

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH



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saintgeorgeflint.org

December 21 2025

SATURDAY: VESPER SERVICE @ 400 P.M.

SUNDAY: ORTHROS @ 8:50 A.M. - DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.

CONFESSION BY APPOINTMENT

V. REV. FR. AMIN HOULI

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REV. FR. MICHAEL BASSETT

CELL: (989) 627-9580

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Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. If you are a first-time visitor, please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you after liturgy, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship! 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. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy.

Guidelines for Receiving Holy Communion for Orthodox Christians: Orthodox Christians fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by receiving Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly prepared to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should fast (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 striving to always love God and their neighbor. Frequent communion and regular confession are recommended for all faithful Orthodox Christians.

For other Christians: We welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christian's believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signify-

ing a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (antidoron) which will be given when coming forward to venerate (kiss) the Holy Cross and receive the final blessing from the priest. Again, welcome!

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (THE GENEALOGY)
تَقْدِمَةُ عِيدِ الْمِيلَادِ وَلِلأَحَدِ الَّذِي قَبْلَ عِيدِ الْمِيلَادِ (أَحَدِ النِّسْبَةِ)
VIRGIN-MARTYR JULIANA OF NICOMEDIA; MARTYR THEMISTOKLES
OF MYRA IN LYCIA

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الثالث
لِتَفْرَحِ السَّمَاوِيَّاتُ وَتَبْتَهِجِ الْأَرْضِيَّاتُ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ صَنَعَ عِزًّا بِسَاعِدِهِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَصَارَ بِكُرِّ الْأَمْوَاتِ،
وَأَنْقَذَنَا مِنْ جَوْفِ الْجَحِيمِ، وَمَنَحَ الْعَالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعَظْمَى.

APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN TONE FOUR

Be thou ready, Bethlehem, Eden hath opened unto all. * Ephratha, prepare thyself, for now, behold, the Tree of Life * hath blossomed forth in the cave from the holy Virgin. * Her womb hath proved a true spiritual Paradise, * wherein the divine and saving Tree is found, * and as we eat thereof we shall all live, * and shall not die as did Adam. * For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen afore-time.

أبوليتيكيون تَقْدِمَةُ عِيدِ الْمِيلَادِ بِاللْحَنِ الرَّابِعِ
إِسْتَعِدِّي يَا بَيْتَ لَحْمٍ، فَقَدْ فُتِحَتْ عَدْنُ الْجَمِيعِ، تَهَيَّأِي يَا أَفْرَاثَا، لِأَنَّ عَوْدَ الْحَيَاةِ قَدْ أَزْهَرَ فِي الْمَغَارَةِ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ. لِأَنَّ
بَطْنَهَا قَدْ ظَهَرَ فِرْدَوْسًا عَقْلِيًّا، فِيهِ الْعَرْسُ الْإِلَهِي، الَّذِي إِذْ نَأْكُلُ مِنْهُ نَحْيَا وَلَا نَمُوتُ مِثْلَ آدَمِ. الْمَسِيحُ يُوَلَّدُ مِنْهُضًا
الصُّورَةَ الَّتِي سَقَطَتْ مِنْذُ الْقَدِيمِ.

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

أبوليتيكيون الأحد الذي قبل عيد الميلاد باللحن الثاني
عَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ أَعْمَالُ الْإِيمَانِ، لِأَنَّ الْفَتِيَّةَ الثَّلَاثَةَ الْقَدِيسِينَ قَدْ ابْتَهَجُوا فِي يَنْبُوعِ الْلَهِيْبِ كَأَنَّهُمْ عَلَى مَاءِ الرَّاحَةِ،
وَالنَّبِيُّ دَانِيَالُ ظَهَرَ رَاعِيًا لِلسَّبَاعِ كَأَنَّهُمْ عَنَمٌ، فَبِتَضَرُّعِهِمْ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ خَلِّصْ نَفُوسَنَا.

TROPARIAN OF ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

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.

طروبارية القديس جاورجيوس على اللحن الرابع

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 OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

قنداق تَقْدَمَةُ المِيلادِ باللحنِ الثالثِ

اليومِ العذراء، تأتي إلى المغارة، لتلد الكلمة الذي قبل الدهور، ولادة لا تُفسر ولا يُنطقُ بها، فأفرجني أيتها المسكونة إذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، الذي سيظهر بمشيبته طفلاً جديداً وهو إلهنا الذي قبل الدهور.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Nativity)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and

mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

الرسالة

(للأحد الذي قبل عيد الميلاد)

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

لَأَنَّكَ عَدَلْتَ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُوئْسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (11: 9-10، 32-40)

