

St. George Orthodox Church V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor
5191 Lennon Road • Flint, Michigan 48507 • (810) 732-0720 Deacon Michael Bassett

Christ is Born! Glorify Him! المسيح وُلِدَ! فمجدوه!

December 29, 2013

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, DAVID THE KING, AND JAMES THE BROTHER-OF-GOD

Tone – 2

5th Matins Gospel {*Luke 24:12-35*}

Altar Servers: **St. Nicholas** team {Nicholas Shahin, captain}

Next Week – **St. George** team

Confessions
8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44
8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91
10:00am

Memorial Service
Trisagion p.183

Welcome to St. George! Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word “*Liturgy*” means *work of the people* which means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God’s grace to enter. For those who have committed themselves to the Orthodox Faith (through Baptism and/or Chrismation) it also means, if prepared, the reception of Holy Communion. Preparation includes the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, prayer, being on time for church, being at peace with others, attending the Divine Liturgy regularly, and fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before). If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father Joe. Please know that everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. All are welcome to our Coffee Fellowship in the hall after Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**, we sing the following special hymns,

First Antiphon - Psalm 111

Verse 1. I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Thy wonders known.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Verse 2. In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord. *Refrain*

Verse 3. They are studied by all who have pleasure in them. *Refrain*

Verse 4. His work is glory and beauty, and His righteousness endures forever. *Refrain*

Glory to the Father ... , now and ever Amen. *Refrain*

Second Antiphon - Psalm 112

Verse 1. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Refrain: O Son of God who was born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee, Alleluia.

Verse 2. His descendants will be mighty in the land, the generation of the upright will be blessed. *Refrain*

Verse 3. Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness endures forever. *Refrain*

Verse 4. Light rises in the darkness for the upright, the Lord is merciful, compassionate, and righteous.

Refrain

Glory to the Father ... , now and ever Amen. *Only begotten Son...*

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Verse 1. The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.'

Verse 2. The Lord will send Thee the scepter of power from Zion: 'Rule in the midst of Thine enemies.'

Verse 3. With Thee is dominion of the day of Thy birth, in the radiance of holiness.

Refrain {Troparion of the Nativity of Christ} Tone 4: Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom. For by it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, Glory to Thee!

مِلَادُكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْهُنَا قَدْ أَشْرَقَ نَوْرَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ فِي الْعَالَمِ. لِأَنَّ السَّاجِدِينَ لِلْكَوَاكِبِ بِهِ تَعَلَّمُوا مِنْ الْكَوَكِبِ السَّجُودَ لَكَ يَا شَمْسَ الْعَدْلِ. وَأَنْ يَعْرِفُوا أَنَّكَ مِنْ مَشَارِقِ الْعُلُوِّ أَتَيْتَ. يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Hymns after the Entrance with Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 2

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One. Then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly power, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee, O Christ Thou giver of Life, Glory to Thee O our God.

Troparion for the Nativity (Birth) of Christ—Tone 4 (as above)

Troparion of the Sunday after Christmas—Tone 2

Proclaim, O Joseph to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders. For you have seen a Virgin great with child; with the shepherds you gave glory, with the Magi you did worship, and by the angel it was revealed to you. Therefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Troparion for St. George—Tone 4

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings. Victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

بِمَا أَنَّكَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرَّرٌ وَمُعْتِقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ وَعَيْنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي الشَّهَادَةِ جَاوِرِجِيوسُ اللَّابِسُ الطَّقَرِ تَشْفَعُ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ الْإِلَهِي فِي خَلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

Kontakion for the Nativity (Birth) of Christ—Tone 3

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

الْيَوْمَ الْعِذْرَاءُ تَأْتِي إِلَى الْمَغَارَةِ * لِتَلِدَ الْكَلِمَةَ * الَّذِي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ * وَلَا دَأْدَاءَ لَا تُفَسِّرُ وَلَا يُنْطِقُ بِهَا * فَافْرَجِي أَيْتِهَا الْمَسْكُونَةَ إِذَا سَمِعْتَ * وَمَجِدِّي مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرَّعَاةِ * الَّذِي سَيَطْهَرُ لَنَا بِمَشِينَتِهِ طِفْلاً جَدِيداً وَهُوَ أَلَهُ قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ.

Epistle Reading: *Galatians 1:11-19* (Sunday after the Nativity)

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:13-23* (Sunday after the Nativity)

Holy Bread Offerings

- Fr. Joseph, Leslee, Nicholas, and John Abud for the health of their family especially His Grace **Bishop BASIL** (Fr. Joe's Godfather) on the occasion of his namesday and **Joanna** on the occasion of her baptism day (both on Jan. 1st) – *May God grant them many years!*
- This morning we also pray for the newly departed servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Archpriest Anis Elias** (+December 22nd), **Marilyn Hynes** (+November 19th, Carol Haddad's sister), **Deborah Isaac** (+November 21st), **Sylvia Sophiea** (+November 21st, California,

former parishioner), **Moutiah Elias** (+November 26th, Ayman's sister), **Rahmih Isaac** (+December 10th, relative of the David and Isaac Families), **Brendon Fitch** (+December 10th, friend of Areen Hutchins), and **Evon Makar** (+December 14th, Egypt, Samer Meshraky's mother).

