St. George Orthodox Church
5191 Lennon Road
Flint, MI 48507-1050

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THE VOICE

of St. George

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November 2021

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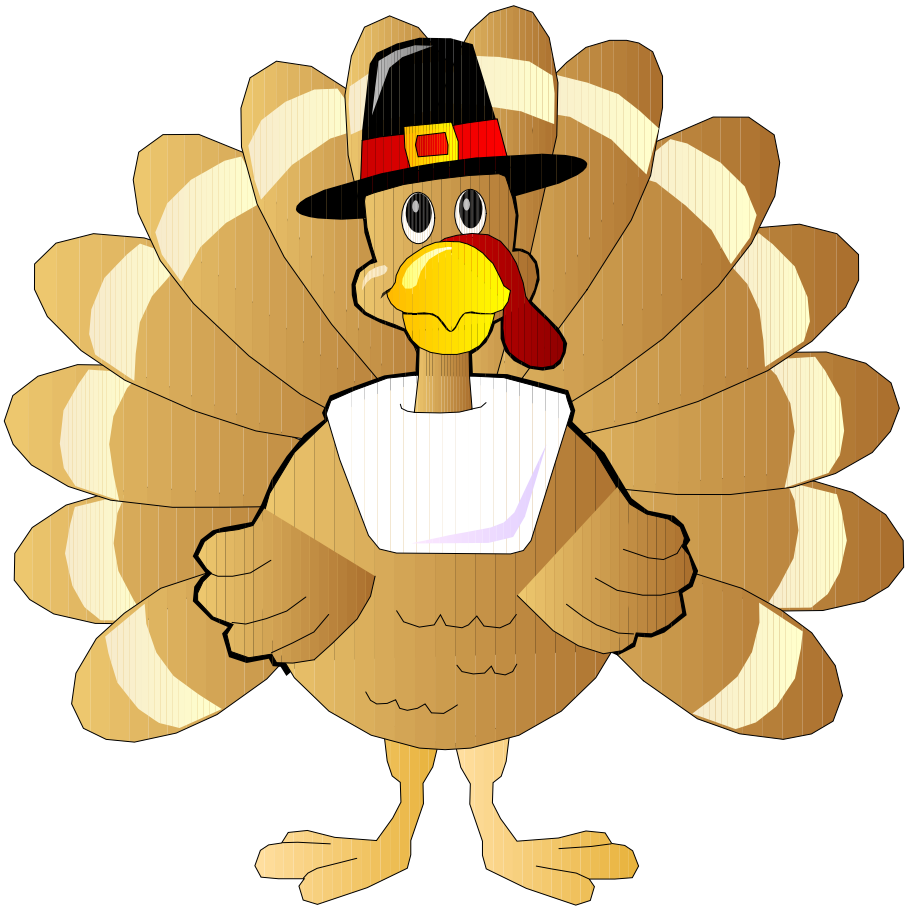
Fall Harvest PARISH Thanksgiving Celebration!!!



Saturday, November 6th

Our Church School children are to be dropped off as follows: *(High School Class at 2pm; Kindergarten thru 8th Grade Classes at 3pm)*. They will prepare their part of the meal, set the tables, do crafts, and have a great time together! We are asking that all parents be back by **5pm** so their children are sitting next to them praying at ***Great Vespers***. Following the ***Great Vespers***, we will all enjoy the meal prepared by our children!

<u>This is for ALL parishioners – see you there!</u>

To Tithe is to Love!

The Bible says a "tithe" is giving 10% of our income to God through His Holy Church. In the Old Testament, the tithe was the maximum.

For Christians (yes, US!), the tithe is the minimum!

Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

ALL of our **240 families** are asked to make an Offering. Why? Because it is such a blessing to give back to God a little of what He has given us!

