

CHURCH CALENDAR

Saturday, April 30th: Great and Holy Saturday

10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy

11:00 P.M.– Rush Service

Sunday, May 1st: Great and Holy Pascha

12:00A.M.– Divine Liturgy followed by Agape Breakfast

6:00 P.M.– Agape Vespers

Monday, May 2nd: 7:00 P.M.– Ladies Meeting

Sunday, May 8th: Sunday of St. Thomas

Special Coffee Hour honoring Bishop Nicholas

Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 10th: 7:00P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, May 14th: 5:00 P.M.-Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, May 15th: Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women

Church School Graduation & Luncheon

Sunday, May 22nd: Sunday of the Paralytic

Outreach Committee Meeting during Coffee Hour

Sunday, May 29th: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Sunday, June 5th: Sunday of the Blindman

Sunday, June 12th: Holy Fathers of the First Council of Nicea

Sunday, June 19th: Sunday of Holy PENTECOST



CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!



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.

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, May 1st, 2016

Great and Holy PASCHA

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

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

<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 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

Paschal Lamb

This was the lamb eaten at the Jewish Passover. The lambs were sacrificed in the Temple on the afternoon of 14 Nisan. Then they were taken by the people to their homes and eaten during the night. In the New Testament, the Jewish Passover found its fulfillment in Christ. St. Paul, in his I Epistle to the Corinthians (5:7) says, 'Christ our Paschal Lamb has been sacrificed' When John the Baptist saw Christ coming, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!', St. John's Gospel (1:29). The lamb eaten by the Orthodox on Easter signifies more the Resurrected Christ who by His sacrifice redeemed man, and may be taken as a faint echo of His call during the Last Supper for His followers to partake of His Body and Blood. The Orthodox Paschal lamb bears no affinity to the Hebrew Paschal lamb and should not be confused with it.

Today is the day of salvation for the world ... Christ is risen from the dead: arise with him. Christ returns to himself: you also must return to him. Christ has come forth from the tomb: free yourselves from the fetters of evil. The gates of hell are open and the power of death is destroyed. The old Adam is superseded, the new perfected. In Christ a new creation is coming to birth: renew yourselves.

GREGORY NAZIANZEN *Oration 45, For Easter, I,I* (PG 36,624)



Bishop Nicholas is visiting St. Mary Church on Sunday, May 8th and will be presiding over Liturgy. We will be having a special Coffee Hour in his honor. Please join us!

Parking Lot

The parking lot across the street is to be used for elderly and handicapped parking only. Please use our other parking lot to park during church services.

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>
May 1, 2016	no coffee hour	Great & Holy PASCHA
May 8, 2016	St. Mary Church	Honoring Bishop Nicholas
May 15, 2016	St. Mary Church	Church School Graduation
May 22, 2016	Kamal, George, Gladys, Therese Haddad & Their Families	Emile Haddad (1 year memorial)
May 29, 2016	Michel Raad & Family	Health of her Family
June 5, 2016	Steve & Patricia Kilsey Joe & Marlene Samra	John & Esma Gorab
June 12, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
June 19, 2016*	Elie & Julia Karam	
June 26, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
July 3, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
July 10, 2016	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Health of Elias Morcos
July 17, 2016	His Daughters & Their Families	Fred Hallal (1 year)
July 24, 2016	Audrey & Wayne Kilsey	Elthel Kilsey (1 year)
July 31, 2016	St. Mary Church	Family Day
August 7, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
August 14, 2016	no coffee hour	St. Mary Church Feast
August 21, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
August 28th, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
September 4, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
September 11, 2016	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Paschal Homily of our Father among the Saints, John Chrysostom

If anyone be devout and a lover of God, let him enjoy this beautiful and radiant Feast of Feasts! If anyone is a wise servant, let him rejoice and enter into the joy of his Lord! If anyone has wearied himself in fasting, let him now receive his reward! If anyone has laboured from the first hour, let him today receive his just recompense! If anyone has come at the third hour, with thanksgiving let him keep the Feast! If anyone has arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings for he shall suffer no loss! If anyone has delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near without hesitation! If anyone has arrived even at the eleventh hour, let him not fear on account of his delay. For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, just as to him who has laboured from the first. He has mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; to the one He gives, and to the other, He is also gracious. He is also gracious. He both honors the work and praises the intention. ENTER, ALL OF YOU, INTO THE JOY OF OUR LORD! Whether you are first or last, receive your reward! O rich and poor, one with another, dance for joy! O you ascetics and you negligent, celebrate this Day! You that have fasted and you that have neglected the fast, rejoice today! The table is richly laden; feast royally, all of you! The calf is fatted; let no one go away hungry. Let all partake of the Feast of Faith. Let all receive the riches of goodness. Let no lament his poverty, for the Universal Kingdom has been revealed! Let no one mourn for his sins, for Forgiveness has dawned from the Tomb! Let no one fear Death, for our Saviour's death has set us free! He that was taken by Death has annihilated it! He descended into Hades and took Hades captive! He embittered Hades when it tasted His Flesh! Anticipating this, the Prophet Isaiah exclaimed, "Hades was embittered when it encountered Thee in the lower regions." Hades was embittered for it was abolished! Hades was embittered for it was mocked! Hades was embittered for it was purged! Hades was embittered for it was despoiled! Hades was embittered for it was bound in chains! Hades took a body and met God face to face! Hades took Earth and encountered Heaven! Hades took what it saw, but crumbled before what it had not seen! "O death, where is thy sting" O Hades, where is thy victory?" CHRIST IS RISEN, and you are overthrown! CHRIST IS RISEN, and the demons are fallen! CHRIST IS RISEN, and the Angels rejoice! CHRIST IS RISEN, and Life reigns! CHRIST IS RISEN, and not one dead remains in the tombs! For Christ being raised from the dead has become the first-fruits of them that slept! To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages!

