

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

February 17, 2019

1ST PRE-LENTEN SUNDAY: PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN **الإنجيل لأحد الفريسي والعشار**

Tone - 5 5th Matins Gospel {Luke 24:12-35}

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** {*the Golden-Mouth*},
we sing the following Special Hymns for today:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5

Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for He took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 5 (*same as above*)

لِنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدُ لِلْكَلِمَةِ. الْمَسَاوِي لِلآبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْآزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ. الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا. لِأَنَّهُ سُرَّ وَارْتَضَى بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يعلَوْ عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ. وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

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 عاقد وناصر، وللمرضى طبيب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion of the Publican and the Pharisee—Tone 4

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior, have mercy on us, O only merciful One!

مِنْ شُمُوحِ الْفَرِيسِيِّ لِنَهْرَبَنَّ، وَمِنْ تَوَاضُعِ الْعَشَّارِ لِنَتَعَلَّمَ، هَاتِقِينَ بِرُقَرَاتِ إِلَى الْمُخْلِصِ: إِرْحَمْنَا يَا مُصَالِحاً حَسَناً وَحَدَكْ.

Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 {1st Pre-Lenten Sunday: Pharisee and Publican}

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:10-14 {1st Pre-Lenten Sunday: Pharisee and Publican}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Hiam Andoni and Kh. Leslee Abud for the health of their families on the occasion of **Basil** and **Father Joe's** birthdays -- *May God grant them many years!*
- Alexandra and Heather Nassar for the health of their family on the occasion of mother **Victoria's** birthday -- *May God grant her 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:

Levi Cooper – February 19th

Alexander, Benjamin, Olivia, & Victoria Benson – February 23rd

May our children be children of the Light and heirs of eternal good things. {Baptismal Service}

- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Zuheir** Khair (+January 17th, son-in-law of George and Blanka Abuaita) and **Samira** Abufarha (+February 8th, sister-in-law of Ibrahim and Eman Abufarha).
- 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), **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, **Patti** Harris, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nemer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **Kirolous** Meshraky, **Danny** Mortensen, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch, **William** Sophiea Jr., and **Lois** Teunion; **Gabriella** Khouri who was brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and reception of her First Communion; **Hanna**, **Jenny** and newborn **Rosalina** Abuaita (February 1st); **Rami**, **Walaa** and newborn **Iyan** Khoury (February 1st).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Ola** (Michael) Alqazaha, Dr. **Lindsey** (Dr. Ryan) Brunner, **Katrina** (Gary) Gagne, **Diana** (Ayman) Khair, **Natalie** (Shadi) Qumsieh, and **Sandy** (Raad) Qumsieh {daughter of Issa and Esperanza}.

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 *Hiam Andoni, Kh. Leslee Abud, and Alex and Heather Nassar.*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: February 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th ~ 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. *Cheesefare Sunday is March 10th, no meat products are to be served. During the Great Fast (March 11th – April 27th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

PRE-LENTEN HAFLI Saturday, March 2nd 6:30pm-12am Delicious dinner, music, fun, and fellowship. Adults \$30 children 12 and under \$15. We are celebrating before the Great Fast begins! Mark your calendars!

EXPLORING OUR FAITH We meet this Tuesday from 6-8pm at *St. George Church.* We begin with **Little Compline** followed by fellowship, snacks, teaching, and discussion on *Preparing to Receive Holy Communion.* All are invited to join! If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Protodeacon Michael Bassett (frdnmike@gmail.com or 989-627-9580).

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

- **Godparent Sunday** was a great success! Thank you to all of our Godparents and Godchildren who participated and all our parishioners who support our Church School. A big thank you to *Nidal Ishaq* for the beautiful backdrop for photos and our group of men that cooked us a delicious breakfast. God bless you all. **Creative Festival Deadline:** The deadline for your child to bring their creative festival is next Sunday, February 24th. Please encourage them to complete their project and turn it in to their teachers by then. Thank you ~ Janet Abueita, Director

CHILD CARE Fr. Joseph and the Parish Council respectfully request that parents keep track of their children and teens during the Divine Services and Coffee Fellowship. Children and teens, have been roaming and some running around inside and outside of the building. No children or teens should be in the Lounge by themselves AT ANY TIME! For both spiritual and security reasons, we need to keep our children and teens with us at all times! Thank You!

- As a reminder, during Divine Services the Lounge is reserved for those who have a problem with the incense or overflow. No one else needs or should be there.

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).

- **OFFICE HOURS** Our office manager, Kelly Dotson, works on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (10am-4pm); Tuesdays and Wednesdays (1pm-4pm).

COMING EVENTS

This Week	Today is the Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican: there is no fasting this week.
Monday	Bible Study: <i>Acts of the Apostles</i> 6-8pm
Tuesday	Exploring our Faith: <i>Preparation for Holy Communion</i> 6-8pm
Wednesday	Arabic/English Bible Study: <i>Acts of the Apostles</i> 12-2pm SOYO Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm
Thursday	Parish Council Dinner Meeting 6:15pm Any parishioner is welcome to come, observe, and make comments at the appropriate time on the Agenda.
Friday	Pan-Orthodox OCF (<i>Orthodox Christian Fellowship</i>) at <i>St. George</i> 7pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

Struggling to Pray

When prayer becomes emotionally dry

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

When we find ourselves struggling with prayer, and feel it has become dry and lifeless, we are sometimes tempted to stop praying. When our prayer has become a struggle, it is good to remember God knows our needs, and even knows what we want to say when we do not seem to know. This is the time we need to just pray without worrying about it. When we find we can't keep our minds focused on the formal morning and evening prayers, as found in our prayer book, it is perfectly acceptable to simply light our *lampada* (hanging oil lamp), sit quietly before our icons, and let silence be our voice.

God wants to enter into our heart, and requires only our permission and cooperation. This relationship does not require an emotional response, for, like all relationships, we are not always open to an emotional response. Being real with God is far more important than being emotional, since emotions can be contrived and fleshly. As in all relationships, there are times when we do feel moved by emotions, but the lack of such feelings in no way represents a lack of love for God, because God cares for us, and God knows we love him, even when we suffer in those "dry" times of prayer.

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- If you know of a parishioner who has given birth, fallen ill, or admitted to the hospital, please call the church office or let Father Joe know.
- If you would like to host Coffee Fellowship in memory of a loved one, the occasion of a birthday, a wedding anniversary, or in thanksgiving to God, sign up on the poster in the Lounge or speak with Manal Abuaita.
- If you have an item you would like to place in NEXT week's Bulletin, please call the church office by 12 Noon on Tuesday.