

# CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 8th:** Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost  
 Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday  
 Outreach Meeting after Liturgy

**Thursday, December 12th:** 1:00 P.M. Arabic classes at Parish Center  
 7:00 P.M.– Choir Practice

**Sunday, December 15th:** Twenty Ninth Sunday After Pentecost and Sunday of the Forefathers

**Thursday, December 19th:** 1:00 P.M. Arabic classes at Parish Center

**Sunday, December 22nd:** The Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ  
 Sunday School Pageant

**Tuesday, December 24th:** 5:00 P.M.– Christmas Liturgy

**Wednesday, December 25th:** Christmas (church office closed)

**Thursday, December 26th:** 1:00 P.M. Arabic classes at Parish Center

**Monday, January 13th, 2014:** Bible Study resumes

**Sunday, February 2, 2014:** General Assembly



## Coffee Hour Calendar

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
December 8th:	Cathy Wason	
December 15th:	Bassam & Pauline Khabbaz	
December 22nd:	Sunday School Pageant	
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	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Elias Morcos (Father)

# SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, December 8, 2013*

*Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost*

## *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](mailto: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*

### **Iconostasis**

Screen of ICONS separating the ALTAR from the NAOS in Byzantine rite churches. The haikal screen dividing the sanctuary or haikal from the nave of a Coptic church may be of carved wood or may take the form of an iconostasis. In Byzantine churches, larger screens usually have three doors: a northern leading to the PROTHESIS, a southern to the DIAKONIKON, and the central holy doors, the gates leading into the sanctuary. Small chapels, as in Athonite monasteries, often have only a central and a north door. Small, low screens may have just the central doors, or a hanging curtain. ( ROYAL DOORS). Icons were being hung on the sanctuary barrier by the sixth century and on the VLADIMIR Dormition cathedral of 1408 Andrei RUBLEV and Daniil Cherny added a tier of prophets. In the seventeenth century another two rows were added. Only ordained clergy may use the holy doors. In the case of a Byzantine rite priest he must be wearing at least EPITRACHELION and PHELONION, a deacon the STICHARION and ORARION. Coptic Orthodox clergy entering the haikal remove their shoes before doing so. The word iconostasis has a second use to describe the domestic icon stand used in many private houses.

Those things we don't have the strength to perform on our own, we can accomplish easily through persevering prayer. For we have the duty to pray without ceasing. Those in pain and those spared from pain must pray. So must those in danger and those in prosperity. For those who have ease and wealth must pray that these things may never change. Those in pain and in danger must pray that some favorable change will come to them, so that they may move into a comfortable, calm state.

~ Saint John Chrysostom



### **Christmas Ornaments**

Christmas Ornaments that were at the bazaar are for sale- \$15 each.  
(Nativity, St. George, St. Patrick) See Cindy Hayes at the Coffee Hour Sunday.



## **Attention All Teens**

*(12 years and older)*

**\*\*\* Come and join The St. Mary Teen SOYO Youth Group \*\*\***

We are now asking for your help again. We have adopted 4 families and 5 foster children for the Christmas Holiday. We are looking for monetary donations so that the teens can go out and purchase items and gift cards to be delivered to these families. Please give your donation to a Teen or Nancy Muller. **Please make your donation by December 8th!!**

### **YES Bridgeport, CT– December 13th-15th**

**When:** Friday, December 13th– Sunday, December 15th

**What?** A wonderful opportunity to serve and love our most needy neighbors in Bridgeport, CT.

**Who?** 8th grade (or 13 years old), through 12th grade.

**Where?** 5pm at Holy Ghost Orthodox Greek Church in Bridgeport, CT. Pick up will be after Liturgy on Sunday.

**Cost?** A registration gift of \$150 a person will cover all trip expenses, make it possible for the YES program to prepare and execute the trip, and enable our service team to meet the needs of those we serve. Scholarships are available!

**To register:**

<http://yesnorthamerica.org/upcoming-trips/yes-bridgeport-ct-december-13-15-2013>

**Sunday, December 8, 2013**

**Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Tone:7**

**Eothinon:2**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 7**

Thou didst shatter death by thy Cross; thou didst open paradise to the thief; thou didst turn the mourning of the ointment-bearing women into joy, and didst bid thine Apostles proclaim warning that thou hast risen, O Christ, granting the world Great Mercy.

#### **Troparion of St. Patapios: Tone 8**

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Father, for thou didst take up the cross and followed Christ! By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh for it passes away, but to care instead for the soul since it is immortal. Therefore thy spirit, Holy Father Patapios, dost rejoice with the angels!

#### **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 Prepartory for the Nativity of the Theotokos: Tone 2**

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word before the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest, and glorify with the angels and shepherds him who shall appear by his own will as a new babe, being God before the ages.



