



John W. Lorenz - 12/2001

2160 EAST MAPLE ROAD • TROY, MI 48083 / Office Phone (248)589-0480
V. Rev. Archpriest Joseph Antypas, Pastor / Residence Phone (248)813-0366

The Observer

Issue No. 47

Sunday After the Nativity of Christ

Tone 2

Eothinon 6

Reflection: On the Divine Liturgy The Pure Light

The Epistle has been read. Now it is time for the Gospel. The priest introduces this reading with a prayer that begins: "Illuminate our hearts, O Master, who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge."

As we have already pointed out, the liturgy is not merely a gathering of the faithful around the Lord's

Supper. It is also a gathering about His Word. It is a gathering about the Book in the same way as about the Cup. In the proclamation of the Gospel and the authentic reception of its message, we will find ourselves entering into a living relationship with Him who is the Light of the World.

This Light "shines in the darkness." That means that it is surrounded by darkness and by hostile powers, but nevertheless it cannot be conquered by the night. This affirmation is true for all of the vast world that surrounds us. It is true as well for each one of us. For each of us bears, at each and every moment, a power of darkness as well as a Light that shall never be extinguished.

Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Holy Gospel by opening ourselves to the Light. May this Light, this

knowledge that comes from God and not from our own efforts, this inner Light which is the same that emanated from the Lord Jesus and shone around Him, guide our every step along the pathway! Yes, every step, for there is nothing insignificant in the life of the Spirit. Every letter that I shall write, every conversation I shall have, the use I shall make of the time allotted to me - all of that can be guided by God every bit as much as the great decisions that mean major commitments in my life. And may this Light illumine not only my steps along the pathway willed by God, but the entire spiritual landscape, that each person and each thing might assume the place assigned to it by the divine purpose.

O Thou who art the Light of the World, grant me to advance from illumination to illumination!



Epistle:

**Praises to our God,
sing praises. Verse
Clap your hands, all you
nations.**

*The reading is from Saint Paul's
Letter to the Galatians.
Chapter 1:11-19*

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

(continued on page 2)

Gospel:



Matthew 2:13-23

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you;

(continued on page 2)

Please Pray For The Health And Spiritual Welfare Of:

David Khoury, Nichole Roedding, Michael, Andrew and James Muawad, Mark Mackool, Marion Severs, Fares Fakhoury, Yvonne Holwey, Gladys Solomon, Said Muawad, Minerva Basila, Nour Dahdal, Sue Williams, Rose Baz, Jeannie Packard and Jacque Williams.

Epistle:

(Continued from page 1)

For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus.

Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to visit, Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel...

for Herod is about to search for the child, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more."

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets, might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Contribution : Updates & End of Year Statements

Attention parishioners...You need to update your pledges contributions, Archdiocese dues and other church commitments for the year 2021. We ask that you do so as soon as possible. The 2021 year end statements will be sent out in **January 2022**.

December Parish Council Meeting

The December Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 29th, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

A.J. DESMOND & SONS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

For your family's peace of mind, contact us to begin your advanced planning

Woodward
248-549-0500

Troy • Crooks Rd
248-362-2500

Troy • Rochester Rd
248-689-0700

www.AJDesmond.com



LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER

WaterWorkPlumbing.com

Senior Discounts 248-213-9248
24 Hr. Emergency Service

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

GoldCorp, Inc.

21600 Greenfield Road, Suite 100
Oak Park, Michigan 48237

248-968-1212

Walid Khalife



GRANITE TRANSFORMATIONS
For Kitchens & Baths

248-509-0605

2061 E. Maple Rd.
Troy, MI 48083

248-427-0200

31205 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

LYNCH & SONS

Funeral Directors

"A Family Tradition
of Dignified Service"

www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

1368 North Crooks Road
(1 block south of Maple Rd.)

(248) 435-0660

PERFORMANCE ORTHOPEDICS

James Bicos, M.D.

Orthopedic Surgery
Orthopedic Sports Medicine Surgery
Board Certified, Fellowship Trained

Main Office
24255 W 13 Mile Rd
Ste 100 • Bingham Farms, MI

Troy Office
6905 Rochester Rd
Troy, MI

248-988-8085

www.performanceorthopedics.com



ROYAL OAK
HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRICAL
INSTALLATION • SERVICE • SALES



Electrical • Furnaces • Air Conditioners • Boilers
Humidifiers • Hot Water Heaters • Thermostats

WE OFFER MAINTENANCE PLANS!

Includes cleaning, 10% off parts and NO overtime charges!

Please call our office for more details.

(248) 542-9353

www.royaloakheating.com

10% OR \$20 OFF SERVICE CALL when you mention St. George

(One coupon per customer per service call. Customer must present coupon to salesperson at the time of service. Coupons may not be used in conjunction with any other offers, senior discount or installs of equipment). Exp 02/23/21

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

Vision

Institute of Michigan

SEVAK VALIJAN, M.D.

Cataract Surgery • Premium Lenses • Glaucoma
Macular Degeneration • Diabetic Eye Care

Sterling Heights 586.254.1770
44650 Delco Blvd. • Sterling Hts.

