

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 29th: The Sunday After the Nativity of Christ
Saturday, January 4th: 5:00 P.M.- Arabic Liturgy
Sunday, January 5th: The Sunday Before Epiphany
1 Year Memorial Service for Nicholas El-Khaouli & Coffee hour at the Parish Center
Sunday, January 12th: The Sunday After Epiphany
1 Year Memorial Service for Florence David
Monday, January 13th, 2014: Bible Study resumes
Tuesday, January 14th: 7:00 P.M.- Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, January 19th: Twenty Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, January 26th: Thirty Second Sunday After Pentecost
Saturday, February 1st: 10:30 A.M.- Baptism of Ellianna Sophia Samra
Sunday, February 2, 2014: Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord
7 year Memorial Service for Christos Theodoridis
General Assembly
Sunday, February 9, 2014: Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican & Leave taking of the Presentation of Our Lord
Sunday, February 16, 2014: Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Sunday, February 23, 2014: Sunday of Meat Fare

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year

Coffee Hour Calendar

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
December 29th:	Nancy & Michael Muller	
January 5, 2014	Fatat El-Khouli	Nicholas El-Khouli (1 year)
January 12, 2014	Briggs & Wehbe Families	Florence David (1 year)
January 19, 2014	Ron & Janice Hallal	Linda Bowab (4 yr.)
January 26, 2014	Fred Kilsey	
February 2, 2014	General Assembly	
February 9, 2014	Albert & Victoria Hallal	
February 16, 2014	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Elias Morcos (Father)

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, December 29, 2013

Sunday After the Nativity, Commemoration of Joseph the Betrothed, David the Prophet and King, and James the Brother of the Lord

Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860
Phone (401) 726-1202 Fax: (401) 729-1203
Web site: <http://stmarypawtucket.org>

Prayerline: prayerline@stmarypawtucket.necoxmail.com

**His Grace Bishop JOHN, Auxiliary and Bishop of the
Diocese of Worcester and New England**

V. Rev. Father Elie Estephan
70 Davis St., Seekonk, MA 02771
Cell- 1-(240) 205-9079

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Orthros (Matins) 8:45 a.m.
Church School 11:15 a.m.

*Enter in Quietness, Rest in Prayer,
Worship in Reverence, Depart in Peace to Serve*

A Note Regarding Holy Communion:

Since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and recent confession may participate in Holy Communion. We invite all, however, to partake of the blessed bread which is distributed at the dismissal. Confessions are heard on Saturdays, before and after Vespers, or by special appointment. The Eucharistic fast begins at midnight on Saturday and ends with the receiving of Holy Communion. Please see Fr. Elie if you have any questions or for inquiries on how to become a full member of the Church.

Prayer Requests and Bulletin News: All prayer requests and articles for the weekly bulletin must be submitted each week by noon Wednesday otherwise the requests and articles will be published the following week. Please use the envelopes provided when requesting prayers. Envelopes are available at the entrance of the Church, downstairs in the Church Hall, or in the Church Office.

View our website — <http://stmarypawtucket.org>

Orthodox Vocabulary

Prayer to the Saints

Prayer to the Saints is encouraged by the Orthodox Church. Why? Because physical death is not a defeat for a Christian. It is a glorious passage into heaven. The Christian does not cease to be a part of the Church at death. God forbid! Nor is he set aside, idle until the Day of Judgment. The True Church is composed of all who are in Christ--in heaven and on earth. It is not limited in membership to those presently alive. Those in heaven with Christ are alive, in communion with God, worshiping God, doing their part in the Body of Christ. They actively pray to God for all those in the Church--and perhaps, indeed, for the whole world. So we pray to the saints who have departed this life seeking their prayers, even as we ask Christian friends on earth to pray for us.

Prayer for the Blessing of the New Year

O Lord our God, who hast established all seasons and times by thine own authority, who art unoriginate and unending, who conceivest existing things beyond all time, who art thyself without change or alteration yet art the fullness of times which have been, which are and are yet to be, who, with ineffable long-suffering, dost vouchsafe us to come to this new year: Do thou thyself O all-good Master, bless the beginning thereof by thy divine grace. Grant gentle showers unto fruitfulness of the earth. Send healthful and seasonable weather for man and beast. Grant us to begin the new year in steadfast peace and harmony, crowned with the glory of earthly good things and, by the light of thy commandments, to graciously pass the days with a seemly disposition, leading a virtuous life. Preserve well our holy Church. Strengthen and confirm by the might of thy hand our nation. Rear the infants, guide the young, support the aged, collect the scattered and unite them to thy holy Church. May thy kingdom come upon us, the kingdom of all the ages, the kingdom of goodness, righteousness and peace. And vouchsafe that, with one mouth and one heart, we may praise and glorify thee, the unoriginate and everlasting God, in Trinity, unto ages of ages.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour today is being offered by Nancy & Michael Muller. Coffee Hour will be held in the Church Hall after Liturgy.



