St. George Orthodox Church

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor 0) 732-0720 Dn. Michael Bassett

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May 27, 2012

 $7^{\rm TH}$ Sunday of Pascha – Holy Fathers of 1st Ecumenical Council Sunday after the Ascension of Lord into Heaven on the $40^{\rm TH}$ Day after Pascha

Tone - 6

10th Matins Gospel {John 21:1-14}

Altar Servers: Captains and Assistants

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 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:

Preserve, 0 Lord, our master and chief priest = Ton dhespotin kai archierea imon (in Greek) **Many years, master** = Eis polla eti, dhespota (in Greek)

First Antiphon (verses from Psalm 46)

- Verse 1 Clap your hands, all ye nations; shout unto God with a voice of rejoicing. *Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*
- Verse 2 For the Lord Most High is terrible, a great King over all the earth. Refrain
- Verse 3 He hath subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. Refrain
- Verse 4 God is gone up in jubilation, the Lord with the voice of the trumpet. *Refrain*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
 Amen. *Refrain*

Second Antiphon (verses from Psalm 47)

- Verse 1 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, in His holy mountains.
- Refrain: O Son of God who didst ascend in glory from us to Heaven, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.
- Verse 2 The mountains of Sion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. Refrain
- Verse 3 God is known in her towers, when He cometh to help her. Refrain
- Verse 4 For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together. <u>Refrain</u>
 Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. *O only-begotten Son* ...

Third Antiphon (verses from Psalm 48)

- Verse 1 Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.
- Verse 2 My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.
- Verse 3 I will incline mine ear unto a parable, I will unfold my problem on the psaltery.

Refrain: Troparion of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven—Tone 4

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit! Through the blessing, they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

لقد صعدت بمجد أيها المسيح إلهنا. وفرَّحْتَ تلاميذكَ بموعِدِ الروح القدس. إذ أيقنوا بالبركةِ أنك أنت هو ابنُ اللهِ مُنقِدِ العالم.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

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.

Troparion of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven—Tone 4

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit; making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers—Tone 8

Most glorified art thou, O Christ our God, who hast established our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to thee.

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 أنَّكَ للمأسُورينَ مُحَرِرٌ ومُعتِقٌ، وللفُقراء والمَسَاكين عاضِدٌ ونَاصِرٌ وللمَرضَى طبيبٌ وشَافَ وعن المؤمِنينَ مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشُهداء جاورجيوسُ اللآبسُ الظفَر تَشْفَع إلى المسيح الإلهِ في خَلاص نُفُوسِنا

Kontakion of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven—Tone 6

When Thou did fulfill the dispensation for our sake, and unite earth to heaven: Thou did ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you!

لما أتمَمْتَ التدبير الذي من أجلنا. وجعلتَ الذين على الأرض متحدين بالسماويين. صعدتَ بمجد أيها المسبحُ الاله غير منفصل من مكان بل ثابتًا بغير افتراق و هاتفًا بأحبائك أنا معكم و لبس أحدٌ عليكم

During the Hierarchical Liturgy, the *Holy God...*, is sung as follows:

(4x's: people, clergy, people, clergy) Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

People, Glory to the Father...Now and ever... Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

People sing only *Holy God*, then bishop, *O Lord*... people, *many years*, *master*.

People sing only Holy Mighty, then bishop, O Lord... people, many years, master.

People sing only Holy Immortal, bishop, O Lord... people, many years, master. Have mercy on us.

الرسالة لأحد الآباء القديسين

Epistle of the Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For you are just in all you have done.

The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (20:16-18; 28-36)

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

And from Miletos he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them:

"Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to مباركٌ أنتَ ياربَّ اللهُ. فإنَّكَ عَدْلٌ في كُلِّ ما صنعْتَ بِنَا ما صنعْتَ بِنَا فَي كُلِّ مَا صنعْتَ بِنَا

فصلٌ من أعمالِ الرُسُلِ القِدِّيسينَ الأطهار

(20:16-18; 28-36)

receive." And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

الضعفاء وأنْ نتذكَّرَ كلامَ الربِّ يسوعَ. فإنَّهُ قالَ إنَّ العطاءَ هو مغبوطٌ أكثَرَ من الأخذ* ولمنا قالَ هذا جَتًا على ركبتَيْهِ مع جميعِهم وصلًى.

