

St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

August 26, 2012

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE HOLY MARTYRS ADRIAN AND NATALIE

Tone – 3

1st Matins Gospel {*Matthew 28:16-20*}

Altar Servers: **St. Michael** team {Samer Abuaita, captain} Next Week – **St. Paul** 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 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 for the Martyrs—Tone 3

You did deem that faith which has salvation to be riches never lost or plundered. You forsook your father’s impiety, and you did follow your Master, becoming rich in His divine gifts, O glorious Adrian. With the godly-minded Natalie, who emboldened you, entreat Christ God, O Martyr, that our souls be saved.

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 محررٌ ومعتقٌ، وللفقراء والمساكين عاصدٌ وناصيرٌ وللمرضى طبيبٌ وشافٍ وعن المؤمنين مكافحٌ ومُحاربٌ أبها العظيم في الشهداء جاور جيوس الألبس الظفر تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion for the Nativity (*Birth*) of the Virgin Mary—Tone 4

By your holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death; your people do celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying to you: *The barren gives birth to the Theotokos who nourishes our life.*

Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11* {12th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 19:16-26* {12th Sunday of Matthew}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Janet Lakis for the health of her family and in loving memory of friend **Robert Crum** (40 days).
- Joselyn and Christine Elias for the health of their family especially parents **Ayman** and **Wafaa** on the occasion of their 23rd anniversary of being united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony and brother **John** on the occasion of his 17th birthday – *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:

- ♦ **Issa Odeh** and **Amany Rishmawi** – August 28th ♦ **Caroline Rishmawi** – August 29th
- ♦ **Elias Mitri** – August 30th ♦ **Gabrielle Gantos** – September 1st

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: **Juanita Sophiea** (+July 21st, sister-in-law of Norma Sophiea), **Raymond Shahin** (+July 24th, brother-in-law of JoAnn Hawkins), **Kaukab Haddad** (+July 28th, aunt of Fr. Joe), **Bernie Towns** (+August 2nd, friend of Dannie Jones), and **Lamar Williams** (+August 16th, friend of Dr. Lindsey Farah).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Khouriya Janet Peters**, **Nayef Aboujamra**, **Philip Abuaita**, **Cesar Banna**, **Jonathan Bassett**, **George Damouni** (brother of Lina Burbar and May Gantos), **Samira Gantous**, **Camille Ghantous**, **Nadera Ghantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol** and **Nasri Haddad**, **Roland Haddad**, **George Ishak** (nephew of Amira Hanna), **Gabby Joubran** (brother-in-law of Najwa Joubran), **Betty Khouri**, **Jean Khouri**, **John Khouri**, **Mariam Khoury**, **Norma Lazar**, **Lourice Matta**, **Megan Meade** (relative of Bob Teunion), **Danny Mortensen**, **Elaine Shaheen**, and **William Sophiea Jr.**, **Erica Shamma** and the newborn **Jacob** (July 22nd), **Ivy Alkhoury** and the newborn **Simon** (July 31st), **Huda Abusaada** and the newborn **Layan** (August 17th), **Zayna** and **Leyla Andoni** who were brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and reception of their First Communion, **Tony Salsa & Jenny Abueita** and **Basheer Hawwash & Aziza Mitri** who are to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

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.
 - Since Church School is not in session our children and their parents can receive Holy Communion together! Everyone should wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss them to the Communion Line.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is not hosted today ☹️.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: September 2nd, 16th, 23rd, and 30th -- 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.

FEED GENESEE Next Sunday, September 2nd, 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.

HEALTH SURVEY The University of Michigan in accordance with the Arab-American Heritage Council is conducting a survey about the general health and living situation of Arab Americans in Genesee County. Although some of the questions might be sensitive, there is NO RISK in participating in the survey because all answers are confidential and will not harm the reputation of the participants. I will be going around looking for participants over the next couple of Sundays. Feel free to ask me any questions and thank you very much. Rene Hanna

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

Dear parents, we need to set a good example for our children. We need to send them the right message about our Divine Services. We will continue giving on time slips for the children when they come on time for Divine Liturgy on Sunday as in the past. At the end of the year when we give out awards for Perfect and Excellent Attendance, it means that the child was in church and then went back to Church School. We all need to work together as a team to teach our children how important it is to come to Divine Liturgy and other Divine Services. They need to know that the church school is an extension of what they learn in church. If you have any questions or concerns please talk with me or Father Joe. Thank you and God Bless.

August 29th (on Wednesday) — BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mark 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyrdom of John the Baptist in the year 32 after the Birth of Christ.

Following the Baptism of the Lord, St John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of King Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus). The prophet of God, John, openly denounced Herod for having left his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Aretas, and then instead cohabiting with Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip (Luke 3:19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a feast for dignitaries, the elders, and a thousand chief citizens. Salome, the daughter of Herod, danced before the guests and charmed Herod. In gratitude to the girl, he swore to give her whatever she would ask, up to half his kingdom.

The vile girl on the advice of her wicked mother Herodias asked that she be given the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Herod became apprehensive, for he feared the wrath of God for the murder of a prophet, whom earlier he had heeded. He also feared the people, who loved the holy Forerunner. But because of the guests and his careless oath, he gave orders to cut off the head of St John and to give it to Salome. According to Tradition, the mouth of the dead preacher of repentance once more opened and proclaimed: "*Herod, you should not have the wife of your brother Philip.*" Salome took the platter with the head of St John and gave it to her mother. The frenzied Herodias repeatedly stabbed the tongue of the prophet with a needle and buried his holy head in an unclean place. But the pious Joanna, wife of Herod's steward Chuza, buried the head of John the Baptist in an earthen vessel on the Mount of Olives, where Herod had a parcel of land. (The Uncovering of the Venerable Head is celebrated February 24). The holy body of John the Baptist was taken that night by his disciples and buried at Sebastia, where the wicked deed had been done. After the murder of St John the Baptist, Herod continued to govern for a certain time. Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, later sent Jesus Christ to him, Whom he mocked (Luke 23:7-12).

The judgment of God came upon Herod, Herodias and Salome, even during their earthly life. Salome, crossing the River Sikoris in winter, fell through the ice. The ice gave way in such a way that her body was in the water, but her head was trapped above the ice. It was similar to how she once had danced with her feet upon the ground, but now she flailed helplessly in the icy water. Thus she was trapped until that time when the sharp ice cut through her neck. Her corpse was not found, but they brought the head to Herod and Herodias, as once they had brought them the head of St John the Baptist. The Arab king Aretas, in revenge for the disrespect shown his daughter, made war against Herod. The defeated Herod suffered the wrath of the Roman emperor Caius Caligula (37-41) and was exiled with Herodias first to Gaul, and then to Spain.

The Beheading of St John the Baptist, a Feast day established by the Church, is also a strict fast day because of the grief of Christians at the violent death of the saint. In some Orthodox cultures, pious people will not eat food from a flat plate, use a knife, or eat food that is round in shape on this day.

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 (Beheading of St. John) and Friday.
Tuesday	North End Soup Kitchen 9am-12:30pm
Wednesday	SOYO Wednesday "Ask Abouna" with Fr. Joe 7-9pm
Saturday	No Great Vespers