The Twelve Days of Christmas

Please remember that in our Orthodox Christian Tradition, the Great Feast of the Nativity is a 12 day observance that is linked directly to the Great Feast of Theophany, The Baptism of Christ, held on January 6th.

During the 12 days of Christmas there is no fasting, not even on Wednesday and Fridays. This is the true "Time of the Feast", when visitations and family celebrations should occur.

The season of the Feast ends on January 6, with the great blessing of the Waters of Epiphany.



Bible Study

Bible study will resume in January 2014 due to the activities the parish is involved in for the Bazaar. So mark your calendars for THE BIBLE STUDY to start up on Monday, January 13, 2014. Remember to bring your copy of The Orthodox Study Bible for referencing during the Bible Study session.

2014 Church Calendars

The Church Calendars for the new year have arrived. Every family or household is asked to take only one calendar from the Church Hall. Please use the calendars to participate in the liturgical life of the Church.

Sunday, December 29, 2013

Sunday After the Nativity, Commemoration of Joseph the Betrothed, David the Prophet and King, and James the Brother of the Lord

Tone:2 Eothinon:5

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 pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee O Christ thou giver of life glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Sunday after the Nativity: Tone 2

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

Theotokion of the Nativity of Christ: Tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest thou didst come O Lord, glory to thee.

Troparion of the Dormition: Tone 1

"In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in Thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercessions from death Thou dost redeem our souls."

Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ: Tone 3

Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify him; and the Magi with the star travel on their way; for a new child hath been born for our sakes, God before the ages.

Christ is Born, Glorify Him !

Epistle
Galatians 1:11-19

Prokeimenon: Sing praises to our God, sing praises.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel which was prepared 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. For you have heard 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 jealous 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 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.

The Gospel
Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men 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 until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him" And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, 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 dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

A VOTIVE CANDLE IS LIT FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:



Paula Hallal offered by her father, Fred Hallal

Alicia Maurice, offered by her parents Glenn & Donna Maurice

Our Sisters in Christ- wishing that our prayers bring you comfort and health, offered by the Ladies Society Parishioners and their Families who are ill- praying for your comfort and health, offered by St. Mary Parish

Francine and Julie, offered by Louis Slemon

Amy Saulen, offered by Samy and Helen Morcos

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Sgt. Thomas Schillawski, offered by Jim and Beth Schillawski

Peter Marcotte, offered by Edward and Lillian Betor

Violette Habib, offered by Emad Amirhom

Essam Amirhom, offered by Emad Amirhom

Emad Amirhom, offered by Emad Amirhom

Maria Santos, offered by Emad Amirhom

Charles and Nora Abdelahad, offered by Charles and Elaine Agaty

Mark Hashway, offered by Elaine Wilbur

Kevin Hashway, offered by Elaine Wilbur

April Gentes Robert, offered by George & Sandra Matook

Donna Slemon, offered by St. Mary Church

Nabil Khoury, offered by Salwa Khoury

Don & Barbara Aubin, offered by Elaine Swistak

Don & Barbara Aubin, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Nabil Khoury, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Tony & Judy Drazek, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Bryan, Stephanie, Nicholas, Leila, & Emily Chowning, offered by Elaine Gauthier



PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Frances Slemon, offered by Louis Slemon

Stephen Pimental, offered by Lori Pimental

Atalla Amirhom, offered by Emad Amirhom

Labiba Nicola Hanna, offered by Magdy Guirguis

John Swistak, offered by His Loving Family

Ron Gauthier, offered by His Loving Wife

Christopher Gauthier, offered by His Mom

Fred Hashway, offered by Elaine Wilbur

Abraham George, offered by The George Family

Ann Sabby, offered by Marwan, Rosemary, Jihad and Shadia Al-Dajani

Murad & Sophie Laffey, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Joanne Abdalah, offered by Elaine Gauthier

John Swistak, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Sophie Hallal, offered by Elaine Gauthier

Christ is Born, Glorify Him !