

**St. George Orthodox Church**

5191 Lennon Road  
Flint, MI 48507-1050

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*A Church of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

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# THE VOICE

of St. George



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**March 2024**  
Volume 34, Numbers 7

*St. George Ladies Auxiliary*

# *Falafel Luncheon*

**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

*at*

*St. George Orthodox Church  
5191 Lennon Road  
Flint, MI*

## **Menu**

*Falafel, Hummus, Tahini, Salad, Pickles, Pita Bread,  
Dessert, Coffee, and Juice  
\$10 - Eight years and older  
\$5 - Seven years and younger*

*All proceeds go to the Antiochian Women's 2024 Project,  
**The Antiochian Village Project**  
**"Clergy Widowed Wives"***

➤ *Additional donations are welcome!*

# Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan

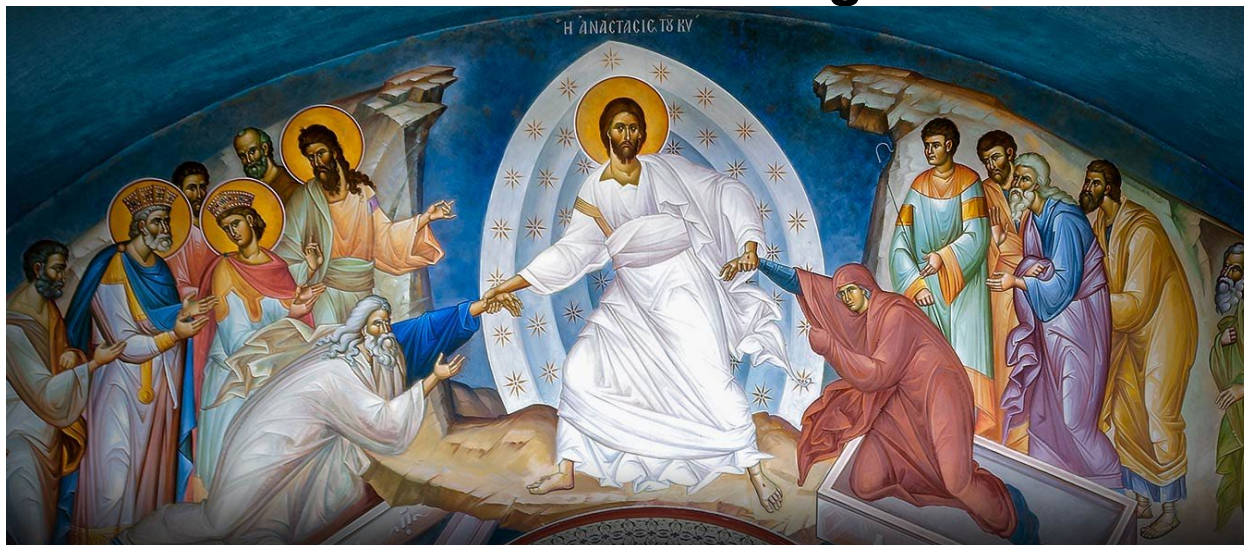
Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611

St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720

St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 S. Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1401

St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

## 2024 Great Fast and Bright Week



### Pan-Orthodox Divine Services and Lenten Refreshments

**Great Compline** at St. George (*Mondays, 6pm*) All are welcome every Monday night. This beautiful service, along with the Lenten Hours on Wednesdays at St. Nicholas, allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available after the service.

**Lenten Hours** at St. Nicholas (*Wednesdays, 10am*) All are welcome every Wednesday morning.

**Presanctified Divine Liturgy** and **Lenten Potluck Dinner** (*Wednesdays, 6pm*) We will celebrate together the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion at evening liturgies, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (*no eating or drinking after 12 Noon*). Confessions will be available prior to the evening liturgies from 5:30pm–6pm. The Lenten Potluck Dinners will be coordinated by the host parish.

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> Great Feast of the **Annunciation Great Vespers** at Assumption 6pm

Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> Great Feast of the **Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption 10am

March 27<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 6pm

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> **Lenten Retreat** (*more information to follow*)

April 10<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. George 6pm

April 24<sup>th</sup> **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm

April 27<sup>th</sup> **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy** at Assumption 9:30am

### Bright Week (May 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>)

May 6<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 10am

May 7<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 10am

May 8<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Evening Liturgy** at St. George 6pm

May 10<sup>th</sup> **Paschal Divine Liturgy for the Life-giving Font** at Assumption 10am

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the USA  
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*

