

# St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: [saintgeorgeflint.org](http://saintgeorgeflint.org)

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

September 9, 2018

## SUNDAY BEFORE THE FINDING AND ELEVATION OF THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

Tone - 6                      4<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel {*Luke 24:1-12*}  
Altar Servers: **EVERYONE** {Shane Gantos, captain}

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!** Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, 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, being at peace with others, and attending the Divine Liturgy regularly. Please know everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom**, we sing the following **Special Hymns**:

### **First Antiphon – Verses from Psalms 131, 86, and 45**

Verse 1. Lord, remember David and all his meekness.

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

Verse 2. Lo, we heard of it at Ephrathah: we found it in the fields of the wood. *Refrain*

Verse 3. Glorious things are spoken of Thee, O city of God. *Refrain*

Verse 4. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her early in the morning.

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

### **Second Antiphon - Verses from Psalm 131**

Verse 1. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not turn from it.

*Refrain:* O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee, Alleluia.

Verse 2. Of the fruit of your body will I set upon your throne. *Refrain*

Verse 3. There will I make the horn of David to grow: I have prepared a lamp for My Anointed.

*Refrain*

Verse 4. For the Lord has chosen Zion: He has desired it for His dwelling place. *Refrain*

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

### **Third Antiphon – Verses from Psalms 131, 45, and 64**

Verses 1-3 Here will I dwell, for I desired it. The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle.

Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness.

**Refrain: Troparion of the Nativity (Birth) of the Virgin Mary—Tone 4**

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shown from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

ميلادك يا والدة الإله بشر بالفرح كل المسكونة، لأنه منك أشرق شمس العدل المسيح إلهنا، فحلّ اللعنة، ووهب البركة، وأبطل الموت، ومنحنا حياةً أبدية.

**Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel**

**Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 6**

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and was not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord glory to Thee.

إن القوات الملائكية ظهروا على قبرك الموقر. والحراس صاروا كالأموات. ومريم وقفت عند القبر طالبةً جسدك الطاهر. فسبيبت الجحيم ولم تجرب منها وصادقت البتول مائحاً الحياة. فإيا من قام من بين الأموات يا رب المجد لك.

**Troparion of the Nativity (Birth) of the Virgin Mary—Tone 4 (as above)**

**Troparion of the Ancestors—Tone 2**

As we celebrate the memory of Thy righteous ancestors, O Lord our God, through them we beseech Thee to save our souls.

معيدون لتذكرك جدتك الصديقين. فبواسطتهما نبتهل إليك يا رب أن نُخلص نفوسنا.

**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.

بما أنك للمأسورين محرر ومعتق، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضد وناصر، وللمرضى طبيب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

**Kontakion for the Nativity (Birth) of the Virgin Mary—Tone 4**

By your holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death; your people do celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying to you: *The barren gives birth to the Theotokos who nourishes our life.*

إن يواكيم وحنة من عار العقر حررا. وأدم وحواء من فساد الموت اعتقا بمولدك المقدس أيتها الطاهرة. فله يُعبد شعبك إذ قد نجا من وصمة الزلات هاتفاً نحوك. العاقر تلد والدة الإله المغذية حياتنا.

**Epistle Reading: Galatians 6:11-18** {Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross}

**Gospel Reading: John 3:13-17** {Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross}

**Holy Bread Offerings**

- The Salim Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of mother and grandmother **Mary Salim** (9 day).
- The Abud Family for the health of their family and in loving memory of uncle **Charles Abud** (40 day).