**Epistle**  
**Eph. 2:14-22**

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

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

BRETHREN, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the diving wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**The Gospel**  
**Luke 13:10-17**

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, and daughter of Abraham who Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

**The Parish Council has adopted a Fee schedule for the following services:**

**Baptism:** Member- \$100  
Non-Member- \$200

**Wedding:** Member- \$300  
Non-Member- \$600

*(Plus offering to clergy & cost of choir)*

Parish Council President: Edward Ayoub

**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.



**E-mail Addresses**

The Church office is compiling a list of parishioner email addresses to make it easier to communicate with our members of St. Mary Parish. Please help us in getting our list updated as soon as possible. The church e-mail address is [prayerline@stmarypawtucket.necoxmail.com](mailto:prayerline@stmarypawtucket.necoxmail.com)

## Church News & Organization Activities

### St. Mary Liturgical Choir

The St. Mary Liturgical Choir welcomes new members to join its Ministry of Sacred Music. Anyone interested in joining the choir (whatever their level of musical experience) is asked to contact the choir directress Mrs. Yaraslava Klinovsky tel:(401)272-7776 or email [yklinovskiy@gmail.com](mailto:yklinovskiy@gmail.com). The next choir rehearsal will be held on Thursday, December 12th at 7:00 P.M.

### CHOIR APPRECIATION SUNDAY

On December 8th, the second Sunday of the month, our Antiochian Archdiocese is celebrating Choir/Chanter Appreciation Sunday. We appreciate our choir and chanters many other times throughout the year, for all the liturgical services they beautify and make possible with their singing and chanting. This Sunday we especially acknowledge them particularly throughout the Archdiocese, and thank them for their ministry in the parish.

**2013 Christmas Concert:** This year, our Diocesan Choir will participate in the first "Orthodox Christmas around the World" concert at the Malliotis Center in Brookline on Sunday, December 15 at 4pm. This is a pan-Orthodox effort organized by Holy Cross Seminary featuring choirs from different jurisdictions.

Rehearsals will be at St. John of Damascus in Dedham:

- Sunday, December 8, 4pm-6pm (\*\*note date change\*\*)
- Thursday, December 12, 7pm-9pm (Dress Rehearsal)

If you would like to sing, or for more info, contact Charlie Marge ([marge@alum.mit.edu](mailto:marge@alum.mit.edu))

### Arabic Liturgy

Arabic Liturgy is being offered the first Saturday of each month at 5:00 P.M. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### Arabic Classes

Arabic classes will be given by Khouria Ruba are held every Thursday at 1:00pm at the Parish Center. Anyone interested is asked to call the church office at (401) 726-1202

### 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

Nabil Khoury, offered by Salwa Khoury

Joseph, Rebecca, Joseph, & Elliana Samra, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra

Keith, Marlene, & Madelyn Marshall, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra

Louise Kadejian, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra

Albert Hamwey, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra

The Kandalaf Family, offered by Elias and Mary Kandalaf

The Hallal Family, offered by Elias and Mary Kandalaf

Steve, Elaina, Isabelle, and newly born child of God, Elizabeth Katherine Zabak, offered by George and Sandra Matook



**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  
Stella Papnikolas, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra  
Thelma Cazonie, offered by Joe and Marlene Samra  
Stella Papnikolas, offered by Philip and Bette Ayuoub  
Stella Papnikolas, offered by Philip G. Ayoub  
Joyce Kandalraft (5 year Memorial), offered in loving memory by her Father and Mother  
The Kandalraft Family, offered by Elias and Mary Kandalraft  
The Hallal Family, offered by Elias and Mary Kandalraft



**St. Mary Needs You!**

Preparations for our annual elections are underway. St. Mary is looking for committed and motivated pledging members to run for the 5 elected seats we have open in 2014.

Interested members should contact a member of the nomination committee. Please consider serving your church! St. Mary needs you!

The Nomination Committee

Fr. Elie, Ed Ayoub, Salwa Khoury, Holly Lazieh, Maureen Gurghigian & Joe Samra



**2012 Christmas Concert CD's**

Announcing the release of the 2012 Christmas Concert recording by the Choir and Chanters of our Diocese.



They make great Christmas gifts!  
Available December 15th. CD's \$10

See Yaraslava (choir directress) to reserve your copy!



**St. Mary Church School News**

**Attention All Parents:** Please bring your children to the Liturgy before Church School. Church School starts every Sunday following communion (Approx. 11:15am).

We are preparing for our Sunday School Pageant which will take place on **Sunday the 22nd**. Sunday school dismissal will be 12:30 during the next few weeks as we prepare for the Pageant.

## Christmas Liturgy

Christmas Liturgy this year will be on December 24th at 5:00 P.M.