# ***Namedays, Birthdays and Anniversaries***

*March 1 to March 31, 2024*

## **Birthdays**

### **March**

- 1** Sean M. McCann  
Emil Rishmawi
- 2** Ariana O. Khouri
- 3** Andrew M. Alkazaha  
Pamela K. Bassett  
Lindsey N. Brunner
- 4** Jeremy A. Meshraky
- 5** O'Myah Vaughn  
Dionte T. Wilson Jr.
- 6** Janet Abueita  
Khaled M. Abueita  
Samir "Sam" H. Houry  
Amanda Rishmawi  
Martha Shahin
- 7** Andrew "Andy" A. Oliver
- 10** Enzo R. Hilal
- 12** Alyssa Coon  
Maggie David  
Zeid Helal  
John E. Joseph  
Edward F. Joubran
- 13** Sami Abufarha  
Jack J. Burch  
Lauren Czerniak-Zerka
- 14** Tony Fakhoury
- 15** Jiries Awad
- 16** Jon Bassett  
Devin B. Bathish  
Branden B. Jones
- 17** Danielle Bathish  
Preston Haddad
- 20** Wadia Albaba  
Oliver G. Fanous
- 21** Amal I. Abueita  
Nidal Ishaq
- 22** Ibtisam Ghareeb  
Raji "Roger" J. Salomon
- 23** Sandra "Sandy" H. Mitri  
Noa H. Tipton
- 24** Ayla L. Abueita

- Issa Alqazaha
- 25** Maher Abufarha  
Najwa Joubran
- 26** Ghada J. Abdallah
- 27** Joseph A. Khouri
- 28** Nicholas F. Abdallah  
Vivian N. Isaac  
Miar G. Odeh  
Mira Rishmawi
- 30** Anthony R. Abueita  
Laura "Laurie" E. Harrison
- 31** Aila Qumsieh

## **Namedays**

### **March**

- 4** Julianna Isabella Helal
- 25** Miar (Mary) George Odeh

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

### **March**

- 1** Mr. and Mrs. Adnan Yacoub
- 6** Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Khouri
- 13** Mr. and Mrs. Karam Nassar
- 20** Mr. and Mrs. Rafiq Ghareeb
- 22** Mr. and Mrs. Munther Al-Kahush

***God Grant You All Many Years!***

## THE ANNUNCIATION البشارة OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

The Feast of the Annunciation is one of the earliest Christian feasts, and was already being celebrated in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. There is a painting of the Annunciation in the catacomb of Priscilla in Rome dating from the second century. The Council of Toledo in 656 mentions the Feast, and the Council in Trullo in 692 says that the Annunciation was celebrated during Great Lent.

The Greek and Slavonic names for the Feast may be translated as "good tidings." This, of course, refers to the Incarnation of the Son of God and the salvation He brings. The background of the Annunciation is found in the Gospel of St Luke (1:26-38). The troparion describes this as the "beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the eternal mystery," for on this day the Son of God became the Son of Man.

There are two main components to the Annunciation: the message itself, and the response of the Virgin. The message fulfills God's promise to send a Redeemer (Genesis 3:15): "I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; he shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for his heel." The Fathers of the Church understand "her seed" to refer to Christ. The prophets hinted at His coming, which they saw dimly, but the Archangel Gabriel now proclaims that the promise is about to be fulfilled.

We see this echoed in the Liturgy of St Basil, as well: "When man disobeyed Thee, the only true God who had created him, and was deceived by the guile of the serpent, becoming subject to death by his own transgressions, Thou, O God, in Thy righteous judgment, didst send him forth from Paradise into this world, returning him to the earth from which he was taken, yet providing for him the salvation of regeneration in Thy Christ Himself."

The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth in Galilee. There he spoke to the undefiled Virgin who was betrothed to St Joseph: "Hail, thou who art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

In contrast to Eve, who was readily deceived by the serpent, the Virgin did not immediately accept

the Angel's message. In her humility, she did not think she was deserving of such words, but was actually troubled by them. The fact that she asked for an explanation reveals her sobriety and prudence. She did not disbelieve the words of the angel, but could not understand how they would be fulfilled, for they spoke of something which was beyond nature.

Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" (Luke 1:34). "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: therefore also that which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.' And Mary said, 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.' And the angel departed from her" (Luke 1: 35-38)."

The icon of the Feast shows the Archangel with a staff in his left hand, indicating his role as a messenger. Sometimes one wing is upraised, as if to show his swift descent from heaven. His right hand is stretched toward the holy Virgin as he delivers his message.

