

# St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

March 3, 2013

## MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

### SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON (2<sup>ND</sup> PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY)

Tone – 6

6<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel {Luke 24:36-53}

Altar Servers: **St. Michael** team {Karim Al-Khouri, captain}

Next Week – **St. Elias** team

Greeters: **Hiam Andoni** and **Susan Salomon** Ushers: **Vera Daoud** and **Suad Gantous**

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 6**

Angelic powers did stand above Thy tomb, and they that guarded were as dead, and Mary stood at Thy grave searching for Thy precious body. Thou didst conquer Hades and was not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst bestow life. O Thou that art risen from the dead, O Lord, Glory to Thee.

#### **Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 6 (as above)**

#### **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، وللفقراءِ والمساكينِ عاصِدٌ وناصِرٌ وللمرضى طبيبٌ وشافٍ وعن المؤمنين مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشهداءِ جاورجيوسُ اللابسُ الظفرَ تشفَعُ إلى المسيحِ الإلهِ في خلاصِ نُفوسِنَا.

#### **Kontakion of the Prodigal Son—Tone 3**

Foolishly I sprang away from Thy great fatherly glory, and dispersed in wicked deeds the riches that Thou didst give me. With the Prodigal, I therefore cry unto Thee now: I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. But receive me in repentance; make me as one of Thy hired servants, O Lord.

**Epistle Reading:** *1 Corinthians 6:12-20* {2<sup>nd</sup> Pre-Lenten Sunday}

Reader: **Aida Nassar** (Arabic) and **Janet Abueita** (English)

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 15:11-32* {Prodigal Son}

**Holy Bread Offerings**

- The Ishak, Rishmawi, and Ibrahim Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of father and grandfather **Nassim Ishak** (10 years).
- The Abud Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of father and Jiddo **Lester Nicola** (22 years).
- St. George Parish Council for the health of their families and the community of St. George -- *May God grant them many years!*

**Baptism/Chrismation Days**

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

♦ **Cezar** and **Lana Abu-Aita** – March 3<sup>rd</sup>

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

- This morning we pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Evelyn Farah** (+January 25<sup>th</sup>, Atlanta, GA, relative of the Farah's) and **Stanley Brooks** (+February 8<sup>th</sup>, 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**, **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**, **Widad Salomon**, **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 today by our Class of 2014 with a **Bake Sale** to help kick-off our fundraising for the poor and needy (*Food For Hungry People*). Please be generous.

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

## **THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS ...**

... All of my **St. George Family** for your prayers, cards, e-mails, and love from my short hospitalization last week – they were SO APPRECIATED! Always keep me in your prayers as I do you. Love, Fr. Joe

**FEED GENESEE** TODAY Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Soup Kitchen truck is here to pick-up our donations. 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.

**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 30<sup>th</sup> so pick one up TODAY and send it in!

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** BEGINS at 2AM next Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Before going to bed this Saturday, remember to set your clocks AHEAD (“spring forward”) one hour.

» **WEEKLY OFFERINGS:** Our average weekly offerings need to be \$4,800 to meet our 2013 Budget. Last Sunday, our offerings were \$3,046 so we were short \$1,754. If you haven't already, please fill out your 2013 Offering Form and support the work of St. George!

**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!

**A JOURNEY OF RELATIONSHIPS PRE-LENTEN PAN-ORTHODOX RETREAT** (*see insert*) hosted by Assumption, St. George, St. Nicholas, and St. Mary Magdalene will be held this Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Assumption beginning with a 10 am Divine Liturgy for Memorial Saturday (Souls' Saturday). The guest speaker Dr. Philip Mamalakis; Professor of

Pastoral Theology and Counseling at Holy Cross GOC Theological School will speak on the challenges and opportunities facing couples, preparing for marriage and those experiencing marital challenges. If interested, please R.S.V.P to our parish office by this Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**THE LOUNGE** This room is an extension of the church during the Divine Services and not a place or time to socialize. If you have to be 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-profitting 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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!!!

### **March 3<sup>rd</sup> — 2<sup>ND</sup> PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY: PRODIGAL SON**

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of returning to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong!

### **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 and Friday.
Monday	<b>Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark</b> 3-5pm
Tuesday	<b>Ladies Auxiliary</b> 5pm
Wednesday	<b>Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy</b> 1pm-2:30pm <b>SOYO Wednesday</b> 7-9pm
Saturday	<b>Soul Saturday Divine Liturgy at Assumption</b> 10am <b>Pre-Lenten Retreat at Assumption (see insert)</b> 10am-2pm <b>Combined Great Vespers and Confessions at Assumption</b> 4pm <b>Daylight Saving Time</b> – before bed, "spring forward" 1 hour!

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCHES OF THE GREATER FLINT  
AREA PRESENT**

***“A JOURNEY OF RELATIONSHIP”***

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9  
10AM—4PM**

**With guest presenter Dr. Philip Mamalakis\*, professor of Pastoral  
Theology and Counseling at Holy Cross GOC Theological School**



Please join us for an informative afternoon with a well-respected member of an Orthodox Theological School. The program will begin with all of us gathering to celebrate the first Saturday of Souls service at 10am after which we will have a catered lunch in the church hall. Dr. Mamalakis will begin with a 45 minute presentation on the challenges and opportunities facing couples, both those preparing for marriage, and those experiencing marital challenges and then be available afterwards for questions and dialogue.

\* Dr. Philip Mamalakis is professor of pastoral care at Holy Cross, and is Director of the Field Education program. His professional interests are in Orthodox pastoral theology and marriage, family, and parenting. He has presented numerous seminars, and retreats on relationships, marriage, family life, and mental health. He also has published numerous articles on working with couples recovering from serious relationship issues and serves as an important resource for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.