

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

February 24, 2013

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE (1ST PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY)

FINDING OF THE PRECIOUS HEAD OF THE HOLY, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN

Tone – 5

5th Matins Gospel {Luke 24:12-35}

Altar Servers: **St. John** team {Goni Ishak, Captain}

Next Week – **St. Michael** 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:

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5

Let all us believers give praise and worship to the Word. Of one essence with the Father and with the Spirit, and who is eternal. Who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He did willingly ascend in the flesh to be hung from the cross and to suffer pain and death, and to lift up the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5 (as above)

Troparion for St. John—Tone 4

Verily from the earth rose the head of the Forerunner, bequeathing to believers incorruptible rays of healing, gathering the crowds of angels from above and calling below the races of mankind to address their voices in unison in glory to Christ God.

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 مُحرِّرٌ ومُعْتِقٌ، وللْفُقراءِ والمَساكينِ عاضِدٌ وناصِرٌ وللمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وشَافٍ وعن المؤمنين مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشُّهداءِ جاورجِوسُ اللّابسُ الظُّفرُ تشنّعُ إلى المسيحِ الإلهِ في خَلاصِ نُفوسِنَا.

Kontakion of the Publican and the Pharisee—Tone 4

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior, have mercy on us, O only merciful One!

Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 {1st Pre-Lenten Sunday}

Reader: **George Abueita** (English)

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:10-14 {Publican and Pharisee}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Maher and Aba Abufarha for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Hanna** (40 days, Maher's father).
- Zahra Hayek for the health of her family especially son **Walid** on the occasion of his birthday – *May God grant him many years!*
- This morning we pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Evelyn Farah** (+January 25th, Atlanta, GA, relative of the Farah's) and **Stanley Brooks** (+February 8th, Deacon Michael's brother-in-law).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Androlla Abu Aita**, **Angel Abuaita**, **Karim Alkhouri**, **Jonathan Bassett**, **George Damouni** (Lina Burbar and May Gantos' brother), **Vera Farah**, **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**, **Elaine Salim**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **Michael Silpoch**, **Marie Skafi**, **William Sophiea Jr.**, and **Kinan Turjman** (Sahar Abdallah's nephew).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Angela Haddad**, **Jennifer** (Peera) **Khoshaba** (former parishioner), **Katrin Mitri**, and **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.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Maher and Aba Abufarha*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: March 10th, 17th, and 24th -- 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. *Cheesefare Sunday is on March 17th, no meat products are to be served. During the Great Fast (March 18th – May 4th), no meat or dairy products are to be served.*

PARENTING SEMINARS There will be 2 FREE Seminars this week at St. George: Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 7-9pm. Next Saturday, March 2nd between 10am and 2pm, the Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia is hosting a seminar. Please see the flyer for details. The Saturday Registration is only online and costs \$10, which includes lunch. We will carpool from St. George leaving at 8:30am returning at 3:30pm. To RSVP and any questions, please speak with Leslee Abud 810-695-2177.

FEED GENESEE Next Sunday, March 3rd, the Soup Kitchen truck will be here to pick-up our donations. Items needed are on a flier in the Lounge. All of the Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint are supporting the work of Catholic Charities in Genesee County by helping to feed the hungry. Remember you may bring your items at any time to be put in the wooden *Feed the Hungry* container in the Hall Foyer. May God be with the needy and may He bless those who help them.

SUMMER CAMP The Antiochian Village (about 1½ hours from Pittsburgh) serves our young people ages 9-17 that come from parishes throughout the Archdiocese. For more information and to register, please check out their web site at: <http://www.antiochianvillage.org/camp.html>. We go to the 2nd Session (June 30th-July 12th). If you have any questions, would like more information, or have registered for camp, please speak with our Camp Committee chairman, Anaam Abueita (810-686-9744 or anaamabueita@gmail.com).

ELINOR BOURJAILY ENDOWMENT FUND Again this fund is offering two scholarships to Antiochian Village Campers and one for College Students. Applications are available in the Lounge. The deadline is March 30th so pick one up TODAY and send it in!

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Would you like to volunteer in feeding the hungry this coming Tuesday, February 26th from 9am-12:30pm? If you have questions or want to sign-up, please contact Jim or Evelyn Delbridge (jimdelbridge@charter.net or 810-630-2353).

► **WEEKLY OFFERINGS:** Our average weekly offerings need to be \$4,800 to meet our 2013 Budget. Last Sunday, our offerings were \$2,939 so we were short \$1,861. If you haven't already, please fill out your 2013 Offering Form as soon as possible.

EDUCATION CLASSES We continue our Monday afternoon Bible Study in English and Wednesday afternoon Study of the Divine Liturgy in Arabic/English! Come to one of our classes (see *Coming Events* below for times)! We have some great discussions! The classes also help us understand the differences between what we as Orthodox believe and other Christians (Catholics, Protestants, and from Scripture-only based churches such as the Baptist). IT HAS PROVED TO BE VERY INTERESTING!!! Come and check it out and learn more about OUR faith so it can help us LIVE our faith!

THE LOUNGE This room is an extension of the church during the Divine Services. If you

have to sit here, please sit, stand, sing, and pray as is appropriate and as we are doing in the church during the service – Thank You.

ORTHODOX INTERNET RADIO For some pleasant and soul-profiting listening while you are on-line, check out one of many Orthodox Internet Radio sites **AL-ORTHODOXIYA RADIO STATION** (Arabic) at <http://orthodoxiya.org/> and **ANCIENT FAITH RADIO** (English) at <http://www.ancientfaithradio.com/>.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We will be starting a Men's Fellowship and our first gathering will be on Thursday, March 7th beginning at 6pm.

All men of St. George are invited and encouraged to attend.

We will have fellowship, a teaching by Fr. Joe, and LOTS of FUN!!!

February 24th — 1ST PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY: PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

Every year, this Sunday is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. At Vespers the night before, the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) begins.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

COMING EVENTS

This Week	<u>No fasting</u> this week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee.
Monday	Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark 3-5pm
Tuesday	North End Soup Kitchen 9am-12:30pm Parenting Seminar 7-9pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy 1pm-2:30pm SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm
Thursday	Parenting Seminar 7-9pm
Saturday	Parenting Seminar at the Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia 10am-2pm No Great Vespers