- Our 2021 Budget is $256,618
- To meet our budget, our weekly offerings need to average: $4,935
- Number of Families who need to offer: ALL THOSE WHO BELONG TO OUR ST. GEORGE FAMILY!
- Offering Range: ***according to how God has blessed you!***

Your commitment is NEEDED!
Please fill out your 2022 Offering Form -- as soon as possible.
THANK YOU!!!

2022 Offering Form

St. George Orthodox Church ~ Flint, Michigan

I Want To Be Counted!

Frequency	Amount	A % of Income
Weekly	$	
OR Twice Monthly	$	
OR Monthly	$	
OR Quarterly	$	
OR Annually	$	

~ Offerings Are Treated confidentially ~ Please fill out completely.

Name(s)	
Address	
City	
ZIP	
Telephone	

Offerings can be made in different ways.

- Put your offering in the **Sunday Tray** or **send it to St. George**.
- Online at https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/saintgeorgeflint.
- Call the office (810-732-0720) and use a **Credit Card**.
- An **ACH** direct-payment transaction from your bank account.

Signature: _____ Date:_____

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse" (Malachi 3:10)

Seeing the rich bringing their gifts and then a widow bringing a few pennies, Jesus said, *"Truly I say to you that this widow has put in more than all."* (Luke 21:3)

2022 بطاقة التبرعات لعام

كنيسة القديس جورج للروم الاورثودوكس فلنت، متشغن

أريد أن أكون معدودا !

الدفعات	المبلغ	% من قيمة الدخل
اسبوعيا	$	
مرتين بالشهر	$	
شهريا	$	_____
كل ثلاثة شهور	$	
سنويا	$	

كل التبرعات يتم التعامل معها بسرية تامة ~ الرجاء تعبئة كل البطاقة.

الاسم / الأسماء	
العنوان	
المدينة	
الرقم	
رقم الهاتف	

يمكن تقديم التبرعات بعدة طرق مختلفة.

- يمكن وضع التبرعات في صينية التبرعات يوم الأحد أو ارسالها الى عنوان الكنيسة.
- عن طريق الانترنت https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/saintgeorgeflint
- عن طريق الاتصال على رقم تلفون مكتب الكنيسة 0720-732(810) واستخدام بطاقة الائتمان (كريديت كارت).
- أو عن طريق الدفع أو التحويل المباشر من حسابك المصرفي-ACH.

الامضاء _____التاريخ _____

هاتوا العشور جميعها الى بيت الجزية (ملاخي 10:3)

عندما رأى الأغنياء يتقدمون بتبرعاتهم والأرملة الفقيرة تقدم القليل قال يسوع: *"الحق أقول لكم أن هذه الأرملة الفقيرة قد ألقت أكثر منهم جميعا"* (لوقا 3:21)

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

November 21st

According to Holy Tradition of the Church, the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple took place in the following manner. The parents of the Virgin Mary, Sts Joachim and Anna, praying for an end to their childlessness, vowed that if a child were born to them, they would dedicate it to the service of God.

When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, the holy parents decided to fulfill their vow. They gathered together their relatives and acquaintances, and dressed the All-Pure Virgin in Her finest clothes. Singing sacred songs and with lighted candles in their hands, virgins escorted Her to the Temple (Ps. 44/45:14-15). There the High Priest and several priests met the handmaiden of God. In the Temple, fifteen high steps led to the sanctuary, which only the priests and High Priest could enter. (Because they recited a Psalm on each step, Psalms 119/120-133/134 are called "Psalms of Ascent.") The child Mary, so it seemed, could not make it up this stairway. But just as they placed Her on the first step, strengthened by the power of God, She quickly went up the remaining steps and ascended to the highest one. Then the High Priest, through inspiration from above, led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where only the High Priest entered once a year to offer a purifying sacrifice of blood. Therefore, all those present in the Temple were astonished at this most unusual occurrence.