يَا إِخْوَةَ، بِالْإِيمَانِ نَزَلَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ فِي أَرْضِ المِيعَادِ نُزُولَهُ فِي أَرْضِ غَرِيبَةٍ، وَسَكَنَ فِي خِيَامٍ مَعَ اسْحَقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ الْوَارِثَيْنِ مَعَهُ لِلْمَوْعِدِ بِعَيْنِهِ. لِأَنَّهُ أَنْتَظَرَ المَدِينَةَ ذَاتِ الأَسْوَاسِ الَّتِي اللهُ صَانِعُهَا وَبَارئُهَا. وَمَاذَا أَقُولُ أَيُّضًا؟ إِنَّهُ يَضِيقُ بِي الوَقْتُ إِنْ أَخْبَرْتُ عَنْ جِدْعُونَ، وَبَارَاقَ، وَشَمْشُونَ، وَيَفْتَاخَ، وَدَاوُدَ، وَصَمُونِيلَ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، الَّذِينَ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا المَمَالِكَ، وَعَمَلُوا البِرَّ، وَنَالُوا المَوَاعِدَ، وَسَدُّوا أَفْوَاهَ الأَسْوَدِ. وَأَطْفَأُوا حِدَّةَ النَّارِ، وَنَجَّوْا مِنْ حِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَتَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَصَارُوا أَشْدَاءَ فِي الحَرْبِ، وَكَسَرُوا مَعْسَكَرَاتِ الأَجَانِبِ، وَأَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ بِقِيَامَةٍ. وَعَدَّبَ آخَرُونَ بِتَوْتِيرِ الأَعْضَاءِ وَالصَّرْبِ، وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجَاةِ لِيُحْصَلُوا عَلَى قِيَامَةٍ أَفْضَلِ. وَآخَرُونَ ذَاقُوا الهُزْءَ، وَالجُلْدَ، وَالقَيْوُدَ أَيُّضًا وَالسَّجْنَ. وَرُجِمُوا، وَنُشِرُوا، وَامْتَحِنُوا، وَمَاتُوا بِحِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَسَاخُوا فِي جُلُودِ غَنَمٍ وَمَعِزٍ، وَهُمْ مُعَوِّزُونَ مُضَايِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ — وَلَمْ يَكُنِ العَالَمُ مُسْتَحِقًّا لَهُمْ — وَكَانُوا تَانِهِينَ فِي البَرَارِيِّ، وَالجِبَالِ، وَالمَغَاوِرِ، وَكُهُوفِ الأَرْضِ. فَهَوْلَاءَ كُلُّهُمْ مُشْهُودًا لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يِنَالُوا المَوَاعِدَ، لِأَنَّ اللهَ سَبَقَ فَنَظَرَ لَنَا شَيْئًا أَفْضَلَ، أَنْ لَا يَكْمَلُوا بِدُونِنَا.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Nativity: "The Genealogy")

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of

Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

الإنجيل

(للأحد الذي قبل عيد الميلاد: أحد النسبة)

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر- (25-1:1)

كتاب ميلاد يسوع المسيح ابن داود ابن إبراهيم. فإبراهيم ولد إسحق، وإسحق ولد يعقوب، ويعقوب ولد يهوذا وإخوته. ويهوذا ولد فارص وزارح من تامار، وفارص ولد حصرون، وحصرون ولد آرام. وأرام ولد عميناداب، وعميناداب ولد نحشون، ونحشون ولد سلمون. وسلمون ولد بوعر من راحاب، وبوعر ولد عوبيد من راعوث، وعوبيد ولد يسي، ويسى ولد داود الملك. وداود الملك ولد سليمان من التي كانت لأوريا. وسليمان ولد رحبعام، ورحبعام ولد أביا، وأبیا ولد آسا. وآسا ولد يوشافاط، ويوشافاط ولد يورام، ويورام ولد عزيا. وعزيا ولد يوثام، ويوثام ولد آحاز، وآحاز ولد حزقيا. وحزقيا ولد منسى، ومنسى ولد آمون، وآمون ولد يوشيا. ويوشيا ولد يكنيا وإخوته في جلاء بابل. ومن بعد جلاء بابل، يكنيا ولد شالنتيل، وشالنتيل ولد زربابل. وزربابل ولد أبيهود، وأبيهود ولد ألياقيم، وألياقيم ولد عازور. وعازور ولد صادق، وسادوق ولد أخيم، وأخيم ولد أليهود. وأليهود ولد العازار، والعازار ولد متان، ومتان ولد يعقوب. ويعقوب ولد يوسف رجل مريم التي ولد منها يسوع، الذي يدعى المسيح. فكل الأجيال من إبراهيم إلى داود أربعة عشر جيلاً، ومن داود إلى جلاء بابل أربعة عشر جيلاً، ومن جلاء بابل إلى المسيح أربعة عشر جيلاً. أما مولد يسوع المسيح فكان هكذا. لما خطبت مريم أمه ليوسف، وجدت من قبل أن يجتمعا حبلى من الروح القدس. وإذا كان يوسف رجلاً صديقاً، ولم يرد أن يشهرها، هم بتخليتها سراً. وفيما هو متفكر في ذلك، إذا بملاك الرب ظهر له في الحلم، قائلاً: يا يوسف ابن داود، لا تخف أن تأخذ امرأتك مريم. فإن المولود فيها إنما هو من الروح القدس. وستلد ابناً فتسميه يسوع، فإنه هو يخلص شعبه من خطاياهم. وكان هذا كله لينتم ما قيل من الرب بالنبي القائل: ها إن العذراء تحبل، وتلد ابناً، ويدعى عمانوئيل (الذي تفسيره الله معنا). فلما نهض يوسف من النوم، صنع كما أمره ملاك الرب. فأخذ امرأته. ولم يعرفها حتى ولدت ابناً بكر، وسماه يسوع.

