

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

May 23, 2021

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

المسيح قام! حقا قام!

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.

Holy Bread Offerings

- George and Jeanette Nassif for the health of their family and in loving memory of their son **Paul** Nassif (46 year).

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 week:

- **Ava** Mitri – May 28th

May they 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: **Nadia** Kaileh Qatato (+May 5th, aunt of Aida Nassar), **Mitri** Saleh (+May 14th, brother of Susan Qazaha), and **Pastor David** Ross (+May 16th, friend of Dn. Mike).

- 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), **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Anwar Abueita**, **Elaine Abueita**, **Wadia Albaba**, **William Alshahouri**, **Emil Bathish**, **Levi Cooper**, **Vera Daoud**, **Jimmy David**, **Vera Farah**, **Averie Fisher** (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Elias Gantos**, **Mariam Ghanim** (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis Good**, **Gracyn Haskins** (granddaughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Daisy Isaac**, **Michael Joseph** (nephew of Sally Joseph), **Nakhleh Khoury**, **Nicola Khoury**, **George** and **Jeanette Nassif**, **Marlen Odeh**, **Giries Qumseya**, **Aida Raffoul**, **Deborah Salim**, **Ellis Salim**, **Nicholas Saseen**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **Michael Silpoch**, and **William Sophiea Jr.**; **Shadi**, **Natalie**, and newborn **Andres Qumsieh** who were brought back into the life of our parish through the Prayers of Churching; **Tony**, **Jenny** [Abueita], and newborn **Lukas Salsa** (April 20th); **Danial** and **Casandra** (Hayek) Burbar who were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony; Subdeacon **Salim** and **Dania Alghanim** who are to be engaged to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Mirna (Tamer)** Abuaita [son of Khader and Lucy], **Haneen (Benan)** Burbar, **Rachel (Andrew)** Sackllah [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita], and **Sarah (Matthew)** Thomas [son of Doug and Sandy].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARE YOU VACCINATED? DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AND NEED ANSWERS? We are blessed to have a number of medical professionals in our parish and all of them want you to get your Covid-19 vaccine as soon as possible. There is lots of wrong information on TV and social media. Don't be fooled; it could cost you or your family and friends in a sad way! If you have any questions or need truthful information, please contact Dr. Lindsey (Farah) Brunner: text ONLY, please 810-908-9213 or Infarah2009@hotmail.com. **If you or someone you know needs help getting a vaccine appointment or driven to your appointment, please call the church 810-732-0720.**

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 ANYONE!**

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.**

FR. JOE—OUT-OF-TOWN Fr. Joe is finally going to see his 1st grandchild/son! He leaves on Tuesday, May 25th to Friday, June 4th. Next Sunday, May 30th, *Matins* at 8:50am and *Liturgy* at 10am take place as normal as we welcome **Fr. Christopher Rozdilski**. **For emergencies while Fr. Joe is away**, please call *Protodeacon Michael Bassett* (St. George, 989-627-9580), *Fr. Jarrod Russell* (Assumption, 810-771-4611), *Fr. Gabriel Bilas* (St. Mary Magdalene, 810-750-1401), or *Fr. Matthew Butrie* (St. Nicholas, 810-744-0070). Please pray for Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee's [she's there already] safe travels.

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.

- The national **Food For Hungry People** program during the Great Fast is now over. Please empty your boxes and send your donation to the church either with a check or online at our website: <https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>.

Paschal Greeting and Response

Used until Our Lord's Ascension on the 40th day after Pascha (June 10th)

English: Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

Arabic: Al-Maseeh Qam! *Haqqan Qam!*

Greek: Christos Aneste! *Alethos Aneste!*

Slavonic: Christos Voskrese! *Voistinu Voskrese!*

COMING EVENTS

This Week	There is no fasting until the Friday (June 11 th) after our celebration of the Great Feast of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven on the 40 th day after His Resurrection (June 10 th).
Monday	Bible Study: <i>Gospel of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian</i> 6-8pm
Saturday	No Great Vespers

+++++

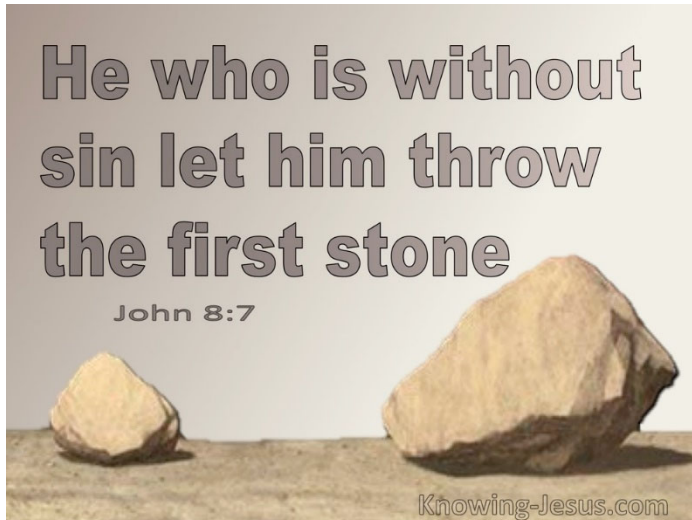
He Who is Without Sin? ~ Christ asked those without sin to cast the first stone

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

"We have all sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." (Romans 3:23) We Orthodox often miss the mark in understanding and ministering to this world. We fail to heed the words of Christ, "to love one another as God has loved us", and forget we are charged by Our Lord to bring healing and wholeness to those struggling in this fallen world. In our righteous resentment, we show contempt to those who live apart from biblical

Continued ⇨

morality, forgetting that we were ourselves called out of this fallen world by Christ. We forget, in our disapproval for the sins of others, it was this very Christ Who asked those in the crowd who were without sin to cast the first stone.



