

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, March 15th:** Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Holy Cross  
One Year Memorial Service for Metropolitan PHILIP

**Tuesday, March 17th:** 7:00 P.M.– Service of the Great Compline

**Wednesday, March 18th:** 6:00 P.M.– Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

**Friday, March 20th:** 6:00 P.M.– 4th Akathyst Hymn (Al-Madeeh) **\*please note time change\***  
Potluck Dinner following Liturgy sponsored by the Ladies Society

**Sunday, March 22nd:** Fourth Sunday of Lent: The Commemoration of our Righteous  
Father John of the Ladder  
5 Year Memorial Service for Ruth Salhany & Coffee Hour @ P.C.

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

**Wednesday, March 25th:** 6:00 P.M.– Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

**Friday, March 27th:** 7:00 P.M.– 5th Akathyst Hymn (Al-Madeeh)

**Sunday, March 29th:** Fifth Sunday of Lent: The Commemoration of our Righteous Mother  
Mary of Egypt  
40 Day Memorial Service for Charles Agaty  
One Year Memorial Service for Charles Abdelahad  
Memorial Luncheon at the Parish Center offered by Elaine Agaty &  
Nora Abdelahad & Family

**Tuesday, March 31st:** 7:00 P.M.– Service of the Great Compline at St. Mary Church

**Wednesday, April 1st:** 7:00 P.M.– Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

**Saturday, April 11th:** 11:00P.M.– Rush Service

**Sunday, April 12th: Great and Holy Pascha**  
**12:00A.M.– Divine Liturgy followed by Agape Breakfast**  
**3:00 P.M.– Agape Vespers**

**Sunday, April 19th:** Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)

**Monday, April 20th:** 7:00 P.M.– Ladies Meeting

**Sunday, April 26th:** Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women & Sts. Joseph of  
Arimathea and Nicodemus  
40 Day Memorial Service for Ida Lavin  
5 Year Memorial Service for Sophie Hallal

**Sunday, May 3rd:** Sunday of the Paralytic  
The Antiochian Women NAB Project Luncheon at the Parish Center



## SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

BEFORE THY CROSS WE BOW DOWN IN WORSHIP,  
O MASTER,  
AND THY HOLY RESURRECTION WE GLORIFY!



VENERATION OF THE CROSS - SESSIONAL HYMN

No sooner had the wood of Thy Cross been set up, O Christ our Lord, than the foundations of death were shaken. Hell swallowed Thee eagerly, but it led Thee go with trembling. Thou hast shown us Thy salvation, O Holy One, and we glorify Thee, O Son of God; have mercy on us!

*Sunday, March 15, 2015*

*Third Sunday of Lent :*

*Veneration of the Holy Cross*

## *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**

<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.

### **Parish Council 2015:**

**President:** Joe Samra III (*Fellowship*)

**Vice-President:** Salwa Khoury (*Ladies Society*)

**Secretary:** Cindy Hayes

**Treasurer:** Fadia Kabak



**Council Members:** Charles Abosamra, Emad Amirhom, Edward Ayoub, Scott Barnes, Cory Dupont, Janice Hallal (*Choir*), Lorice Hallal, Steven Kilsey Jr., Holly Lazieh, Jamie Mitri, Walid Nakhoul, Elmer Stanley (*Church School*)

**\*\*Please feel free to contact Joe Samra III (401) 334-0310 / [joesamra@gmail.com](mailto:joesamra@gmail.com) or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns\*\***

## *Orthodox Vocabulary*

### **Hexapsalmos**

The sequence of six psalms read after the opening prayers of Orthros. They are Septuagint Psalms 3,37,62,87,102 and 142. During the reading of the Six Psalms the officiating priest recites the twelve Matins prayers and the congregation maintains a strict silence.

*All our life is like a day of celebration for us; we are convinced, in fact, that God is always everywhere. We work while singing, we sail while reciting hymns, we accomplish all other occupations of life while praying.*

*~Clement of Alexandria*



### **ONLINE BULLETIN**

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

### **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>
March 15th	Antiochian Women	Metropolitan PHILIP (1 year)
March 22nd*	William Salhany & Family	Ruth Salhany (5 years)
March 29th	Nora Abdelahad & Family	Charles Abdelahad (1 year)
	Elaine Agaty	Charles Agaty (40 day)
April 5th	No Coffee Hour	Palm Sunday
April 12th	No Coffee Hour	Pascha
April 19th*	Fadi & Hadeel Samaan	Health of Family
April 26th	Fred Hallal & Family	Sophie Hallal (5 years)
May 3rd	NAB Project Luncheon	Ladies Society
May 10th	Mother’s Day	
May 17th	Open for sponsorship	
May 24th	Open for sponsorship	
May 31st	Open for sponsorship	
June 7th	The Samra Family	Joseph Samra Sr. (50 years)
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
July 26th	Open for sponsorship	
August 2nd	Open for sponsorship	
August 9th	Open for sponsorship	

**Sunday, March 15, 2015**

### **Third Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Holy Cross**

**Tone: 7      Eothinon: 7**

#### **Resurrectional Troparion: Tone 7**

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

#### **Troparion for the Holy Cross: Tone 1**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

#### **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 for the Annunciation (And Great Lent): Tone 8**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.



