

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

March 12, 2023

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

Antiochian Women's Month Greeters/Ushers:

Sahar Abdallah, Carri and Theresa Farah, and Suad Gantous

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. 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 else, including visitors, are invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. Again, welcome!

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.

Antiochian Women's Month

Epistle Reader: Aida Nassar (Arabic) and Lubna Jones (English)

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Father Michael and Khouriya Pam Bassett for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Bryan Campbell** (9 day, brother in law of Kh. Pam Bassett).
- Amjad Ishak, Odette, Evette, Simon, Mary, Evelyn and their Families for the health of their families especially mother **Shefaa** and in loving memory of father **Nassim Ishak** (20 year), **Mariam, Saman, Farah, Nahil, Nazik, Georgette, Jamie, Nawal, Nasri, and Sabat**.
- Reema and Ereny Abufarha for the health of their family especially husband and father **Ihsan** on the occasion of his birthday ~ *may God grant him many years!*
- Elias and Renee Mitri for the health of their family especially their **children and grandchildren**.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Iskandar** Farah (+February 9th, brother of Salim), **Farid** Nassar Nassar (+February 15th, Lansing, nephew of Karim Nassar), **Angelo** Bastounis (+February 26th, friend of parishioners), and **Riyad** Hayek (+March 2nd, cousin of the Hayek Family) ~ *may their memory be eternal!*
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners and their friends who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Fr. Angelo** Artemas (friend of Fr. Joe), **Sahar** Abdallah, **Reader Fouad** Abuaita, **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **George** and **Georgette** Abueita and **Kristo** (brother, mother, and friend of Anwar), **Laila** Abud, **Jane** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **Danial** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alsahouri, **Sanaa** Alqassis (daughter of Zahra Abuaita), **Walid** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Valland** Frangi (sister of Ron Haddad), **Elias** Gantos, **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Loretta** Karpelenia (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Michael** Khal, **Antonia** Molina and **Reuben** Reyes (friends of Areen Bathish), **Laura** Nassar, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Kameel** Srouji (son-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Laura** Teunion-Smith (granddaughter of Bob Teunion), **Christa** Whitehead, and **Samantha** Zerka (cousin of Lauren Zerka/Goddaughter & niece of Victoria Zerka); **Ghassan, Jasanta**, and newborn **Luciana** Al-Khouri (February 4th).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Rania** and **Raed** AbuAita, **Jessica** and **Mejhdy** Abu Aitah, **Katrina** and **Gary** Gagne, **Aziza** and **Basheer** Hawwash, **Dina** and **Laith** Maymoun, **Narmeen** and **Deeb** Shamshoum, and **Taylor** and **Jeffrey** Tipton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Reema and Ereny Abufarha*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: April 23rd, May 14th and 28th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge. *Hosting includes bringing whatever you wish to serve, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards.* St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$30. **For more information**, contact our coordinator Manal Abuaita. *During the Great Fast (February 27th - April 15th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

LENTEN RETREAT Our annual combined, Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat is Saturday, March 18th at St. Nicholas Church. We are doubly blessed to have **Archbishop Alexander** (bishop of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Nicholas) and our **Bishop Anthony** speaking. Please RSVP by calling the St. Nicholas office 810-744-0070 by tomorrow!

- Bishop Anthony will be at St. George for the **Akathist/Madayeh** on Friday at 6pm and **Matins and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy** next Sunday!

BE A PART OF THE GALA!

The excitement is building, can you feel it? The renovation of our Banquet Center is moving along and looks so different; like brand new! To celebrate the end of the renovation, we are having a **Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala** on Friday, May 12th (during the 40 day Paschal season, we do not need to fast!). Information is on the Narthex Table and online at our St. George Website (saintgeorgeflint.org) ~ you can also purchase tickets online on our website at this same link. Tickets are also available from any of our Gala Committee members: *Raghad Farah, Rula Alkazaha, Areen Bathish Tony Daoud, Aida Nassar, Jeanette Nassif, Evette Rishmawi*, or in our church office. For more information about being a sponsor, please speak with one of our committee members.

▶▶ We are looking for major sponsors / benefactors. Our committee is dedicated to raise as much funds as possible to start paying off our \$450,000 loan. This is our house and we need everyone to step up, especially those who are capable! Please look at the sponsorship levels and be one of our benefactors with a sacrificial offering. Over 50 years ago, our St. George ancestors stepped up to build our beautiful church and complex at a cost just under \$1,000,000 (in today's dollars, \$7,872,599)! They did it because of their love of God, the love of their children, and the love of all future generations...yes, US!



