

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

March 21, 2021

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

1ST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: Sunday of Orthodoxy أحد الأيقونات

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open for all parishioners or 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.

Epistle Readers

Manal Abuaita (Arabic) and **Kh. Leslee Abud** (English)

Holy Bread Offerings

- **Hiam** Bathish for her health and the health of her **children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren** and in loving memory of husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather **Emil** (1 year), parents **Yacoub** and **Marie Farah** and **Naif** and **Julia Bathish**.
- **Issa** and **Vera** Daoud for the health of their family especially **Tony, Daniel, Alaa** and **Amanda, Nancy** and **Muhannad** and their Families and in loving memory of **David** (1 year, brother of Issa), **Suad** (2 year, mother of Vera), **Rabiah, Norma, Yacoub, Ramzi, Maha,** and **Issa**.
- **Ayman** and **Wafaa** Elias, **Elias** and **Amirah** Hanna, **Najwa** Joubran, and their Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of father **Salim** Hanna (36 year).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **George** Rizk (+February 19th, uncle of May Gantos and Lina Burbar), **Michel** Abuaita (+February 27th, father of Lucy Abuaita)

and Mary Khoury), **Malvina** Kaileh (+March 3rd, cousin of Aida Nassar), **Reginald** Jehnsen (+March 4th, relative of Daisy Isaac), and **Mariam** El-Hayek (+March 8th, sister-in-law of Zahra 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), **Janett** and **Jamal** Abuaita, **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **Nabil** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Evelyn** Delbridge, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Gracyn** Haskins (granddaughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Nassem** Helal (father of Amani Helal), **Issa** Ibrahim, **Daisy** Isaac, **Danny** Isaac, **David** Jordan (cousin of Dn. Mike), **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Michael** Silpoch, and **William** Sophiea Jr.; Dr. **Ryan**, Dr. **Lindsey** [Farah], and newborn **Leah Nicole** Brunner (February 28th); **John** [son of Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee], **Nawal**, and newborn **Julian Joseph** Abud (March 2nd).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Haneen (Benan)** Burbar, **Jenny** [Abueita] (**Tony**) Salsa, **Rachel** [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita] (**Andrew**) Sackllah, and **Sarah (Matthew)** Thomas [son of Doug and Sandy].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY On the 1st Sunday of the Great Fast, TODAY, March 21st, we have a special procession celebrating the restoring of the Holy Icons into the Orthodox Church. Everyone is welcome, especially our children, to bring a Holy Icon from home! If you do not have an icon in your home, we have many beautiful ones in our Bookstore for purchase.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN LENTEN RETREAT WITH MOTHER GABRIELLA Please see the insert for more details. Click "REGISTER HERE" to register. If it doesn't go to the page to register, please go to https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WFYIk5w7TEqw9NMCCipkFQ. The retreat is on Saturday, March 27th, so register ASAP!

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE MINISTRY We are looking for a special person to lead our Preschool & Childcare Ministry. The Preschool has been in operation since 2018 and has had over 30 children in attendance. Though currently closed and without a Program Director we have a valid Child Care License. With proper staffing and leadership it could be reopened at any time. Dn. Michael, Kh. Leslee, Kelly (our Church Office Manager) and others are ready to assist you! We have a list of previous clients as well as a growing list of families looking for the intimate, faith based setting that we offer. Rooms are set up, in place, and waiting for children! Curriculum is purchased, learning centers are in place, and there is plenty of outdoor play space! This is an excellent opportunity for the right person to provide a needed service / ministry to the community and help generate revenues for St. George Church and have nearly full autonomy with minimal risk. If you are interested or you know someone who might be, contact the Preschool at 810-732-1500, stgeorgeschool17@gmail.com, or talk with Dn. Michael or Kh. Leslee.

GREAT NEWS! The Antiochian Village will be having in-person camp sessions this coming summer! For those who were registered last year, you will have the opportunity to still have a spot this year. If you are new to the camp program, please visit AVCamp.org for information on how to register.

