

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Rev. Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

August 8, 2021

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

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. 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 (*Oblations*)

- The Children of Nakhleh Khoury and their Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of father **Nakhleh** (9 day).
- Najwa Joubran, Elias and Amira Hanna, Ayman and Wafaa Elias, Edward and Feryal Joubran, and their Families for the health of their families and in loving memory of brother-in-law **Tony** Al-Sakali (3/9 day) and mother **Badia** Khoury (11 year).
- **George** and **Muna** Abuaita for the health of their family on the occasion of their 43rd anniversary of being united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

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:

- **Mila Mitri** ~ August 10th
- **Zane Farah** ~ August 12th
- **Tia and Taym Khoury** ~ August 13th

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: **Suad** Awwad (July 7th, mother of Wafa Alsaouri), **Stephen** Bruckman (+July 7th, great-grandson of Daisy Isaac), **Jamil** Sahouri (+July 24th friend of parishioners), **Delores** Page (+July 26th, friend of Daisy Isaac), and **Rayan** Janenah (+July 26th, friend of Ola Alqazaha).
- 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, **Amal** Abu-Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Anwar** Abueita, **Wadia** Albaba, **William** Alsaouri, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Thuraya** Elias (mother of Ayman), **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Elias** Gantos, **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Phyllis** Good, **Gracy**n Haskins (granddaughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Daisy** Isaac, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **William** and **Elise** Sophiea Jr.
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Mirna** and **Tamer** Abuaita [son of Khader and Lucy], **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khouri, **Haneen** and **Benan** Burbar, **Amira** and **Abdallah** Farah, **Natania** and **Rene** Hanna, **Elise** and **Jarrett** Lane [daughter of Habeeb & Denise Ghattas and Jill Smith], **Kari** and **Panagiotis** Mikroudis [daughter of John and Theresa Farah], and **Rachel** and **Andrew** Sackllah [daughter of Suheil and Abeer Abuaita].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RENTAL Our Banquet Center is rented today. Please be respectful to our renters and their guests by not disturbing their event. Thank you! Our Coffee Fellowship will be in the Lounge.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *George and Muna Abuaita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: August 29th, September 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). *During the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Fast (August 1st-14th) and on Sunday, August 29th when we remember the Beheading of St. John the Baptist, no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are to be served.*

NEW COVID-19 PROCEDURES Based on the quickly changing directives and guidance from Metropolitan Joseph, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and our state government, our Parish Council has NEW PROCEDURES. We all want the safest place

for all of our parishioners to worship. **PLEASE FOLLOW:**

1. Those who are vaccinated may wear a mask, **but are not required to.**
2. **PLEASE, *if you are not vaccinated*** because of medical or other reasons, **you must wear a mask and maintain social distancing.**
3. Pews in the back of the church are for **those who would like to be social distanced and those who are not vaccinated.**
4. **Our first breaking of bread together** took place on July 4th and we are now continuing with our normal Coffee Fellowship!

Our live-stream will continue. Remember we are venerating icons by bowing (*not kissing or touching*) also, please bow to the priest or at the chalice for Holy Communion.

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, your family, or friends in a tragic way! If you have any questions or need truthful information, please contact Dr. Lindsey (Farah) Brunner: text ONLY, please 810-908-9213 or lnfarah2009@hotmail.com. **If you or someone you know needs help making an appointment or need to be driven to one, please call the church 810-732-0720.**

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The Dormition Fast for the Dormition (<i>Falling Asleep or Assumption</i>) of the Virgin Mary began on Sunday, August 1 st and lasts until the feast on August 15 th . The traditional fasting discipline during this fourteen-day period is <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil and their by-products, except on Saturdays and Sundays</i> when <i>wine and olive oil</i> are allowed.
Thursday	<i>Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary</i> 6:30pm
Saturday	Combined <i>Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers</i> for the Falling Asleep (Dormition, Assumption) of the Theotokos at <i>Assumption in Grand Blanc</i> (2245 E Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439) 5pm

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CLOSED COMMUNION ~ *The Practice of Closed Communion in the Orthodox Church*

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

When a stranger approaches the Holy Gifts during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy it is common in the Orthodox Church for the priest to ask the person to “kiss the chalice”. Not knowing if the person is Orthodox, or whether they are in good standing with the Church, the priest cannot give them communion.

This “closed communion” is not meant as a way of separating ourselves from visitors as though we were better than them, but as our way of guarding the Holy Mysteries from being received by someone who is not part of the Church and who may hold to views concerning the Eucharist that are in opposition to the teachings of scripture and the dogmas of the Ancient Apostolic and Catholic Church.

continued ⇨

Priests are guardians of the Holy Mysteries and must make sure they are not defiled. The priest must also protect the person who may receive without proper preparation and belief. Every Orthodox Christian is expected to have prepared for communion by abstaining from all food and drink from midnight on, as well as having said the pre-communion prayers. A good confession is also an important part of proper preparation for Holy Communion.

When a person believes that the things which the Orthodox Church teaches are true, and has received baptism in the Orthodox Church, and is living a life in Christ, communion is not simply common bread or common wine we are receiving, but the very Body and Blood of the Savior. The Logos took on our flesh for the salvation of the world and is received into our bodies through the action of the Holy Spirit and the prayer of His word (this is my body....this is my blood). At this moment our blood and flesh, by transmutation, are nourished with the flesh and blood of Jesus Who was made flesh.

Closed communion is the way the Church protects anyone who does not hold to these beliefs from receiving unworthily and therefore hurting their soul. As well, when the priest co-mingles the commemoration particles after the communion of the faithful, with the Body and Blood of Christ, he commemorates the union we have with each other as members of the Body of Christ, the Church.

This union is not just with those who are communing with us in this Liturgy, but a union of both the Church Militant here on earth, and the Church Triumphant in heaven. Within the life of the Church there is no separation from each other at death. The Body of Christ is made up of both those who have gone on before us and those who are still here on earth, for we are all alive in Christ. In a very real sense we are not only communing of Christ's true Body and Blood, but we are communing of each other as the Body of Christ, the Church!



80 Years
1941  2021
Catholic Charities
of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties



Cheers
to 80 Years!
**Celebration
& Chair-ity Event**

This fun evening will include wonderful hors d'oeuvres, drinks, a historical photo gallery of Catholic Charities, silent auction, live auction, and of course good company! Come take a stroll down memory lane as well as learn about our Vision for the Future!

www.ccsgc.org/cheersto80years

To become a sponsor contact Theresa Hurley at thurley@ccsgc.org



Sponsored by

Tickets on Sale Now!
September 16, 2021, 5-7pm
Doors open at 4:30
\$55 per person
\$75 at the door

