

St. George Orthodox Church

5191 Lennon Road • Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 732-0720

Father Amin Houli, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

August 11, 2024

Blessings on the great feast of the Transfiguration of Lord on Mt. Tabor!

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. If you are a first-time visitor, please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you after liturgy, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship! 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. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy.

Guidelines for Receiving Holy Communion for Orthodox Christians: Orthodox Christians fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by receiving Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command *to eat His Body and drink His Blood*. In order to be properly prepared to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should fast (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 striving to always love God and their neighbor. Frequent communion and regular confession are recommended for all faithful Orthodox Christians.

For other Christians: We welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately, we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (*antidoron*) which will be given when coming forward to venerate (kiss) the Holy Cross and receive the final blessing from the priest. Again, welcome!

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.

Holy Bread Offerings (*Oblations*)

- Hiam Bathish for her health and the health of her family especially her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and in loving memory of husband **Emil**, sister **Inam**, and newly departed brother-in-law **Adeeb** Bathish (9 day).
- Louie and Kathy Haddad for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Ronald** Haddad (40 day, father of Louie).
- St. George Parish Council for the health of our parishioners and in memory of **Ronald** Haddad (40 day).
- Youssif and Salwa Abousamra and family for the health of their family and in loving memory of son **Housam** Abousamra (6 month).
- Najwa Joubran for the health of the members of the **Elias, Hanna, Joubran, and Khoshaba Families** and in loving memory mother **Badia** Khoury (14 year).
- Khaled and Sally Abuaita for the health of their family and in loving memory of Dr. **Jeries** Ghanem (brother of Manal Abuaita).

BAPTISM/CHRISMATION DAYS

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

- **Zane** Farah ~ August 12th • **Taym**, and **Tia** Al-Qassis ~ August 13th
- **Anna Maria** Abdallah, **Jehad** Abufarha, and **Talia** Jaraysch ~ August 17th

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

- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Archbishop Nathaniel** (Romanian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America), our **Fr. Jeremy, Fr. Amin** and **Kh. Rena, Teodora**, and **Nicholas** Houli, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Abeer** Abuaita, **Reader Fouad & Soad** Abuaita, **Philip & Janett** Abuaita, **Rasha** Abuaita, **Sami & Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **George** Abueita, **Georgette** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **William** Alsahouri, **Naila** Banna, **Douglas** Coone, **Vera** Daoud, **Said** Farah, **Joseph** Gagne, **Elias** Gantos, **Subdeacon George** Gantous, **Phyllis** Good, **Daisy** Isaac, **Mila** Mitri, **Danny** Mortensen, **Karen** Mortensen, **Laura** Nassar, **Jeanette** Nassif, **Adam** Odeh, **Nimer** Rishmawi, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch; your servants **Maria** Kirk, **Evan** Sandford, and **Jaden** Turner who are in catechism (under instruction) to become members of our Orthodox Faith; **Joseph** and **Julia** Shamshoum who were brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and First Communion.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Molly** McCarron (+July 12th, cousin of Fr. Michael), **Jihan** Mitri (+July 20th, sister-in-law to Elias Mitri), **George** (Jiries) Ghanem (+July 26th, brother of Manal Abuaita), **Cyril** Yonov (+July 31st, friend of Fr. Michael), **Shawn** Kiley (+Aug. 4th, sister of Sue Salomon), and **John** Mays (+Aug. 4th, great-grandfather of Evan Sanford).
- We also pray for our *Expectant Parents*: **Liana** and **Hanna** Abuaita, **Stephanie** and **Nadim** Burbar, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, and **Dania** and **Subdeacon Salim** Hanna.
- Remember in your prayers **Lana** Abuaita and the **Staff** at the Antiochian Village as they finish the last week of the summer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Louie and Kathy Haddad*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: August 25th, September 1st, 15th, 22nd, and 29th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information are in the Lounge. Hosting includes bringing whatever you wish to serve, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$30. **For more information**, contact coordinator Manal Abuaita 810-577-0028.

UOFM-FLINT, KETTERING, AND MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS We are re-starting an **Orthodox Christian Fellowship** (OCF) local chapter. Students (or parents), please let Fr. Michael (989-627-9580 or frdmike@gmail.com) know if you are at any of these schools ~ thanks!

