Sunday, April 23rd: Sunday of St. Thomas
Outreach “Soup Kitchen” 12pm-12:30pm

Saturday, April 29th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy (this will replace May Arabic Liturgy)

Sunday, April 30th: Sunday of Myrrh-bearers
Church School- Walk-a-Thon

Saturday, May 6th: 6:00 P.M.– Byzantine Night (Chanting at Church followed by refreshments at the Parish Center)

Sunday, May 7th: Sunday of the Paralytic
10 year Memorial Service for Don Hayes
40 day Memorial Service for Georges Karam

Tuesday, May 9th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, May 13th: 8pm-1am– Mother’s Day Celebration Hafi at the Parish Center

Sunday, May 14th: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Mother’s Day

Sunday, May 21st: Sunday of the Blind Man

Sunday, May 28th: Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

Monday, May 29th: Memorial Day

Saturday, June 3rd: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, June 4th: Holy Pentecost

Sunday, June 11th: First Sunday After Pentecost (All Saints Sunday)
Church School Graduation & Luncheon

Tuesday, June 13th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, June 17th: PLC Pre-Conference St. George Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester

Sunday, June 18th: Second Sunday After Pentecost
Father’s Day

June 23rd-25th, 2017 – PLC St. George Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester

Sunday, June 25th: St. Mary Church will be closed for PLC **please note**

Saturday, July 1st: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, July 2nd: Fourth Sunday of Matthew

Tuesday, July 4th: Independence Day (church office closed)
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 2017:
President: Salwa Khoury
Vice-President: Cindy Hayes
Secretary: Jamie Mitri
Treasurer: Fadia Kabak
Council Members: Geoff Ayoub, Scott Barnes, Matthew Duncan (Sunday School), Linda Dvelis, Keith Hallal, Fred Kilsey, George Kilsey, Walid Nakhoul, Chadi Saad, Hadeel Samaan, Joseph Samra III

**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**
We are happy to announce this year's Parish Life Conference, hosted by St. George Orthodox Cathedral of Worcester. This year's PLC is filled with events for the whole family to enjoy. Some of the scheduled events include: Divine services, Teen SOYO baseball game outing, Young Adults Summer BBQ Bash, presentation on the conference theme by Fr. George Eber, Oratorical, Bible Bowl, Haflí, delicious food and much more... Event rates are very affordable so be sure to register your family today: http://www.antiochianevents.com/worcester.html

Byzantine Night
With the blessing and the presence of our beloved Bishop John, our Arabic Choir, led by Kh. Rouba, invites you to a Byzantine Night on Saturday, May 6 at 6:00 pm.
Immediately following, we will meet at the Parish Center for refreshments.

Food For Hungry People Collection (F.F.H.P.)
Please make sure to bring your Food for Hungry People collection boxes to the Church Office if you have not done so already.

Please note:
St. Mary Church will be closed on Sunday, June 25th due to the Parish Life Conference at St. George Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester.

Sunday, April 23, 2017
Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)
المسيح قام، حقًا قام.

APOLYTEKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY: Tone 7
While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

APOLYTEKION FOR ST. GEORGE: Tone 4
Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA: Tone 8
O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!
THE EPISTLE

The righteousness shall rejoice in the Lord. Hear my voice, O God.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (12:1-11) In those days, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, “Wrap your mantle around you and follow me.” And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31) On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe.” Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

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 $200 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.

~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>April 23, 2017</td>
<td>Elaine Wilbur</td>
<td>Memory of Sophie Hallal</td>
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<td>April 30, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Health of son Mark &amp;</td>
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<td>May 7, 2017</td>
<td>His Loving Family</td>
<td>Memory of son Fred &amp; husband</td>
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<td>May 14, 2017</td>
<td>Chadi Saad</td>
<td>Russell</td>
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<td>May 21, 2017</td>
<td>Steve Kilsey &amp; Students</td>
<td>Memory of Georges Karam (40 day)</td>
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<td>May 28, 2017</td>
<td>Charitable Gift Program</td>
<td>Health of Hadi Saad &amp; Family</td>
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<td>June 4, 2017</td>
<td>Nabil &amp; Salwa Khoury</td>
<td>“Saints among us”</td>
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<td>June 11, 2017</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Church School Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td>June 18, 2017</td>
<td>The Kilsey Family</td>
<td>Memory of Mary Kilsey (20 years)</td>
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<td>June 25, 2017</td>
<td>no coffee hour</td>
<td>Church closed for PLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2, 2017</td>
<td>Elaine Swistak &amp; Family</td>
<td>Memory of John Swistak (5 years)</td>
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<td>July 9, 2017</td>
<td>His Loving Family</td>
<td>Memory of Frederick Hallal</td>
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<td>July 16, 2017</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Family Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23, 2017</td>
<td>Dr. Zeyad &amp; Norma Morcos</td>
<td>Health of our son Elias Morcos</td>
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<td>July 31, 2017</td>
<td>Mirna &amp; Walid Nakhoul</td>
<td>Health of Family</td>
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<td>August 6, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>August 13, 2017</td>
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<td>August 20, 2017</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Feast Day Dinner</td>
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<td>August 27, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>September 3, 2017</td>
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<td>September 10, 2017</td>
<td>The Order of St. Ignatius</td>
<td>First Day of Church School</td>
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<td>September 17, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>September 24, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 29, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5, 2017</td>
<td>no coffee hour</td>
<td>Annual Christmas Bazaar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**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) is asked to contact the choir director Dawn Boukari @ (401) 465-8909 or email her: daboukari@gmail.com