The Virgin is depicted either standing or sitting, usually holding yarn in her left hand. Sometimes she is shown holding a scroll. Her right hand may be raised to indicate her surprise at the message she is hearing. Her head is bowed, showing her consent and obedience. The descent of the Holy Spirit upon her is depicted by a ray of light issuing from a small sphere at the top of the icon, which symbolizes heaven. In a famous icon from Sinai, a white dove is shown in the ray of light.

There are several famous icons of the Annunciation. One is in the Moscow Kremlin in the church of the Annunciation. This icon appeared in connection with the rescue of a prisoner by the Mother of God during the reign of Ivan the Terrible. One of the most highly revered icons in Greece is the Tinos icon of the Annunciation (January 30).

The Annunciation falls during Lent, but it is always celebrated with great joy. The Liturgy of St Basil or St John Chrysostom is served, even on the weekdays of Lent. It is one of the two days of Great Lent on which the fast is relaxed and fish is permitted (Palm Sunday is the other).

# TO TITHE IS TO LOVE!

The Bible says a “tithe” is giving 10% of our income to God through His Holy Church. In the Old Testament, the tithe was the maximum.

For Christians (yes, US!),  
the tithe is the minimum!

*“Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*

2 Corinthians 9:7

ALL of our **240 families** are asked to make an Offering. Why? Because it is such a blessing to give back to God a little of what He has given us!

- Our 2024 Budget is \$394,600
- To meet our budget, our weekly offerings need to average: \$7,588
- Number of Families who need to offer: ALL THOSE WHO BELONG TO OUR ST. GEORGE FAMILY!
- Offering Range: according to how God has blessed you!



*Your commitment is NEEDED!*

*Please fill out your 2024 Offering Form -- as soon as possible.*

*THANK YOU!!!*

# ***TO TITHE IS TO LOVE!***

## **2024 OFFERING UPDATE**

*As of February 19, 2024*

We thank the following families for turning in their 2024 Offering Form in support of God's work at St. George. If your name is not listed, please fill out your 2024 Offering Form and mail it to the Church or put it in the Sunday Offering Tray.

***Thank You and God Bless You!***

New this year in Underlined (did not fill out a form last year)  
Increase in Offering is **BOLD**

### ***ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST!!!***

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>Hanna and Liana AbuAita</u>     | 15. Elias and Amirah Hanna             |
| 2. Najeb and Eman Abuaita             | 16. <u>Salim and Dania Hanna</u>       |
| 3. <b>Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee Abud</b> | 17. <b>Daisy Isaac</b>                 |
| 4. <b>Laila Abud</b>                  | 18. Najwa Joubran                      |
| 5. Atallah and Anaam Abueita          | 19. Reema Khoury                       |
| 6. <b>Issa and Jane Abueita</b>       | 20. <b>Dr. Raouf and Judy Mikhail</b>  |
| 7. Hiam Bathish                       | 21. Karam and Aida Nassar              |
| 8. <b>Douglas Coone</b>               | 22. <b>Olga Nassar</b>                 |
| 9. Issa and Vera Daoud                | 23. George and Jeanette Nassif         |
| 10. Iman David                        | 24. <u>Jeries and Juliette Qumseya</u> |
| 11. James David                       | 25. <b>Richard Shaheen</b>             |
| 12. Ayman and Wafaa Elias             | 26. Ric and Martha Shahin              |
| 13. <u>John and Mariah Elias</u>      | 27. Paul and Camela Takach             |
| 14. George and Suad Gantous           | 28. Robert Teunion                     |

## 2024 Offering Form

St. George Orthodox Church ~ Flint, Michigan

### I Want To Be Counted!

Frequency	Amount	A % of Income
Weekly	\$	
OR Twice Monthly	\$	
OR Monthly	\$	
OR Quarterly	\$	
OR Annually	\$	

~ Offerings Are Treated confidentially ~ Please fill out completely.

Name(s)	
Address	
City	
ZIP	
Telephone	

### Offerings can be made in different ways.

- Put your offering in the **Sunday Tray** or **send it to St. George**.
- Online at <https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/saintgeorgeflint>.
- Call the office (810-732-0720) and use a **Credit Card**.
- An **ACH** direct-payment transaction from your bank account.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse" (Malachi 3:10)*

Seeing the rich bringing their gifts and then a widow bringing a few pennies, Jesus said, *"Truly I say to you that this widow has put in more than all."* (Luke 21:3)

## 2024 بطاقة التبرعات لعام

كنيسة القديس جورج للروم الاورثوذكس فلانت، متشغن

### أريد أن أكون معدودا !

% من قيمة الدخل	المبلغ	الدفعات
	\$	اسبوعيا
	\$	مرتين بالشهر
	\$	شهريا
	\$	كل ثلاثة شهور
	\$	سنويا

كل التبرعات يتم التعامل معها بسرية تامة ~ الرجاء تعبئة كل البطاقة.

