

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, February 1st:** Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican & Pre-Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple  
Extra Tray Collection for "Souper Bowl"  
12:00 P.M.– Parish General Assembly at the Parish Center

**Monday, February 2nd:** 7:00 P.M.– Ladies Society Meeting

**Sunday, February 7th:** 10:30 A.M.- Baptism of Amelia Belle Marshall

**Saturday, February 14th:** 5:00 PM- Arabic Liturgy  
Family Retreat at St. John of Damascus, Dedham

**Saturday, February 28th:** Antiochian Women Diocese Meeting at St. John of Damascus, Dedham

**Saturday, March 7th:** 5:00 PM- Arabic Liturgy

**Sunday, March 8th:** Dinner at Parish Center to benefit NAB Project

**Tuesday, March 24th:** 7:00 P.M.– Vespers & Liturgy: Annunciation of The Theotokos

*77th Parish Life Conference*  
*June 18th-21st*

### ONLINE BULLETIN

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

### Cemetery Plots

If you wish to purchase a cemetery plot at Walnut Hill Cemetery, the cost is \$1,000. Please contact Ed Ayoub for more information or to purchase a plot.

## SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, February 1, 2015*

**Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican & Pre-Feast  
of the Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple**

## *Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church*

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

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

**V. Rev. Father Elie Estephan  
395 Brown St.-Unit 2, Attleboro, MA 02703  
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 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*

### **Sign of the Cross**

Sign of the Cross- Orthodox Christians, from the very first days of the faith, have used the Sign of Christ's Cross as a blessing. We make the Sign of the Cross by joining our thumb and first two fingers, touching our forehead, right shoulder, and then the left. The three fingers that we touch together represent the Holy Trinity and the two fingers we touch to the palm of our hand represent the divine and human natures of Christ, in that He was both God and man. Bishops and priests bless others with the "Christogram" making the sign of Christ with their right hands. It is customary for any Orthodox Christian to bless children, food, or oneself placing the person or object in the "Sign of Our Lord." A traditional Orthodox practice is when parents make the Sign of the Cross (often with an icon or Handcross) over a child, particularly if the child is about to take a journey, go off to college, or get married

Pray like a child, in simplicity of heart, concerning all your needs and sorrows. And entrust yourself to God's will. For the Lord arranges our salvation.

~Saint Nikon



### **2015 Church Calendars**

We have beautiful Church Calendars now available for sale for the 2015 year. Please participate in this worthwhile fundraiser for our Church, give as a gift— or for your own use. The calendars are \$10. If you wish to purchase a calendar, please see Fr. Elie.

### **Arabic Educational Foundation Scholarship**

The Arabic Educational Foundation is now taking applications for the 2015 school year. Applicants of Arabic descent that are enrolled full-time as an undergraduate student are eligible to apply. Applications and Scholarship Eligibility Requirements may be picked up at the Church Office or see Fr. Elie for an application.

## Coffee Hour Sponsorships

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 call the church office and speak with Sheryl.*

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

| <u>Date:</u>   | <u>Sponsored by:</u>        | <u>Sponsored for:</u>               |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| February 1st   | Ayoub Family                | Naseem Ayoub (1 year)               |
| February 8th*  | Catherine Wason             | Health of Family                    |
| February 15th* | Fatat Elkhoul               | Sub-Deacon Nicholas Elkhoul         |
| February 22nd* | Edward & Mona Bakleh        | Health of Family                    |
| March 1st      | Massiwer Family             | John Massiwer (15years)             |
| March 8th      | <i>Antiochian Women</i>     | NAB Project Luncheon                |
| March 15th     | <i>Antiochian Women</i>     | <i>Metropolitan PHILIP (1 year)</i> |
| March 22nd     | William Salhany & Family    | Ruth Salhany (5 years)              |
| March 29th     | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| April 5th      | <i>No Coffee Hour</i>       | Palm Sunday                         |
| April 12th     | <i>No Coffee Hour</i>       | Pascha                              |
| April 19th     | Nora Abelahad & Family      | Charles Abdelahad (1 year)          |
| April 26th     | Fred Hallal & Family        | Sophie Hallal (5 years)             |
| May 3rd        | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| May 10th       | Mother's Day                |                                     |
| May 17th       | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| May 24th       | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| May 31st       | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| June 7th       | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| June 14th      | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| June 21st      | Father's Day                |                                     |
| June 28th      | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| July 5th       | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| July 12th      | <i>Open for sponsorship</i> |                                     |
| July 19th      | Elias Morcos (son)          | Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos            |

**Sunday, February 1, 2015**

## **Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican & Pre-Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord into the Temple**

**Tone: 1 Eothinon: 1**

### **Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 1**

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

### **Troparion of the Forefeast of the Presentation: Tone 1**

(\*\*The soldiers standing guard\*\*)

The Heavens' choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement the First-born of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, astonished and full of awe.