## Epistle

### Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Prokeimenon: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter o the Hebrews.

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just like Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten Thee," as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

## The Gospel

### Mark 8:34-9:1

The Lord said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

## 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 director Dawn Boukari @ (401) 465-8909 or email her: daboukari@gmail.com

### 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.

### 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](#)



Great Lent and Holy Pascha 2015  
Easter Flowers (Holy Friday and Pascha)

Please make a donation to help decorate the Church for Holy Week and Easter.

**For Good Health and Blessing of:**

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**In Loving Memory of:**

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**Your name:**

**Donation:**

To all those who would like to contribute for the Easter Flowers; checks should be made out to St. Mary Orthodox Church and earmarked “Easter Flowers”.

*All donations should be received by April 5th.*



**One Year Memorial Service**



Today, a One Year Memorial Service is offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God Metropolitan PHILIP (1 Year). A Memorial Coffee Hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

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

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

April Gentes Robert  
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook & Family

Jacob Khoury  
Elaine Swistak & Family  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

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

Fred Shwaery  
Jacob Khoury  
Elaine Wilbur  
Mary Kilsey  
Ethel Kilsey  
Offered by: MaryLou & Bill Catelli

Elaine Agaty  
Elaine Swistak & Family  
George & Sandra Matook & Family  
Nora Abdelahad  
Mary Massiwer & Family  
The Kilsey Family  
Offered by: The Briggs & Wehbe Families

Jacob Khoury  
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

Abgrab & Slemon Families  
Offered by: The Charles Slemon Family

Fred & Adele Shwaery  
Jacob Khoury  
Salwa & Nabil Khoury  
Al & Vicky Hallal  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Fred Shwaery  
Carmen Nasr  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Fred Shwaery  
Elaine Wilbur  
John & Lorna Hallal  
Al & Vicki Hallal  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra



I would like to thank all my family and friends for the prayers, calls, cards and visitations. Thank God I am doing very well and pray I will be in Church soon.

*~Elaine Wilbur*

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

Charles Slemon  
Offered by: Marwan, Rosemary, Jihad & Shadia  
Al-Dajani

Charles Slemon Sr.  
Offered by: Louis Slemon  
Charles, Francine, Julie & Marie Robat  
Brian & Christine Gilmore

Charles & Anna Slemon  
Offered by: Their Children, Grandchildren & Great-  
Grandchildren

Michael & Ida Abgrab  
Shafee & Annie Slemon  
The Abgrab & Slemon Family  
Offered by: The Charles Slemon Family

Metropolitan PHILIP  
Offered by: Cindy, George & Michael Antypas  
Very Rev. Constantine & Sharon Nasr & Family

Charles Agaty  
Offered by: Nora & Monnie Ayash

Florence David  
Offered by: The Wehbe & Briggs Families

Metropolitan PHILIP  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury



**Parish Directory Updates**

We are updating our church directory. Please take a few moments to check that your information is correct before it goes to print. The info can be found at the back of the church or by speaking to Samy Morcos. Please make necessary changes, or if everything is up to date, please place a check mark by your name so that we know it is correct. Thank you !

**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.

# St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, Pawtucket

## Schedule of Services: Great Lent 2015

Great Lent begins on Monday, February 23rd

The Service of Great Compline for the N.E. Region, with Bishop JOHN presiding, will be held on Monday evenings (*see schedule below*).

~March 16th: 7:00pm- St. George Church, Lowell, MA  
~March 23rd: 7:00pm- St. George Church, West Roxbury, MA  
~March 30th: 6:30pm- St. George Cathedral, Worcester, MA

### St. Mary's Great Lent Prayer Schedule

The Service of Great Compline at St. Mary Church will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

The Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Those wishing to partake of Holy Communion ought to be fasting from 12:00 noon on.

The service of the Akathyst Hymn or Madeeh (The Salutations to the Virgin Mary) will be held on the first five Friday evenings of Great Lent at 7:00 pm.