### Our Coffee Hours are under new management!

The Parish Council has decided to implement a new system to organize our coffee hours. There are two ways to handle this: when a couple, family, or an individual decides to sponsor the coffee hour, you may do it on your own which entails purchasing the pastry & juice, making the coffee, setting up the table, and cleaning up.

The second option is to donate \$ 75.00 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.

If you would like to sponsor a coffee hour, please speak with Fr. Elie at church or call him at: (240)-205-9079 and call Beth Schillawski at: (508)-339-0946.

**\*\*Please make check to St. Mary Church for coffee sponsorship and earmark "Coffee Hour".\*\***

### Assessment Fee

The St. Mary Parish Council wishes to kindly remind the Faithful to send in their Archdiocese Assessment of \$125 made out to St. Mary Church. Please help us to be able to meet our obligations to the Archdiocese.

### ONLINE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is now available online on our website at:  
<http://stmarypawtucket.org>

THE MOST REVEREND  
METROPOLITAN PHILIP

ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND  
METROPOLITAN OF ALL  
NORTH AMERICA



The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
OF NORTH AMERICA

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December 8, 2013

### **Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday**

*"I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being." (Psalm 103:33-34)*

Beloved Clergy, Parish Councils and Faithful of our Archdiocese:

We greet you during this holy season of the Nativity Fast as we prepare to celebrate the coming of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh, praying that you are all in good health.

On the second Sunday in December each year we honor our choir members and chanters in appreciation for their dedication and commitment to the beauty of our church services each year. This year, that Sunday falls on December 8, 2013.

Whether at the Divine Liturgy, vespers, orthros, sacraments or various other services of the Church, they give of their time and talents to offer up glory to God. Can we imagine one of our beautiful services without our choirs or chanters? Let us therefore honor them by doing something special, praying for their good health and thanking them on this day for their special offering as part of the body of Christ. Let us also use this Sunday to encourage our people to participate more fully in the divine services by joining the choirs and chanters in offering up our prayers to the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Wishing you and your families a blessed Fast and a most joyous feast of our Lord's Nativity, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+Metropolitan PHILIP, Primate  
The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

*"...the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." ACTS 11:26*

## ST IGNATIUS MONTH

The month of December every year is designated as Order of St. Ignatius month, in conjunction with the feast day of St. Ignatius on December 20. The Order is the philanthropic arm of the Antiochian Archdiocese and one of its most vital lay ministries, under the guidance of Metropolitan Philip and the Archdiocese Board of Trustees. Currently, there are nearly 4,000 members supporting approximately 38% of the Archdiocese's budget, as well as a host of other worthy causes including: camping and college conference scholarships, married seminarian assistance, Antiochian Village, Teen SOYO Special Olympics, theological and religious education, clergy retirement, Project Mexico, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), The Treehouse Family Ministry, and Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF).

Member of the Order of St. Ignatius will be serving as readers and ushers throughout the month.



## Christmas Card

Once again the holiday season is upon us, and, once again, it is time to start thinking about sending Christmas cards to those with whom we worship and love. Every year the choir sponsors a card which is sent to every family in our parish—sending best wishes for a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year. This letter is to ensure that all parish members are approached and have an opportunity to participate in the Christmas card being prepared—we do not wish to overlook anyone! Your holiday wishes will be sent to all parishioners. This is a wonderful way to be remembered by our community during this busy season—it is also an inexpensive and easy way to have your card sent to all your friends and relatives. All proceeds go into the choir fund, which is our only source of revenue to continue to upgrade our supplies and continue to provide you with meaningful liturgical music. In order to be listed in this year's card, your response must be received no later than Sunday, December 8th. If there are any questions, or if you wish to give your response and donation in person, please contact the church office. Thank you for helping us in this endeavor. All of us in the choir sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

## Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour today is being sponsored by Cathy Wason. Coffee hour will be held in the church hall today after Liturgy.



The Outreach Committee will be meeting after Liturgy today in the Church Hall during Coffee Hour.

## St. Mary Parish Bookstore

Many beautiful Orthodox religious items are available from the St. Mary Parish bookstore and display case. These include a new collection of Icons, Christmas and greeting cards, Liturgical music CD's, prayer books, coloring books, Crosses and Orthodox Bibles. These make wonderful gifts and reflect the *Tradition of our Orthodox Faith*. All proceeds benefit the general fund of the Church. Please see Fr. Elie if you wish to purchase these gifts.

New Study Bibles have arrived and are available for purchase - \$40.



## Prayer Line

St. Mary ~ Internet Prayer Line

Prayer requests can be sent to us via the internet at

**[prayerline@stmarypawtucket.necoxmail.com](mailto:prayerline@stmarypawtucket.necoxmail.com)**

All requests must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that week's bulletin. Any requests received after that time will be included in the following week's bulletin.