

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 8th: Sunday of the Prodigal Son & the Sunday after the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple

Saturday, February 14th: 5:00 PM- Arabic Liturgy

Family Retreat at St. John of Damascus, Dedham

Sunday, February 15th: Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat-Fare)

Sunday, February 22nd: Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese-Fare)

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

Sunday, March 1st: First Sunday of Great Lent: the Sunday of Orthodoxy

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

Sunday, March 8th: Second Sunday of Lent and the Commemoration of St. Gregory Palamas, Bishop of Thessalonica
Dinner at Parish Center to benefit NAB Project

Sunday, March 15th: Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Holy Cross

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

Sunday, March 29th: Fifth Sunday of Lent: The Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt

77th Parish Life Conference
June 18th-21st

ONLINE BULLETIN

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

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, February 8, 2015

**Sunday of the Prodigal Son and the Sunday after
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

**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

<i>Sunday: Orthros (Matins)</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>
<i>Church School</i>	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Sunday: Divine Liturgy</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>

*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

Economy

Economy: in contemporary life, this term refers to the avoidance of unnecessary expenses, or the art of administering a household. In the Church, the term is used on the one hand to designate God's plan for the salvation of man, *the whole divine plan from creation to the end of time*, accomplished by the redemptive incarnation of Jesus Christ, his death, and his resurrection. The work of Christ "*is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God*" (Eph 3:9). On the other hand, "economy" also refers to the totality of the decisions which the Church makes—in the face of certain problems—in the application of rules and canons. In the case of specific persons or situations, the bishop can waive strict rules. The "law" is needed, but it must be tempered by mercy; but these special cases can never themselves change the law. According to an expression by Patriarch Nicholas Mystikos (10th century), economy in this case is an "imitation of the love of God for man," and not a simple exception to the rule.

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 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)
	The Kilsey Family	George Kilsey (30 years)
March 8th	Antiochian Women	NAB Project Luncheon
March 15th	Antiochian Women	Metropolitan PHILIP (1 year)
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	Nora Abelahad & Family	Charles Abdelahad (1 year)
April 26th	Fred Hallal & Family	Sophie Hallal (5 years)
May 3rd	Open for sponsorship	
May 10th	Mother’s Day	
May 17th	Open for sponsorship	
May 24th	Open for sponsorship	
May 31st	Open for sponsorship	
June 7th	Open for sponsorship	
June 14th	Open for sponsorship	
June 21st	Father’s Day	
June 28th	Open for sponsorship	
July 5th	Open for sponsorship	
July 12th	Open for sponsorship	
July 19th	Elias Morcos (son)	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos

Sunday, February 8, 2015

Sunday of the Prodigal Son and the Sunday after the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple

Tone: 2 Eothinon: 2

Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 3

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Presentation of Christ: 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 Resurrection.

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 Presentation: Tone 1

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon’s arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.



Epistle

I Corinthians 6:12-20

Prokeimenon: Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

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

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me." but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" - and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belongs to God

The Gospel

Luke 15:11-32

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his right hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But the son was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost and is found.'

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, 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 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](#)

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.

Fee schedule for the use of the Sanctuary for the following services:

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

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

(Plus offering to clergy & cost of choir)

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.

Date Change:

Arabic Liturgy will be held on February 14th.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

April Gentes Robert
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook

Anthony Nassaney
Nancy Sterpis
Cheryl Nassaney
Holly Lazieh
Offered by: Fred M. Hallal

Elaine Wilbur
Charles & Elaine Agaty
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Amelia Belle Marshall
Keith, Marlene & Madelyn Marshall
Offered by: Joe and Marlene Samra

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Sophie Hallal
Leo Hallal
Nellie & Mitchell Hallal
Offered by: Fred M. Hallal

Naseem Ayoub
Offered by: A Family Friend

George & Jeannette Arees
Richard Arees
Rebecca Wylie
Abdo and Hysna Haddad
Mary Haddad
Lucy Haddad
Antonio Haddad
Offered by: George A. Arees

Eveline Engelhardt
Offered by: Elaine Swistak



Bible Study

Come join us for Bible study, held every Second Monday at 7pm in the Church Hall. Remember to bring your copy of The Orthodox Study Bible for referencing during the Bible Study session.

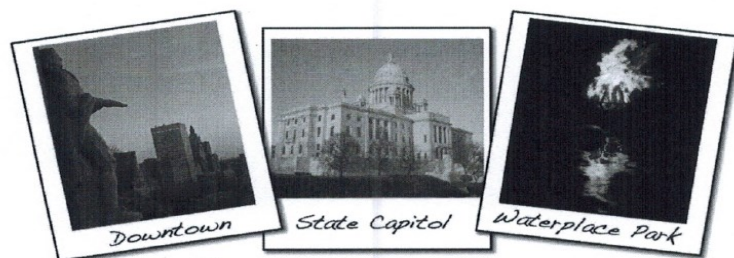
Epiphany 2015- Blessing of Homes

With the up-coming celebration of The Feast of Epiphany and the Great Sanctification of the Water, house blessings are starting for the new year. If you would like to have your house blessed, please contact Fr. Elie and schedule an appropriate time. While it is traditional to begin house blessings following Epiphany, homes may be blessed throughout the year. May the Blessing of the Jordan River sanctify and protect each and every home and family in our community.

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

*Come to our kind of town... come to Providence!
Come to the 77th Annual Parish Life Conference!
June 18-21, 2015
His Grace Bishop JOHN, Presiding*



Save the Date!

*Go to www.stmarypawtucket.org
for registration & more information!*

Join us for family fun, heart-warming fellowship and
wonderful opportunities for spiritual growth in the "Creative Capital"!

Highlights include:

Bible bowl • Oratorical Contest • Game Night • Grand Hufli
Home of Multisensory Majesty of WaterFire • Low Ticket Rates & much more!

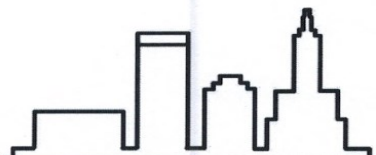
Registration Giveaway!

Register for the conference before May 1st, 2015 to be entered into a
drawing to win two Hufli tickets at the 2015 National Convention in Boston!

Book your room:

There are a limited number of rooms, so book early!
The Providence Marriott
1 Orms Street, Providence, RI

Special Conference Rate of **\$159** a night
For reservations call: 866-807-2171 &
Reference "Parish Life Conference"



St. Mary Parish Council ~ 2015

Congratulations to our new 2015 Parish Council

Joseph Samra- President (Fellowship)
Salwa Khoury- Vice President (Ladies Society)
Cindy Hayes- Secretary
Fadia Kabak- Treasurer

Elected members: Jamie Mitri, Steven W. Kilsey, Charlie Abosamra, Lorice Hallal, Holly Lazieh, Corey Dupont, Scott Barnes

Appointed members: Eddie Ayoub, Walid Nakhoul, Emad Amirhom

By Organization - Janice Hallal (Choir)
By Organization - Elmer Stanley (Sunday School)



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).