

CHURCH CALENDAR

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 & Annunciation Feast- Liturgy at St. Mary Church, Pawt

Friday, March 25th: 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

Friday, April 1st: 7:00 P.M.- Akythyst Hymn at St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Saturday, April 2nd: 5:00PM-Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, April 3rd: 3rd Sunday of Lent (Holy Cross)

Memorial Service for Ruth Salhany (6 years)

5:00PM– Vespers for RIOCE -St. Mary Church, Pawtucket

Sunday, April 4th: 7:00 P.M.-Great Compline at St. Mary, Pawtucket

(Bishop JOHN presiding)

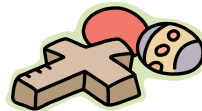
Sunday, April 10th: 4th Sunday of Lent (John Climacus)

40 Day Memorial Service for Bahjat Khabbaz

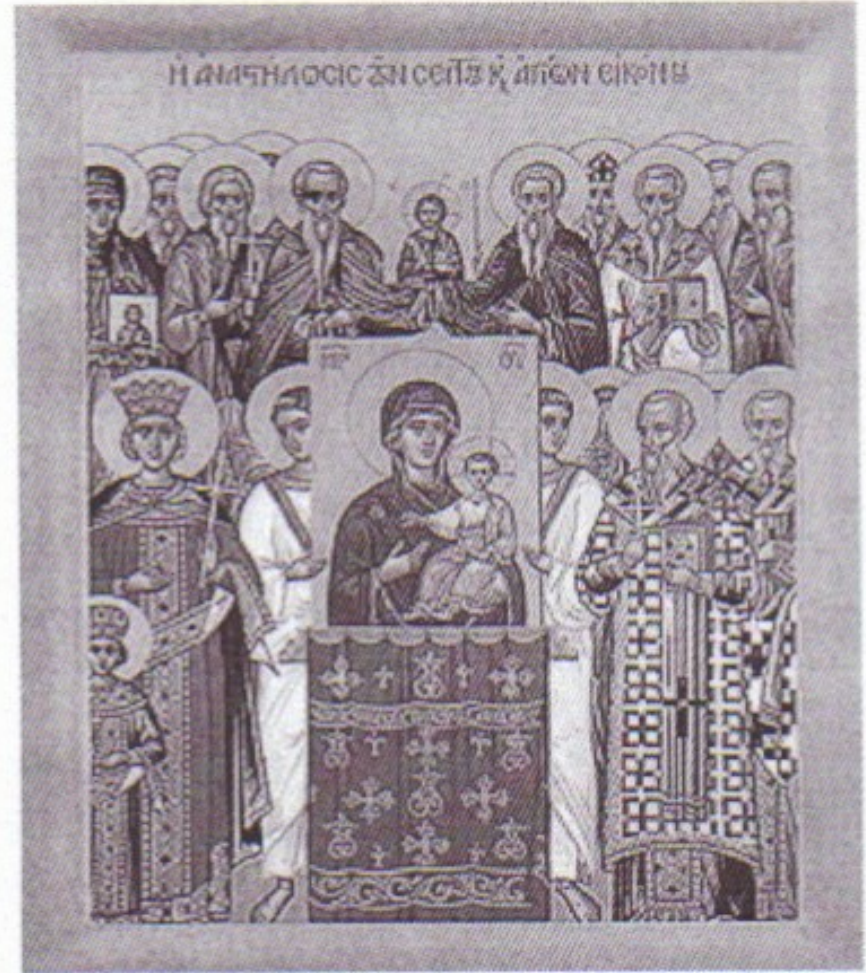
5:00PM– Vespers for RIOCE – St. Spyridon's, Newport

Monday, April 11th: 7:00 P.M.-Great Compline at St. John of Damascus

(Bishop JOHN presiding)



SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, March 20, 2016

**First Sunday of Great Lent:
Sunday of Orthodoxy**

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 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****



Orthodox Vocabulary

Prostration

A bodily posture of reverence and homage to God made by kneeling on both knees while touching the hands and forehead to the ground. The sign of the Cross is often made preceding or following each prostration. In prostrating, the believer demonstrates humility to God and at the same time trains the body in physical enactment and discipline of that foundational Spiritual posture.

*The mathematics of God is completely different from the mathematics of humans.
For us two and two equal four. For God two and two can make five or fifteen or
anything else.*

~Elder Epiphanius of Athens



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.

Epistle

Ushers

March 20th: Nora Matook (English)
Hadeel Samaan (Arabic)
March 27th: Jamie Mitri (English)
Charlotte Mitri (Arabic)

Julia Vale
Mary Massiwer
Elaine Wilbur
Lorice Hallal

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 20, 2016

First Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy

Tone 1 / Eothinon 9

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 First Sunday of Great Lent: Tone 2

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

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

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.

THE EPISTLE

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets; who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, “We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!” Nathanael said to Jesus, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these.” And Jesus said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.”

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

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.

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.



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.

