Sunday, March 13th:
- Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)
- Special tray for The Ladies Project
- Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Adult Education – Matthew Cooper speaking during Coffee Hour

Monday, March 14th:
- Great Lent Begins
  - 7:00 P.M.-Great Compline at St. George, Norwood
    (Bishop JOHN presiding)

Tuesday, March 15th:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Wednesday, March 16th:
- 7:00 P.M.- Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Thursday, March 17th:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Friday, March 18th:
- 7:00 P.M.- Akathyst Hymn at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket followed by Potluck Dinner at Parish Center hosted by the Ladies Society

Sunday, March 20th:
- 1st Sunday of Lent (Orthodoxy)
  - Memorial Service for Metri & Firas Zainah
  - Outreach Committee Meeting during Coffee Hour
  - 5:00PM– Vespers for RIOCE at St. John’s, Woonsocket

Monday, March 21st:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. George, Lowell
  (Bishop JOHN presiding)

Tuesday, March 22nd:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Wednesday, March 23rd:
- 7:00 P.M.- Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Thursday, March 24th:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Friday, March 25th:
- 9:00 A.M.-Annunciation Feast- Liturgy at St. Mary Church, Pawt.
  - 7:00 P.M.- Akythyst Hymn at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Sunday, March 27th:
- 2nd Sunday of Lent (Gregory Palamas)
  - 5:00PM– Vespers for RIOCE – Assumption Church, Pawt.

Monday, March 28th:
- 7:00 P.M.-Great Compline at St. George, West Roxbury
  (Bishop JOHN presiding)

Tuesday, March 29th:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Wednesday, March 30th:
- 7:00 P.M.- Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Thursday, March 31st:
- 7:00 P.M.– Great Compline at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket
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 Nakhour, 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**

Orthodox Vocabulary

Hosanna
This is the Greek form for the Hebrew word for petition, ‘save, we beseech Thee’. It was used by the people when they proclaimed Jesus to be their Messiah during His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, commemorated on Palm Sunday. It was introduced at a very early date into the Christian liturgies.

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.

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

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<th>Epistle</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
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Enter in Quietness, Rest in Prayer, Worship in Reverence, Depart in Peace to Serve

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.

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You should not wait until you are cleansed of wandering thoughts before you desire to pray; such distraction is not banished from the mind except by assiduous prayer requiring much labor. If you only begin to pray when you see that your mind has become perfect and exalted above all recollection of the world, then you will never pray.

~St. Isaac the Syrian
Attention All Teens
(12 years and older)
***Come and join The St. Mary Teen SOYO Youth Group***

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

* The Lenten Retreat March 25th-27th.

Spring is here!

Time for planting flowers, trees and grapevines. If you would like to have grapeleaves for next year, I have clippings for you to plant in your yard. They are very easy to grow. Please see Ed Ayoub for more information (401) 263-3666

2016 Assessment Fee

2016 Assessment fee statements have been mailed out this week. The Parish Council wishes to kindly remind the Faithful to send in their Archdiocese Assessment of $125 made out to St. Mary Church to help meet our obligations to the Archdiocese for 2016. Thank you to those parishioners who have already sent in their payment.

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.

Sunday, March 13 2016
Sunday of Forgiveness
(Cheese-Fare)

Troparion of the Resurrection: Tone 8
From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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 Sunday of Last Judgment: Tone 6
O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, and givest understanding and intelligence, the Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father; for behold, I shall not refrain my lips from crying to Thee, O merciful One, have mercy upon me who am fallen.
Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."
What is Lent?
Prayer ✩ Fasting ✩ Acts of Mercy

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 Pasha (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.

Prayers are being Offered for Good Health and Blessing of:
Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
George Mousassi
Offered by: His Family, Barbara, Susan, Kristen and Daniel
George Matook
George Mousalli
Offered by: St. Mary Church
Edward & Lilian 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 & Lilian Betor
George Matook
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Installation of Parish Council Members
St. Mary Church offers congratulations and prayers for the blessing of the newly elected and appointed members of the Parish Council, and their officers:
Salwa Khoury, Cindy Hayes, Fadia Kabak, Jamie Mitri, Joseph Samra III, Lorice Hallal, Emad Amirhom, Scott Barnes, Cory Dupont, Steven Kilsey Jr., Holly Lazieh, Walid Nahkoul, Linda Dvelis, Elmer Stanley, Hadeel Samaan
May God bless them, strengthen and guide them, that together with their Pastor, Fr. Elie and with the Arch-Pastoral guidance of Bishop JOHN, they may in unity and concord under take their Ministry to the Glory of God.
Saint Mary’s Adult Education

“...to equip his people for the work of the Church, so that the body of Christ may be built up... attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ!” (Ephesians 4:12,13)

Everyone is welcome each Sunday after the Divine Liturgy for Adult Education in the Parish Center. Along with our priest, Fr. Elie, our Adult Education team encourages each and every parishioner to deepen his or her personal devotion, knowledge of and passion for the Orthodox Faith.

Along with prayer and fasting, Great Lent is also one of the most teachable periods of the Church’s liturgical year. As we prepare to embark upon our Lenten journey with one another in Christ let us learn from the depth of wisdom the Church has gifted to us, in order that we might make the words of St. Paul above a reality for our parish.

Any questions regarding Adult Education can be directed to either Fr. Elie or any member of our Adult Education team: Cory Dupont, Dr. Matt Duncan, Matthew Cooper, and Elmer Stanley.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.  Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
John Massiwer  Offered by: Massiwer, Gurghigian, Hayes, Franklin & Arrighi Families
Dennis Slay  Offered by: Audrey & Wayne Kilsey
John Massiwer  Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury
Tony Kandalaft  Offered by: Ed & Sue Ayoub
John Massiwer
Donald Hayes
Tom Andrew
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

Charitable Gift Program

It is with appreciation and gratitude that we announce the reception of a gift from the family of Fred Hallal fulfilling his wishes to participate in the Charitable Gift Program.

May His Memory Be Eternal.

“With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest to the soul of thy servant Florence, O Savior: and preserve her in that life of blessedness which is with

Outreach Committee

There will be a meeting of the Outreach Ministry on Sunday, March 20th during the coffee hour. Hope to see you all there. We will meet in one of the Sunday School rooms.

Lenten Pot-Luck Supper

On Friday, March 18th at following the 1st Akathyst Al-Madeeh Service a Lenten Pot-Luck Supper will be held in the Parish Center. Menu: Mgdarah, Zaater. Fava Beans, Salad, Hummus, Beet Salad, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Variety of Desserts.