

September 8, 2024

## **BLESSINGS ON THE GREAT FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY!**

**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)

- Raji and Susan Salomon for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Shawn** Kiley (40 day, sister of Sue).
- Fr. Michael and Kh. Pam Bassett for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Cyril** Yonov (40 day, friend of Fr. Michael).
- St. George Parish for the health of our **Church School Staff, Teachers, and Students** as we begin a wonderful and fruitful Church School year ~ *May God grant them all 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:

- **Nadine** Khoury ~ September 11<sup>th</sup>
- **Christina** Alqazaha ~ September 12<sup>th</sup>

*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: our **Fr. Jeremy, Kh. Rena** Houli, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Abeer** Abuaita, **Reader Fouad & Soad** Abuaita, **Philip & Janett** Abuaita, **Rasha** Abuaita, **Sami & Shafiq**a Abuaitah, **Laila** Abud, **George** Abueita, **Georgette** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **William** Alsaouri, **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** Sanford, and **Jaden** Turner who are in catechism (under instruction) to become members of our Orthodox Faith; **George** and **Mariane** [Rishmawi] Chammas and **Steve** and **Laila** [Abdallah] Ishmair who were united in the *Sacrament of Holy Matrimony*.
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **John** Mays (+August 4<sup>th</sup>, great-grandfather of Evan Sanford), **Adeeb** Bathish (+August 6<sup>th</sup>, brother-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Nimer** Rishmawi (+August 12<sup>th</sup>, father of Moussa), and **Danial** Alghanim (+August 15<sup>th</sup>, father of Dania Hanna) ~ *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

**CHURCH SCHOOL KICK-OFF LUNCH** Our Church School invites EVERYONE to celebrate the beginning of the year by breaking bread together with a lunch provided by Church School, prepared by the Men's Fellowship! There is no cost, but donations will be appreciated to educate our children (see Janet Abueita, Church School Director)! Please pray for our staff and students, that God will give them the desire and motivate them to come to the Heavenly Banquet every Sunday!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> ~ 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 next week*)! If you haven't met them, please introduce yourselves to them during Coffee Fellowship. If you need to contact Fr. Amin, please email him at [pastorstgf@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstgf@gmail.com) or call his cell at 248-709-1186.

☞ Please contact Fr. Amin, not Fr. Joe, for any and everything ~ thanks!

- ❖ Thank you to Kholoud Hayek and her committee ~ Lucy Abuaita, Sally Abuaita, Amirah Hanna, and Kholoud Hayek ~ for the meals they prepared for Fr. Amin, Teodora, and Nicholas.

**FR. JOE'S RETIREMENT LUNCHEON** Please send a 30 second video to Salim Hanna for Father Joe on his retirement. State a congratulatory wish, or a remembrance of something special you want him to know about. Send the message by September 30<sup>th</sup> to [salimh91@gmail.com](mailto:salimh91@gmail.com). Salim will compile the messages into a collage video to be shown at the Retirement Luncheon on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank You!

## **ST. GEORGE 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC**

September 20<sup>th</sup> at Flushing Valley Golf Club.

The Classic is for fellowship, fun, and to raise money for our church. Hole Sponsorships are needed, which is great for remembering a loved one, health of your family, or publicity for a business for only \$150 (see flier on Narthex Table). Golfers are needed at only \$125 per golfer! Donations of prizes, gift cards and/or money to buy gifts are also needed ~ you do not need to golf to support this wonderful event! If you are interested or need more information, contact co-chairs Tony Daoud 810-730-1011 or Reem Bathish 313-492-6358 TODAY!



## **Teen SOYO Wants YOU!!!**

All teens of St. George are encouraged to participate in our teen group – Teen SOYO (*Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations*). Our group has dedicated leadership who will not be happy until all teens of St. George are participating! Whoever is reading this please pass it along to a teen in your house or to Godchildren, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, sons, & daughters. We are gathering on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm to meet our new priest, Fr. Amin and his two teens: Teodora and Nicholas! If you would like to know more, come to our get-togethers, scan the QR code to signup, or contact President Cezar Abuaita (810-986-1434 or [cezarabuaita@icloud.com](mailto:cezarabuaita@icloud.com)).