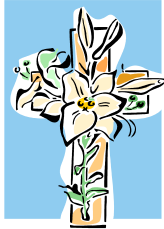
Sunday, March 1st: Special Vespers for Orthodoxy Sunday- 5:00pm at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket, RI

*"May the Living God, the Fountain of Wisdom, enlighten our minds, strengthen our bodies, and nourish our souls in the blessing of this holy season, the Lenten Spring."*



# GREAT LENT 2015

February 23rd ~ April 12th (Holy Pascha)



## What is Lent?

Prayer † Fasting † Acts of Mercy



### Sacrament of Confessions

Great Lent is the season to “Open the Gates of Repentance”. The faithful are encouraged to enter into the sacrament of confession during the Forty-Day Fast. Confessions can be made before or after Divine Services, or by special appointment with the Priest.

### Liturgical Supplies and Offerings for Lent

During Great Lent the Church offers an intensified schedule of Divine Services and Prayers. Donations are being sought from the faithful for the many extra Liturgical Supplies needed for the Holy Season. These offerings include candles, wine, oil, incense, bread, service books, music and printed materials. Please earmark your donations and offerings “Liturgical Supplies.” Along with these offerings, bring also yourselves to pray the beautiful Lenten Services.

### Food For Hungry People Collection (F.F.H.P.)


“When you see a poor person, remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ by which He declared that it is He Himself who is fed. For through that which appears to be not Christ, yet in that person’s form, it is Christ Himself who receives and begs.”

~St. John Chrysostom

During the Holy Season of Lent, we collect alms to feed the hungry, as an act of Christian Mercy. Food for Hungry People collection boxes are available in the Vestibule & Church Hall. Take one home, fill it with coins during Lent and return it at Holy Pascha (Easter). Donations will also be accepted. To: St. Mary Orthodox Church earmarked “F.F.H.P.”

May we be generous to reach out to those who hunger and who are in need.  
This “reaching out” and caring will help us to witness the resurrection.

### Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee Hour is offered in memory of Metropolitan PHILIP (1 Year) by The Antiochian Women. Coffee hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy. 



### Potluck Dinner

A Lenten Potluck Dinner sponsored by the Ladies Society will be held Friday, March 20th in the Church Hall following 6:00pm Liturgy.

### 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.

## Diocese of N.E. upcoming events

- ♦ **April 22nd at 10:30 A.M.—** St. Mary Church, Pawtucket: Hosting RI Clergy Meeting/Luncheon
- ♦ **June 18th-21st—** St. Mary Church, Pawtucket: Hosting 2015 Parish Life Conference
- ♦ **July 20th-26th—** St. Mary Church, Cambridge, MA: Hosting 52nd Archdiocesan Convention, Boston, MA

### March is Antiochian Women's Month

During the month of March, in all the Churches of our Archdiocese, we highlight and remember the Ministry of Women in our Church. Being founded on the model of Mary the Mother of God herself and the Service of the Myrrh-bearer ministry is foundational for without it the Church would not exist.

During March, the Women will be reading the Epistle, taking the collection, and ushering as they do all year long. This year the Antiochian Women will also be sponsoring activities to raise funds for their NAB Project.

*May God bless all of the Women of the Holy Church and bless their ministry.*

#### Readers

Sunday, March 1st: Cindy Hayes

Sunday, March 8th: Mirna Nakhoul

*Arabic*— Salwa Khoury

Sunday, March 15th: Florence Spenard

*Arabic*— Samar Baalbaki

Sunday, March 22nd: Maureen Gurghigian

*Arabic*— Hadeel Samaan

Sunday, March 29th: Holly Lazieh

*Arabic*— Helen Morcos

#### Ushers

Mary Massiwer & Sue Ayoub

Sue Ayoub & Charlotte Mitri

Lorice Hallal & Julia Vale

Mary Jane Wehbe & Christine Briggs

Nancy Sterpis & Cheryl Nassaney



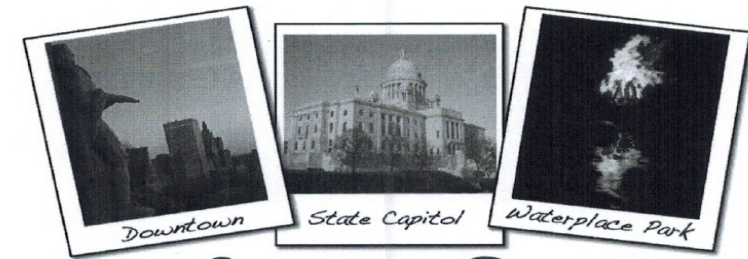
**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\***

*\*\*note date change\*\**

The Antiochian Women are hosting a luncheon following Liturgy on May 3rd to benefit their NAB Project.

More information to follow.

*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](http://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 Huffli  
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 Huffli 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"

