

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

November 4, 2018

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: *VENERABLE IOANIKIOS THE GREAT*

Tone - 6 1st Matins Gospel {*Matthew 28:16-20*}

Altar Servers: **EVERYONE**

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! Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship in our Banquet Center!

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, being at peace with others, and attending the Divine Liturgy regularly. Please know everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom**, we sing the following **Special Hymns**:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and was not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord glory to Thee.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 6 (*same as above*)

إن القوات الملائكية ظهوروا على قبرك الموقر. والحراس صاروا كالأموات. ومريم وقفت عند القبر طالبة جسدك الطاهر. فسبيت الجحيم ولم تجرب منها وصادقت البتول مائحا الحياة. فيا من قام من بين الأموات يا رب المجد لك.

Troparion for St. Ioanikios—Tone 8

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing, thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father Ioanikios, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

للبرية غير المثمرة، بمجاري دموعك أمرعت. وبالتهدات التي من الأعماق، أنثرت بأتعايك إلى مئة ضعف. فصرت كوكبا للمسكونة متألئنا بالعجايب، يا أبانا البار يوانيكوس، فتسفع إلى المسيح الإله أن يخلص نفوسنا.

Troparion for 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 محرر ومعتق، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضد وناصر، وللمرضى طبيب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion for the Virgin Mary—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.

يا شفيعة المسيحيين غير الخازية الوسيطة لدى الخالق غير المرذودة لا تعرضي عن اصوات طلباتنا نحن الخطاة، بل تداركينا بالمعونة بما انك صالحة، نحن الصارخين نحوك بايمان، بادري الى الشفاعة واسرعي في الطلبة يا والدة الإله المتشفعة دائماً بمكرميك.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 2:4-10* {23rd Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Luke 16:19-31* {5th Sunday of St. Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Victoria, Heather, and Alexandra Nassar and Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of husband and father **Jamil** (1 year), **Farid, Houda, Issa, Siham, Souheila, Khader, Nassar, Sami, and Souheil**.
- Michael and Diana Rishmawi for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Saleem** and **Azizeh** Rishmawi (Mike's parents) and **Aziz** and **Margarita** Salomon (Diana's parents).
- Karam and Aida Nassar for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Jamil** Nassar (1 year, Karam's brother).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Carlos** David (October 12th, cousin of Laila Abud) and **Georgette** Maalouf (+October 19th, relative of John Abud).
- 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, **Bishop Alexander** (Ottawa and Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Laila** and **Sahar** Abdallah, **Androlla** Abu Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Manal** Abuaita, **Cesar** and **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Betty** Froberg, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nemer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** and **Nicola** Khoury, **Danny** Mortensen, **Heather** and **Karam** Nassar, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch, **William** Sophica Jr., **Lois** Teunion, and **Vicki** Toma (sister of Fr. Joe); **Andrew**, **Rachel** and newborn **Laila** (September 30th) Sackllah. **David** and **Josalien** (Abuaita) Khoury who were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Jenny** (Hanna) Abuaita, **Ola** (Michael) Alqazaha, **Walaa** (Rami) Khoury, and **Karen** (Nicholas) Shaheen {Drs. Ron and Kathy's son}.

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. *"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Vicky Nassar and Family*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: Nov. 25th, Dec. 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th ~ 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. For more information, see Manal Abuaita. *During the Christmas Fast (November 15th - December 24th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, or their by-products are served.*

CHURCH SCHOOL THANKSGIVING THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH! Children ages Kindergarten - High School need to be at the church by 2pm to prepare the meal and do fun activities. Parents and preschoolers should be back and sit together as a family for Great Vespers beginning at 5pm. Starting today, your child is asked to donate \$5, to help offset the cost of the food items we need to purchase for them to prepare the meal. Please have your child give the \$5 to their teacher or stop by the Church School Office to make your donation. We also need 5 individuals to cook turkeys and bring them on Saturday. After Vespers, our PARISH FAMILY will all enjoy the meal the children helped prepare and, as in the past, we will be delivering meals to our shut-ins and the Soup Kitchen. Please contact Anaam or Janet Abueita with any questions.

Thank You! Janet Abueita, Church School Director

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	7th-8th Grade Class with Fr. Joe
Monday	Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 3-5pm
Tuesday	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 6pm
Wednesday	NO Arabic/English Bible Study NO SOYO Wednesday
Friday	Euchre Tournament 6:30pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm PARISH Thanksgiving Dinner follows
Next Sunday	Annual Parish General Assembly

CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS We can make donations and purchases by Credit or Debit Card. This can be done by coming to the office or calling 810-732-0720 during Office Hours (see below).

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly offerings need to be \$5,630 to meet our 2018 Budget. On October 28th, our offerings were \$3,045, so we were short \$2,585 ☹ If you have not already, please support God's work at St. George!

NOVEMBER 4TH ~ VENERABLE IOANIKIOS THE GREAT

Saint Ioanikios the Great was born in Bithynia in the year 752. His parents were destitute and could not provide him even the basics of an education. From childhood, he had to tend the family cattle, their sole wealth. Love for God and prayer completely dominated the soul of the child Ioanikios. Often, having shielded the herd with the Sign of the Cross, he went to a secluded place and spent the whole day praying, and neither thieves nor wild beasts came near his herd.

By order of the emperor Leo IV (775-780), a multitude of officials went through the cities and towns to draft young men for military service. Young Ioanikios was also drafted into the imperial army for six years. He earned the respect of his fellow soldiers for his good disposition, but he was also a brave soldier who struck fear in the hearts of his enemies. More than once his commanders and the emperor rewarded him. However, military service weighed heavily on him; his soul thirsted for spiritual deeds and solitude.

