

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

August 7, 2022

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Attached

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

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. 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 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, and being at peace with others. Everyone else, including visitors, are invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. Again, welcome!

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Reem Bathish for the health of her family and in loving memory of husband **Jose** Ramirez (40 day).
- The Alkazaha Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of nephew and cousin **Issa** Odeh Ishaq (40 day).
- Father Michael and Khouriya Pam Bassett for the health of their family and in loving memory of uncle **Charles** Thabet (40 day).
- Steve and Kelly Sanderson for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Charles** Stewart (1 year, uncle of Kelly).

- Elias Hanna, Najwa Joubran, Abdo Hanna, Wafaa Elias, and Feryal Joubran for the health of their families and in loving memory of mother **Badia Khoury** (12 year).

Baptism/Chrismation Days

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

• **Mila Mitri** ~ August 10th

• **Taym Khoury** ~ August 13th

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

- We pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Archimandrite Duane** Pederson (+July 20th), **Stojan** Prusac (40 day, from St. Nicholas, friend of parishioners), **Imad** Isaac (July 6th, friend of St. George), **Lorraine** Nadar (+July 5th, aunt of Cam Takach), **Vicki** Toma (+July 6th, sister of Fr. Joe), **Rhoda** Wheat (+July 9th, sister of Ron Haddad), **Dolores** Bator (+July 12th, grandmother of Dan and Staci Bator), **Nuha** Odeh (+July 15th, aunt of Giries Odeh and Mousa Rishmawi), and **Bassam** Sami Al Issa (+July 31st, father-in-law of Khalil Abousamra).
- 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, **Sally** Abuaita, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Khader** AbuAita, **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **Jane** Abueita, **Chelsy** Abufarha, **Danial** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alsahouri, **Danny** Andoni, **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Kh. Pam** Bassett, **Emil** Bathish, **Douglas** Coone, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Victor** David, **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** and **Thalge** Ghanim (mother/uncle of Manal Abuaita), **Jamil** Ghantous, **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Loretta** Karpelenia (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Judy** Mikhail, **Laura** Nassar, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Valland** Frangi (sister of Ron Haddad), **Michael** Zerka (uncle of Lauren Zerka); **Daniel**, **Casandra**, and newborn **Ezra Daniel** Burbar who will be brought back into the life of our parish through the *Prayers of Churching*; **John**, **Jacqueline** (daughter of Anwar and Janet), and newborn **Leah Elizabeth** Timm (July 15th).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khoury and **Sandy** (daughter of Issa and Esperanza) and **Raad** Qumsieh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is in our Lounge and is hosted by *Reem Bathish*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: August 28th, September 4th, 18th, and 25th ~ 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 are needed. PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (*use the QR code to the left*) or you can bring or mail your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507. As always, THANK YOU for your generosity and love of our St. George!

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The **Dormition Fast** for the **Dormition** (*Falling Asleep or Assumption*) of the **Virgin Mary** began on Monday, August 1st and lasts until the feast on 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. On the Feast of our **Lord's Transfiguration** (August 6th), *fish, wine, and olive oil* are allowed.

Tuesday **Men's Fellowship** 7pm

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

live-stream: https://youtu.be/Ua5D_c-9M_M

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 5pm

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The Expression of True Unity in Christ ~

The Church is forever united with Christ and is Christ like

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

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

1 John 4:20

The Church Fathers saw Orthodoxy as a Way of Life, rather than "a religion". Although the Church has many of the same attributes as religion, this does not mean she herself is "just a religious institution", but rather the Body of Christ, and one with our Savior. Most importantly, she is a Hospital for the Soul, wherein we can receive the healing that makes it possible to commune with our Creator. It is within this hospital, the Church, that we are made holy (whole), making this communion possible. The Sacraments, and specifically the Eucharist, which is the chief vehicle by which we can receive the grace that opens the doors for communion with God, bring about spiritual transformation, and are the chief sign of our unity in Christ.

Although there is uniformity in doctrine and practice within the Orthodox Church, the unity within the Church does in no way exclude other souls who are outside the Church, for all are God's children, and the doors of the Church are open wide, even to those who are blind to this truth. The Church does not judge those who remain outside her walls, but loves them, and prays for them. She is not an "exclusive" institution, but rather the living embodiment of Christ. Her claim to divine origin, and absolute truth, in no way suggests a denial of the basic dignity of all humanity as being the children of God.

