

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

May 29, 2022

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor
Father Michael Bassett, Attached

Christ is Risen! *Indeed He is Risen!*

المسيح قام! حقا قام!

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.

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 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, 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!

Holy Bread Offerings (*Oblations*)

- Tony Alyatim and family for the health of their family and in loving memory of son **Hazem** (40 day).

Baptism/Chrismation Days

The Church School offers the Holy Bread for their teachers and/or students who are celebrating the day of their *New Birth* {Baptism and/or Chrismation} into the Church:

- **Lukas** Cooper ~ May June 3rd

May they be children of the Light and heirs of eternal good things. {Baptismal Service}

- We pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Archbishop Paul** of Chicago and the Midwest, Orthodox Church in America (OCA, +April 24th), **Hasna** Ghantous (+April 25th), **Larry Sisk** (+May 14th, brother of Carol Haddad), **Louise** Shaheen (May 15th, cousin of Elaine Shaheen), and **Nasri** Haddad (+May 23rd).
- 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, **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Khader** AbuAita, **Laila** Abud, **Anwar** Abueita, **Jane** Abueita, **Chelsy** Abufarha, **Daniel** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alsahouri, **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Emil** Bathish, **Douglas** Coone, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Victor** David, **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Jamil** Ghantous, **Phyllis** Good, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Dannie** Jones, **Loretta** Karpelena (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Laura** Nassar, **Aida** Raffoul, **Jose** Ramirez (known to Reem Bathish), **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Georgette** Yusuf, and **Michael** Zerka (uncle of Lauren Zerka); **Daniel**, **Staci**, and newborn **Phoebe Caroline** Bator (May 18th).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Casandra** and **Daniel** Burbar, **Joselien** (daughter of Issa and Esperanza) and **David** Khoury, **Sandy** (daughter of Issa and Esperanza) and **Raad** Qumsieh, and **Jacqueline** (daughter of Anwar and Janet) and **John** Timm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is in our Lounge and is hosted by *Tony Alyatim*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: June 5th, 19th, and 26th ~ 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).

RECOGNITION DAY HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 5TH!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS SO WE CAN ALL CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS,
TEACHERS, STAFF, AND THE END OF OUR CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR!**

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE We are very fortunate to have several scholarships available to those who wish to further their education. Some applications are in the Lounge and others are located at: <https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/386>. Please note THE DEADLINES!



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 (*use the QR code to the right*) 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!

St. George Men's Fellowship

We want and need a Men's Fellowship to share experiences, encouragement, support, and biblical study. The Men's Fellowship at St. George Flint will provide a variety of opportunities to connect, build community, and have fun. We are thinking of bi-monthly gatherings, opening with a teaching from Fr. Joe/speaker followed with a social activity such as dinner, cards, etc. Other activities include: cooking meals at church, fundraising campaigns, and various ministry tasks at church. We pray you will find this fellowship fun and helpful in your Christian development and maturity. Please text or call Tony Daoud at 810-730-1011 to be added to our group text. This group text is strictly for fellowship activities and to inform you on events of our group and church. If you prefer e-mail, you can send your information to Tonydaoud00@gmail.com. All men of St. George are welcome and participation is highly encouraged! Our 1st gathering is June 14th ~ PLAN ON IT!

BAKING OF HOLY BREAD! Aida Nassar is our coordinator. She is very attentive to making sure we have enough Holy Bread every week and what might be frozen is used quickly. If you would like to bake Holy Bread, please let Aida know. *Thank you and may God bless the hands of all of those who bake Holy Bread for every liturgy!*

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline There is no fasting until the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven 40 days after Pascha on June 2nd.

Monday Memorial Day office closed
 NO Bible Study or SOYO Monday

Wednesday **NO Arabic-English Bible Study**
 Combined Pan-Orthodox *Evening Divine Liturgy* for the Great Feast of our
 Lord's Ascension on the 40th Day of Pascha 6pm

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 5pm

The Image Of The Good Shepherd ~ There is no room for abusive husbands, tyrannical bishops, or clericalist priests

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

Misty Isle Farms, the largest privately owned property on Vashon Island, with more than three hundred acres, sponsors an annual Sheep Dog Trials, every autumn. The dogs are judged according to their ability to quickly herd sheep through fence gates, and around obstacles. Like many Vashon Islanders, I've found this annual event to be fascinating, and have been attending the event for some years now. Especially interesting, is to observe the synergy between the dogs and their handlers.

For those of you who have never watched such an event, the dogs dart back and forth, herding the sheep, and, by intimidation, keep the sheep together. This is quite different from the herding that takes place when a shepherd is involved. Shepherd's herd their sheep in a completely different way. A shepherd will make little sounds, particular to

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himself, and recognized by his sheep. The hearing of these familiar sounds has a comforting and calming effect upon the sheep, and they willingly follow their shepherd.

In the Gospels, Christ describes Himself to his disciples as “The Good Shepherd,” Who willingly lays down his life for His sheep. Like any good shepherd, Jesus lovingly calls his sheep, and bids us to come forth, follow Him, and enter into the “green pastures” of eternal life. There is no intimidation, as with the sheep dogs, but only the loving sounds of a shepherd, who’s sheep recognize a voice that is comforting, and draws them into a safe place.

