

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

April 5, 2020

5TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST:

أحد القديسة مريم المصرية VENERABLE MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

Tone 1

9th Matins Gospel {John 20:19-31}

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 after liturgy, 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. Basil the Great**, we sing the following Special Hymns for today:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 1

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud to Thee, O giver of life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy kingdom! Glory to Thy providence, O Thou who alone art the lover of mankind.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 1 (*same as above*)

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حُفِظَ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ. قُمْتَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيُّهَا الْمَخْلُصُ، مَا نَحَا الْعَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. لِذَلِكَ قَوَاتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ، هَتَّفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ. الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِكَ.

Troparion for St. Mary of Egypt—Tone 8

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother. For you took up the cross and followed Christ. By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away, but to care instead for the soul for it is immortal. Therefore your spirit, O Holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels!

بِكَ حُفِظَ التَّمَثَالُ بِاحْتِرَاسٍ وَثَبِيحٍ أَيُّهَا الْأُمُّ الْبَارَّةُ مَرْيَمَ. لِأَنَّكَ قَدْ حَمَلْتِ الصَّلِيبَ فَتَبَعْتَ الْمَسِيحَ. وَعَمَلْتِ وَعَلِمْتِ أَنْ يُتَغَاضَى عَنِ الْجَسَدِ لِأَنَّهُ يَزُولُ. وَأَنْ يُهْتَمَّ بِأُمُورِ النَّفْسِ غَيْرِ الْمَائِتَةِ. فَلِذَلِكَ أَيُّهَا الْبَارَّةُ تَبْتَهِجُ رَوْحُكَ مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ.

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: *Hebrews 9:11-14* {5th Sunday of the Great Fast}

Gospel Reading: *Mark 10:32-45* {5th Sunday of the Great Fast}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Issa and Adam Odeh for the health of their family and in loving memory of wife and mother **Nawal** (1 year), son and brother **Jamie** (18 year), **Saman, Farah, Nassim, Nazeek, Georgette, Nahil, George, Katrina,** and **Odeh.**
- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Joseph** Saseen (Jeanette's father) and **Jack** Abdella (George's father).
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Romero** Cena (40 day), **Amal** Farah (40 day), **Husam** Rishmawi (40 day), **James** Crawford (+March 2nd, friend of Dn. Mike), **Dorothy** Salhaney (+March 16th, aunt of Dr. Michael and Dr. Ron Shaheen and Pam McCann), **Fouad** Sababa (+March 17th, Beit Sahour, Palestine, father of Ghada Yacoub), **Emil** Bathish (+March 21st), **Phillip** Nader (+March 23rd, friend of Elias and Renee Mitri), **Lynn** Long, (+March 25th, Traverse City, father-in-law of former parishioner Stephanie Joseph Long), **Kim** Fanous (+March 31st, wife of Elias), **Souad** Khoury (March 31st, Beit Sahour, Palestine, sister-in-law to Khaled Alkhoury), **Hiam** Awad (March 31st, Beit Sahour, Palestine, sister of Munir Kokaly), **Natashia** Sous (+March 31st, Beit Sahour, Palestine, mother of Elias Sous), and **David** Daoud (+March 31st, Beit Sahour, Palestine, brother of Issa).
- 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), **Wadia** Albaba, **Naila** Banna, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Micheline** El-chaer, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Salwa** Haddad, **Shawna** Hale, **Donald** and **JoAnn** Hawkins, **Daisy** Isaac, **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Eva** Saseen (daughter of Nicholas), **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Habib** Skafi, **William** Sophiea Jr, **Lois** Teunion, and **Vicki** Toma (Fr. Joe's sister); **Elias** Fanous and newborn **Oliver George** (March 20th); **Laith**, **Dina** and newborn **Ayla** Maymoun (March 24th).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Renea** (Rakan) Bayouk, **Andrea** Jones (daughter of Nasri and Carol), and **Jennifer** (Martin) Khoshaba (daughter of Najwa Joubran).

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: April 26th, May 10th, 24th, and 31st ~ 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, contact Manal Abuaita (810-577-0028).

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, AND DONATIONS This is a very difficult time for us and everyone around the world as we deal with CoVid-19. Though parishioners are not able to attend church, PLEASE help our parish by continuing to send your offerings to St. George. We will soon be setting up online payments on our website and when it is, you will be notified.

