

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 7th:** Twenty Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

40 Day Memorial Service for George Matook

**Saturday, December 13th:** 5:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

**Sunday, December 14th:** Twenty Ninth Sunday After Pentecost & Sunday of the Forefathers

40 Day Memorial Service for James Karneeb

**Tuesday, December 16th:** 6:00 P.M.– Parish Council Dinner / Meeting

**Wednesday, December 17th:** Ladies Annual Christmas Party at The Stadium Theatre

**Sunday, December 21st:** The Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ  
Sunday School Pageant

**Wednesday, December 24th:** 6:00 P.M.– Christmas Liturgy

**Thursday, December 25th:** Christmas (Church office Closed)



Keep Christ in Christmas  
**Keep Christ in Christmas**

## SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, December 7, 2014*

Twenty Sixth 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>  
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*

### **Eden**

Eternity that which is outside time. In fact, any notion of time is linked to that of creation. Time is something created. Eternity belongs to God alone, it is uncreated.

We were created for eternal life by our Creator, we are called to it by the word of God, and we are renewed by holy Baptism. And Christ the Son of God came into the world for this, that He should call us and take us there, and He is the one thing needful. For this reason your very first endeavor and care should be to receive it.

~St. Tikhon of Zadonsk



### **ONLINE BULLETIN**

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



### **REMINDER– New Church Email Address**

Please use our new email address **[office@stmarypawtucket.org](mailto:office@stmarypawtucket.org)** for all church correspondence.

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 see Fr. Elie. 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>
December 7th	Connie Matook & Family	George Matook (40 Day)
December 14th	The Karneeb Family	James Karneeb (40 Day)
December 21st	No Coffee Hour	Church School Pageant
December 28th	Fatat ElKhaouli	Nicholas ElKhaouli (2 years)
<u>2015</u>		
January 4th	Ron & Janice Hallal	Memory of Linda Bowab (5years)
	Elaine Gauthier	Memory of Chris Gauthier (5years)
January 11th	William Small	Memory of Rev. Deacon Small
January 18th	The Kilsey Children	Fred Kilsey (20 years)
	Fred Kilsey & Family	Michele Kilsey (4 years)
January 25th	Dr. Zeyad Morcos & Family	Memory of Elias Morcos (24 years)
February 1st	Ayoub Family	Naseem Ayoub (1 year)
February 8th*	Catherine Wason	Health of Family
February 15th	Open for sponsorship	
February 22nd	Open for sponsorship	
February 29th	Open for sponsorship	
March 1st	Open for sponsorship	
March 8th	Open for sponsorship	
March 15th	Open for sponsorship	
March 22nd	William Salhany & Family	Ruth Salhany (5 years)
March 29th	Open for sponsorship	
April 5th	No Coffee Hour	Palm Sunday
April 12th	No Coffee Hour	Pascha
April 19th	Open for sponsorship	
April 26th	Open for sponsorship	

Sunday, December 7, 2014

Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Tone: 1 Eothinon: 4

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 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 Preparation of Christ’s Nativity: Tone 3

(\*\*The Original Melody\*\*)

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.



## THE EPISTLE

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)**

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

## THE GOSPEL

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:10-17)**

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had 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, a daughter of Abraham, whom 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.

St. Mary Teen SOYO News and Events

## ***Attention All Teens***

***(12 years and older)***

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

### **YES PROVIDENCE, RI- December 12-14, 2014**

**WHEN?** Friday, December 12 - Sunday December 14, 2014

**WHAT?** A wonderful opportunity to serve and love our most needy neighbors in Providence, RI.

**WHO?** Junior High, High School Students, and College Students

**WHERE?** **St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church** at 5pm on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>: 249 High St., Pawtucket, RI 02865. The service learning weekend will come to a close following Liturgy on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**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!*** Please email Katrina for information.

**ANY QUESTIONS?** Please contact Katrina Bitar, YES Program Director, [Kbitar@focusna.org](mailto:Kbitar@focusna.org) or at (602) 790-7900

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**THANK YOU** to everyone that donated food or money for the Thanksgiving Baskets. With your generosity we were able to help over 25 Families have a wonderful Thanksgiving this year.

\* Dec. 20th the SOYO will be attending a Prov. Friar game with the Annunciation GOYA, We are trying to get a group of 20 in order to get discount of ticket prices. If interested please contact Emile Sarkis, via email at [esarkis@hchc.edu](mailto:esarkis@hchc.edu), or phone 401-486-1633.

## 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) are asked to contact the choir directress Dawn Boukari @ (401) 465-8909 or email her: daboukari@aol.com

### December is the month of The Order of St. Ignatius

During the month of December, in our Antiochian Archdiocese we commemorate the role of The Order of St. Ignatius in The Life of the Church and it's Ministry. Members of The Order will be reading the Epistle, taking the collection, and assisting in the Vestry. May God bless all the members of our parish chapter of The Order and guide them to fulfill their Ministry.

## Diocese of N.E. upcoming events

**Diocesan Christmas Choir** – If you are a singer, please join us for our Diocesan Christmas Concert which will be a Western Rite Lessons & Carols service with the Hallelujah Chorus on Sunday, December 14, 5pm @ St. Mary's in Cambridge. Here is the rehearsal schedule:

- Sunday, Dec 7, 4pm – 6pm @ St. Mary's in Cambridge DRESS REHEARSAL with brass quintet @ St. Mary's

If you would like to sing or have questions, please e-mail Charlie Marge: [marge@alum.mit.edu](mailto:marge@alum.mit.edu)



### 40 Day Memorial Service

A Forty Day Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God *George Matook* by his Loving wife Connie Matook & Family. Coffee hour will be offered in his memory in the Church Hall after Liturgy.

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

### Christmas Liturgy

Christmas Liturgy this year will be on December 24th at 6:00 P.M.



### PRAYER REQUESTS

Starting in December, we will have a new format for any prayer requests submitted for the bulletin. All prayers received within the month will be printed in the last bulletin of the month. Any names sent to the office, will be mentioned during Liturgy on the Sunday after it was received, but will only be in the bulletin on the last Sunday of the month. If you have any questions, please see Fr. Elie.



### Arabic Liturgy

**\*\*Note Date Change for the Month of December.\*\***  
Arabic Liturgy will be held on Saturday, December 13th at 5:00 P.M.



2014

*Parish Christmas Poinsettia Fund*

*In anticipation of Christmas, we present our very important  
"Poinsettia Fund" Project*

Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
to be used in decorating the Church for Christmas.  
This donation is made with the following intentions.



For the Good Health and Blessing of:

In Loving Memory of:


From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 14th*



**Christ is Born, Glorify Him!**

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 **your** 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!

Below is a form, which you may complete and submit—either in person or by mail—containing your family name and your holiday greetings. 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 7th. 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.

Sincerely,

The St. Mary Liturgical Choir

FAMILY NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT OF DONATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Remember**  
— **LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS TODAY!!!**  
By mail, send to: St. Mary Orthodox Church, Choir Christmas Card Fund,  
249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860.