

St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

November 18, 2012

NOVEMBER IS I.O.C.C. (INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES) MONTH

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MARTYRS PLATON OF ANCYRA AND ROMANOS OF PALESTINE

Tone – 7

2nd Matins Gospel {Mark 16:1-8}

Altar Servers: **St. Michael** team {Karim Al-Khour, captain} Next Week – **St. Elias** team

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! Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word "*Liturgy*" means *work of the people* which means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God's grace to enter. For those who have committed themselves to the Orthodox Faith (through Baptism and/or Chrismation) it also means, if prepared, the reception of Holy Communion. Preparation includes the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, prayer, being on time for church, being at peace with others, attending the Divine Liturgy regularly, and fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before). If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father Joe. Please know that everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Gospel and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. All are welcome to our Coffee Fellowship in the hall after Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*The Golden-Mouth*}, we sing these special hymns:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 7

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross. Thou didst open paradise to the thief. Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy; and didst bid Thine apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 7 (*as above*)

Troparion for the Martyrs—Tone 4

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, by their struggles have received from Thee, our God, imperishable crowns; because, acquiring Thy strength, they demolished usurpers and crushed the powerless might of Satan. Therefore, through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Troparion of 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 مُحرراً ومعتقاً، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضدً وناصراً وللمرضى طبيباً وشافٍ وعن

المؤمنين مكافح ومُحاربٌ أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس الألبسُ الظفرُ تشقَع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نُفوسنا.

Kontakion of Mary's Presentation into the Temple—Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior, the very precious chamber and Virgin, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, which the angels of God do praise. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 2:14-22* {24th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Luke 12:16-21* {9th Sunday of Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Timothy Beers for the health of his family on the occasion of his birthday -- *May God grant him many years!* -- and in loving memory of **George, Lourice, Sam, Sadie, Handoumi, Harry, Fred,** and **Louise**.
- Rula, Andrew, and Julian Alkazaha for the health of their family especially husband and father **Majdi** on the occasion of his birthday -- *May God grant him many years!*
- This morning we pray for the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Khouriya Jean Chromiak** (+November 5th, wife of our former pastor the late V. Rev. Fr. John).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Clemence** (Dn. Mike's mother) and **Jonathan Bassett, George Damouni** (brother of Lina Burbar and May Gantos), **Jessica Dedow** (former parishioner), **Roy Farah, Samira Gantous, Camille Ghantous, Nadera Ghantous, Phyllis Good, Carol Haddad, Roland Haddad, George Ishak** (Amira Hanna's nephew), **Ida Isaac, Gabby Joubran** (Najwa Joubran's brother-in-law), **Betty Khouri, Jean Khouri, John Khouri, Mariam Khoury, Mary Khoury, Norma Lazar, Lourice Matta, Megan Meade** (relative of Bob Teunion), **Danny Mortensen, Elaine Salim, Elaine Shaheen, Michael Silpoch, Marie Skafi, William Sophiea Jr., Kinan Turjman** (Sahar Abdallah's nephew).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Sandra Mitri, Marlen Odeh, and Suhair Awwad** (former parishioner).

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.
 - If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion. If you have a special need, please let one of the ushers know so we may assist you.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LADIES AUXILIARY THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE Our ladies are having a Bake Sale TODAY for Coffee Fellowship – Please be generous and support our ladies and their good works!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: All Sundays in December -- sign-up poster is in the Hall. Hosting information is in the Hall and 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. *During the Christmas Fast (November 15th - December 24th), no meat or dairy products are to be served.*

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS from Janet Abueita, Director (810-691-0956)

1. **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with our Thanksgiving Dinner – you all did a fantastic job!
2. **PARISH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, DECEMBER 8TH** We are looking for parents to help St. Nicholas fill his goody bag with treats to give our children. If you would like to help out, speak with Janet or Amal Abu-Aita as soon as possible and no later than December 2nd. Thank you and God bless you for all you do for your children!
3. **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** Practices for the program will take place on Saturdays, November 24th and December 1st at 3pm. Make sure our children are here on time!

2013 OFFERING ENVELOPES AND CHURCH CALENDARS Please pick yours up (and other family members and friends) so we do not have to mail them! If your name isn't listed, call the church office. The calendars are given by our Ladies Auxiliary, THANK YOU, LADIES! – please only take 1 per family! Our children will receive their envelopes in Church School. **Parents**, please make sure your child gets their *Offering Envelopes*.

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil or their by-products</i>) is observed on Wednesday. On Thursday, November 15 th , we begin the traditional 40-day CHRISTMAS FAST in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Christ on December 25 th . The CHRISTMAS FAST is divided into two periods. The first period is November 15 th to December 19 th when the traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, or oil</i>) is observed on all days except Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays when, <i>fish, wine, and oil</i> are permitted.
TODAY	7th Grade with Fr. Joe after Divine Liturgy
Monday	Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 3-5pm
Tuesday	Evening Divine Liturgy for Entrance of Mary at Assumption 6pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy 1pm-2:30pm SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm
Thursday	Give thanks to the Lord always – have a blessed Thanksgiving!
Friday	Sacrament of Holy Unction at Dormition Monastery 6pm
Saturday	Christmas Program Practice 3pm Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

