Sunday, February 21st: Sunday of the Pharisee & Publican
   One Year Memorial Service for Ida Lavin
   Outreach Committee Meeting during Coffee Hour

Wednesday, February 24th: 6:45-8:30 P.M-Choir Rehearsal (church)

Friday, February 26-Sunday, February 28th: Teen SOYO YES Program, St. Mary Church, Cambridge, MA

Saturday, February 27th: 9:00 A.M.-2:30 P.M.- Antiochian Women Pre-Lenten Retreat at St. John of Demascus Church, Dedham, MA

Sunday, February 28th: Sunday of the Prodigal Son
   One Year Memorial Service for Charles Agaty

Saturday, March 5th: 5:00 P.M.-Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, March 6th: Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat Fare)
   Ladies Society Project Luncheon at the Parish Center

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)

There will be a meeting of the Outreach Ministry TODAY-Sunday, February 21st during Coffee Hour. Hope to see you all then.
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 2016:

President: Salwa Khoury
Vice-President: Cindy Hayes
Secretary: Jamie Mitri
Treasurer: Fadia Kabak
Council Members: Joseph Samra III, Emad Amirhom, Scott Barnes, Cory Dupont, Lorice Hallal, Steven Kilsey Jr., Holly Lazieh, Walid Nakhoul, Elmer Stanley (Church School), Linda Dvelis, Hadeel Samaan

**Please feel free to contact Salwa Khoury at stkhoury@cox.net or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns**

The flower of gentleness

Prayer is the flower of gentleness and of freedom from anger.
Prayer is the fruit of joy and thankfulness.
Prayer is the remedy for gloom and despondency.
Do not pray that your own will may be done, for your will may not accord with the will of God. But pray as you have been taught, saying: Thy will be done in me. Pray to him in this way about everything--that his will be done. For he desires what is good and profitable for your soul, whereas you do not always ask for this.

Often in my prayers I have asked for what I thought was good, and persisted in my petition, stupidly trying to force the will of God, instead of leaving it to him to arrange things as he knows best. But afterwards, on obtaining what I asked for, I was very sorry that I did not pray rather for God’s will to be done; because the thing turned out to be different from what I had expected.

What is good, except God? Then let us leave all our concerns to him, and all will be well.
If you long for prayer, renounce all to gain all.
At the time of trials and temptations, use a brief but intense prayer.
When you are in the inner temple, pray not as the Pharisee but as the publican.
Strive never to pray against anyone.
If when you are praying no other joy can attract you, then truly you have found prayer.

~Evagrius of Pontus
**Triodion**

**Triodion**: literally, this word means a “canon of three odes.” Canons of this type are found in the liturgical books to which they gave their name:

1.) **Lenten Triodion**: this book contains all the texts for Great Lent and its preparatory period, as well as for Holy Week. The dominant trait of these texts is their penitential character, since Lent is offered to the faithful so that they can purify themselves and prepare for the solemnities of the passion and the resurrection of the Savior.

2.) **Bright Triodion or Pentecostarion**: this contains the texts used between Pascha and the Sunday following Pentecost (these two feasts included). These texts are characterized by the joy of the resurrection of the Savior, which makes possible the resurrection of all humanity. The various themes which surface during this period reveal, each in its own way, the mystery of redemption and salvation, which is fulfilled with Ascension and Pentecost.

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**Sunday, February 21, 2016**

**Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican**

**Tone: 5  Eothinon: 5**

**Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious 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 intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

**Kontakion for the Pharisee and Publican: Tone 4**

(*On this day Thou hast appeared*)

Let us flee the Pharisee’s * conceited vaunting; * let us learn the Publican’s * humility, and cry with groans * unto the Savior: Thou Who alone * art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.

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**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.
THE EPISTLE

Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.
In Judah God is known: His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)
Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)
The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”
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.

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.

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.

ONLINE BULLETIN
The Bulletin is available online on our website at: http://stmarypawtucket.org

2016 Food For Hungry People
Again this year, we have Lenten Alms Boxes available for you to have for the Food For Hungry People program. Pick up your family’s box for use during the Great Fast. Save your pocket change for the box, or place the box on your kitchen table and snake a donation at each mealtime. We have also placed a box in the vestibule of the Church in which you can place your Food For Hungry People money. Every Lent, the parishes of our Archdiocese collect money for the hungry, poor, and needy throughout the world. Be sure to get your alms box, and bring it back full after Pascha.

