Sunday, November 20th: Transfer of the Entrance of The Theotokos
   Stewardship Sunday Luncheon following Liturgy
Thursday, November 24th: Thanksgiving Day (church office closed)
Sunday, November 27th: Twenty Third Sunday After Pentecost
Saturday, December 3rd: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy
Sunday, December 4th: Great Martyr Barbara & Tenth Sunday of Luke
   Coffee hour honoring parishioners over 90 years old
Monday, December 5th: 6:00 P.M.– Ladies Society Christmas Celebration
Sunday, December 11th: Sunday of the Forefathers
   Choir Appreciation Sunday
Tuesday, December 13th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, December 18th: Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (Genealogy)
   Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 25th: The Nativity of Christ (Christmas)
Saturday, December 31st: New Year’s Eve
   8:00pm–1:00am ~ Hafli at the Parish Center

Looking Ahead: Sunday, January 1st, 2017: New Year’s Day

Canned Food Drive
The Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese is one of the sponsoring organizations for the National Committee for World Food Day. Each parish collects and distributes food each year to the needy in their local community. The collections are published in “THE WORD” magazine.

*Please bring canned foods to the church hall*
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, Lorice Hallal, Steven Kilsey Jr., Holly Lazieh, Walid Nakhoul, Matthew Duncan (Church School), Linda Dvelis, Hadeel Samaan, Geoff Ayoub

**Please feel free to contact Salwa Khoury at (401)434-8877 / stkhoury@cox.net or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns**

Patience, Forgiveness, and Joy
are the three greatest characteristics of divine love.
They are characteristics of all real love—
if there is such a thing as real love outside divine love.
Without these three characteristics, love is not love.
If you give the name “love” to anything else,
it is as though you were giving the name “sheep” to a goat or a pig.

~Bishop Nikolai Velimirovich

Published in the Providence Journal; Editorial Page on November 4, 2016

Amid hate and division, a story of kindness and hope

Regarding “A heartfelt mission,” Food, Nov. 2: In this election year filled with anger, hatred and childishness, it is a joy to read about the parishioners of St. Mary’s Antiochian Orthodox Church in Pawtucket offering their time and talents to organize a bazaar celebrating their heritage, while at the same time supporting newly arrived Syrian families who have fled their war-torn country.

I thank this parish for stepping up with kind guidance and doing the right thing. And I thank Gail Ciampa for not only providing their recipes, but also for telling their story of community and generosity.

Arline A. Fleming
Narragansett
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.

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

~Please consider sponsoring a Coffee Hour~

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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Sponsored by</th>
<th>Sponsored for:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 20, 2016</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Stewardship Luncheon</td>
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<td>November 27, 2016</td>
<td>Fadi &amp; Hadeel Samaan</td>
<td>Health of Family</td>
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<td>December 4, 2016</td>
<td>Outreach Committee</td>
<td>Honoring seniors over 90</td>
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<td>December 11, 2016</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
<td>Choir Appreciation Day</td>
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<td>December 18, 2016</td>
<td>The Order of St. Ignatius</td>
<td>Christmas Pageant</td>
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<td>December 25th, 2016</td>
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<td>January 1, 2017</td>
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<td>January 15, 2017</td>
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<td>January 22, 2017</td>
<td>Dr. Zeyad &amp; Norma Morcos</td>
<td>Memory of Elias Morcos</td>
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<td>January 29, 2017</td>
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<td>February 19, 2017</td>
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<td>February 26, 2017</td>
<td>Ladies Society</td>
<td>Dinner to Benefit NAB Project</td>
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<td>March 5, 2017</td>
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<td>April 9, 2017</td>
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<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>April 16, 2017</td>
<td>no coffee hour</td>
<td>Pascha</td>
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<td>April 23, 2017</td>
<td>Her Loving Family</td>
<td>Sophie Hallai</td>
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<td>April 30, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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Sunday, November 20, 2016
Transfer of the Entrance of The Theotokos

Tone: 5      Eothinon: 11

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 Entrance of The Theotokos: Tone 4
Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation.