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE (FFHP) We have begun our annual archdiocesan program to feed the hungry. Boxes for your home and businesses are on the front pew. **Parents:** please come to church so your children can get their box and Calendar and they can help feed the hungry, too! Information is available on the Archdiocesan Website for ways to make this a **family Lenten activity** <https://www.antiochian.org/dashboard?name=Food%20For%20Hungry%20People>

CHURCH SCHOOL NEEDS EMAILS! We want ALL of our St. George children in our education program. To make this happen, we need email addresses for our children and their parents! Please send them to Director Janet Abueita (cooeita@aol.com) as soon as you can so none of our children are left out and they can enjoy and learn about our life in Christ. Every month, our Kindergarten - 6th Grade registered students receive a packet of fun things in the mail (an email is sent to everyone on Fr. Joe's parishioner email list). Then on the last Sunday of each month (NEXT **SUNDAY**, March 28th) our teachers have our CS Zoom Sunday at 12 Noon! Be a part of the FUN and send your email addresses to Janet TODAY!

RECORDINGS OF OUR VIRTUAL PAN-ORTHODOX PRE-LENTEN RETREAT The edifying talks by Archimandrite Maximos Conostas are available at our parish website at the following link: https://saintgeorgeflint.org/news_210215_1 These very spiritually deep talks will be of great assistance for our Lenten journey.

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS Though everyone cannot attend church due to limited capacity or other reasons, **our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still very badly needed.** PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line 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

This Week	The Great Fast began on March 15 th and continues until our celebration of PASCHA: our Lord's Resurrection on May 2 nd . The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i>) is observed on all weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, <i>wine and olive oil</i> are allowed. On the Great Feast of the Annunciation (Thursday, March 25 th) and Palm Sunday (April 28 th), <i>fish, wine, and olive oil are permitted.</i>
Monday	Great Compline صلاة النوم الكبرى 6:30pm
Wednesday	Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas 10am Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقد يسه at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm Live-stream: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9XEXiraMbs
Thursday	Pan-Orthodox Annunciation البشارة Vesperal Liturgy at Assumption 10am
Friday	Little Compline and Akathist to the Virgin Mary خدمة المديح 6:30pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

BANQUET CENTER SUPERVISOR NEEDED As the pandemic is slowly beginning to improve, our Center has many rentals in the months to come. We are in need of a Rental Supervisor to be here during rentals. Most rentals are on weekends (Friday-Sunday). Pay is up to \$75 per rental.

If you are interested, please call the office 810-732-0720 and leave a message. This is a perfect part-time job for a responsible college student or young adult!

PLEASE FOLLOW OUR PROCEDURES Because of serious health concerns, **we all must wear masks at all times over our mouths and nose**. If this is difficult for you at this time, please watch our live-stream from home instead. Remember we are venerating icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching*) and the same for the priest's hand and the chalice at Holy Communion. Further, **our clergy and chanters are the only ones who should be singing at this time**. If you feel the need to sing, please do so **softly and with your mask on**.

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Memory ~ *The memory that resides within the Holy Tradition of the Church*