After entrusting their child to the Heavenly Father, Joachim and Anna returned home. The All-Holy Virgin remained in the quarters for virgins near the Temple. According to the testimony of Holy Scripture (Exodus 38; 1 Kings 1: 28; Luke 2: 37), and also the historian Josephus Flavius, there were many living quarters around the Temple, in which those who were dedicated to the service of God dwelt.

The earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos from Her infancy until She was taken up to Heaven is shrouded in deep mystery. Her life at the Jerusalem Temple was also a secret. "If anyone were to ask me," said St Jerome, "how the Most Holy Virgin spent the time of Her youth, I would answer that that is known to God Himself and the Archangel Gabriel, Her constant guardian."

But there are accounts in Church Tradition, that during the All-Pure Virgin's stay at the Temple, She grew up in a community of pious virgins, diligently read the Holy Scripture, occupied Herself with handicrafts, prayed constantly, and grew in love for God. From ancient times, the Church has celebrated the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple. Indications that the Feast was observed in the first centuries of Christianity are found in the traditions of Palestinian Christians, which say that the holy Empress Helen (May 21) built a church in honor of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple.

St Gregory of Nyssa, in the fourth century, also mentions this Feast. In the eighth century, Sts Germanus and Tarasius, Patriarchs of Constantinople, delivered sermons on this special and blessed Feast of the Entrance.

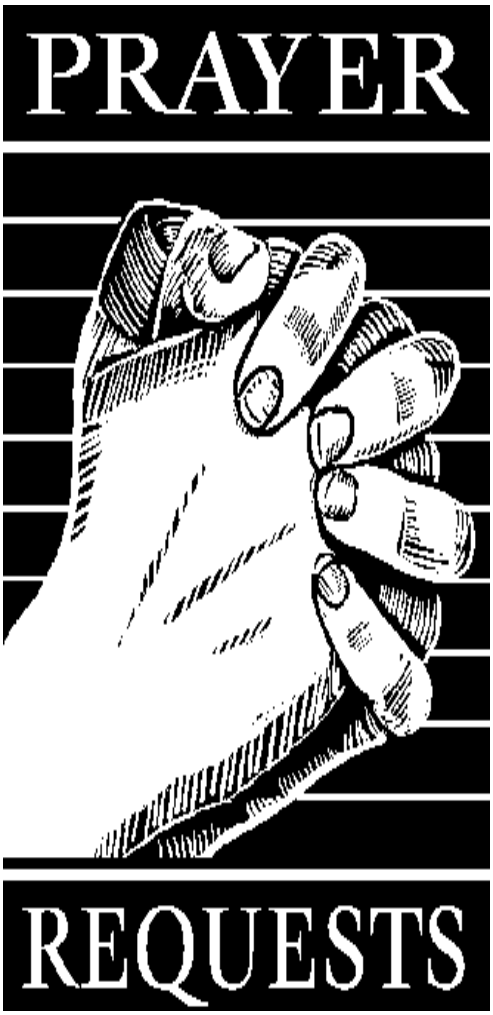
The Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple foretells God's blessing for the human race, the preaching of salvation, the promise of the coming of Christ.

Daily Prayer Life

- For the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Salwa** Abu-Aitah (September 26th), **Samantha** Farah (+September 27th, daughter of Sam and Tracy), **Ty** Gorbutt (+October 1st, friend of Mariann Hayek), and **Najeh** Elias (+October 18th, brother of Ayman).

May their memory be eternal!