### **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 Forefeast of the Presentation: Tone 4**

(\*\*On this day Thou hast appeared\*\*)

On this day in purest thought with hearts embrace Him as in arms receive the Lord, as He maketh now His sojourn, O ye the faithful and bring to Him in songs your offerings of prefeastal praises.

## THE EPISTLE

*Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)**

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## TEEN SOYO NEWS

- ◆ The Antiochian Women of our diocese have organized the 2nd Annual Family Day, which will occur on February 14th at St. John's Church in Dedham (300 West St). This day is dedicated to the edification and teaching of our families with age-based sessions, services, and fellowship.
- ◆ We teens will have our own workshops, where we will talk about how to develop romantic relationships. These sessions will mirror our traditional diocesan Youth Day. It will be a relaxing day of learning, fellowship, and fun, so we hope to see many of you there.
- ◆ Attending Family Day is free if you are under 18, but we do need a head count for the sake of food preparation. Please RSVP to this event by emailing us at [newenglandteen-soyo@gmail.com](mailto:newenglandteen-soyo@gmail.com), so we can ensure you are fed. We hope to see many of you there. Also, be sure to encourage your parents and relatives to attend for their own adult workshops.
- ◆ On another note, save the date for our Winter Diocesan Meeting on Saturday, February 28th. We'll send you more details about the event soon, so add it to your calendars!

### Antiochian Village Summer Camp

Camp Registration is open! Come make friendships that will last a lifetime and make memories you will never forget!! Most New England campers attend the 2nd session, which is [from June 28th to July 10th](#). Our campers will travel with a contingent from Boston and Worcester with at least [one chaperone from St. Mary](#). The local chapter of the Order of St. Ignatius helps defray transportation costs. Camp Scholarships are available, please see Father Elie if you would like to apply. Visit [www.avcamp.org](http://www.avcamp.org) to register today! Volunteers that are interested may also apply through the website. Last year most spots were filled before the end of February so don't delay. Following is a list of all the camp sessions for 2015:



Session 1 (2 weeks) - [June 14 - 26](#)

Session 1 (1 week) - [June 14 - 21](#)

Session 2 (2 weeks) - [June 28 - July 10](#)

Session 3 (2 weeks) - [July 12 - 24](#)

Session 4 (2 weeks) - [July 26 - Aug 7](#)

## Valentine Hafle



St. Mary Parish Center  
Tickets: \$50/Adult ~ \$25/ under 12  
Saturday, February 7th

Enjoy an evening of music, dabke, and enchanting voice of Salah Kurdi & his band  
Doors open @ 7:30pm ~ Dinner @ 8:00pm

**Tickets and Reservations- contact Fr. Elie (240) 205-9079 / Tony Kabak (401) 744-6317**

## Parish Center

*Effective immediately:*

The Parish Center building is now alarmed. Do NOT enter the building if you do not know the access code—*Alarm will sound.* If anyone is still in possession of a key to the Parish Center, please see Ed Ayoub or Scott Barnes.



## Ladies Society Meeting

The next Ladies Society Meeting will be held Monday, February 2nd at 7:00pm.

(weather permitting)

# Diocese of N.E. upcoming events

- ◆ **Sunday, March 1st at 5:00 P.M.– St. Mary Church, Pawtucket:** Hosting Sunday of Orthodoxy -Vespers and refreshments following Liturgy at the Parish Center
- ◆ **April 22nd at 10:30 A.M.– St. Mary Church, Pawtucket:** Hosting RI Clergy Meeting/Luncheon



## One-Year Memorial Service



Today, a One Year Memorial Service is being offered by The Ayoub Family for the repose of the soul of *Naseem Ayoub*. Following the service, a Memorial Luncheon will be offered by the Ayoub Family at the Parish Center.

***May God grant him peace and may his memory be eternal!***

### **PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

April Gentes Robert  
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook

Jacob Khoury  
Offered by: Mr. & Mrs. Faraj Freij

Ayoub Family  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Elaine Gauthier

Ann Ayoub  
Offered by: Charles & Elaine Agaty  
Nora Abdelahad

Geoffrey Ayoub  
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook

Melanie Kilsey & Patrick Merner  
Steve & Patricia Kilsey  
Elaine Wilbur  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra

Elaine Wilbur  
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Marc & Lisa Parent  
Offered by: Ed & Sue Ayoub