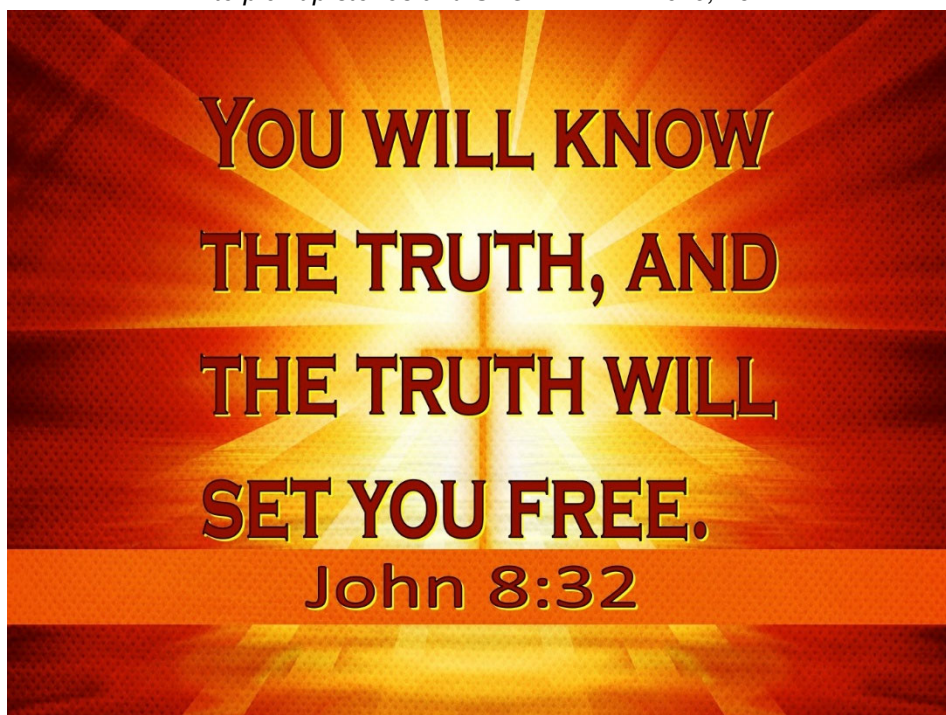
All of us have failed to fulfill the Commandments of God, and we are all deserving of being squashed like worms. But Jeremiah says, *“Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”* (Lamentations 3:22, 23).

God never washes His hands of us. We may disappoint Him every day, but His love is without measure, and He responds with His saving Grace and Mercy. The Church, as the hospital of the soul, is the very institution founded by Our Lord to bring about wholeness and healing to everyone. It is the lie of Satan that some are deserving of nothing, but our contempt and violence. But it is Christ Who has called us to compassion for those who are stuck in sin, and Who offers, through the Church, the saving, transformational healing that can turn hearts around, and sinners into saints.

When we turn from the Gospel of wholeness and healing, and act in such disrespect to the Gospel message of love, forgiveness, and redemption, those who are caught up in a sinful life will feel nothing but hopelessness, and the message of the Church will have been hidden from them.

A personal relationship with Christ changes our hearts, and saves us. It is not political extremism that preserves nations from immorality and sin, but the people themselves, who, having put on Christ, transform the society from within. As Saint Seraphim of Sarov said, when we acquire the Holy Spirit, a thousand around us will be saved.

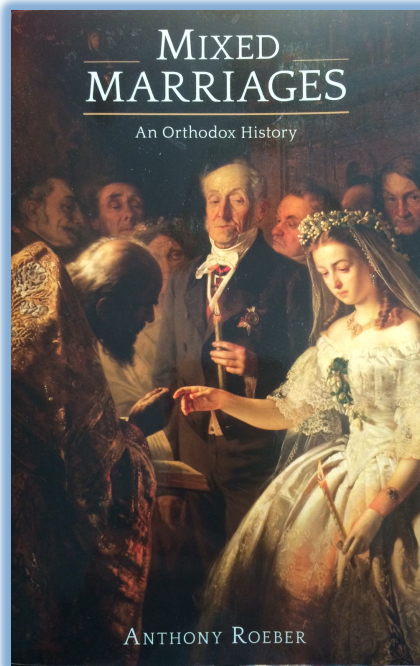
Get out your bible and read the Gospel of St. John chapter 8, verses 2-11 when Jesus says, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” Verse 7. After that, read the rest of Chapter 8 about Jesus being the Light of the World, and at the end, they want to pick up stones and STONE HIM! ~ love, FJ





The Orthodox Theological Society in America

The Two Become One? Mixed Marriages in the Orthodox Church



An online seminar given by:
Fr. Anthony Roeber, Ph. D.

Dr. Vigen Guroian
Deacon Nicholas Denysenko, Ph.D.

Dr. Despina Prassas

Saturday, May 29, 2021
1:00 – 3:00 pm EDT

Registration is Free and Open to the Public
<https://www.otsamerica.net/rsvpmaker/mixed-marriages/>