ADVENT FAST

**In this period of fasting, we strictly fast Until the 24th of December.
The services of The Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ on
Wednesday December 24:**

Great (Royal) Hours @ 10:00 am.

The Nativity of our Lord: Matins 5pm and Divine Liturgy at 6pm.

2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**St. George Parish Council has set the 2025 General Assembly date to
January 11, 2026 immediately following Divine Liturgy.**

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS Three of our council member first terms end this year and all can be nominated again: Dr. Raouf Mikhail, Jeanette Nassif, and Ric Shahin. Anyone else who is eligible, may be nominated. Some qualifications include: *Not under the age of 18 years of age (excluding any ex-officio member), you must be a member of the parish for at least 1 year, nominees must worship at St. George at least 3 out of 4 Sundays a month, and participate in the Holy Sacraments of Confession and Communion on a regular/frequent basis.*

General Assembly Proxies are given to those who cannot attend the meeting because of medical treatment or illness, those confined to their homes, or those with written verification of a prior travel commitment. A VOTING member who cannot attend the meeting may have another VOTING member vote on their behalf. PLEASE NOTE: Proxies are available in the church office beginning on today, Sunday, December 21st and must be returned back to the office by THIS Sunday, January 4th. Proxies received after January 4th will be considered invalid. A proxy cannot be replaced. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of our **Credentials Committee** (Anwar Abueita, Tony Daoud, or Fr. Amin).

THE ST. GEORGE CHURCH NEW YEAR PARTY

ON DECEMBER 31ST YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR 2026

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT :

CEZAR ABUAITA/ RAED ABUAITA/ AREEN BATHISH/

AMIRA FARAH/ MIKE KHOURY/ FADI ODEH

LADIES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Will be held at Redwood Lodge Sunday, December 28 at 1:30 PM.

The cost is \$30 a person.

Please respond to Areen or Janet by Tuesday, December 23rd.

Angel Tree Project

Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions and for shopping in support of our annual Angel Tree Project. This year, we received a record number of donations! Thanks to our wonderful shoppers and wrappers—**May, Gabby, and Lauren Gantos**—we were able to purchase 240 presents!

All gifts were successfully delivered, helping to make their season brighter!



SAVE THE DATE

January 13th 2026- Men's fellowship . Topic is "Tax season information" bring your questions @ 6pm at the church



HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of Fr. Joseph and Kh. Leslee Abud, a \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a senior high school student. Students applying must fill out an application which indicates they are an active member of St. George and in involved in church activities. A date will be set for a required essay which will be written at church. A 2.0 GPA is required. Applications will be available January 1, 2026. Contributions are welcome and appreciated, please see Ric Shahin, Anwar Abueita, Dr Raouf Mikhail, or Jeanette Nassif to do so.

Holy Oblation Offering

- **The Gantos and Farah Families for the health of their families and in the loving memory of newly departed Elias Gantos.**
- **For the health of staff, volunteers, and children of St. George Church School.**
- **For the health of the Men Society of St. George.**
- **All Christians in the middle east.**

PRAYER LIST

Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: Sahar Abdallah, Abeer Abuaita, Issa and Jane Abueita, Soad Abuaita, Philip and Janett Abuaita, Rasha Abuaita, Sami and Shafiqah Abuaitah, Georgette Abueita, Youssif Abousamra, Fr. Joseph Abud, Munther Al-Kahush, Elia and Nadia Awwad, Naila Banna, Tareq Ziad Bannoura, Fr. Gabriel Bilas, Kristy Corcoran, Angel, George and newborn Milava David, Vera Daoud, Archimandrite Jeremy Davis, Subdeacon George and Suad Gantous, Phyllis Good, Patty Harris, Daisy Isaac, Linda Jamra, Danny Mortensen, Karen Mortensen, Adam Odeh, Betty and Richard Ramsdale, Sdn. Dr. Elie and Samia Sadik, Edward Michael Salim, Kelly and Steve Sanderson, Cathy Sisco, Gary Stewart, Elaine Shaheen, Richard Shaheen, Nancy and Michael Silpoch, our Catechumens who are under instruction to become members of our Orthodox Faith: Tanner and Heavenly Roland, Alex Benoit, and Katelyn Wells; our Expectant Parents: Stephanie and Nadim Burbar, Letizia and Branden Jones, and Nicole and Jeffrey Farah.

Departed this life in the hope of the resurrection and life eternal Newly departed : Jackleen David (11/19) and Elias Gantos (12/10).

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.