Charles Agaty  
Offered by: Victoria Hammond

Raymond Trabulsi  
Offered by: Leila, Tom & David & Families

Ann & Geoffrey Ayoub  
Philip, Bette & Philip G. Ayoub

Edward, Sue & Lisa Ayoub  
David Trabulsi  
Offered by: Ray & Leila Trabulsi

Robert Shwaery  
Alexander Silva  
Lily & Violet Dvelis  
Layla & Lucas Melcher  
Mark Hashway  
Sam & Kay Matook  
Offered by: Fred, Adele & Robert Shwaery

Ann, Geoffrey & Michael Ayoub  
Philip, Bette & Philip G. Ayoub  
Ed and Sue Ayoub & Family  
Offered by: Cindy, George & Michael Antypas

Philip, Bette & Philip G. Ayoub  
Ed and Sue Ayoub  
Lisa and Marc Parent  
Ann, Geoff & Michael Ayoub  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Ayoub

Ann Ayoub & Family  
Philip & Bette Ayoub & Family  
Edward & Suzanne Ayoub  
Barbara Aubin & Family  
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Edward & Lillian Betor  
Peter Marcotte  
Thomas & Lynn Marcotte  
Paul & Kerrie Betor  
Matthew & Adrienne Dykstra  
Laurice Zambie  
William & LaVerne Ameen  
Great-Granddaughters Joelle & Rose Dykstra  
Offered by: Ed & Lillian Betor



**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Michelle Kilsey  
Fred Kilsey  
Offered by: John Salhany

Houda Gammal  
George Capaldi  
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Naseem Ayoub  
Offered by: Ed & Sue Ayoub  
Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Nancy Penta & Family  
Charles & Elaine Agaty  
Nora Abdelahad  
George & Sandra Matook  
Elaine Gauthier  
Joe & Marlene Samra  
Susan Warzycha, Al Delpape & Family  
Samy & Helen Morcos

Nora David  
Leon Hattab  
Offered by: Ray & Leila Trabulsi

Donald Aubin  
Naseem Ayoub  
Assad & Mary Ayoub  
Offered by: Philip, Bette & Phil G. Ayoub

Naseem Ayoub  
Michelle Kilsey  
Fred Hashway  
Christopher Gauthier  
Offered by: Fred, Adele & Robert Shwaery

Naseem Ayoub  
Assad & Mary Ayoub  
Offered by: Cindy, George & Michael Antypas

Naseem Ayoub  
Donald Aubin  
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

George Matook  
Offered by: Victoria Hammond

Ameen and Nayfey Sabath  
Petros and Afife Betor  
Helen Betor  
Fred Sabath  
Fred "Fritzie" and Jimmy Sabath  
Offered by: Ed and Lillian Betor

Naseem Ayoub  
Assad & Mary Ayoub  
Offered by: Cindy, George & Michael Antypas



The 40 Day Memorial Service for Houda Gammal will be held on Sunday, February 8, 2015 at Sts. Anargyroi Greek Orthodox Church, 9 Central Street, Marlborough, MA.

We would like to thank all of you— our St. Mary's Family— for all your prayers, thoughts and well wishes during my surgery. Thanks to the Lord and all of you as my recovery continues to go well.

Warmly,  
Samy & Helen Morcos



**2015 St. Mary Parish General Assembly**

*Today, following Liturgy, our Parish General Assembly will be held at the St. Mary Parish Center.*

Please remember that only those who are in "Good Standing" may attend and be full voting members. Membership in "good standing" refers to those faithful who are supporting the Church through their regular Christian Stewardship Pledges and who are regular and consistent in their sacramental participation in the life of the Church (this includes their attendance at Divine Liturgy). Please consult Fr. Isaac if you have any questions concerning the criteria of "membership in good standing".

During the meeting, the 2015 budget will be presented, along with our church organizations reports and election of our new Council Members.

*May God Bless and Preserve St. Mary Church.*



**Feast of The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in The Temple**

**Troparion of the Feast, Tone:1**

*"Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace; for from Thee arose the sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the deliverer of our souls, who granteth us the resurrection."*

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE. Presenting a child to God forty days after its birth originated in the Jewish faith and continues to this day in Orthodox. John the Baptist's father, Zacharias, was the chief priest of the temple and he had the Theotokos stand in the place of the maidens in the temple and not in the area of the married women. A man named Symeon was directed by the Holy Spirit to go and see Jesus in the temple that day. The Holy Spirit told him. "That he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ." And Symeon said. "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word for my eyes have seen Your salvation." It was said that he was about 250 years old. Then Anna, who was a prophetess and a widow of about eighty-four years of age, saw Jesus, "and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem." Soon after, an angel of God directed Joseph to take Jesus and the Theotokos into Egypt to escape Herod's soldiers who were sent to kill the baby Jesus.