### 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 coming week:

**Nadine Khoury** – September 11<sup>th</sup>

*May our children 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: **Roger** Sisk (+August 8<sup>th</sup>, brother of Carol Haddad), **Beverly** Kerbawy (+August 18<sup>th</sup>, relative of Dn. Michael), **Fahed** Kahush (+August 28<sup>th</sup>, relative of Khaled Al-Khouri), and **Issa** Musleh (August 31<sup>st</sup>, uncle of Sally Abuaita).
- 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, **Bishop Alexander** (Ottawa and Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Sahar** Abdallah, **Androlla** Abu Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Manal** Abuaita, **Cesar** Banna, **Pamela Mary** Bassett, **Emil** Bathish, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Michael** Farah, **Vera** Farah, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nemer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** and **Nicola** Khoury, **Chuck** Koory, **Danny** Mortensen, **Karam** Nassar, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** Silpoch, **William** Sophiea Jr., **Lois** Teunion, and **Vicki** Toma (sister of Fr. Joe); Dr. **Anton** and **Julia** Khouri and newborn **Gabriella** (August 8<sup>th</sup>); **Christina** Alqazaha who is to be brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and the reception of her First Communion.
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Jenny** (Hanna) Abuaita, **Rasha** (Luai) Abuaita, **Dunyia** (Iyad) Abufarha {Ibrahim and Eman's son}, **Rachel** (Andrew) Sackllah {Suheil and Abeer's daughter}, and **Karen** (Nicholas) Shaheen {Drs. Ron and Kathy's son}.

### 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

Please remember only ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS who have PREPARED themselves may partake of Holy Communion. *"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion. If you have a special need, let one of the ushers know so they may assist you.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHURCH SCHOOL KICK-OFF LUNCH** Our Church School invites EVERYONE to celebrate the beginning of the year! There is no cost, but donations will be accepted to educate our children! Please pray for our staff and students that God will provide for a fruitful and blessed year!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Available dates: October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> ~ 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, see Manal Abuaita.

**EUCHRE TOURNAMENT** takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month (THIS Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>). Registration is at 6:30pm and play begins at 7pm. If you would like to help for a couple of hours, volunteers would be greatly appreciated. If you want to play, that's even better! Please contact our coordinator Hiam Andoni (810-813-1076 or [handoni@hotmail.com](mailto:handoni@hotmail.com)) for more information.

**MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITY LUNCH AND BAKE SALE** Our Ladies Auxiliary is having this great event for our community, family, and friends on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 11am-3pm. Tickets are available from any member. Everyone is asked to help – all profits benefit our church! Drivers are needed for deliveries. If you would like to make sweets for the bake sale, please contact Sally Abuaita (810-965-1046). *Please bring sweets to the hall on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> or early on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.*

**\$\$ Donations are welcomed to offset our costs.**

**COMING EVENTS**

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline ( <i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products</i> ) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
Monday	<b>Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles</b> 3-5pm
Tuesday	<b>Altar Society Dinner Meeting</b> see Theresa Farah for information 6pm
Wednesday	<b>Arabic/English Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles</b> 12:30-2pm Alqazaha Baptism 5pm
Thursday	Pan-Orthodox <b>Evening Divine Liturgy</b> for the <b>Finding and Elevation of the Life-giving Cross at St. Mary Magdalene (2439 S. Long Lake Road, Fenton)</b> 6:30pm
Friday	<b>Euchre Tournament</b> 6:30pm
Saturday	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b> 5pm

**SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> ~ JOACHIM AND ANNA, PARENTS OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

Saint Anna lived with her husband Saint Joachim in Nazareth of 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. The prayer of the saintly couple was heard. An angel told them a daughter would be born to them, Who would be blessed above all other women. He also told them that She would remain a virgin, would be dedicated to the Lord and live in the Temple, and would give birth to the Savior. Obeying the instructions of the heavenly messenger, Saints Joachim and Anna met at the Golden Gate in Jerusalem. Then, as God promised, a daughter was born to them and they named her Mary. Saint Joachim died a few years later at the age of 80, after his daughter went to live in the Temple. Saint Anna died at the age of 70, two years after her husband.

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

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➤ If you know of a parishioner who has given birth, fallen ill, or admitted to the hospital, please call the church office or let Father Joe know.

Prayer Service to

# ***Begin the Church School Year***



and do not hinder them,  
for the kingdom of God  
belongs to such as these.