Now is the time for us to show our love of God, our children, and future generations. Be a part of this major event. If you haven't seen the progress of the renovation, see Tony Daoud on Sundays for a glimpse! I'm excited and you should be too! May God continue to bless our St. George Family and enable us to produce fruit like those who built our church in 1971 did!

HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) If you are 7 years or older, have been away from the Church, have not had Confession in the last 2 months or so, and desire to come back and receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, please remember you must offer a confession of your sins first. During this time of preparation during the Great Fast is a perfect opportunity. Confessions can be heard before or after most services except after Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy and Sunday Divine Liturgy. Because it is so important and for your convenience, Fr. Joe and Fr. Michael will hear confessions after Coffee Fellowship Sunday, April 2nd. Fr. Joe is not the only Orthodox priest in the area, or at St. George, and if you would prefer to go to Fr. Michael or one of the other local priests, feel free to do so (*please just let Fr. Joe know*): Fr. Gabriel Bilas from St. Mary Magdalene (810-750-1401) or Fr. Matthew Butrie from St. Nicholas Church (810-744-0070).

Let everyone in our St. George Family prepare and partake of our Lord in Holy Communion.

The important thing is not who hears your confession, but that you participate in this Holy Sacrament on a regular basis. **Blessed are those who wash their (baptismal) robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life (which is Christ).** Revelation 22:14



Our stewardship, offerings, and donations are needed. PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (or *use the QR code to the left*) 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

Fasting Discipline The *Great Fast* began on February 27th and continues until our celebration of **Pascha: our Lord's Resurrection** on April 16th. 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.

Monday **Great Compline** صلاة النوم الكبرى 6pm

Wednesday **Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas** 10:30am

Presanctified Liturgy تقد بيسه القديس السابق & **Lenten Refreshments** 6pm

Friday **Little Compline and Akathist to the Virgin Mary** خدمة المديح (Madayeh) 6pm

Saturday **Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat at St. Nicholas**

Soul Saturday Liturgy and Lenten Lunch 10am

Archbishop Alexander talk on *The Scriptures and the Cross* 12:30pm

Bishop Anthony talk on *The Priesthood and the Cross* 1:45pm

Questions and Answers 3:30pm

Great Vespers and Confessions 4pm

No Great Vespers at St. George

Next Sunday **Matins/Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop Anthony** (please be on time!)

Fasting ~ Fasting Suggestions

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

- FAST from self-concern and FEAST on compassion for others.
- FAST from discouragement and FEAST on hope.
- FAST from lethargy and FEAST on enthusiasm.
- FAST from suspicion and FEAST on truth.
- FAST from thoughts that weaken and FEAST on promises that inspire.
- FAST from shadows of sorrow and FEAST on the sunlight of serenity.
- FAST from idle gossip and FEAST on purposeful silence.
- FAST from problems that overwhelm you and FEAST on prayer that sustains.
- FAST from criticism and FEAST on praise.
- FAST from self-pity and FEAST on joy.
- FAST from ill-temper and FEAST on peace.
- FAST from resentment and FEAST on contentment.
- FAST from jealousy and FEAST on love.
- FAST from pride and FEAST on humility.

The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint

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 South Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1701
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

**Come, Join Us for this Lenten Retreat by
Archbishop Alexander and Bishop Anthony!**

The Cross of Christ – The Scriptures and the Priesthood



Bishop Anthony
Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese

**Saturday
March 18, 2023**

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S Center Rd • Burton, MI**

**Please RSVP by March 13 to
(810) 744-0070 or
stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com**



Archbishop Alexander
Bulgarian Diocese of Toledo
Orthodox Church in America

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| 10 am | Divine Liturgy |
| 11:30 am | Lunch (free will offering) |
| 12 pm | Registration |
| 12:30 pm | The Scriptures and the Cross – Archbishop Alexander |
| 1:30 pm | Break |
| 1:45 pm | The Priesthood and the Cross – Bishop Anthony |
| 2:45 pm | Break |
| 3 - 3:30 pm | Questions and Answers |
| 4 pm | Cathedral Vigil followed by Confessions |

Guest Speakers

Archbishop Alexander was consecrated on May 5, 2012 as bishop of the Bulgarian Diocese of Toledo (OCA) and on March 30, 2016 was elected to his second see of Dallas and the Diocese of the South (OCA).

Bishop Anthony was consecrated on December 11, 2011 as Auxiliary of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest, for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America - A Vision of Orthodox Unity

Midwest Antiochian Women Present

A Lenten Retreat with Mother Gabriella
of the Holy Dormition Monastery

Saturday, March 18, 2023
1:00PM Eastern Standard Time

Zoom Link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81327985636?
pwd=aFd3SkYveGk0eHZrVUVBYlBLVlFYQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81327985636?pwd=aFd3SkYveGk0eHZrVUVBYlBLVlFYQT09)