Bishops and priests, as representatives of the Good Shepherd, are called, as icons of the Christ they serve, to act in the very same manner. Bishops and priests are not, if they are true to their vocations, to lead by intimidation, but with pastoral love and gentle shepherding. There is no place for shepherding by intimidation in the Theology of Priesthood of the Orthodox Church. Bishops, abbots, and priests, in the Orthodox Church, have never been “Lords” over their people, but, rather, servants, and loving shepherds.

In Orthodox monasteries, where the abbot occupies his office for life (much like a bishop,) his rule must be one of fatherly leadership. The abbot does not give commands to his monks to do this or that, but, rather, suggests. The obedience of the monks is, therefore, not one of obedience as to an overlord, but obedience to a loving father, because the monks are loved by their abbot, and, in return, love their abbot.

Christ even directed husbands to love their wives in much the same manner, for he told husbands they must love their wives, just as Christ has loved His Church. No medieval lordship over an Orthodox Christian wife. Husbands, like bishops, abbots, and priests, are to follow Christ’s example, and imitate the Good Shepherd. Within Orthodoxy, there is no room for abusive husbands, tyrannical bishops, and clericalist priests.



Get out your bibles and find the Gospel of St. John, chapter 10. Read verses 1-21 and learn what it means that Christ is the Good Shepherd. Love, FJ

From Bishop Anthony

Christ is Risen! It was a blessing for me to celebrate the Three Days of Pascha with Fr. Joe, Fr. Michael, and the parish of St. George in Flint. I pray you had an inspirational Pascha celebration where prayer becomes endless praise! Please extend my thanks for the hospitality and generosity of all the parishioners of St. George. I appreciated the attentiveness and patience with my numerous talks and sermons!

From Douglas Coone, the newest member of our Orthodox Faith

To the wonderful parishioners of St George,

Christ is Risen!

I want to take this time to personally thank each and every one of you for the very warm welcome and acceptance of me, a total stranger, into your parish. Also, thank you for the support, encouragement, and congratulations you gave me, along with all the pictures and videos of my Baptism, Chrismation, and Reception into the Orthodox Faith. I will remember that first Pascha service for a very long time. Thank you.

Also, thank you all for your prayers and concern showed to me for my recent shoulder surgery and recovery. I know your prayers have enhanced my recovery progress. Thank you.

You have witnessed to me the embodiment and meaning of what it means to be a church and a church family. I have been a part of other churches before, but none like this. God willing, I look forward to the years to come as I grow more in my understanding of the Orthodox faith as it is truly lived and expressed by you, the people of St. George. I also look forward to becoming more and more a part of the St. George family as time goes. I feel like I have found a home. Thank you. I also look forward to learning a word or two in Arabic and thank you ahead of time for your patience with me in that endeavor. Please, continue to keep me in your prayers as I will keep my new found family in Christ, the people of St. George in my prayers. By your prayers, Doug Coone, baptized by the name Anatolius.

Calling all artists!

Catholic Charities is once again gearing up for our annual **Chair-ity Benefit** to be held on Thursday, September 29th! We are looking for talented people willing to transform a plain chair into an amazing work of art. Your donation will not only provide someone with a one-of-a-kind piece of furniture, it will help us continue our mission of **Providing Help & Creating Hope** to those most in need in our community. Individual artists or groups may submit a chair, couch, lounge, bench or any other creative way of sitting. There are no rules, so get as creative as you want as long as you can sit on it! We are only accepting 20 chairs for the live and silent auctions ~ so get registered today. Registration deadline is Friday, July 15, 2022. Bring finished chairs to Catholic Charities, 901 Chippewa Street, Flint by September 2, 2022. Text "chair" to 810-255-3053 to register!

Angel's Hands Community Outreach

The Lord wants us to be good stewards of all that He has given us! Our Parish for many years has been diligent in sharing unused food from various events (Coffee Hour, Parish Breakfasts, our Pascha Meal, Mercy Meals, and many other events in our Banquet Center) with the poor and the needy. At times, we have shared our abundance with the Salvation Army and more recently with Angel's Hands Community Outreach (you can find them under that name on Facebook). These organizations (both in Owosso) are always thrilled to receive our help and they send prayers up to heaven in thanksgiving and for the well-being of our parish! Below is a recent picture with one of the volunteers at the Outreach! Please, when you have an event and there is food left over, don't let it go to waste! You can contact Fr. Michael (989-627-9580 / frdnmike@gmail.com) who will transport that food to the needy in Owosso! Please contact him as soon as you know that you have food to share so that it can be as fresh as possible! Remember what the Lord said in Matthew chapter 25, verses 34 and 35 ~ *"Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food."*



Angel's Hands Community Outreach

Yesterday at 1:43 PM · 🌐

We want to thank St. George Orthodox Church in Flint Michigan for coming in with their donation of rice we appreciate it very much.