Macomb 586.421.1030
21932 23 Mile Rd. • Macomb

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Larry Burgett** to place an ad today!
lburret@4LPi.com or **(800) 477-4574 x6268**

Troy Family Care



Nada
Hana-Bachuri, MD



Wafa
Barkho, MD



Tessa
Gaggio, PA-C

41069 Dequindre Road, Suite 103 | Troy, MI 48085
t 248-844-4120 | Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ascension Michigan | © Ascension 2021. All rights reserved.

- Supervised weight-loss program available
- Same-day appointments
- Virtual visits/telehealth visits
- Safe in-person care
- Accepting new patients
- Walk-ins welcome

Ascension
Medical Group



2-D-3-2

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

15-0263

Holy Bread Of Oblation

For Sunday, December 26, 2021

- For the health and spiritual welfare of the parishioners of St. George for a healthy & happy New Year of 2022, offered by Dr. Sevak & Christina Valijan.

Coffee & Donuts

- This Sunday's coffee & donuts are offered for the good health of the parishioners of St. George for a healthy & happy New Year of 2022, offered by Dr. Sevak & Christina Valijan.

Special Coffee & Donuts
sponsorship — Cost \$250.00

January 02 - Open

January 09 - Ghassan & Pat Elian

- *Call the church office for sponsorship.*

Christmas Services
Christmas Eve, Friday, Dec. 24th

8:00 PM Matins / 9:00 PM Divine Liturgy

A brunch will be served immediately following the Christmas Eve Service, given by George Semaan & family. May God grant them many years!

Epistle For The Feast
Of The Nativity

**Let all the earth worship you, and sing to you.
Shout with joy to God, all the earth.**

The reading is from Saint Paul's
Letter to the Galatians.
Chapter 4: 4 - 7

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

Gospel For The Feast
Of The Nativity—Christmas
Eve, December 24th

St. Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus therefore was born in Bethlehem of Judaea, in the days of King Herod, behold, there came Wise Men from the east to Jerusalem.

Saying: Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and are come to adore him.

And King Herod hearing this, was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And assembling together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where Christ should be born.

But they said to him: In Bethlehem of Juda. For so it is written by the prophet:

And thou Bethlehem in the land of Juda art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come forth the captain that shall rule my people Israel.

Then Herod, privately calling the wise men, learned diligently of them the time of the star which appeared to them.

And sending them into Bethlehem, said: Go and diligently inquire after the child, and when you have found him, bring me word again, that I also may come and adore him.

Who having heard the king, went their way and behold the star which they had seen in the East, went before them, until it came and stood over where the child was.

And seeing the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And entering into the house, they found the child with Mary his Mother, and falling down, they adored him: and opening their treasures, they offered him gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having received an answer in sleep that they should not return to Herod, they went back another way into their country.

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH
2160 EAST MAPLE
TROY, MI 48083

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WARREN, MICHIGAN
Permit No. 101

Dated Material

THE OBSERVER, Published Weekly,
St. George Orthodox Church, Troy, MI
Issue date and Issue number on cover,
Publication free.

Happy Birthday....

12/26-Michael Gutierrez

12/27- Sana Elias

12/28- Rema Waugh

12/29- Anita Pollock

12/31- Ronald Packard

May the Lord Jesus Christ bestow his blessings upon them

2022 Pledge Envelopes

- The 2022 Pledge Envelope boxes are available in the alphabetical order at the Galleria. Please stop by and pick up yours and the boxes of your family members. If you know of anyone that does not have a pledge number, please let the office know. Thank you.



Welcome

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, under the Primacy of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph, Archbishop of New York and of all North America, and whose auxiliary Bishop is Anthony who resides in Toledo, Ohio The mission of St. George Church is to serve God in the Greater Detroit Area by commitment to the Gospel Command and to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ through faith, hope, and love.

St. George Church follows the faith and practice of the Apostles and Disciples of Christ handed down by the ancient Christian fathers and twenty centuries of Church tradition. Genuine Christian life nurtures and stimulates our spiritual and moral development.

To join the community of St. George of Troy or to find out more information, please give your name, address, and telephone number to one of the ushers. Father Joseph will be happy to contact you and answer any questions. We hope this day will be spiritually rewarding for you. Please join us in the

Do You Know It Costs....

- \$ 60.00 per baptized Soul for Archdiocese dues totaling \$40,000 per year?
- \$6,000.00 a month for utilities alone?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP?

Please use your pledge envelopes regularly and help us meet our challenges.

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL ADDRESSES

St. George website www.stgeorgeoftroy.com.

Father Joseph - father@stgeorgeoftroy.com

Church Office - office@stgeorgeoftroy.com

The Observer - observer@stgeorgeoftroy.com

SOYO - www.sgot.weebly.com

Church: www.stgeorgetroy.weebly.com

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Epistle Readers:

English Reader: Pat Elian

Arabic Reader: Sandy Moussa

***Ushers: Nancy Antypas, Suha & Mina Shammass,
Amanda Jahshan***