The Church's claim to divine origin is nowhere more clearly seen, then her celebration of the Eucharist, for this is the moment when heaven comes down to earth, and her faithful are united one to another, in the Christ Who gives Himself so

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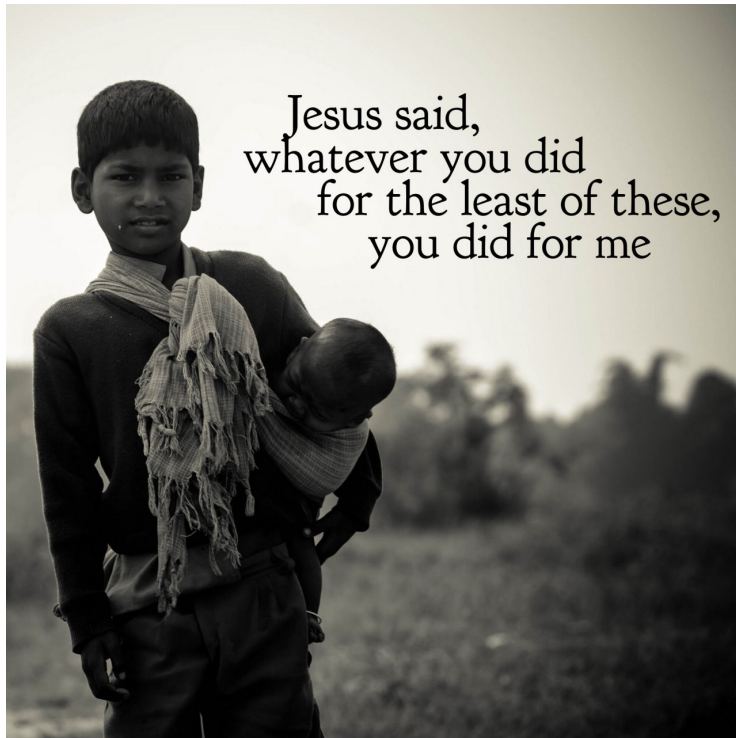
freely and completely. In this way, the Eucharist is both the vehicle to unity in Christ, and a sign of a unity that transforms time and space. Yet without unity of faith, where each believer has received the teachings of the Church in all her integrity and authenticity as their own, communion would simply be a common participation in a symbolic act, rather than the participation in the Divine. Our reception of the very Body and Blood of Christ, is that point in eternity that brings about transformation and holiness.

These teachings are in direct opposition to the theories and philosophies of today, for they would deny the existence of Absolute Truth. The Church's strict adherence to the beliefs, teachings, and practices, that have been handed down from Apostolic times, are the basis for our unity, for we have bound ourselves to the unchanging Apostolic Church, and forever united ourselves to Christ.

We join the Church to become one with Christ, and thus Christ like. As the essence of God is love, if we are truly Christ like, and truly in unity with Christ and His Church, we MUST show love towards all around us – and especially the poor, the destitute, the unfortunate, and our enemies.

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Get out your bibles and find the Gospel of St. Matthew, chapter 25. Read verses 31-46. This is the reading the Church reads on Meat-fare Sunday, 2 Sundays before the Great Fast. 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

August 7, 2022

Reverend Hierarchs, Clergy, esteemed Board of Trustees, Organizations, and Faithful of the Antiochian Archdiocese:

We are very pleased to announce that on June 7, 2022, the Antiochian House of Studies received full accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) to offer the following degrees:

- Master of Divinity
- Master of Theological Studies
- Master of Pastoral Care and Counseling
- Doctor of Ministry
- Doctor of Philosophy

We congratulate the V. Rev. Father Michel Najim (President), the Rt. Rev. Father Fadi Rabbat (Academic Dean) and the V. Rev. Father Joseph Purpura (Accreditation Director) and all the officers, faculty, staff, the AHOS board of trustees, alumni and students of the Antiochian House of Studies for this outstanding achievement in the life of the school and in the life of our Archdiocese and Orthodoxy across North America.

The Antiochian House of Studies (AHOS) was founded in 1980 as the St. Stephens Program of Studies. Over the past several decades, AHOS has developed into full-fledged school, offering another option for the education and pastoral formation of students who are preparing themselves for priesthood and for Church ministries within the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America and beyond. Today, with over two hundred students presently enrolled, the Antiochian House of Studies is now a fully accredited Graduate School of Theology.

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

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We encourage all the priests and parishes to financially support and participate in the life and work of this Orthodox Theological School <https://tahos.org> and we ask that you encourage the faithful of your parish to consider supporting by various means, as well as encouraging participation by your faithful in one of these degree programs.

We ask that you offer your prayers as well as your parish's financial support and participation in this school. I do designate the First Sunday of the Dormition Fast as a Sunday to support the Antiochian House of Studies. On that day a collection tray will be passed. The collection tray will be sent to Antiochian Archdiocese (earmarked AHOS). On personal level you may make your tax-deductible on line donation by clicking her or copying this link into your browser: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=5322090> or by mailing your check payable to: The Antiochian House of Studies, 1020 Baseline Road, La Verne, CA 91750.

For further questions or to make large donations, you may contact the Very Reverend Joseph Antypas, Frjoseph.antypas@tahos.org, Vice President of Business Development.

Yours in the service of Christ,



+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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