

St. George Orthodox Church

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

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

May 31, 2020

7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA ~ HOLY FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL
SUNDAY AFTER OUR LORD'S ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN ON THE 40TH DAY AFTER PASCHA

Tone 6

10th Matins Gospel {John 21:1-14}

Confessions

8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44

8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91

10:00am

Memorial Service

Trisagion p.183

Live Streaming of Divine Services

ALL services are served only with clergy, an altar server, and a few chanters. They are not open to the public. Please view our livestream at:

YouTube ~ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpLWfxMIJK4uQOV41ekE6Wg> or

Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/St-George-Flint-254638524560302/>

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.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*the Golden-Mouth*},
The **Special Hymns** we sing are on the **Bilingual sheets** from Fr. Joe's Email).

Holy Bread Offerings

Baptism/Chrismation Days

The Church School offers the Holy Bread for their teachers and/or students who celebrated their *New Birth* {Baptism and/or Chrismation} into the Church this past week:

● **Lukas** Cooper – June 3rd

● **Andrew** Alkazaha – June 6th

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: **Archimandrite Elias** Bitar (+May 21st, relative of Jeanette Nassif and Kh. Leslee Abud), **Helga** Lamb (+April 30th, mother of Rick, owner of Swartz Funeral Home), **Yacoub** Zureikat (+May 10th, father of Sahar Abdallah and Dr. George), **Farida** Andoni (+May 16th, sister-in-law of Basil Andoni), **Gaylord** Mannor (May 19th, father of Cindy Zureikat), **Fran** Khoury (+May 19th, relative of Evelyn Delbridge), and **Maryellen** Jensen (+May 20th, friend of Jeanette Nassif).
- 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, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett), **Anwar** Abueita, **Eman** Abufarha, **Wadia** Albaba, Dr. **Usama** Albedd (Sally Abuaita's brother), **Nabil** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Naila** Banna, **Emil** J. Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Micheline** El-Chaer, **Vera** Farah, **Averie** Fisher (niece of Sandy Thomas), **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Shawna** Hale, **Donald** Hawkins, **Daisy** Isaac, **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nawal** and **Nimer** Iseid, **Nakhleh** Khoury, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Deborah** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael**

Silpoch, **William** Sophia Jr, **Lois** Teunion; **Martin, Jennifer** [daughter of Najwa Joubran], and newborn **Ava** Khoshaba (May 10th).

- We also pray for those who are with child: **Renea** (Rakan) Bayouk, **Andrea** Jones [daughter of Nasri and Carol Haddad], and **Katie** (Philip) Quackenboss [daughter of Bill and Sue Shaheen].

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN Take the time! Come and help feed the hungry during our once-a-month commitment at the Soup Kitchen this Saturday, June 6th from 9am-12:30pm. If you have questions concerning the covid19 rules or want to sign-up, please contact Goni Ishak (810-449-6599). Since our children are not in school, this is a perfect time for the whole family to help “feed the hungry”!

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, AND DONATIONS This is a very difficult time for us and everyone around the world as we deal with COVID-19. Though parishioners are not able to attend church, PLEASE help our parish by continuing to send your offerings to St. George. This can simply be done by going to our website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) or by mailing your offerings to St. George 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507.

PARKING LOT PLEDGES Our goal is \$80,000 (we have raised over \$40,000 so far including half of the Valentine Gala profits) and we are so thankful for those who have donated and pledged. If you have not already, please pick up a form, fill it out, and send it to the church. Remember our donations to the Parking Lot are separate (above and beyond) our weekly offerings. Again, thank you to our donors!

Fr. Joe and Leslee Abud
Dn. Mike and Pam Bassett
St. George Preschool
Khader and Lucy Abuaita
Anwar and Janet Abueita
Laila Abud

Anonymous
Ladies Auxiliary
Tony Daoud
Ayman and Wafaa Elias
John and Theresa Farah
Betty Froberg

Dr. David and May Gantos
Bill and Sue Shaheen
Richard Shaheen
Bob and Lois Teunion

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.
Saturday	North End Soup Kitchen 9am-12:30pm Soul Saturday Divine Liturgy 10am Great Vespers 5pm

Godly Friendships ~ We need godly friendships on our spiritual journey

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

It is easy to feel trapped by our bad habits. We don't like certain behavioral patterns that have become habitual, and we feel helpless in our attempt to change. Growing as Christians is often fraught with failure, and we find ourselves stuck. Our spiritual progress feels more like a treadmill, only seemingly moving forward, yet noticing the

scenery is remaining the same. Sometimes the only way to move forward is to commit to changing our environment. If we have friendships that keep us from growing, perhaps it is time to leave those friendships behind.

Back in the 1960's I hung around with a group of friends in Berkeley, California, where we'd gather in a coffee house, talking about the poetry books we were going to publish, and the novels we were going to write, but all we did was talk. One of our friends shocked the rest of us when he announced he was no longer going to come to the coffee house. He'd decided it was just a waste of time. If he was ever going to make something of himself, he had to make the break. He told us he wanted to go to medical school, and was therefore planning to put all his energy in completing his college degree with the best grades he could possibly get. We all tried to convince him that he could accomplish all of that without abandoning the coffee house scene, but he wasn't convinced. That was the last evening he'd ever join the rest of us.

His decision haunted me, for deep down I knew he was right. My life was going nowhere, and I was feeling increasingly unfulfilled, both spiritually and intellectually. Within six months I made the decision to move to Portland, Oregon, for a fresh start. Abandoning those friends was the best decision I could have made, for none of us was motivated to go beyond that little coffee house ghetto we'd created for ourselves.

Sometimes the only way to make the changes in our lives that are needed for spiritual growth is to walk away from relationships that are keeping us stuck. As Christians, it does make a difference who we hang out with. If we have friendships with individuals who are simply not interested in things of a spiritual nature, we will find ourselves wasting precious moments in our journey to God.

Having friendships with fellow Christians is the only way we can keep ourselves centered in Christ. If we want to deepen our faith, we need to spend time with people who desire the very same thing. We can build a stronger relationship with Christ by spending time with people whose values are the same. If we waste our time with people who are only pursuing worldly pleasures, we'll end our life doing the same. The time God has allotted us must not be squandered. If we keep company with people whose goals are of a spiritual nature, and whose lives are centered in Christ, our goals will be the same, and we will grow as Christians.

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What Does the Lord Require of Us?

~ **We must become full of justice, kindness, love, and mercy**

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

As we examine how we live our lives as Christians, we look to those who leave an impression of goodness, kindness, and humility, as examples of the person we would like to become. That saintly person, by their every example, exudes the humility of the Lord, and love seems palpable when we are in their presence. Such

a person didn't just appear, for these are not the natural traits one finds in most people.

Humility and kindness are developed over time, for this person sought out the grace of God, and has made, sometimes since childhood, every attempt at giving back the love and goodness they received from the Father of Lights.

Such a person desires, on a daily basis, to become more like Christ. The humility of the Lord becomes their personal standard, for such a person is quick to forgive, quick to grant justice, and desires to be kind to everyone who comes into their presence.

This person does not fabricate sweetness of soul as though he were a politician running for office, for it is the Lord Himself Who dwells in them, and it is Christ in them Who is full of justice, kindness, love, and mercy. As we read in Micah 6:8, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God".

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