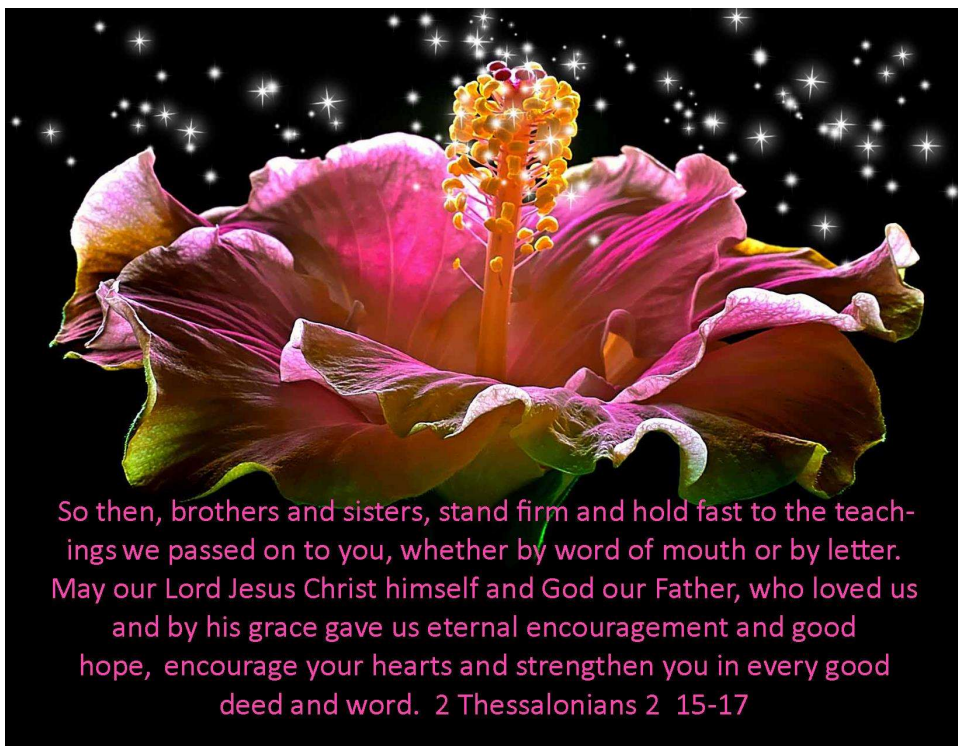
by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

The fact that Protestants, by and large, have traveled far from the faith and traditions of the Apostolic Church, is testament to what happens when one departs from the "memory" of the Church. This "memory" is kept alive through Holy Tradition, from which came the very Canon of the New Testament. Deciding what the Early Church believed, and how they worshiped, without Holy Tradition as the guide, has resulted in more than 44,000 different denominations, all of which have departed, in various degrees, from the Church founded by Christ Himself.

"Rituals", are not important to Orthodox, for rituals are simply external forms of religion. What is important is that we follow the grace filled services and practices preserved from the time of the Ancient Church. We do not need to reinvent worship every few years, in a sad attempt to remain relevant to the culture around us. Rather, we attempt to resist the fallen culture around us, while infusing modern culture, devoid of Christian values and beliefs, with a culture infused with Orthodoxy.

We don't try to understand a particular scripture passage outside the Mind of the Church, for we know that the Church always decided teachings, worship practices, and the Canon of Scripture, itself, according to what was always taught, everywhere, and at all times. We believe Christ's promise that the Gates of Hell will not prevail against the Church, and that the Church is protected, as long as she sticks with her conciliar nature, which has guided her for over two thousand years.

The Orthodox Church one hundred years from now, provided the Lord has not returned before then, will be the same as she is today, in worship, doctrine, and faith. It doesn't, in the end, mean a thing about what I think, or how I might interpret a passage in the Bible. What matters is that I cultivate the Mind of the Church within myself.



The Synodikon of Orthodoxy

As the prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the teachers have dogmatized, as the Universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ awarded: thus we declare, thus we assert, thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor His saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshipping and reverencing Christ as God and Lord; and on the other hand honoring His saints as true servants of the same Lord of all and accordingly offering them veneration.

(Louder) **This is the Faith of the Apostles, this is the Faith of the Fathers, this is the Faith of the Orthodox, and this is the Faith which has established the Universe!**

صلاة أحد الأرثوذكسية

إننا كما عاينت الأنبياء، كما علمت الرسل، كما تسلمت الكنيسة، كما اعتقد المعلمون، كما اتفقت آراء المسكونة معاً، كما أشرقت النعمة، كما اتضح الحق، كما انطرد الكذب، كما استعلنت الحكمة، كما جاد المسيح بالجوائز، هكذا نعتقد، هكذا نتكلم، هكذا نكرز، مُنذرين بالمسيح إلهنا المسكونة "الحقيقي، ونكرم قديسيه، بالأقوال والتأليفات والمعاني والضحايا والهيكل والأيقونات. فأما المسيح فنسجد له كسيد واله، ونعبده، وأما القديسون فنكرمهم لأجل السيد العمومي، كخدام له أخصاء، ونقدم لهم السجود بحسب النسبة.

