

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

December 16, 2012

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS OF CHRIST

Tone – 3

6th Matins Gospel {*Luke 24:36-53*}

Altar Servers: **St. Elias** team {John Elias, captain}

Next Week – **St. John** 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 Cross 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 3

Let the Heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty thing with His own hand. He has trampled death by His death and has become the first-born from the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting to the people of the world His great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 3 (*as above*)

Troparion of the Holy Forefathers—Tone 2

Through faith Thou did justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the Gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a noble fruit: she who without seed did bear Thee. By their entreaties, 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 ومُعْتَقاً، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضداً وناصيراً وللمرضى طبيباً وشافياً وعن المؤمنين مكافحاً ومُحَارِباً أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر تنقذ إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion in Preparation for the Nativity (*Birth*) of Christ—Tone 3

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth; ineffably to bring forth the eternal Word. Therefore, rejoice O earth at the message, with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

Epistle Reading: *Colossians 3:4-11* {29th Sunday after Pentecost}

Reader: **Elias Abueita** (Arabic)

Gospel Reading: *Luke 14:16-24* {11th Sunday of Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Sally Joseph and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of husband **Edward** (24 years), **James** and **Adele Shaheen** (Sally's parents), **Norman**, **Esther**, **Mildred**, **Dorothy**, **Delores**, **Ernest**, and **Roula Joseph**.
- Ayman and Wafaa Elias and Family for their health of their family especially daughter and sister **Christine** on the occasion of her 20th birthday – *May God grant her many years!* – and in loving memory of His Beatitude **Patriarch Ignatius IV of Antioch**.
- This morning we pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Patriarch Ignatius IV of Antioch** (+December 5th), **Khouriya Jean Chromiak** (40 days, wife of our former pastor the late V. Rev. Fr. John), and **Muna Ibrahim** (+December 10th, aunt of Rula Alkazaha).
- 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** (niece of JoAnn Hawkins), **Samira Gantous**, **Camille Ghantous**, **Nadera Ghantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol Haddad**, **Roland Haddad**, **Gabby Joubran** (Najwa Joubran's brother-in-law), **Betty Khouri**, **Jean Khouri**, **John Khouri**, **Mariam Khoury**, **Norma Lazar**, **Lourice Matta**, **Megan Meade** (relative of Bob Teunion), **Danny Mortensen**, **George Nassif**, **Elaine Salim**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **Michael Silpoch**, **Marie Skafi**, **William Sophiea Jr.**, **Kinan Turjman** (Sahar Abdallah's nephew), and **Sandra Mitri** and the newborn **Yasmeen** (November 19th).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Marlen Odeh**.

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

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Nicola and Mary Khoury*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: December 23rd, 30th, January 13th, 20th, and 27th -- 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.*

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS Help decorate our church for our Lord's Nativity (Christmas) by donating a Poinsettia or two. Names of the Living and Departed will be remembered when Fr. Joe and Dn. Mike prepare the Gifts for the Christmas Liturgy (December 24th). Fill out the enclosed form TODAY – *Thank You!*

SERVICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAST This Christmas Service is a beautiful service which is a meditation on our Lord's Nativity. All are welcome this Tuesday at 6:30pm to come, pray, and prepare ourselves for Christmas as we continue the Christmas Fast!

ST. NICHOLAS STORE! KIDS, come and buy a gift and help the children in Gaza! Come and visit after Church School where you'll find just the right present! There will be something for everybody on your list! We'll even gift-wrap it for you! But hurry, TODAY is the last day it's open. All profits will go to IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities/GAZA!

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS Our Ladies Auxiliary is selling ornaments to adorn their tree in the hall. A table is in the hall to buy your ornament. All profits will be given to the YWCA Women's Shelter for Abused Women.

HOLY WATER BOTTLES We celebrate the Baptism of our Lord on Sunday, January 6th. As part of this celebration, Fr. Joe will bless water for all parishioners to take home. We are in need of a donor or two to provide the Holy Water icon bottles. The cost is \$200. If you are interested, please let Fr. Joe know.

THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION)

The Christmas Fast is THE TIME for all parishioners to receive the Holy Sacrament of Repentance (Confession) -- especially if you plan on receiving Holy Communion at Christmas Divine Liturgy (December 24th). Fr. Joe hears Confessions by appointment before or after most Divine Services, Sundays between 8:30am-9:30am, by appointment during the week, and on Saturday evenings after Great Vespers which is the perfect time when Father is not rushed. Please do not wait until the last minute! If you would like to go to one of the other Orthodox priests, please call Fr. Angelo Maggos (Assumption, 810-732-2660), Fr. Paul Jannakos (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-629-4427), or Fr. Matthew Butrie (St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 810-744-0070). Confessing of our sins opens the door to our personal celebration of our Lord's Nativity -- PLAN NOW and BE PREPARED!!!

PREPARATION FOR THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) There are many different ways to prepare for this Holy Sacrament. One way is based on the Ten Commandments as a starting point. Information in both English and Arabic are available on the Narthex Table – please help yourself!

December 16th — HOLY FOREFATHERS OF CHRIST

On the Sunday that occurs on or immediately after the eleventh of this month, we commemorate Christ's forefathers according to the flesh, both those that came before the Law, and those that lived after the giving of the Law. Special commemoration is made of the Patriarch Abraham, to whom the promise was first given, when God said to him, "*In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed*" (Gen. 22:18). This promise was given some two thousand years before Christ, when Abraham was seventy-five years of age. God called him and commanded him to forsake his country, parents, and kinsmen, and to depart to the land of the Canaanites. When he arrived there, God told him, "*I will give this land to thy seed*" (Gen. 12:7); for this cause, that land was called the "Promised Land," which later became the country of the Hebrew people, and which is also called Palestine by historians. There, after the passage of twenty-four years, Abraham received God's law concerning circumcision. In the one hundredth year of his life, when Sarah was in her ninetieth year, they became the parents of Isaac. Having lived 175 years altogether, he reposed in peace, a venerable elder full of days.

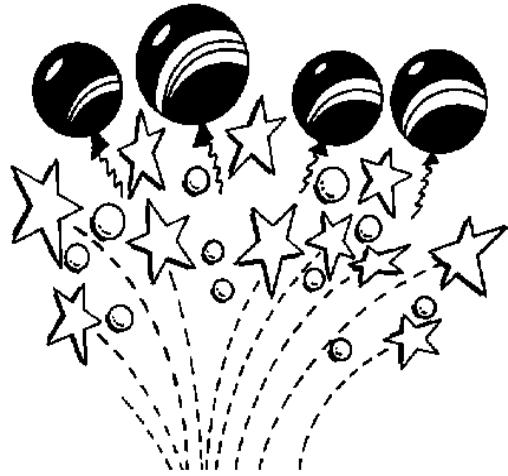
COMING EVENTS

This Week	On Thursday, November 15 th , we began 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. The 2 nd period is December 20 th through 24 th when the traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, oil and their by-products</i>) is observed except on Saturday and Sunday when <i>wine and oil</i> are permitted.
Monday	Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 3-5pm
Tuesday	Service of the Christmas Fast 6:30pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Study of the Lives of Saints/Divine Liturgy 12:30pm-2:30pm SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm
Thursday	Parish Council Dinner Meeting 6:15pm Any parishioner is welcome to come, observe, and also make comments at the appropriate time on the Agenda.
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

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*.

St. George New Year's Family Night

December 31, 2012



American
and
Arabic Music

- ☞ 8:30pm – 1am
- ☞ Food & Dessert
- ☞ BYOB (*setups provided*)

Adults -- \$40 each
16-22 Years Old -- \$30 each
15 years old and younger -- \$25 each

Children's {under 12} Private Party with Caregivers

Reservations Must Be Made By December 25th!

No tickets will be sold after the 26th or at the door!

More INFORMATION and to make PAID RESERVATIONS are available by contacting:



Manal Abuaita 810-659-5351, Sally Abuaita 810-659-4312,
or Evette Rishmawi 810-487-9138