

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 24th: 31st Sunday after Pentecost; 14th Sunday of Luke
Adult Education- 'Faith and Reason' presented by Fr. Matt Duncan

Sunday, January 31st: 32nd Sunday after Pentecost; 15th Sunday of Luke
Ladies Meeting during Coffee Hour (no Monday meeting)

Thursday, February 4th: 9am– Making Sfeeha at the Parish Center

Saturday, February 6th: 5:00PM– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, February 7th: 16th Sunday after Pentecost; 16th Sunday of Matthew
Souper-Bowl Special Collection
Annual Parish Meeting at the Parish Center following Liturgy Center

Tuesday, February 9th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, February 14th: 17th Sunday after Pentecost; 17th Sunday of Matthew
12:30 P.M.- 20th Anniversary Celebration for Fr. Elie in honor of his 20 years serving the Lord– Bishop JOHN presiding

Sunday, February 21st: Sunday of the Pharisee & Publican

Sunday, February 28th: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Saturday, March 5th: 5:00PM– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, March 6th: Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat Fare)

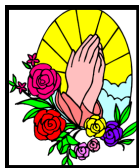
Monday, March 7th: 7:00 P.M.– Ladies Society Meeting

Tuesday, March 8th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, March 13th: Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)
Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sunday, March 20th: 1st Sunday of Lent (Orthodoxy)

Sunday, March 27th: 2nd Sunday of Lent (Gregory Palamas)



SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday January 24, 2016
Thirty-First Sunday After Pentecost
& Fourteenth Sunday of Luke

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

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.

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 or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns****



The Antiochian Women of the Diocese of Worcester & New England are pleased to present the 2016 Pre-Lenten Retreat

The Light At the End of the Tunnel:

Dealing with the Oncoming Train



with featured speaker

V. Rev. Michael Kelser

Chair of the Antiochian Orthodox
Christian Archdiocese
Department of Missions & Evangelism

Saturday, February 27, 2016 | 9am - 2:30 pm

St. John of Damascus Church, 300 West Street, Dedham, MA

*Everyone welcome!
Men & women,
young & old...*

RETREAT SCHEDULE

9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast
10:30 am Session 1 12:00 pm Luncheon 1:00 pm Session 2 plus Q&A



Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Home Parish _____

____ # attending the Retreat. Enclosed is my payment in the amount of \$_____ @ \$20 per person.

Please make checks payable to: Antiochian Women - DOWNE
Mail registration form & check to Kh. Erin Kimmitt, 17 Austin Street, Norwood, MA 02062.

RSVP deadline February 15. Questions? ErinMaryK@aol.com or 781.775.0789

Orthodox Vocabulary

Faithfulness

Faithfulness: the truly faithful one is the person who fulfills his obligations out of love and not only from a sense of duty. God has never stopped showing his faithfulness to the people of Israel. Christ will be "the faithful servant" foretold by Isaiah. Christians are called "the faithful," because they are committed to respect the Lord's commandment and to follow him.

That God may forgive us, let us forgive men. We are all on this earth as temporary guests... Prolonged fasting and prayer is in vain without forgiveness and true mercy. God is the true Physician; sins are leprosy. Whomever God cleanses, God also glorifies. Every merciful act of men, God rewards with mercy. He who returns sin with sin perishes without mercy. Pus is not cleansed by pus from infected wounds, neither is the darkness of the dungeon dispelled by darkness, but pure balm heals the festering wound, and light disperses the darkness of the dungeon.

~St. Nicholas Velimirovich



Christ is Born, Glorify Him !

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Thirty-First Sunday After Pentecost & Fourteenth Sunday of Luke

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 St. Xenia of St. Petersburg: Tone 8

In thee, O wandering stranger, Christ the Lord hath given us an ardent intercessor for our kind. For having received in thy life sufferings and grief and served God and men with love, thou didst acquire great boldness. Wherefore, we fervently hasten to thee in temptations and grief, crying out from the depths of our hearts: Put not our hope to shame, O Blessed Xenia.

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 intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

Kontakion of the Presentation of Christ: 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.

THE EPISTLE

*O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee have I cried, O Lord, my God.*

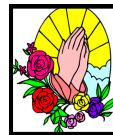
The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (1:15-17)

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to Him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



Christ is Born, Glorify Him !

Super Bowl Party

Cancelled due to lack of interest.



From The Synaxarion (The Calendar of the Lives of The Saints) January 21st

MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR. Maximos was at first the chief secretary to the Byzantine Emperor Heraklios in seventh-century Constantinople. Maximos gave away his wealth to become a monk. He later became the abbot of his monastery. He led an attack against the monothelites, who believed that Christ had only one nature and will and not two, divine and human. He composed several treatises on the subject and distributed them widely. He incurred the wrath of even the patriarch, who had fallen under the influence of Emperor Heraklios, also a monothelite. Maximos caused the pope to convene a council of all the Italian bishops, and they denounced the heresy. By his influence, another council in Carthage also denounced them. Emperor Constans summoned the pope and Maximos and exiled them both. He had Maximos' tongue and right hand cut off when he was eighty years old so that he could not speak or write against the monothelites again. Yet he continued his fight through his disciple Anastasios. Several years after Maximos died, Emperor Constantine outlawed monothelitism.

