

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

Father Amin Houli, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

August 25, 2024

Christ is in our Midst! *He is and ever shall be!*

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. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy.

Guidelines for Receiving Holy Communion for Orthodox Christians: Orthodox Christians fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by receiving Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command *to eat His Body and drink His Blood*. In order to be properly prepared to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should fast (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 striving to always love God and their neighbor. Frequent communion and regular confession are recommended for all faithful Orthodox Christians.

For other Christians: We welcome you to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Unfortunately, we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship of our community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, but for which we must all pray. All, however, are welcome to partake of the blessed bread (*antidoron*) which will be given when coming forward to venerate (kiss) the Holy Cross and receive the final blessing from the priest. 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.

Holy Bread Offerings (*Oblations*)

- Subdeacon Salim and Dania Hanna for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Danial** Alghanim (9 day, father of Dania).
- Fr. Joe and Kh. Leslee Abud and their family for the health of their family especially **Laila** Abud on the occasion of her birthday ~ *may God grant her many years!*

BAPTISM/CHRISMATION DAYS

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

- **Amany** Rishmawi ~ August 28th
- **Yazan** Sababa and **Elias** Mitri~ August 30th

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

- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Archbishop Nathaniel** (Romanian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America), our **Fr. Jeremy, Kh. Rena Houli, Sahar Abdallah, Abeer Abuaita, Reader Fouad & Soad Abuaita, Philip & Janett Abuaita, Rasha Abuaita, Sami & Shafiq** Abuaitah, **Laila Abud, George Abueita, Georgette Abueita, Youssif Abousamra, William Alsahouri, Naila Banna, Douglas Coone, Vera Daoud, Said Farah, Joseph Gagne, Elias Gantos, Subdeacon George Gantous, Phyllis Good, Daisy Isaac, Danny Mortensen, Karen Mortensen, Laura Nassar, Adam Odeh, Elaine Shaheen, Michael and Nancy Silpoch**; your servants **Maria Kirk, Evan Sandford, and Jaden Turner** who are in catechism (under instruction) to become members of our Orthodox Faith.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Jihan** Mitri (+July 20th, sister-in-law to Elias Mitri), **George** (Jiries) Ghanem (+July 26th, brother of Manal Abuaita), **Cyril** Yonov (+July 31st, friend of Fr. Michael), **Shawn** Kiley (+Aug. 4th, sister of Sue Salomon), **John** Mays (+Aug. 4th, great-grandfather of Evan Sanford), **Adeeb** Bathish (+August 6th, brother-in-law of Hiam Bathish), and **Nimer** Rishmawi (+August 12th, father of Moussa) ~ *may their memory be eternal!*
- We also pray for our *Expectant Parents*: **Liana** and **Hanna** Abuaita, **Stephanie** and **Nadim** Burbar, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, and **Dania** and **Subdeacon Salim** Hanna.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP MEMORIAL MEAL is hosted by *Subdeacon Salim and Dania Hanna*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: September 1st, 22nd, and 29th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information are 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 coordinator Manal Abuaita 810-577-0028.

WELCOME TO OUR ST. GEORGE FAMILY!

We are blessed to welcome Fr. Amin, daughter Teodora, and son Nicholas to our St. George Family (*Khouriya Rena will be coming in September*)! During Coffee Fellowship, please introduce yourselves to them. If you need to contact Fr. Amin, please email him at pastorsqf@gmail.com or call his cell at 248-709-1186.

VOTER REGISTRATION The Arab-American Heritage Council (AAHC) will have a table in the Banquet Center during Coffee Fellowship to help register voters, and share voter resources and informational materials.

THE CRY OF THE FORERUNNER this September 27-29 in Livonia, MI. This Orthodox Men's Retreat, led by Fr. Michael Butler, Fr. Hans Jacobse, and Paul Lloyd Robson, offers an opportunity to deepen your Orthodox faith through the life and preaching of St. John the Baptist. Experience Orthodox worship, group work, physical challenges, and fellowship with like-minded Orthodox men. Whether you're a young man seeking direction or an older man ready for renewal, this retreat is for you. Limited to 100 participants. Early bird registration saves \$25 before September 1st. Visit <https://www.avg2alpha.com/cry-of-the-forerunner/> for details and registration. Optional: attend the 17th Annual Male Bonding Party afterwards.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be \$7,588 to meet our 2024 Budget. On Sunday, August 18th our offerings were \$2,036; we were short \$5,552! 😞 **Please keep up with your offerings during the summer months!** If you have not already, fill out your *2024 Offering Form*, put it in Sunday's Offering Tray or send it to the church (5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507). May God bless you for supporting His parish of St. George and offering as He wants for our salvation!

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS



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!

EASYTITHE OR CREDIT / DEBIT CARDS We use EasyTithe so everyone can make online one-time donations or donations that are automatically done for you! Go to our St. George Website (see above). If you need help, just come to the office or call 810-732-0720 during Office Hours.

➤ **AUTOMATIC GIVING** Did you know most banks and credit unions offer automatic bill payment services? You can set it up so they send a check from your account to St. George for the amount you designate. This can be a onetime event or done automatically weekly/monthly. Just call or go online with your banking institution to get the form you need.

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.

TODAY **Ladies Auxiliary Meeting** after Divine Liturgy

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

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"Why does the Lord command us to love our enemies and to pray for them? Not for their sake, but for ours! For as long as we bear grudges, as long as we dwell on how someone offended us, we will have no peace."

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica



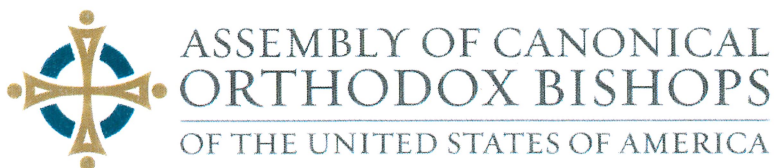
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
— CAMPUS MINISTRY —



OCF offers college students rich community in Christ, inspiring a life-long love of God and neighbor. Through the Campus Missionary Initiative, national programs, weekend retreats, virtual gatherings, and over 250 on-campus chapters, OCF is an invitation to thrive during school.

College students need the active presence of the Church community consistently and personally. Support the life-giving ministry of OCF with a donation today in honor of College Student Sunday by scanning the QR code or visiting ocf.net/donate





August 25, 2024
College Student Sunday

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God bless you!

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America declared the fourth Sunday of August as **College Student Sunday**, running in conjunction with the back-to-school season for college students. This year the date falls on **August 25th**.

"Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

Heeding the words of the Apostle Paul, the Assembly of Bishops' maintains an Agency responsible for ministering to college students, [Orthodox Christian Fellowship \(OCF\)](#). The vision of OCF is to be the loving presence of Christ and the Orthodox Church on college campuses; to be an integral part of students' spiritual formation by challenging them to explore the Faith; and to inspire students to commit to living an Orthodox Christian way of life daily.

As their sense of identity is being formed, their worldview is being challenged, and they are often away from the stability of their home communities, students need the active presence of the Church community *consistently* and *personally*. OCF responds to the needs of college students with over 250 on-campus chapters, student leadership formation, regional retreats, College Conference, Real Break, and their newest effort, the [Campus Ministry Initiative](#).

May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ who calls all of us to contribute our time, talent, and treasure to the ministry of His Church guide and strengthen our cherished and beloved college students.

Working in His Vineyard with much love,



+Metropolitan Gregory
Episcopal Liaison to OCF