الإنجيل لأحد الأباء القديسين Gospel of the Sunday of the Holy Fathers

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس يوحنا . -17:1)الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر . (13

في ذلك الزمان رَفَعَ يسوعُ عينيهِ إلى السمّاءِ وقالَ يا أبتِ قد أتتِ الساعة. مَجّدِ ابنكَ لِيُمجِّدَكَ ابنُكَ أيضاً * كما أعطيتَهُ سلطاناً على كُلِّ بَشَرِ ليُعطيَ كُلَّ مَن أعطيتَهُ أعطيتَهُ لهُ حياةً أبديّة * وهذه هي الحية أعطيتَهُ أن يعرفُوكَ أنتَ الإلهَ الحقيقيَّ وحدَكَ والذي أرسلتَهُ يسوعَ المسيحَ * أنا الذي أعطيتَني لأعْملَهُ * والآنَ مجَّدتُكَ الذي أعطيتَهُ والآنَ مجَّدتُكَ أنتَ يا أبتِ عندكَ بالمجدِ الذي كانَ لي عندكَ مِنْ قبْل كون العالمِ * قد أعلنتُ السمكَ الناس الذينَ أعطيتَهُم لي مِنَ العالمِ معمَّد أنا ما أعطيتَهُم لي مِنَ العالمِ موقَدُ هم كانوا لكَ وأنتَ أعطيتَهُم لي مِنَ العالمِ مؤفَّمُ أن كُلَّ هما أعطيتَهُم لي هُو مَنْكَ * والآنَ قد عَلِمُوا أنَّ كُلَّ ما أعطيتَهُ لي هُو مِنْكَ * لأن الكلامَ الذي وعَلِمُوا حقاً أني مِنكَ خَرَجْتُ وآمنوا أنَّكُ وَعَلِمُوا حقاً أني مِنكَ خَرَجْتُ وآمنوا أنَّكَ أرساتَني * أنا مِنْ أجْلِهِم أسألُ. لا أسألُ مِنْ أجلِهم أسألُ. لا أسألُ مِنْ أجلِ الذينَ أعطيتَهُم

more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

لي. لأنّهُم لكَ * كُلُّ شيء لي هو لكَ وكُلُّ شيء لكَ هو لكَ وأنا قد مُجِّدتُ فِيهم في ولستُ أنا بعدُ في العالم وهؤلاء هم في العالم. وأنا آتي إليكَ. أيّها الآبُ القُدُّوسُ احفَظهُم باسمِكَ الذينَ أعطيتَهُم لي ليكونوا واحداً كما نحنُ * حينَ كنتُ معَهُم في في العالم كنتُ أحفَظهُم باسمِكَ. إنَّ الذينَ أعطيتَهُم لي أعطيتَهُم لي قد حفظتُهُم باسمِكَ. إنَّ الذينَ أعطيتَهُم لي قد حفظتُهُم ولم يَهلِكُ منِهُم أعطيتَهُم لي قد حفظتُهُم ولم يَهلِكُ منِهُم أعطيتَهُم لي قد حفظتُهُم ولم يَهلِكُ منِهُم أعليتَ أني الذينَ أيتم الكتابُ * أمّا الآنَ أيتم اليكونَ قرحي كامِلاً فيهم. ليكونَ قرحي كامِلاً فيهم.

Holy Bread Offerings

- The Nickola Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of father and grandfather **George** "Nick" **Nickola** (40 days).
- Beverly Shehab and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of husband, father, grandfather, and uncle **Roy Shehab** (40 days).
- Zahra Hayek for the health of her family especially Zahra, Walid, Wael, Amal, Khouloud, Hanida, Casandra, Michael, Evan, Steven, Mariann, Reem, Qusta, and Matthew and in loving memory of husband, father, and grandfather Qusta.
- Subdeacon George and Suad Gantous for their health and the health of their family and in honor of Fr. Joe's 25th Anniversary in the Priesthood.
- Our St. George Parish Family for the health of our Families especially the Archpriest Joseph Abud on the occasion of his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood and for Subdeacon Salim Hanna who was ordained to the minor order of Subdeacon on this day -- 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:

◆ Shane Gantos – May 28th

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: **Metropolitan** Constantine (+May 21st, of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA), **Hermous Khoshaba** (+April 22nd, father-in-law of Jennifer Peera Khoshaba), **Michael Maloof** (+April 22nd, relative of

- Leslee Abud), **Salwa Kharoubeh** (+April 30th, mother of Randa Farah), **Elia Dahdal** (+May 12th, Nazareth, grandfather of Raghad Farah), and **Lotof Farah** (+May 14th).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: Khouriya Janet Peters, Blanka AbuAita, Hanna Abuaita, Jonathan Bassett, Awatef Deligorges, Samira Gantous, Camille Ghantous, Phyllis Good, Carol Haddad, Roland Haddad, George Ishak (nephew of Amira Hanna), Betty Khouri, Jean Khouri, John Khouri, Mariam Khoury, Norma Lazar, Lourice Matta, Megan Meade (relative of Bob Teunion), Danny Mortenson, Nawal Odeh, Elaine Shaheen, Norma Sophiea, William Sophiea Jr., and Linda Gantos and the newborn twins Landon and Liela who were brought back into the life of our parish through the Prayers of Churching.
- We also pray for the servants of God who are with child: Reemy Abuaita, Huda Abusaada, and Ivy Khoury.