Diocese of N.E. upcoming events

Come to Young Adult Fellowship Night at St. Mary Orthodox Church in Central Square Cambridge on Saturday, April 2 beginning at 5pm! Great Vespers is open to all followed by a Young Adult (18-40) Potluck Dinner & Fellowship. Bring your favorite lenten dish, dessert, or drink to share! Local College OCF groups and parishioners from all nearby parishes are welcome! Questions? Text/Call Chris (301-807-8378) or Jamil (617-501-4427). Directions and more information available at www.stmaryorthodoxchurch.org.

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).



Please- As a reminder, if sponsoring a Coffee Hour during lent, make sure to have only fasting food (no chicken, meat, fish or dairy foods—shrimp is allowed.)



Year Memorial Services



Today, a Six-Month Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of *Metri Zainah* and a One-Month Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of *Firas Zianah*. These services are being offered by Fadi & Hadeel Samaan.

May God grant them peace and repose and may their memory be eternal.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

George Matook
George Moussalli
Lillian Betor
Offered by: St. Mary Church

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

James Nassaney
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons
& Bob Dessaint

Kanalaft Family
Mouro Family
Hallal Family
Sackall Family
Offered by: Georgette Hallal

George & Sandra Matook & Family
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Nora Matook
Mary Massiwer & Family
William & Louise Osborn & Family
George & Sandra Matook
Offered by: Julia Vale

Sandy & George T. Matook
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family

George Mousaslli
Offered by:
His Family, Barbara, Susan, Kristen and Daniel



Extra Collection

Today on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, as is the custom in our Archdiocese, an extra collection will be taken in support for Theological education and our Seminarians. Please be generous so that the Church can afford to train, equip and support the formation and education of our future pastors and educators.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

John Massiwer
Offered by: Diana Hashway

Antoine & Leon Kandalaft
Olga & Joseph Mouro
Hallal Family
Sackall Family
Offered by: Georgette Hallal

Fred & Sophie Hallal
Moses Lazieh
Antoine “Tony” Kandalaft
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons
 & Bob Dessaint

John Massiwer
Charles Abdelahad
Charles Agaty
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra



John S. Swistak
Darryl Norris
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Leon Matook
Mr. & Mrs. Toofik & Elizabeth Matook
Robert Vale
Deceased Families of Toofik & Elizabeth Matook
Offered by: Julia Vale

Metropolitan PHILIP
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Elias Samaan
Iyad Samaan
Offered by: Fadi & Hadeel Samaan

Leon Matook
George Matook
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook & Family

Leon T. Matook
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family

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.

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 \$100 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>
March 20, 2016	Fadi & Hadeel Samaan	Metri Zainah (6months) & Firas Zai-
nah (1 month)		
March 27, 2016	Marwan & Huda Al-Amir	Health of their Family
April 3, 2016	William Salhany and family	Ruth Salhany (6 years)
April 10, 2016	Bassam Khabbaz & Family	Bahjat Khabbaz (40 day)
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,	Emile Haddad (1 year memorial)
	Therese Haddad & Their Families	
May 29, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
June 5, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
June 12, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
June 19, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
June 26, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
July 3, 2016	Open for sponsorship	
July 10, 2016	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Health of Elias Morcos
July 17, 2016	Hi Daughters & Their Families	Fred Hallal (1 year)
July 24, 2016	Audrey & Wayne Kilsey	Elthel Kilsey (1 year)

Great Lent and Holy Pascha 2016
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:

In Loving Memory of:

Your name:

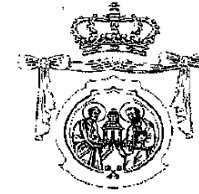
Donation:

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 24th.



His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

March 20, 2016

"Let us O brethren, begin the second week of the Fast, fulfilling it day by day with rejoicing, making unto ourselves, like Elias the Tishbite, a fiery chariot of the great cardinal virtues, elevating our minds by subduing our passions, arming ourselves with purity, to chase away and vanquish the enemy."

--Vespers of the first Sunday Evening

Reverend Fathers, Esteemed Members of the Parish Council, and Beloved Faithful:

Greetings to you and your families on this first Sunday of the Fast. I pray the struggles of the first week were accomplished with faithful endurance by the grace of God.

Every year on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, in addition to celebrating the triumph of the Holy Icons, we appeal to the faithful of our communities on behalf of our archdiocesan students who are undertaking theological studies in preparation for ordination. We are thankful that they are dedicating their lives to serve Christ and His Holy Church. At the same time, we are all mindful of the costs of higher education. In addition to their undergraduate degrees which they are responsible for obtaining, they must spend an additional three years studying at the seminary in order to be considered for ordination and placement in one of our parishes. So as not to burden them in the future, we give all qualified applicants a scholarship to cover the cost of their tuition and room and board so that they might enter the ministry without the additional burden of paying back loans from seminary. The money we receive from our parishes on this day is used to provide these scholarships. Therefore, we ask that you give generously and from your heart.

Praying that our heavenly Father continue to bless you on your Lenten pilgrimage to the glorious Resurrection of His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

GREAT LENT 2016

March 14th ~ May 1st (Holy Pascha)



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.

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 Fred, O Savior: and preserve him in that life of blessedness which is with thee."

Outreach Committee

There will be a meeting of the Outreach Ministry TODAY- Sunday, March 20th during 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.

