). If we are always complaining, weeping, or worrying, we are not living according to the directive of the Apostle Paul. Worry is based on a sentimentality of our Christian faith, creating a degenerate version of Orthodoxy that inspires no one, and ultimately leads to the death of our own soul.

*continued* ⇨

The true Christian is patient with others, just as he is in need of the patience of his friends and family. As Christians, we are called to be a faithful people, yet we often act in a way as to betray ourselves as faithless. We ought to live by the power of God, yet we give in to a weakness that is subject to anxiety and fear. We are the children of the Most High, empowered by our God for a life of holiness and faith. Let us live with courage and faith, that we might acquire peace of heart and shine before all men the Light of Christ.

*Get out your bible, find Saint Paul's first letter to the Christians living in Corinth (Corinthians, Chapter 13). That is where the above and below quotes are from ~ Beautiful, Enjoy!  
Love, FJ*

patient **kind** DOES NOT ENVY  
NOT PROUD DOES NOT BOAST  
**not rude**  
not self-seeking   
NOT EASILY ANGERED  
KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS  
**always protects**  
 love always trusts  
ALWAYS HOPES   
ALWAYS PERSEVERES  
I Corinthians 13 **never fails**  
**Love is...**

DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL

rejoices with the truth



# Orthodox Christian PRISON MINISTRY

**Sunday July 25, 2021**

**Prison Ministry Awareness 2021**

*“Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your name.” (Psalm 142:7)*

*To the Reverend Clergy, Monastics, and Pious Faithful of our Holy Orthodox Church in the United States:*

**Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Greetings and blessings to you all!

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States has blessed us to observe the Sunday before the feast of St. Silas, the patron saint of prison ministry, as Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday. This year we remember this sacred ministry on July 25, 2021.

After a year of isolation, we are experiencing the full joy of our freedom this summer. Many of us are making up for lost time: taking trips, seeing our friends, and most importantly, returning to our churches in person.

For our brothers and sisters in prison, it has been a hard year as well. Lockdowns meant many of the 2.3 million men and women incarcerated in the United States were in truly deep isolation without visitations from family, friends, and clergy. As restrictions now ease, we are called more than ever to exercise our own freedoms to serve those who have suffered emotionally, physically, and spiritually over these last months. Now is the moment to cherish our blessings by sharing them with those who our Lord has commanded us to see Himself in.

*Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ (Matthew 25).*

Along with those in prison right now, we can find the Lord in the faces of those who have been released from prison and are seeking to find community in our parishes and rebuild their lives through the Orthodox way of life. We can also visit the Lord in caring for the family members of prisoners. Indeed, the staggering rates of incarceration in the US make it difficult to find an Orthodox parish in our country that does not have a parishioner deeply affected by the incarceration of an immediate family member.

As the Episcopal Moderator of Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, I respectfully request you observe this day of awareness. The Holy Orthodox Church, through Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, brings the mercy, forgiveness, and love of Christ to those people who need hope and healing living in the darkness of prison.

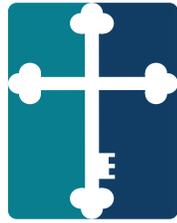
We humbly ask that after passing a tray for the ongoing work of your parish, you please pass a second tray on Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday for the work of the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry.

As Saint Isaac the Syrian says, “A cruel and merciless heart is never purified. A merciful man is the doctor of his own soul because as a strong wind from his heart, he drives out the darkness of the passions.” Please show mercy to our brothers and sisters in jails and prisons across the United States on July 25th.

With much love and thanks in our risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Mark". The plus sign is a simple cross, and the name "Mark" is written in a cursive, flowing script.

†Archbishop Mark of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania, OCA



Orthodox Christian  
**PRISON MINISTRY**

# PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison?

Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church?

## Who will minister to them?

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church. OCPM corresponds with thousands of prisoners across the country and provides spiritual books, Bibles, icons, and catechism courses. OCPM trains Orthodox priests and laypeople to enter prisons and minister to prisoners.

## 2MILLION

ICONS DISTRIBUTED TO PRISONERS

## 40,723

BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS SENT IN 2020



**Together we can fulfill the Lord's commandment to visit Him in prison (Matthew 25:36 – "I was in prison and you visited me.")**

**Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry**  
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ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL  
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