الاسم / الأسماء	
العنوان	
المدينة	
الرقم	
رقم الهاتف	

### يمكن تقديم التبرعات بعدة طرق مختلفة.

- يمكن وضع التبرعات في صينية التبرعات يوم الأحد أو ارسالها الى عنوان الكنيسة.
- عن طريق الانترنت <https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/saintgeorgeflint>
- عن طريق الاتصال على رقم تلفون مكتب الكنيسة (810)732-0720 واستخدام بطاقة الائتمان ( كريديت كارت).
- أو عن طريق الدفع أو التحويل المباشر من حسابك المصرفي-ACH.

الامضاء \_\_\_\_\_ التاريخ \_\_\_\_\_

هاتوا العشور جميعها الى بيت الجزية ( ملاخي 10:3)

عندما رأى الأغنياء يتقدمون بتبرعاتهم والأرملة الفقيرة تقدم القليل قال يسوع: *"الحق أقول لكم أن هذه الأرملة الفقيرة قد ألت أكثر منهم جميعا"* ( لوقا 3:21)



# “SALVATION AND THE UNSEEN WORLD”

## A PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN RETREAT APRIL 6, 2024

Join us for our annual Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat hosted by St. Mary Magdalene Parish (2439 S. Long Lake Rd Fenton, MI 48430)

This year’s guest lecturer is Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick.  
Retreat Schedule:

<b>9:30am - 10:30am</b>	<b>Hospitality &amp; Registration</b>
<b>10:00am - 12:00pm</b>	<b>Session 1: “What Do Demons Have to Do with the Gospel?”</b>
<b>12:00pm - 1:00pm</b>	<b>Lenten Fellowship Lunch</b>
<b>1:00pm - 2:30pm</b>	<b>Session 2: “What do Angels Have to Do with Salvation?”</b>
<b>2:30pm - 2:45 pm</b>	<b>Break Time</b>
<b>2:45pm - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Open Q &amp; A</b>
<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers</b>

**WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND THIS ALL-DAY RETREAT IN PERSON AND JOIN IN THE FELLOWSHIP. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US IN PERSON THERE WILL BE A PRIVATE LIVESTREAM OF THIS EVENT. THE RETREAT WILL NOT BE BROADCAST PUBLICALLY, SO PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

**PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT OR VISIT [ST-MARYMAGDALENE.ORG/ADULT-EDUCATION](https://st-marymagdalene.org/adult-education)**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH AT 3:00PM EST**



*The Pan-Orthodox Churches  
of Genesee County*

Holy Assumption Greek  
Orthodox Church  
(2245 E. Baldwin Rd Grand Blanc, MI)

St. George Orthodox Church  
(5191 Lennon Rd Flint, MI)

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox  
Church  
(2439 S. Long Lake Rd Fenton, MI)

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church  
(2143 S Center Rd Burton, MI)



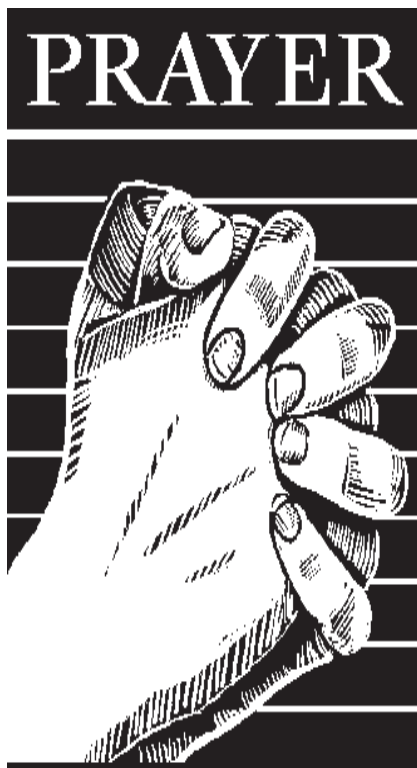
## Daily Prayer Life

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- ◆ For the servant of God who has fallen asleep in the Lord: **Nellie Makhoul**, (+February 4<sup>th</sup>, sister of Gisele Farah) and **Housam Abousamra** (+February 13<sup>th</sup>).

