

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Rev. Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

October 17, 2021

OCTOBER IS YOUTH MONTH

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

Youth Month Greeters/Ushers: **Isabella Ibrahim and Nataly Odeh**

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open for all parishioners and visitors. If you cannot attend, please pray with us through our livestream which can be seen on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintGeorgeOrthodoxChurchFlintMI>

If you have a smart TV, you actually have a web browser and YouTube app built in. All you have to do is start the browser app for YouTube and put the link in the address bar.

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word "*Liturgy*" means *work of the people* that means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God's grace to enter. We believe Holy Communion to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Holy Communion can be given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before), the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, and being at peace with others. Everyone is invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

Youth Month Epistle Reader

Isabella Ibrahim

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Father Michael and Khouriya Pam Bassett for the health of their family especially **Aaron** Avery on the occasion of his birthday ~ *May God grant him many years!* ~ and in loving memory of **Joseph** Borucki.

- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Boulos** Mashni (+September 15th, brother of Ray), **Salwa** Abu-Aitah (September 26th), **Samantha** Farah (+September 27th, daughter of Sam and Tracy), and **Ty** Gorbutt (+October 1st, friend of Mariann Hayek).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Metropolitan Paul** and **Archbishop John** who are in captivity, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Shafiqa** Abuaitah, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Anwar** Abueita, **Chelsy** Abufarha, **William** Alsaouri, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Jennifer** Craft and **Brionna** Gorbutt (friends of Mariann Hayek), **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Ranna** Esho (friend of Batoul Burbar), **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Gracyn** Haskins and Dr. **Michelle** Borg (granddaughter /daughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Daisy** Isaac, **Nicola** Khoury, **Lan** Kiley (niece of Raji and Sue Salomon) **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Juliette** Qumseya, **Roger** Saadeh, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** and **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, and **Michael** Silpoch; **Abdulla**, **Amira**, and newborn **Selena** Farah (September 8th); **Tamer** [son of Khader and Lucy], **Mirna**, and newborn **Mila** Abuaita (September 15th); **Andrew**, **Rachel**, [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita] and newborn **Dalia Nahil** Sackllah (September 22nd); **Benan**, **Haneen**, and newborn **Giovanni** Burbar (September 27th).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khouri, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, **Elise** and **Jarrett** Lane [daughter of Habeeb & Denise Ghattas and Jill Smith], **Kari** and **Panagiotis** Mikroudis [daughter of John and Theresa Farah], and **Yara** and **Mudaffer** Rishmawi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is not hosted today ☹️. Please offer a donation to help cover our costs, thank you!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: November 21st and 28th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the 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. *During the Christmas Fast (November 15th - December 24th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, or their by-products are served.*

MY CHURCH BAGS These were put together for *Preschool-aged* children! **PARENTS**, please see that your child takes care of these, replaces all of the items, and returns the bag to the rack by the Narthex Table at the end of Divine Liturgy ~ thank you ❤️!

ARE YOU VACCINATED? DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AND NEED ANSWERS? We are blessed to have a number of medical professionals in our parish and all of them want you to get your Covid-19 vaccine as soon as possible. There is lots of wrong information on TV and social media. Don't be fooled; it could cost you, your family, or friends in a tragic way! If you have any questions or need truthful information, please contact Dr. Lindsey (Farah) Brunner: text ONLY, please 810-908-9213 or Infarah2009@hotmail.com. **If you or someone you know needs help making an appointment or need to be driven to one, please call the church 810-732-0720.**

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS!

Things have been going very well. Remember: before entering the Church School Wing everyone must sanitize their hands and wear a mask brought from home. It has been difficult for some children to keep the mask on; PARENTS, encourage your children, teaching them to always wear their mask properly while in Church School as our staff is also doing.

The deadline for registering was extended for 3 weeks, but is now closed. For safety reasons, we are trying to minimize the number of students in each classroom. We don't want to refuse any of our children the opportunity to learn about God. Please, call me with any questions.

Save the Date!

Trunk or Treat ~ October 28th at 5pm

Parish Thanksgiving Dinner ~ November 6th

More information to come, mark your calendars so your children don't miss out!

Thank you, again and always for all you do! May God bless you and your children as we work with you for your children's growth in their life in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Janet Abueita, Director

PLEASE FOLLOW OUR PROCEDURES As of October 1st, the Genesee Health Department recommends everyone wears masks while indoors. Please remember we can venerate icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching at this time*) and the same for the priest's hand and the chalice at Holy Communion. Further, only our clergy and chanters may sing. We all want the safest place for all of our parishioners to worship. We know that combining masks and vaccines will protect ourselves and our community against this fast-changing virus. **PLEASE FOLLOW:**

1. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask inside our church buildings.
2. **PLEASE, if you are not vaccinated** because of medical or other reasons, you must wear a mask and maintain social distancing.
3. Pews in the back of the church are for those who are not vaccinated and those who would like to be social distanced.

MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITY TAKE-OUT LUNCH Our Ladies Auxiliary is having this event for our community, family, and friends Thursday, October 21st from 11am-2pm. There are only take-out or delivered meals ~ no food will be served in the Banquet Center. **ALL orders must be placed by October 17th, TODAY!** Please see flier for ordering information. To help make deliveries or more information, please contact Manal Abuaita (810-577-0028). **Donations are welcomed to offset our costs**. This week's cooking schedule is as follows beginning at 10am each day: Monday *Spinach Pies* and Wednesday *Cooking and Preparation*.

YOUTH MONTH All of the members of our Teen SOYO are encouraged to participate in the Sacraments of Repentance and Communion during this month. If you do not do so on a regular basis, confessions are heard as usual on Saturdays after Great Vespers, Sunday mornings between 8:30-9:30am, or by appointment during the week. **PARENTS**, encourage your teens!

HELP NEEDED, PLEASE

An elderly parishioner needs help for about 2-3 hours (paid) per week. If you are interested, please call 810-732-8483 ASAP.

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i>) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
TODAY	4th, 5th, and 6th Grade Class with Fr. Joe
Monday	Baking Spinach Pies 10am Bible Study: Gospel of St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm
Tuesday	Altar Society Gathering see Theresa Farah for more information 6pm
Wednesday	Take-Out Lunch Preparation 10am Parish Council Dinner Meeting 6:15pm
Thursday	Middle Eastern Community TAKE-OUT Lunch 11am-2pm
Thurs.-Fri.	Midwest Diocesan Clergy Retreat in Loveland, OH
Fri.-Sun.	Midwest Diocesan Fall Gathering in Loveland, OH
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

+++++

THE HEART ~ Heavenly worship must enter into the heart

by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

The beauty of Orthodox worship is meant to lift us up, connecting us to Heavenly Worship that is eternally celebrated before the Throne of God. The radiant vision granted Saint John and revealed in the Book of Revelation describes the connection between the Eucharistic service (Divine Liturgy) we celebrate here on earth, and the Heavenly Banquet that awaits us in Eternity. The beauty of our Orthodox Divine Liturgy is a mere foretaste of what awaits us.

Every time we Orthodox worship at church, we must take in the words of the service and make them our own. Merely observing the service is not worship, as we must enter into Divine Worship with our heart, and give attention to the Word of God that permeates the whole of the services. We must breathe in the Word of God, and let the action of the Word take root in our heart. The Word of God is a Living Word, imparting God's grace.

The Word, as heard in the readings of the Epistle and the Gospel, and prayed in the liturgical texts, is meant to transform us, as God is making us His holy people. This regeneration takes place when the Word has entered our heart.

Abbot Nazarius of Valaam taught that we must strive as well as we can "to enter deeply with the heart into the church reading and singing and to imprint these on the tablets of the heart". This is why it is so important for our spiritual progress to drive out distracting thoughts that confront us while in worship.



My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
- JOHN 10:27 NIV

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

October, 2021

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the Name of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

God willing, this coming summer our teens will have the blessing to host and serve at the 40th Special Olympics SOYO Sports Training Camp, providing—free of charge—a week of sports training for over 320 athletes and coaches. Once again, I ask the parishes of our God-protected Archdiocese to generously support this worthy program.

The mission of Special Olympics, as described on their website, “is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.” As is true in any ministry, when we offer the love of Christ to others, we receive so much in return. I have heard from countless young people how their own lives were changed in profound and beautiful ways by serving the athletes of Special Olympics. Please generously support this offering of love by our young people and be a part of the far-reaching transformative impact it has on so many lives.

As you leave church this morning, the teens will offer you a bookmark with an icon of Christ blessing the children. They offer this icon as an expression of their appreciation for your contribution and for you joining them in this sacred ministry that helps them share their blessings with others.

Asking the Lord to bless this fortieth year of our participation in Special Olympics as well as all of you and your loved ones, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Awareness Day

AS NAC TEEN SOYO PREPARES TO SPONSOR **THE 40TH ANNUAL** SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS CAMP, WE ASK FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND HELP IN MAKING THIS MINISTRY POSSIBLE. APPROXIMATELY 300 ATHLETES AND COACHES PARTICIPATE IN OUR CAMP EACH YEAR. TEEN SOYO MEMBERS TRAVEL FROM ACROSS OUR ARCHDIOCESE TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME, TO LIVE IN SERVICE TO OTHERS AND TO FULFILL THE CALL TO DO ALL THINGS

As working for the Lord, not for men. (Col. 3:23)



Today, October 17, our teens will request your financial donations to enable them to sponsor the 40th Annual Special Olympics Sports Camp, which will be held at the Antiochian Village, in August of 2022. Your donations make it possible for every athlete to attend this event free of charge and also help Teen SOYO members travel to serve as Coaches at the camp. As an expression of gratitude for your donation to this effort, teens will be handing out bookmarks with an icon of Christ blessing the children.

Thank you for considering the support of this wonderful ministry that allows our children to be a blessing to others!

Please make checks payable to your local Teen SOYO group with "SOAD 2021" in the memo.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, NAC Teen SOYO covers the cost of the camp, approximately \$70,000, through the generosity of our fellow parishioners. Through the years, we have hosted more than 8,500 athletes and coaches. Around 1,200 of our teens have had the unique experience of being a coach or volunteer at the camp.



**Special
Olympics**