Amen.



The Epistle

Acts 1:1-8

Prokeimenon: This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endures forever.

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they had come together, they asked him, Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

The Gospel

John 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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).

Reminder:

Please be sure to fill your "Food for Hungry" box that was distributed at the beginning of Lent. The children discussed in Sunday School the importance of almsgiving during the Lenten season.

*Sunday, May 1st (PASCHA)- *NO CLASS*

*Sunday, May 8th– Easter Egg Hunt during Church School

*Sunday, May 15th– End of Church School Luncheon



Diocese of New England: 2016 Parish Life Conference

Please reserve the dates:

June 11th & 25th for the 2016 Parish Life Conference.

This year it will be hosted by St. George Church, Lawrence, MA.

June 11th: Pre-Conference

Location: St. George Orthodox Church, Lowell, MA

June 25th: Conference

Location: Sts. Constantine & Helen Church

71 Chandler Road, Andover, MA

~More info to follow~

Holy Thursday Wreath
Donated by Sam & Kay Matook & Family



For the Health & Safety of:

Sam & Kay Matook
Mark A. Matook
Bob & Sherry Matook
Our Grandchildren:
Mackenzie and Mason Matook
Rita Sayegh
Mary David
Stephanie Bellas & Family
Michael and Dawn Bellas & Family
Lewis and Penny Bellas & Family
Christy and John Bellas & Family
Fred, Adele & Bobby Shwaery
Maureen Allen
The Bicki Family
The Panichas Family
The Matook Family
Angela Panichas & Family

In Loving Memory Of:

Wadi & Esma Matook
James & Helen Bellas
Vasile Bellas
Christy & Olga Bicki
Thomas & Anastasia Panichas
Fred & Gloria Matook
Mitchel & Emily Albert
George Matook
Wilfred David
Abraham Karneeb
George Sayegh
Don & Ida Carlos
Charles & Rose Affsa
Lewis & Eleni Bellas
The Allen Family
Claudia Bellas
Leon T. Matook
Howard & Anita Allen

*May they rest in peace
and may their memory be eternal.*

**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

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

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

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



CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

The Teens of our Parish Invite You
to join all of us for

PASCHAL BREAKFAST

After Easter Liturgy- Sunday, May 1st
In the early morning hours at the Parish Center

Breakfast is complimentary, your donation is welcome.

Menu will include: breakfast pastry, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, french toast, fresh fruit, yogurt & granola, chicken francese, garden salad, coffee, tea, juice.

Offer of Gratitude

Fr. Elie and the St. Mary Parish Council would like to offer thanks and gratitude to all the faithful who participated, assisted and supported the Church during the Lenten Season, Holy Week and Pascha. May God bless those who gave of their time, energy, resources and love, to celebrate and to offer sacrifices during this special time and make possible our witness to the Resurrection- The Feast of Feasts.



CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Easter is not just an annual solemn and beautiful event of a past history. It is an announcement of the Beginning of a new life.

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD
TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH AND UPON
THOSE IN THE TOMBS
BESTOWING LIFE**

المسيح قام من بين الأموات

ووطئ الموت بالموت

ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور

**KRISTOS ANESTI EK NEKRON
THANATO THANATON PATESAS
KAITES IN TEZ MIMASIN
ZO IN HARISAMENOS**

We here at St. Mary Church have a chance of a NEW LIFE to work together for the Glory of God. May the promise of the Resurrection and everlasting life fill your hearts with joy.

Christ is Risen, Indeed He is Risen.

Salwa Khoury
Parish Council Chairwoman



HOLY PASCHA 2016

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

St. Mary Church would like to thank Robert & Mary Khoury & Family who have generously donated the flowers for the Beir. They are offered for the health of the Khoury, Hawwa, Chamoun & Ferrari Families.

~Thank you~

Easter Egg Donation

St. Mary Church would like to thank Scott & Nora Barnes for generously donating The Paschal Easter Eggs again this year. They are offered for the health and blessing of Rose Ganim.



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.

****Please remember to return your Food For Hungry People boxes****