"هذا إيمان الرسل، هذا إيمان الأباء، هذا إيمان المستقيمي الرأي، هذا الإيمان قد وطد.

The Prokeimenon بروكيمنن

(Tone 7) – Thrice

Who is so great a God as our God?
Thou art our God, who doest
wonders.

أيُّ إلهٍ عظيمٍ مثلُ إلهنا؟
أنتُ هوَ اللهُ الصانعُ العجائبِ وحدكُ.

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

March 21, 2021

Reverend Fathers, Esteemed Members of the Parish Council, and Beloved Faithful:

Greetings and blessings to you in the Name of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ!

I pray that, having completed the first week of the fast, you have been strengthened by the beautiful services and fasting discipline in order to complete the rest of this holy journey.

When we wrote this appeal to you last year and celebrated the Sunday of Orthodoxy, who knew that just over one week later our world as we know it would change and, for the first time in a century we would have to endure the consequences of a world-wide pandemic and restrict access to our churches during this most holy season. What we hoped would be a short period of suffering has lasted for an entire year. While there are many signs of hope we remain vigilant, but nevertheless are thankful that we can participate liturgically in the Fast this year *in person*. I encourage you therefore, to come back to the Church if you have been missing, being mindful and careful, but also realizing that it is time to return home to the cradle of the Church.

Having said that, we remind you that it is been a long-standing tradition in our archdiocese to give scholarships to our seminarians studying for the priesthood. We are blessed this year to have 19 seminarians studying in three seminaries (St. Vladimir's, St. Tikhon's and Holy Cross). More than ever, these young men (and their families in many cases), have had to endure so much this past year including being locked down on campuses, unable to travel to our parishes for training, attending classes virtually, and missing out on the full liturgical life of the Church that is so necessary to their priestly formation while at seminary. Let us show our love and appreciation for this sacrifice by at least making sure they can start their ministry to you and your families without the added burden of great debt from seminary. Please give generously so we, in turn, can continue to be generous with them. Believe me when I tell you that they are deeply grateful for this expression of love.

Wishing you all a blessed journey that will help lead us to the heavenly kingdom, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style and is preceded by a large, stylized cross symbol.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

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THE THEOTOKOS
THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN
IN THE WORLD
— A TIMELESS ROLE MODEL



WITH MOTHER GABRIELLA
Abbess of Holy Dormition Monastery
Rives Junction, Michigan



LENTEN RETREAT
Sponsored by
THE MIDWEST
ANTIOCHIAN
WOMEN

SATURDAY
MARCH 27, 2021
1 pm -2:30 pm

REGISTER FOR
[RETREAT HERE](#)

St. George Orthodox Church
Ladies Auxiliary
5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507

Lenten à la carte Take-Out Bake Sale

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
Pick-up between 12pm-2pm

March is Antiochian Women's Month throughout our archdiocese. Our Ladies Auxiliary will be having a Lenten Bake Sale to raise money for the National Antiochian Women's Project:
Fulfilling the Vision at the Antiochian Village

Please fill out the form below and send it to the Church with your payment or give it to any member of the Ladies Auxiliary by March 31st.

Thank you for your Support!

Order Form DEADLINE is March 31st!!!

Item	Quantity	Price per 1 item
Falafel Ready to Bake 1 ½ lb. bag (about 15 pieces)		\$10
Spinach Pies (bag of 12)		\$15
Zaatar on Pita (bag of 3)		\$ 5
Small Hummus		\$ 5
Small Lentil Soup		\$ 5
TOTAL		

Name: _____