*May her memory be eternal!*

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## REQUESTS

- ◆ REMEMBER OUR PARISHIONERS AND THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, OR IN NEED, ESPECIALLY HIS SERVANTS: **Archbishop Nathaniel** (Romanian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America), our **Bishop Anthony**, **Sahar Abdallah**, **Abeer Abuaita**, **Reader Fouad** and **Soad Abuaita**, **Philip** and **Janett Abuaita**, **Rasha Abuaita**, **Sami** and **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila Abud**, **George Abueita**, **Georgette Abueita**, **Jane Abueita**, **Mary Abueita**, **Youssef Abousamra**, **William Alsaouri**, **Naila Banna**, **Vera Daoud**, **Said Farah**, **Elias Gantos**, **Subdeacon George** and **Suad Gantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Daisy Isaac**, **John Joseph**, **Karen Mortensen**, **Laura Nassar**, **Jeanette Nassif**, **Adam Odeh**, **Rahmeh Rashmawi**, **Elaine Shaheen**, and **Michael Silpoch**; *all first-responders and those suffering from illness, violence, and want throughout the world and in our community, the Holy Land, the Middle East, and the war in Ukraine; the supporters and benefactors of St. George, the members of our Parish Council, Ladies Auxiliary, Teen SOYO, Altar Servers, Altar Society, Chanters, Choir, Church School, St. George Preschool Ministry, and Ushers.*

- ◆ REMEMBER OUR EXPECTANT PARENTS: Drs. **Lindsey** and **Ryan Brunner**, **Casandra** and **Danial Burbar**, **Andrea** and **Josh Jones**, **Kari** (daughter of John & Theresa Farah) and **Panagiotis Mikroudis**, & **Vera** and **Luay Sababa**.

➤ Please update Fr. Joe on how the following are doing and whether they should remain on our prayer list!

- ◆ REMEMBER THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF ST. GEORGE PARISHIONERS:

**Kristo** (friend of Anwar Abueita), **Danial Alghanim** (father of Dania Hanna), **Sanaa Alqassis** (daughter of Zahra Abuaita), **Shafiq** Abuleil (mother of Vicky Nassar), **Sharon Ballreich** (sister of Nancy Silpoch), **Kameel Srouji** (son-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Nihad Bannura** (cousin of Jane Abu-Eita), **Georgia Coone**, **Tanika Russell**, **Dennis**, and **Sue** (mother/friends of Doug Coone), **Youssef** and **Georgette Damouni** (parents of Lina Burbar and May Gantos), **Tom Ellenburg** (friend of Sally Joseph), **Abdulnour Hanna** (brother of the Hanna, Elias, Joubran families), **Philip Jones** (brother-in-law of Lubna Jones), **Larry Judson** (friend of Tim Beers), **Nejma Khair** (mother of Esperanza Abuaita), **Scott Lints** (friend of Mary Jo Ghattas), **Scott Allen**, **Antonia Molina**, **Reuben Reyes**, and **Dominique Vasquez** (friends of Areen Bathish), **Saliba Musleh** (father of Julianna Abuaita), **Ibtisam Odeh** (cousin of Elham Ishak), **Eva Saseen** (niece of Jeanette Nassif), **Kinan Turjman** (nephew of Sahar Abdallah), **Shirley Zerka** (mother of Victoria), **Michael Bauer**, **Cynthia Brooks**, **Cindy** and **Heather Campbell**, **Joseph Collins**, **Zossima** and **Georgiana Daugherty**, **Courtney Knadler**, and **Nancy Maes** (family/friends of Fr. Michael and Kh. Pam Bassett), **Maha Qassis** and **Nadia Ibrahim** (sister/mother of Ziyad), **Shafeka Qurpan** and **George Ishak** (mother/nephew of Amira Hanna), **Elias Ibrahim** and **Taghrid** (uncle/friend of Rula Alkazaha), **Mary Khal** and **Hanna Abu-Nimer** (relatives of Karam and Aida Nassar), **Gloria Nakfoor** (sister of Elaine Shaheen), **Jennifer Craft** and **Brionna Gorbitt** (friends of Mariann Hayek), **Randy** (friend of Evan Sanford), **Valland Frangi** (sister of Ron Haddad), **Megan Meade**, **Danielle Teunion-Smith**, **Laura Teunion-Smith**, and **Casey Webb** (relatives of Bob Teunion), **Mother Macrina**, **Gary Stewart**, **Kamal Kheirallah**, **Barb Maness**, **Matthew Agle**, **Judy Sanderson**, and **Norman Thomas** (family/friends of Steve and Kelly Sanderson), and **Richard Ramsdell** (father of Jodie [Paul] Bathish).