- Remember our parishioners and those who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Metropolitan Paul** and **Archbishop John** who are in captivity, **Sahar** Abdallah, **Shafiqa** Abuaitah, **Suheil** and **Abeer** Abuaita, **Anwar** Abueita, **Chelsy** Abufarha, **William** Alsahouri, **Emil** Bathish, **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Jimmy** David, **Vera** Farah, **Elias** Gantos, **Phyllis** Good, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nicola** Khoury, **George** and **Jeanette** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Juliette** Qumseya, **Roger** Saadeh, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** and **Ellis** Salim, **Nicholas** Saseen, **Elaine** Shaheen, and **Michael** Silpoch; *all first-responders and medical personal, those who worked and those who continue to work on a COVID-19 cure, those suffering in our community and the Middle East, the supporters and benefactors of St. George, the members of our Parish Council, Ladies Auxiliary, Teen SOYO, Altar Servers, Altar Society, Chanters, Choir, Church School, OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship), Pre-school Ministry, and Ushers.*



- Remember the servants of God who are with child: **Jasanta** and **Ghassan** Al-Khouri, **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 **Yara** and **Mudaffer** Rishmawi.

  - *Please update Fr. Joe if the following should remain on our prayer list!*

- Remember the friends of St. George parishioners: **Kinan** Turjman (nephew of Sahar Abdallah), **Gerry** Alcorn, **Angelo** and **Chrisodolus** Bastounis, **Heather** Campbell, Chaplain **Mark** and **Marcia** Green, **David** Jordan, **Becky** Meredith, **Zoe** Moore, **Bryan** Stewart, and **Monica** Wotring (family/friends of Fr. Mike and Pam Bassett), **Mariam** Ghanim (mother of Manal Abuaita), **Youssef** and **Georgette** Damouni (parents of Lina Burbar and May Gantos), **Ranna** Esho (friend of Batoul Burbar), **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Nihad** Bannura (cousin of Jane Abu-Eita), **Abdulnour** Hanna (brother of the Hanna, Elias, Joubran families), **Maha** Qassis and **Nadia** Ibrahim (sister/mother of Ziyad), **Shafeka** Qurpan and **George** Ishak (mother/nephew of Amira Hanna), **Joann** (Haddad) Merrelli (former parishioner), **Philip** Jones (brother of Dannie Jones), **Elias** Ibrahim and **Taghrid** (uncle/friend of Rula Alkazaha), **Mary** Khal and **Hanna** Abu-Nimer (relatives of Karam and Aida Nassar), **Scott** Lints (friend of Mary Jo Ghattas), **Tom** Ellenburg (friend of Sally Joseph) **Alan** Laberge and **McKenzie** McClure (friends of Elaine Shaheen), **Saliba** Musleh (father of Julianna Abuaita), **Ibtisam** Odeh (cousin of Elham Ishak), **Megan** Meade and **Casey** Webb (relatives of Bob Teunion), **Sanaa** Alqassis (former parishioner), **Eva** Saseen (daughter of Nicholas), **Averie** Fisher (niece of Doug and Sandy Thomas), **Vicki** Toma (sister of Fr. Joe), **Dominique** Vasquez (friend of Areen Bathish), **Imad** Isaac (friend of St. George), **Nabil** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Gracyn** Haskins and Dr. **Michelle** Borg (granddaughter /daughter of Mike and Nancy Silpoch), **Lan** Kiley (niece of Raji and Sue Salomon), **Shirley** Zerka (mother of Victoria), **Jennifer** Craft and **Brionna** Gorbutt (friends of Mariann Hayek).

Congratulations and God bless:

- **Benan**, **Haneen**, and newborn **Giovanni** Burbar (September 27th).

Announcements

FASTING DISCIPLINE FOR NOVEMBER The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on Wednesdays and Fridays from November 1st until November 14th. On Sunday, November 15th, we begin the traditional forty-day **Nativity Fast** (also called the Christmas or Advent Fast) in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Christ on December 25th. The Fast is divided into two periods. The first period is until December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline *(no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, oil and their by-products)* is observed on all days except Tuesdays and Thursdays when *wine and oil* are allowed and Saturdays and Sundays when *fish, wine, and oil* are allowed. There is no fasting on Thanksgiving Day.

OUR STEWARDSHIP, OFFERINGS, & DONATIONS Though everyone is not attending church due to the pandemic or other reasons, **our stewardship, offerings, and donations are still very badly needed**. PLEASE help our/your parish by continuing to bring or mail your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507. You can also go to our parish website (https://saintgeorgeflint.org/) and donate online.