CALLING ALL ORTHODOX
**YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS.**
THE 2016 CONFERENCE IS

Coming Soon

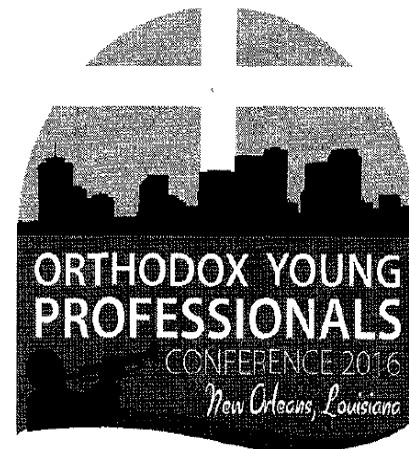
Get ready, because we're bringing Orthodoxy to New Orleans! Join fellow Orthodox Christian Young Professionals in New Orleans, LA for a 4 day, 3 night conference of spiritual growth, future friendships, lasting memories and more.

**AUGUST
18-21**

For more information, please visit
WWW.OYPC2016.COM

**REGISTRATION OPENING
MARCH 2016**

Hosted By: NAC Fellowship of St. John the Divine
of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America



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

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Edward & Lillian Betor
Paul & Kerrie Betor
Thomas & Lynn Marcotte
Matthew & Adrienne Dykstra
Peter Marcotte
Laurice Zambie
William & LaVerne Ameen
Great-Granddaughters Joelle & Rose Dykstra
Newborn Great-Grandson, Daniel Thomas
Dykstra (Born 11-11-15)
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor

Charlie Abosamra
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Charles Abosamra
Mirna Nakhoul
George Kilsey
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons
& Bob Dessaint

Barbara Aubin
Offered by: Elaine Swistak



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

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

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

Elias Morcos
Offered by: Dr. Zeyad, Norma & Elias Morcos

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

Matilda Josephs
Offered by: Bill & Mary Lou Catelli

George & Nora David
Offered by: Their Children & Grandchildren

Mitchell Hallal
Sophie Hallal
Frederick Hallal
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons
& Bob Dessaint

Margaret Tager
Donald Aubin
Florence David
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Margaret Tager
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

*"Let Your priests, O Lord, be clothed with righteousness,
And let Your godly ones sing for joy" Psalm 132: 9*

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

Invites you to share in a celebration luncheon honoring

Very Rev. Fr. Elie Estephan

*On the occasion of his 20th Anniversary
in the Holy Priesthood*

Sunday, February 14, 2016

10:00am: Hierarchical Liturgy with

His Grace Bishop John Presiding

Luncheon to follow at Parish Center

One St. Mary Way, Pawtucket, R.I

\$40 for adults / 16 and under \$20 / under 8 free

To purchase your tickets by February 1st, please contact:

**Church Office (401)726-1202 /office@stmarypawtucket.org
Or Salwa Khoury stkhoury@cox.net**

Please make checks payable to:

St. Mary Church (earmarked Anniversary) 249 High St., Pawtucket, RI 02860



NO tickets sold at door.

GIVING BACK

The Ladies Society of St Mary Church is running a campaign to give back to the community. What better gift than to give to supporting the health of babies/our future. Donations will be presented to one of our local community agencies.

You can give back in either of 2 ways - there will be a bassinet in the parish center for your gifts.

1. Please place a new baby item in the bassinet

OR

2. Please take a baby bottle and replace our message with a generous donation back in the baby bottle and return to the bassinet.

***Please make checks out to St Mary's Ladies—
please put on memo line: Our Future***

***THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PRAYERS, SUPPORT, AND FOR YOUR
INCREDIBLE GIFT. WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT IN THE
NEAR FUTURE THESE BABIES LIVES AND FAMILIES WILL
TAKE A TURN FOR THE BETTER.***

Co-Chairwomen

Nora Matook and Patricia Kilsey



Change of Address

All the faithful who have a recent or future change of address, phone number or email address please remember to inform the church office at (401) 726-1202.

ONLINE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is available online on our website at:

<http://stmarypawtucket.org>

Antiochian Village Summer Camp

Registration for 2016 Summer Camp at the Antiochian Village has already started. Tuition for a two-week session is \$750 per camper. If paid in full by March 1st, the early-bird discount is \$700.

- ♦ One-week tuition (June 19-26) is \$450. (Early-bird discount is \$425)
- ♦ Iconography Camp tuition is \$525. (Early-bird discount is \$500)
- ♦ T-shirt & water bottle combos may be purchased for your camper, which they will receive upon arrival at camp next summer. Last summer, the shirts were very popular and the water bottles helped keep us all well hydrated during the sessions.
- ♦ Photos will no longer be sold in advance. All photos (including your camper's cabin photos) will be sold online during the summer.
- ♦ If you have any questions or want more info, please visit www.avcamp.org or email marek@antiochianvillage.org



CrossRoad ~ 2016

*Before you decide what to do with your life...
Decide what to do with your summer!*

Apply now for CrossRoad 2016. Apply online at www.crossroadinstitute.org

Open to any Orthodox Christian juniors or seniors in high school who may be interested in applying to this 10-day summer program at Hellenic College Holy Cross!

