**Sunday, April 30th:** Sunday of Myrrh-bearers

**Monday, May 1st:** 7:00 P.M. – Ladies Society Meeting

**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 Hafli at the Parish Center

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

**Sunday, May 21st:** Sunday of the Blind Man
- 40 Day Memorial Service for Wajiha Chamoun
- Church School- *Walk-a-Thon*

**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

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

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Orthodox Vocabulary
Doctrine of Immortality

In pre-Christian times, the Greeks, especially, reasoned out a doctrine of immortality. They showed an essential connection of the soul with the principles governing reasoning and they took both to be eternal. Plato inferred from this believed kinship the existence of the soul before birth as well as its survival after death. On the other hand the constant striving of the virtuous man after the eternally valid principles of morality was thought to point to the same belief Plato and other Greek philosophers dwelt on the fact that matter imposes limitations on the soul. The body was believed to be a prison-house, from which death released the soul into a fuller and more perfect existence. The doctrine of immortality in Christianity arose from the fact of Christ's Resurrection. Thus, man's highest destiny was more than the mere survival of an immortal soul. Rather, it was a life of continued union with the risen Christ which reached its completion only by the reunion of body and soul after death. St. Paul sketches in his First Epistle to the Corinthians and elsewhere the essence of this Christian belief. The Fathers explain the hope of immortality only in relation with the redemptive work of Christ. The Fall of Adam had brought death and it was only through the Second Adam (Christ) that life was regained (St. Athanasios, Gregory of Nyssa.) Later theological developments on the concept of immortality reached the stage by which the resurrection of the body was necessary for a full human life in the world to come; else, a disembodied soul was no true being.

Because of the Resurrection of Christ, because of His victory over death, men have become, continue to become, and will continue becoming Christians. The entire history of Christianity is nothing other than the history of a unique miracle, namely, the Resurrection of Christ, which is unbrokenly threaded through the hearts of Christians from one day to the next, from year to year, across the centuries, until the dreaded judgment.

~St. Justin Popovich
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, Hafli, delicious food and much more... Event rates are very affordable so be sure to register your family today: [http://www.antiochianevents.com/worcester.html](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.

The Antiochian Archdiocese **Francis Maria Scholarship** is offering several $2,500 Scholarships to members of the Antiochian Archdiocese that will be in one of their first 4 years of College this fall. Application deadline is May 15th. For questions call 781-255-1757 E-mail Fr Joseph@OrthodoxYouth.com

The application and other scholarships may be found at: [www.antiochian.org/scholarships](http://www.antiochian.org/scholarships)

**Sunday, April 30, 2017**

**Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women**

**Tone: 2  Eothinon: 4**

**APOLYTIKION FOR THE RESURRECTION: Tone 2**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**APOLYTIKION OF JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA: Tone 2**

The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world Great Mercy.

**APOLYTIKION OF MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN: Tone 2**

Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women, the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

**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 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.
The Epistle
Acts 6:1-7
Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.
The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick up from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.

The Gospel
Mark 15:43-16:8
At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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 30, 2017</td>
<td>Elaine Wilbur</td>
<td>Health of son Mark &amp; Memory of son</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mark &amp; husband Russell</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7, 2017</td>
<td>His Loving Family</td>
<td>Memory of Georges Karam (40 day)</td>
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<td>May 14, 2017</td>
<td>Chadi Saad</td>
<td>Health of Hadi Saad &amp; Family</td>
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<td>May 21, 2017</td>
<td>Steve Kilsey &amp; Students</td>
<td>“Saints among us”</td>
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<td>May 28, 2017</td>
<td>Charitable Gift Program</td>
<td>Memory / Health of all Participants</td>
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<td>June 4, 2017</td>
<td>Nabil &amp; Salwa Khoury</td>
<td>Health of Family</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>
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<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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<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 30, 2017</td>
<td>Mirna &amp; Walid Nakhoul</td>
<td>Health of Family</td>
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<td>August 6, 2017</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>John &amp; Anita Chamoun</td>
<td>Memory of Wajih Chamoun</td>
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<td>September 3, 2017</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</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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<td>October 29, 2017</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>
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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

Church News & Organization Activities

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.

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.

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, May 21st: Walk-a-Thon—**note date change**
(If you would like to donate, you can either send a check to the church office or sponsor the student directly)

Sunday, June 11th: Church School Graduation & Luncheon

Christ is Risen, Truly He is Risen!
Coffee Hour
Today, Coffee Hour is offered for the health of son Mark and in memory of son Fred and husband Russell by Elaine Wilbur. Coffee hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

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

Condolescences
St. Mary Church offers its sincere condolences to John Chamoun & family on the falling asleep in the Lord of his mother, Wajiha Chamoun of Lebanon, who passed away on Tuesday, April 25th. There will be a 40 Day Memorial Service in her memory on Sunday, May 21st and on August 27th a Coffee Hour will be held in her memory.

May God grant her peace and repose and may her Memory be eternal.

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

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

Family Day
July 16th
More info to follow soon…. 