## 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 **Church School Begins!**

Saturday combined Pan-Orthodox *Divine Liturgy* for the **Elevation of the Holy Cross**  
at St. Nicholas (2143 South Center Road) 9:45am

**Brunner Baptism** 1pm

**Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

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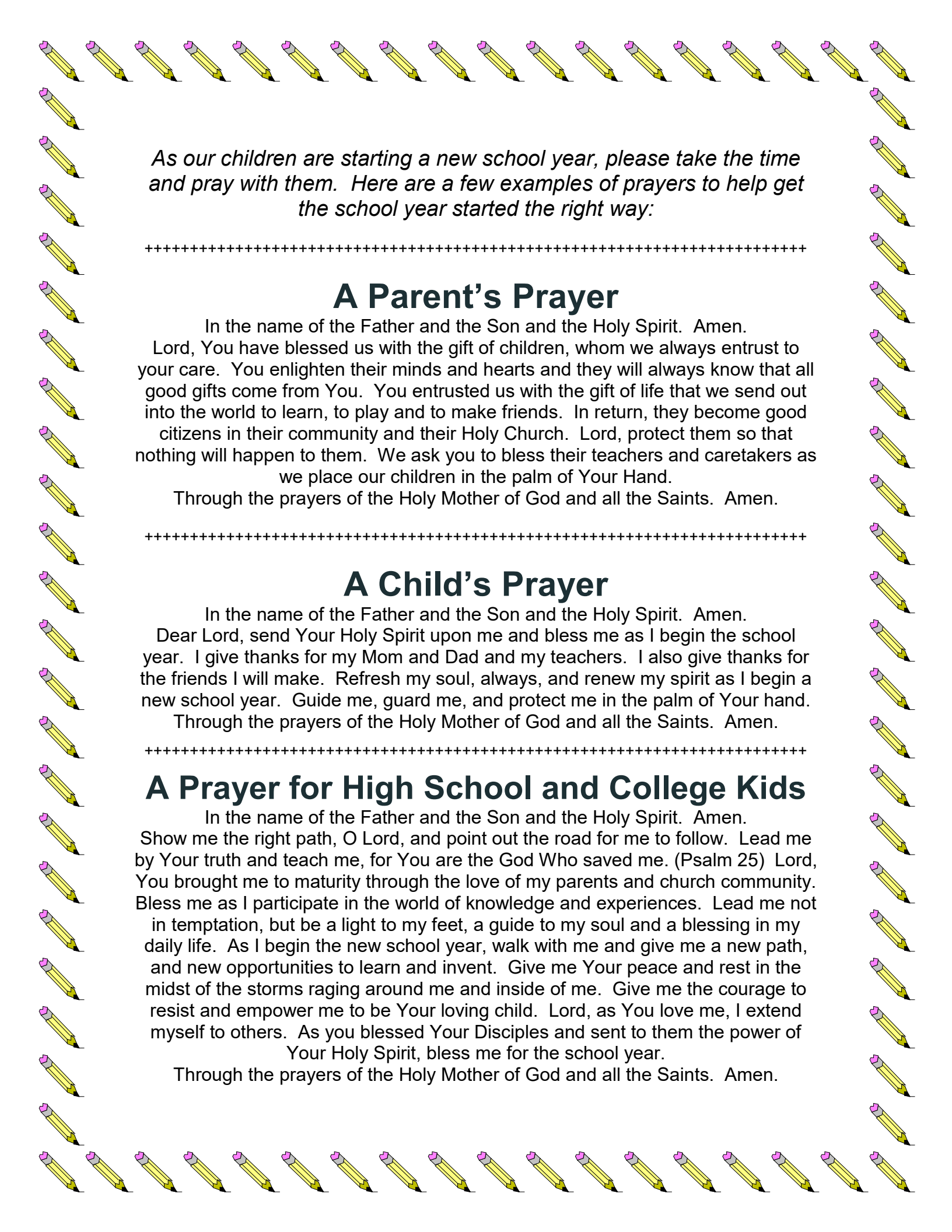
## Joachim and Anna (celebrated on September 9<sup>th</sup>)

Saint Joachim, the son of Barpathir, was of the tribe of Judah, and was a descendant of King David, to whom God had revealed that the Savior of the world would be born from his seed. Saint Anna was the daughter of Matthan the priest, who was of the tribe of Levi. Saint Anna's family came from Bethlehem.

The couple lived at Nazareth in Galilee. They were childless into their old age and all their life they grieved over this. They had to endure derision and scorn, since at that time childlessness was considered a disgrace. They never grumbled, but fervently prayed to God, humbly trusting in Him.

Saint Anna entreated God with prayer and fasting to grant her a child. In his desolate solitude the righteous Joachim also asked God for this. The prayer of the saintly couple was heard. An angel told them that a daughter would be born to them, Who would be blessed above all other women. Then, as God promised, a daughter was born to them and they named her Mary. Saint Joachim died a few years later at age 80, and Saint Anna died at age 70, two years after her husband.