Sayings of the Saints

"Never leave your house without making the sign of the cross. It will be to you a staff, a weapon, and an impregnable fortress. Neither man nor demon will dare to attack you, seeing you covered with such powerful armor. Let this sign teach you that you are a soldier, ready to combat against the demons, and ready to fight for the crown of justice. Are you ignorant of what the cross has done? It has vanquished death, destroyed sin, emptied hell, dethroned Satan, and restored the universe. Would you then doubt its power?"

St. John Chrysostom (born 347 A.D., passed 407 A.D.)

Our father among the saints **John Chrysostom**, Archbishop of Constantinople, was a notable Christian bishop and preacher from the fourth and fifth centuries in Syria and Constantinople. He is famous for his eloquence in public speaking, his philanthropy, his denunciation of abuse of authority in the Church and in the Roman Empire of the time, and for a Divine Liturgy attributed to him. He had notable ascetic sensibilities. After his death he was named *Chrysostom*, which comes from the Greek Χρυσόστομος, "golden-mouthed." The Orthodox Church honors him as a saint (feast day, November 13th) and counts him among the Three Holy Hierarchs (feast day, January 30th), together with Saints Basil the Great and Gregory the Theologian. Another feast day associated with him is January 27th, which commemorates the event in 437, thirty years after the saint's repose, when his relics were brought back to Constantinople from the place of his death.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS at 2:00AM on Sunday, November 7th. Before going to bed on Saturday, November 6th, please remember to set your clocks BACK (*"fall back"*) one hour.

2021 PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our annual **General Assembly** is scheduled for Sunday, November 14th, immediately following Divine Liturgy. Members in good standing both spiritually (attending church) and in their financial stewardship (offerings to the church) are considered Voting Members and may speak and vote on any non-canonical matter presented at the meeting. Report Packets with Minutes and the Proposed 2022 Budget will be available ONLY at the church. If you are not able to attend church, please call the office and the packet will be mailed to you.

- **GENERAL ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBER** is defined in our Constitution as: *all persons, regardless of sex, eighteen (18) years of age and over, who have been baptized and accepted as members of the Holy Orthodox Church according to its teachings, who accept, profess and practice the faith and discipline of the Holy Orthodox Church and who subscribe to the temporal maintenance of the Parish, through payment of such dues, pledges and assessments.*
- **General Assembly Proxies** are given to those who cannot attend the meeting because of medical treatment or illness, those confined to their homes, or those with written verification of a prior travel commitment. A VOTING member who cannot attend the meeting may have another VOTING member vote on their behalf. PLEASE NOTE: To better our procedures for Proxies, they are available in the church office beginning on Sunday, October 24th and must be returned back to the office by Sunday, November 7th. Proxies received after November 7th will be considered invalid. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of our **Credentials Committee** (Anwar Abueita, Fadi Rishmawi, or Fr. Joe).

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

Our average monthly parishioner offerings (not including other income) needs to be $21,385 to meet our 2021 Budget. Our offerings in September were $14,926 ~ which means we were **short $6,459**! God bless you for your generosity and let us pray God will always provide! We all need to support our church, please fill out your 2022 Offering Form as soon as possible and support the work of God through our parish of St. George.

Coming Events in December

Nativity (Christmas or Advent) **Fast** *continues*
11th **Parish Christmas Program**
25th **Nativity** *(Birth)* **of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ** CHRISTMAS!

- 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.