Kontakion of Entrance of the Theotokos: Tone 4
(**Thou Who wast raised up**) The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today enters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.
THE EPISTLE

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. He hath regarded the lowliness of His servant.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

THE GOSPEL


At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, “Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her.” As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!” But He said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

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)

**Christmas Pageant- December 18th

Ladies Society– Christmas Celebration

The Ladies will be having a Christmas celebration on Tuesday, December 5th at 6:00pm. More information to follow.

2016 Assessment Fee

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.

Soup Kitchen Donations

Kindly place your donation in the ‘breadbox’ (at the rear of the Church on the candle stand) to help defray the costs of the ‘Soup Kitchen’ Outreach project.

Thank you for your support!

The Soup Kitchen provides boxed lunches to people from the community every 3rd Sunday of the month.
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
Great-Grandson, Daniel Thomas Dykstra
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor
Fr. Elie Estephan
Caroline Lawrence
Tony Kabak
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury
Fr. Elie Estephan
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
Ameen and Nayfey Sabath
Petros and Affife Betor
Helen Betor
Fred Sabath
Fred "Fritzie and Jimmy Sabath
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor
Nellie Hallal
Frederick & Sophie Hallal
Offered by: Holly Lazieh and Sons & Bob Dessaint
Anthony Agaty
Charles Agaty
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

November 20, 2016

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Christ is Born, Glorify Him!

Once again the holiday season is upon us, and, once again, it is time to start thinking about sending Christmas cards to those with whom we worship and love. Every year the choir sponsors a card which is sent to every family in our parish—sending your best wishes for a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

This letter is to ensure that all parish members are approached and have an opportunity to participate in the Christmas card being prepared—we do not wish to overlook anyone!

Below is a form, which you may complete and submit—either in person or by mail—containing your family name and your holiday greetings. Your holiday wishes will be sent to all parishioners. This is a wonderful way to be remembered by our community during this busy season—it is also an inexpensive and easy way to have your card sent to all your friends and relatives. All proceeds go into the choir fund, which is our only source of revenue to continue to upgrade our supplies and continue to provide you with meaningful liturgical music.

In order to be listed in this year’s card, your response must be received no later than Sunday, December 4th. If there are any questions, or if you wish to give your response and donation in person, please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping us in this endeavor. All of us in the choir sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Sincerely,
The St. Mary Liturgical Choir

FAMILY NAME(S)__________________________

AMOUNT OF DONATION:__________________

Please Remember:—LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS DECEMBER 4TH!
By mail, send to: St. Mary Orthodox Church, Choir Christmas Card Fund, 249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

On behalf of the Parishioners of St. Mary Church & The Parish Council we wish Fr. Elie a very Happy 50th Birthday. May God grant him many happy, healthy years.

Teen SOYO would like to thank those who donated food items, monetary donations and everyone who helped assemble and distribute the many Thanksgiving Baskets we were able to give to our local community to celebrate Thanksgiving with their loved ones.
2016
Parish Christmas Poinsettia Fund
In anticipation of Christmas, we present our very important
"Poinsettia Fund" Project

Please accept my donation of $_______ to be used in decorating the Church for Christmas. This donation is made with the following intentions.

For the Good Health and Blessing of:  
In Loving Memory of:

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From: ____________________________________________

Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 18th

Stewardship Ministry
Stewardship Sunday
November 20th, 2016

This year we are beginning a new tradition. We ask that you join the entire parish in celebrating our Stewardship – those gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Please bring your completed card to Liturgy on Stewardship Sunday, November 20th. Our gifts will be offered in prayer on the altar and blessed. Following Liturgy we will join in fellowship for lunch.

You should have received your Commitment Card in the mail. If you did not please request one from the Vestry or download one from our website.

Luncheon Menu:
- Kale Salad
- Marinated Shrimp
- Seasonal Roasted Vegetables
- Pasta
- Pizza for Kids
- Dessert
Cost $15 / Kids $5