PARKING LOT PLEDGES Our goal is \$80,000 (we have raised over \$40,000 so far including half of the Valentine Gala profits) and we are so thankful for those who have donated and pledged. If you have not already, please pick up a form, fill it out, and send it to the church. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings. Again, thank you to our donors!

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud
Dn. Mike and Pam Bassett
St. George Preschool
Khader and Lucy Abuaita
Anwar and Janet Abueita
Laila Abud

Anonymous
Ladies Auxiliary
Tony Daoud
Ayman and Wafaa Elias
John and Theresa Farah
Betty Froberg

Dr. David and May Gantos
Bill and Sue Shaheen
Richard Shaheen
Bob and Lois Teunion

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The Great Fast continues until our celebration of PASCHA: our Lord's Resurrection on April 19 th . 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.
Wednesday	Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقديسه at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm Live-streamed at: www.youtube.com/channel/UCIHAqZrWkXdYELujbbIslHg
Friday	Little Compline صلاة النوم الصغرى and Canon of St. Lazarus 6:30pm
Saturday	Combined Raising of Lazarus Preparation of Gifts/Divine Liturgy 9:30am All Divine Services at St. George are live-streamed. Just cut and paste the link into your web browser! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpLWfxMIJK4uQOV41ekE6Wg

The Best of Times ~ While suffering under the pandemic

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

I have been painfully aware that many people are feeling betrayed by their bishops and priests because of the closure of our churches, during this pandemic. Some have suggested

that we priests are enjoying the services because we no longer have to suffer the hassles of having lay people around, and that while we clergy are enjoying a “spiritual awakening”, others are forced into this quarantine that has sequestered them in their homes, alone. While they’ve supported their churches through the years, we clergy have now locked the doors of the temples in order to hold private liturgies.

Knowing this sentiment is perhaps more common than not, I know I speak for every bishop, every priest, when I say that we priests who have been forced to close our churches, miss our people. Our parishioners, and in the case of monasteries, our pilgrims, are all beloved by us. Our people are the very reason we entered service to the Church, for they are all an integral part of the Body of Christ, and are much beloved by us.

Please, dear ones, don’t despair, but remember that we will all get through this together. The separation we are all experiencing during this pandemic, will pass, and things will return to normal. This is not the only time in the history of humanity that such terrible times have befallen our human race, and it will not be the last.

Our own regular communicants, here in our monastery, made it clear that they felt they needed to stay away from the monastery, fearing they might introduce the coronavirus to the monks. Depriving themselves of the Holy Mysteries, they chose to protect us.

Following last Sunday’s Liturgy, I drove to the home of some pious believers who had gathered for a Reader Service, together with other parishioners, and calling them out their front door, I blessed them from my vehicle, so they could actually see me in person, and know that I love them, and that I miss seeing them. I’ve even sent photos of the services to them, hoping these photos would help them feel connected to the monastery, even though they were not able to be present.

Every priest I’ve spoken to, and even my archbishop, feel the same way. How could we not, for the Church is made of up all of us, together. We clergy are the servants of our people, yet a pandemic has sequestered all of us in our homes and monasteries, just as our people have been sequestered in their homes. Just as family members are now prevented from visiting loved ones who are under quarantine in hospitals, sometimes even facing death alone, we priests are suffering the pain of being separated from the people we love, and wish to serve.

I must also stress that it is not just we priests who can benefit from the forced isolation that has presented us with the chance to make this Lenten journey one of the most spiritually profitable of all. It is not just because we are able to serve the Liturgy, but even more so, because we have been gifted the opportunity of experiencing an inner silence that none of us, be we clergy or lay people, have had in our lifetimes.

It is perhaps the Lord Himself Who is gifting us this pandemic as our way of being awakened to that which is of eternal value, while extinguishing, even if for a few months, the distractions of a world that has, long ago, turned its eyes away from God. In our having made idols of profit, material goods, movie stars, fancy cars, and personal style, we’ve forgotten God. Now, we have been called to repent, and to turn our collective gaze back to that which really counts, our relationship with Christ, Who loves us, even in spite of ourselves.

+++++