

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 3rd: Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Outreach Committee “Athletic Socks & Blankets donations”
(donations of new socks & gently used blankets accepted throughout December)

Wednesday, December 6th: Ladies Society Christmas Party at La Familia Restaurant

Sunday, December 10th: Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
40 Day Memorial Service for George Matook
Choir Appreciation Sunday
Outreach Meeting during Coffee Hour



Tuesday, December 12th: 7:00P.M.- Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, December 17th: Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ
Church School Pageant at the Parish Center
12:00pm-12:30pm Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’

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

Monday, December 25th: The Nativity of Christ (Christmas)

Saturday, December 30th: Movie Night at the Parish Center (Church School & Teens)

Sunday, December 31st: Sunday Before Theophany
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 Sunday Luncheon (soups, salad, bread)

Upcoming events:

- ♦ **December 10th:** *Choir Appreciation Sunday*
- ♦ **December 17th:** *Christmas Pageant and Luncheon at the Parish Center*
- ♦ **December 30th:** *Movie Night at the Parish Center (church school & Teens)*
- ♦ **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)*

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, December 3, 2017

Twenty Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

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.

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. 10th

Christmas Blessings

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 3rd. 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.



Family Name _____

Amount of Donation: _____

Please remember

~LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS DECEMBER 3RD!

By mail, send to St. Mary Orthodox Church, Choir Christmas Fund,
249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

THE EPISTLE

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” And he cried, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me receive my sight.” And Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



One Year Memorial Service



A One Year Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God *Sami Saad* and is being offered by the Saad Family. Coffee hour will be offered in his memory following Liturgy.

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-Grandchildren Daniel, Rose &
Joelle Dykstra
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor

Fred Kilsey
Offered by the Outreach Committee

Fred Kilsey
Saad Family
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Fred Shwaery
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Sandy Matook
Elaine Agaty

Fouad E Khaouli & Family
Offered by: Sandra Matook

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Sami Saad
Offered by: Saad Family

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

Sami Saad
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury



Special Prayers of Good Health & Blessing
are being offered for seniors 80 and older.
May God grant them many more years!

Offered by:
The Outreach Committee



LADIES' CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 6th AT 6 O'CLOCK

**LA FAMILIA RESTAURANT
1666 DIAMOND HILL ROAD, CUMBERLAND, RI**

**PRICE: \$40 (INCLUDES TIP)- CHECKS MADE OUT TO:
*ST. MARY CHURCH ~ LADIES' SOCIETY***

~Do not forget your \$10 Yankee Swap~

PLEASE FILL OUT FORM ATTACHED FOR CHOICE OF
ENTRÉE WITH YOUR CHECK AND RETURN TO
MARLENE SAMRA BY NOVEMBER 29, 2017.

_____ SPINACH RAVIOLI
_____ BAKED STUFFED SHRIMP
_____ CHIPOTLE MAPLE GLAZED SALMON
_____ PLAIN GRILLED SALMON

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.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
December 3, 2017	Dani Saad	Memory of his Sami Saad (1 year Memorial)
December 10, 2017	Sandra Matook & Family	George Matook (40 Day Memorial
December 17, 2017	St. Mary Church	Sunday School Pageant
December 24, 2017	not available	
December 31, 2017	not available	
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	St. Mary Church	“Souper” Bowl Sunday Luncheon
February 11, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
February 18, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
February 25, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
March 4, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
March 11, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
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
April 1, 2018	not available	Palm Sunday
April 8, 2018	not available	PASCHA
April 15, 2018	Sam Matook & Family	Kay Matook (1 Year Memorial)
April 22, 2018	John & Anita Chamoun	Wajeha Chamoun (1 Year Memorial)
April 29, 2018	William Salhany & Family	Memory of Ruth Salhany
May 6, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
May 13, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
May 20, 2018	Open for sponsorship	
May 27, 2018	Their Loving Family	Memory of Fred & Sophie Hallal

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.

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour.

Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee Hour is being offered in memory of *Sami Saad* and is being offered by the Saad Family.



Thank you for all the cards, calls, visits, thoughts and prayers from everyone during Nabil’s recent surgery and recuperation. We are glad to say that he is now home. We both offer our heartfelt gratitude for the generous support we have received from our family, friends & parishioners here at St. Mary Church.

Love,
Nabil & Salwa Khoury



St. Mary Teen SOYO News and Events

Upcoming events:

- ◆ December 30th: Movie Night at the Parish Center



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:

- ◆ December 17th: Church School Pageant
- ◆ December 30th: Movie Night at the Parish Center



Arabic Food & Pastry Sale

On Saturday, December 9th there will be a food sale at the Parish Center from 9am-1pm. Both Arabic food & pastry will be for sale. Arabic Foods available are: Sfeeha, grape leaves, kibbe, cheese. Arabic Pastries available are: date fingers, mamoul nuts, apricot crescents, rolled baklava, dates in filo dough, round kaik. Get ready for the holidays!



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.



Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday during the month of December!

Nicole Baalbaki
Noelle Arrighi
Barbara Moussalli
Mary Jane Wehbe
Francis Fitzpatrick

Patricia Kilsey
Maria Amirhom
Mike Jeha
Joanne Jeha
Elie Karam

Nabil Khoury
Alexandra Ganim
Naji Karam
Claudine Wehbe

****if you have a December birthday and do not see your name– we do not have it in our database– please email or call the church office to have you and your family members added.****



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. 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.

****Deadline for tickets is December 10th****