

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 17th: Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ
Second Tray– Choir
Church School Pageant at the Parish Center & Luncheon hosted
by The Order of St. Ignatius
12:00pm-12:30pm Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’

Friday, December 22nd: 10am– Royal Hours for the Nativity of our Lord

Sunday, December 24th: Sunday before the Nativity (Genealogy)
10am: Divine Liturgy
6pm: Nativity Liturgy

Monday, December 25th: The Nativity of Christ (Christmas) ~No Liturgy~

Saturday, December 30th: Movie Night at the Parish Center has been **POSTPONED**

Sunday, December 31st: Sunday Before Theophany
6pm: Great Vespers for the Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord
8pm-1am– New Year’s Eve Hafli at the Parish Center



Upcoming events:

Sunday, January 28th, 2018: Annual Meeting at the Parish Center following Liturgy
****Annual Meeting- Please note date change from prior year****

Sunday, February 4th, 2018: “Souper” Bowl Special Collection
“Souper” Bowl Sunday Luncheon (soups, salad, bread)
hosted by the Outreach Committee



Keep Christ in Christmas

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, December 17, 2017
Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ

Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860
Phone (401) 726-1202 Fax: (401) 729-1203
Parish Center Phone (401) 725-5150
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)	9:00 a.m.
Church School	11:15 a.m.
Sunday: Divine Liturgy	10:00 a.m.

*Enter in Quietness, Rest in Prayer,
Worship in Reverence, Depart in Peace to Serve*

We welcome our Visitors & Guests: Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card.
We invite you to join us for coffee hour at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

Receiving Communion: Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

****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****



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.

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.

Date:

Sponsored by:

Sponsored for:

December 17, 2017	The Order of St. Ignatius	Sunday School Pageant Luncheon
December 24, 2017	<i>not available</i>	
December 31, 2017	<i>not available</i>	
January, 7, 2018	Ghassan & Fifi Alarmani	Health of Family
January 14, 2018	Fred Kilsey	Memory of Michelle Kilsey
January 28, 2018	St. Mary Church	Annual Parish Meeting
February 4, 2018	Outreach Committee	"Souper" Bowl Sunday Luncheon
February 11, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
February 18, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
February 25, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 4, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 11, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 18, 2018	The Karam Family	Georges Karam (1 Year Memorial)
March 25, 2018	Nora Matook & Family	Leon T. Matook (10 Year Memorial)
		Memory of the Deceased Members
		of Toofik & Elizabeth Matook Family
		Palm Sunday
		PASCHA
		Kay Matook (1 Year Memorial)
		Wajeha Chamoun (1 Year Memorial)
		Memory of Ruth Salhany
April 1, 2018	<i>not available</i>	
April 8, 2018	<i>not available</i>	
April 15, 2018	Sam Matook & Family	
April 22, 2018	John & Anita Chamoun	
April 29, 2018	William Salhany & Family	
May 6, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
May 13, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
May 20, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
May 27, 2018	Their Loving Family	Memory of Fred & Sophie Hallal
June 3, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
June 10, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
June 17, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
June 24, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	

There are still many open dates to sponsor a coffee hour. Either call the church office, or see Mirna or Walid Nakhoul on Sunday after Liturgy.



Sock & Blanket Donations

The Outreach Committee is looking for donations of new socks & gently used blankets through the month of December to be distributed to families from our "Soup Kitchen" outreach project. Mens winter boots (sizes 8-10) & Womens (sizes 7-9) are also needed. Please bring them to the Parish Center during Coffee Hour. Thank you!!



ONLINE BULLETIN

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

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

Come and celebrate your New Year with us!!!

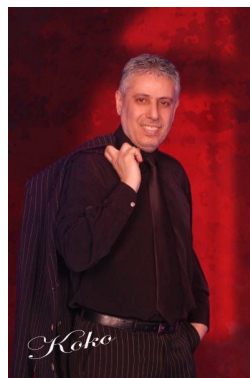
Featuring the dynamic singer Koko and his band.

Dinner & cash bar

Bring in the New Year with a Champagne Toast

Sunday, December 31st 2017 @ 8:00 pm

- ♦ *St. Mary Parish Center at:*
1 St. Mary Way, Pawtucket, RI
- ♦ *Tickets: Adults: \$75.00*
Children: \$25.00 (under 17)



For Tickets and Reservations, please contact:

Fr. Elie Estephan: (240) 205-9079, elieruba@gmail.com.

Tony Kabak: (401) 744-6317, fadiakabak@verizon.net.

***Tickets still available!*

THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

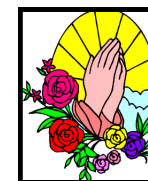
The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the household-er in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."



PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Sandra Matook & Family
Alan Matook
Flo & Phil Spenard & Family
Nabil & Salwa Khoury
Mary Massiwer
Cindy Hayes
Paula & Jim Hallal & Family
Julia Vale
Mitchell Massiwer & Family
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

Members of The Order of St. Ignatius
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Julia Vale
Offered by: Sandra Matook & Family

Sam Matook & Family
Sandra Matook & Family
Dr. Nabil Khoury & Family
Offered by: Sam Matook

Sandra Matook & Family
Members of Toofik & Elizabeth Matook Family
Offered by: Julia Vale

Sandra Matook & Family
Offered by: Albert & Victoria Hallal

Sandy Matook & Family
Dr. Alan Matook
Phil & Florence Spenard & Family
Offered by: Mary Massiwer

Sandra Matook & Family
Offered by: Lorice Hallal
Sandy Matook & Family
Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal

Sandra Matook & Family
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family