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**Church News & Organization Activities**

**St. Mary Liturgical Choir**

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**Christ is Risen!**

Thanks to all of you who supported the Teen’s Easter breakfast. We hope you all enjoyed it!

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**St. Mary Teen SOYO News and Events**

Christ is Risen!

**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)

**Upcoming Events:**

*Sunday, April 30th:* Walk-a-Thon
*Sunday, June 11th:* Church School Graduation & Luncheon

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**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

- Kevin Hashway
- Mark Hashway
- Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
- Edward and Lillian Betor & Family
- Offered by: Edward and Lillian Betor
- The Matook Family
- Offered by: Charles & Angela Abosamra
- Mark Hashway
- Holly, Paula, Cheryl, Nancy & Families
- Offered by: Lorice Hallal
- The Family of Sophie Hallal
- Charles & Angela Abosamra
- Offered by: Elaine Swistak
- Alexander & Jack Silva
- Lily & Violet Dvelis
- Layla & Lucas Melcher
- Offered by: Fred, Adele & Robert Shwaery
- Mary Calache
- Amad & Alexa Tayebi
- Spiro Saati & Jo Pandolpho
- Sheryl Kogut
- Sam Matook & Family
- Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos
- The Hallal Family
- Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury
- Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint
- Cheryl & Anthony Nassaney & Family
- Paula Hallal
- Lily Massiwer
- Diana Hashway
- Mary Massiwer & Family
- Fadia & Tony Kabak & Family
- Janet Laffey
- Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

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

- Fred Hashway Jr.
- Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
- Ameen and Nafee Sabath
- Petros and Afife Betor
- Helen Betor
- Fred Sabath
- Fritz and Jimmy Sabath
- Offered by: Edward and Lillian Betor
- Sophie Hallal
- Frederick Hallal
- Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint
- Paula Hallal
- Cheryl & Anthony Nassaney & Family
- Nancy & Dimitrios Sterpis & Sons
- Kay Matook
- Offered by: Charles & Angela Abosamra
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Lorice Hallal
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Elaine Swistak
- Sophie Hallal
- Fred Hallal
- Offered by: Fred, Adele & Robert Shwaery
- Kay Matook
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos
- Sophie Hallal
- Fred Hallal
- Moses Lazieh
- Rose Khoury
- Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

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**CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!**
CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

Coffee Hour
Today, Coffee Hour is offered in memory of Sophie Hallal by her Loving Family. Coffee hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

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

Visitations
Please contact Fr. Elie or Salwa Khoury with any names of parishioners that are in need of visitation either at home, in hospital or nursing homes.

Come kick off the start of summer with the Arabic Educational Foundation!!!
The A.E.F. will host a scholarship Wine Tasting at Diamond Hill Vineyards on Friday, June 23rd from 5:30-7:30. Light hors d’oeuvres along with a sampling of Vineyard wines will be offered with surprise Arabic music! Come socialize with friends and family in a beautiful outdoor setting while supporting the AEF in providing college scholarships to the next generation of Arabic students.

Since its inception in 1966, the AEF has provided over $250,000 in college scholarships to local students of Arabic heritage.

Tickets are $25 and are available from board members. Please call or e-mail: George Matook– clubbie75@hotmail.com or (401) 231-8377 Tammy McMichael– TammyMcMichael@cox.net or (401) 334-4450

Mother’s Day Celebration
Spring Hafle
Saturday, May 13th
Doors open at 8:00pm * Dinner 8:30pm
Come and enjoy an evening of Music & Dabke with singer Salah Kurdi
Adult: $50 ~ Children under 12 years: $25
For tickets & reservations please contact:
Fr. Elie (240) 205-9079 / elieruba@gmail.com
Tony Kabak (401) 744-6317, (401) 769-4915 / fadiakabak@verizon.net

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.

Arabic Liturgy
Arabic Liturgy will be held on Saturday, April 29th at 6:00 P.M. (This replaces May Arabic Liturgy). All are welcome and encouraged to attend.