M a r k 1 0 : 1 4

***'Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the Kingdom of God ... truly I say unto you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.' And He took them in His arms and blessed them, laying His hands upon them.***  
{Mark 10:14-16}

# Students

*{Students, please come and stand on the Solea}*

**Priest:** You are children of God, made in God's own image and likeness. You are made to know God and to love Him. God loves you and desires that you should become like His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Will you pray each day, praising and thanking God, and taking time to be alone with Him?**

**Children:** I will, with God's help.

**Priest:** Will you spend time during the week to review what you have learned in the Church, and to share this knowledge with your friends and family?

**Children:** I will, with God's help.

**Priest:** Will you live as a true Christian in school, with your friends, and at home?

**Children:** I will, with God's help.

**Priest:** Into Your hands, O God, we place these Your children; support them in their successes and failures, their joys and sorrows. As they grow in age, help them to grow in faith, in love, and in knowledge of You, their God and Savior.

**Everyone:** Amen.

# Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents

*{Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents, please stand}*

**Priest:** God has given into your keeping the souls of your children fashioned in His own image and likeness. You are but sojourners on this earth and our souls are incomplete until they are found in God. Your children are given into your care, but belong to God. The vocation of parents is impossible without the constant help of God.

**Therefore, will you be responsible for seeing that the children of our parish are brought up in the Orthodox Faith?**

**Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents:** I will, with God's help.

*Priest:* **Will you, by your prayers and example, help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?**

*Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Priest:* **Will you bring your children -- and yourselves -- regularly to the Church Services, Holy Sacraments, and our Educational programs; along with sharing in worship, study, and prayer with your children?**

*Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Priest:* **May God our Father, who by Baptism adopts us as His children, grant you the wisdom, humility, and love to fulfill your task. May the Lord Jesus Christ, who brought salvation to the home of Zacchaeus, fill you and your home with His sanctification. May the Holy Spirit, who has made the Church to be one, keep you in His peace.**

*Everyone:* **Amen** *{Parents, Grandparents, & Godparents may sit}*

## **Church School Teachers**

*{Church School Teachers, please stand}*

*Priest:* **Today, we recognize the men and women of our parish who have responded to the Lord's invitation to share with others the Gospel message and to make disciples of all people. Their witness makes us aware of our call in Christ to be of service to others. God bestows on His Church gifts, like that of teaching, to strengthen and build up His Church.**

**Will you continue to grow as disciples of the Lord by listening to the Word of God, living by His teachings, and sharing His commands with others?**

*Teachers:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Priest:* **Will you prepare yourselves to fulfill all of the responsibilities that this teaching ministry requires, in fostering the faith to those entrusted to your care and faithfully teach the True Faith to your students?**

*Teachers:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Priest:* **Then, we -- the family of St. George -- accept with thanks your willingness to respond to God's call.**

O God, Author and Creator of all things, bless the good intentions of our teachers, your servants, as they offer themselves in this teaching ministry. Assist them in all things, guide the work of their hands. Graciously grant them to begin this work and to complete it to the glory of You-the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Everyone:* Amen.

## **Everyone**

*{Please Stand}*

*Priest:* Brothers and sisters, you realize that we all share in the ministry of teaching. Will you pledge your support for the Parents, Grandparents, Godparents, and Teachers of our children as they carry out their teaching ministry?

*Everyone:* I will, with God's help.

*Priest:* Master, Lord our God, You commanded that everything be done for Your glory. By Your blessing, stretch forth Your helping hand to us Your servants as we begin this Church School year. Grant these children a heart that is open to Your teachings and protect them from the Evil One. Bless the good intentions of Your people and protect us from worldly wisdom and deceit.

For You are a good God who loves mankind, and to You we give glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Everyone:* Amen.

*The priest blesses everyone with Holy Water.*

Continually pray that the staff, teachers, and students of our Church School program will be guided by the love, wisdom, and joy of the Holy Spirit. With our example, commitment, encouragement, prayers, and support, they can, and will, overcome the unholy things of this fallenworld which they learn from school, TV, movies, sports, the internet, etc.

# **May God grant all of us many years!**