- Prayers are offered for those who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Nayef Aboujamra, Androlla Abu Aita, Reader Fouad Abuaita, Hanna Abuaita, Lana Abu-Aita, Housam Abousamra, Basil Andoni, Evelyn and James Delbridge, Camille Ghantous, Nadera Ghantous, Phyllis Good, Carol Haddad, Roland Haddad, Nawal Iseid, Betty Khouri, Edward Khouri, Jean Khouri, John Khouri, Mariam Houry, Janet Lakis, Norma Lazar, Lourice Matta, Danny Mortensen, Aida Nassar, Laura Nassar, Elaine Salim, Elaine Shaheen, Michael Silpoch, William Sophiea Jr., and Lois Teunion** (Bob's wife). **Narmeen Farah** (daughter of Salem and Randa) and **Deeb Shamshoum** who were recently engaged to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

The Kiss of Peace

When the deacon says, *Let us love one another . . .* we greet each other with,

المسيح وُلِد! فمجدوه! *Christ is Born! Glorify Him!*

Communion Hymn (for the Lord's Day)

(Refrain) Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

(Verse) Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts. (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars. (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens. (Refrain)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reception of Holy Communion

If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.

- Please remember ONLY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS who have PREPARED THEMSELVES may partake of Holy Communion. If you have a special need or circumstance, please let one of the ushers know so we may assist you. Thank you -- St. George Ushers
- Since there is no Church School, our children and their parents can receive Holy Communion together! Everyone should wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss you to the Communion Line.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Khader and Lucy Abuaita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: January 19th and 26th. Sign-up poster is in the Hall. Hosting includes bringing milk, donuts, bagels, or whatever you wish, serving it, and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides the coffee, cups, sugar, and cream -- a charge to the host of \$25 covers these items. For more information, please see Manal Abuaita.

2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES AND CHURCH CALENDERS Please pick yours up (and other family members and friends) so we do not have to mail them! If your name isn't listed, call the church office. The calendars are given by our Ladies Auxiliary – please take only 1 per family!

Our children will receive their envelopes in Church School. **Parents**, please make sure your child gets their *Offering Envelopes*.

FEED GENESEE Next week, the Soup Kitchen truck will be here to pick-up our donations. Items needed are on a flier in the Hall Foyer. All of the Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint are supporting the work of Catholic Charities in Genesee County by helping to feed the hungry. Remember you may bring your items at any time to be put it in the wooden *Feed the Hungry* container in the Hall Foyer. May God be with the needy and may He bless those who help them.

COMING EVENTS

THIS WEEK	NO Fasting until Sunday, January 5 th .
Wednesday	Have a Blessed New (Civil) Year!
Friday	Royal Hours for Theophany (Baptism) of Christ 6:30pm
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm
	Altar Society Christmas Party at Sahar Abdallah's Home 6pm
	YAF Christmas Party at Joanna Abud's Home 6pm

ST. JOSEPH THE BETROTHED AND JAMES THE BROTHER OF GOD

Saint Joseph the Betrothed was of the lineage of King David. In his first marriage, he had four sons and two daughters. After he became a widower, St Joseph led a life of strict temperance. He was chosen to be the husband and guardian of the Most Holy Theotokos, who had taken a vow of virginity.

An angel told him of the Incarnation of the Son of God through her. St Joseph was present when the shepherds and the Magi worshiped the new-born divine Infant. On the orders of the angel, he fled into Egypt with the Mother of God and the newborn, saving them from the wrath of King Herod. He lived in Egypt with the Virgin Mary and the divine Child, working as a carpenter. St Joseph died at the age of one hundred.

St Joseph is commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, his Feast is moved to December 26. The Righteous Joseph is also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers.

The Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord, was the eldest son of Joseph the Betrothed from his first marriage with Solomonia. The Apostle James is remembered after the Feast of the Nativity of Christ together with his father Joseph and the Prophet-King David, since he accompanied his family on the Flight into Egypt and lived there with the Infant Jesus, the Mother of God and Joseph. Later, he returned to Israel with them.

After the Ascension of the Lord, St James was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, gaining the great esteem not only of Christians, but also of Jews. He was thrown from the roof of the Jerusalem Temple because he had publicly preached to the people about the God-manhood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Apostle James is also commemorated on October 23.



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS

OF NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Christmas and Theophany

To the Reverend Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, the Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, the Day, Afternoon, and Church Schools, the Members of Philanthropic Organizations, the Youth and Youth Workers, and the entire Orthodox Christian Family in North and Central America

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy to gather with family and friends to celebrate the Feasts of Christmas and Theophany. During this time, however, is important for us to maintain the authentic message of these holy days, recalling that the gift which we receive is not fashioned by hands and cannot be purchased in any store.

In the Feast of the Nativity the *Word of God becomes flesh* and invites *man to become God* (St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*), and in the Theophany our minds and hearts are illumined and the world is sanctified. Through the birth and baptism of Jesus Christ, therefore, we have received the gifts of adoption and sanctification, and we are now called to respond accordingly.

During this season of giving and receiving each of us is asked to make offerings in the form of fasting, vigilance, and prayer for the welfare of our brothers and sisters in need. Therefore, let us remember those Christians who endure persecution because of their faith in Christ the Incarnate God, and include in our prayers the imprisoned Archbishop Jovan of Ohrid, the abducted hierarchs, Metropolitan Boulos Yazigi and Archbishop Yohanna Ibrahim, both of Aleppo, and the abducted nuns and orphans of the Saint Thekla Monastery in Maaloula, Syria.

On blessed and holy Feasts of the Nativity and Theophany, we offer to each of you our best wishes for a joyful season of worship and fellowship. May your hearts be filled with assurance, joy and hope, and may the peace and mercy of our Lord be with you in the New Year.

The Members of the Assembly of Canonical
Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America