

# St. George Orthodox Church

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V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

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

September 30, 2012

## 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**HIEROMARTYR GREGORY, BISHOP AND ENLIGHTENER OF GREATER ARMENIA**

Tone – 8

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

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 8**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 8** (*as above*)

#### **Troparion for St. Gregory—Tone 4**

You have become like the apostles in their states, a successor to their throne, finding indeed the intelligent ladder, O God-inspired. Therefore, you have followed the Word of God in righteousness, and striven unto blood for the faith. O Martyr among priests, Gregory, intercede with Christ God to 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 أنكَ للمأسورينَ مُحرِّرٌ ومُعْتِقٌ، وللفقراءِ والمساكينِ عاضِدٌ وناصِرٌ وللمَرْضَى طبيبٌ وشَافٍ وعن المؤمنينَ مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشهداءِ جاورجيسُ اللابسُ الظفرَ تشنَّعَ إلى المسيحِ الإلهِ في خلاصِ نفوسنا.

### **Kontakion for the Virgin Mary (on a normal Sunday)—Tone 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned, but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee. Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

**Epistle Reading:** *2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1* {17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost}

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 6:31-36* {2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke}

### **Holy Bread Offerings**

- For the health of our St. George parishioners and in loving memory of our former clergy, **Archbishop Malatios Swaity**, **Protosyngellos Ellis Khouri** (25 years), **Archimandrite Michael Tahan**, **Archpriest Basil Kalekas** (25 years), **Archpriest Basil Karpelenia**, **Archpriest Hanna Khouri**, **Archpriest Nicholas Saikley**, **Archpriest John Chromiak**, **Priest Ellis Hajj**, **Priest Anthony Sakey**, **Priest Nicholas Juerges**, **Priest Lewis Secabe**, and **Deacon Habib Romley**.
- The Hawkins and Shahin Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of **Thomas**, **Shyka**, **Theia**, **Subdeacon Shaker**, **Kamelia**, **Shakeeb**, **Betty**, **Stephen**, **Naif**, **Sadie**, **Jim**, **Michael**, **Ted**, **Connie**, **Lucinda**, **Ann**, **Dodi**, **Barbara**, **Priest Michael**, and **Raymond**.
- Olga Nassar for the health of her family and in loving memory of husband **Khader** (14 years), mother **Salwa Shaheen** (10 years), and sister **Majada** (12 years).
- Khaled, Sally, Watan, and Majd Abuaita for the health of their family especially son and brother **Ayham** on the occasion of his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday -- *May God grant him many years!*
- The Abud Family for the health of their family especially **John** (25<sup>th</sup>) and **Joanna** (21<sup>st</sup>) on the occasion of their birthdays -- *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:

◆ **Crystal Abdallah** – October 4<sup>th</sup>      ◆ **Ramzy Abueita** – October 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: **Nabeel Ibrahim** (+September 14<sup>th</sup>, Canada, uncle of Ziyad Ibrahim), **Victoria Khoury** (+September 17<sup>th</sup>, sister-in-law of Norma Sophiea), **Robert Delbridge** (+September 19<sup>th</sup>, cousin of Jim Delbridge), and **Muriel Mansour** (+September 20<sup>th</sup>, friend of parishioners).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Khouriya Janet Peters**, **Nayef Aboujamra**, **Lucy AbuAita**, **Najeb Abuaita**, **Clemence** (Dn. Mike's mother) and **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**, **Michael Silpoch**, **William Sophiea Jr.**, **Robert Teunion**, **Kinan Turjman** (nephew of Sahar Abdallah).

- We also pray for the servants of God who are with child: **Sandra Mitri, Marlen Odeh, and Suhair Awwad** (former parishioner).

