

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**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 & Luncheon

**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

Date:

Sponsored by:

Sponsored for:

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 15, 2013*

*Twenty Ninth Sunday After Pentecost and  
Sunday of the Forefathers*

## *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*

### **Sacrament**

**Sacrament:** the possibility of “belonging to Christ,” of “participating in divine life,” is essentially revealed in the sacraments. These are ritual acts, aspects of the unique mystery which is the Church, in which God shares divine life with humanity, ransoming man from sin and death. The sacraments, as well as all liturgical celebrations, are not, and should not become, refuges from life, religious acts performed in the “spiritual” domain and totally cut off from daily life. The sacraments (*mysteria* in Greek) are acts of the Holy Spirit which unite humanity to Christ; they are thus privileged moments in our personal relationship with God, moments which create a vital link between him and us.

The chief sacraments are: baptism, chrismation, the eucharist, repentance (with confession and absolution), and laying on of hands (ordination), marriage, and the anointing of the sick.

*What are we to do then, my friends? We must bestow our love on our brothers and sisters. We must not allow any malice at all to remain in our hearts. May almighty God have regard for our love of our neighbor, so that He may pardon our iniquities! Remember what He taught us: Forgive, and you will be forgiven. People are in debt to us, and us to them. Let us forgive them their debts, so that what we owe them may be forgiven.*

*~St. Gregory the Great*



### **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.



**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.



**Coffee Hour**

Coffee Hour today is being sponsored by Bassam & Pauline Khabbaz. Coffee hour will be held in the church hall today after Liturgy.



**Sunday, December 15, 2013**

**Twenty Ninth Sunday After Pentecost and  
Sunday of the Forefathers**

**Tone:8 Eothinon:3**

**Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 3**

From the heights thou didst descend O Compassionate One, and thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to thee.

**Troparion of the Forefathers: Tone 2**

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 St. Eleutherios : Tone 4**

Thou hast become like the Apostles in their states, a successor to their throne, finding indeed the intelligential ladder, O thou God-inspired. Therefore, thou hast followed the Word of God in righteousness, and striven unto blood for the Faith. O Martyr among Priests, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

**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 Col. 3:4-11**

O Lord, how magnificent are your works.  
You have made all things in wisdom.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

## **The Gospel Luke 14:16-24**

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.' So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, 'none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.'"

## **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).

**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.



### **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



### 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

### 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.



### **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).

### **Sunday, December 22nd Sunday School Pageant & Christmas Party**

Following the pageant everyone is welcome to attend the luncheon being prepared by Elias Baalbaki. Santa will also be joining us at the Christmas party. He will be bringing presents for all the ***SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN***. If you have a child not in church school please bring a small wrapped gift (labeled) to the parish center and place it under the tree.

### **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  
George & Sandra Matook, offered by Charles and Elaine Agaty  
Steve, Elaina, Isabelle & the newborn child of God Elizabeth Katherine Zaback, offered by Charles and Elaine Agaty



Steve, Elaina, Isabelle & the newborn child of God Elizabeth Katherine Zaback, offered by Charles and Nora Abdelahad  
George & Sandra Matook, offered by Charles and Nora Abdelahad  
Mark Hashway, offered by Elaine Wilbur  
Kevin Hashway, offered by Elaine Wilbur  
April Gentes Robert, offered by George & Sandra Matook  
Nabil Khoury, offered by Salwa Khoury  
Mitch, Dawn, Dean, & Kristen Hallal, offered by Georgette Hallal  
Hallal & Sackall Families, offered by Georgette Hallal  
Kim Nassaney Culpan, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
Joe , Rebecca, Joseph & Ellianna Samra, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
Keith, Marlene & Madelyn Marshall, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
Louise Kadejian, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
Albert Hamwey, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
George & Connie Matook, offered by Albert & Victoria Hallal  
John & Lorna Hallal, offered by Albert & Victoria Hallal  
Mary Massiwer & Family, offered by Albert & Victoria Hallal  
Joseph & Rebecca Samra & Newborn Daughter, offered by Albert & Victoria Hallal  
Mary Massiwer & Family, offered by Julia Vale  
William and Louise Osborn & Family, offered by Julia Vale  
Nora Matook & Family, offered by Julia Vale  
All my Nieces & Nephews and their Families, offered by Julia Vale  
Bryan, Stephanie, Nicholas, Leila & Emily Chowning, offered by Elaine Gauthier  
Joe, Rebecca, Joseph and Ellianna Samra, offered by Elaine Gauthier  
Mary Masry & Family, offered by Samy & Helen Morcos  
Grace Baron, offered by Samy & Helen Morcos  
Richard Spratt, offered by Samy & Helen Morcos

**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  
George Hallal (12 years), offered by Georgette Hallal  
All deceased Family, In-laws, and Friends, offered by Georgette Hallal  
Sophie Hasllal, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
Joyce Kandalaft, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
Ronald Gauthier, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
Christopher Gauthier, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
John Swistak, offered by Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint  
Robert Vale, offered by George and Sandra Matook & Family  
Stella Papanikolas, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
Thelma Cagonie, offered by Joe & Marlene Samra  
Stella Papanikolas, offered by Patricia Nazarian  
Robert Vale, offered by Julia Vale  
Toofic and Elizabeth Matook, offered by Julia Vale  
John, Helen, Florence and Olga Matook, offered by Julia Vale  
Issa Dabbas, offered by Samy & Helen Morcos  
Ameen and Naifey Sabath, offered by Edward & Lillian Betor  
Petros and Afife Betor, offered by Edward & Lillian Betor  
Helen Betor, offered by Edward & Lillian Betor  
Fred Sabath, offered by Edward & Lillian Betor  
Fred “Fritzie” and Jimmy Sabath, offered by Edward & Lillian Betor



**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!



**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>