Sandra Matook & Family
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint

Nabil & Salwa Khoury
William Salhany
Offered by: George & Barbara Moussalli



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Robert Vale
Offered by: Sandra Matook & Family

George Matook
Offered by: Sandra Matook
George, Kim, George Frank & Kassiani Matook
Steve, Elaina, Isabelle, Elizabeth & Alexandra
Zabak
Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty

Kay Matook
Wadi & Esma Matook
George T. Matook
Rita Sayegh
Offered by: Sam Matook


George Matook
Offered by: Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Abdelahad

George T. Matook
Margaret Khouri
Robert Vale
Elsie Massiwer
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

George Matook
Damtry & Victoria Ganim
George Ganim
Margaret Eid
Alice Nahas
Ruth Salhany
Elias Ganim
Rita Whittaker
Offered by: Albert & Victoria Hallal

George T. Matook
Robert Vale (10 years Dec. 15th)
Deceased Members of Toofik &
Elizabeth Matook Family
Offered by: Julia Vale





St. Mary Church School News


****Sunday School Christmas Pageant today-with a complimentary Luncheon hosted by St. Igantius following the Pageant.**

Menu: Fish, rice, corn, salad, pasta, dessert & coffee.

A *“Visitor from the North Pole”* will be joining us.

Attention Students and Parents- Registration for Summer Camp at Antiochian Village begins on December 11th. Please go to avcamp.org to reserve your spot. The sessions fill up quickly. Our campers usually attend Session 2 and travel with a group from Worcester and Boston. Please see Maureen or Matt if you have any questions.

****Last year most sessions filled up in January so don't delay!**



St. Mary Teen SOYO News and Events

THANKSGIVING THANK YOU FROM TEEN SOYO

Thanks to your generosity, Teen SOYO was able to assemble 34 food baskets for Thanksgiving including Turkey or a gift card, fresh potatoes, carrots and apples, vegetables, stuffing, cranberry sauce, pasta and sauce, soup, dessert and a variety of miscellaneous items totaling more than 1700 pounds of food. Thank you for your part in this important community activity. About half of the baskets are delivered by the Teens to families living near the Church.

Teen SOYO Christmas Project

Teen SOYO’s Christmas Project is to buy gifts for 10 teens that live in a Rhode Island group home. The teens’ wish list includes hats, gloves, socks, movie tickets and sleds or toboggans. Teen SOYO is taking care of the shopping and wrapping. If you would like to support this project, please give your donation to Matt Duncan or Maureen Gurghigian. Thank you!

Twelve Days of Christmas

A concert of Orthodox Sacred Chant in English from Christmas to Epiphany

The Boston Byzantine Choir

under the direction of Charles R. Marge

Saturday, January 6, 2018 Vespers: 5:00pm ~ Concert 6:00pm

followed by a potluck supper in the parish hall

Sponsored by the Young Adult Ministry

St. Mary Orthodox Church ~ 8 Inman Street ~ Cambridge, MA



The Antiochian Village Summer Camp Program

Serves young people ages 9–17 who come to attend one of four two-week sessions. A primary goal of the Village camp program is to present to young people a living experience of the Holy Orthodox Faith in their relationship with God and other campers in a natural environment.

Registrations are now open for the 2018 summer camp season. The sessions run June 17 through August 10; two special sessions are Byzantine Chant Camp held from June 17 – June 29, and Iconography Camp, which runs from July 15 – July 23. **Slots fill up very quickly** for this incredibly popular program, so act now! Additionally, it's not too early to think about sending your child to your local diocesan camp; visit www.antiochian.org for more information.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

John Swistak
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

George Matook
Alma & George Matook
John A. Massiwer Sr.
Offered by: Mary Massiwer

George Matook
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

George Matook
Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal

George Matook
Robert Vale
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

George Hallal
George T. Matook
Dorothy Haddad
Fred & Sophie Hallal
Moses Lazieh
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint

George Matook
Ruth Salhany
Wadia Taireh
Zaki & Mary Mossalli
Kamil & Ethel Salhany
Damtry & Victoria Ganim
Offered by: George & Barbara Moussalli



St. Mary Parish Bookstore

Many beautiful Orthodox religious items are available from the St. Mary Parish bookstore and display case. These include Icons, Christmas and greeting cards, Liturgical music CD's, prayer books, coloring books, Crosses and Orthodox Bibles. These make wonderful gifts and reflect the *Tradition of our Orthodox Faith*. All proceeds benefit the general fund of the Church. Please see Fr. Elie if you wish to purchase these gifts.

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.

Arabic Liturgy

Arabic Liturgy is being offered the first Saturday of each month at 6:00 P.M. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Liturgical Schedule 2017

Sunday, December 17th: Church School Nativity Pageant following Liturgy & Luncheon hosted by The Order of St. Ignatius

Friday, December 22nd: 10:00 A.M.-Royal Hours for the Nativity of our Lord

Sunday, December 24th: 10:00 A.M.-Divine Liturgy
6:00 P.M.– Nativity Liturgy

Sunday, December 31st: 10:00 A.M.- Divine Liturgy
6:00P.M.-Great Vespers for the Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord

****Note: From Christmas Day until January 4th inclusive, there is a general dispensation from all fasting****



Upcoming events:

- ♦ **December 17th: (TODAY)** Christmas Pageant and Luncheon at the Parish Center
- ♦ **December 30th:** Movie Night at the Parish Center has been **POSTPONED.**
- ♦ **December 31st:** New Year’s Hafli at the Parish Center
- ♦ **January, 28th, 2018:** Annual Meeting at the Parish Center
- ♦ **February 4th, 2018:** “Souper Bowl Sunday” Luncheon (soups, salad, bread)

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.

2017

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:

From: _____

Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 17th