One Year Memorial Service
Today, a One Year Memorial Service is lovingly being offered for the repose of the soul of Ida Lavin, by The Salhany Family. A luncheon is being offered by the Salhany Family at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

May God grant her peace and repose and may her memory be eternal.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:
Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
George Mousalli
Offered by:
His Family, Barbara, Susan, Kristen and Daniel
George Mousalli
Offered by: St. Mary Church
Joe & Marlene Samra
Georgette Hallal & Family
Alice Kandalaft & Family
Tony & Blanche Sackal
Offered by: Lorice Hallal
George Tager
Offered by: Elaine Agaty
Samy & Helen Morcos
George & Barbara Moussalli
Offered by: Elaine Agaty
Nora Abdelahad
The Salhany Family
George Mousalli
Samy Morcos
Offered by: Elaine Swistak
Samy & Helen Morcos
Offered by: Susan Warzycha & Family
Samy & Helen Morcos
Victor Trabulsi
Herbert Trabulsi
Offered by: Leila & Ray Trabulsi
Samy & Helen Morcos
Fred & Michelle Smith
Milad & Danielle Nasr
Offered by: Philip & Bette Ayoub
George Mousalli
William Salhany
Offered by: Bill & Susan Salhany
George Mousalli
Fred, Adele & Robert Shwaery
Offered by: Albert & Victoria Hallal
Samy Morcos
Offered by: Helen Morcos
Michelle, Fred, Charlotte & Estelle Smith
Danielle, Milad, Carmen, Benjamin & Simone Nasr
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos
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”.

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

~Please consider sponsoring a Coffee Hour~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sponsored by</th>
<th>Sponsored for</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 21, 2016</td>
<td>The Salhany Family</td>
<td>Ida Lavin (1 year memorial)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28, 2016</td>
<td>Elaine Agaty &amp; Nora Abdelahad</td>
<td>Charles Agaty (1 year memorial) &amp;</td>
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<td>Charles Abdelhad (memory)</td>
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<td>March 6, 2016</td>
<td>Ladies Society</td>
<td>Massiwer, Gurghigian, John Massiwer</td>
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<td>March 13, 2016</td>
<td>Massiwer, Gurghigian</td>
<td>Hayes, Franklin &amp; Arrighi Families</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20, 2016</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>March 27, 2016</td>
<td>Marwan &amp; Huda Al-Amir</td>
<td>Health of their Family</td>
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<td>April 3, 2016</td>
<td>William Salhany and family</td>
<td>Ruth Salhany (6 years)</td>
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<td>April 10, 2016</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17, 2016</td>
<td>Her Daughters &amp; their Families</td>
<td>Sophie Hallal (6 years)</td>
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<td>April 24, 2016</td>
<td>no coffee hour</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>May 1, 2016</td>
<td>no coffee hour</td>
<td>Great &amp; Holy PASCHA</td>
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<td>May 8, 2016</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15, 2016</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22, 2016</td>
<td>Kamal, George, Gladys, Emile Haddad</td>
<td>Therese Haddad &amp; Their Families</td>
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Attention All Teens
(12 years and older)

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

*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.

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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.

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Congratulations & Blessings

St. Mary Church offers congratulations and prayers for the blessing of the newly elected and appointed members of the Parish Council, and their officers:

Chair: Salwa Khoury (Ladies Society)
Vice Chair: Cindy Hayes (Choir)
Treasurer: Fadia Kabak
Secretary: Jamie Mitri

Elected members: Joseph Samra III, Lorice Hallal, Emad Amirhom, Scott Barnes, Cory Dupont, Steven Kilsey Jr., Holly Lazieh, Walid Nakhoul, Linda Dvelis, Elmer Stanley (Church School),

Appointed member: Hadeel Samaan

Fr. Elie will be away from February 22nd to March 4th. If you need any help conserving church/sacramental matters, please contact Salwa or Sheryl so that your needs may be attended.

Salwa (h)-(401) 434-8877 / © (401) 447-3585
Sheryl (o) (401) 726-1202 / © (401) 617-2393
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 Practice will be held on Wednesday, February, 24th from 6:45-8:30pm at Church**

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.

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.

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).