SACRAMENT OF HOLY UNCTION Every month (this coming Friday at 6pm) at the Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction (outside of Jackson, 3389 Rives Eaton Road, Rives Junction, Michigan 49277 ☎ 517-569-2873) they celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Unction. This is the same service that we celebrate on Holy Wednesday during Holy Week. By our anointing of the sick in Christ's name, we consecrate our sufferings with the sufferings of Christ and we are healed by Him; if not for more time in this world, certainly for an eternity in the Kingdom of God. Thus by anointing with oil in Christ's name, our wounds become the way to Life and not to Death. In the case where a person is obviously in the final moments of his earthly life, the Church has special prayers for the "separation of soul and body." Thus, it is clear that the sacrament of Holy Unction is for the sick (both the physically and mentally sick) and is not reserved for the moment of death. Holy Unction is not the "last rites" as is sometimes thought; the ritual of the anointing itself in no way indicates that it should be administered merely in "extreme" cases. Holy Unction is the sacrament of the spiritual, physical, and mental healing of a sick person whatever the nature or the gravity of the illness may be.

Congratulations and God Bless ...

...**Ronald Haddad, Wael Hayek,** and **Jeanette Nassif** who were elected to 3-year terms on the Parish Council at last week's Parish General Assembly.

... **ALL** who donated toward the victims of Hurricane Sandy. Through your generosity, we raised \$533.

November 18th — MARTYR PLATON OF ANCYRA

The Holy Martyr Platon, brother of the holy Martyr Antiochus the Physician (July 16), was born at the city of Ancyra in Galatia. While still a youth he left home and went through the cities, preaching the Word of God to pagans, amazing his audience with the persuasiveness and beauty of his speech, and his profound knowledge of Greek learning. Because of his preaching he was arrested and brought for trial to the temple of Zeus before the governor Agrippinus. At first, the judge attempted to persuade the saint to turn away from Christ by flattery. He assured the youth that he might be on a par of intellect with the greatest of the philosophers Plato, if only he worshipped also the pagan gods. To this St Platon answered, that the wisdom of the philosopher, although great, was but ephemeral and limited, whereas the true, eternal and unbounded wisdom comprised the Gospel teachings. Then the judge promised to give him his beautiful niece for his wife if he would deny Christ. He also threatened him with torture and death if he refused. St Platon replied that he chose a temporal death for the sake of eternal life. The patience of the governor was exhausted, and he gave orders to mercilessly beat the martyr, and then send him off to prison. When they led St Platon off to prison, he turned to the people gathered about the temple, and he called on them not to forsake the Christian Faith. Seven days later they again led the Martyr Platon for trial before Agrippinus in the temple of Zeus, where they had the implements of torture already prepared: boiling cauldrons, red-hot iron and sharp hooks. The judge offered the martyr a choice: either to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, or to feel the effects of these implements of torture on his body. Again the saint steadfastly refused to worship idols, and after his tortures they threw him in prison for eighteen more days without bread or water. But seeing that this did not shake the martyr, they offered him his life and freedom if he would only say, "*Great is the god Apollo.*" The martyr refused to deny Christ or to sacrifice to the idols. Therefore, Agrippinus ordered the holy Martyr Platon to be beheaded.



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Office of the Secretariat

“Live in Christ, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6-7)

To the Most Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics and
Devout Faithful of the Holy Orthodox Churches in the Americas:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

On this Sunday before Thanksgiving, we look to God with gratitude and humility for blessing us with abundance. The week ahead will bring together families and friends, filling the seats around our dinner table to share with those we love. Our attention must also turn to our brothers and sisters who did not reap a season of bounty because drought, disease or manmade conflict denied them the fruits of their labor. For these most vulnerable, we must do more than just remember.

It is the mission of International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), the humanitarian agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America, to respond to Christ’s call to help our neighbors in need. Every year, we designate this day among the Orthodox community as IOCC Sunday, and join in common purpose to lighten the burden of poverty stricken families, rebuild the lives of mothers and children fleeing war torn homes, and restore the dignity of the infirm.

Since 1992, IOCC has represented the Orthodox faithful of North America in its tireless humanitarian efforts around the world. Through your faithful support, families and communities in 50 countries have been uplifted by more than \$400 million in emergency relief and assistance. From its first humanitarian airlift to the former Soviet Union, to its current efforts to deliver food and bedding to displaced Syrian families, IOCC demonstrates daily what is possible through our united effort. Through IOCC’s close work with the Church, Greek families are receiving hot meals and medical care; Bosnian entrepreneurs are using micro loans to create jobs and community prosperity, and Zimbabwe’s babies have a fighting chance to reach their fifth birthday because of new medical equipment and adequate medicine to treat infections.

Every day, wherever people are in need, IOCC puts your faith and compassion to work for the multitudes. We call on you now to share your abundance, heeding the words of St. Paul to “look out not only for our own interests, but also for the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4). Through our Lord we will find faith taking deeper root, greater love for others and greater joy in putting that faith into action in the service of others.

May this blessed season fill you and your family with the Holy Spirit, and join you in love and harmony as we prepare to welcome His Glorious Nativity in Bethlehem.

With paternal blessing and love in Christ,

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America