Namedays, Birthdays and Anniversaries

November 1 to November 30, 2021

Birthdays

November

1 Ayman Khair
2 Batoul Burbar
Wafaa Elias
Nida Ishaq
Feryal Joubran
Nicola "Nick" Khoury
Avery E. Porada
3 Maher Alatrash
Zain Jaraysa
4 Annabella S. Abdallah
Elena E. Rodriguez
5 George AbuAita
Laith G. Maymoun
6 Jillian S. Isaac
7 Zayna D. Andoni
Nimer Iseid
Victoria "Vicky" I. Shamma
8 Salwa Abousamra
Jiries A. Abu-Aitah
Michael T. Bassett
Nisreen G. Rodriguez
9 Daisy A. Isaac
10 Suha E. Abueita
Jeffrey "JP" P. Tipton
11 Ereni Abuaita
Samantha M. Russell
12 Yvette M. Ghantous
13 Brian M. Silpoch
14 Daniel Daoud
George Fanous
15 Issa "Chris" Y. Abu-Eita
Timothy "Tim" S. Beers
Adrian "Anan" Khouri
Christina Mikhail
Danielle Mikhail
17 Adeeb R. Bathish
Marissa L. McCann
Nashwa E. Meshraky
William "Bill" A. Shaheen Jr.
18 Maria J. Ahmed
Majdi Alkazaha
19 Marcellus "Marcello" S. Abufarha
Melissa A. Bathish
Jolie G. Farah
Natalie Kokaly
Yasmeen G. Mitri
Mousa Rishmawi
20 Blanka AbuAita
Daniel Dubon
Mariah E. Tijerina
21 Issa A. Burbar
Farida Dubon
JoAnn M. Hawkins
22 Souria Farah
Amira-Amy N. Helal
23 Adriana R. Abuaita
Khaled P. Abuaita
Issa T. David
24 Sharbel E. Abueita
25 Marcos L. Abuaita
Ramy Abueita
Adam B. Hawwash
Ziyad Ibrahim
27 Husam Khair
28 Mike Abdallah
Sharon L. Abu-Aitah
29 Lindsey C. Bathish
30 Fares Abdallah
Lina A. Elia
Mario Ibrahim
Issa G. Odeh

Namedays

November

6 Leonardo Jaraysa
8 Mike Abdallah
Angel Suheil Abuaita
Ayla (Gabriella) Laith Abuaita
Michael Khaled Abuaita
Michael Anthony Yacoub Abueita
Michael G. M. Alqazaha
Michael T Bassett
Micheline El-Chaer
Michelle Hanan Farah
Michelle Farah
Said Michael Farah
Shane Michael Gantos
Leland "Lee" Michael Harris
Michael Hayek
Mario Ibrahim
Michael Khal
Michael Joseph McCann
Kirolous Michael Meshraky
Michael Mortensen
Angela Eyad Rishmawi
Micheline Russell
Reese Michael Salim
Brian Michael Silpoch
Michael "Mike" Joseph Silpoch
11 Victor Hafez Habbas
Hadil Victor Habbass
14 Khaled Philip Abuaita
Philip Abuaita
Tamer Philip Abuaita
Evan Philip Isaac
15 Habeeb Ghattas
Habib Skafi
16 Matthew Khaled Abuaita
Levi (Matthew) Wesley Cooper
Matthew Wael Hayek
Brendan Matthew Silpoch
Matthew "Matt" Marvin Thomas
25 Laura Catherine Farah
Yasmine "Katie" Kathleen Farah
Katrina L Gagne
Katherine Devahn Joseph
Kathleen "Kathy" Lisa Kudray
Katrin Munir Mitri
Kelly (Katherine) Lynn Sanderson
30 Andrew Majdi Alkazaha
Andres Qumsieh
David Andrew Salim
Nicholas Andrew Shahin

God Grant You All Many Years!

Wedding Anniversaries

November

6 Mr. and Mrs. Nabeel Fakhoury
8 Mr. and Mrs. Ziyad Ibrahim
12 Mr. and Mrs. Salim Farah
16 Mr. and Mrs. Philip Abuaita
19 Mr. and Mrs. Nadim Abu Aita
22 Mr. and Mrs. Maher Abufarha
25 Mr. and Mrs. Laith Maymoun
26 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bator
27 Mr. and Mrs. Roger Isaac

ATTENTION!

