

St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

September 2, 2012

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY MARTYR MAMAS

Tone – 4

2nd Matins Gospel {Mark 16:1-8}

Altar Servers: **St. Paul** team {Devin Jones, captain}

Next Week – **St. Peter** 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 4

When the women disciples learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, they cast away parental sin, and proudly told the message to the disciples proclaiming that death hath been spoiled and Christ our God hath risen granting the world great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 4 (*as above*)

Troparion for St. Mamas—Tone 4

Thy Martyr, O Lord, by his struggle has received from Thee, our God, the imperishable crown; because acquiring Thy strength, he demolished usurpers and crushed the powerless might of Satan. Therefore, through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

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 محرراً ومعتقاً، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضداً وناصيراً وللمرضى طبيباً وشفافاً وعن المؤمنين مكافحاً ومُحارباً أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس الألبس الطفر تَشَقَّعْ 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 16:13-24* {13th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:33-42* {13th Sunday of Matthew}

Holy Bread Offerings

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:

◆ **Erini Abuaita** – September 5th ◆ **Fadi Odeh** – September 6th

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: **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), **Lamar Williams** (+August 16th, friend of Dr. Lindsey Farah), and **Mariam Abuaita** (+August 21st, mother of Androlla Abuaita).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Khouriya Janet Peters**, **Nayef Aboujamra**, **Philip Abuaita**, **Jonathan Bassett**, **George Damouni** (brother of Lina Burbar and May Gantos), **Samira Gantous**, **Camille Ghantous**, **Nadera Ghantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol 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), **Elaine Shaheen**, and **William Sophiea Jr.**, **Bob Teunion**, **Ivy Alkhoury** and the newborn **Simon** (July 31st), **Huda Abusaada** and the newborn **Layan** (August 17th), **Tony & Jenny** (Abueita) **Salsa** and **Basheer & Aziza** (Mitri) **Hawwash** who were 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is not hosted today ☹️.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: September 23rd, October 14th, 21st, and 28th -- 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 TODAY Sunday, September 2nd, the Soup Kitchen truck is 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.

IOCC EMERGENCY KITS The International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief, and development programs to those in need worldwide. Our Teen SOYO is collecting donations in order to make emergency health kits. Please be generous and donate any of the supplies listed on the flier. You can place your donations into our IOCC collection box in the Lounge! Thank you so much for your generosity and time. God bless ♥

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.

September 2nd — MARTYRS MAMAS & PARENTS THEODOTOS AND RUFINA

The Holy Great Martyr Mamas was born in Paphlagonia, Asia Minor in the third century of pious and illustrious parents, the Christians Theodotos and Rufina. The parents of the saint were arrested by the pagans for their open confession of their faith and locked up in prison in Caesarea in Cappadocia. Knowing his own bodily weakness, Theodotos prayed that the Lord would take him before being subjected to tortures. The Lord heard his prayer and he died in prison. St Rufina died also after him, after giving birth to a premature son. She entrusted him to God, beseeching Him to be the Protector and Defender of the orphaned infant. God heard the dying prayer of St Rufina: a rich Christian widow named Ammia buried the bodies of Sts Theodotos and Rufina, and she took the boy into her own home and raised him as her own son. St Mamas grew up in the Christian Faith. Early on his foster mother sent him off to study his grammar. The boy learned easily and willingly. He was not of an age of mature judgment but distinguished himself by maturity of mind and of heart. By means of prudent conversations and personal example young Mamas converted many of his own peers to

Christianity.

The governor, Democritus, was informed of this, and the 15 year old Mamas was arrested and brought to trial. In deference to his illustrious parentage, Democritus decided not to subject him to torture, but instead sent him off to the emperor Aurelian (270-275). The emperor kindly at first but then with threats, tried to turn St Mamas back to the pagan faith. The saint confessed himself a Christian and pointed out the madness of pagans worshipping lifeless idols. Infuriated, the emperor subjected the youth to cruel tortures. They tried to drown him, but an angel of the Lord saved him and he lived on a high mountain in the wilderness, not far from Caesarea. Bowing to the will of God, the saint built a small church there and began to lead a life of strict temperance, in fasting and prayer. Soon he received remarkable powers over the forces of nature: wild beasts from the surrounding wilderness gathered at his home and listened to the reading of the Holy Gospel. St Mamas nourished himself on the milk of wild goats and deer. The saint did not ignore the needs of his neighbors. Preparing cheese from this milk, he gave it away freely to the poor. Soon the fame of St Mamas's life spread throughout all of Caesarea.

The governor sent a detachment of soldiers to arrest him. When they encountered St Mamas on the mountain, the soldiers did not recognize him, and mistook him for a simple shepherd. The saint then invited them to his dwelling, gave them a drink of milk and then told them his name, knowing that death for Christ awaited him. The servant of God told the servant of the Emperor to go on ahead of him into Caesarea, promising that he would soon follow. The soldiers waited for him at the gates of the city, and St Mamas, accompanied by a lion, met them there. Surrendering himself into the hands of the torturers, St Mamas was brought to trial under a deputy governor named Alexander, who subjected him to intense and prolonged tortures. They did not break the saint's will, however. He was strengthened by the words addressed to him from above: *"Be strong and take courage, Mamas."* When they threw St Mamas to the wild beasts, these creatures would not touch him. Finally, one of the pagan priests struck him with a trident. Mortally wounded, St Mamas went out beyond the city limits. There, in a small stone cave, he gave up his spirit to God, Who in the hearing of all summoned the holy Martyr Mamas into His heavenly habitation. He was buried by believers at the place of his death.

Christians soon began to receive help from him in their afflictions and sorrows. St Basil the Great speaks thus about the holy Martyr Mamas in a sermon to the people: *"Remember the holy martyr, you who live here and have him as a helper. You who call on his name have been helped by him. Those in error he has guided into life. Those whom he has healed of infirmity, those whose children were dead he has restored to life, those whose life he has prolonged: let us all come together as one, and praise the martyr!"*

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	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 6pm
Wednesday	SOYO Wednesday "Ask Abouna" with Fr. Joe 7-9pm
Thursday	Church School Staff Meeting 5:30pm
Saturday	Nativity of the Theotokos Combined Liturgy at Assumption 10:30am Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm
Next Sunday	Church School BEGINS!