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## *Congratulations and God bless:*

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❖ The 2024 St. George Parish Council:

**Fadi Rishmawi**, Chairman

**Anwar Abueita**, Treasurer

**Salim Hanna**, Vice Chairman

**Ric Shahin**, Secretary

**Raed AbuAita, Dr. Raouf Mikhail, Aida Nassar, Jeanette Nassif, and Richard Shaheen**

*O Lord Jesus Christ, our God and Savior, as Thou did send the Holy Spirit upon Thy disciples and apostles on the day of Pentecost, pour forth Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts so that as members of the Parish Council we may discern and do Thy will in all things, praising Thy most holy and magnificent Name by our every word and action. For Thou are our sanctification and unto Thee do we offer glory, thanksgiving, and worship, together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*



❖ **Abdulla, Amira**, and newborn **Yasmine Farah** (January 10<sup>th</sup>).

❖ **Matt, Ambur** (*daughter of Joseph Haddad*), and newborn **Ivy Grace Allison** (January 24<sup>th</sup>).

❖ **John, Jacqueline** (*daughter of Anwar & Janet Abueita*), and newborn **Henry John Timm** (January 24<sup>th</sup>).

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## *Announcements*

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**FASTING DISCIPLINE FOR MARCH** There is no fasting on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> which are in the fast-free week of the Publican and Pharisee. The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. **Meat-Fare Sunday** (March 10<sup>th</sup>) is the last day we eat *meat, poultry, and their by-products* until Pascha (May 5<sup>th</sup>). The traditional fasting discipline during this **Cheese-Fare Week** (*no red or white meat and poultry*) is observed on all days meaning *eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products* may be consumed on all days. Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> is **Cheese-Fare Sunday** and the last day we eat *eggs, cheese, dairy and their by-products* until Pascha (May 5<sup>th</sup>). The **Great Fast** begins on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and continues until our celebration of the Feast of Feasts, **Pascha: our Lord's Resurrection** on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on all weekdays; on Saturdays and Sundays, *wine and olive oil* are allowed. On the Great Feast of the **Annunciation** (Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>), *fish, wine, and olive oil are permitted*.

**WHEELCHAIR NEEDED!** Many years ago, a wheelchair was donated to our church. It got a lot of use by parishioners and visitors who needed it. Unfortunately, that wheelchair became unusable and we are in need of another. If you have one that you no longer use or if you would like to donate so a new one can be purchased, please contact Fr. Michael.

**TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY** On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast, March 24<sup>th</sup>, we have a special procession celebrating the restoring of the Holy Icons into the Orthodox Church. Please be sure our children bring a Holy Icon from home to carry in the procession. If you do not have an icon in your home, we have many beautiful ones in our Bookstore for purchase!

## *The Great Fast begins...*

Our preparation for the Feast of Feasts (***Pascha***), begins on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and lasts until our midnight celebration of ***Pascha*** on May 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>. This preparation is based on our increased participation in the three disciplines Christ gave us: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving (Matthew 6:1-18):

1. Prayer: By attending the Lenten services as well as an increased daily prayer life at home, we spend more time with God.

2. Fasting: By restricting the types and frequency of meals, we experience physical weakness and learn to depend more on God than on ourselves.

3. Almsgiving: By giving to those less fortunate than ourselves, we cease to consider ourselves as the most important of all people (Food for Hungry People and other programs).

**Our real experience of Christ's Resurrection on Pascha depends on how deeply we enter into these three disciplines.** The additional weekday services gives all of us a wonderful opportunity to increase our Prayer life and be strengthened in Fasting and Almsgiving as well. We should strive to come to as many Lenten Services as possible besides Saturday Great Vespers and Sunday Matins and Divine Liturgy. Do you have questions? Speak with Fr. Joe or Fr. Michael for guidance during this holy time of the year!

**Great Compline** صلاة النوم الكبرى – Mondays at 6pm at St. George

**Lenten Hours** – Wednesdays at 10am at St. Nicholas (see Calendar)

**Presanctified Liturgy** القداس السابق تقدمه يسسه & Lenten Dinner ~ Wednesday at 6pm (see calendar for location!)

**Supplication to the Virgin Mary / Madayah** خدمة المديح – Fridays at 6pm at St. George

**Great Vespers and Confessions** – Saturdays at 4pm at St. George

**LENTEN POTLUCK DINNERS** Our Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting Lenten Potluck Dinners after our celebration of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. Please bring what is listed below according to the first letter of your last name. If you have any questions, please see or call our coordinators Anaam Abueita 810-962-1033 or Wafaa Elias 810-875-3398.

FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>

<b>A-F</b>	<b>G-J</b>	<b>K-R</b>	<b>S-Z</b>
Desserts	Relish Dish or Bread	Salad or Side Dish	Main Dish

## **JANUARY 2024 MONTHLY OFFERINGS**

Our average monthly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be \$32,833 to meet our 2024 Budget of \$394,600. Our total offerings in January 2024 were \$17,053 ~ which means we were **short \$15,780!** Please keep up with your weekly offerings! If you haven't already, please fill out your 2024 Offering Form (form is in this VOICE), put it in the offering tray or send it to the church, so we all can support the work we are doing at St. George for the glory of God.

### **OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS**

Though you might not be able to come to church on a regular basis, **our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still very badly needed.** PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer! If you cannot come, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line, use the QR code to the right, or you can bring or mail your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507. As always, THANK YOU for your generosity and love of our St. George!



## **Coming Events in April**

6<sup>th</sup> Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat at St. Mary Magdalene

28<sup>th</sup> Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

28<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup> The Great and Holy Week

# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 25th</b>	<p><i>TRIODION WEEKS</i></p> <p><b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14</p>	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week <b>MARCH 3rd</b>	<p><b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32</p>	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>MARCH 10th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	<p><b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46</p>	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>MARCH 17th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	<p><b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21</p>	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 24th</b>	<p><i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i></p> <p><b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51</p>	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 31st</b>	<p><b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12</p>	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 7th</b>	<p><b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1</p>	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 14th</b>	<p><b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31</p>	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 21st</b>	<p><b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45</p>	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 28th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS	<p><i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i></p> <p><b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18</p>	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>MAY 3rd</b>	<p><b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE</p>	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>MAY 5th</b> NO FASTING!	<p><i>BRIGHT WEEK</i></p> <p><b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17</p>	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

# التريودي-الصوم الأربعيني المقدس-الأسبوع العظيم-الفصح المقدس

رزامتكم لعام ٢٠٢٤ من صفحة أرثوذكس Orthodox



الأحد ٢٥ شباط: بداية التريودي - أحد الفريسي والعشار  
(لا يصام في هذا الأسبوع يومي الأربعاء والجمعة-أسبوع المخالفين)

الأحد ٣ آذار: أحد الإبن الشاطر

السبت ٩ آذار: سبت الأموات (سبت الرّاقدين)

الأحد ١٠ آذار: أحد مرفع اللحم (أحد الدّينونة)

الأحد ١٧ آذار: أحد مرفع الجبن (أحد الغفران)

الإثنين ١٨ آذار: بداية الصوم الأربعيني المقدس

الأحد ٢٤ آذار: الأحد الأوّل من الصوم - أحد الأرثوذكسيّة



أحد رفع الأيقونات المقدّسة

الإثنين ٢٥ آذار: عيد بشارة والدة الإله

الدّائمة البتوليّة مريم العذراء (مسموح فيه بأكل السمك)

الأحد ٣١ آذار: الأحد الثّاني من الصوم - أحد القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس

الأحد ٧ نيسان: الأحد الثّالث من الصوم أحد الصّليب الكريم المحيي

الأحد ١٤ نيسان: الأحد الرّابع من الصوم أحد أبينا البار يوحنا السّلمي

الأحد ٢١ نيسان: الأحد الخامس من الصوم - أحد أمنا البارة مريم المصريّة

أحد ٢٨ نيسان: أحد الشّعانين (يُسمح بأكل السمك)