THE CRY OF THE FORERUNNER this September 27-29 in Livonia, MI. This transformative Orthodox men's retreat, led by Fr. Michael Butler, Fr. Hans Jacobse, and Paul Lloyd Robson, offers a unique opportunity for you to deepen your Orthodox faith through the life and preaching of St. John the Baptist. Experience Orthodox worship, intense group work, physical challenges, and fellowship with like-minded Orthodox men. Whether you're a young man seeking direction or an older man ready for renewal, this retreat is for you. Limited to 100 participants. Early bird registration saves \$25 before September 1st. Visit <https://www.avg2alpha.com/cry-of-the-forerunner/> for details and registration. Optional: attend the 17th Annual Male Bonding Party afterwards.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be \$7,588 to meet our 2024 Budget. On Sunday, August 4th our offerings were \$2,366; we were short \$5,222! 😞 **Please keep up with your offerings during the summer months!** If you have not already, fill out your *2024 Offering Form*, put it in Sunday's Offering Tray or send it to the church (5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507). May God bless you for supporting His parish of St. George and offering as He wants for our salvation!

- **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 done automatically weekly/monthly. Just call or go online with your banking institution to get the form you need.

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The **Dormition Fast** for the **Dormition** (*Falling Asleep*) of the **Virgin Mary** began on August 1st and lasts until her feast this Thursday, August 15th. The traditional fasting discipline during this fourteen-day period is *no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products, except on Saturdays and Sundays when wine and olive oil are allowed.* The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, meat by-products, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is also observed on Friday.

Monday **Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary** 6pm

Wednesday Pan-Orthodox **Great Vespers for the Dormition** with Metropolitan Nicholas at Assumption (2245 E Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc, 810-771-4611) 6pm

Thursday Pan-Orthodox **Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Virgin Mary** at Assumption (2245 E Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc, 810-771-4611) 10am

Thursday **Parish Council** Dinner Meeting 6:15pm

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

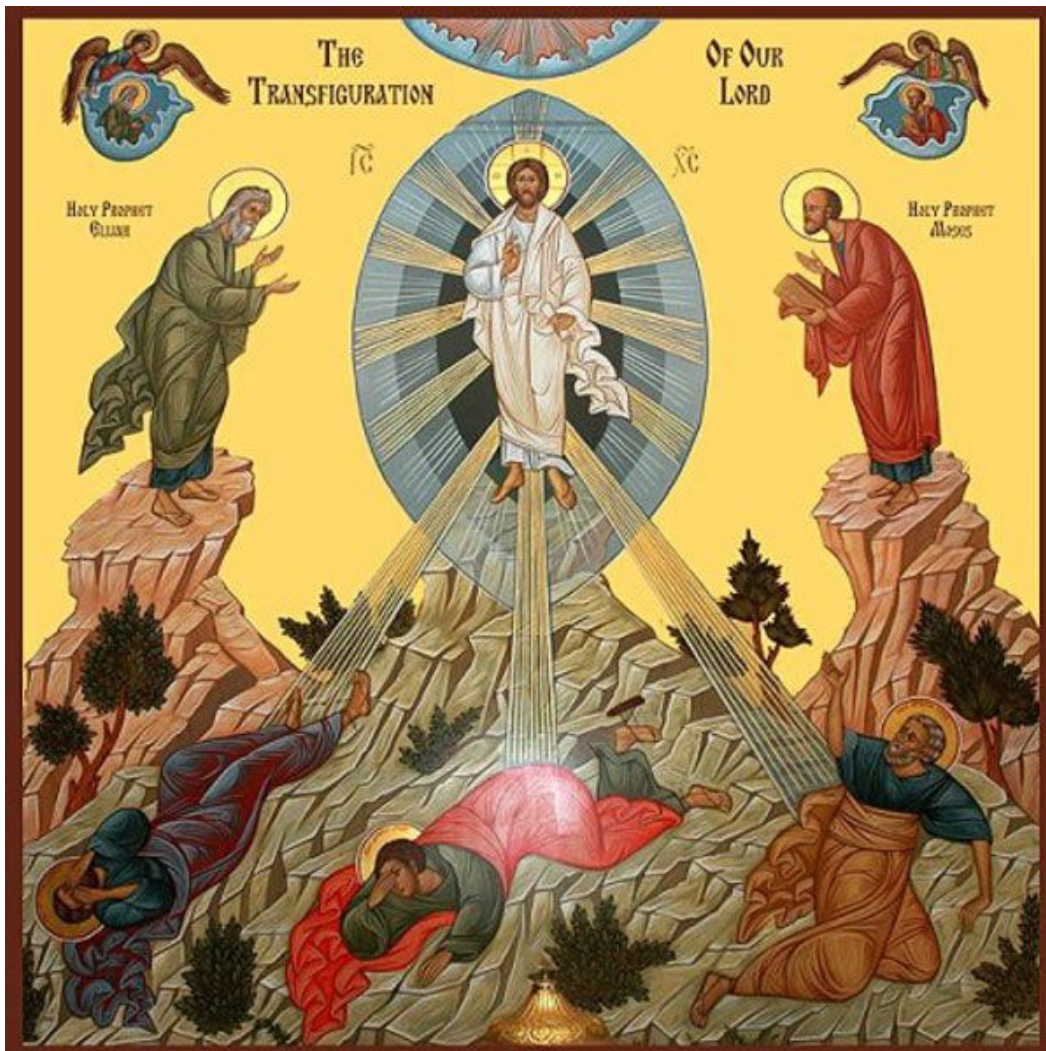
Holy Transfiguration ~ The Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ

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

The Transfiguration of Christ is the episode in the New Testament narrative in which Our Lord is transfigured and becomes radiant with bright rays of light. At that moment the prophets Moses and Elias (Elijah in Hebrew) appear next to Him, and He speaks with them. The voice of God the Father calls Him, "Son", as happened at the baptism of Jesus. This miracle is unique among the others that appear in the gospels, in that the miracle happens to Jesus Himself. The Transfiguration is considered the greatest of all miracles, in that it complemented the baptism and showed the perfection of life in Heaven. The Transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Christ, the others being baptism, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.

In Christian teaching, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus Himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth. The Transfiguration of Christ was the first time in the history of the world that man was able to come face to face with the Uncreated Light of God. During the Transfiguration, the scales fell from the disciples eyes and they beheld Jesus as He really was/is—filled with the glory of God. And, this moment foreshadows what we all will behold, when we stand for all eternity, worshiping in the company of the heavenly hosts, and all the saints, before the Holy Trinity.

May this great feast be filled with blessings, and great joy, for all of you.



St. George Parish Picnic

Parish
Picnic



Sunday, August 18th
12 Noon to 8pm

Immediately after Divine Liturgy

A free will (*voluntary*) offering will
be available.

- Food and Drinks are provided.
- Fun and Games for the whole family and a great way to meet and have fellowship with our (*your*) St. George Family!
- For more information or to help out, please contact chairman: Anwar (Andy) Abueita (810 394-2918 / andydollar007@aol.com)



Antiochian Charities

Website: www.antiochian.org/charities

Email: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com

“Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me.” (Matthew 18:5)

August 5, 2024

TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARISHIONERS

For over forty years the Children’s Relief Fund has provided financial support to help defray the cost of education for children in Lebanon and Palestine. Requests for such support have increased significantly in recent years. As a result of dire circumstances in Lebanon, many parents have become unable to pay tuition to send their children to Orthodox Christian schools. Our Orthodox schools are at risk of closing, and consequently many of our children will now have to attend a public school or to discontinue their schooling altogether.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, we are seeking your help. We have approximately forty Lebanese children from the Archdioceses of Beirut, Koura, Tripoli, Akkar, and Zahle who need assistance to continue their education at an Orthodox Christian school this coming school year. The tuition cost per student varies from \$750 to \$1200 per school year, depending on the school and the student’s grade level.

Donated funds will be wired directly to the Orthodox school in the child’s name. The child and their family will receive a notice of your support, and you will receive contact information so that you can communicate directly with the child if you wish. Children receiving a tuition scholarship will not receive any other funding from the Children’s Relief Fund. Sponsorship in any amount will be appreciated.

School begins in a few weeks, so if you can help, please contact CFR Administrator Amy Stiffler at: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com.

Children’s Relief Fund Scholarship Program

Antiochian Village
140 Church Camp Trail
Bolivar, PA 15923

God bless you for your consideration of this urgent request.

In Christ’s work,

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator & Executive Director
Anne Bourjaily Thomas, Charitable Outreach Chair

cc: His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

A charity of the ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator – (724) 238-3677 Ext: 402

Mailing Address: Antiochian Village, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA 15923