**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.
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** is hosted by *The Hawkins and Shahin Families*.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 28<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** Next Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**ALTAR SERVERS AND PARENTS** It is an awesome and humbling experience to assist the priest in the Holy Place. All our young boys who are 7 years of age and older are invited to participate more fully in the Church by serving God's Holy Altar. With all of the negative influences our children have to face in this world, what could be of greater benefit to them? Our annual mandatory meeting for old and new servers will take place on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 3pm (Plan to stay for Great Vespers at 5pm!). This is our **ONLY** meeting of the year! Many things will be discussed, new teams will be formed, and the new servers will be taught how to serve. If you cannot make the meeting, but would like to serve, please let Father Joe know.

**September 30<sup>th</sup> —ST. GREGORY OF ARMENIA**

The Hieromartyr Gregory, Enlightener of Great Armenia, was born in the year 257. He was descended from the line of the Parthian Arsakid emperors. The father of St Gregory, Anak, in striving after the Armenian throne, had murdered his kinsman, the emperor Kursar, in consequence of which all the line of Anak was marked for destruction.

A certain kinsman saved Gregory: he carried off the infant from Armenia to Caesarea Cappadocia and raised him in the Christian Faith. At maturity, Gregory married, had two sons, but soon was left a widower. Gregory raised his sons in piety. One of them -- Orphanes, afterwards became a priest, and the other -- Arostanes, accepted monasticism and went off into the wilderness.

In order to atone for the sin of his father, who had murdered the father of Tiridates, Gregory entered into the service of the latter and was a faithful servant to him. Tiridates loved Gregory like a friend, but he was intolerant of the Christian confession of faith. After ascending the Armenian throne, he began to demand that St Gregory renounce the Christian Faith. The steadfastness of the saint embittered Tiridates, and he gave his faithful servant over to cruel tortures: they suspended the sufferer head downwards with a stone about his neck, for several days they choked him with a stinking smoke, they beat and ridiculed him, and forced him to walk in iron sandals inset with nails. At the time of these sufferings St Gregory sang Psalms. In prison the Lord healed all his wounds. When Gregory again stood before the emperor cheerful and unharmed, he was astonished and gave orders to repeat the torments. St Gregory endured them, not wavering, with all his former determination and bearing. They then poured hot tin over him and threw him into a pit filled with vipers. The Lord, however, saved His chosen one: the snakes did him no harm.

Some pious women fed him with bread, secretly lowering it into the pit. A holy angel, appeared to the martyr, strengthening and encouraging him. St Gregory remained in the pit for fourteen years. During this time the emperor Tiridates executed the holy virgin St Rhipsime, the aged abbess Gaiana and another 35 virgins from one of the monasteries of Asia Minor. As punishment for this horrible deed, the king's face became disfigured.

St Gregory was released from the pit, and buried the relics of the holy virgins with honor. Then he began to preach to the people, urging them to turn away from the darkness of idolatry and toward Christ. The people came to believe in Christ, and wished to build a large church. When it was completed, St Gregory had the relics of the holy nuns brought into it. Then he brought King Tiridates there before the bodies of the saints whom he had slain. He repented, and immediately his face was made whole once more.

Soon all of Armenia was converted to Christ. The temples of the idols were destroyed, and churches for the worship of the true God were built. St Gregory ordained priests, established schools, founded monasteries, and provided for the good order of the Church.

St Gregory went into the wilderness, where he departed to the Lord. His son Aristanes was made a bishop in Cappadocia, and was one of the 318 holy Fathers at the Council of Nicea.

### 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.
TODAY	<b>Teen SOYO Elections</b> <i>after Church School</i>
Monday	<b>Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark</b> 3-5pm
Tuesday	<b>Ladies Auxiliary</b> 6pm
Wednesday	<b>Arabic/English Study of the Divine Liturgy</b> 1pm-2:30pm <b>SOYO Wednesday</b> 7-9pm
Fri-Sat.	<b>Midwest Diocesan Fall Gathering</b> <i>in Sylvania, OH</i> <b>New Church Consecration</b> <i>at Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction</i>
Saturday	No Great Vespers