Saint Ioanikios, having renounced the world, longed to go at once into the wilderness. However, on the advice of an Elder experienced in monastic life, he spent a further two years at the monastery. Here the saint became accustomed to monastic obedience, to monastic rules and practices. He studied reading and writing, and he learned thirty Psalms of David by heart.

After this, commanded by God to go to a certain mountain, the monk withdrew into the wilderness. For three years, he remained in deep solitude in the wilderness, and only once a month a shepherd brought him some bread and water. The ascetic spent day and night in prayer and psalmody. After each verse of singing the Psalms Saint Ioanikios made a prayer, which the Orthodox Church keeps to this day in a somewhat altered form, *"The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my protection."*

By chance, he encountered some of his former companions from military service. The saint fled the wilderness and withdrew to Mount Kountourea to hide himself from everyone. Only after twelve years of ascetic life did the hermit accept monastic tonsure. He spent three years in seclusion after being tonsured, then went to a place called Chelidon to see the great ascetic Saint George (February 21) for three years. During this time, Saint Ioanikios learned the entire Psalter by heart. As he grew older, Saint Ioanikios settled in the Antidiev monastery and dwelt there in seclusion until his death.

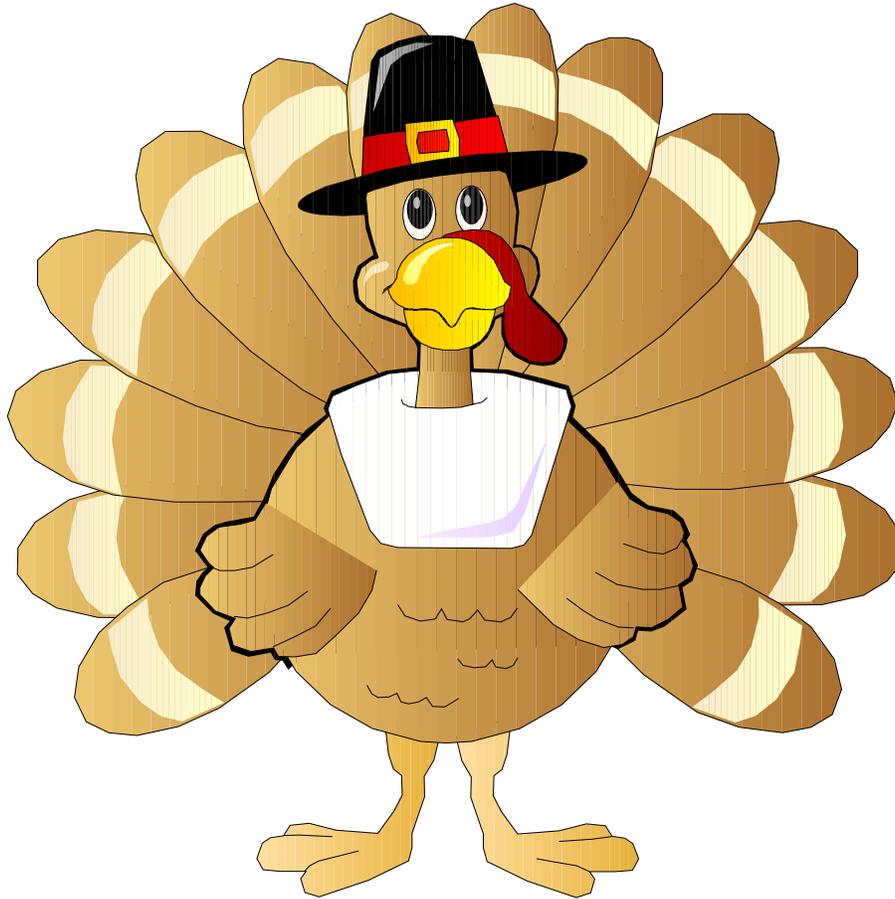
Saint Ioanikios spent seventy years in ascetic deeds and attained to a high degree of spiritual perfection. Through the mercy of God, the saint acquired the gift of prophecy, as his disciple Pachomios has related. The Elder also levitated above the ground when he prayed. The saint could make himself invisible for people and make others also hidden from sight. Once, Saint Ioanikios led Greek captives out of prison under the very eyes of the guards. He freed the island of Thasos from a multitude of snakes. Saint Ioanikios also saved a young nun who was preparing to leave the monastery to marry; he took upon himself the agonized maiden's suffering of passion and by fasting and prayer overcame the seductive assault of the devil.

Foreseeing his death at age 94, Saint Ioanikios fell asleep in the Lord on November 4, 846.

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➤ **OFFICE HOURS** Our secretary, Kelly Dotson, works on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (10am-4pm); Tuesdays and Wednesdays (1pm-4pm). Kelly can be reached during office hours at 810-732-0720 or kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com.

Fall Harvest PARISH Thanksgiving Celebration!!!



Saturday, November 10th

Our Church School children (*no Preschoolers, **ONLY** Kindergarten thru 12th Grade*) are to be dropped off at 2pm. They will prepare their part of the meal, set the tables, do crafts, and have a great time together! We are asking that all parents with their preschoolers be back by **5pm** so their children are sitting next to them praying at Great Vespers. Following Great Vespers, we will all enjoy the meal prepared by our children!

This is for ALL parishioners – see you there!