الإثنين ٢٩ نيسان: بداية الأسبوع العظيم

سبت ٤ أيار: سبت الثور

أحد ٥ أيار: أحد الفصح العظيم المقدس



إثنين ٦ أيار: الإثنين الباعوث



# March

## March is Antiochian Women's Month!

Sunday <i>we remember the Resurrection</i>	Monday <i>we remember the Holy Angels</i>	Tuesday <i>we remember the John the Baptist</i>	Wednesday <i>we remember the Life-Giving Cross</i>	Thursday <i>we remember the Apostles &amp; Nicholas of Myra</i>	Friday <i>we remember the Life-Giving Cross</i>	Saturday <i>we remember the Martyrs &amp; Monastics</i>
	<p><b>*Assumption</b> 2245 Baldwin Road (between Holly &amp; Fenton Roads) Grand Blanc 810-771-4611</p>	<p><b>** St. Nicholas Church</b> 2143 South Center Road (1/2 mile south of Lippincott) Burton 810-744-0070</p>			1	2 Antiochian Women Spring Zoom Meeting 11am-1pm No Great Vespers Change clocks before bed!
3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pre-Lenten Sunday <i>Prodigal Son</i>	4	5	6	7	8	9 Soul Saturday <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 10am <i>Great Vespers and Confessions</i> 4pm <b>FAMILY NIGHT!</b>
10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Pre-Lenten Sunday <i>Last Judgment</i> (Meat Fare Sunday) Ladies Meeting <i>After Church School</i>	11-15 No meat, poultry, and their by-products, but everything else is allowed the whole week.					16 <i>Great Vespers and Confessions</i> 4pm
17 4 <sup>th</sup> Pre-Lenten Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) Forgiveness Vespers 12:30pm	18 The Great Fast Begins <i>Great Compline</i> and Canon of St. Andrew 6pm	19 <i>Great Compline</i> and Canon of St. Andrew 6pm	20 <i>Lenten Hours</i> at **St. Nicholas 10am <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> and Lenten Potluck at St. George 6pm	21 <i>Great Compline</i> and Canon of St. Andrew 6pm	22 <i>Akathist to the Theotokos</i> (خدمة المديح) 6pm	23 <i>Great Vespers and Confessions</i> 4pm
24 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Fast <i>Orthodoxy Sunday</i> Procession of Icons <i>Great Vespers</i> at *Assumption 6pm	25 <i>Great Feast of the Annunciation</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> at *Assumption 10am <i>Great Compline</i> 6pm	26 Pan-Orthodox Choir Rehearsal at **St. Nicholas 7-9pm	27 <i>Lenten Hours</i> at **St. Nicholas 10am <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> and Lenten Potluck at **St. Nicholas 6pm	28	29 <i>Akathist to the Theotokos</i> (خدمة المديح) 6pm	30 <i>Great Vespers and Confessions</i> 4pm
31 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Fast <i>St. Gregory Palamas</i>	← Falafel Lunch (see flier)					

2024

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## St. George Orthodox Church

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

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

V. Rev. Fr. Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Michael Bassett, Assistant

### Divine Services for the Lord's Day

- Saturday

*Great Vespers* 4:00 PM (except when noted!)

\* Confessions may also take place by appointment with Father Joe or Father Michael during the week.

- Sunday

*Sacrament of Repentance* {Confession\*} 8:30 AM—9:30 AM

*Matins* {Arabic & English} 8:50 AM

*Divine Liturgy* 10:00 AM

*Church School:* Classes are in session following Holy Communion from September to May

### Major Feast Days (see Calendar)

**2023-24 Theme for Church School, Bible Bowl, Creative Festivals, our Parish Life Conference, and Archdiocesan Convention**



### Parish Ministries

**PARISH COUNCIL** • Fadi Rishmawi, Chairman 810-625-5790 or [fadi19@msn.com](mailto:fadi19@msn.com)

Parishioners may attend meetings and speak with any concerns or questions during “Parishioner Comments”.

**ALTAR SERVERS** • Subdeacon George Gantous, Head Sacristan 810-714-7332 / [gantousgeorge@yahoo.com](mailto:gantousgeorge@yahoo.com)

**ALTAR SOCIETY** • Theresa Farah, Coordinator 810-919-1454 / [theyungwon@aol.com](mailto:theyungwon@aol.com)

**CHOIR** • Elias Abueita, Director 810-620-4897 / [eliasabuaita.124@gmail.com](mailto:eliasabuaita.124@gmail.com)

**CHURCH SCHOOL** • Janet Abueita, Director 810-691-0956 / [coeita@aol.com](mailto:coeita@aol.com)

**HOLY BREAD** • Aida Nassar, Coordinator 810-342-9713 / [mrsaidanassar@gmail.com](mailto:mrsaidanassar@gmail.com)

**LADIES AUXILIARY** • Hiam Bathish, President 810-238-2152 / [emilbathish4@gmail.com](mailto:emilbathish4@gmail.com)

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** • Tony Daoud, coordinator 810-730-1011 / [tonydaoud00@gmail.com](mailto:tonydaoud00@gmail.com)

**TEEN SOYO** • Cezar Abu-Aita, President 810-986-1434 / [cezarabuaita@icloud.com](mailto:cezarabuaita@icloud.com)

*Teen SOYO Youth Directors:* Gabrielle Gantos [gkirag11@yahoo.com](mailto:gkirag11@yahoo.com) and Dr. Lauren Zerka [laurenczerniak@gmail.com](mailto:laurenczerniak@gmail.com)

**USHERS** • Coordinators Areen Bathish 810-394-2918 / [abathish52@gmail.com](mailto:abathish52@gmail.com) and Jimmy David 810-835-9737

### Office Manager

Kelly Dotson ([kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com)) / office 810-732-0720

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