Saints Joachim and Anna are often invoked by couples trying to have children.



*As our children are starting a new school year, please take the time and pray with them. Here are a few examples of prayers to help get the school year started the right way:*

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## **A Parent's Prayer**

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord, You have blessed us with the gift of children, whom we always entrust to your care. You enlighten their minds and hearts and they will always know that all good gifts come from You. You entrusted us with the gift of life that we send out into the world to learn, to play and to make friends. In return, they become good citizens in their community and their Holy Church. Lord, protect them so that nothing will happen to them. We ask you to bless their teachers and caretakers as we place our children in the palm of Your Hand.

Through the prayers of the Holy Mother of God and all the Saints. Amen.

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## **A Child's Prayer**

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear Lord, send Your Holy Spirit upon me and bless me as I begin the school year. I give thanks for my Mom and Dad and my teachers. I also give thanks for the friends I will make. Refresh my soul, always, and renew my spirit as I begin a new school year. Guide me, guard me, and protect me in the palm of Your hand.

Through the prayers of the Holy Mother of God and all the Saints. Amen.

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## **A Prayer for High School and College Kids**

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Show me the right path, O Lord, and point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by Your truth and teach me, for You are the God Who saved me. (Psalm 25) Lord, You brought me to maturity through the love of my parents and church community. Bless me as I participate in the world of knowledge and experiences. Lead me not in temptation, but be a light to my feet, a guide to my soul and a blessing in my daily life. As I begin the new school year, walk with me and give me a new path, and new opportunities to learn and invent. Give me Your peace and rest in the midst of the storms raging around me and inside of me. Give me the courage to resist and empower me to be Your loving child. Lord, as You love me, I extend myself to others. As you blessed Your Disciples and sent to them the power of Your Holy Spirit, bless me for the school year.

Through the prayers of the Holy Mother of God and all the Saints. Amen.



# WELCOME

**To our new pastor,  
Fr. Amin and Kh. Rena Houli  
Teodora and Nicholas**

**You're Invited to Celebrate with Us!**

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**NEXT Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Breakfast Brunch!**

**Monetary donations accepted to help  
cover costs.**

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**More information?**

**See Amal Abuaita, Areen Bathish, Aida Nassar or Jeanette Nassif**



~ Sunday, October 06, 2024 ~


**A Parish Fellowship Meal To Celebrate  
Fr. Joseph & Kh. Leslee Abud  
~ 36 Years of Ministry to St. George ~  
~ Fr. Joe's Retirement As Our Pastor ~**

**DETAILS**


- ⇒ **When:** Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 12:30, following the Divine Liturgy
- ⇒ **Where:** Our St. George Banquet Center
- ⇒ **Agenda:**
  - ✓ 12:30 PM ---- (Open) Seating, Welcome & Prayer
  - ✓ 12:45 PM ---- Begin dismissing tables for the buffet
  - ✓ 1:45 PM----- Remarks from the Head Table (*also live on YouTube*)
  - ✓ 2:15 PM----- Closing remarks & Benediction

**Registration is REQUIRED by 9/21\* / Here's Several Ways!**

*\*On 9/22 the invitation will be extended to those outside of our parish & seating may no longer be available*

1. You may have received an email regarding this event if so there is a link for registration in it!
2. **OR** ⇒ Point your smartphone camera at this QR Code and then click on the link that pops up. Follow the instructions. **NOTE:** This QR Code allows you to contribute toward a parish gift for Fr. Joe and Leslee even if you are unable to attend the meal. 100% of your contribution will be given to them! → 
3. **OR** ⇒ Go to [www.saintgeorgeflint.org](http://www.saintgeorgeflint.org) where you will find a link to register.
4. **OR** ⇒ Fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket at Church.
  - a. This is the LEAST preferred option. Please use this method only if absolutely necessary!
  - b. You may attach a contribution toward our parish gift for Fr. Joe and Leslee.

<b>Names of Those Attending the Meal</b> ~ A max of 5 per family including children age 14 and older ~	<b>Names of Children Needing Supervision &amp; Pizza</b> ~ <b>Children 13 and under</b> cannot be accommodated at the meal due to our space limitations but we will have supervision and pizza for them in the Church School ~
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	

If you would like to be a silent benefactor of this event, helping to cover the costs so that all can attend, please click on this QR Code OR see Jeanette Nassif or Ric Shahin. → 

**SEATING IS LIMITED - YOU MUST REGISTER NOW**

09-04-2024