CrossRoad offers two sessions:

June Session: June 18th-June 28th **July Session:** July 5th-July 15th

Application priority deadline is February 1st, 2016.

Call (617) 850-1310 for more information.

Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee hour is being offered in memory of Elias Morcos by his son Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos.



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.



Prayer Line

St. Mary ~ Internet Prayer Line

Prayer requests can be sent to us via the internet at

office@stmarypawtucket.org

All requests must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that week's bulletin.

Any requests received after that time will be included in the following week's bulletin.

Epiphany 2016- Blessing of Homes

With the 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.



Cooking Sessions:

*Thursday, February 4th at 9am– Parish Center Making Kibbee Trays and Sfeeha.

Please set this day and time aside. If we have cooperation (as usual), we will be finished by noon. Thank you! All are welcome!!!!

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

Baptism: Member- \$100 (Plus offering to clergy & cost of choir)
Non-Member- \$200

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



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.

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 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.

Please make check to St. Mary Church for coffee sponsorship and earmark “Coffee Hour”.

If you would like to sponsor a coffee hour, please call the church office and speak with Sheryl.

**** ALL Coffee hour’s will now be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.****

~Please consider sponsoring a Coffee Hour~

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
January 24, 2016	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Elias Morcos (Memory)
January 31, 2016	The Ayoub Family	Naseem Ayoub (2 year memorial)
February 7, 2016	St. Mary Church	Annual Meeting
February 14, 2016	St. Mary Church	Fr. Elie 20th Anniversary Luncheon
February 21, 2016	The Salhany Family	Ida Lavin (1 year memorial)
February 28, 2016	Elaine Agaty & Nora Abdelahad	Charles Agaty (1 year memorial) & Charles Abdelhad (memory)
March 6, 2016	Ladies Society	Ladies Project Luncheon
March 13, 2016	Massiwer, Gurghigian, Hayes, Franklin & Arrighi Families	John Massiwer (memory)
March 20, 2016	Fadi Samaan	Mr. Metri Zainah
March 27, 2016	Marwan & Huda Al-Amir	Health of their Family
April 3, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
April 10, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
April 17, 2016	Her Daughters & their Families	Sophie Hallal (6 years)
April 24, 2016	no coffee hour	Palm Sunday
May 1, 2016	no coffee hour	Great & Holy PASCHA
May 8, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
May 15, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
May 22, 2016	Kamal, George, Gladys, Therese Haddad & Their Families	Emile Haddad (1 year memorial)

Attention All Teens

(12 years and older)

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

Happy New Year friends!

We have lots of events coming up in the next few months that we want to tell you about. This email is the first informational save the date email of many, so read carefully!

*Our **Winter Meeting** will take place Saturday February 6th at St. Mary, Cambridge.

*The date has changed for the **YES Boston** trip. This incredible service opportunity will take place February 26th-28th. It isn't often that YES trips will occur so close to home, so definitely sign up ASAP.

***Be the Bee** will take place on March 19th.

*The **Lenten Retreat** March 25th-27th.

Make sure to mark these events in your calendars. We hope to see you all soon!

In Christ,
The New England Teen SOYO Board

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

Choir rehearsals to be announced soon.

Bulletin Submissions

Please help us provide a quality weekly bulletin by submitting all prayer requests and announcements to the church office by Noon on Wednesdays. Any requests received after this time will be in the following week's bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

2016 Church Calendars

The Church Calendars for the new year have arrived. Please see Fr. Elie to purchase one. Suggested donation: \$10



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).

Antiochian Summer Camp

If any child is attending camp this summer at the Antiochian Village, please let Fr. Elie know.



AEF Scholarship

Scholarship applications are now available in the church office. Eligibility information & applications may also be downloaded from their website at aef-ri.org. The application deadline is April 15, 2016.

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.

Pledge Cards & Statements

2016 Pledge cards have been mailed. If you have not yet received one, they are available at the back of the church. Please fill one out with your 2016 pledge and return before February 1st.

Statements for 2015 will be mailed out within the next 2 weeks. If you have any questions, contact the church office at (401) 726-1202.



YES (Youth Equipped to Serve) is a program of FOCUS North America.

YES is coming to your community!

WHEN? Friday, February 26 – Sunday, February 28, 2016

WHAT? A wonderful opportunity to serve and love our most needy neighbors in Boston, MA.

WHO? Junior High, High School, and College Students

WHERE? We will meet at 5pm on Friday and stay Friday and Saturday nights at St. Mary Orthodox Church: 8 Inman St, Cambridge, MA 02139. The service learning weekend will come to a close at 2pm on Sunday, February 28th.

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.

HOW DO I REGISTER? www.yesnorthamerica.org

ANY QUESTIONS? Please contact Katrina Bitar, YES Program Director

kbitar@focusna.org