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)

(*Verse*) Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created. And He established them for ever and ever; He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed. (*Refrain*)

(Verse) Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! (Refrain)

(Verse) Young men and maidens together, old men and children! (Refrain)

(Verse) Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. (Refrain)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reception of Holy Communion

- Please remember ONLY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS who have PREPARED THEMSELVES may partake of Holy Communion.
- Since Church School is staying in church after Communion, our children and their parents can receive Holy Communion together! <u>Everyone</u> should wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss you to the Communion Line.

Instead of We have seen the True Light..., we sing the **Troparion of the Ascension** {see above}.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Farewell Brunch – Please Join Us!

In honor of our **Bishop Anthony** of Toledo and the Midwest Diocese and **Bishop Basil** of Wichita and the Mid-American Diocese, our Ladies Auxiliary invites everyone to a special Brunch as we say "goodbye" until next time! Adults -- \$5; Children 10 and younger -- \$3.

Everyone is invited!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: June 3rd 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. *During the St. Peter and St. Paul Apostles'* Fast (this year from June 11th to 28th), no meat or dairy products are to be served.

RELAY FOR LIFE Come out and support our Teen SOYO team on Saturday, June 2nd at Grand Blanc High School! Would you like to honor, show your support, or remember someone with a luminary during the Relay For Life Luminary Ceremony? Today is the last day to purchase one with a donation of \$10 or to get a "Foot" for \$1. Sign up to walk in the **Survivor's Lap**! See any member of Teen SOYO for more information and plan on coming out!

FEED GENESEE

<u>FEED GENESEE</u> Next Sunday, June 3rd, the Soup Kitchen truck will be here to pick-up our donations. <u>They are especially looking for</u> <u>Large cans of Green Beans</u>, <u>Egg Noodles</u>, and <u>Spaghetti Sauce</u>. 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 it 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.

St. George Golf Classic

On Saturday, June 9th at The Jewel of Grand Blanc Golf Course, we are having our Golf Classic to have fun and raise money for our *Boiler Fund*. Sponsorship of Holes are needed – great publicity of your business for only \$100!!! If you are interested or would like more information, please see Mike Silpoch or Amjad Ishak TODAY!!!

MIDWEST DIOCESAN 2012 PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE This coming summer, June 27th-July 1st, our conference will be hosted by the Church of the Virgin Mary in Palos Heights, IL. Hotel and Conference Registration information is available at their website: http://www.2012midwestplc.org/. Bishop Anthony is encouraging all of our parishioners to attend! Some deadlines have passed and other deadlines are fast approaching. Make your reservations as soon as possible. We hope that as many of our parishioners as possible will participate. Fr. Mousa Haddad and the faithful of St. Mary's have been working very hard and we are very thankful for their efforts.

■ HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PRESENTATION will be held at the Grand Banquet on Saturday, June 30th from 6:30-9pm. This annual event is when Seniors from all the churches in our Diocese are presented by their parents to His Grace Bishop Anthony. Forms are in Lounge with a deadline of June 4th. For more information, please contact Luai Sweiss (luaisweiss@gmail.com), chairperson of the Grand Banquet.

COMING EVENTS

This Week The traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine,

olive oil or their by-products) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.

Wednesday Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy 1pm-2:30pm

SOYO Wednesday 7-9pm

Saturday Relay for Life @ Grand Blanc High School (the corner of Holly Road and

Saginaw Street 12500 Holly Road, Grand Blanc, MI 48439)

No Great Vespers

Next Sunday Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit (Holy Pentecost) & Kneeling Prayers

May 27th — HOLY FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

On the 7th Sunday of Pascha, we remember the Holy and God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. This council has been commemorated from ancient times.

Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the worst was **Arianism**. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, falsely taught that the Savior is not consubstantial with the Father, but is only a created being (not Divine, only Human). Investigating the dissentions Arius was causing, the holy emperor St. Constantine (May 21) consulted St. Hosius, Bishop of Cordova (Aug 27), who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental teaching of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In 325, 318 bishops representing Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea. Among the assembled bishops were St. Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (Dec 6 and May 9), St. Spyridon, Bishop of Trimythous (Dec 12), the deacon St. Athanasius the Great (who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and Jan 18), and other Holy Fathers and Saints of the Church.

The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his welcoming speech, he said, "God has helped me cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any soldier's blood spilled in battle, is the internal strife in the God's Church, for it is more ruinous." Arius' teaching was repudiated and he was excommunicated from the Church. Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan's knees or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep (Rev. 13).

While the Fathers of the Council were writing the Symbol of Faith (Creed), St. Constantine asked that the word "consubstantial," which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops, be used. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion. In the Nicean Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ's divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and he was excommunicated. The Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox.

The First Ecumenical Council is also commemorated on May 29.