

# St. George Orthodox Church

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

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

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

September 1, 2013

## BEGINNING OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL (CHURCH) NEW YEAR VENERABLE SIMEON THE STYLITE

Tone – 1

10<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel {*John 21:1-14*}

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 the reception of Holy Communion, if prepared. 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.

### Special Hymns for the Typika Service

#### **Kontakion of the Resurrection—Tone 1**

As God Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory and Thou didst raise the world together with Thyself. Mortal nature praises Thee as God and death has vanished. Adam dances, O Master, and Eve, now freed from fetters, rejoices as she cries out: *Thou art He, O Christ, that grants Resurrection unto all.*

#### **Kontakion for the New Year—Tone 4**

O God of all, verily transcendent in essence, Creator of the ages and their Master, bless the cycle of this year, saving by Thy boundless mercy, O compassionate One, all those who worship only Thee, O Master, and who cry unto Thee in fear, saying, Grant to all, O Savior, a fertile year.

**Epistle Reading:** *1 Timothy 2:1-7* {Beginning of the Church New Year}

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 4:16-22* {Beginning of the Church New Year}

### Holy Bread Offerings

- 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:

- ◆ **Gabrielle Gantos** – September 1<sup>st</sup>      ◆ **Erini Abuaita** – September 5<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ **Fadi Odeh** – September 6<sup>th</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: **Julia Joubran** (+July 28<sup>th</sup>, friend of St. George), **Iyad Khair** (+July 31<sup>st</sup>, Beit Sahour), **Azar Lahoud** (+August 8<sup>th</sup>, Lina Elia's father), **Yousef Sharif** (+August 11<sup>th</sup>, friend of our parish), and **David Tome** (+August 19<sup>th</sup>, brother of Joe from St. Nicholas).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Androlla Abu Aita, Angel Abuaita, Hanna Abuaita, Nader Abufarha, Housam Abousamra, Evelyn Delbridge, Ayman Elias, Micheline El-Chaer, Camille Gbantous, Nadera Gbantous, Phyllis Good, Barbara Green, Carol Haddad, Roland Haddad, Mary Ibrahim, Betty Khouri, Jean Khouri, John Khouri, Mariam Khoury, Norma Lazar, Lourice Matta, Danny Mortensen, Jamil Nassar, Laura Nassar, Elaine Salim, Elaine Shaheen, Michael Silpoch, Marie Skafi, and William Sophiea Jr..**
- We pray for those who are with child: **Kristen** (Abraham) **Baradihi** and **Nadeen Jaraysa**. Former parishioners and friends: **Amanda** (Daoud) **Alyatim** and **Jennifer** (Peera) **Khoshaba, Alexa Nassif** (daughter-in-law of Jeanette Nassif), and **Lisa Thomas** (daughter-in-law of Doug and Sandy Thomas).

### Communion Hymn (for the New Year)

(Refrain) Bless the crown of the year by Thy goodness, O Lord.

(Verse) Enriched shall be the mountains of the wilderness, and the hills shall be girded with rejoicing!  
(Refrain)

(Verse) The rams of the flock have clothed themselves with fleece, and the valleys shall abound with wheat! (Refrain)

(Verse) They shall cry aloud, yea, they shall chant hymns unto Thee! (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 not hosted today ☹.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<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.

**FEED GENESEE** The Soup Kitchen truck will be here tomorrow to pick-up our donations. Items needed are on a flier in the Hall Foyer. 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.

**TEEN SOYO YOUNG LADIES** A reminder that if you will be attending the **Girl's Camping Trip**, permission slips and deposits are due TODAY! For more information, please see Kari Farah.

**FR. JOE—OUT-OF-TOWN** Fr. Joe and Leslee are on vacation and he will return to the office on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. **For emergencies only while Fr. Joe is away**, please call Fr. Angelo Maggos (Assumption, 810-771-4611), Fr. Paul Jannakos (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-750-1401), or Fr. Matthew Butrie (St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 810-744-0070). Please pray for Fr. Joe and Leslee's safe travels.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS:** Our average weekly offerings need to be \$4,800 to meet our 2013 Budget. On August 25<sup>th</sup> our offerings were \$2,143 so we were short \$2,657! ☹ If you haven't already, please fill out your 2013 Offering Form and support the work of St. George!

## MAINTENANCE MATCHING FUND

- Donald Hawkins, husband of JoAnn, started this program with a \$2,000 matching grant. We reached our 1<sup>st</sup> goal (raising \$2,000 from parishioners) and Don matched it with his \$2,000 donation!
- We are now working to reach our 2<sup>nd</sup> goal of raising \$3,000 which our Ladies Auxiliary will match with a \$3,000 donation. All of us are asked to participate! As an example, you donate \$100 and another \$100 is donated by our Ladies Auxiliary! The deadline to reach our \$3,000 goal is October 31<sup>st</sup>. To date, we have collected \$447. Please respond TODAY!

### 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. |
| Tuesday     | <b>Ladies Auxiliary Meeting</b> 5pm  |
| Wednesday   | <b>SOYO Wednesday</b> 7-9pm <i>check out our Facebook page for details!</i>  |
| Saturday    | <b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm   |
| Next Sunday | <b>Church School BEGINS -- Parent Open House &amp; Pancake Breakfast!</b>  |

## **SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> -- ECCLESIASTICAL (CHURCH) NEW YEAR**

The first day of the Church New Year is also called the beginning of the Indiction. The term Indiction comes from a Latin word meaning, "to impose." It was originally applied to the imposition of taxes in Egypt. The first worldwide Indiction was in 312 when the Emperor Constantine (May 21) saw a miraculous vision of the Cross in the sky. Before the introduction of the Julian calendar, Rome began the New Year on September 1.

According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2, the Savior proclaimed, "*The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord ...*" This scene is depicted in a Vatican manuscript (Vatican, Biblioteca. Cod. Gr. 1613, p.1).

## **VENERABLE SIMEON THE STYLITE**

Our righteous Father Simeon was born about the year 390 in a certain village named Sis, in the mountain region of Cilicia and Syria. Having first been a shepherd, he entered the monastic discipline at a young age. After trying various kinds of ascetical practices, both in the monastery and then in the wilderness, he began standing on pillars of progressively greater height, and heroically persevered in this for more than forty years; the greater part of this time he spent standing upright, even when one of his feet became gangrenous, and other parts of his body gave way under the strain. He did not adopt this strange way of life out of vainglory, a charge that some of his contemporaries made against him at the first: because he was already famous for his asceticism and holiness before ascending his first pillar (in Greek, style, whence he is called "Stylite"), many pious people came to him wishing to touch his garments, either for healing or for a blessing; to escape the continual vexation they caused, he made a pillar about ten feet high, and then higher and higher, until the fourth and last was about fifty feet high. The Church historian Theodoret of Cyrillus, an eyewitness of his exploits who wrote of him while Simeon was yet alive, called him "the great wonder of the world." God gave him the grace to persevere in such an astonishing form of asceticism that multitudes came to see him from Persia, Armenia, South Arabia, Georgia, Thrace, Spain, Italy, Gaul, and the British Isles. Theodoret says that he became so famous in Rome that the Nomadic Arabs by the thousands believed in Christ and were baptized because of him; the King of Persia sent envoys to inquire into his way of life, and the Queen asked to be sent oil that he had blessed. He also was a great defender of sound doctrine, and confirmed the Orthodoxy of the Holy Council of Chalcedon for many who had been beguiled by the teachings of the Monophysites, including the Empress Eudocia, widow of Theodosius the Younger. After a life of unheard-of achievements and struggles, he reposed in peace at the age of sixty-nine, in the year 459.