If parishioners such as you, a family member, or friend's name does not appear in **THE VOICE** under *Birthdays, Anniversaries, or Namedays*, it is because we do not have your information on our church computer.

Please e-mail our Office Manager, Kelly, at kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com and your name will be added.

God Grant You All Many Years!

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Bible Study 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm	2	3 Arabic/English Bible Study 12-2pm	4	5	6 **Leonard of Noblac** Thanksgiving Dinner Preparation **Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm** Parish Thanksgiving Dinner!
7 **Martyr Thessalonika, Auctos, and Taurion in Amphipolis**	8 **Archangels Michael and Gabriel** Bible Study 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm	9	10 Arabic/English Bible Study 12-2pm	11 **Martyrs Menas of Egypt, Victor and Stephanie of Damascus**	12 **John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria**	13 **Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm**
14 **Apostle Philip** Parish General Assembly	15 **Martyr Habib of Edessa** Bible Study 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm	16 **Apostle Matthew the Evangelist** Altar Society 6pm	17 Arabic/English Bible Study 12-2pm	18	19 **Prophet Obadiah**	20 **Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm**
21 Great Feast of the **Entrance of the Virgin Mary into the Temple**	22 Bible Study 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm	23	24 Arabic/English Bible Study 12-2pm	25 **Great Martyr Katherine the All-Wise of Alexandria** **Give Thanks for all God has blessed us with!**	26	27 **Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm**
28 **Venerable Stephen the New, Confessor for Holy Icons**	29 Bible Study 3-5pm SOYO Monday 6-8pm	30 **Apostle Andrew the First-Called**	1	2	3	4

The **Christmas Fast** (also called the *Nativity or Advent Fast*) begins on November 15th. Please see the **November Fasting Discipline** under *Announcements* for more information!

St. George Orthodox Church
5191 Lennon Road • Flint, Michigan 48507 • (810) 732-0720
V. Rev. Fr. Joseph M. Abud, Pastor
Rev. Fr. Michael Bassett
Web Site: *saintgeorgeflint.org*

Divine Services for the Lord's Day

- Saturday
  - *Great Vespers* **5:00 PM**
- Sunday
  - *Sacrament of Repentance* {Confession*} **8:30 AM—9:30 AM**
  - *Matins* {Arabic & English} **8:50 AM**
  - *Divine Liturgy* **10:00 AM**

Church School: Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, classes are meeting by video conferencing.

* Confessions may also take place by appointment with Father Joe during the week.

Major Feast Days (see Calendar)

2021-22 Theme for Church School, Creative Festivals, and our Parish Life Conference

Parish Council, Departments, & Organizations

PARISH COUNCIL • Fadi Rishmawi, Chairman 810-625-5790 or fadi19@msn.com
Parishioners may attend meetings and speak during "Parishioner Comments".

ALTAR SERVERS • Subdeacon George Gantous, Head Sacristan 810-714-7332 or gantousgeorge@yahoo.com

ALTAR SOCIETY • Theresa Farah, Coordinator 810-412-6041 or theyungwon@aol.com

CHOIR • Elias Abueita, Director 810-620-4897 or eliasabuaita.124@gmail.com

CHURCH SCHOOL • Janet Abueita, Director 810-691-0956 or cooeita@aol.com

LADIES AUXILIARY • Manal Abuaita, President 810-659-5351

TEEN SOYO • President Lana Abu-Aita, (lanaabuaita12@yahoo.com or 810-221-6729)

USHERS • Jimmy David 810-835-9737 and Areen Bathish 810-394-2918 Coordinators

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • Subdeacon Salim Hanna, Parish Coordinator 810-875-3127 or salimh91@gmail.com

Office Manager

Kelly Dotson (kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com); office 810-732-0720